

UFO

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MIDDLESEX NEWS, Framingham, MA - Oct. 26, 1985 CR: B. Greenwood

Army says one UFO may have been flare

By DONALD ST. JOHN
and JOHN LEANING

News Staff Writers

BOXBORO — A pair of apparent UFO sightings in the past week here have provoked:

- a) Some wonderment about their origin.
- b) A lot of people with film ready in their cameras.
- c) A possible explanation for one of the sightings.

The answer? All three, perhaps.

John Rasmuson, a public affairs officer at Fort Devens in Ayer, said a reserve unit was firing flares from mortars last Saturday night, the night two town police officers spotted a UFO over Woodchuck Hill in Harvard.

Rasmuson added that Devens personnel were not doing anything which might explain a Friday morning sighting at 7 a.m. off Prescott Road.

Marcie Robinson was on her way to work with her two daughters Friday morning when she spotted "two round orange balls" high over a pasture off Prescott Road.

She said she is normally skeptical about UFO reports.

"I'm someone who always says, 'Ah, well,'" she said.

She said the lights did not go out as she passed by and went to work at Emerson Hospital.

Robinson said she mentioned what she had seen to a fellow worker, who said Ft. Devens was not far away. But Rasmuson indicated it was not clear whether any activity at the

sprawling U.S. Army base was responsible for the sightings.

"The flare hangs on a mini-parachute and floats down very slowly, creating a bright light before going out," Rasmuson said. "Harvard is right next to Ayer. It's conceivable that that could have caused it."

He said that he didn't know when the reservists stopped firing, but that it was after dark and that the shots were "fairly high-altitude."

Patrolman Stephen Trefry, one of the police officers who saw a pair of lights near Woodchuck Hill last Saturday, said there was "no way" flares could have accounted for the sighting.

"They were going up on a diagonal, and blinked on and off at one point," Trefry said. "Flares wouldn't do that."

He said representatives from a UFO investigating center were due to interview him Sunday about the sighting.

Trefry and special police officer Robert Morrill reported an unidentified object after tracking a pair of bright yellow lights at 10:10 p.m. last Saturday night.

He said the round lights, about 20 feet apart and the size "of a car door," followed a definite direction over Woodchuck Hill. When the officers reached the top of the hill, they had disappeared, he said.

The policemen searched the area for an explanation and, upon finding none, filed a police report and notified the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash.

A spokesman from the UFO Center said there hadn't been a second report of any sightings in the area, and said that the center only had four to five nation-wide reports coming in per day.

Robert Gribble, a UFO center spokesman, cautioned that they find 90 percent of sightings to be attributable to known phenomena, such as military or other aircraft or atmospheric disturbance.

But he said any contact of 500 feet or closer — a close encounter — would be enough basis for an investigation.

"If there's any possibility of a physical contact, we'd definitely look into that," Gribble said. "But even if there were no landings, we'd want a very detailed sketch of the object, and any other information the person had."

The reporting center does the initial evaluation of a sighting and, if it warrants investigation, refers it to either the Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization in Tucson, Ariz., or the Mutual UFO Network in Seguin, Tex.

Gribble said the armed forces are helpful to an extent with confirmation of their activities. "They'll tell us some things, and not others," he said. "We deal with them strictly on an inquiry basis."

BULLETIN JOURNAL, Cape Girardeau, MO - Nov. 5, 1985

Local physicist feels photograph will interest UFO investigators

CAPE GIRARDEAU — Dr. Harley Rutledge, chairman of the physics department at SEMO University, believes a satellite photograph of an unidentified flying object he displayed Saturday will create quite a stir among UFO investigators nationally.

"It is the most clearly defined shape I've seen," declared Rutledge. "If you knew what I know about the UFO scheme, you would be very excited about it."

The photograph, taken in October of 1978 and acquired by a civilian employee of the Air Force at a base in Anchorage, Alaska, is regarded as significant because the U.S. government has verified it was taken by a satellite, making it the only official government satellite photo ever released of a UFO.

John T. Smith, of Anchorage, who was on duty the day the photo was taken, and his current partner in a construction business, James Bounds, have spent about three weeks trying to get the photo identified. The photo laid forgotten in a desk drawer of Smith's until recently, when Bounds discovered it and questioned Smith about it.

Bounds and Smith decided to have it researched, and after looking up names of UFO experts at

their library, and talking with several, they decided to bring the photo to Rutledge.

"We have put a lot of time and money into this," said Bounds, at a press conference Saturday afternoon. "We are satisfied, based on the experts, at this time, we have a valid satellite photo available to the public."

The two flew to Cape Girardeau on Oct. 25 to meet with Rutledge and spent the week researching the photo to verify it is an untouched satellite photo and to see whether the object could be identified.

The photo of the semi-rectangular object was taken by a defense weather satellite and was going 4,000-4,500 miles per hour and climbing out of the atmosphere, explained Smith.

Smith pointed out that at the time the photo was taken, it was determined the object did not belong to the United States or Soviet Union.

All three men Saturday stressed they were not calling the object alien, but were only saying it could not be identified.

Smith said it is also significant that the photo is clearly an object. "This is not a blinking light — this is an object," he stressed.

The photograph has never been

published and Smith and Bounds have not decided when that will happen.

The two have decided they would prefer to take the scientific approach to the photograph rather than the sensational approach that might prove more lucrative.

Several national newspapers have offered to buy the photo and information about it. Bounds displayed a contract from the National Enquirer offering to pay \$50,000 up front for the photograph, but they determined for now the photo should be studied on a scientific basis and contacted Rutledge.

Smith and Bounds planned to return home to Anchorage, after a press conference Saturday night in St. Louis, and will keep the photo, though Rutledge will have a copy.

Rutledge, who has studied UFOs since 1973, plans to do further research to determine what part of the Soviet Union the object was over when it was taken and talk with other experts to try and identify the object.

"I have a photo of an object I know is a UFO," summed up Smith. "We have come down here to see a guy who is a world renowned expert to try and identify it."

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison, WI - Nov. 26, 1985 CR: R. Heiden

Oh, oh, UFO: Two are sighted here

Fade in with the tune from Twilight Zone.

Two "normal" people have reported seeing triangular-shaped UFOs hovering over homes near the East Side last week.

John, who would like to be described as an emotionally stable state employee, said he was driving home to DeForest shortly after 5 p.m. Friday.

On Highway CV, near Chase Lumber, he said he saw three white lights hovering 20 to 30 feet above a farmhouse.

"At first I thought it was an airplane, then I thought it was a helicop-

ter," he said, "and then I realized I didn't know what it was."

John said the craft was roughly triangular, with its bottom sloped into contours. He said it was noiseless and disappeared when he got out of his car to investigate.

"I'm a little reticent to talk about it — I haven't even told my wife," he said. "It sounds so crazy."

Joe Durkin, a Madison Police spokesman, said his department received a similar report from a Madison woman Nov. 19. Durkin said officers generally don't write reports after talking to people who claim to have seen UFOs.

"But this woman sounded normal," he said. "We don't see too many reports like this."

The woman said she saw a flying saucer, with a roughly triangular shape, hovering over a home on Milwaukee Street. She told police it had three white lights below it.

Neither the tower at the Dane County Regional Airport nor an Air National Guard spokesman reported any unusual flying objects.

Georgetown buzzes with UFO sightings

GEORGETOWN — A Delaware State Police communications officer said there were reports Wednesday night from Georgetown of a UFO — an unidentified flying object.

"There was a reported sighting. A state police helicopter checked into it, but with negative results," the officer said. "They didn't see anything."

Wayne D. Ellingsworth, director of emergency operations for Sussex County, he received three calls reporting a strange object in the sky, a ball of light with orange streamers on it.

"I got out and drove around, but I did not see anything," Ellingsworth said. "I have no idea what it was. ... I called Dover Air Force Base, and they said they had a lot of traffic last (Wednesday) night."

STATE NEWS, Dover, DE - Nov. 8, 1985

Physics Department Professor Verifies UFO Photograph

By Lesley Tritschler

As a noted authority on Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) identification and documentation Dr. Hartley Rutledge, a SEMO physics professor, has had many opportunities to study the unknown.

Dr. Rutledge recently had another such opportunity when he was commissioned by two men from Anchorage, Alaska, to verify the presence of an unidentified object in a photograph taken by a U.S. satellite. "I was commissioned to authenticate the satellite negative," he said.

The photograph was verified by the government as having come from a satellite. This verification makes the picture the only official satellite photo of a UFO to be confirmed by the U.S. government as an unidentified object.

The object was photographed in October of 1978 by John T. Smith, a staff communications officer at a U.S. Air Force base in Alaska. Smith kept the negative, but only recently did he and his business partner, James Bounds, decide to try and have the object identified. The two then contacted Dr. Rutledge.

"I think they approached me because I knew more about UFO's," he said. "I can say that many things are possible where people can't because I have had direct experience."

To better identify the object, an actual photograph had to be printed from the satellite negative. When the satellite passed over the craft, a scanner viewed the object and an electronic negative was made at the air force base. This negative contrasted the varying temperatures around and within the aircraft.

Steve Robertson, a local photographer, was asked to make a print from the negative. He was also asked to verify that the negative had not been altered. "I looked carefully at the negative for any signs of retouching or manipulation," Robertson said, "and I couldn't see any use of dyes or etching, which are retouching techniques."

During the process of developing, the picture was enlarged and contrasted for more definition. "The pictures made were not doctored or manipulated in any way other than to enlarge and enhance them," Robertson said.

The process of trying to identify the object was then made easier for those involved. "It looks like a vehicle with a front viewing window," said Dr. Rutledge. "It reminds me of some racing vehicles that have low skirts in the front." He also said that the vehicle had a hump over the top much like a tank does. It also appeared that there were rockets mounted on the side and top of the object, because of the vapor trails behind the craft.

Robertson agreed that the object was unique in appearance. "It didn't look like any vehicle that a layman would know about," he said.

According to Smith, at the time the photo was taken, the vehicle was traveling at 4,500 feet and at a speed of over 4,000 miles per hour—almost twice the speed of any aircraft at the time.

Although this information would rule out a jet propelled aircraft, Dr. Rutledge said that this would not rule out a rocket propelled aircraft. "A jet has to have an intake of oxygen for fuel to burn," he said. "A rocket engine burns fuel without atmosphere. To come back through the atmosphere it could glide, much like our space shuttle does."

Smith stated in a recent Bulletin Journal article that he knew the craft was not Russian or American. While Dr. Rutledge believes the craft is probably Russian or American, he does not rule out the possibility of it being a UFO.

"Unless you know that it's Russian or you know that it's ours, don't say it's not a possible UFO," he said. "Because the information I'm getting says that it could be."

RECORD, Hackensack, NJ - Dec. 3, 1985

Flying object in night sky unidentified

By Jim Consoli
Staff Writer

Teterboro Airport officials recently identified a large V-shaped object flying over the metropolitan area as a group of advertising planes, but now they say they are not so sure.

"I saw nothing, but other airports in New York State told us they believed it was a group of advertising pilots from Westchester County Airport flying in formation," said Joe Burns, a supervisor at Teterboro Airport, who logged the Nov. 21 sighting made by dozens of North Jersey residents.

About a week after Teterboro officials released that explanation of the sighting, Philip Engle, Teterboro Airport's manager, said his people had not spotted any advertising planes flying that night or any other night this year.

And the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) says the object, reported to have had red and white pulsating lights, has been officially logged as an unidentified flying object, although that does not necessarily mean a flying saucer with little green men aboard.

"We logged it as a UFO. It had no sound, and we couldn't identify what it was," said Elliot Summer, an environmental officer for the FAA in New York.

Summer said the pilot of a Trans World Airlines jet flying over Kennedy International Airport about 9 p.m. that partly cloudy night — shortly after the UFO had been sighted over New Jersey — spotted "a V-shaped object with several center lights" and asked the Kennedy control tower: "What is that thing going across your airport?"

Among the airports contacted by Teterboro that night was Westchester County Airport. Airport officials there suspect that the unusual object was formed by pilots playing tricks on sky watchers, but they have no proof, a spokesman said yesterday.

When the object was spotted, an official at Teterboro Airport told The Record it was a group of advertising planes with computerized lights flying in close formation. Alex Zuchniewicz, airport supervisor, had said that the planes were based at the airport and had permission to fly through Teterboro airspace. He said the planes were spotted by Teterboro controllers.

"Every time those guys go out on a clear night, we get phone calls from people who think they saw a UFO," Zuchniewicz said.

Yesterday, Zuchniewicz said he was reading from a report logged by others. When told about the reported sighting by the TWA pilot, he said he was not sure that the logging was accurate.

"A sighting by another pilot is unusual," he said.

And Burns, the supervisor on duty at Teterboro that night, said last week that none of his staff actually saw advertising planes.

Although the object's slowly flashing lights were somewhat similar to those of a blimp, the closest blimp was flown that day in Atlanta by McDonald's, Teterboro Airport officials said.

And the UFO apparently was not equipped with a transponder — a radio device that automatically transmits beacon signals — which conventional planes carry, Summer said.

Dominick Mezzina of Ridgefield Park, a Navy veteran with a background in aviation, was one of several North Jersey residents who reported seeing the large object cruising through the sky.

"I called Teterboro, and they said they had the object on radar, but they didn't know what it was," said Mezzina. "I held the line for several minutes and heard somebody in the background say, 'Just tell him it's a group of Cessnas.' And that's what they told me."

Mezzina said that when he first spotted the object flying in a southerly direction over Interstate 95 and toward Manhattan, he thought it was a blimp.

"But you can hear a blimp's motor. I didn't hear anything," he said.

Rich Manzi of Cliffside Park said he was driving north on Bergen Boulevard when he spotted the UFO flying over Fort Lee. He drove to a Dairy Queen on Palisade Avenue in Fort Lee and watched as it glided over a cluster of high-rise buildings and headed toward Manhattan.

HERALD, Boston, MA - Oct. 28, 1985 CR: B. Greenwood

'Sighting' of UFOs prompts probe

By ERIC FEHRNSTROM

A team of UFO investigators arrived in Boxboro yesterday to gather witness accounts of several recent sightings of mysterious glowing objects in the sky.

Jim Melesciuz, director of the state chapter of the Mutual UFO Network, said the witnesses were "extremely consistent" in describing the orange balls of light.

A Boxboro patrolman and his partner were the first to report the strange flying objects in the sky — two round orange balls pulsating over the tree tops.

"We probably watched it for about 10 seconds and then they disappeared," said officer Stephen Trefrey, who made the sighting Oct. 19 at about 10:15 p.m.

Trefrey and his partner, Robert Morrill, drove into the neighboring town of Harvard and stopped their patrol car at an intersection.

"We were trying to decide which way to go when all of a sudden there they were again, hovering above the tree tops about 150 yards away," said Trefrey.

"They were bright orange lights, just perfect circles. Then they disappeared again," he said.

Since the sighting that Saturday night, eight people have reported seeing similar flying objects in the area over the past week.

Melesciuz said the group will try to identify the objects by collecting data on weather, air traffic and military maneuvers.

But witnesses say they could not explain the flying objects.

"Whether it originated here on earth or somewhere beyond, I don't know," said Lin Haire-Sargeant, 39, who also made a sighting Oct. 19 at about 9:30 p.m.



WITNESS: Lin Haire-Sargeant of Boxboro is one of several people who claims to have seen a UFO near the town.

She saw the objects while watching television with a friend in a second-floor bedroom at her Harvard home.

"I saw two orange balls, kind of close together. They looked like orange headlights, only bigger than headlights and they were pulsating," she said.

"I watched them for about 10 seconds from the window, then ran downstairs to see them from outside, but they had disappeared," she said.

But 10 minutes later, the objects "came back again, only this time they seemed farther away and there were four of them," she said.

On Friday, a Boxboro housewife and two children spotted the same objects while driving along a town road at about 7:30 a.m.

"I didn't see anything until my mom pointed it out to me. There were two big, bright orange lights through the trees. They were out over an open field," said Jenny Robinson, 14.

MAUI NEWS, Wailuku, HI - Dec. 27, 1985

Christmas day lights: Mauians report UFO

WAILUKU — The sighting of strange lights that passed over Maui on Christmas night remains a mystery.

After determining that the lights which, according to witnesses, ranged from white, blue and green in color, did not come from Santa Claus' sleigh or from Rudolph his red-nosed reindeer, the Maui Police Department decided against pursuing the matter further and suggested that inquiries be made with the Coast Guard, a spokesman said.

The Coast Guard reported today that it has received no calls requesting an investigation into the strange sightings.

The Federal Aviation Administration also said it can provide no explanation for the lights, other than that they could have been mistaken for helicopters.

The police spokesman said at least three calls regarding the lights were received between midnight and 1 a.m.

A patrol manning a holiday roadblock to nab drinking drivers in the Lahaina area also made the sighting. The policemen said they observed three glowing objects, greenish in color, for about one minute as they passed through the skies from Lanai to the back of Haleakala.

Other witnesses, including Julian Kaye of Kihei, reported seeing three glowing objects flying in a straight line at an altitude below that of Haleakala's summit.

Kaye said the objects "looked like falling parts of an aircraft on fire which came right straight across the sky, going from south to north."

He said also that the objects were fairly large in size and that they appeared to have blue flashes emanating from their tops.

Kaye reported that he and two friends saw the lights from the scenic lookout on the pali section of Honoapiilani Highway.

Police said they received other calls in which it was reported the lighted objects were seen over Iao Valley.

Mysterious Lights Seen over Harvard

Ann Levison

Several sightings in recent weeks of brilliant orange lights that hover and dart, appear and disappear, pulsate and hum, have brought the press in droves to Harvard and Boxborough and have attracted the investigative attention of the Mutual-UEO Network. The mysterious lights have been reported by two Boxborough policemen, three private citizens from Boxborough, and six Harvard residents.

Boxborough police officers Stephen Trefry and Robert Morrill were about 200 yards east of the Route 495 interchange, driving west on Route 111 at 10:22 on Saturday night, October 19 when, in Trefry's words, they saw "two bright lights hovering. They were very bright. They lit up the whole sky and the trees. It was something I'd never seen before. They were there for five to seven seconds and then they went out."

The officers continued down 111 into Harvard, hoping to see more, and just as they passed Westward Orchards roadside stand the lights appeared again on their right. So they turned up Woodchuck Hill Road, the lights now on their left.

"They lit up the trees—so brightly you couldn't see anything behind them—and they lit up the ground. It was a clear night with a little patchy ground fog. The lights were about 20 or 30 feet above the treetops—not above the height of the apple trees in the orchard, but above the pines behind."

The lights were about 200 yards away from the men in their cruiser, Trefry said, and three-quarters of the way up the hill.

After the lights disappeared the men got out and searched the hill, finding nothing. They called Harvard police, a call that appears on the log, but the Harvard men were on a medical emergency and couldn't come to Woodchuck Hill until later.

Robert Morrill, who was on duty with Trefry, is a part-time patrolman who teaches at the middle school in Littleton. His account of the sighting agrees with Trefry's in every particular.

This was not the first time Trefry has seen unexplained lights while on duty in the middle of the night. Back in May or June, he said, he saw from Flag Hill, Boxborough's highest point, three lights over the area around the Routes 2-495

interchange. The two lights on the outside were bright orange like the ones he saw last month, but the one in the middle was white, he said, "like a car headlight, only bigger." He compared their visual size to aspirin tablets. The lights hovered and pulsated as Trefry observed them for more than ten minutes.

"They moved independently. The orange ones went down to tree level, lighting up the trees so that they glowed. Then they went up and a beam came down from them, and particles fell down the beam," Trefry said. He called Fort Devens the next day, he said, and was told that "no maneuvers" were going on that night. But he didn't call the UFO people that time because he was alone when he sighted the lights and "I didn't know who to call."

Meanwhile, on October 19, two more people saw the unexplained lights—an hour earlier than the policemen's sighting. Yvette Grimes and Lin Haire-Sargent were watching a movie upstairs in their Harvard Depot Road home, Grimes said, when "Lin looked out the window and saw two round objects the size of the moon, orangeish, hovering over the field. They were pulsating at treetop level."

Grimes went out of the house into the Ryan field to look, but the lights had gone, only to reappear again a little later. "They hobbled near the trees. First there were four; then one lowered and disappeared; then there were four again. They pulsated, and a low hum came from them in time with the pulsations."

Again Grimes went out into the field to watch the lights as "they moved laterally to the west." She took a few pictures with an ordinary camera—"not a timed shot," she said—and then went back to watch her movie. "They appeared twice more to Lin," she said, "but I was on the floor and didn't see them."

"I've never seen anything else like that," she said. "I think it's something from Fort Devens. But on second thought it seems to be beyond what we know now."

Coincidentally, one of four Harvard youngsters who observed orange lights from West Bare Hill Road at about the same time was Sage Green. Haire-Sargent's daughter, said Green, "There were four orange lights, and when we

looked back there were two. We joked about it, maybe it's UFOs, but we thought it was Fort Devens."

Said Samantha Timmons, who with her sister Jessica and Amy Bowman also saw the lights, "We thought it must be bombs at Fort Devens." Questioned, she said that there was no explosion, though. "They dropped slowly, then disappeared," she elaborated.

John Rasmusen, public information officer at Fort Devens, told the Post that until 9 or 9:30 p.m. on October 19 "we were doing mortar training with flares." The yellowish flares are shot from mortars and float to earth on parachutes, he explained, and would therefore not move laterally, as Grimes described their doing. And such flares would be visible both from the Ryan land, looking northwest, and from West Bare Hill Road, looking north. But by 10:10, when Trefry and Morrill saw their lights, activity at the fort had stopped, Rasmusen said, and it would have been unlikely that the two men would have seen flares from the fort on the southwest side of Woodchuck Hill Road.

Neither was there any activity of this kind at the fort on the following Friday morning, October 25, when Marcie Robinson of Boxborough saw orange lights at about 7:30 on her way to work. She was accompanied by her daughter, Jenny, and another youngster, Kelly McDermott. What they saw were orange lights "off in the trees. They didn't move," she said.

Robinson had seen a headline in Thursday's Beacon saying that lights had been sighted in the area but hadn't read the story or heard any radio or TV reports when she noticed the lights on Friday morning. "I've never seen anything like that before," she said. "I'm a skeptic. I'm still trying to rationalize it, telling myself it must have been the sun, even though it was a rainy morning."

Since then there have been no more incidents, and Pat Chadwell, the Harvard dispatcher on duty the night of October 19, said on Monday of this week that the Harvard department had up till then received no other calls at all from Harvard residents reporting unexplained sightings.

One possible explanation suggested by some puzzled area residents for the appearance of the lights was "something to do with that project they have at the observatory, looking for extraterrestrial intelligence."

"Maybe their signal could have called something in," suggested another Boxborough police officer. But the search project at Harvard's Oak Hill Observatory, funded by the Planetary Society and directed by the Smithsonian, involves only receivers, not transmitters, as the observatory listens to signals from outer space. And Harvard's Dick McCrosky, observatory director, told the Post that there has been no unusual data obtained from the receivers, concurrent with the sightings or otherwise.

