

# UFO

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### Top UFO researcher dies at 75

J. Allen Hynek; astronomy prof

By RICHARD CHARNOCK  
Arizona Republic Staff

J. Allen Hynek, an astronomer whose scholarly studies made him a leading expert on unidentified flying objects, is dead at 75.

As a professor of astronomy, he directed the Air Force's Project Blue Book, an investigation into UFOs, from 1948 to 1969.

Gradually, he became disenchanted with the Air Force's approach to the study, contending the service was not conducting a scientific experiment.

He said in a 1974 interview he stayed with the program so he would have access to the Air Force data and to avoid being marked a "UFO nut." The Air Force concluded there was no evidence of extraterrestrial craft.

In 1973, he founded the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., and a year ago he moved to Scottsdale, bringing it with him.

Hynek coined the phrase, "close encounters of the third kind," in his 1972 book *The UFO Experience*. In that book, he said "close encounters of the first kind" were lights in the sky and "close encounters of the third kind" were those in which humans encountered alien beings. That later became the title of a 1977 Steven Spielberg movie, and Hynek made a cameo appearance in the film.

"There will never be another Dr. Hynek," Tina Choate, administrative director of the Center for UFO Research in Phoenix, said Tuesday. "His contribution in the field of research was enormous. He was Number 1."

"UFO research has centered around him as long as they have been looking at UFOs in this day and age. He's left a legacy for everyone who's interested in the subject, and we're very grateful."

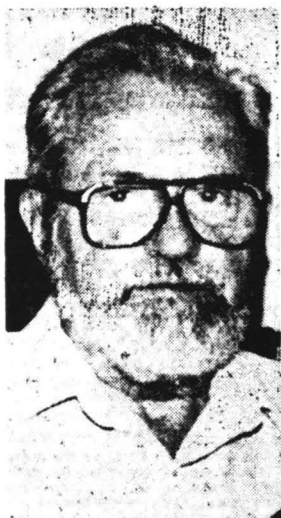
"I don't think anyone can replace him. It will be more of a group effort in the field of UFO research."

But, she said, the center will continue with his work.

George Rieke, deputy director of Steward Observatory at the University of Arizona, acknowledged Hynek's leadership as a scientist.

"Basically, he was distinguished by having a very open mind and a sense of fairness," Rieke said.

"That was shown, for example, by the work he did on unidentified flying objects. He was selected to carry on that work because of his reputation. Prior to that, he made many valuable contributions to astronomy that



J. Allen Hynek

established that reputation for him."

William Spaulding, a Valley engineer and head of Ground Saucer Watch's Western division, said Hynek's leadership in UFO research will be missed.

"For a man of his credentials, I think he contributed a lot to the field," Spaulding said.

However, Philip J. Klass, an avionics editor at *Aviation Week and Space Technology* magazine, has been a frequent critic of Hynek's theories and UFO investigations for 20 years.

"The world of ufology will miss him," Klass said. "But, in my opinion, it's regrettable that a man trained in astronomy and who had such a prestigious background should go down in history as leader of the pro-UFO movement."

Born in Chicago, Hynek did undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Chicago, from which he received his doctorate.

The bearded, pipe-smoking professor was head of the department of astronomy at Northwestern University for 18 years until his retirement in 1978. Since then, he had been a professor emeritus at Northwestern.

He often acknowledged in interviews over the years that the field of UFO research attracts its share of crackpots.

But that never stopped him in his quest for an explanation of the phenomena. Last summer, he told a reporter he was more convinced than ever that UFOs deserve serious study.

Hynek resigned from the Center for UFO Research after he became ill and was not active in the studies for the past several months, Choate said. He died Sunday at Scottsdale Memorial Hospital.

Survivors include his wife, Miriam; daughter, Roxanne; sons, Scott, Ross, Joel and Paul; and five grandchildren. Green Acres Mortuary made private arrangements.

THE RAMBLER / John McKelway

## Shedding light on unidentified flying objects

Some years ago, while we were sitting on the front stoop of my home in Kensington, Md., an extremely bright light appeared out of the southeast and silently passed above us.

I say "us" because my wife was with me and saw the same thing.

It was just a bit after dinner, and we were both feeling pretty good. I had just walked the dog, and there was nothing much to do but chat about what neighbors might come around and, perhaps, have some ice cream. It was summer. I think the month was July.

I was working for another newspaper at the time and had come under some pressure to produce something. "ANYTHING!" as one editor put it.

And so, the next day, I went down to the office and wrote this first-person story about seeing an unidentified flying object, the well-known "UFO."

The account was printed, and I sat back waiting for national recognition. It never came. But a number of people did call me and reported they had seen the same thing — the noiseless light moving in the same direction.

One man called to say that he was convinced the object had something to do with strange doings at Camp David, where presidents go to enjoy marvelous scenery. I gathered he must have just seen a James Bond movie, where bad men build fortresses in unlikely territory.

I did not want to get involved with him and tried as smoothly as possible to get rid of him. But other callers, just as rational as myself, did say they had seen the light, so to speak, and knew just what I was talking about.

A few days after the story appeared, I received an anonymous note from a man who, well, indicated he felt I was completely drunk at the

time I saw the UFO.

The man — I'm assuming he's a man — never gives up. Although the paper I worked for, the one that printed the piece on the UFO, folded eventually, the man tracked me down to my present place of employment and still sends me nasty, anonymous notes about my UFO scoop.

But, in his latest note, he did remark on a major development in the summer of 1986.

He pointed out that there has been, as he puts it, "a dearth" of UFO sightings in the past three years.

I think he is right.

I would certainly hope a mention of this in this space does not start things up again. Even I, who saw the UFO, have always had a hard time believing stories of spaceships with small men made out of green cheese landing on forgotten highways somewhere in North Carolina.

And my anonymous needler makes me wonder what has happened to the record of all the past UFO sightings and whether or not the Air Force is worried anymore.

Maybe the letter writer is actually from Mars and knew I was on to something in the first place. Perhaps — anything is possible in the UFO business — he figured that one more piece on strange objects would make people even more skeptical and he could get about his latest project at Camp David.

Who knows? I still say I saw something unidentified in the sky way back in the late 1970s. It had a big light and made no noise.

Incidentally, the anonymous letter writer signed his latest note, "Jack Daniels, President, UFO Research, Inc."

He's trying to tell me something. Right?

DAILY REPORT, Ontario, CA — May 3, 1986

## 'UFO' over Ontario?

By BRANDON GRIGGS  
The Daily Report

Was there a UFO in the skies over Ontario Thursday night?

Nobody knows for sure. But Ontario police did receive several calls from residents who reported seeing a large red light hovering high above their rooftops.

Jim Semon said he was awakened about 12:15 a.m. Friday by his dogs barking. "I sat up and I heard a noise like fireworks," he said. "They came from this red light in the sky."