McCrosky noted, too, that "you have to be careful about reports of humming noises with lights. People hear the Aurora Borealis, for example, when it doesn't make any noise. People think they hear meteors make a swishing noise, too. The senses tend to interact. You tend to think you're hearing what you're seeing."

Trefry and Morrill have been the focus of considerable attention from the press since Trefry called the UFO people, and "I'm getting tired of it," said Trefry with a genial laugh. He has been interviewed by the Lowell Sun, the Middlesex News, the Beacon, Channel 7, radio stations WBZ and WFTG, and others, and Boxborough Chief Robert Johnson was interviewed by Larry Glick on the radio. "And civilians have been calling us nonstop," Trefry said. "We're not logging calls any more. Little old ladies have been calling to tell us about things they thought they saw." And in fact as the Post interviewed Trefry at the Boxborough station on Monday morning, the phone was ringing off the hook—always for Trefry.

Johnson described Trefry as "a reliable, alert officer. Whatever he says he saw, he saw."

"It's one thing to see something, but it's another to see something and have people say you're crazy," said Morrill, who doesn't sound any crazier than the matter-of-fact Trefry. "I don't know what it was I saw. I just saw something." In this he echoed all of the people who observed the mysterious orange lights.

REGISTER, Santa Ana, CA - Dec. 30, 1985

Velasques' personal recollections of close encounters

By Tom Krattenmaker
The Register

SANTA ANA — The Spanish-language Bible is open to the book of "Ezequiel" — to the passage about a bright whirlwind alighting from the sky.

Jim Velasques is telling two followers seated in his den that the prophet is describing a spaceship.

Earlier this month, the Gabrielino Indian leader claimed that he himself had beheld dozens of such visits over the last four decades. He calls them religious experiences that shaped his views of Earth, heaven and hell.

"I'm only a little ignorant," said one of the chief's followers, William Morales, 66, a Gabrielino Indian from La Habra. "I'm willing to learn because I've got an open mind."

Obdulia Morales, 62, explained in Spanish that something sounded familiar when she read a newspaper account of the chief's beliefs. Her grandfather, she said, taught her about space visitors when she was growing up in Mexico.

Velasques said he does not expect many other people to believe him. The Indian leader figures his version of the truth shakes up too many comfortable beliefs to be accepted readily.

He said people like God the "way they like a landlord: the further away he is, the happier the tenant."

About all Velasques has to back

up his story is a 1959 black-and-white snapshot. The picture was taken by a San Bernardino County sheriff's deputy during a UFO convention at the ceremonial Giant Rock in the Yucca Valley. It reveals a bright column topped by a hazy, white circle.

But Rene Laursen, who owns and runs a photographic processing lab in Irvine, examined a copy of the photo recently and pronounced it a fluke. He said the glare of the sun probably burned the shape into the film, a phenomenon called "halation."

Over the years, Velasques has not bothered collecting other physical evidence of visits, he said, because he doubted he would ever want, or need, to prove they happened.

But, he said, he has been compelled to go public by a formation of rocks now stored in a box at a museum.

The stones, termed an ancient Indian calendar in a recent archaeological report, were dug up about a year ago at an El Toro development site. Velasques is demanding they be returned to the ground in the formation in which they were found.

He said they are a sacred religious work his ancestors made to symbolize the space visits, a vital link between him and the human-like space beings he calls "Etherians."

Velasques said that in 1947, when he was 19, he was interrupted from his sleep one night at his

grandmother's home in San Jacinto and surrounded by music and voices.

In follow-up contacts, he said, he was told why he was being bothered: "They said, 'We have a message we want you to give to the people on the planet you call Earth.' I said, 'Whoever you are, you picked the wrong guy. I'm not interested in anything like this. Go find a scientist, someone the people will listen to. Find someone who's angelic.' I meant a real goody-two-shoes."

"The voice said, 'We have scoured the surface of your planet, and there is no such animal.'"

The relationship took a new turn in 1959, Velasques said, at the close of the big UFO convention at Giant Rock, site of nearly all of the alleged visits.

Velasques said he was alone there when a craft swooped down and took him aboard.

He described in great detail the ship, its high-tech propulsion, the occupants and the lessons they taught him.

The ship "had a silver, metallic mercury surface. ... It looked like a pearl, a gray pearl." The craft hovered just above the ground, he said, a door opened and several Etherians emerged and asked him to approach.

"They were human just like us. They were not wearing those spacesuits. (Each wore) a one-piece garment, each one a different color."

They took him aboard, Velasques said, and he observed that males and females shared authority equally. None displayed

any emotion, he said, and they gave him demonstrations of astronomy, pointing out the location of their galaxy and showing a time-lapse replay of the birth of the solar system.

Then, he said, they gave him a graphic illustration of the location of heaven and God.

"A ball appeared, and there were little human figures like mannequins. There was one standing on the top, one standing on the bottom — he was hanging upside down — and there was one standing on each side of the sphere."

"Then (the instructors) said, 'Where is heaven, Jim?' ... They said they were going to have every one of those little beings point to it."

"The little arms went up ... and ... every one was pointing in a different direction. Suddenly, I saw that heaven surrounded the whole planet, that heaven was all around us."

Dozens more visits followed at Giant Rock ceremonies over the years, Velasques said, until he and the Etherians discontinued the contacts in the early 1980s because of increasing disruptions and harassment from other people around Giant Rock.

UC Berkeley Professor William Simmons finds the concept somewhat unusual for Indian culture. "The idea of guardian spirits is a pretty universal element in Indian religion," Simmons said. But in most lore, he added, the spirits take the form of animals, such as coyotes, eagles or owls, "not spaceships."



"A ball appeared, and there were little human figures like mannequins. There was one standing on the top, one standing on the bottom — he was hanging upside down — and there was one standing on each side of the sphere."

Jim Velasques
Gabrielino Indian leader

The little green men . . .

NORTH ADAMS

I WAS DELIGHTED TO READ recently that UFOs have been sighted in Berkshire County. As I read the account of a sighting in Lanesboro, I tried to visualize what had been seen and to imagine what must have gone through the mind of the man who saw the unidentified flying object and then had the courage to go public.

The story said that Mr. R. was not a fan of science fiction. I can imagine his conversation with police and reporters, the chortling that must have gone on among the hearers of the tale (perhaps almost silently). I can imagine a police officer or a reporter asking if Mr. R. is a reader of science fiction. ("Does this fruitcake believe in this kind of thing? Ha ha. I bet he reads science fiction. I bet he's seeing science fiction right now.")

That, once upon a time, might have been my reaction to such a story. These days I simply wonder what it was that Mr. R. saw that night in the skies over Berkshire County. All it takes, you see, to move one from the company of giggling disbelievers into the company of the genuinely curious is to have seen a UFO of one's own.

It was a spring evening in Tucson, Ariz., some years ago, not too many months after I had laughed at another

UFO-sighter. (I still laugh at that one, however, because he claimed to have talked to the little green men from a spaceship that landed in the woods outside Tucson). There were no woods outside Tucson). On the evening of my conversion, I was taking a stroll near my apartment, enjoying the colors of the sky, when suddenly my UFOs appeared. They were a small cluster of lights — at first I thought they were stars, but they moved erratically, veering this way and that, sometimes slowly, at other times with a sudden burst of speed. They were following no set direction, no pattern. No noise accompanied the motion. They were clearly no aircraft of any kind I had ever seen.

Suddenly, one by one, the UFOs disappeared in little bursts of light. I searched the skies, but the strange formation was nowhere to be seen. The realization dawned quickly, the realization that I was suddenly among the numbers of people who have seen a UFO. I hurried back to my apartment filled with the thought that I must call someone, let someone know and have someone find out what strange things were out in the skies over the Arizona desert on a spring night.

Whom does one first call in the event of dire emergency? The police, of course. And the police of Tucson, Ariz., were no

help at all that night.

"Yeah, lady? I tell you what. We don't do UFOs. We just take care of stuff down on the ground. Why don't you call the Air Force, and they can probably take care of it."

I could not hear any actual giggling in the background, but I could hear it in the mind of the policeman. Still, I had really seen something, and it seemed important to do my duty as a citizen and report it. So I called the Air Force base. The Air Force was more polite than the police.

"Yes, ma'am," the fellow on the phone said. "Now what time was that?" I told him. I described in detail what I had seen. He listened with seeming interest. At least he was reassuring. "We'll send out a squadron to check it out, ma'am. Thank you for calling," he said.

I went outside again. I watched the skies, and I never saw any squadron take flight. I saw no one looking for my UFOs. Still, I turned on the television news that night, but nothing was said about my UFOs. I went to sleep that night wondering.

The next morning I shared my adventures with my classmates at the university. They were not polite at all — they laughed. They laughed loud, bellowing laughs that filled the cafeteria. My feelings were hurt. They, at least, knew me

to be a reasonably intelligent person who does not imagine strange things. I said so.

"Do you know what it was?" one asked. No, of course not, because if I did it would not be a UFO. "It's the students. Every spring some of them get weather balloons and they launch them with a little candle underneath instead of weather instruments," my classmate explained. "And when the balloon gets high enough the balloon expands and expands in the lower pressure and finally the candle sets off the balloon and the gas inside and it explodes. The students do it every spring. Everybody knows that."

Well, I hadn't known that. And if everybody knows it, why had the police not told me? Why had the Air Force not told me? Did the Air Force actually send out a squadron to check out a bunch of weather balloons?

My UFO had turned into a simple FO that morning. It had been exciting while it lasted, and it has changed my attitudes about people who see UFOs. As for Mr. R., he probably did really see something (he doesn't sound like the kind of person to make up such a story), but maybe the people who know what it was just aren't telling him.

On the other hand, maybe there are little green men from outer space . . .

TIMES, Los Angeles, CA - Dec. 8, 1985 CR: A. Laprade

As UFO Interpreter

Ex-Journalist, 83, Seeks Shuttle Berth

By DEBORAH HASTINGS,
Times Staff Writer

Alita Dickerson, former reporter and newspaper publisher, was awakened by the telephone at 6 a.m. Monday. Dickerson, who turns 83 today, is not accustomed to getting such early calls. In fact, living alone in her small Pomona apartment, she is not used to getting many calls at all.

But Dickerson has applied to become the first journalist in space, and reporters from across the country wanted to know why.

Dickerson, who published the Smackover (Ark.) Journal from 1947 to 1951, is having a hard time understanding what all the fuss is about. "Being 82, that adds to the situation, but I don't think it adds to the problem," she said recently in her Southern drawl.

Neither does NASA. "Being 82 would not hinder her at all," said Jennifer McKill, executive director of the Assn. of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication, which will select a candidate according to NASA's criteria.

"There is no age requirement," McKill said.

Applicants must be employed as journalists, with five years' experience in print or broadcasting. Free-lance journalists must be able to prove that their sold works are equal in quality and quantity to those of a full-time reporter.

Dickerson has not been employed by a newspaper since she left the Journal in 1951. She says she last wrote an article for a newspaper in Lewisville, Ark., about three years ago and published a book of poetry in the 1960s. "If she can prove to our people that she has sold enough pieces to be considered a full-time journalist, obviously she has just as good a chance as anyone else," McKill said.

About 1,800 applications have been received, but McKill declined to say who has applied. "Several of what we consider to be big names have applied," she said. "And no, Walter Cronkite has not applied."

A final candidate and an alternate are expected to be chosen in



Los Angeles Times

Alita Dickerson

April for an opening on September's space shuttle flight.

Dickerson said she has abilities that make her unusually suited for the spot, qualifications that she included in her application letter.

"I've seen UFOs and talked to them," she said. "I believe that we're going to have some space contact soon, and this mental ability I have to talk to them will come in handy."

Dickerson's first contact with a UFO was in 1969, she said, when one hovered above her home. "They said they were too busy to talk to me."

Dickerson has never been one to let social conventions stand in her way. In the 1930s, when women were rarely seen in newsrooms, she wrote for the Shreveport (La.) Times and other smaller, weekly papers in the South.

In 1947, she said, she took over the Smackover Journal, a weekly newspaper in her home county about 40 miles north of Shreveport. Dickerson said she poured herself into her work to help recover from the death of her first husband.

In 1951, Dickerson left Arkansas for Florida with her new husband, a journeyman printer. Three years later, the Dickersons headed for California.

REGISTER, Santa Ana, CA - Dec. 4, 1985

Did it come from outer space?

Old UFO controversy surfaces in dispute over OC Indian site

By Tom Krattenmaker
The Register

SANTA ANA — A dispute over Indian artifacts in south Orange County has revived an old mystery involving a San Bernardino County sheriff's deputy, Polaroid snapshots and alleged visitations from outer space.

The photographs — taken by a reserve deputy who since has died — show a saucer-shaped light hanging over an Indian religious site in the Mojave Desert.

They were produced Tuesday by local Gabriolino Indian Chief Jim Velasques to back up claims of his people's continuing contact with alien astronauts.

On the other hand, sheriff's personnel who remember the episode scoffed Tuesday at that interpretation, saying the saucer shape in the picture is a photographic quirk. And local archaeologists said there is no scientific evidence of such visits to the Indians.

The controversial Indian chief said he decided to go public with "the truth" about his people's religion to prove his point in a developing controversy over an El Toro rock formation.

The 3,000-year-old formation was termed a crude but "brilliant" calendar in an archaeological report released last week. The study was commissioned by a developer constructing homes on the site.

But Velasques, 56, angered that he was not notified when the rocks were unearthed nearly a year ago, says those interpretations violate the sanctity of religious artifacts.

He claims, rather, that the formation symbolizes his ancient ancestors' link to outer space — a link he says is proven by the controversial photographs taken in 1959.

"The reason I brought (the photographs) out was to show the celestial meaning of the (El Toro) archaeology discovery," Velasques said at his Santa Ana home Tuesday.

He said the photographs are his only physical record of contacts with spacecraft, although he claims to have experienced dozens of similar visits at the high-desert site known as Giant Rock, near the town of Landers.

"Had I known the time was coming (to go public), I'd have had my little camera going night and day."

According to accounts by Velasques and a San Bernardino County sheriff's official on duty that day, the pictures were taken in May 1959 by a reserve deputy named Franz Ackerman.

A now-defunct group of UFO hobbyists were holding a sighting conference at Giant Rock that day, said Joe Karr, then a deputy sheriff assigned to help monitor the crowd of several hundred people.

Velasques said he was on hand to address the gathering and request the visitation as his people's ceremonial leader.

"Some people called it a flying-saucer convention, some names not so nice," Karr said from Victorville, where he now heads the sheriff's desert-and-mountain command as a deputy chief.

Karr said he had to leave Giant Rock on a call just before 12:10 p.m., the time the picture was taken. But, he remembers the ensuing controversy over the picture Ackerman took with his Polaroid.

Karr and Velasques said Ackerman denied even seeing the saucer-shaped light, expressing surprise when it appeared in the developing snapshot.

"Franz reportedly took a picture

of something," Karr said. "When it developed, there was a little tiny thing in the upper corner. ... If someone has a good imagination, they could say it was a flying saucer." But Karr attributes it to a "flaw in the photographic material."

Velasques, however, calls it plain luck. "The sheriff, he just picked up his camera, focused and as he went to pull the lever, there he got it."

The most detailed account of the episode was printed in the June-July 1959 publication of the gathering's sponsor, an organization called the College of Universal Wisdom.

It, too, said Ackerman never saw the saucer-shaped light, which lasted about 10 seconds. In fact, the article says none of the people in attendance saw the phenomenon except two boys on top of the mountain beside Giant Rock.

The boys, the article said, reported that it came straight down and darted horizontally to the ground "so fast they could hardly follow it."

Annette Ospital, spokeswoman for the Native American Heritage Commission, said from Sacramento Tuesday that she, too, has heard stories about the 1959 pictures.

Constance Cameron, director of an anthropology museum at Cal State Fullerton, said Velasques' explanation of the photographs and El Toro rocks "are not a scientific outlook on life. ... That ancient visitors came from outer space, most archaeologists would say is nonsense."

Verified by Center for UFO Studies as "Genuine UFO"

Area man sees UFO

BY TAMMY APPLE
Staff Writer

A Burlington man, presently working on the new Alamance County Jail, claimed he saw a UFO (Unidentified Flying Object), and according to an analysis from the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Illinois, he did.

Henry T. Clauer of 409A Hamilton Street in Burlington, was a radio operator with Headquarters Battery, 10th Marines Communications Platoon in Camp Lejeune on February 6, 1983, when he spotted the UFO.

Clauer then reported the UFO sighting to CUFOS, a Center for UFO Studies, and a written analysis of the sighting was completed in March of this year.

According to the analysis, Clauer and a fellow serviceman named Bob, went to a recreation area at Camp Lejeune, to watch plane traffic around New River Air Station. Clauer took his multi-band radio, on which he liked to monitor the aircraft and control tower communications.

About 8 p.m., on February 6, 1983, according to the report, the sky was clear, with moon and stars visible in the area.

A few minutes after their arrival, Clauer and Bob observed a helicopter approaching the air station, which was directly across the bay, approximately five miles away. Clauer changed his radio to a channel used for approach communications.

It was at this moment that his attention was drawn from the air traffic to the sky directly south of the recreation area, where he saw what he describes as a "dim, oval-shaped object." It appeared to be sta-

tionary, hovering at some indeterminate height above the water. It had an outline, with fuzzy edges, and appeared to be from one-half to three-quarters the size of the full moon, the analysis stated.

Clauer stated that he has no good estimate of its altitude or of its distance from them, but would guess it was at least a mile away.

According to the analysis, Clauer at first thought it might be a cargo helicopter, but such machines can be heard for miles and there was no sound from the object in the sky, so Clauer discarded that thought.

The two watched for approximately five minutes; then Clauer, thinking there might be calls by other observers to the base Military Police command, tuned his radio to what he knew to be the MP's operating frequency for 143.5 megahertz (mHz).

The analysis stated, "Much to his astonishment," Clauer found himself receiving "... some station from another country. I couldn't tell; maybe French language." It contained a "... kind of high-pitched sound ..." and the speech was paced and continuous, like a news commentary, rather than intermittent like two-way communications.

Puzzled by this unexplained signal, Clauer tuned his dial upscale toward channels that normally are used by the Coast Guard, and he found that that peculiar signal came in continuously as he tuned across the end of the dial at 174 mHz.

Furthermore, it overrode the receiver's squelch action, which he had set for strong signals. (The squelch control permits the listener to adjust the radio to mute in the absence of a strong signal, so that the receiver noise and the chatter of weaker signals are shut out during idle periods.)

However, when he then tuned

toward the other end of the dial, he discovered that the strange signal was not audible from 143.5 down to 108 mHz. Clauer was confronted by the strange circumstance of encountering a signal that spread unaccountably over just the upper half of the 108-174 mHz and on his radio, the report stated.

As Clauer was concerned with the radio, Bob told him to look at the object, which now was "moving up and down and side to side—fast." Then it stopped again, apparently in about the position it had occupied when they first saw it.

The radio was still receiving the strange signal when, moments later, the object began to leave straight up. As it departed upward, the signal seemed to weaken accordingly and was "... gone within ten seconds or so. So was this unknown object," the report stated.

Clauer became even more puzzled when he called the Military Police command to learn if they had heard any of the strange signal he had first discovered on their operating frequency. Clauer could not understand when he was told by the MP they had received nothing unusual. In search of explanations for the whole experience, Clauer first contacted CUFOS in March of 1983, and submitted a full report nearly a year later.

"Taking Clauer's report at face value and evaluating the technical factors as my experience, research and judgment dictate, I make these tentative conclusions," said R. H. Coddington, in the analysis.

"Clauer did observe a UFO. He obviously was familiar with the military aircraft frequenting the nearby New River Air Station and discounted any of them as being the object," Coddington stated in the analysis.

Coddington went on to explain the UFO's absence of noise, hovering attitude, and erratic maneuvers respectively rule out helicopters, planes, and balloons. It's rapid departure of about ten seconds, also seems to rule out a misidentified star or planet, he pointed out. "We are left with what visually is a rather 'conventional' UFO," said Coddington in the report.

The UFO generated electromagnetic effects. The evidence by Clauer's radio of abnormal signals coinciding with the appearance of the UFO, and their stopping with its departure, imply a nearly certain cause-and-effect relationship, the report stated.

While the foreign-language transmission was a principal part of the abnormal radio signals, it was a conventional short-wave broadcast and did not begin with the UFO, even though the UFO was instrumental in Clauer's reception of it.

Coddington concluded his study with the following most likely explanations of the Camp Lejeune incident:

(1) The presence of a "genuine UFO" and its emission of a strong electromagnetic signal of some undetermined frequency or band of frequencies.

(2) A susceptibility by Clauer's radio to spurious response to that electromagnetic radiation, but effective rejection of it by the military police radio.

(3) The reception by Clauer's overloaded radio of an international broadcast, most probably originating at that time from the "Voice of America" transmitter site at Greenville, which transmits nearly 1000 hours per week, in over 40 languages.



SEES UFO — Henry Clauer of Burlington, who was in 1983 a radio operator in the Marines at Camp Lejeune, had the experience, along with a fellow serviceman, of viewing what appeared to be an Unidentified Flying Object.

After contacting a center for UFO studies, an investigation was done, and it was found Clauer did, in fact, see a UFO.

JOURNAL, Alexandria, VA - Jan. 15, 1986

Steve Vogel

'Cosmic Watergate' keeps UFO group busy

A sticker on Larry Bryant's Parkfairfax apartment door reads, "UFOs are real — Ask the government."

Bryant, a 47-year-old federal employee, has taken the sticker's advice to heart. Much of his spare time in recent years has been devoted to unraveling what Bryant calls "Cosmic Watergate" — the government's cover-up of information about unidentified flying objects.

"It's the biggest story ever never told," he says.

From his home in Alexandria, Bryant runs the Washington office of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), a 100-member organization dedicated to making federal, state and local governments 'fess up about flying saucers.

"Right here, from this little apartment," he said, surrounded by cartoons and files filled with newsletters, documents and articles relating to UFOs, or, as Bryant says in his native Tidewater accent, "Yufoos."

A closet in his apartment is packed with shelf after shelf of what must be virtually every book ever written on the subject of UFOs. Included are notebook binders filled with what he calls "the world's most comprehensive collection of UFO cartoons."

His UFO duties, which include placing ads seeking flying saucer witnesses and writing a column entitled "UFO Secrecy Update" for the Mutual UFO Network Inc. newslet-

ter, take up at least 10 hours a week.

Bryant makes no claim of ever having spotted a "Yufoo," but that hasn't dissuaded him from his cause. "I have never seen China, either," he reasons.

His basic premise is that one or more flying saucers have crashed in this country and elsewhere, and that the government has analyzed the wrecks. Also recovered were "small and ugly" humanoid bodies of crew members.

"The government isn't telling everything it knows," says Bryant. "The military is keeping this material as a political secret."

It would be a lot easier to laugh Bryant off as a crank if he and his compatriots hadn't amassed some interesting documents. There's a 1978 military police incident report at Fort Dix, N.J., which describes an "unidentified being" shot by an MP after UFO sightings over the base. There's a claimed eyewitness account of the event, describing the being as "about 4 feet tall, greyish,



brown, fat head, long arms and slender body."

A recent find is a formerly top secret Air Intelligence Report declassified by the National Archives last March. The report describes a 1955 train trip in the Soviet Union by Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia and two other reputable government officials who were "firmly convinced they saw a genuine flying saucer or flying disc."

Most intriguing is the memo purportedly sent to FBI director J. Edgar Hoover by an FBI agent in 1950. The agent wrote that an Air Force investigator had told him "that three so-called flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico. They were described as being circular in shape with raised centers, approximately 50 feet in diameter. Each one was occupied by three bodies of human shape but only three feet tall, dressed in metallic cloth of a very fine texture."

Bryant's greatest moment in the sun was based on that memo. In 1983, he filed suit in federal court in Washington seeking to compel the

Air Force to release the alien bodies recovered after the saucer wreck.

The "Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Extraterrestrial" sparked a spate of media attention, including an item in Newsweek entitled "E.T. — Phone your lawyers immediately."

The case was thrown out of court — "I couldn't show I was acting on behalf of the aliens" — but that hardly discouraged Bryant. His push these days is for a full-blown congressional investigation. "People will start singing once they get their subpoenas," he says.

The press could lend a hand by ferreting out information from various sources. "You get a Deep Throat, by God," urges Bryant.

Despite the nature of his UFO pursuit, Bryant says he doesn't have to deal with many friends or acquaintances who suggest he take a long rest at a local sanitarium.

In fact, Bryant says the 1980s have brought a new respectability to UFO hunting. "In the old days, it was 'Larry, there's no such thing as flying saucers. Why are you wasting your time?' Now, it's 'Larry, go for it.'"

All he needs is the smoking gun.

Steve Vogel's column appears every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in The Journal.

**MD. PROBERS
USE HYPNOSIS**

People who claim they were abducted
by aliens are not 'crazy,' study shows

New UFO facts revealed

By Anita Lewis
News American Staff

AFTER THAT FATEFUL NIGHT 14 years ago, 20-year-old Steve Kilburn was overwhelmed by a sense of dread and foreboding each time he drove that stretch of Maryland's Route 40 that led to his girlfriend's home. He couldn't shake the feeling that something had happened to him along that road. He sensed only that it involved an unidentified flying object. The rest of story was locked deep in his subconscious. Under hypnosis, however, he told a tale of being abducted and taken aboard an alien spacecraft.

Virginia Horton (who, like Kilburn, insists her real name remain a secret) remembers watching a television documentary about Kilburn's abduction. She recalls things clinking into place, triggering something inside her. She contacted the psychologist who participated in the film, and for her, too, hypnosis released the memories.

Although tens of thousands of reports of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) have been filed since the first modern UFO sighting by U.S. private pilot Kenneth Arnold in June 1947, far fewer people come forward claiming they've been abducted by aliens. When they remember the terrifying episode, they're leery of talking about it, afraid they'll be labeled publicity-seekers or "crazies" who've seen "little green men." In fact, they're neither, claims a new study of nine UFO "abductees," including Kilburn and Horton, funded by the Fund for UFO Research Inc., a Mount Ranier, Md.-based non-profit organization.

New York psychologist Dr. Aphrodite Clamar and UFO researchers Ted Bloecher and Budd Hopkins (author of "Missing Time," an investigation of UFO abduction cases published in 1981 and called the most exhaustive work done on the topic) hired psychologist Dr. Elizabeth Slater to test the five men and four women. So as not to prejudice the findings, researchers kept Slater in the dark, didn't tell her that the people she was testing claimed to have been abducted by aliens. She was simply asked to test and evaluate the psychological profiles of the men and women. Although the study wouldn't prove the truth of the claims, it could pick up any mental illnesses that would explain the individuals' experiences.

Slater subjected the group to a barrage of standard psychological tests but found no evidence of any mental disorders, just what UFO researcher Hopkins calls "garden-variety neurotics" — highly intelligent, creative men and women who seemed a bit immature and cautious with people. A second psychologist "blindly" reviewed the test results and came to similar results. After being told the nature of the study, Slater said the



WALTER JENSEN

nine's psychological characteristics were consistent with those she'd expect to find in people who had been subjected to a traumatic event, such as a kidnapping or abduction.

Horton, now a 42-year-old corporate lawyer, believes she's telling the truth but fears she'd lose her job were her identity known, says UFO investigator Hopkins. Under hypnosis, her story came out, a story typical of abductee reports. According to Hopkins, a W. Va.-born New York painter and writer who has been involved in UFO investigations for a decade, when Horton was about 7 she was playing on a hillside on her grandparents' Midwestern farm. The next thing she knew she was standing near a chicken coop or barn, with no knowledge of how she got there — what Hopkins calls "the standard kind of gap in recollection."

"She felt something on her leg," Hopkins relates, "and reached up underneath her blue jeans and when she took her hand out it had blood on it. She had a very deep cut, totally painless (but) there was no tear in her pants." Hopkins says he's seen 25 cases in the last decade with injuries in the same general area but without tears.

Years later, in the late 1950s, when Horton was 16 she was again abducted, an event her mother remembers as well. While the family was vacationing in Europe, they picnicked near a woods. With her brother, Horton wandered into the woods. The next thing she remembers she was emerging from the woods having had a conversation with a gray-furred deer — what Hopkins calls a "covering image" to protect her from the memory of seeing an alien.

Her mother, Hopkins says, remembers telling Horton she had little drops of blood on her blouse, "but she had no idea how she got it." Hopkins believes they came from "a needle which was put up her (Horton's) nostrils, implying an implant."

Johns Hopkins University astronomer Dr. Richard Henry, who with nine other scientists sits on the national board of the Fund for UFO Research, admits he's "sort of impressed" by the research project. But, he points out that "whether you should be impressed, whether experts should be impressed is another matter."

The 45-year-old scientist spends the bulk of his time working on Hopkins' new ultraviolet telescope, which will be launched aboard the space shuttle Columbia next March. But, occasionally, he's asked to review research proposals for the UFO fund, which is currently the only organization that systematically supports research into UFO phenomena. "No one is an expert, but we're as close to experts as we have," he notes.

Does Henry believe aliens could be visiting Earth? Or, are we just a living mote in an otherwise lifeless universe? "We know the universe is 15 billion years old. Our own technological society is only 100 years old — incredibly, incredibly young. There are 100 billion stars in our galaxy (yet) we imagine we are the only technological society in the universe. . . . We don't know. . . . (but) if they are out there, they are far ahead of us. . . . If phenomenon is real, it doesn't surprise me at all."

Hopkins says the pattern remembered by abductees while under hypnosis is remarkably similar: "Whether in cars, walking or in bedrooms, they feel paralyzed, extraordinarily terrified. They see figures but never feel they are deliberately menacing. . . . They are taken into ship (which has) either landed or is hovering. Then, there's a blank period and the next thing they remember they are on a table in a circular bright room, very calm, almost anesthetized. Then there's a blank period. They are stripped — but with no sexual implication. Often they don't remember how they are returned, how they got out of the ship. There are some periods of unconsciousness."

(continued on page 7)

(continued from page 6 - NEWS AMERICAN,
Baltimore, MD - Dec. 22, 1985)

The aliens they see are also similar: usually 4½ to 5½ feet tall with over-large heads, quite slender, with whitish-gray skin like "a dead marshmallow or mushroom" and long thin arms. Their eyes or coverings over their eyes are extremely black, their mouths a slit that doesn't move. Two tiny openings make up a nose and they've no ears.

Hopkins, who has personally interviewed 95 "probable abductees" and has been in contact with another 200 "highly likely ones" through telephone calls and letters, says he has to assume the phenomenon is "extremely widespread." It also tends to run in families. He's also traced abductions across three generations in two families — fathers and daughters, mothers and sons, all picked up at different times. "It seems they (aliens) are doing genetic sampling, taking sperm samples from men and ova from women. Children are first picked up when they are between 5 and 8 years old and are often picked up again in adolescence and in young adulthood."

One Wisconsin woman who read his book wrote him her story. She had taken her two sons and neighbor boy for a ride to see a bear who had been raiding garbage cans. It was a long drive, and she had promised to be back by 9:30 that night, so her husband could use the family auto.

They saw the bear and started out on their long drive home. As they drove through the woods, suddenly a bright light shown down from above the car. Her foot was on the brake, but the car wasn't slowing or stopping. The next thing she knew, they were three miles further down the road. When she got home, her husband was angry that she was so late. She didn't believe it when he told her it was 11 p.m. and he had to turn on the television to prove he hadn't set the clocks forward. She had lost 90 minutes on that stretch of road.

Later, she went back to the scene with her husband. As they approached that stretch of road she panicked. She believes she and one boy were taken aboard a ship while the other two boys were kept in suspended animation.

Perhaps the most famous abductee case (recounted in "The Interrupted Journey" by John Fuller and made into a TV movie) is that of Barney and Betty Hill. Under hypnosis, the New Hampshire couple claimed that on Sept. 19, 1961, as they were returning home from Montreal, they were abducted by six humanoids and taken aboard a spacecraft for two hours. The aliens stuck a six-inch needle through Betty's navel for what she was told was a pregnancy test.

Another case, widely reported at the time, occurred in Brazil in the fall of 1957. Antonio Villas Boas, 23, was out plowing his father's field at night to avoid the heat. Hopkins says that Boas, who is now a lawyer, stands by the story that he was abducted, stripped and forced to have sexual relations with an alien "woman" aboard a spacecraft while his brother looked on.

The after-effects for abductees aren't pleasant. According to Fund for UFO Research board member and professor of sociology at Eastern Michigan University Dr. Ronald Westrum, those kidnapped are left with unexplained fear, anxiety and phobias. They suffer nightmares, flashbacks and quasi-memories. In severe cases, personalities unravel, careers suffer and marriages break up. "Many of these cases display the symptoms of post-traumatic stress syndrome so common with Vietnam veterans," he says.

Westrum believes the reports should be taken seriously, "since at least some of them might actually provide some evidence of extraterrestrial (or some other kind of non-human) intelligence or of some heretofore unrealized factor of the human psyche."

If the stories are true, if hundreds and perhaps thousands of people have been kidnapped and examined by aliens aboard their ships, why haven't the aliens said, "Take me to your leader?" Why hasn't a government on this planet been contacted?

"We may be to them the way ants are to us — the zoo hypothesis, except we're the zoo," says Dr. Bruce Maccabee, a Washington, D.C.-based physicist with the U.S. Navy who is also the chairman of the Fund for UFO Research.

"On the other hand, I don't think we could guarantee the government hasn't been contacted. There are lots of weird stories — some of them coming from inside sources — that some government agents have had conversations with aliens (but there is) no way of proving that," Maccabee says.

"Does the government know?" Hopkins astronomer Henry asks rhetorically. "You have to ask, is it possible for the U.S. government to keep a secret of that nature for so long?"

Hopkins has "no doubt" of a U.S. government coverup, and says that although the Air Force's investigation of UFO reports, "Project Blue Book," ended in 1969, under the Freedom of Information Act he's seen several hundred pages from military and defense agencies regarding sightings. But, he adds, aliens may not have contacted the government directly.

Still, he's convinced that for every one abductee that has come forward, there are 100 still secret. "They are not seeking publicity. They've been through the bloody mill ... It's a most painful thing to deal with."

NEWS TRIBUNE, Ft. Pierce, FL - Nov. 28 (2), 1985

NASA officials stumped by strange light, boom

By Susan Burgess
News Tribune Writer

The mysterious bright light and big boom Tuesday after the shuttle launch definitely wasn't a plane, it was too high to be a helicopter, and it probably wasn't the shuttle.

But it was seen and heard Tuesday 400 miles north and south of the space shuttle launch site at Cape Canaveral.

Wednesday, National Aeronautics and Space Administration spokesman Charles Redmond said he is stumped.

Tuesday night he guessed the noise was from the shuttle breaking the sound barrier. But Wednesday, when he found out how many minutes passed until the noise was heard, he said it couldn't have been the shuttle unless the atmosphere was playing some very strange tricks.

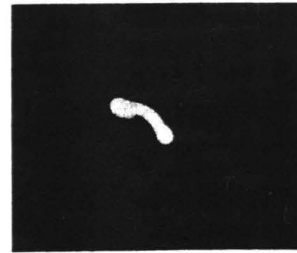


Photo provided by George Suchary

What is it?

Then he speculated that the light could have been from an Air Force helicopter or fighter plane deployed from nearby Patrick Air Force Base to chase away intruder planes.

The sound, he guessed, could have come from a jet afterburner that kicked in when the pilot decided it was time to hurry back to base.

CR: Mrs. R.T. Girard via R. Girard

NEWS TRIBUNE, Fullerton, CA - Nov. 14, 1985

Tracing UFOs is his life work

by Joe Manteneri
News Tribune Writer

Some subjects really provide introspection for certain individuals. One area that does that is unidentified flying objects and psychic phenomenon. People like to debate whether they exist or not.

One person who has decided to make his life work investigating UFOs is John DeHerrera of Fullerton, who has lived in the city for 23 years and been an investigator for 30.

"My objective is to find out what UFO's are — what's the nature, the substance," DeHerrera said. "In a court of law, I can prove they are real. I could give a good indication of what they are. That's what I would like to do."

One significant report he has investigated happened in Van Nuys about two years ago. It was seen by two young mothers, he said.

"One of them had a teen-aged daughter who was going to be attending the junior high school there," DeHerrera said.

"They drove out at nine o'clock in the evening to see what the school looked like and how far it was. The mothers drove into the large school yard and two other cars that had been parked there drove away at the same time they were pulling in."

"They stopped and turned off their lights; parked there a couple minutes. The mothers noticed a glowing object drop out of the sky into the back lot of the school. In the yard are tall oleanders all the way around. It's a really good hiding place for anything."

"Then, in a few seconds, it came around the building, just maybe five feet off the ground and stopped right in front of the car. I measured 100 feet in front of the car. It paused a few seconds and backed up maybe 20 to 30 feet. And, then shot back up in the sky," he continued.

DeHerrera was accompanied by investigator Anne Druffel to check out the case and was pleased with the descriptions, DeHerrera said.

The one thing an investigator always has to be on the look out for are the false reports, he said. Reports in which the person or individuals cannot give

much detail or explain the experience over and over again are usually untrue.

"One of the young mothers ran to a telephone and called her dad," he said. "Her dad had a tape recorder on the telephone. After a few minutes, he had her start all over again and he turned the tape recorder on. I've got a very exciting description of what they saw and about their first reactions."

"Here we have a very good eyewitness account. There's more than one person and they are very excited and You can tell they've had a profound experience. All three descriptions correspond."

"The sitting was 200 feet away at the closest point; very little chance of misidentifying an aircraft," DeHerrera said.

After getting the report, he started canvassing the neighborhood and talked to a lot of people but couldn't find any neighbors that had seen the object, DeHerrera said. But, at the airport, he found a pilot who had seen something.

"This pilot said he was flying in that area in the evening — he had just taken off and that something got above his aircraft. It lit up the whole top of his airplane. He couldn't see the object, though."

"That's a typical good report."

DeHerrera, who wants to test his beliefs from the 30 years of UFO studies that he has done, tried for the \$10,000 reward that Southern California Skeptics have offered. It will be paid to the first individual who can prove they had or have a "paranormal" ability or experience, the group said.

"Nothing is wrong with mild and moderate skepticism, but militant skeptics confuse the issues with erroneous facts, negative biases and their hostile attitude," DeHerrera said.

"Originally, I welcomed the skeptics but then found out that they could not be trusted with facts and figures."

"I just knew they were going to squirm out. They've stated that they will never pay anyone."

But he checked with all the Air Force bases in Florida Wednesday and none had any supersonic planes in the air in South Florida around the time of the launch, although there were some helicopters in the area, he said.

Redmond ruled out the possibility that a Harrier plane, the kind that can hover and then take off, or an "Airwolf"-type helicopter could be in the area. He said shuttle launches are considered a matter of high priority national security and for that reason no one puts anything in the air without telling NASA.

The shuttle took off at exactly 7:29 p.m. and the noise from the breaking of the sound barrier would have been heard on the Treasure Coast at 7:30:07, he calculated.

Residents said the boom, followed by a house-shaking rumble, occurred at about 7:41, or about 12 minutes after the launch. The first call came into St. Lucie County's 911 Central Communications at 7:46 p.m., a supervisor said.

The shuttle took off due east, and ascended at a 45-degree angle, Redmond said.

The light, according to two St. Lucie County witnesses of the phenomenon, was hanging in the sky near the shuttle before the launch.

George Suchary of Hills Court, to the east of Sabal Palm Plaza, said it hung still, then moved left and right, back and forth. It didn't flicker like a star, and it was too big for a star, he said.

He ran in the house, grabbed his Polaroid camera and snapped a picture of the light. By that time the shuttle was nearly out of sight and the mysterious light was streaking southeast across the sky.

Redmond said NASA is interested in determining what the sound and light might be because "it would answer a couple of intriguing observations passed on to us during previous launches."

It's just a ruse. You see, most investigators are frightened by these skeptics. I don't fear them one bit," he added.

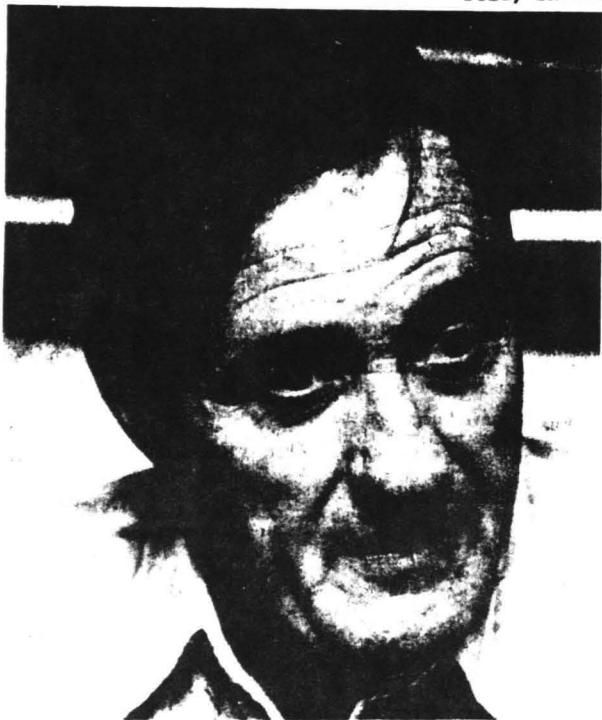
DeHerrera said he figured the skeptics were not going to live up to their bargain so he made it enticing for them by showing evidence of both UFOs and ghosts.

"I came to find out they were getting \$10,000, supposedly, from Randi the magician. I knew right away Randi was just a con artist. There were rumors that he swore he never would pay anybody the money. A former colleague of his admitted as much."

"Al Seckel, the chairman of the skeptics group who was given the power to offer the challenge by Randi, kept hounding me on the phone. 'What is your description of what UFOs are,' he asked. I spent some time and said what I thought UFOs were. He called another time and insisted I give him the evidence I have."

"We agreed before that we would take six unbiased people and I would present the evidence to them. They would evaluate it. So now, Al is saying, give it to me. You haven't given the evidence to me so therefore you're not in compliance. That's his way out. Seckel wants to be the only one to review the evidence," he said.

CR: J. DeHerrera



JAMES BARRINGER/THE SALISBURY POST
George Fawcett has investigated UFOs for 41 years

UFO chaser: Somebody is watching us

By Kathy Chaffin
THE SALISBURY POST

"Reporting an unidentified flying object is like reporting the Virgin Mary on your front porch or letting a bobcat in your living room: all hell breaks loose," says UFO investigator George Fawcett of Lincolnton.

Sylvia Bagby, whose UFO sighting on Nov. 10 is detailed in an accompanying story on this page, knows the feeling. She reported seeing a round, red object as big as a house in the sky over Salisbury. People laughed when she reported it, she says.

That's why 90 percent of the people who see UFOs never report them, Fawcett says. Of the 10 percent reported, most prove to be balloons, lithium clouds or planets.

But those that can't be explained hold the secret to one of the world's most intriguing, and some say, frightening, mysteries.

Fawcett, who has spent 41 years and \$30,000 investigating UFO sightings, says, "If you have a taxicab, why not a driver?"

Fawcett became interested in UFOs at age 15 after reading a newspaper story on "mysterious silvery balls" over Paris. The article, dated Dec. 13, 1944, said Allied Forces feared the balls were a new German war device. Similar sightings have since been identified as UFOs.

Only sighting

Six years later, Fawcett saw his first and only UFO while attending Lynchburg College in Virginia.

"I'd been to visit my roommate in the infirmary, and I was walking across the campus when suddenly I saw what looked like a large tractor tire right above me," he says. "I watched it for 4½ minutes. Finally it moved up and down like a yo-yo on a string about five times and then took off at a 45-degree angle."

Fawcett is one of more than 15 million Americans claiming to have seen UFOs, according to a 1978 Gallup poll. The same poll said that 57 percent of the public accepted UFOs as real and that 93 percent of the public — the highest figure ever — was aware of UFOs. Another poll says 47 percent of

people believe in intelligent life on other planets. However, Fawcett says the public should examine the facts.

"You've got to guard against foolish faith," he says. "What I try to do is walk the middle road between foolish faith, where every light in the sky is a spaceship, and blind doubt based on the philosophy, 'Don't bother me with the facts. My mind's made up.'"

When Fawcett, a Mount Airy native, started talking about UFOs, people called him a "kook," "communist" and "crackpot."

Sputnik scare

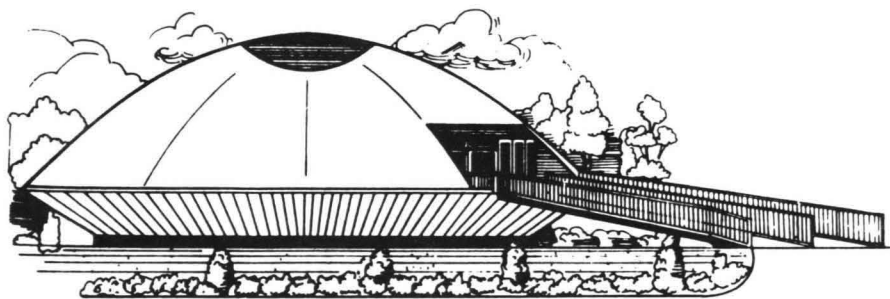
Then in 1957, the Soviets launched Sputnik, and people began looking to the sky. After American astronauts walked on the moon in 1969, people began thinking, "if we can do it, maybe others can too."

Over the years, Fawcett's work was accepted and he was invited to speak on radio and television and to civic organizations and schools, including the Rowan Chamber of Commerce in 1974 and Catawba College in 1981.

He was interviewed by "Tar Heel" and several other regional magazines and newspapers when a big wave of UFOs hit the area in the '70s, and he has published over 100 articles on UFOs. His first book, "Quarter Century Studies of UFOs in Florida, North Carolina and Tennessee," was published in 1975.