Semon, a physical education teacher at Chaffey High School, said he jumped out of bed and ran outside. "My wife said, 'What are you doing?' I said, 'Honey, there's some weird fireworks or something out here.'"

The light appeared high in the sky to the south of the Semon's house in the 300 block of East Fifth Street, he said. It hovered silently, occasionally giving off flashes of colored lights and loud popping sounds, he said.

The light also periodically grew and shrunk in size, and moved in occasional bursts across the sky, he said.

"It was weird — flat-out weird," said Semon. "I want to find out what the sucker was. I hope someone else saw it."

Apparently, someone else did. Between about 10:30 p.m. Thursday and 12:30 a.m. Friday, Ontario police had three other calls about the light. Dispatchers at the West End sheriff's station in Ontario also received similar calls.

After he watched it for about 15 minutes, the red light began moving east, Semon said. Then it disappeared altogether.

Not everyone is convinced of the sighting, however. Marv Shappi, a supervisor in the radar approach control building at Ontario International Airport, said he isn't aware of any unusual objects in the local skies Thursday night.

"I'm not saying things can't happen, but I'm a little skeptical," he said. "People see a lot of strange things."



UPI wire photo

UFO expert J. Allen Hynek, a retired Northwestern University professor emeritus of astronomy, died April 27 in Memorial Hospital, Scottsdale, Arizona.

## Hynek: brought respect to the research of UFOs

*Editor's note: J. Allen Hynek, astronomer and the first scientist to advocate the scientific study of unidentified flying objects, died April 27 in Scottsdale, Ariz. at the age of 75. One of Hynek's books, "The UFO Experience," provided the basis for the motion picture, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." Herald staff writer Kerry Hill, who interviewed Hynek in 1977, profiles the "elder statesman of UFOlogy."*

By Kerry Hill  
Herald staff writer

**"W**hen I think back on my career, I've done damn little that was original. I seem to have the ability of seeing the value of an idea and bringing other people together to do something about it," said the gray-haired scientist.

"I've never launched any new theories. I've never made any outstanding discoveries. I guess I'm not very innovative."

That modest self-description comes from the astronomer who since the mid 1960s has risked being labeled "a kook" by urging scientific studies of unidentified flying objects (UFOs). By the mid 1970s, Dr. J. Allen Hynek saw his persistence paying off.

"The scientific fraternity is waking up, and one of the most amazing things is a report studied at Stanford," said Hynek during a 1977 interview at his Northwestern University office.

"They queried all the membership of the American Astronomical Society and found that 53 percent of the respondents felt that the UFO subject was worthy of scientific study."

He smiled and tossed the report on his desk. "You never would have gotten that result 10 years ago."

Hynek himself wasn't convinced that UFOs deserved serious scientific attention until the mid 1960s, nearly 20 years after he became involved in the UFO controversy.

He joined the UFO debate by accident — "like the innocent bystander who got shot," he says.

The shot was fired in 1947, when the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, was assigned to investigate reported UFO sightings.

"They just needed an astronomer," Hynek said, "and I happened to be the handiest astronomer around, since I was teaching then at Ohio State."

At first, Hynek failed to take the investigation — dubbed Project Blue Book — seriously, but he stayed with it throughout its 22-year duration. The Air Force concluded that there was no evidence to support the existence of UFOs, but, by 1966, Hynek's own views had changed.

"When I started, I thought it was a fad that would disappear, but it hasn't disappeared. The phenomenon has persisted, whatever it may be."

Because so many UFO reports cannot be explained, Hynek believes a scientific approach to UFOs is in order. Thus began the science of UFOlogy.

"I have been the one person who has stood up to be counted," he said. "I don't mean that in a heroic way at all, because I had a certain amount of protection in doing that. After all, it was the Air Force that asked me to do this."

In his quest to make UFOlogy respectable, Hynek has written books — the most notable being "The UFO Experience" — and lectured on the subject.

"We don't actually know yet how to go about researching UFOs, outside of collecting data and separating fact from fiction," he said. "In my books and lectures, I have largely fulfilled an educator's role."

Part of that educator's role, he said, is "to acquaint people with things they see in the sky, so they're not constantly reporting Venus and to destroy the ridiculous barrier that exists."

"There is a huge reservoir of unreported cases, because people are afraid to. The stranger the story, the more reluctance there is to report it."

To get UFOlogy off the ground, Hynek established the Center for UFO Studies in 1973, which was based in Evanston until moving to Scottsdale, Ariz., last year, and he started the *International UFO Reporter*, a scientific UFO magazine.

In "The UFO Experience," Hynek created a classification system for UFO reports. The system included daylight discs, nocturnal lights and three types of "close encounters."

In 1977, Steven Spielberg, known then as director of "Jaws," used that book as the basis for the film "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

"The title was taken directly from my book," said Hynek, who was the film's technical director and made a brief appearance. "The close encounters of the third kind happen to be the kind in which the humanoids, or entities, are reported."

"Steven Spielberg has done his homework very well. When I read the script, I found very few places where there was any violation on the basic ideas of the UFO phenomenon. While it's entirely fictional and made for entertainment, it's based on a composite of recorded cases. In any event, it doesn't outrage the idea."

Hynek's link with UFO studies have overshadowed other aspects of his career. The Chicago-born astronomer taught and conducted research at Ohio State University from 1935 to 1953. He taught at Northwestern University from 1960 to 1978, where he headed the astronomy department.

He also worked on the United States' first satellite tracking system, which helped push the United States into the space age.

He has served as director of Ohio State's McMillin Observatory and Northwestern's Dearborn Observatory and Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center.

"Dr. Hynek is a scientist who keeps an open mind, and not many of them do," Necia Apfel, co-author with Hynek of "Astronomy One," said in a 1977 interview. "He is also charming, witty, brilliant, adventuresome, and very daring. Oh yes, he is an incurable punster, too."

Despite his other accomplishments, a 1973 article in *New Scientist* said, "Hynek would be remembered not as an astronomer, but as the man who made UFOs respectable."

After hearing of Hynek's death, Tina Choate, administrative director of the Center for UFO Research, said, "UFO research has centered around him as long as they have been looking at UFOs in this day and age. He's left a legacy for everyone who's interested in the subject and we're very grateful."

## No new sightings of UFO

Orange X not explained

By Bonnie Bard

Independent Journal reporter

PETALUMA — The mysterious, illuminated orange "X" that hovered over Petaluma in the pre-dawn sky Thursday remained unexplained today.

An officer for the California Highway Patrol and more than a dozen residents reported seeing the UFO zig-zagging over Petaluma and Santa Rosa.

It was described as an orange "X" with white lights in the front. One report also indicated it also had green lights.

The sightings were reported between 4:30 and 5:30 a.m. Most described it as fast moving and larger than an airplane.