Fawcett also founded UFO study groups in North Carolina, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New England. After moving to North Carolina in 1973 he became state director of the North Carolina Chapter of the Mutual UFO Network, one of four national organizations coordinating UFO research. This summer, he was one of 11 speakers at the network's 16th annual UFO symposium in St. Louis, Mo.

Fawcett recently gave up the directorship to complete a study on human reaction to UFO encounters. He studied people's reactions in 27 countries to UFO encounters. They ranged from panic to selling homes to families splitting up because of the encounter.



Fawcett designed his proposed million-dollar UFO museum 22 years ago



Fawcett has 25 filing cabinets full of UFO case reports

"You wouldn't believe what people do, and yet they were consistent worldwide," he says.

Rowan sightings

Fawcett has investigated several UFO sightings in the Rowan area.

This year he investigated two sightings on Hurley School Road in western Rowan County and an alleged landing site near Mocksville which left a 30-foot circle surrounded by an 18-inch ring still visible three years after it was discovered. State soil officials could not explain potassium deposits at the site.

The Hurley School Road sightings — reported last month after Fawcett spoke to students at West Rowan Senior High School during American Education Week — looked like a "bright, white star" that turned into a hovering round red disc-shaped UFO "about the size of the moon." And Salisbury Post carrier Carroll Owen reported seeing "a large shaft of light" in the sky at 5 a.m.

Humans sometimes report minor to serious physical reactions to UFO encounters, Fawcett says. One of the women who witnessed the UFO on Hurley School Road said she felt a "tingling or burning sensation" on the top of her head.

A Mount Airy woman who reported seeing a UFO outside her residence, with an occupant looking out the window, soon developed cataracts, he says.

Burned, paralyzed

In 18 cases, says Fawcett, people were either burned, paralyzed or blinded by UFOs. One of the most severe cases involved a Brazil farmer who developed leukemia and died three months after he claimed to have been shot with a beam of light. The farmer reportedly shot at the alien with a rifle.

Some of the physical reactions have been beneficial, Fawcett says.

"One lady who was overweight lost 35 pounds," he says. "Another man, a farmer down in Venezuela

who was hit by a beam of light ... was sick for a couple of days, then at the age of 70, he developed a third set of teeth."

Several who have reported encounters with UFO occupants have increased IQs, and some have developed psychic abilities. "They've become almost like cosmic citizens," he says.

Fawcett has a simple explanation for the negative and positive reactions to UFOs: "I'm one of the researchers who believe we have the good guys with white hats and the bad guys with black hats in UFOs. We have some who not only manipulate time and space, but manipulate human minds in close encounters."

Such fears, Fawcett thinks, have led the government to hide information about UFO sightings. He calls the coverup a "cosmic Watergate."

Former "top-secret" documents released this year reveal that the military concluded 40 years ago that UFOs were real but denied their existence to the public.

"The government concluded that UFOs were unconventional objects with a high degree of technology and that they did represent a threat to national security and human survival," Fawcett says.

"I've got a sneaking suspicion that the light waves and sound waves involved with UFOs was what sparked our Star Wars controversy," he says, "and that we are trying to duplicate someone else's technology."

Fawcett says rumors have circulated for years that the government was going to open up and reveal to the public what it knows about UFOs. "They were stalling for time," he says, "because they wanted to duplicate the UFO technology before Russia or China beat us to it."

"What I was so mad about was that for so many years, the Air Force gave such ridiculous explanations of UFOs. That ruined a lot of families and caused people (who had reported UFOs) to lose jobs and be ridiculed."

Holding back

The government may be holding back information because of a possible adverse public reaction, Fawcett says. Some fear mass hysteria similar to reaction to Orson Welles' 1938 radio broadcast of "War of the Worlds," based on a novel about an invasion from Mars.

The most controversial debate going on in UFO research today centers on claims that the government has recovered alien bodies from UFO crashes.

Fawcett says he has interviewed military personnel involved in investigating the crashes and doctors who reportedly did autopsies on the bodies. They all say they would like to go public but are forbidden by the Espionage Act of 1938. Under the act, anyone who reveals any vital intelligence information could face the death penalty.

Fawcett says he doesn't want to take the reports too seriously or too lightly. "But they look exactly like they should," he says, based on 3,500 reports of encounters with UFO occupants reported throughout the world. Thirty-six were reported in North Carolina.

Taken aboard ships

There have been 600 worldwide reports of people being abducted by UFOs, two in this state. A Raleigh housewife and a Monroe Cadillac salesman both claim to have been taken aboard UFOs and examined.

They describe the occupants as being 3½-to-4½ feet tall and weighing about 40 pounds. The aliens have large, almond-shaped eyes, a large head, no ear lobes, two small holes for a nose and a slit for a mouth. The mouth does not appear to be used for communicating or eating.

The occupants have thin necks, thin arms that reach to their knees, scaly skin and four fingers, two longer than the others, reports

(continued on page 9)

say. Their skin color has been described as beige, tan, brown, bluish-gray and in two instances, "charred brown."

The occupants are hairless, though some have fuzz on their heads, Fawcett says. They are usually seen wearing white or silver overalls and helmets. They appear to have no teeth or reproductive organs.

Occupants reportedly communicate in all known languages, by mental telepathy or by markings on the ground.

Some Christians claim UFOs are a sign of Armageddon, which was prophesied in the Bible, Fawcett says. They quote scripture from the book of Revelation foretelling "signs in the heavens" as proof.

At the same time, a theological group in California, often referred to as "Counterfeit Christians," believes that UFOs are actually "fallen angels" who have come to earth to deceive mankind.

Fawcett says he has gained "a wider revelation of God and creation" from his UFO research and always enters his investigations from a "prayerful viewpoint."

UFOs could help the world to better understand man's purpose, he says. "I wouldn't be surprised if we didn't have all the answers we're looking for in all the filing cabinets all over the world." (Fawcett has 25 cabinets full of UFO research.)

UFO occupants appear to be studying man, he says. They have been seen taking samples of water, rocks, vegetation and animals.

Humans have also been studied, according to reports. Some people have reportedly been abducted several times at different stages in

their lives and examined, Fawcett says. Some have even found small surgery scars afterwards.

Are they friendly?

"I would hope that the majority of UFOs are friendly and that they would come and help us solve our problems, such as cancer, racial strife, warfare and pollution," he says. "It might help us to become so involved with life out there that we forget our problems here."

Fawcett's dream is to build a million-dollar UFO museum and research center.

He has talked with officials in Gatlinburg, Boone and Statesville about the project, but has received no firm commitment from anyone. Fawcett says he designed the museum 22 years ago, but has never had time to pursue it before.

The proposed museum would have exhibits, UFO classes and symposiums with worldwide speakers, photographs, slides, humanoid statues, footprints from landing sites, videotapes of UFOs and case reports of UFO investigations.

"I know it would be a success," he says. "There's no doubt in my mind."

Fawcett says he would like to build the museum in North Carolina because this is his home. "And North Carolina was first in flight, why not in UFOs?" he says.

In the meantime, Fawcett keeps most of his collection of UFO photographs, which he hopes to display in the museum, in a designated "UFO Room" in the Super Sub Sandwich Shoppe in Lincolnton, which he operates with his wife, Shirley. They advertise their sandwiches as being "out of this world."

UFO over Salisbury

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sylvia Bagby was running across her neighbor's yard to get a better look at a strange, white, star-like object she had seen circling around the sky near Salisbury when she felt an "instinct" to turn around and look up.

"When I looked up, I had never seen anything like it," said the 49-year-old hairdresser. "It was shining through the trees over my neighbor's trailer, bigger than any moon or any sun, and it was like it was revolving. It was so red it looked like hot coals. My first impression was, 'This is it. This thing is going to disintegrate everything.'"

But the round, red object, which Mrs. Bagby said was as big as a house and had a yellow halo, disappeared when neighbor Irene Jones ran out to respond to her screams. Then they watched as the object reappeared in its bright star shape and circled to the east about 10 miles away.

Mrs. Bagby said she felt a tingling sensation during the experience that night of Nov. 10, as if she had been out in the sun too long.

"I looked in the mirror, but I didn't see any red places," she said. "I couldn't sleep for about a week. Every time I close my eyes, I still see it. Every time I walk out the door, I look up."

"Most people, when you try to talk about it, they think you don't know what you're talking about," said Mrs. Bagby, who never really thought much about unidentified flying objects before the experience. "I called the sheriff's department — they just laughed. So I really haven't said that much about it ... It makes you feel so alone."

"It suddenly there was a threat to this world from some other species from another planet ... we'd forget all the little local differences that we have between our countries."

— President Reagan, with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I'm convinced UFOs exist because I have seen one. It was the darndest thing I've ever seen. It was big. It was very bright. It changed colors and it was about the size of the moon. We watched it for 10 minutes, but none of us could figure out what it was. One thing's for sure, I'll never make fun of people who say they've seen unidentified objects in the sky."

— Jimmy Carter, 1969.

"Visitors from outer space are trying to work out a method of breathing and staying alive in our atmosphere before landing and establishing contact."

— Gen. George C. Marshall, U.S. Army chief of staff during World War II in 1955.

"We take them (UFOs) seriously, when you consider that we have lost many men and planes trying to intercept them."

— Gen. Benjamin Chidlaw, head of the U.S. Continental Air Defense, 1952.

"My colleagues and I feel that the time has come for official education of the public regarding UFOs. We now recognize that apart from its potential scientific importance, it has sociological and political significance."

— Dr. J. Allen Hynek, astronomer and chief scientific consultant for the Air Force "Project Blue Book" UFO study, 1978.

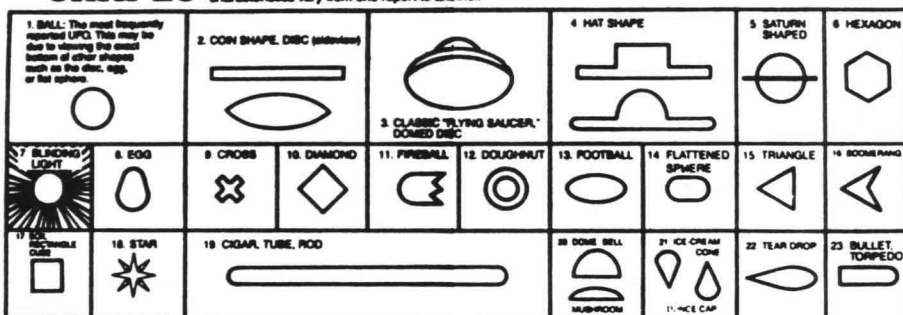
"(World nations) must make a common front against attack by people from other planets for the next war will be an interplanetary one."

— Gen. Douglas McArthur, 1955.

SHAPES MANEUVERS SPEED LIGHTS COLOR SOUND

1 SHAPES

The illustrations below are generalizations of the most commonly reported Unidentified Flying Objects. Such details as lights, supposed landing gear, antennas, portholes, wings and fins, as well as miscellaneous other details have been omitted here for clarity sake. Also because such characteristics vary from one report to another.



A UFO Investigator's Chart is on display in the Super Sub Sandwich Shoppe.

COURANT, Hartford, CT - Jan. 11, 1986 CR: G. Earley

UFO Sighting Sends Theories Flying

By TRACY GORDON
and DEBORAH PETERSON
Courant Staff Writers

TORRINGTON — More than 200 people saw it hovering over Highland Lake Thursday night, a narrow bar of lights illuminating the clear January sky. Some stopped their cars in hope — or fear — that they were witnessing a close encounter, while others called police.

Authorities offered different explanations for the sightings over the lake, just west of Route 8 in Winsted, which were reported between 8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Small planes flying in formation was the most common theory, and one police officer said he thought they were ultra-light aircraft.

And although those who spotted the lights offered differing descriptions of what they saw, they agreed on one point — it did not look like airplanes.

"It looks like a cigar with square windows," said Winsted Building Inspector Joanne Williams, who drew a sketch of the sighting to show her co-workers Friday morning. "This

thing of it being aircraft flying in formation is a lot of crap."

Philip Imbrogno of Fairfield, who is a field investigator for the Center for UFO Research in Phoenix, Ariz., said Friday that similar sightings have been reported at cities and towns on the East Coast by thousands of viewers since 1983.

"I received calls last night from very excited residents who said they saw things that were not of this world. I've heard this over and over again for the past three years. No one has ever identified it," Imbrogno said.

He disputed the theory of small aircraft flying in formation because "it would be almost impossible; descriptions that we were getting said the planes would have to be flying six inches away from each other."

"It's a UFO. I don't know what it is. It could be an experimental aircraft," he said Friday.

Witnesses said they watched the object hover over the area for 15 minutes. Descriptions of the craft ranged from a long object with brilliant white lights to a vehicle with flashing green and red lights.

"It is a boomerang-shaped pattern

of lights that stops, moves slowly and hovers. Its lights are red, white and green. Sometimes it makes a humming sound, sometimes it is quiet," Imbrogno said.

Williams said she has been driving over a hill that overlooks Bradley International Airport on Route 179 in Hartland once a week for the past decade. She said she has made it her hobby to watch aircraft approach the airport.

Although the airport is not visible from the hill — which is about 1,100 feet about sea level — many of the planes are, she said.

When she saw the object Thursday night, she pulled her car to the side of the road to watch it because it looked nothing like the commercial aircraft that she usually sees descending to the runways.

"I was going to call the police to see if anyone else saw it and I was afraid to. They'll think this lady's missing a marble," Williams said, adding that she was relieved to find out she was not alone.

The Torrington Police Department reported it had received more than 200 phone calls from puzzled residents.

One Torrington police officer, who asked not to be identified, said he saw the object while standing on top of the hill in Harwinton.

"I got up on the top of the hill in Harwinton and I could see this V formation like a bat. I thought at first it was a big airplane, but it looked like it was standing still," the officer said.

Paul Johnston, control tower chief at Bradley International Airport, said there were no indications of anything unusual on radar. But witnesses said the aircraft was hovering at about 1,000 feet, a level that would not be picked up by the airport's radar in the Torrington area.

One explanation was that a formation of small planes has been flying out of Dutchess County Airport in Dutchess County, N.Y.

"There has been a rumor floating around for a couple of years that small, light aircraft have been flying over the area in formation," Larry Graber, director of the airport, said. "That has not been an uncommon report. They make themselves look like a UFO."



Strange lights in sky

By GORD McCULLOCH
Temiscaming-Mattawa Bureau

For sky watchers Wednesday there were some interesting aspects to prevailing conditions other than high winds.

Reports of strange sightings in the early morning sky came from various centres throughout the district, including North Bay and as far distant as Collingwood.

Jack St. Onge, a Tembec employee who lives on a farm at Redbridge, told the Nugget he was doing his morning chores around the farm shortly after 5 a.m., Wednesday, when he noticed a green light in the southern sky.

He said it appeared to be the size of a full moon and seemed to be approaching and growing larger.

"My first thought was Halley's Comet and I called my wife Jane and the kids," he said.

But by the time they came out of the house the big ball had disappeared and two smaller spheres could be seen with what appeared to be light beams coming from them.

"It was a somewhat terrifying experience," he said.

While commuting to Temiscaming with two other men he mentioned the incident. One of the two other fellows said he had seen a similar object but didn't like to mention it because he felt he would be ridiculed.

At the Temiscaming mill Mr. St. Onge mentioned the incident to Rhea Viau, an electrician also employed by Tembec and who lives at Ville Marie, some 80 kilometres north of the pulp town.

Mr. Viau said he had also seen some strange but similar objects in the sky on his way to Temiscaming.

The first was a yellow sphere which remained in view for approximately 10 minutes. Then a purple ball appeared and was visible for a matter of minutes. It disappeared and a few minutes later and a white sphere appeared.

Mr. Viau was travelling in a southerly direction and he said the three objects were clearly visible through the windshield of his vehicle. He also said projections like light beams could be seen on the left sides of the objects.

Two truck drivers who stopped for a coffee break after an early-morning, southbound haul along Hwy. 101 from Ville Marie, told Temiscaming resident Rene (Gibou) Raymond, they had a strange experience near the village of Laniel, 34 kilometres north of Temiscaming.

They said as they crested a hill a white cloud was sighted above the highway in front of them. Believing it to be fog they slowed and the cloud shot straight up into the sky.

Mr. St. Onge said he reported the sightings to the North Bay office of Environment Canada.

Barry Armstrong of Environment Canada, North Bay, told the Nugget there had been reports of other similar sightings, the same morning, from other centres throughout the district, including North Bay and as far as Collingwood.

From Collingwood, Ted Aldridge, who is a professional pilot, reported sightings similar to those seen in this district. The Collingwood resident told the Environment Canada office the sightings had been made by himself and a friend Wednesday morning.

Mr. Armstrong said Jim MacLean, also of the North Bay office of Environment Canada had taken detailed notes of the sightings and compiled a log of the reports.

The Nugget also talked with Master Sgt. Don Weston of CFB North Bay. He said there had been, "no indication" of any strange objects being sighted in the area.



Mrs. Margaret Fry (left) with Jerry Tatlow of Pensarn and Jennifer Edney of Rhos-on-Sea.

UFO talk brings promise of more

A TALK on UFO's at Abergele library attracted so much interest that monthly lectures might soon become a feature there.

Head librarian Mr. Bryn Davies said 15 people had turned up to listen to Mrs. Margaret Fry on Monday night, and that he was convinced there was a demand in the town for occasional lectures.

"Quite a lot of people had hoped to come last Monday but I think the weather put them off and I am looking at the possibility of holding regular talks here."

"I know there will be no shortage of people to speak to the public on subjects such as the history of Abergele and the police role in society, and I would like anyone who would like to see a certain topic, or who would like to give a talk, to get in touch with me at the library," he said.

"Mrs. Fry's talk went down so well that she is going to come back again another night," he added.

Mr. Davies said he hoped to get the idea off the ground in the new year.

To illustrate her talk, Mrs. Fry also put up an exhibition in the library, which will be on show until the end of the month.

CR: T. Good

Chesham ready for aliens

BOOKS, EXAMINER, Chesham, England - Nov. 1, 1985

CHESHAM townsfolk may be a sceptical lot, but at least 50 per cent of them are prepared for an invasion by an alien race from another planet.

That was one of the findings of a survey carried out by New Era Publications in the town centre last week.

Only 30 per cent of the people questioned believed that Earth would be strong enough to resist an alien attack, but 75 per cent were reassured by their belief that the East and West would join together to fight off the attack.

The questions were part of a national survey that has been carried out for the last three months. When it is completed the findings will be given to the House of Lords Unidentified Flying Object Study Group.

CR: T. Good

UFO, man tells police

CRAWLEY & DISTRICT OBSERVER, Sussex, England - Jan. 8, 1986 CR: T. Good

A FURNACE Green resident has told police he saw an unidentified flying object over Tilgate Park on Sunday night.

He said it was a big red star, which turned white, became smaller and then disappeared, at about 11 pm.

"It was not reported to us until the following day, so we could not get out and check it," said a police spokesman. "There have been no other reported sightings."

EVENING NEWS, Bolton, England - Dec. 31, 1985 CR: T. Good

Family 'terrified by UFO'

By NEAL KEELING

A FAMILY claims to have been terrified for three hours by a UFO.

The owner of a remote farm at Edgworth says he ran into his home when he saw the object and as it loomed near the farm his daughter became hysterical.

The mysterious white glow appeared low in the sky about five miles from the farm but at times it seemed to be within a few hundred yards.

The local businessman, who does not wish to be named, said: "I was driving home with my son from Darwen at about 5 p.m. on

Saturday when he saw something out of the car window and asked if it was Halley's Comet.

"When we arrived at the front of the farm I noticed my wife and daughter. I started to unload the car but they were calling me in. When I turned round and saw the object I shot inside.

"It was terrific — a white glow with no real shape. It was very bright. Without actually moving it seemed to get bigger and brighter. It was very strange."

He immediately phoned Air

Traffic Control at Manchester who told him nothing had been picked up in the area on radar.

He added: "My daughter was having hysterics. My wife was trying to keep me inside the house and stop me from looking at it. And my son went upstairs for his air rifle. It was very frightening."

Half an hour later the family heard the sound of high-altitude planes and the object disappeared. But it returned as the sound faded.

At 7.30 p.m. family friends arrived at the farm and also

bolted inside the building after seeing the object.

The man said: "By 8 p.m. the thing had disappeared completely. Then two lights came out from behind a hill criss-crossed over and then shot away. That was the finale."

The man added: "I do not want to be named because I do a lot of business in the Bolton area and do not want to be thought of as some kind of idiot."

The mystery is now being investigated by UFO expert Steve Balon of Leigh.

DAILY STAR, London, England
Oct. 30, 1985 CR: T. Good

UFO PROBES

The Civil Aviation Authority is investigating reports that a brightly-lit UFO hovered over homes in Aberargoe, Gwent, for an hour during an eclipse of the moon.

EVENING NEWS, Bolton, England - Jan. 4, 1986 CR: T. Good

UFO

Was it Venus?

By NEAL KEELING

BRITAIN'S top UFO expert has shed light on the Edgworth "white glow" mystery.

The "extra-terrestrial" that held a family under virtual siege for three hours could have been the planet Venus or a bright star.

As reported in the Evening News on New Year's Eve, the owner of a remote farm ran terrified into his home and his daughter became hysterical when the

object loomed near the farm.

The shapeless white glow appeared low in the sky about five miles from the farm but at times it seemed to be within a few hundred yards.

The man phoned Air Traffic Control at Manchester who told him nothing had been picked up in the area on radar.

But Jenny Randles, director of investigations for the National British UFO Association, believes the mystery can be explained.

She said today: "Any bright

light low in the sky or on the horizon will give a distortion effect which can produce a very strange optical illusion.

"If it is against a completely black sky it can be interpreted by the mind in a strange way. The moon can give the same effect when it is low.

"The chances of any sighting being a UFO are remote. But the odds are even larger — about 9,000-1 — if the object remains in the area for three hours.

"Without speaking to the

people involved I do not want to be too specific about this particular case. But it is almost certain that there is an astronomical explanation. It could have been a bright star or Venus."

Jenny added that her association received reports of carbon-copy sightings several times a year.

"We had a case in September in Blackpool when a woman had reported being followed in her car by a white light for three hours. But that turned out to be Venus."

Jenny, who is the only full-time UFO expert in the country, and a professional writer on the subject, also revealed a possible explanation for the dramatic movement of the object.

"The object appears to be moving but in fact it is the person's eyes which are moving — a phenomena which scientists call auto-kinesis," she said.

The family who saw the object do not wish to be named. But they are now being quizzed by UFO experts.

Malcolm's search for ghosts and U.F.O.s

HAVE you ever seen a U.F.O.? Is your house haunted? At some time in your life have you had an unusual experience that couldn't be explained?

If so, Malcolm Robinson of Alloa would be delighted to hear from you. His spare time interest is investigating strange phenomena, certain aspects of the paranormal, and he travels throughout Britain in search of such stories.

In particular he is fascinated by the subject of unidentified flying objects (U.F.O.'s) and as president of the Scottish U.F.O. Network, he follows up reports of sightings and interviews witnesses.