Arlette Cohen, KTOB radio news director in Petaluma, said she saw it stop and hover over the city's western hills.

The UFO sightings came on the heels of reports of pingpong ball-sized multi-colored UFOs in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The government scrambled jet fighters to intercept the tiny objects, and two pilots said they saw them flying nearby.

San Francisco Bay Area air traffic controllers said they could not explain the Sonoma sighting, saying radar screens detected no objects flying over the area at that time.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command in Colorado said no man-made spacecraft would have been visible at 4:30 a.m. in Northern California, but added that debris from a Russian satellite re-entered the atmosphere over California at 5:41 a.m. Thursday.

MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL, San Rafael, CA - May 23, 1986

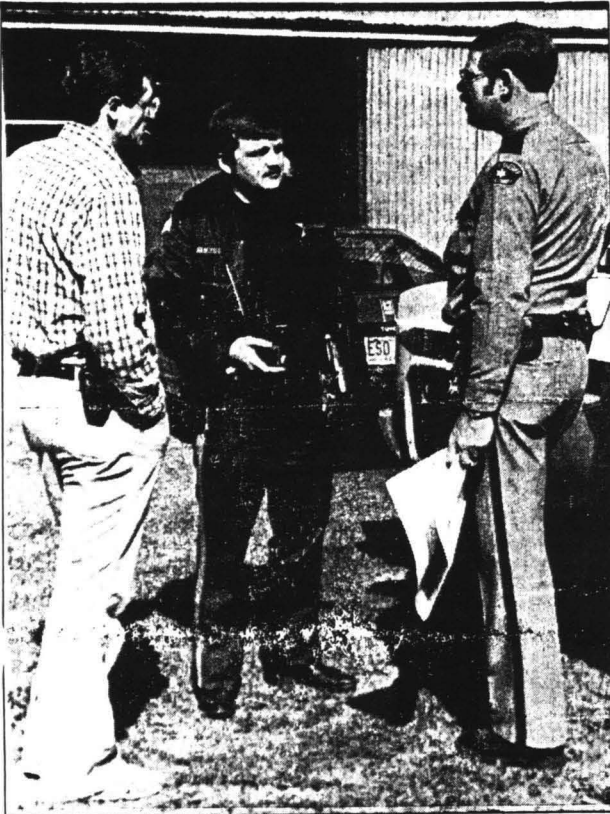


# Law enforcement officials still baffled by Saturday fireball

Law enforcement officials are still baffled by reports of a low flying helicopter in the Marks Ridge area Saturday morning and a sighting of a mysterious cloud of fire

that lit up the early morning sky.

"We've had 13 reports of persons who either saw a low flying helicopter or heard the noise from it," said Police Chief Gary David.



POLICE CHIEF Gary David, officer Dave Persons and county deputy sheriff Dave Freeman discuss the more than five hours of searching that followed a sighting of a large fireball early Saturday morning near Marks Ridge. A county helicopter, patrol cars and local officials searched the area from Foster to west of Sweet Home with no success. Cause of the intense flames is still unknown.

"There are flames, fire shooting up in the woods around Marks Ridge. We're going up in the area to see what it is..."

Officer Dave Persons

"Some people even reported that it might be more than one aircraft."

Chief David was one of the witnesses. He was riding with officer Dave Persons when the first reports came into the police department and messages were relayed to the pair who were near Foster Dam.

"We know we saw a large ball of fire," David said. "It was cloudlike and was big enough to have engulfed a helicopter or airplane."

#### Dispatcher transcript

The following transcript is from the actual police department conversations taken during that time:

**Dispatcher:** "We just got a call reporting a helicopter flying low in the Mountain View area. It was last seen in the Marks Ridge area."

**Officer Persons:** "There are flames, fire shooting up in the woods around Marks Ridge. We're going up in the area to see what it is. ...advise the sheriff's office of the reports. ...it looked very hot, there were lots of intense flames."

Persons then asked the dispatcher to have the fire department stand by, and was told that fire marshal Keith Gabriel had seen the flames. Gabriel said he would patrol the west side of town and a state forestry employee said he would do the same at the east side of town.

Chief David said the county sheriff's office immediately dispatched a patrol car from the Scio area and

at daybreak a helicopter was used to scout the area.

"They actually made two flights," David said. "They went the first time until they were low on fuel, refueled and went up again until after 10 a.m. They saw absolutely nothing."

About 10 a.m. Saturday the search for a possible downed helicopter was called off. Sheriff's department officials contacted area military personnel, but as of Monday no confirmations of military maneuvers were made.

#### Rough area

Chief David said it was very difficult to pinpoint a location of the fire, especially once it turned daylight.

"Marks Ridge looks entirely different at night than during the day," David said. "It is a difficult area to search."

Chief David said that he and Officer Persons were at a far right angle from the flame but he said the explosion formed a bright orange, white and red fireball that ascended like a cloud at the west end of Marks Ridge.

Several persons were awakened by the noise of the aircraft. One caller said he actually saw a helicopter flying toward Foster Lake, very low, with no lights on and moving very fast.

Kathryn Thometz of 1025 River Rd. said something woke her up, although she wasn't certain it was a noise.

"I woke up and had the strange feeling that I was falling out of bed," Thometz said. "I reached my hand out and realized it was on the bed. I still don't know what caused it. My dog was upset, too."

## UFO buffs plan close encounter in Michigan

One of my many weaknesses is an active interest in unidentified flying objects, a fascination that began during World War II when flyers began reporting a phenomenon they called "Foo Fighters."

I don't know what UFOs are, but I've been convinced for years that something exists. As a newsman, I've talked to too many sober, qualified citizens who had UFO experiences to doubt that something real is around.

Like many others, I've been amused by government sources that try to explain UFOs away by discrediting the observers. You know: What everyone is watching is luminous swamp gas, weather balloons, bright stars or something quite ordinary.

Of course, serious UFO research is



Around Here

Jack Alkire

Journal and Courier

muddled by the crazies of the world and excitable folks who so desperately want to see a UFO that their imaginations invent them.

A couple of years back an acquaintance got me out of bed late at night to report a reddish, glowing UFO low in the western sky. I waded through dew-wet grass in pajamas to the back yard

to find that he had discovered a planet called Mars.

All this works out as an announcement of the 17th annual UFO symposium at Michigan State University's Kellogg Center June 27 through June 29. The symposium is sponsored by the nation's leading UFO investigative group — Mutual UFO Network, Inc., with headquarters at Seguin, Texas.

MUFON, the acronym for the network, has qualified observers — many of whom are scientists — around the world to carry on investigations of sightings. Indiana has an active state investigative team, according to Jerry Sievers of Vincennes, the assistant state director for MUFON.

The state group last year promised to send me a report of a UFO experience in Indiana when it finishes the

investigation. Sievers said it involved two professional men, a 50-foot disk, and a "missed time period" — whatever that means. I can hardly wait to get it.