"Ninety-five per cent of U.F.O. sightings are all identifiable objects," he told me. "There are only a very small number of true U.F.O. sightings."

"These things have been tracked on radar throughout the world. They have sent jets up to inspect these objects and they have been well outpaced."

"What surprises me is that the governments of the world don't take this more seriously."

Orange object

Has he ever seen a U.F.O. himself? "I have seen something but I'm not sure it was a U.F.O.," he says.

"It was at Loch Ness back in 1979."

"It was late at night and I was down on the shore with some friends. I had my back to the loch when suddenly a lady in the party screamed out 'What is that?'"

"By the time I turned round all I saw was a half-moon shaped, orange object rise and fall above the hills on the opposite side of the loch. It was throwing out light."

"There were no roads or houses at that point, and it wasn't search lights or torches. I have no explanation for it but I wouldn't call it a U.F.O."

Malcolm, who stays at 41 Leven Court, Mar Estate, Alloa, has heard many tales of U.F.O. sightings during his investigations.



Malcolm Robinson

"One of the better stories is the one that occurred near Livingstone in 1979," he said.

"Early one Friday morning a forestry worker called Bob Taylor was walking down a forestry path and approaching a clearing."

"In this clearing there was, he claims, a silvery grey object and two smaller objects came rushing out from underneath. They looked very similar to second world war sea mines (spherical objects with spikes sticking out)."

"They projected these spikes to his trousers and, before he passed out, he felt a tugging sensation to his trousers."

"When he recovered, the object had gone but there were triangular and circular holes in the ground. His trousers were ripped and he had a terrible thirst."

"The police put a fence round the area and experts were sent up to take samples from the ground, but they were unable to give an explanation."

"I found Bob a very convinc-

ing chap. He himself has no explanation for what happened. He has no interest in U.F.O.'s and is very down to earth."

Along with Bill Gibbons, Malcolm has been co-writing a book for the past couple of years on U.F.O. sightings in Scotland. To some extent they have conflicting opinions on the matter.

"He believes that the U.F.O. problem is extra terrestrial but I'm not totally convinced," remarked 28-year-old Malcolm. "I am willing to believe that it may be other things."

At present Bill Gibbons is in the Congo with a party of twelve people in search of a particular dinosaur-type creature called mokele mbeys which natives claim they have seen.

Malcolm follows up newspaper reports of U.F.O. sightings, hauntings, and other paranormal phenomena by making contact with the people who have experienced them.

"I travel to various locations and interview witnesses to various kinds of phenomena."

Normally I do my interviews on cassette tape but I have now purchased a video camera and I hope to do interviews on video."

Has he encountered any spooks himself? "Although I have been in many haunted houses and have heard so many tales about ghosts, generally no, I haven't," he admits.

Among the ghost stories he has looked into recently is a haunted pub in Stirling called The King's Stables Inn.

Banging doors

"The proprietors have been seeing the ghost of a man. It has no distinct shape but is just a cloudy, shadowy thing. Incidents happen like doors banging for no reason and a hanging pot plant suddenly swinging violently to and fro."

"That was very interesting. One sensation I did feel there was that I was absolutely freezing and when I moved away to take photographs I was back to normal again."

Investigating out of the ordi-

nary incidents fascinates Malcolm.

As he says, "Man has not solved all the mysteries of the universe. There are many more mysteries still to be uncovered through people like myself throughout the world who are really interested in paranormal phenomena primarily to learn and understand."

Fear of invasion by aliens

Inlanders from Outer Space were not only not a burning issue at the time, but they could be just the thing to unite East and West.

In a survey conducted in Kendal almost three quarters of those questioned, thought that East and West would get together to repel an alien attack. About a third thought we had the defences to repel an attack and almost two-thirds thought we would survive it.

In the Battledale Earth survey, conducted by a "spaceman" outside W. H. Smiths last week almost three quarters said they believed there is life on other planets, and just under half thought there was a possibility of an alien invasion.

The friendly spaceman has been the topic of conversation over the past few days to the natives and is coming to the results for the Sci-Fi publishers New Era.

The findings will be given to the House of Lords Un-identified Flying Objects study group.

Did you spot this UFO?

I AM CURRENTLY following-up a claimed UFO sighting, photographed from Southsea sea front, looking across the Solent to the Isle of Wight, and I wonder if your readers might be able to help me discover further data about this phenomenon.

The problem is that the photograph and event occurred on May 2, 1982, but the photo has only recently come to our attention, after a colleague of the photographer persuaded him to contact CUNOS, a leading firm of our high resolution when dealing with witnesses to sightings.

The phenomenon photographed was an orange ball of light, travelling towards the Channel, probably over Solent or Portland, and then over Ryde, further pasting up the Solent, when it suddenly accelerated and then passed itself into thick cloud and was not seen again.

The witness was too far away to hear any noise, and the photo doesn't show very much detail of a structured object. Its estimated height was a mere 150 feet, its velocity being approximately 200 mph.

We do realize that this was during the Falklands Conflict and might have been a precise missile from a warship, going down there, but this would appear most unlikely because of its course inland. This might be one reasonable hypothesis, but having been a Serviceman myself, I am familiar with most modern day missiles. We are awaiting a reply from the MoD(N).

I would be extremely grateful if your readers could inform me of any reports about this incident, or any UFO sightings around this period. — E. Merrin, Chichester UFO Studies Centre, 76 Alameda Drive, Winkfield, Chichester.

UFOs have Cyril in a spin



Mr Parsonage and his blueprint for a flying machine

Inventor who is reaching for the sky

A RETIRED engineer, inspired by UFO sightings, is working on a new idea for powered flight.

Cyril Parsonage, of Horsham, is trying to harness the force created by spinning gyroscopes.

A retired electrical and mechanical engineering lecturer, he says he has all the mathematical answers to back his invention.

Although Mr Parsonage, 62, has not seen a UFO he was fascinated by the descriptions given in reports of sightings.

"People have always talked of them spinning around and when I started thinking how this could come about I came up with the idea of gyroscopes."

"It was the constant reference to whirling wheels which started me thinking in this direction."

Mr Parsonage worked at Kent technical college until he retired three years ago. He

started experimenting with spinning bicycle wheels in a laboratory.

His latest plan is for a frame of four gyroscopes which, according to his theory, would take-off through the force it generates.

Mr Parsonage's idea has not yet got off the ground because he lacks the special equipment needed to make a model that could withstand the high pressure.

But he is continuing to make detailed plans on paper and is

having his idea patented.

"If the idea could be made to work, the new machine could take the place of any other aircraft," he said. "It could be used for a wide range of equipment that needed lift."

"It would also work in any environment and could be used by ships, spacecraft or even submarines."

But until Mr Parsonage finds a backer who is willing to sink around £10,000 into the project his plans will remain firmly on the ground.

Stan has a close encounter

CUMBERLAND EVENING NEWS, Carlisle, England - Jan. 7, 1986 CR: T. Good

A COUNTY pensioner has had a close encounter of the UFO kind.

Stan Hebson, 71, was gazing from his window at Trinity Drive, Northside, when he saw a bright light in the sky.

"I saw a large, cigar-shaped UFO facing over the Solway towards the Scottish side."

LOOKED

"It was about 7.15 a.m. and it was above the level of the street lights."

Retired fork lift truck driver Stan says it was a

dark morning and there were no stars showing.

He said: "I didn't move at all. I watched it for three minutes through my binoculars. I put them down, and when I looked up again it had vanished."

"There is no way it could have been a plane because it wasn't moving."

Stan says he will report his sighting to the British Flying Saucer Bureau.

Terror hovers in the sky

By TONY DONNELLY

THERE was a comforting message today for the Darwen businessman who spotted a UFO—you are not alone.

The well-known businessman asked the Evening Telegraph not to identify him in our story yesterday to avoid embarrassment.

But he claims that he and his family were terrorised for three hours by a UFO in their remote farmhouse at Edgworth.

The close encounter happened on December 28 and following publicity about the sighting, a couple from Bolton also claimed to have seen the white glow in the sky on the same evening.

They spotted the object as they were driving near Belmont and claimed that it seemed to follow their car at about 50 mph.

UFOs over East Lancs

The Edgworth encounter is just the latest in a long series of sightings in East Lancashire. In 1980, Todmorden policeman Alan Godfrey stopped his patrol car in front of a bright, luminous glow.

PC Godfrey "lost" 15 minutes of his life and returned to the police station unable to recall what had happened.

But under hypnosis he said that he had been "interrogated" on board a space ship.

In the same year, Polish-born Zygmunt Adamski was found dead on a coal heap in Todmorden with burns to his head and neck caused by a substance unknown to science.

Eighteen months ago, a spate of sightings in the Rossendale Valley led to questions in the House of Commons.

And there have been dozens of other re-

ports of mystery lights in the sky over the past few years.

There were so many sightings that two local groups were set up to investigate the phenomena.

One of the groups even looked into the bizarre case of an Accrington woman who claimed she had made love to an alien by telepathy.

But not all the reports are so way-out and many sightings have been made by people who had no obvious reason for making things up.

Mr Stephen Brown, of Burnley, is the director of the Lancashire centre for UFO studies.

He said: "I am very interested by the reports of this latest sighting. I can well understand the man being reluctant to reveal his name."

"If you say you have seen a UFO, most people poke fun at you. But our organisation has more than 30 members and we investigate things seriously."

"The trouble is that people think you mean that UFOs are space ships. All we are saying is that people see things in the sky that have no obvious explanation."

"I have got used to the mickey-taking over the years, but many people who have seen UFOs are reluctant to come forward because they are frightened others will laugh at them."

"All I can say to them is that we have had many reports from genuine people who have seen something that cannot just be dismissed."

"The most convincing cases we had last year were from the Burnley area in January. The witnesses saw an object heading over from Nelson and there were independent reports from many people under its path."

MORNING TELEGRAPH, Sheffield, England - Jan. 2, 1986 CR: T. Good

START THE DAY

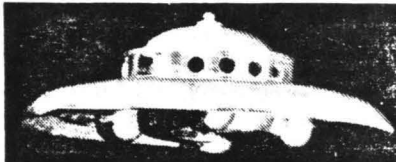
Winston and the flying saucers

WHEN Sir Winston Churchill was Prime Minister he ordered a report on flying saucers, according to Cabinet Papers released yesterday under the 30-year rule.

In a memo to the Air Ministry, he demanded: "What does all this stuff about flying saucers amount to? What can it all mean? What is the truth? Let me have a report at your convenience."

The answer from Air Secretary Lord De L'Isle and Dudley — that the "stuff" did not amount to much — clearly satisfied him.

The only other papers in the file are an exchange of letters in 1955 drawing attention to a magazine report denying the existence of UFOs. Lord De L'Isle told Winston that a full intelligence study into Unidentified Flying Objects, "described by the Press as flying saucers," had



concluded that reports about them had four possible explanations.

They were either known astronomical or meteorological phenomena; mistaken identification of conventional aircraft balloons and birds; optical illusions and psychological delusions; or hoaxes.



■ Policeman Alan Godfrey, who "lost" 15 minutes of his life in an encounter with a UFO.



■ Stephen Brown—"If you say you have seen a UFO, most people poke fun at you..."

3 hours of fear from UFO

'White glow' hung over family home

A BUSINESSMAN has told of his close encounter with a UFO.

He and his family were frightened for three hours by a strange white glow above their remote farmhouse.

The man, a Darwen businessman, has asked not to be named.

"I have spoken about it in the shop, but it has now got blown up out of all proportion. I'm walking round with my head down at the moment."

But UFO investigators are checking the incident.

The man was driving home with his son from Darwen to his farmhouse in Edgworth when he saw something out of the car window.

"It was terrific—a white glow with no real shape. It was very bright and without actually moving it seemed to get bigger and brighter."

The man ran into his farmhouse and phoned air traffic control at Manchester who told him nothing had been picked up on radar.

His daughter was very upset and the whole family was frightened.

After friends arrived, the UFO seemed to fade and half-an-hour later disappeared.

The man said: "I have never said it was a space-

ship and I don't want to be named because people might think I am some kind of idiot."

UFO expert Steve Balon believed the sighting was one of the most significant in recent years.

Another sighting was made a few days after the first one on Saturday, December 28. But the man said he had not reported it because of the fuss over the first.

Reports of a similar sighting over Bacup have led to speculation that there could be a new wave of UFO activity in East Lancashire.

Interest in unidentified flying objects reached a peak in the late 1970s when several Rossendale people reported seeing the same dome-like object in the sky.

Tailor Mike Sacks, who helped to co-ordinate UFO sightings in Rossendale at that time says how he has given up his interest in UFOs because he had met such scepticism. He sympathised with the businessman.

"I was devoted to it for six years, but I found it futile trying to convince the authorities there was something in it. It's like banging your head on a brick wall. The authorities are either naive or ignorant. If they haven't seen something for themselves, they won't believe you

WEST LOTHIAN COURIER, Bathgate, England
Jan. 10, 1986 CR: T. Good

POLICEMEN SPOT UFO

LOCAL police were investigating the sighting of a UFO reported by two of their own officers.

The officers, Sergeant Jimmy Begg and P.C. Tommy Murphy, stationed at Armadale, saw the UFO, described as a "luminous flying clothes pole" in the sky above the town on Monday evening.

"I glanced up to the sky and saw an orange-red object travelling at around 60 m.p.h. falling to the ground," said Sergeant Begg. "It looked like a luminous flying clothes pole and didn't burn out. It continued to glow as it disappeared into a housing estate."

The officers, who saw the object from their patrol car from nearly a mile away, described it as six inches in diameter and three feet long. Sergeant Begg saw the object for around five seconds, P.C. Murphy for two.

The policemen later scoured the Avondale Drive area but could find no sign of the object. No residents in the area reported anything strange.

UFO 'had red flashing lights'

LANCASHIRE EVENING TELEGRAPH, Blackburn, England
Jan. 10, 1986 CR: T. Good

A UFO was sighted on the same night a businessman and his family were terrorised for three hours in their remote farmhouse by a UFO.

Shaun Trencher and his girlfriend Evette Boyle were walking from Abbey Village to Withnell when they saw a large round object with flashing red lights head over them towards Brinscall.

"We watched it for about 20 minutes, then lost sight of it when it shot off at the speed of light towards Chorley."

"We saw it again about 10 minutes later. We saw it hovering over the woods," said Mr Trencher, of Station Terrace, Abbey Village.

"We told friends about it, but they laughed. But when we read about the other sighting on the same night, we thought it may be the same UFO."

The businessman, from Darwen, lives in Edgworth.

MERCURY, Leicester, England
Dec. 2, 1985 CR: T. Good

Throwing a light on UFO

The Leicester UFO Investigation Centre, based at 28 Willow Brook Road, Leicester, are conducting inquiries into strange goings on in the sky.

Many people have reported strange flashing lights in the skies above the county and it has nothing to do with Halley's Comet.

Apparently since early August there have been many sightings of a triangular shaped object with unusual lights.

According to the centre among the witnesses who have seen the strange object were two police officers who noticed the peculiar lights at Long Clawson on September 27.

Reported sightings have also come from Kirby Bellars and Huncote and the

centre claims that the recent sightings are very similar to the 67 reported sightings on October 23, 1978 over the sky in western Leicestershire and Staffordshire.

Investigations have shown that the object could not have been a civilian aircraft or a military craft the public are aware of.

So what is it? And, indeed, where is it? If you have spotted such a craft the people at the Leicester UFO Investigation Centre would like to hear from you, or ET, or whoever.

TRANSLATIONS

City and country of incident: Santiago, Chile
Name of paper and date of clip: EL DIARIO, July 21, 1985
City and country of paper: Asuncion, Paraguay
[CREDIT: Jane Guma]

URGENT MESSAGE FROM UFOs TO MANKIND

"Time is running out..."

"Until now we have acted indirectly to keep man from destroying himself and his own world. But we will not permit a catastrophe to break the balance of the solar system, which, owing to a chain reaction, may also affect the other inhabited systems in the galaxy...This is not a matter of nuclear war. The countries' fear of mutual destruction will avoid this. But a nuclear accident is latent, owing to computer failure due to the proximity of a comet..." This is the message received by a Spanish journalist from some "extraterrestrials." This is his account.

Beings from the stars that arrived in their so-called UFOs are getting ready to intervene directly in Earth's history.

And once again the press has been selected to divulge one of the last
(continued on page 13)

(continued from page 12)

calls made to stubborn mankind: "Time is almost running out...Man's stubbornness will destroy the globe...Only those who change their way of life will be rescued by our ships to repopulate the planet..."

The message is clear: "Until now we have acted indirectly to keep man from destroying himself and his world. But we will not permit a chain catastrophe to alter the balance of the solar system and to also affect the other inhabited systems of the galaxy..."

"This is not a matter of nuclear war. The fear of mutual destruction will restrain the countries. But a nuclear accident is latent, triggered by a computer failure owing to the close proximity of a comet and the influence of its electromagnetic mass..."

Of course I think about the forthcoming visit of Halley's comet, which will be closest to Earth in February 1986.

RESPECT AND OBJECTIVITY

This is not science-fiction. I received the message exclusively because I'm a journalist. And aside from my believing or not in its authenticity, the only thing that was demanded of me was respect and objectivity. No scoffing or irony.

"You are only an instrument through which we can reach all the corners of the Earth with our warning, and the groups of the Rama Mission that are disseminated in more than 20 countries."

Both Pedro Bravo, an accountant, and Hector Valdes, a lawyer and real estate agent, working in Santiago de Chile at the foot of the Andes chain, in the southern cone of America, who are national coordinators of the Rama Mission in Chile, assured me they were handing me this message because they had a telepathic and physical contact with the space "guides."

Eleven years ago, when UFO beings asked Peruvian Sixto Paz and a group of friends to divulge on Earth the dramatic content of their message after an extraterrestrial contact in the Andean plateau of Marcahuasi, "upon our coming down from the plateau we were met by journalists waiting to obtain the exclusive account of our experiences..."

I had arrived at Pedro Bravo's home for just another interview. However, after several hours of listening to his extraordinary experiences and the alarming message from the space beings, we were now standing in a solemn attitude, around a round table, and I was being asked to transmit an alarming piece of news to the rest of mankind.

"THEY" OBSERVE US

"You are now responsible for this truth to be divulged. Consult us in case of any doubt. We repeat, we want you to be serious and objective. Don't forget that though we do not see them, 'they' are present. And they are observing this meeting from their ships. 'They' are witnesses of your pledge of being an instrument for their urgent message to reach all earthmen..."

I do not believe in UFOs. But I am interested in researching, in learning and knowing about this phenomenon. My perspective is not one of faith. It pretends to be that of rational knowledge. And in the course of my investigations, I became convinced (I wrote a book about it, "You will never know...") that the phenomenon's probable origin is from the stars. Therefore, I do not discard the possibility of communication. If it is true that they are here, what can keep them from communicating? Therefore, maybe it is true that I have been selected to transmit one of their last and most urgent messages to Earth..."when time is already running out."

Juan J. Faundes (EFE Agency)

City and country of incident: Boliva, Chile and Peruvian borders
Dates of incidents: August 11-16, 1985
Name of paper and date of clip: LA CUARTA, August 16, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Santiago, Chile

[CREDIT: Richard Heiden - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Jane Guma]

UFO FLEETS FLY OVER THE SKIES OF CHILE, PERU AND BOLIVIA

UFOs already seem to be a part of the family, and Bolivian radios clearly heard in Arica (Chile) are reporting fleets of strange objects flying over their territory.

The fleets were seen in the Chile/Bolivia and the Peruvian borders.

Bolivians have been reporting thoroughly on their radio stations that the invasion has been going on for five days, and they also hand over to the papers reports from people that saw UFOs as frequently as if they were just seeing their own neighbors. Witnesses claim the phenomenon was seen simultaneously - in the Charana region, on the border with Chile, and in Desaguadero, on the border with Peru. They were also seen over the Titicaca Lake and near Tambo Quemado.

LIKE A CIGAR

Bolivian professor Alex Clavijo reported that he was in the village of Japa, 400 kilometers from La Paz, when suddenly an elongated body appeared in the sky, similar to a cigar, intensely orange and giving off intermittent lights. It was approximately 11 p.m.

The UFO remained hanging in the sky for some 30 seconds and then moved slowly to the left, disappearing afterwards at great speed towards the mountains.

The witness said that more than 100 persons saw the same thing, including a group of Bolivian policemen.

CHILE AND PERU

Strange flying objects are being seen in the town of Puno since last Monday (8/12), giving off intermittent lights. Witnesses reported them as UFO fleets.

Meanwhile, farmers and truckers report in Arica that last Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning, the strange objects amazed them.

Experts state that what might be happening is what they call "UFO entry to Earth," which happens only at certain times of the year.

Carabinieri had no official report on the appearance of UFOs over Parinacota and Arica, while the Aeronautical Direction stated that on the date and time reported, only a Cessna plane was in the area, prospecting for fish, and flying in an opposite direction to that given by the UFO witnesses.

City and country of incident: Santiago - Chaca Valley, Chile
Dates of incidents: August 17, August 19, 1985
Name of paper and date of clip: LA TERCERA DE LA HORA, August 20, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Santiago, Chile

[CREDIT: Richard Heiden - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Jane Guma]

CHILEAN ASTRONOMERS SAY: "IT WAS A UFO!"

It was seen from the Cerro Calan Observatory.

Astronomers from the University of Chile, working at the Cerro Calan Observatory photographed the UFO that flew over Chile last Saturday, deciding that it was neither a meteorological balloon nor a satellite, as it was believed at first.

Researchers Carolos Torres, Guillermo Carrasco and Herbert Wroblewsky, claimed that they saw the phenomenon directly through the Cerro Calan telescope. They added they had never seen anything like it in their studies of the universe, and that it is the first time a UFO has been photographed from this observatory.

For Herbert Wroblewsky, an astronomer with more than 20 years experience, the craft had the shape of a pan suspended in space, that "I saw very clearly, the sun shining on one of its sides."

Astronomer Carlos Torres said: "What I saw was a paraboloid object, like those dish antennas, with a transversal axis. This, added to all the other descriptions, has other things in common, like this kind of antenna."

"But there's one thing in which we are all in agreement," said Carlos Torres, "which is that it is a kind of bright ring."

They added that the telescope and the camera are prepared for night photography, for which reason the exposure this time was of 2 seconds instead of the usual 30 seconds.

It's not a balloon

The reason why the possibility of a meteorological balloon is discarded is that the balloon had a completely different shape which they recognize perfectly. Besides, they said they saw this phenomenon for at least one hour. On the other hand, they don't discard that real "meteorological balloons" could have been sighted in other locations "because a lot of people saw two objects, and we saw only one."

They added that neither could this object have been a satellite because of its orbit and "because for it to have been a satellite, it must have been immensely large for us to be able to see it through the telescope." Had it been a balloon, "we have a telescope through which we could have seen it as such or maybe as a kind of empty hanging bag," categorically claims Guillermo Carrasco.

Do you believe in UFOs?