The theme for the symposium at Michigan State is "Beyond the Mainstream of Science."

The list of speakers include Dr. Michael D. Swords, professor of natural sciences from Western Michigan University; Dr. Harley Rutledge, professor of physics for Southeast Missouri State University; Dr. Richard F. Haines, research scientist for the U.S. space station program, and John F. Schuessler, astronautics engineer for NASA's space shuttle program.

If you want to attend, you can write to MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, Texas, 78155.

### UFO policy needs study

Editor, The Journal:

The recent death of astronomer-UFO researcher Dr. J. Allen Hynek, whose coinage of the term "close encounters" made him a legendary figure in his later years, comes at a time when the "UFO problem" promises new answers to old questions.

Thanks both to a climate of serious media interest in the problem and to recent successes of persistent UFO researchers in compelling greater governmental accountability for official UFO information and policy, the public has been fairly well prepared for certain revelations as to UFO reality and for a fi-

nal expose of how certain federal agencies have been contributing to a massive cover-up of hard-core UFO data.

The big question remains to be answered: Are the UFO policymakers in the White House, Pentagon, Central Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency, and State Department prepared to reach a consensus on how to save face when the revelations emerge?

My guess is that a behind-the-scenes damage-control effort — a contingency plan, if you will — has been in place for decades, undergoing refinement as the need arises. The officials in charge of that effort have been well aware of the risks they take in perpetuating the "Cosmic Watergate" for nearly 40 years. But up to now, they've had little to worry about.

Why should they start worrying now? Here are three reasons:

In the past few years a number of UFO cover-up whistleblowers (current and former government persons) have begun making overtures as to what they know and when they knew it as regards the government's vast storehouse of UFO-sighting data, retrieved UFO artifacts (including their humanoid occupants), and "signals intelligence" from intercepted UFO communications.

As the individual whistleblowers begin to work up enough courage to proceed with a network of data correlation and mutual psychological reinforcement of their confessional, "tell all" mentality, they will be in a position to "go public" with a collective testimony and an authoritative plea for an end to the cover-up.

Certain legal actions are in the

works to afford the whistleblowers a safe, open forum for their message. These include plans for the "Ultimate Freedom of Information-Act Lawsuit" to compel the government to release all its records pertaining to the various cases of so-called crash-landed flying saucers.

What can bring all this to a head is for a major news organization to step in with a Watregate-like probe into the "smoking gun" represented by the overtures being made by these phantom (i.e., publicly undeclared) whistleblowers.

I'm sure Dr. Hynek would have supported the launching of such a probe.

LARRY W. BRYANT  
Alexandria

# It's no bird, no plane, so must be UFO

By JUD SNYDER

Those darned UFO'S just won't go away.

Last week's sighting by many people in southern Sonoma County was probably the most-sighted Unidentified Flying Object in this area in a decade.

It was about 10 years ago that a cluster of lights was observed spinning about and changing shapes close to the southwestern horizon late one night. This reporter saw it. So did a few other Sebastopol people who wrote letters to the newspaper about it. But the event fizzled away and no one got excited and it received scant media attention.

But last Thursday's UFO sighting

triggered a wave of speculation and possible explanations from scientists, believers and skeptics from San Francisco to the Oregon border.

Descriptions of this latest sighting are not the same. Wanda Madson was delivering newspapers about 4 a.m. west of Sebastopol when she spotted something dark and round in the sky. It had two big lights in front and smaller ones to the rear. It hovered for a while, then moved fast to another site and hovered some more.

A short while later, Arlette Cohen of Radio KTOB in Petaluma saw lights in the sky from freeway 101 near the Sonoma-Marin county line. This one, she said, had two green lights and two white ones. It also appeared to be shaped like a big X, and did the same hovering then zipping off, type of maneuver.

A California Highway Patrol officer, whose identity is not known,

was in the Petaluma area about the same time and saw an object in the sky with five lights. He, too, thought it was shaped like a big X in the

night sky.

Others saw the UFO and called the CHP office, according to Bill McChristian of Rohnert Park CHP

headquarters. He had about "a dozen" calls from excited observers. It's not clear just what jurisdiction the CHP has over UFO's in its area.

Everyone agrees it wasn't an airplane or helicopter. Mainly because these aircraft don't hover

QUESTION: How would you react to seeing a UFO?



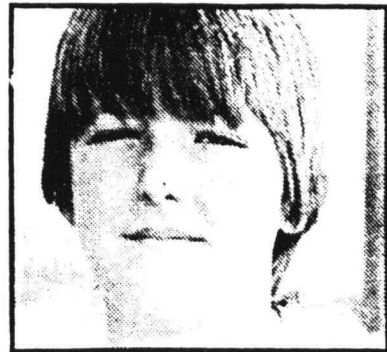
Armando Reed, 3rd grader, RP

"If he was just a little green man? Probably ask him what planet he's from. Probably like on (the movie) 'Gremlins,' offer him a candy bar, see if he likes it. I'd be shocked."



Anita Kane, owner Rohnert Park Ballet, RP

"I never hope to see one. I think I'd be puzzled. I wouldn't believe it was a UFO; it would be some strange, explainable phenomenon."



Jason Puckett, 6th grader, RP

"I'd probably try to talk to them, probably. Try to be cool. It would be great. It would be good for our science and stuff. Find out what they were doing here; find out if they're doing human research."



Michael Barnes, electronic technician, RP

"I'm a sort of a technical person and it definitely would be curiosity. I'd just try to look, find out what it was. And being an electronic technician, I don't think there are (space ships from other planets).

**Scoffers scathed by UFO disciples**

By JENNIFER HARSHA  
Lansing State Journal

If E.T. exists, the experts gathered at the 17th Annual UFO Symposium want the freedom to say so. They are tired of ridicule from skeptics regarding unidentified flying objects. They are exasperated with what they believe is government secrecy and lack of media investigation.

At Michigan State University today and Sunday, those gathering at "Beyond the Mainstream of Science" will discuss ways in which they hope to increase public awareness of extra-terrestrial visits. They want to bring their field out of the realm of flying saucers and close encounters and into respected science.

And they want to research without scorn by naysayers, speakers said at a Friday press conference. "These individuals, by denying people the open-minded right to explore and try to solve mysteries, are curtailing the abilities of civilization to progress," said Michael Swords, Western Michigan University natural sciences professor.

Swords is among up to 300 members of the Mutual UFO Network Inc. gathering at MSU's Kellogg Center. This is the first time the symposium has been held at MSU.

The symposium offers lectures from some of the country's top experts in aeronautics, physics, natural sciences, aerospace research and UFO history. The skepticism with which the public views UFO sightings inhibits many people from reporting even the eeriest of encounters, said Robert Blechman, legal advisor for the UFO network.

"The public has the most tenuous feeling of the nature of the UFO phenomena — so much so, they are unwilling to address their feelings even towards their real experiences," Blechman said.

He said he wants the media to take a stronger role in overseeing what he contends is a government history of covering up UFO sightings.

"I intend to advertise the UFO evidence into mainstream consciousness to the point that the media can no longer avoid doing its inherent duty, namely to be a watchdog of the government. I think they have failed abysmally in that regard," Blechman said.

(continued on page 5)

and swiftly dart off in another direction, and, no one reported any sound of engines or rotor blades one would accept from present day aircraft.

One of the skeptics said the X-shaped object with lights is an old classroom science experiment. Nail two boards together in an X shape, affix big candles to either end, fasten plastic bags over the candles but far enough from the flame so the plastic doesn't burn or melt, and pretty soon the bags will inflate, lift the boards off the ground and have it spinning in the sky until the bags melt or the candles go out.

Sounds like a perfect classroom experiment for a high school science class one of these quiet nights.

But with sightings west of Sebastopol and south of Petaluma, both between 4 and 4:30 in the morning, this explanation defies logic. It would take a dedicated crew of practical jokers to coordinate such an experiment.

Professor Gordon Spear of Sonoma State U's physics and astronomy department reminds us that 95 percent of UFO sightings have been firmly identified and simply explained.

But that 5 percent still is lurking out there.



(continued from page 4 - STATE JOURNAL, Lansing, MI - June 28, 1986)

Bruce Maccabee, who has done extensive research on UFO sightings in government documents, also contends the government has been keeping UFO evidence from the public since 1947.

Maccabee said there is evidence that a UFO crashed in a New Mexico desert in 1947 and that U.S. officials found the crash remains.

Maccabee is an optical physicist with the U.S. Naval Surface Weapons center.

"I think something unusual has been going on in the UFO subject ever since 1947. Furthermore, I

think it's connected with some sort of intelligence not related to human beings. I'm not going to speculate where it comes from," he said.

"Assuming that something unusual is going on, and that Air Force people were involved right from the beginning, then I can only assume that either the government knows something it's not telling us or else the government has been extremely naive on the whole subject," Maccabee said.

Phillip J. Klass, who has authored several books refuting evidence of UFOs, dismisses the idea that U.S. officials are engaged in a UFO cover-up. Klass visited MSU in May.

After 20 years of investigating sightings, Klass has concluded

that all UFOs are explainable in earthly terms.

Speakers Friday bitterly condemned Klass as the most "obnoxious" of their foes.

"I think what he's doing is totally ridiculous and criminal," said Harley Rutledge, chairman of the Southeast Missouri State University physics department.

The symposium today offers lectures, documentary films and videotaped interviews with other experts in the field. A major UFO exhibit, provided by the Center for UFO Studies, may be seen throughout the weekend.

Tickets are available at the door at \$30 a person for the entire event and \$7.50 a person for single sessions.

POST-DISPATCH, St. Louis, MO - June 24, 1986 CR: COUD-I

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

# To Flying Saucer Fans: Today's Your Day!

Today, June 24, is the anniversary of the first official sighting of flying saucers in the United States. Kenneth Arnold of Boise, Idaho, reported seeing something he described as "flying saucers" over Mount Rainier in Washington.

Unidentified flying objects — UFOs — have been seen for thousands of years; even, say some saucer historians, by the earliest civilizations. They believe that because the people of those times included pictures of flying clamshell-like objects in the murals that were part of their public buildings and temples.

Most of the UFOs that have been seen have been reported as looking like two saucers touching rim to rim. But others were reported as glowing tubes or just a "thing" that glowed or flashed lights so fast that it was impossible for the viewer to see its shape.

Some viewers said the UFOs were silent; others said they whined. Many said the objects flew faster than anything they had ever seen before.

During World War II, UFO sightings were reported by many military fliers. Since then, so many people have reported seeing UFOs all over the world that there are now many groups of UFO-watchers. Some of them are military investigators, some are scientists who have come together to satisfy their professional curiosity, and lots



Ralph Ditter of Zanesville, Ohio, took this Polaroid picture of what he thinks is a flying saucer. Other people in other places have seen objects shaped like this one that have a huge, very bright searchlight shining from the bottom onto the ground beneath.

are just ordinary people. They all want to know what these UFOs are — who make them, where they come from and what they are doing here.

Scientists have found explanations for some of the UFOs. They say that what the people saw was a meteor, a planet, a rocket, a star, a satellite sent from Earth, vapor trails from large airplanes or a weather balloon.

Sometimes, they say, atmospheric conditions can create *optical illusions* (false or misleading images), especially for people who are looking for UFOs.

In the late 1960s, the U.S. Air Force reread some of the UFO reports that had been made by their pilots and crews, and asked a group of scientists to investigate 12,000 of them.

The scientists found explanations for some of the sightings but not for all of them. As part of their findings, they said there was nothing in any of the reports that suggested that the UFOs were from outer space or alien galaxies.

The investigation was closed after the scientists decided the UFOs were not a threat to our nation's security.

There are still many UFO study groups all over the world. Saucer lovers get together annually at conventions to hear about the latest scientific investigations and talk with people who say they have seen or been in contact with flying saucers.

Many *reputable* (trustworthy) scientists think there is more to UFOs than the Air Force's investigation reported. They have formed groups in which they work together, sharing their different kinds of knowledge to look for clues that will tell them what the flying saucers really are.

One such group is the Center for UFO Studies. It was founded 13 years ago, in 1973.

If you want to learn more about flying saucers and what the scientists at the Center for UFO Studies think about them, you can write to the Information Office, Center for UFO Studies, P.O. Box 11, Northfield, Ill. 60093.

# Scientist urges serious study of UFOs

By SANDI DOUGHTON-EVANS  
Monitor Staff Writer

To most reputable scientists, the subject of unidentified flying objects is far too treacherous to touch.

Like the ancient alchemists who believed they could transform lead into gold, investigators who study UFOs today are often viewed as quacks or charlatans. Getting tangled up in such a shady business could be the kiss of death for a serious scientific career.

But Los Alamos National Laboratory physicist John Warren is as serious about UFOs as he is about his research in accelerator technology. In fact, he feels scientists should be especially concerned about UFOs, because if even a tiny fraction of the reports are true, the laws of physics may be in for a big shake-down.

"UFOs may, in fact, have some substantial, circumstantial evidence connected with them, so it's at least worth looking at their characteristics ... and what implications they might have for physics," Warren told a meeting of the Pajarito Astronomers

Thursday night.

Warren has been scrutinizing and following up on UFO reports for several years now, and serves as scientific adviser to the Mutual UFO Network, an organization which investigates UFO sightings and which stands apart from the "lunatic fringe" attracted to the field.