"I really couldn't affirm whether they do exist or not. I had never seen anything like it, but had heard about the subject. I don't know whether these are terrestrial or extraterrestrial phenomena," added Carrasco.

Herbert Wroblewsky said: "I still don't believe in UFOs, but the phenomenon I saw on Saturday is quite strange and objective. It must be investigated to learn whether it is something built by man or something alien."

They added that if the object was also seen in Argentina (as had really been the case), it must have remained at an altitude of more than 7,000 meters.

They confessed that it would have been best to draw the phenomenon, but as it was all very surprising, a kind of anxiety arose because they all wanted to see it. "We reacted emotionally, but I completely reject the balloon theory because it was like a metallic object hovering in space," said Wroblewsky.

Upon being asked why their descriptions aren't all in agreement, Carlos Torres replies: "The fact of our not being in agreement is partly because it is an absolutely clear phenomenon that was not too nitid [sic], and also possibly because everyone reproduced whatever impressed him most at the time he saw it. But if you look at the drawings and condense them all, a kind of bright ellipse can be seen."

City and country of incident: Santiago, Chile
Name of paper and date of clip: LA TERCERA DE LA HORA, August 22, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Santiago, Chile

[CREDIT: Richard Heiden - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Jane Guma]

"THEY VISIT US TO AVOID A NUCLEAR WAR"

Arica (By Juan Carlos Poli) - "There's nothing to worry about, these beings have been visiting us for a long time. They are studying us, since their only mission on Earth is to keep us from destroying ourselves. They are trying by all means to avoid the feared nuclear war." These words, very spontaneously and very categorically spoken, belong to ex-Chilean Air Force officer Pedro Castro Zapata, a strange character from Arica who claims that he has been having contacts with extraterrestrials for five years now.

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13)

According to the Chilean Air Force officer, the presence of UFOs in different places of the planet is common, but it became more intensely noted these last days because the ships "are converging" towards the "plateau angle" located near the Chilean, Bolivian and Peruvian borders, to supply their engines with energy which they take from the highest peaks of the mountains and hills which have different underground minerals.

According to Pedro Castro, who has had telepathic contact with beings from other planets for several years, they come in peace. "They are studying us step by step in order to be able to avoid with their presence the war between the big world powers," he claims.

According to him, the UFO fleets that were seen these last days in regions of Chile, Peru, Bolivia and Argentina, come from Jupiter, which is really the Rioux ring. They are groups formed by a mother ship and three auxiliary or exploratory ships. The mother ship, he says, has a diameter of 35 meters, with an approximate height of 10 meters. Their engines operate on energy liberated by Earth.

"They are absolutely peaceful beings, with minds highly superior to ours and who realize that the world is about to destroy itself with nuclear arms," said Castro Zapata.

Entry Zone

Showing us more than 300 drawings and plans, Pedro Castro says the UFO fleets enter Earth through two well-defined entrances. The most important one is Easter Island, and the silent zone in Mexico. He says the Egyptian pyramids show the middle of the planet to the pilots, and they even keep secret bases in Antarctica, where there's also a lot of mineral energy, which is absorbed in order to supply the ship's engines.

That is the reason, according to him, why the U.S. has shown so much interest in setting up a station in Easter Island, the excuse being that of an alternative landing place for space shuttles. "American scientists are very much aware of the UFO situation, and that is the reason for their presence on the island," he added.

City and country of incident: Between Nazahuento and Guacollo, Chilean/Bolivian border
Date of incident: August 20, 1985
Name of paper and date of clip: LA TERCERA DE LA HORA, August 22, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Santiago, Chile

[CREDIT: Richard Heiden - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Jane Guma]

ANOTHER ENORMOUS UFO STROLLED ALONG THE CHILEAN/BOLIVIAN BORDER

Arica (By Juan Carlos Poli) - Two truckers that arrived early yesterday morning in this city, claimed they saw a giant flying object on the border with Bolivia, while they were driving from Nazahuento to Guacollo.

The witnesses, Carlos Montero and Nolberto Ponce, said they were working in the area for a construction company and when they were driving between both towns, located 250 kilometers from Arica and 4,300 meters above sea level, they suddenly saw a big orange light in the sky, moving at great speed.

"It had an elongated shape, and quickly disappeared in about 5 seconds, to the north. It came from the hills going towards Putre," said the driver, Carlos Montero. On the other hand, Nolberto Ponce, who said he had had other sightings some months before, in the interior of Iquique, explained that the phenomenon was seen in the sky at around 9 p.m. on Tuesday. "The light was very intense, like a big flashlight illuminating the ground, was completely silent, and moved at great speed," he added.

Also in Bolivia

News broadcasted by Bolivian radios which are heard in this city, reported another spectacular event on Sunday night over Lake Titicaca.

It was claimed that local residents saw six flying objects fly over the lake for more than half an hour, and the next day a sunken boat was found, its crew nowhere in sight.

This incident, which was widely reported, has been food for the wildest journalistic speculations, even indicating the possibility that the three men in the boat had been kidnapped by the UFOs flying over the lake.

While this is going on, the UFO psychosis is also going strong in the neighboring country, and a meeting of experts is being announced in the sighting areas to analyze the situation more thoroughly.

City and country of incident: Argentina
Name of paper and date of clip: LA GACETA DE HOY, September 14, 1985
City and country of paper: [City Unknown], Argentina

[CREDIT: Jane Guma]

APPEARANCE OF UFOs OVER ARGENTINA RE-OPENS DISCUSSIONS

Man has different opinions on the existence (or non-existence) of UFOs. Some versions suggest that these "saucers" would emerge from the depths of the seas or oceans, others relate the subject to the "forces" of the Egyptian pyramids. Some others are sure about there being life in other galaxies, while still others defend the theory that UFOs exist without confirming whether their pilots are envoys from other worlds.

A few days ago, "The UFO Phenomenon," was the subject of a meeting that had architect Roberto Banchs, journalist and radio announcer Alberto Rafael Frutos from Santa Fe (who is a member of the Argentine Federation for the Study of Extraterrestrial Science-FAECE), journalist

Juan Carlos Orofino from the city of Balcarce, and Antonio Las Heras, head of the Institutio de Ciencias del Hombre (Institute for the Study of Human Sciences), talking to some 80 attendants.

Alberto Frutos began by criticizing some of his colleagues, since "this wave of UFO reports does not permit a real investigation, although it is useful as an auxiliary element," to continue telling the public about the incident on August 23, 1985, in Santiago de Chile, when thousands of TV sets saw "live" the evidence of the presence of a UFO (antenna and landing legs), while Chilean journalists and photographers were perpetuating those images on film. After almost 25 minutes, he finally established a difference between "ufology" and "ovniology," finally adding that experts of the subjects know little or nothing about the possibilities of human mental communications. Orofino analyzed UFOs as phenomena of psychic, physical and sociological characteristics. With regard to the physical aspect of UFOs, he said they are a mass of energy that occupies a certain space not exceeding ten meters which produces certain light effects and different colors which in turn produce changes around them. According to him, paranormal phenomena and UFOs may have a common origin which leads to the following implicit question; is there a technology behind all this? Are they extraterrestrials, space travellers or what?

For Antonio Las Heras, they once were the gods of Mount Olympus and then angels created by the Catholic Church who served as intermediaries and communicators with the beyond. According to him, today UFOs would occupy that place within a technical and cosmic society.

He added: "More than once, pilots, meteorologists and even scientists confuse 'space trash' with meteorites or lenticular clouds. I could show you many photos and you'd think you're looking at UFOs. Only an expert would realize it is something else," he said. Mankind needs enigmas to live on; magical thoughts and UFOs all have the necessary elements for this. They are visible, perform as a modern myth, and as an intermediary archetype, and they also allow for society to incorporate the magical factor.

Locations of incidents: Ponza, Teano & Sorrento, Italy
Date of incident: December 13, 1985
Name of paper and date of clip: CORRIERE DELLA SERA, December 14, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Milano, Italy

[CREDIT: Danielo Giordano - Translation Credit; Robert Reid]

SQUADRON OF UFO IN THE SKY OF PONZA--SO SAY THE PILOTS OF FOUR AIRPLANES

Halley's Comet sharpens the vision, and in the clear skies these days, bright objects are unexpectedly appearing. Four pilots of civilian airliners have reported to Rome's Ciampino (airport) controllers "Unidentified Flying Objects," or UFOs, in the sky over Ponza, Teano and Sorrento.

From the cockpits of ATI, British Airways and Olympic airliners were seen, at 1740 hours yesterday, at least 5 luminous points that appeared to pursue and cross each other, flying from east to west and from west to east. According to the ATI pilot, this mode of flying did not appear casual, and gave the impression the five objects were proceeding in formation, at high speed and at a distance not far from his airplane.

There was no fear, and obviously no emergency. As always in these cases, the conversations between aircraft and controllers were recorded and within the next few days will be sent to the special office that deals with unidentified flying objects.

It seems these sightings had other confirmation from the ground. In Naples, many people have seen these "luminous points" in the sky.

It's hard to establish what it all means. The military defense staff [meaning Italian Air Force, most probably--RR] confirms that no military exercise was underway in the area. It's absolutely impossible that the tracks could have been aircraft, while the most plausible hypothesis seems to be meteorites.

The sighting happened while the ATI aircraft and those of the other airlines were flying at an altitude of approximately 8,000 feet, in conditions of optimum visibility. The pilots were not able to distinguish any shapes, but saw only the brightness.

City and country of incident: Cordoba, Argentina
Date of incident: January 16, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: O DIA, January 20, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[CREDIT: Irene Granchi]

CORDOBA, ARGENTINA (AGS) - A UFO of great size came down on a hillside in the province of Cordoba, 700 kilometers north of Buenos Aires, burning the vegetation over a 100-meter area, according to witnesses' reports.

According to people living in the region, who witnessed the event, the vessel stood for at least 1 hour at one spot, was circular-shaped, and showed many little portholes emitting colored lights; these were brilliant and changed colors from white to blue and orange.

The UFO was observed during the night, Thursday, at the hillside of one of the mountains (hills) at the Sierra del Pakarito, about 12 kilometers northeast of the city of Cordoba, capital of the province.

Two employees of the Municipal Administration where the sighting was observed, visited the locality of the incident, and were able to prove that the vegetation was altered, with a nearly perfect circle, 100 meters diameter, appearing at the spot.

They also observed that on a neighboring hill there was a tree which, although it had not been burned, had undergone a change. Its green leaves had first turned reddish, then yellowish, as if an acid had hit it.



'Creature' pesters East Pennsboro

The curious come in droves, hoping for glimpse

By Wade Fowler
Patriot-News

That Big Foot-like creature is becoming a big pain for residents of Pine Hill Road in East Pennsboro Twp.

Residents say gawkers came out in droves after The Patriot-News' Aug. 28 report that people were hearing strange noises at night along Pine Hill Road — an otherwise sleepy country lane connecting Wertzville Road and Valley Street in the west central portion of the township.

Now that two obviously sane people have reported sighting a tall, hairy, smelly, apelike creature, residents were expecting more of the same last night.

They got what they expected — in spades.

In one 10-minute period more than 20 vehicles drove by. At times it looked like a drive-through window at a bank on payday, with three and four cars traveling by, almost bumper to bumper.

In an hour's time more than 100 vehicles drove by. There were motorcycles, trucks and cars — some with spotlights flashing out of the windows.

Normally, you'd expect nine or 10 cars to pass by in an entire night, one resident said.

Radios blared, tires squealed, gears ground, people called out loudly and the woods were awash in flashlight beams.

To have ventured out last night, the creature would have to have been blind, deaf and stupid.

It was a scene undoubtedly similar to the searches for the real Big Foot — the legendary half-man, half-beast that has been said to roam the mountains out West, leaving huge footprints behind.

Wayne Jones, who holds the dubious distinction of occupying the first house after the turn onto Pine Hill from Wertzville, was somewhat annoyed by last night's confusion.

But at the same time, he welcomed the publicity, he said, because he is convinced that something unusual has been happening in the neighborhood and it warrants the close scrutiny of experts.

Capitalize EXPERTS for emphasis because the woods surrounding the lane could hold some challenges beyond the reach of novices. Quietly, behind the scenes, infor-

mal investigators have compiled some evidence that suggests that there could be more than one nighttime interloper afoot.

Kelby Steele, who's lived on Pine Hill for 13 years, says that in years past bobcats have been sighted in the area and that there's been some evidence of their return.

A tracker drawn to the woods by the report of strange noises at night found some indications that a bobcat may have been in the area. The strong smell some residents reported was consistent with a bobcat's presence, he said, because lynx stink.

Some predators, he said, roll in foul-smelling stuff to disguise their presence from their prey.

Although his investigation was inconclusive, you still wouldn't want a bobcat in your litter box.

Of more concern, perhaps, to would-be Big Foot hunters is another report — this one of the sighting of a mountain lion who's been drawn to the lure of a road-kill possum with results spectacular enough to demonstrate that he's not a nice kitty.

Still another investigator, who's been on



Monkey business on Pine Hill Road

STONEWALL ARGUS/TEULON TIMES, Stonewall, Manitoba,
Canada - Oct. 30, 1985 CR: T. Adams

Mutilated cow arouses suspicion

By Peter Schroedter

A Moosehorn area farmer had a cow killed under suspicious circumstances sometime between the 18th and 20th of October.

The dead cow was spotted by Mrs. Wesley Cook on Tuesday afternoon while she was watching to see if her husband was getting stuck combining.

"I first noticed it in the afternoon when I was watching Wes combine. I was also using the binoculars to see if the calves were still in the fence when I spotted the cow.

"I noticed some ravens fly and went to check it out."

Cook called the RCMP that evening because he believed the cow had not died of natural causes.

On Wednesday morning an RCMP officer arrived with Dr. L. Milin, the Ashern area veterinarian.

Dr. Milin inspected the animal and reports, "Someone cut the throat of the animal and it bled

out, then the tongue and udder were cut off."

The dead cow was found in approximately the centre of an open field about 160 acres in size. There are roads on two sides of the field and the site is in plain view of roads and a farm site.

"We were combining practically around the clock all weekend," Cook said, "and on Saturday, we worked through until 5:30 Sunday morning."

"I saw some lights driving up and down the roads but at the time I never thought anything of it."

When asked what they thought had happened, Wesley Cook explained, "I believe that someone is doing a demonic ritual, killing and taking the tongue, udder and blood for an occult ritual."

Lyle Cook, Wesley's son and farm partner, agreed. "It's got to be something haywire like that because if they were rustling beef, they would have taken some choice cuts of beef."

When RCMP officers were asked if there was any connection between this kill and four others which happened in 1982 and were described in a similar way by some area residents, RCMP spokesman for the Ashern detachment said, "No, there is no connection because all the rest died of natural causes."

The dead animals in 1982 were found between July and October with locations as far apart as Peonon Point and Siglunes.

Records of the 1982 incidents show the causes of death as natural and mutilations on those carcasses were caused by scavengers, coyotes, wolves, skunks and birds.

When asked for a statement regarding the dead cow on Cook's pasture, the RCMP spokesman stated "We can't determine foul play but we can't rule it out either."

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England
Dec. 15, 1985 CR: D. Speed

REDS FIND 'NESSIE'

MOSCOW: A Central Asian version of the Loch Ness monster has been unmasked by Soviet scientists as whirlpools. Tass said an expedition went to Kol-kol Lake in Kazakhstan after reports of a 60ft-long creature producing "loud trumpet-like sounds." The lake was found to be connected with underground cavities by mud-covered cracks. "When the mud is washed away, large whirlpools appear on the lake's surface. If air is sucked in as well, the lake starts singing."

COMET PATHS GIVE CLUE TO MORE PLANETS

By Our Science Correspondent

Evidence for the existence of two unknown giant planets far beyond Pluto, the solar system's furthest known world, was presented yesterday by Prof. Vladimir Radzievsky of the Gorky State Teachers Training Institute.

After observing the apparently disturbed orbits of some of the furthest-travelling comets, he forecast that the two planets would be 160 and 200 times more distant from the Earth than the Sun, and almost as big as Jupiter.

But being so far away, they would be thousands of times fainter in the sky than even the remotest planet. This would explain why even the world's most powerful telescopes have so far failed to detect them.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, London, England
Feb. 6, 1986 CR: T. Good

HERALD, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia - Oct. 8, 1985 CR: P. Norman

Von Daniken: I was not wrong

BERNE, Mon., — "Star wars" is not just a future possibility — it happened thousands of years ago.

So says author Erich von Daniken. He says giant space stations, ships flying between stars and sky battles between aliens were described in detail in ancient Sanskrit texts, newly translated for inclusion in his latest book, *Did I Get It Wrong?*

Fifteen years after his *Chariots of the Gods* stirred interest and controversy around the world, the former Swiss hotelier is back with what he says is some of the most convincing evidence ever to back his thesis that beings from other planets visited Earth in the remote past.

"The evidence in the new book is so safe, so sure, you cannot disprove it anymore," von Daniken told Reuters at his home in Solothurn, 35 km north of Berne.

Added to certain writings in the Old

From PETER CONRADI
of Fleuter

Testament and pictures of objects studied during 20 years of visiting every continent, he maintains it all adds up to what he says is increasingly watertight proof of his ideas.

Von Daniken first began writing about such phenomena around 25 years ago as a student but it was not until 1968 that he finally got a German publisher to bring out his first book.

Published in 1970 in an English version as *Chariots of the Gods*, it was described by von Daniken as "an explosive, provocative and non-scientific book".

It was greeted with scorn by many scientists but it fired the imagination of a public which had just watched man's first steps on the moon.

Eleven more titles and 48 million sales later, von Daniken still travels

an average of 100,000 km a year collecting evidence to answer the question: "Were we visited by extraterrestrials some time ago?"

The new book, just published in German, has been accompanied by a string of chat-show appearances by von Daniken and a poster-campaign advertising its serialisation in Swiss popular daily, *Blick*.

Translations into most major languages are expected to follow.

As its title suggests, von Daniken in it admits to minor errors in the past, due largely to naivete and lack of care.

A non-corroding column in a temple in New Delhi which he said had been brought by aliens has now started to rust. And a perfect 16th-Century world map turned out not so perfect.

"But generally I was not wrong," he said. "All these errors have not brought the house down — on the contrary."

The important thing about the new evidence is its graphic description of events, he said. The texts, written thousands of years ago and quoted in his book in a new translation, describe in detail "gigantic space satellites, made of shiny metal and turning about an axis", right down to their dimension and interiors, as well as smaller craft that fly between them and Earth.

To answer those who attribute the writings to the fertile imagination of their authors, he comes up with the so-called cargo cults — scientifically recorded accounts of 20th-century meetings between primitive and advanced cultures.

When natives in New Guinea met Australian gold prospectors in the 1920s or New Hebrideans were visited by American troops in 1945, they first worshipped the visitors as gods who gave them presents — labelled "cargo" — and even made sacrifices to their planes.

CR: T. Adams

What was that unidentified furry object?

By Judy Romero

Stories are rampant in Tres Piedras about a monster sighted there last week, but facts are as elusive as the unidentified furry object.

Efforts by police and Forest Service officials to track down the creature have been fruitless. They have decided the animal seen near SR 285 is probably a bear coming out of hibernation.

Most of the reports came from night truck drivers from the Petrie mines, who reported seeing a figure standing upright on the edge of the highway in the No Agua area north of Tres Piedras.

Duke Cozart, owner of crossroads Texaco station, said the drivers thought it was a person who had had an accident, but when they slowed down the figure ap-

Are we a rarity or a cosmic commonplace?

USA TODAY: Halley's comet will be visible to the naked eye next month. What is it?

SAGAN: Halley's comet is a snowball about five miles across that originally was formed at the same time the solar system was. It is a kind of building block of planets, but one that did not go into a planet. It is an opening to our origins.

USA TODAY: Where did it come from?

SAGAN: It was ejected from a former solar system but is still gravitationally bound to the sun. There was then a kind of gravitational jostling among this enormous cord of comets weakly bound to the sun and sent them into the inner solar system.

USA TODAY: When did all this happen?

SAGAN: About 10,000 or 20,000 years ago. It came close to Jupiter probably and, instead of taking 11 years to go around the sun, had its orbit changed, so that it now takes about 76 years to go around the sun. And it's been coming by with metronomic regularity ever since. The last 30 apparitions have been observed by astronomers on Earth — most of them Chinese astronomers

— while everybody here was fast asleep.

USA TODAY: Can we advance our knowledge appreciably by studying the comet?

SAGAN: Oh yeah, it's absolutely happening. There's a fantastic international effort called the Halley Watch that is coordinating groundwork observation. There is a splendid flotilla of five spacecraft that will encounter Halley's comet as it approaches the innermost part of the solar system in March, 1986. Unfortunately, the USA is not represented among those 20 nations.

USA TODAY: Why not?

SAGAN: Because the Carter and Reagan administrations decided we couldn't afford it. The cost of a Halley encounter mission is almost exactly the cost of a single B-1 bomber, of which we have planned to buy 100. National security would have been in trouble if we had bought only 99.

USA TODAY: Do you think that life exists on other planets?

SAGAN: One way to look at it is: What do you think the chances are that in a galaxy of 400 billion stars, which is itself one of something like 100 bil-

INQUIRY

Topic: THE COSMOS

Carl Sagan, 50, well-known for his explanations of science and the universe, is professor of astronomy at Cornell University. One of his books, *Cosmos*, is the best-selling science book ever published in English, and he just published *Contact*, a novel about extraterrestrial life. He was interviewed for *USA TODAY* by free-lance journalist Lee Michael Katz.



Carl Sagan

USA TODAY: What do we know about life elsewhere in the universe?

SAGAN: We have found many signs that planetary systems are a dime a dozen — that they're a very common accompaniment to stars. In the last few years, we've found that space is littered with organic matter. The dark-hole vacuum between the stars has a great deal of complicated organic molecules in it. Meteorites do. Comets do. A place like Titan, the big moon of Saturn, is a clutter of clouds composed of organic matter.

USA TODAY: The stuff of life?

SAGAN: The stuff of life is everywhere. It's easily made. There's nothing magic about that. When we look at time scales, we see that there are a large number of stars that are much older than our sun and planets. We see there's an enormous amount of time for evolution to occur.

USA TODAY: What does all this mean?

SAGAN: Putting all that together, it seems to me very plausible that there's a great deal of life and even a great deal of intelligent life more advanced than we. But that's just the plausibility argument. That says it's not nonsense to search. It doesn't say that it's guaranteed we'll find something.

USA TODAY: Harvard scientists are using radio waves to look for extraterrestrial life. What are the chances they will find it?

SAGAN: You cannot esti-

mate what the chances are unless you have some idea of how many of them there are out there, and we don't yet. But what seems to be clear is that the question is so fundamental, so important to the knowledge of our souls, among other things, that it's certainly worth pursuing.

USA TODAY: Could there be extraterrestrial life that doesn't want to talk to us?