Starting in about 1947, more than 60,000 UFO sightings have been catalogued, and many remain unexplained, Warren said. Scientists and other well-educated people have seen UFOs, though they're usually very reluctant to report them. According to a Stanford University survey in 1977, 80 percent of American Astronomical Society members who responded to a questionnaire believe UFOs should be investigated, and 62 said they've spotted UFOs themselves, Warren said.

"But unless you ask them, you're not going to find out. They're not going to compromise their scientific credibility."

In fact, only a small percentage of most reports ever make it into the newspapers. Most people are

afraid of ridicule, and though they're willing to talk to UFO investigators, they shun any publicity, he said.

In many cases, the only evidence is the word of the observers.

While Betty and Barry Hill, a New Hampshire couple, were out for a drive in 1961, they suddenly noticed that two hours seemed to have been lost from their lives. Disturbed, they both later underwent hypnosis, and told the same, odd tale of being lifted up into a UFO and physically examined.

Betty said she "spoke" with the aliens, and that one of them showed her a three-dimensional star map — which scientists later recreated (sparking a heated debate), based on her reports.

Other people who have claimed similar experiences showed evidence of have been poked and probed, and a rare handful say they have been examined several times — first as children, later as adults, Warren said.

In other cases, UFOs leave their tracks on the ground. "Although most of the evidence about UFOs is stories, folklore, there is hard evidence of physical traces being left," Warren said.

A New Mexico state policeman was chasing a speeder near Socorro in 1964, when he saw something landing in the desert about a mile away. As he drove up to the craft, which appeared to be resting on a four-legged stand, it roared off with a blast. But the marks where the legs had been touching the ground, and the burned and scorched bushes, remained behind — and were photographed and studied by the FBI.

Other reports abound, from Anglican priests in New Guinea to respected Saskatchewan farmers. Scorched circles, matted grass, broken trees, mysteriously killed crops, and uprooted chunks of earth silently attest to strange occurrences.

UFOs hit the headlines again just last week, when a group of Brazilian Air Force pilots said they spotted and pursued ping pong ball-sized blobs of light. A U.S. Navy pilot was killed many years ago when his plane crashed as he tried to catch up to a UFO.

Reports from around the world are often remarkably similar, attributing some unearthly properties to these other-worldly craft. The most common shapes are the disc, cigar and boomerang, and the air around the UFOs frequently glows and hums.

Very high speeds are also a common feature — with estimates ranging up to 5,000 mph. And yet the vehicles also commonly come to an abrupt halt, or execute right-angle turns.

"They travel as if there were no such thing as inertia," Warren said.

But inertia is a basic building block of classical physics. If it can be done away with, that would mean our understanding of the nature of matter is full of holes, he said.

NEWS TRIBUNE, Tacoma, WA - June 23, 1986 CR: UFOCCI

## UFOlogy

### New Age gathering attracts seekers of otherworldly truth

It was not your usual gathering of picnickers along the shore of Surprise Lake in Milton.

It was your annual gathering of flying-saucer fans.

There was a Boeing engineer, an optics engineer, an ex-trucker, a restaurant worker and homemakers.

They were here for the 25th annual New Age Foundation convention, put on — as always — by Tacoman Wayne S. Aho.

This year's convention, like the previous ones in other locations, commemorated the birth of "UFOlogy" — the anniversary of the first reported sighting of "flying saucers" by Kenneth Arnold, who said he saw nine of them near Mount Rainier on June 24, 1947.

Not all of this year's four dozen conventioners believe there are unidentified flying objects piloted by aliens from outer space. But all seemed interested in otherworldly things.

"Many are interested in metaphysical things," said Aileen Edwards of Seattle, director of the UFO Contact Center International. "That's why they've come."

Edwards wore a T-shirt bearing the word, "jorpah," which she said means "cosmic gathering" in an alien language. Dangled around her neck was a UFO medallion.

While some may doubt the existence of alien creatures from other parts of the universe, Edwards seems to entertain no such doubts. "I deal with people who have had contact with aliens," she said.

Rhoda Sherwood of Rochester, N.Y., said she and her husband, William, were drawn to the convention because "we want to find the truth." The Sherwoods, founders of the Rochester UFO Study Group, traveled farthest to attend the convention.

"We keep an open mind and we learn a lot of things," Rhonda added, noting that her husband, a retired optical engineer for Eastman Kodak Co., has studied thousands of UFO photos and has determined some to be authentic.

Don Mecham of Seattle, a soon-to-retire Boeing engineer, said he has believed in UFOs since he was 20, and believes people must be true to themselves. That's why he attended, he said.

Paul Koslowski, a Tacoma restaurant worker, said he believed inhabitants of the Earth are "all descendants of space people."

But Dick Daniels of Renton, a retired trucker, said he didn't believe everything he heard about UFOs.

"Someone could look at the blue sky and tell you it was green, but you have to make up your own mind," he said.



Staff photos by DALE BLINDHEIM

Wayne Aho



Aileen Edwards

Daniels said he has performed psychic healing and thinks there are other living things somewhere in the universe.

Rosa Westledge of Roy, an astrologer who gave insight on astrology and told the gathering about her out-of-body experiences, said: "I don't believe all the UFO stuff, but I'm not going to put others down for their beliefs just like I hope they don't put me down for mine."

COUNTY COURIER, Enosburg Falls, VT  
June 12, 1986 CR: G. Earley

## UFO Alert Continues

Well, well, well. It turns out I'm not the only Franklin County resident who's seen that delta-winged UFO lately. I'm just the first who's crazy enough to go public with the sighting. I received no fewer than four phone calls last week from people who've seen exactly what I saw last Tuesday night at different times. And everyone of them referred to the fact that public ridicule has influenced their decision to keep the sightings under their hat, so to speak.

Five guys working the second shift at the Blue Seal Plant in Richford saw the craft last week. Another lady visiting her folks in West Enosburg saw it. And old friend Bill Moore, whose young twin sons keep him up late scanning the night skies over East Enosburg, has also

seen the craft, through binoculars no less.

So, armed with corroborating evidence, I called Plattsburgh Air Force and talked to a Terry Sommerville at the information desk. He told me it's the first he's heard about it, but that it sounds very interesting. "It must be a private plane," he said, adding that no experimental aircraft of any kind is being flown out of Plattsburgh. Since all the local people who have spotted the craft have seen it headed either west or northwest, Plattsburgh seemed like a logical origin.

My next call was to the Canadian Air Force and they promised to get back to me. I also plan to call Washington and if I don't get any answers there, I'm calling Mr. Spock.

—CWOS



# Expert wants facts on UFOs

Publicity would force government to tell all, lawyer says

By ALEX WOOD

Journal Inquirer Staff Writer

Imagine you were thumbing through a magazine and you ran across an advertisement like this:

"... behind the overall (UFO) phenomena, there is a flying machine whose modes of propulsion and sustenance are beyond our knowledge." If you want to know more about why prestigious French scientists have reached this startling conclusion about UFOs and why our leaders are grimly silent, send your tax exempt contribution ..."

Would you send money, write to your congressman, try to find out more about UFOs? Would you give a little bit more money if you could get a pair of binoculars — for better UFO watching — in return?

If you would do any or all of those things, you're one of the people Manchester lawyer Robert Bletchman is looking for. He believes there are a sizable number of people like you out there, and he thinks you can become a powerful political force if someone takes the first step and publishes that ad or one like it.

Bletchman has been fascinated with UFOs for 20 years, and he believes the government has been doing more than just withholding information on them. He thinks it has been actively attempting to discredit those who believe UFOs may be alien spacecraft, labeling them as kooks.

Bletchman has gone beyond dreaming about an advertising campaign. He has paid Charnas Inc., a Manchester advertising agency, a few hundred dollars to develop a plan for it. And he will give a lecture on his idea at the Mutual UFO Network's 17th annual symposium at Michigan State University on June 29.

Bletchman's fundamental idea is to use advertisements as a tool for raising public awareness and money at the same time. Each ad, he hopes, will bring in enough donations to pay for more extensive future ads, until the issue is so emblazoned on the public consciousness that politicians will take notice and the national media will start devoting its investigative resources to the subject.

"What the media talks about is what we talk about," he said, citing the example of the African famine, which was talked and written about for more than a year without capturing much attention — until network television covered the story.

Bletchman finds it depressing that the National Enquirer gives good play to information that students of UFOs get from the government through Freedom of Information requests, while the New York Times often ignores or gives short shrift to such stories.

## Documents are prized sources

Formerly secret government documents are prized resources among Ufologists, as Bletchman and his fellows call themselves.

Bletchman has copies of some 60 pages of FBI, CIA and Air Force reports — some so blurred by multiple reproduction on 1950s-vintage photocopiers as to be virtually unreadable — on reports by the late Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia, a military aide and an interpreter that they saw two flying saucers taking off in the Soviet Union in 1955.

While a reporter was interviewing Bletchman recently, Coventry Police Lt. Lawrence Fawcett, the co-author of a book called "Clear Intent: The Government Cover-up of the UFO Experience," dropped by with a new find.

It was a Defense Department document



Manchester lawyer Robert Bletchman thinks UFO observers can become powerful political force.

reporting that a Peruvian Air Force plane fired on a UFO "at very close range" in May 1980 without causing any apparent damage. The vehicle appeared again, with lights, during the night, but this time it outran the Peruvians, the document reports.

Neither the 1980 nor the 1955 documents suggest that the government believes the vehicles are alien spacecraft — only that they are unidentified aircraft.

Still, Bletchman thinks the lack of publicity about such UFO information allows the government to keep dismissing the ideas of those who think the mysterious craft may have origins beyond the earth's limits.

"If everybody knew what I know, this nonsense would not be going on," he said angrily. "The public would not allow it."

## Step one: mail campaign

The Charnas agency's plan for breaking the secrecy starts with a "sophisticated and highly targeted direct mail campaign." Using mailing lists — possibly purchased from magazines like Omni that cover UFOs — the advertising agency would distribute 100,000 copies of a "strong and highly motivating brochure."

"Thematic gifts for donations of a certain size, such as binoculars for donations of \$500 or more, will be included," the proposal continues.

The agency estimates that the direct mail campaign will cost \$27,500.

Bletchman's plan for raising that money is to solicit it from celebrities like Sammy Davis Jr., William Shatner, Eva Gabor and Stephen Spielberg who say they have had UFO experiences. He has paid Charnas to draft a letter to them and about 15 other celebrities.

The ad agency says even a "poor return" would bring in 1,000 donations averaging \$50. That \$50,000 could be used for more market research — and to purchase advertisements in regional editions of national magazines.

Bletchman hopes the effort will snowball from there until it reaches the level of public service announcements on television, where he believes the right presentation of the right ideas can start having a major influence on the public consciousness.

## Government hiding facts

Bletchman has several theories about why the government would hide the facts about UFOs.

One is that UFOs raise questions in the public's mind about the government's control. "Implicitly, when UFOs come in, the government is not doing its job," he said.

Another of Bletchman's theories is that the government may have a crashed UFO that it is studying and not want to tip off the Soviet Union, which might try to shoot down one of its own or to have spies penetrate the "crack team of scientists" trying to unlock the UFOs secrets.

He says reports of UFO sightings suggest that UFOs may be "the best thing going to get from here to there." The reports, he says, suggest accelerations, turns and other maneuvers that would seem impossible to humans.

"It's almost as if it were an infinite war machine," he said.

But the War of the Worlds hasn't started, which raises another set of questions for UFO believers: What are "somebody else's spaceships" doing here, and why are they so elusive?

Bletchman has some ideas on that score as well. Alien anthropologists may be studying mankind, he suggests. Or they may be collecting "exotic materials" or samples of some of the thousands of species that are threatened with extinction.

"Maybe they go to Disney World," he added. "They dress up. They could dress up, and you'd never know them in Disney World."

But Bletchman acknowledged that such speculation is unscientific.

Unlike Fawcett, who says he saw a UFO hover over an electrical substation at Olcott and West Center streets in Manchester in 1965, Bletchman isn't sure he has ever seen a UFO. He says he has seen some "highly odd lights appearing in the sky," but adds, "I'm not terribly impressed with my own experiences."

What Bletchman has done is talk with numerous people who say they have seen UFOs. Some come up to him after he gives lectures on the subject or call him after reading about him in the newspapers, he said.

He said he questions such people in an "aggressive, cross-examining manner," checking their stories for internal consistency. But he acknowledged that he doesn't press for names, dates and places or attempt to seek corroborating information on the accounts.

He said he leaves that work for others.

Bletchman, 54, is a New Haven native, who graduated from New Haven State Teachers College in 1957 and taught elementary school for several years before entering the University of Connecticut Law School in 1965.

His wife Adrienne is a food stamp supervisor for the state Department of Income Maintenance and has shared some of his possible UFO experiences, he said. They have no children.

Bletchman has a one-man law practice in Manchester and is active in politics. He once ran for the Democratic nomination for state representative. But he has been a leader of the opposition to Democratic attempts to abolish the 8th Utilities District, which runs a volunteer fire department and a sewer system in northern Manchester.

Has his interest in UFOs ever hurt him in business or politics?

Bletchman doesn't think so although he acknowledges that there is a "risk from the conservative end of the business spectrum."

"If it's hurt my business, I don't know. But Number 2, I don't care," he said.