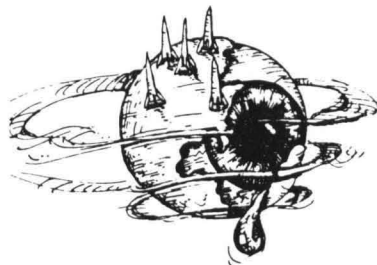
SAGAN: There's no guarantee that all extraterrestrial civilizations would be communicative. For one thing, very advanced civilizations may not care about us, any more than we are highly motivated to communicate with ants. Then there are the civilizations that just aren't into technology. They're very advanced, but poetry is what they do. Anyway, you can think of a wide range of other activities that are non-technological, but still can be highly advanced and complicated.

USA TODAY: Are there other reasons that they would not want to talk to us?

SAGAN: It has been seriously proposed that there is an ethic of non-interference with emerging civilizations. So there's a conscious attempt to let us alone. Finally, it might be that civilizations arrive all over the galaxy but as soon as they achieve high technology, they promptly destroy themselves, as we may well do. So at any given time, there's no one to talk to.

USA TODAY: Many people got their image of extraterrestrial life from the film *E.T.* Is our version of extraterrestrial life rational?

SAGAN: No. *E.T.* is the little green men. It's the standard fixture of science fiction. It portrays extraterrestrials as be-



By Susan Harlan, USA TODAY



By Susan Harlan, USA TODAY

nign, which is a real novelty in Hollywood, which loves to project all sorts of ghastly fears that humans have of each other onto the extraterrestrials. The fundamental fact is that we humans look the way we do because of an enormous number of separate evolutionary events — random mutations and then selections by the environment, the environment constantly changing.

USA TODAY: Is it just by chance that we are the way we are?

SAGAN: I say that if you started the Earth out again with all the conditions exactly the same, and you have only had random factors operate, you will never get human beings again. You may very well get beings of high intelligence — beings with art, music, ethics and politics, technology and science — who may be much more advanced than we are, but they won't much look like us at all.

USA TODAY: And elsewhere in the universe?

SAGAN: On some other planet, with a completely different environment and a different fundamental chemistry and a different sequence of evolutionary events, the chance of finding something that looks very much like us is close to zero. *E.T.* looks just like us —

very close to humans.

USA TODAY: You frequently ask the question: Who are we? What is your answer?

SAGAN: We are beings who have just recently evolved on a very ancient world, which is one of an enormous number — probably hundreds of billions in the Milky Way galaxy. We don't know how common such an evolution is — whether we are a rarity or a cosmic commonplace. We don't know that we will survive our own time because the same technology that permits us to ask and answer questions about our origins also permits us to destroy ourselves.

USA TODAY: Why do you mix your explanations of the world around us with the warning that we're getting ready to destroy ourselves?

SAGAN: It doesn't take very much perception to see that. There are 55,000 nuclear weapons in the world. A tiny fraction of them may be enough, through nuclear winter, to do everybody in.

USA TODAY: What do you mean by "nuclear winter"?

SAGAN: In a nuclear war, there are lots of fine particles put up into the atmosphere. But even more important than that is the dark smoke produced from the burning of forests and especially the burning of the cities. We calculate that even a very small fraction of the nuclear arsenal, if exploded over cities, is enough to darken and cool the air by a very significant factor for a very long period of time — long enough to destroy agriculture and make

enormous numbers of people starve.

USA TODAY: Do you feel that President Reagan understands this horror?

SAGAN: No. I don't.

USA TODAY: Do you think it would be important to brief him before the summit in Geneva?

SAGAN: I have no idea. It depends entirely on what his approach is to the summit meeting. I have no idea what that is.

USA TODAY: Is the president wrong in wanting to develop the so-called "Star Wars" program?

SAGAN: The most enthusiastic advocates of Star Wars — I'm talking about people with technical competence — believe that 90 percent efficiency in shooting down Soviet warheads is probably more than we can manage.

USA TODAY: Is that good enough?

SAGAN: There are 10,000 Soviet strategic weapons. If we shoot 90 percent of them down, that means 1,000 warheads. One thousand warheads is much more than enough to destroy the USA. So it's quite straightforward. Star Wars cannot protect the USA. It can protect missiles. It just can't protect the civilian population. So it's very hard to understand what the debate is about. The administration's own experts have said it won't work. You can shoot down a lot, but you can't shoot down enough.

TIMELINE: Carl Sagan

1934: Born Nov. 9, in Brooklyn, N.Y., son of Rachel and Samuel Sagan, a Russian-born cloth-cutter.

1946: At age 12, he told his grandfather he wanted to be an astronomer, and his grandfather said, "Yes, but how will you make your living?"

1956: Published his first research article, *Radiation and the Origin of the Gene*.

1960: Received a Ph.D. in astronomy and astrophysics at the University of Chicago; began research at Harvard University, where he challenged standard scientific views of the cause of surface light on Mars.

1976: Published *Other Worlds*.

1977: Wrote *The Dragons of Eden*, his first popular book to delve outside the study of astronomy.

1978: Won the Pulitzer Prize for literature for *The Dragons of Eden*.

1980: Wrote the script for PBS-TV's *Cosmos*.

Source: Contemporary Authors

Chico's 1920s mystery of falling rocks remains unsolved

McClatchy News Service

CHICO — No Halloween prankster today could match the "spook" who caused it to rain rocks on Chico back in the 1920s.

For months — some say for years — part of the town was showered with stones. The rocks — some as small as pebbles and others the size of oranges — pelted the roofs of grain warehouses along the railroad tracks several blocks west of the downtown area.

The rocks dropped at any time of day in bursts that lasted for several minutes before ceasing as suddenly as they started.

"One of the strange things about these rocks was they gave the appearance of falling straight down from the sky," local historian John Nopel recalled recently. "They looked like any other rocks around Chico, (but) the things persisted in falling."

The phenomena, which has never been

explained, also showered attention on the small Butte County town.

Spiritualists and psychic experts — the ghost busters of the time — came to search for a "spook" being blamed by the locals for something hurling the rocks onto their community.

Constables questioned witnesses and searched for the culprit. The sheriff's department obtained a "John Doe" warrant to arrest the person responsible — if ever caught.

"They were really in a tizzy as to what was happening," said Nopel.

A geologist at the teachers college, now California State University-Chico, studied

the rocks to determine if they could be coming from meteoric showers.

But, geologist C.K. Studley said, "two of them show signs of cementation, either natural or artificial, and no meteoric factor was ever connected with a cement plant."

Studley added that "the samples are not of a free-moving variety and could not be expected to transport themselves."

As word spread about the falling rocks, Southern Pacific trains slowed when rumbling past the Chico warehouses so curious passengers could see the site of the mystery.

Helen Bradt, who was then the young bride of Mansfield Priel, one of the owners of the afflicted warehouses, said, "It got to be kind of a joke. We didn't take it seriously."

Similar baffling incidents of falling rocks went on "for years and years," she said. In later years, Bradt speculated, various pranksters picked up on the idea and tried to keep the mystery going.

Even today, said Bill Priel, Bradt's son, "we still get a kid or two who will pick up a rock along the railroad tracks and toss it onto the warehouse."

As a boy, Priel recalled recently, he hung around the building and listened to

the warehousemen talk about "when it rained rocks in Chico."

"Every time you heard the story told, they told it differently," he said.

Priel said some people thought the rocks had been hurled by a giant slingshot fashioned into the crook of an almond tree. But the nearest orchard was 1,000 to 1,500 feet away, Priel said. "It really was a big mystery."

Local historian Nopel, who was a small boy when the rocks fell, said, "I guess there were as many theories as there were people."

"I believe they must have been catapulted somehow."

But neither Nopel nor others who lived in Chico then seems very concerned today that the source of the raining rocks was never determined.

"They never did solve the mystery, did they," said Bradt, chuckling.

‘They gave the appearance of falling straight down from the sky.’

— John Nopel, Chico historian

Missing ships mystery

By Our Shipping Correspondent

A LARGE number of ships are vanishing without trace despite modern communications and safety systems, the British Sailors' Society says.

Lloyd's Intelligence Service has recorded a loss of 16 ships, totalling 400,000 tons, with the deaths of 400 seamen, in mysterious circumstances over the past five years.

"In this age of high technology it might be imagined that such disasters could not

possibly occur," the society says in its bulletin, Chart and Compass International.

"Large ships possess advanced satellite-based navigational aids, more effective communications systems and much improved safety standards, but the sea is as mysterious as ever it was."

The 16 ships and their crew members "just disappeared from the face of the sea." Various suggestions had been made, including explosions, capsizing, freak weather and piracy. But no evidence had been found in any case.

POST, West Palm Beach, FL - Dec. 8, 1985

After 40 Years, Story of Flight 19 Still Unknown

By Dan Christensen

Cox News Service

MIAMI — The last months of 1945 were a carefree time in South Florida. The world war was over and America's next battleground was years away and unknowable.

The machinery of war, suddenly without purpose, was shutting down. The Miami Naval Air Station at Opa-locka was phased out and many of its pilots were transferred up the coast to the navy base where Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport now stands.

Lt. Charles Taylor, a brash combat veteran of the South Pacific who liked to tell friends that he once had acted in a Hollywood western, was one of those pilots.

Forty years ago last Thursday, two weeks after Taylor arrived in Fort Lauderdale as a senior flight instructor, he and 13 others flew off into what has endured as one of aviation's greatest mysteries.

It was about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Ben Hogan was on the back nine in the opening round of the 22nd Miami Open golf tournament. Eddie Bracken and Veronica Lake were about to debut in *Hold That Blonde* at the Olympia theater in downtown Miami.

Taylor, 28, was the squadron leader for five Avenger torpedo bombers that thundered east down the runway at Fort Lauderdale that day. Their mission was to make a routine navigational hop over the northern Bahamas.

Something went wrong. The bombers, and the 14 men aboard, vanished without a trace.

No one knows what happened to the squadron, called Flight 19 — or what happened, hours later, to a huge Navy seaplane bomber with a crew of 13 that disappeared at the start of a massive search-and-rescue operation.

Time and imagination, however, have been fertile ground for theories to explain the enigmas of that day. The Bermuda Triangle, the product of a writer's mind many years later, was invented and it was used to conjure up time warps, UFOs and new dimensions that became the stuff of paperback legend.

Lost in the legend, however, are the memories of the men who disappeared that day. To the myth-builders, they are pawns in a cosmic mystery. The people who were their friends and relatives know better.

"Today this whole incident is treated as mostly entertainment. It's in the movies and the books," said former Navy Lt. Willard Stoll, a flight instructor who heard one of Taylor's last radio transmissions.

"But too many people got killed for it to be a fun thing," said Stoll, who today lives in Monroe, Mich. "It was too close to home to be entertaining to me. I still remember it well. You never get over it."

"It's been 40 years? Oh, my God," said former Lt. Cmdr. Jerry Rapp, who shared an apartment with Taylor on Indian Creek Drive on Miami Beach. "You know, I still have a sad feeling about it. He (Taylor) would have gone on to do something great."

Rapp, 65, who retired from the Navy in 1972 as a captain and now lives in San Diego, remembers Taylor well.

"Charlie was a hell of a guy," he said. "He was full of fun and a great friend. We used to play golf and hit the nightspots together. Everybody would like him. He was kind of a free spirit."

Bill Brewer, 66, another of Taylor's Navy pilot buddies who went on to be a federal administrative law judge in Mobile, Ala., said, "I think about old Charlie a lot. He was the best natural aviator I ever saw. I found it hard to believe. I always thought he was indestructible."

Georgia Taylor Lowe, Taylor's sister, has had her grief tempered by the

years. More enduring is her dismay at the persistence of wild theories about what happened to him.

"That has always bothered us," said Lowe, 70, who lives outside Corpus Christi, Texas, where she and her brother were raised.

"This spook business is for the birds," said Whitney Lowe, her husband of 43 years.

The dark blue Navy TDM Avengers that disappeared on Dec. 5, 1945, the largest single-engine planes ever built, had proved extremely reliable during World War II. While based at Fort Lauderdale, each had a painted code number that began with the prefix FT. Taylor's plane was FT-28.

Flight 19 was to have been the final check-out mission for pilots Ensign Joseph Bossi, of Arkansas City, Kan.; Marine Second Lt. Forrest Gerber, of New Ulm, Minn.; and Marine Capt. Edward Powers Jr., of Mount Vernon, N.Y., and George Stivers Jr., of Piedmont, Mo.

Nine other men, serving as gunners or radiomen, were also aboard, but a 15th who was supposed to have gone along had a hangover and didn't go, according to Fort Lauderdale resident John Evans, 59, who served as a photographer on the base.

The training exercise was called Navy Navigation Problem Number One. To be successful, the pilots had to use dead reckoning to complete a triangular journey that would take them 77 miles due east to Great Stirrup Cay, then about 84 miles north across Grand Bahama Island to Great Sale Cay and then home to Fort Lauderdale.

Stoll, now 63, was the leader that day of Flight 18, a squadron of Avengers that was flying the same route about a half-hour in front of Taylor.

"The weather was OK. There were some clouds, but the sun was showing through. The wind was kicking up, but I had flown in much worse," said Stoll, an aeronautical engineer.

"The last I heard from him, we were on the last leg and I was chewing out one of my students for making a turn too fast," Stoll said. "Taylor was giving me a little bit, I guess, and he cut in on the radio and said, 'Do your briefing in the ready room.'"

The first hint that something was wrong was heard at 3:40 p.m. by another Navy pilot flying with a different group of students near Fort Lauderdale. Later, Stoll would estimate Taylor then must have just finished dropping practice bombs over a small group of islands called the Hen and Chickens on the first leg of the flight.

"Both my compasses are out and I'm trying to find Fort Lauderdale, Florida," Taylor said, according to Lt. Robert Cox who testified later at a Naval Board of Investigation. "I'm over land, but it's broken. I'm sure I'm in the Keys, but I don't know how far down and I don't know how to get to Fort Lauderdale."

The base's flight training officer at the time was Lt. Cmdr. Don Poole, who now lives in Cape Coral. He was alerted to the problem a short time later.

"I was in my office when the tower called me. They said, 'Hey, we've got trouble,'" Poole, 71, said. "The problem was we could monitor him, but he couldn't hear us. We tried to call him to him, but we were pretty helpless."

Exactly why Taylor thought he was in the Keys remains the one true mystery of Flight 19. But his response to his belief, heading the flight toward the northeast in hopes of returning to the Florida mainland, inadvertently led his students farther out to sea.

"I knew he wasn't in the Keys or I couldn't have heard him," Stoll said. "He had to be just a few miles away."

Said Poole, "I remember hearing one of his students say: 'Damn it, if we would just fly west, we would get home.' They apparently knew where

they were, but in the military you don't dare disobey your instructor."

Before darkness fell, a radio station at the nearby Port Everglades Air Sea Rescue did make some two-way contact with Flight 19 and tried to get Taylor to turn around. He did briefly, but later monitoring of the scattered and fading radio transmissions showed he once again headed to the northeast, Poole said.

"I know for a fact that Taylor wasn't the best navigator in the world," Stoll said. "Charlie got lost once flying out of Boca Chica (Naval Air Station in Key West) and spent five days on a raft in the Caribbean."

"But I remember when we landed back at the base and Don Poole told me what happened I thought he was kidding. That was the first time I had ever heard of anyone getting lost off the coast of Florida," Stoll said. "You don't need much navigation where he was. But when you are confused, and he was, you sometimes do a lot of dumb things. It's a psychological thing; you get yourself in a state."

After the sun set at 5:29, Poole had every Navy facility along the Florida coast turn up their lights. By 8 p.m., when the planes would have run out of fuel, it was obvious the ploy had failed.

A search plane never was sent aloft from Fort Lauderdale while the planes were still known to be in the air. "They didn't go because the weather was bad and because we had no good idea where to go. We only knew a general direction," Poole said.

Shortly after 7 p.m., two Martin Mariner seaplanes were dispatched from Banana River Naval Air Station, now Patrick Air Force base near Cape Canaveral, to join a search that was to eventually include about 200 planes and a dozen ships. By 8:30 p.m., one of them was missing off New Smyrna Beach.

The crew of a ship in the area later reported seeing a midair explosion at the spot where the search plane disappeared from radar screens. They also found an oil slick, but no wreckage or bodies were ever found.

"That Mariner was kind of a flying coffin," Poole said. "It had bad gas tanks; maybe a spark set off the explosion."

Four days of searching found not so much as a life jacket and, months later, a Navy Board of Inquiry was convened.

The board's only surviving member is Retired Capt. Richard Roberts of Birmingham, Ala.

"We all came to the same conclusion," Roberts, 71, said. "The lead plane had some equipment failure, got lost and went around in circles. It was a real tragedy."

Roberts said a radio fix from a Navy facility in Miami reported the approximate position of the lost planes as being several hundred miles northeast of Grand Bahama Island. "One of the mysteries is how a well-trained pilot could end up like that," Roberts said.

Forty years later, those involved have resigned themselves to never knowing the full story.

"What the hell happened to Charlie?" Stoll said. "Well, they didn't call those planes 'Iron Birds' for nothing. They weighed 14,000 pounds empty. So when they ditched, they went down pretty fast. But they found the Titanic, and maybe one day they'll find him and the others. Wherever they are, they're together."

Things That Go Bump Day, Night

Connecticut Town Is Known for Its Mysterious Noises

By CHARLES HILLINGER, Times Staff Writer

MOODUS, Conn.—"It's kind of spooky and creepy, like Halloween all year long, living in Moodus," 16-year-old Angela Urbano mused.

"We have the weirdest noises from time to time at various hours of the day and night. Noises that have been heard for centuries and remain a mystery to this day," explained Moodus high school science teacher Jim Meyer, 49, who did his master's thesis for Central Connecticut State University on the Moodus noises.

The noises have been described as sounding like thunder coming up from deep in the earth, the firing of

Dwelt in a Cave

"Their god was Hobomoko, the God of Evil who dwelled in a cave beneath Moodus," she said, adding that this was reported in writing of Pilgrim preachers.

Wangunks believed the noises occurred when Hobomoko became angry with witches that dwelled in the cave with him and that the strange sounds were witches being blown out of the cave by Hobomoko.

The Puritans were about as superstitious about the sounds as were the Indians and built up a store of folklore about the Moodus noises.

Meyer noted that when America first became a nation local residents were describing the weird noises like those of musket fire or the rolling of a cannonball across the floor.

In his thesis he theorized that the noises possibly came from water eroding a network of shallow underground caves causing rocks to be ripped off walls and ceilings and hurled against the cave.

"The noise is most prevalent near the opening of a cave in a local hill called Mount Tom," Guinness said. "I believe the noise of shifting rock formations underground is amplified by the cave."

One local story is about a British scientist named Dr. Steele (his first name has long since been forgotten) who came to Moodus in 1765 to study the phenomenon, crawled into a cave and was never heard from again.

Some say it is the ghost of Dr. Steele who is making all the noise.

"It's something we live with 365 days a year. Sometimes we are shaken from our sleep by the strange underground rumblings, but we've grown accustomed to it," said Peg Sievers, 59, the high school secretary.

Very seldom is any California-style shaking felt in Moodus. Usually it's only the strange noises.

"Sometimes people say it's just the 125-year-old Moodus Fife and Bugle Corps practicing," Sievers said. "The noise has a distinctive sound of playing drums very loudly."

Several universities have drilled holes in the ground and made studies of the area but haven't been able to pinpoint the exact cause except to say it is apparently some type of localized seismic activity.

The noise is unpredictable. In 1981, seismographs set up in Moodus recorded more than 500 small earth movements. Sometimes several weeks pass before the odd sounds are heard.

Cathy Wilson, 43, has been able to tape the noise a half dozen times at the request of Weston University in neighboring Massachusetts. "On tape it sounds like the pop, pop, popping of popcorn in a popper," she said.

The Moodus Nathan Hale High School basketball, baseball and track teams are called The Little Noises. "Let's make a big noise for the Little Noises," is one of their cheers. It is believed to be the only school in the country with that team name.

Down the road from Moodus is Devil's Hopyard State Park where eroded rocks are called the Devil's footprints and ghosts supposedly dwell in a haunted house. But that's another story.

Charles Hillinger's America

guns, the popping of popcorn, the rumbling of trucks down highways.

Geologists and other scientists theorize the noises are caused by small earthquakes localized under Moodus, pop. 1,000.

The name of the town comes from the Wangunk Indian word *machemoodus*, meaning place of strange noises.

"Wangunks, who assimilated with other Connecticut Indians after the first settlers arrived in the 1600s, had a religious cult based on the noises," said Moodus' Nathan Hale High School science teacher Alison Guinness.

Guinness also wrote her master's thesis on the mysterious Moodus noises. She completed her thesis earlier this year for Wesleyan University.

Police Chief Smells Farce In Bigfoot Case

By JOSEPH KOSACK
Staff Writer

According to reports given to police, it's big, hairy and it smells.

According to East Pensacola Township Police Chief Jim Corbett, it's a farce.

Bigfoot has surfaced once again. But not in Lebanon County. This time it has shown its reportedly ugly face near the community of Enola, about two miles north of Harrisburg.

Corbett reported Tuesday that a sighting occurred on Sept. 29 when Tom Leach of Valley Street allegedly saw a sasquatch waving its arms just beyond the guardrails of Penn Hill Road. That night Corbett said the police department investigated two other Bigfoot-related incidents, one of which was another sighting and smelling.

Corbett said Leach told police the creature had "all the appearances of a gorilla, except it was very hairy." He also said residents of this rural community have reported hearing strange noises in the night for the past month and that one family

said it smelled a foul stench at its home and subsequently sighted a Bigfoot upon probing the yard for the odor's origin.

As the crow flies or as Bigfoot may walk, East Pensacola Township is about 22 miles west of North Annville Township where Ed Kremer allegedly spotted Bigfoot on Sept. 6. And the descriptions given to authorities are similar. Could it be the same creature?

Wayne King, director of the Michigan Canadian Bigfoot Information Center, said recently sasquatches are non-territorial. Still, Bigfoot was heard near Enola in late August, said Corbett, which was before Kremer's sighting. Bigfoot would have had to cross the Susquehanna River to reach its present sighting area. And state police in Harrisburg have not released any reports of Bigfoot crossing the 1-81 bridge at the river.

In a nutshell, there seems to be no relationship between the Lebanon County sighting and those in Dauphin County unless, of course, Bigfoot fords the river periodically. But if it's crossing the Sus-

quehanna, why does it still reportedly smell so bad?

Corbett is sure the sightings are the prank of some people who started their Halloween festivities prematurely.

"I believe there's a noise, a stench and that these people have seen something," said Corbett. "But not a Bigfoot. It's some guy in a gorilla suit." Corbett said he checked with two Hills Department stores in the area and found the stores had sold three gorilla suits in the past two weeks. However, he said, the store managers had no idea who had purchased the costumes.

Additionally, Corbett said he had an officer investigate the location of the Leach sighting minutes after the encounter. But nothing was uncovered, he said.

Corbett hopes to clear up the chaos in his normally sleepy area in the next few days. The police chief noted he had information he could not release, but did say, "If you knew all that I know about this, you'd have no problem seeing if for the farce that it is."

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison, WI - Nov. 25, 1985 CR: R. Heiden

Search for lost dinosaur lacks money

By Susan Lampert Smith
Of The State Journal

For Mark Evans and the rest of the Unicorn expedition, their dream is still a half a world and a frustrating \$22,000 away.

They believe the lost-dinosaur creature Mokele-mbembe waits for them somewhere in the heart of the Congo.

In 1981, Herman Regusters, a Washington scientist, returned from the remote Likouala region, where he claimed to have seen the animal. Regusters said natives identified pictures of a brontosaurus as a creature they call Mokele-mbembe.

Evans, a UW-Madison entomologist read of the journey and joined the team that was planning a return visit.

Last spring it seemed the expedition soon would be chugging up the Congo River, up the Ubangui River to Lake Tele. They gave interviews and were taking malaria pills. They had their visas and their vaccinations.

And then, nothing.

"It's been very frustrating," Evans said Friday. "There have been about four times since April when it seemed we would be leaving sometime soon."

Evans said that a Texas man, who had pledged to give \$30,000 of the \$50,000 needed, couldn't come up with the money. Since then, Evans and Regusters have been soliciting businesses and individuals.

Evans estimated that his correspondence file is a foot thick. The expedition has about \$28,000 in money and pledges, he said.

Evans ruefully remembers turning down money from what he described as a "grocery store magazine" last spring.

"I told them that when we returned, and somebody wrote about it, we wanted someone to believe it," Evans said.

The group has had better luck soliciting

products for use on the trip. The stuff is stowed in 36 plastic crates in Evans' apartment.

There are cans of Deep Woods Off, furnished by S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc., to repel strange tropical insects and Fire Ribbon paste from the Mautz Paint Co. to start fires in the rain forest.

They have Rayovac batteries to peer into the heart of darkness.

And if, somewhere in the primeval swamps of Lake Tele, they come face to snout with Mokele-mbembe, they'll snap its picture with Kodak film.

Evans said the trip would be a way to promote American, and especially, Wisconsin companies.

"If we find it and photograph it in a way that is convincing to the people from Missouri... the 'Show Me State,' if we do that, this will be the story of the century," he said. "There is potential name recognition for their products."

Evans has also had no problem convincing his scientific colleagues of the possible rewards of the trip.

He plans on collecting some 100,000 insect specimens for Cornell University, the Smithsonian Institution and UW-Madison. The Lake Tele area, 400 miles north of Brazzaville, is so remote that Evans said the last large-scale biological expedition to the area was in the 1930s.

He also plans on collecting soil samples that may contain unknown algae and bacteria. He said several research groups are looking for bacteria with anti-biogenic properties, which means they can kill other living cells.

"The more exotic the place the better," he said. "This is a place where no one has ever looked, so it is very interesting to those people."

From inside his briefcase, Evans pulled out government tags that will allow the untreated soil to be brought back into the country. Evans said he is optimistic the trip come off.

But for now, the soil, like Mokele-mbembe, remains a world away.



UW-Madison researcher Mark Evans.

— State Journal photo

Phenomena From The Periphery

by Adrian McCoy

"O day and night, but this is wondrous strange!" (Horatio to Hamlet)

June 21, 1985—midnight. Dozens of people in Allegheny, Greene, Washington, Fayette and Mercer counties report seeing a formation of bright lights in the sky. NORAD announces that the Soviet satellite Cosmos 1530 has re-entered the earth's atmosphere and is disintegrating in the area. Another logical explanation for a UFO, right? Huh-uh. A few minutes ago an elongated object was spotted low on the horizon in Bethel Park. Witnesses described it as "large enough to block out the sky and stars." Then, Castle Shannon residents report seeing a similar object, along with the satellite debris. At 12:30 a.m. said object resurfaces in Indian Head, Fayette County; and before daylight in Jefferson and Somerset counties.

The tabloid headlines: ALIENS USE NATURAL PHENOMENA FOR COVERT ACTIVITIES.

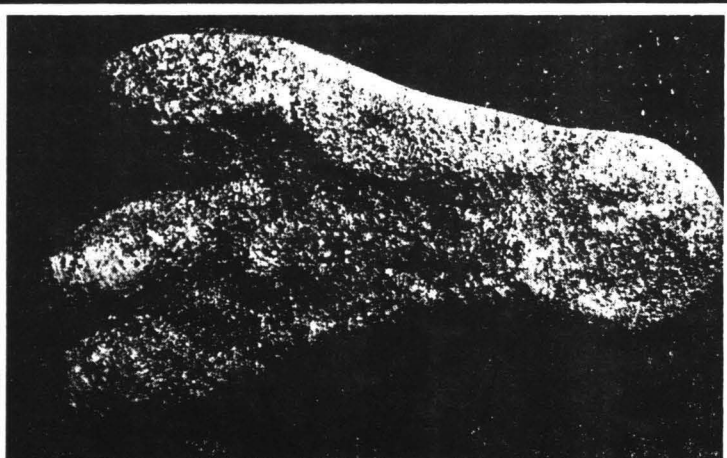
Hamlet: "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Stan Gordon, founder and director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained (PASU): "There isn't anybody who can honestly explain what they are."

PASU is a statewide clearing house for reports on UFOs, Bigfoots and other unexplained phenomena. "We're a research group that conducts open-minded investigations into strange and unusual occurrences," says Gordon. PASU keeps its investigations on the professional and scientific level, maintaining a high level of credibility. Its all-volunteer staff of 75 comes from many disciplines - medicine, engineering, psychology, electronics, chemistry, as well as tracking experts. Many, Gordon says, joined the group as "open-minded skeptics."

Every investigation is taken seriously, and Gordon urges anyone who has seen anything unusual to come forth. "We're not going to laugh at or ridicule anyone," he emphasizes. "We've investigated enough of these things to know that witnesses are not nuts."

About 90 percent of the reports that filter through PASU have logical explanations. Most so-called UFOs turn out to be meteors, planets, satellites or space junk. PASU maintains a file of flight schedules for balloons and private aircraft, which people sometimes mistake for alien space vehicles. There are the cranks, but Gordon is quick to discount them. "People are often reluctant to come forth. We get very few crank calls. They're pretty easily weeded out."



Plaster cast of Bigfoot footprint, near Greensburg, PA, Aug. 7, 1973.

Then there is the other 10 percent. PASU hones in on the physical evidence left by visiting crafts and has numerous reports of power failures, stalled cars, and loss of memory or hearing among witnesses. They have documented physiological effects similar to those of exposure to radiation: hair loss, tingling sensations, diarrhea and vomiting. The group has also investigated several alleged abductions, although the facts in these cases are sketchy at best. "Many people are hesitant to talk about the experience," says Gordon, "or they have blackouts from the time of the initial sighting until several hours later." Witnesses also tend to suffer from recurring nightmares and psychiatric problems.

When PASU receives reports of a landing, where burnt areas or impressions are left on the ground, the group checks for radiation and does soil analysis for unusual effects. Infrared equipment is used to detect heat sources. UFO droppings often include a fibrous material known as angel hair - thousands of intertwined strands that dissolve when touched. The group has collected bits of a metallic residue in the trees and grass at landing sites - a mixture of aluminum, silica and titanium. In the case of multiple sightings in different locations, a computer is used to plot flight direction and speed - something which helped to lend credence to the June 21 sightings.

Mrs. X. is a mountain woman, isolated from the world by the Laurel Mountains and illiteracy. She doesn't read Weekly World News. She thinks Bigfoot is a size 12½. One night in 1973, she heard a rustling on her porch and opened the

door to what she later described as "a big hairy ape." She reacted by firing a round of shotgun shells into the big guy's chest. There was a flash of light. It vanished.

Which brings us to PASU's second major area of investigation—that hirsute hero of checkout counter journalism. Bigfoot sightings in Pennsylvania and even the greater Pittsburgh area are not uncommon. Indeed, the earliest recorded Bigfoot appearance in the U.S. occurred in Pennsylvania, 1830. Bigfoot activity was fierce as recently as 1973, when Pennsylvania Dutch farmers—serious folk—reported that their ducks were being carried off by the big critters.

Bigfeet prefer rural areas, which makes sense when you're seven to nine feet tall, shy, hairy as Cousin It, have an appetite for small farm animals and smell sulfurous. Animals are usually very sensitive to the alleged creatures. Says Gordon: "Dogs won't bark, move or even eat properly for days afterward." Several farmers claim to have seen Bigfoot carting away dogs, chickens, and even larger game like cows and deer. They're harmless to humans, however. Gordon says there are no documented cases of Bigfoot attacks on human beings. "They're curious about people, but they run off when noticed."

PASU has collected and documented much physical evidence, such as plaster casts of Bigfoot prints. (Most of the tracks found in Pennsylvania are of the three-toed variety, similar to ones found in Australia. The five-toed fellows hang out in Canada and the Pacific Northwest.) Tape-recorded Bigfoot utterances culled from around the country reveal a surprising consistency. There are four basic sounds: crying baby, bird whistle, woman screaming and asthmatic

wheezing. Many trigger-happy witnesses have fired at these things at close range. "In no case did it have any effect," says Gordon. "They turned and walked away." This supports a popular theory that Bigfoot - and UFOs - are from another dimension and only visible in our known space under certain conditions. "If they were flesh-and-blood," says Gordon, "we'd have carcasses."

On the basis of the group's investigations, Gordon believes that both phenomena may have the ability to appear temporarily and to change into other forms of energy. Both are attracted to energy sources such as high tension power lines, transmission towers and power plants. There are also "window areas"; geographic locations wherein there have been frequent sightings. Gordon is understandably reluctant to name these areas, but says there are two such hangouts in Westmoreland County.

The third area PASU looks into is what's known as the "out-of-place animal": known species spotted in geographical areas where they are thought to not exist. These critters don't behave with typical wild animal fear or aggression, but instead simply stare at people and walk away. Gordon has casts of cougar footprints found in this area. One locally prominent case was the spring '83 sighting of a black panther in Bloomfield. (Large wildcats stand out well against a backdrop of aluminum siding and astroturf.) There was nothing missing from the zoo, and a professional tracker from PASU confirmed what were indeed panther tracks. Another panther was sighted this September in Murrysville.

For real or not for real, Stan Gordon and friends have certainly seen and investigated some genuine weirdness. So what does he consider strange?

There was an incident that took place last August near Loyalhanna. A family of three was returning home from a camping trip. They drove past what looked like a tube-shaped beam of light shining from treetops onto the road. As if it were a vacuum, the tube was sucking up debris, leaves, dirt and what appeared to be a live snake. The family looked up and saw a humanoid figure with long arms reaching down into the tube. They described the figure as having a watermelon-shaped head. They got the hell out of there.

Gordon says sightings of this type are very rare, and that only a few cases have been recorded nationwide.

Wondrous strange indeed, Horatio. Ask the folks who've seen - or think they've seen this stuff. And ask the guys who've hit the off-the-beaten paths with PASU. They're not kidding. They're not holding back a smirk. **IP** PASU encourages anyone who has encountered anything unusual to report it. Call them at 838-7768

The day Bob Gimlin saw 'the creature'

By Ed Pehhale

P-I Reporter

YAKIMA — Bob Gimlin never made a penny from what is either the strongest proof that Bigfoot exists or a scam of elaborate proportions.

Today, the slow-talking cowboy raises quarter horses and drives truck for Silver Eagle freight. He doesn't go around looking for people to listen to his story about how he and his buddy, Roger Patterson, captured a Sasquatch on 24 feet of 16mm film 18 years ago.

"I'd have been better off if I said long ago that I believe it was a man in a fur suit because I took so much ridicule about it," he said. "But Roger's been dead a long time now, so I kind of feel I owe it to people to tell about what we saw."

The film was the basis for a television special and a film, "Bigfoot, the Mysterious Monster," that reportedly grossed \$24 million. But the scientific world has remained unconvinced.

The event took place Oct. 20, 1967, at Bluff Creek in Northern California. Sasquatch hunters for years, Patterson and Gimlin had heard about Bigfoot tracks in the area and were on horseback 40 or 50 miles from the nearest road when it happened.

"We made the bend and around this big downfall tree; here this thing stood by the creek, just stood," Gimlin recalled. "We were on one side of



AP PHOTO

Roger Patterson said he took this picture of Bigfoot in Northern California in 1967. Both Patterson, now dead, and Bob Gimlin had been searching for Bigfoot for years.

the creek, the creature on the other and our horses went crazy. Roger's little horse just went bananas."

Patterson's horse reared and in true Wild West style, he yanked his movie camera from his saddle bags as he slid off the back of the horse, said Gimlin.

"As this all was going on, this creature turned and started to walk away from us, just slow like a man would if he were just walking down the street, but as it did this, Roger ran across the

creek behind it, but then he stumbled on a sandbar," said Gimlin.

"It was all happening just boom, boom, boom. He was shooting the camera while he was running. He hollered back for me when he stumbled and fell. He said, 'Cover me!' and, naturally, I knew what he meant."

"So I rode across the creek on my horse and took my 30.06 rifle out of the saddle scabbard and just stood there (pointing but not aiming the rifle at the beast).

"When I did this, this creature was quite a little ways away from me — about 90 feet — and it turned and looked at me; just turned as it was walking. It never stopped walking."

"And then . . . I heard Roger say, 'Oh, my God, I ran out of film.' What he'd been doing was taking scenery-type pictures all the way up, see, and it was one of them old cameras where you had to get underneath something, in the dark, to change the film."

By the time Patterson managed to get under a poncho to load new film, the creature was gone.

Gimlin became a Bigfoot believer.

"There's no question in my mind, none whatsoever," said Gimlin.

Patterson, his brother-in-law, Al DeAtley, and Gimlin originally all had 33 percent shares of the film. Patterson and DeAtley hit the road with the movie, trying to make a fortune, but Gimlin — with a job, wife and home — wasn't interested. And Gimlin isn't sure whether his two partner's really profited from it.

After Patterson's death in 1972, Gimlin tried to acquire that one-third share but met with resistance from Patterson's wife. Rather than be involved in a court fight, Gimlin handed over his interest to veteran Sasquatch hunter Rene Dahinden of Vancouver, B.C., who now owns 51 percent of the film.

Mystery of the burning bodies

By ROGER TODD

PEOPLE are catching fire spontaneously and burning to death in their homes, according to a TV programme.

There is no hint of what causes the blaze which reduces the victim to ashes.

The rest of the source is undamaged even though the heat generated is said to be greater than in a crematorium.

The amazing story is to be told tonight on BBC's Newsnight.

London fireman Jack Stacey reveals how he saw a vagrant with a bright blue flame shooting out of his tummy — "like a Bunsen burner."

There was no electricity or gas in the building and no matches were found.

A detective tells how he found a room intact except for a heap of ashes and a few bones.

He says there was an orange glow. Walking into the room was like going into an oven.

WSU professor says he won't give up search for Bigfoot

SEATTLE (AP) — Grover Krantz estimates that he's lost \$100,000 in his 15-year search for Bigfoot, the hairy monster some say inhabits the deepest forests of the Pacific Northwest. But Krantz says he can't give up.

The money lost by Krantz, who earns about \$27,000 a year as a professor of physical anthropology at Washington State University, includes wages lost when his promotion to full professor was delayed. Krantz contends it was delayed by colleagues who regarded his Bigfoot research as unprofessional.

Bigfoot, also known as Sasquatch, has left few tracks from its 16-inch feet in recent years. Standing six to eight feet tall and weighing 600 to 800 pounds, the creature is linked, at least in legend, to the yeti, or abominable snowman, of the Himalayas.

At Bigfoot Central, a reporting center in Seattle, Cliff Crook admits things have been slow lately. But he can't give up the search either.

Nearly thirty years ago, while camping in an area just north of Seattle, "I sighted a hairy giant in the light of a campfire," said Crook, 45. "It wasn't a bear. It was more like a human being. I've been looking for a Sasquatch ever since."

Crook says photos taken by Steve Sampson, an Eatonville welding company owner, a week before last Christmas are the most credible Sasquatch trace in the Northwest in a long time.

"If I hadn't taken the photographs, I would have kept my mouth shut," said Sampson. He was out bow hunting when he saw what he believes were Sasquatch tracks in the Olympic National Forest. Each footprint was 16 inches long, seven inches wide and showed a 34-inch stride. Sampson photographed the prints in the snow and found two witnesses. They were spooked, he said.

Two other hunters who had been in the area the same day ran across similar tracks, Sampson said.

those prints are fakes. Rene Dahinden, who lives in a house trailer at a Vancouver, British Columbia, gun club, says he owns 51 percent of the rights to a film that he says shows a Sasquatch strolling down Bluff Creek in Northern California in 1967. Bob Gimlin and the late Roger Patterson, Sasquatch hunters from Yakima, had heard about Bigfoot prints in the area, went to look and found and filmed one for 24 seconds, Dahinden said.

But even if no one ever authenticates the film by bringing back Bigfoot, Krantz said. "In the last minute, I will not feel my life has been wasted on this."

Robert Littlewood, chairman of the WSU anthropology department, said Krantz has carried out his Sasquatch research in a professional manner. He described Krantz as a lone wolf who has taken unorthodox positions not only on Bigfoot but also on other issues in anthropology.

Javanese animism evident in hunt for elusive elves

BERO PACADANG, Indonesia (UPI) — What's three feet tall, with red, hairless skin, bulging eyes and a precocious personality? Hint: Its tiny feet never touch the ground as it skips along, stealing money with the skill of a nimble cat burglar.

The mysterious little creature is native to the mist-shrouded jungles and villages of Central Java. It has bedeviled the region's deeply spiritual people for more than a thousand years, resisting the eradication efforts of succeeding waves of Hindus, Buddhists and Moslems.

It shares some characteristics with the imps, elves, leprechauns and trolls of European folklore, with some unique Javanese wrinkles.

Organizers of the pilgrimage pinpointed a sacred tree in Bero Pacadang village, 250 miles southeast of Jakarta, as the center of the kingdom of the tuyuls.

But villagers, local police and military authorities refused to cooperate with the tuyul hunt and set up roadblocks.

"Thousands of people in trucks and buses and on foot came here to see the tuyul," said Rono Sugito, 68, chief of Bero Pacadang, a village of bamboo and thatched huts nestled amid lush rice fields and neatly tended vegetable gardens in Java's volcanic-studded heartland.

"We sent those tuyul hunters away," he said. "They had no permission to come here. We don't want everyone saying this is a tuyul place."

Like many well-educated Javanese, Dutch-speaking Sugito won't say if he believes in tuyuls. "I don't know if there are tuyuls in other villages, but there are no tuyuls here. We can't take you to see one."

Another village leader, Mulyodji Kromo, 65, also insisted there were no tuyuls in Bero Pacadang.

To prove it, he invited a visitor to view the sacred tree which had been the ultimate destination of the blocked "tour de tuyul."

"No tuyuls here, as you can see," he said, as a hundred wide-eyed villagers crowded around the 4-foot-high wall that surrounds the tree.

Kromo said the tree is more than 100 years old and the square wall around it was built 60 years ago. For the past 20 years he has had the job of keeping the keys to a locked door in the wall and tending a pile of coal-like incense, called kemenyan, which is kept burning at the foot of the tree.

"The belief in tuyuls is very strong among most Javanese," said Suhardi, head of the Anthropology Department of Gaja

Mada University in the Central Javan city of Jogjakarta. "It is part of Javanese animism, passed on from generation to generation."

He said the belief in tuyuls and other ethereal beings is strong in all classes and age groups of Javanese society and is promoted by dukuns, the holy men of Javanese mysticism.

"Some people are ashamed to admit it, but more than 60 percent of the Javanese people believe in tuyuls," said Suparman, 37, a clothing designer in Jogjakarta. "I saw a tuyul about three years ago. It was real. It looked like a little naked boy and he tried to steal my money."



Jack Keeler (the man at right) with a group of Haiti children outside a village church where he had preached to about 300 people.

Mutilating those animals might be for voodoo

Jack Keeler thinks he knows why some animals that have been found dead around here recently had been mutilated in strange ways.

"It fits in with what I found out about voodoo when I was on revival missions in Haiti in 1978 and 1980," he said. "There has been a lot of immigration the last few years from that island and other places where voodoo is practiced, and the immigrants have brought their beliefs with them. As other people learn about voodoo, some of them take to it."

In one of the mysterious incidents that occurred in this area last year, a cow belonging to Weldon Tidmore was found dead in his pasture on Union Grove 1. Her tongue, ears and sexual parts had been cut off. Before that a mother horse was killed and her female colt was stolen in Madison County, and some people said it looked like the work of devil worshippers. They said they always go after female animals.

Then 3 pregnant goats belonging to Ty Dorman were killed on successive nights in the old county school bus shop below Blount Avenue. The goats' throats had been cut but there was no sign of the blood that must have run out.

"I saw a voodoo ritual in Haiti



In a far different kind of activity, Mr. Keeler pans for gold near Dahlonega, Ga., the most famous gold place east of the Mississippi. He and his partners found a good deal of gold in 3 months of panning last summer, but wound up losing \$8,000 on the venture.

where they drank goat blood," Mr. Keeler said. "They started with what they called a Satanic dance, to the beat of a drum. As they worked themselves up to a peak of excitement, at the climax they cut the throat of a live goat and caught the blood in cups and passed them around."

In another rite that he saw, a woman doing a voodoo dance carried a live chicken around with her, and then wrung its neck and sucked the blood out.

Another time, when Mr. Keeler went into a village with an interpreter, a man had been on a 21-day fast as part of what he was doing to move up in the ranks hoping to become a high priest. While Mr. Keeler was there the man came out of his hut with a bullwhip and walked threateningly around him, but didn't do anything to him.

Mr. Keeler was in Haiti as one of about 20 people on David Terrell's gospel team. Although most Haitians believe in their native religions, they turned out in large numbers to hear Bro. Terrell preach at outdoor services. The crowds grew until one day an estimated 80,000 people stood up through a service that lasted over 2 hours.

Mr. Keeler and others preached in the rural villages. Services that he held drew as many as 500 people.

Controversial energy device to be examined by bureau

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joseph W. Newman of Lucedale, Miss., an inventor, Friday delivered a prototype of his controversial energy machine to government engineers for testing, the latest move in a long effort to get a patent on the device.

Critics contend the machine, which Newman calls a revolutionary energy device, defies the laws of physics.

In delivering the machine to the National Bureau of Standards, Newman complied with a federal appeals court order issued last week that said he must produce the device for testing if he wishes to pursue his patent application.

The machine, accompanied by Newman's lawyer, John Flannery, was delivered in a bright orange crate to the bureau's engineering testing laboratory at Gaithersburg, Md.

Mat Heyman, a bureau spokes-

man, said the device was taken into the lab and locked away for security.

"We are treating it the same as we would treat evidence in a court case," Heyman said in an interview.

Newman has been seeking a patent on his "Impossible" energy machine for more than six years.

Patent examiners say the device looks like another proposal for a perpetual motion machine,

one that would produce more energy than it uses so that it could run forever. Such a machine has been the goal of inventors for centuries, but conventional science says such a device is impossible.

Newman contends his device is not a perpetual motion machine, but a revolutionary energy source that uses the previously unknown magnetic properties of copper coils to release more energy than it consumes.