## Unidentified flapping interrupts UFO dreams

POST HERALD, Birmingham, AL  
July 7, 1986 CR: L. Phillips

By Rheta Grimsley Johnson

Scripps Howard News Service

A SWAMP NEAR ABERDEEN, Miss. — It's impossible to sit by a river, beneath the stars, and not talk of two things — how much farther it is to the sea and UFOs.

Dave Haffly told a wonderful UFO tale the other night, by the light of the stars and citronella candles.

Dave is one of six of us making the trip down the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway to Mobile Bay.

He is the most even-tempered of our crew, the least opinionated. You could make him mad if you started working on it now and kept at it diligently until Christmas.

Cruising 8 miles an hour for a total of 900 miles on a boat with 225 square feet of living space divided by six, such a personality works on the rest of us like lime on scurvy.

His father, Dave explained in the conspiratorial tones of campfire, once saw a UFO hovering above a rubber plant in Hendersonville, Tenn. Dave's father, I might note, is a respectable Lutheran minister not given to spinning wild yarns.

A craft that looked like a helicopter topped with an open parachute sat on the roof of the plant for long seconds, then suddenly took off, straight up at blinding speed, into the night sky. Others in town saw the UFO, too, at other places.

You can hear such a tale in daylight and not give it a second thought. But anchored as we were on the edge of a dark forest, with the wake of passing barges lapping about the boat and owls making eerie night conversation, such a story packed a punch.

We all looked up for a long time before turning in.

...

We were sleeping soundly after Dave's UFO bedtime story, dreaming of motel rooms and UFOs parked atop rubber factories. Suddenly, there came strange noises from the murky waters.

The still of the summer night was shattered by UFOs — Unidentified Flapping Objects.

All night long we heard them. Splish, splat, silence. Splish, splat, silence.

Characters from the pages of "Deliverance" no doubt were dumping dead bodies into this secluded cove. Splat! Another.

Toothless, bearded men in wooden skiffs, their beady eyes shining red in the black night, were dropping unwelcome strangers into secret, bottomless graves. We knew it.

Robert Spencer of Old Memphis, Ala., told us the next day what we probably heard was beavers.

# Wayne Aho awaits the extraterrestrials

Ufologist will recount encounter with a flying saucer 29 years ago

By Vance Horne  
Olympian staff writer

Wayne Aho leans over to check the growth of his organic raspberries, which he sometimes sells to Tacoma health food stores. He's 69, and for 40 years he has made his living telling the world about UFOs.

"The supernatural," he says casually, "is just the natural not yet understood."

Aho will be the central figure Saturday and Sunday at the 25th New Age Space Convention in Milton. Many people have been involved in the New Age Foundation, but it is Aho's baby.

Every year, the convention falls on a weekend to commemorate the birth of the phrase "flying saucer." People always had seen odd things in the skies, but the words "flying saucers" changed everything forever. It happened over Mount Rainier on June 24, 1947.

"It was a sighting of nine ships," Aho says. "Kenneth Arnold was a Civil Air Patrol pilot, and he was on a search mission. He saw the nine disk-shaped crafts. He said they were flying like ducks or geese in a line towards Mount Adams."

By the time Arnold landed, the news was going out to the world, Aho says. Somebody coined the term "flying saucers," and the words have been in the world's vocabulary ever since.

Today, Aho and his wife Lee live in a big, 100-year-old house in a nice but not rich south Tacoma neighborhood. Children play in his yard. Neighbors, knowing his passion for gardens, bring him their extra tomato sets.

He performs weddings, and he lectures and teaches. It's these activities, especially the lecturing on UFOs, that have kept him alive, he says. He's lectured around the United States, often in Olympia.

His talk sometimes turns to holistic medicine or alternative energy. "If you mention flying saucers, people think that's all you know or all you don't know," he says.

Those two topics will be among several at the convention, which will have speakers from around the Northwest.

But Aho can talk from experience on UFOs. It was May 11, 1957, in California's Mohave Desert. It was night, and an energy field led him on foot into the desert, he says.

"I walked out about two miles. I saw a starlike object. It flashed a light and glided towards me as a white egg-shaped object and stopped directly in front of me about a quarter mile away.

"Now it turned into a crimson sphere about 25 feet in diameter. And here I was, being guided to walk towards that object. I walked to where it landed, but a strange thing about this object was that, when it wasn't in motion, you couldn't see it."

Through the night, he received revelations, he says. One revelation was that in a former life he was a priest of the culture of Atlantis and that he hid sacred books of that culture in or on Mount Rainier before Atlantis vanished.

The beings in the UFOs are particularly interested in the mountain, because they are seeking those books, he says.

His other revelations include the fact, he says, that the Earth will be in a period of conflict beyond the end of this century. "But my understanding is that the Earth will not be destroyed."

The UFO beings are here to bring health to Earth, he says. When asked why they don't do it more openly, he says, "They're doing it in possibly the only way that will work."

It is no coincidence, he says, that sightings of UFOs increased greatly immediately after the atom bombings during World War II. "The explosions were like a warning to the rest of the universe that Earth was in trouble, and we still are."

Not everyone agrees with Aho that space ships are out there. But he is certain of it, and has devoted his life to it.

To reach the convention site, take the Fife exit from Interstate 5 and follow Milton Way to Camp Edgewood on Lake Surprise. The convention runs from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days.

Cost is \$12.50 per day.



Vance Horne/The Olympian  
Greetings: Wayne Aho hopes to encounter unidentified flying object occupants — for the second time in his life, he says.

STATE JOURNAL, Lansing, MI - June 30, 1986 CR: P. Norman

## On UFOs, 'we're all skeptics'

By ANN COSTA  
Lansing State Journal

UFOs represent knowledge about the universe that this world is just beginning to explore and understand, says Alan Holt, an aerospace technical manager in the U.S. Space State Project.

"They're just part of our growing up in the universe," said Holt, who owns a consulting firm in Houston. He was part of a panel of engineers and scientists who answered audience questions at Sunday's closing session of the Mutual UFO Network's (MUFON) 17th annual symposium held over the weekend at Michigan State University.

Network members say what the public doesn't know about UFOs is overwhelming and disgraceful, and the network is trying to change things. Combined UFO organizations plan to mount a national advertising campaign to bring the truth to the public.

Vocal scientist UFO debunkers who have drawn conclusions without looking at data or interviewing witnesses have driven a wedge between the scientific community and the public, said Lansing's Dan Wright, symposium director.

The meeting, held for the first



Dan Wright: "We're not a bunch of know-nothing crackpots . . . We take it very seriously."

time in Michigan, showed the public that a number of highly placed scientists and those involved in the country's space and defense programs are seriously engaged in UFO research, he said.

"We're not a bunch of know-

nothing crackpots. We're not UFO buffs. We take it very seriously. It's like a second job to me," said Wright, a state policy analyst who sees a difference between skeptics and debunkers. "We're all skeptics," he said.

A major obstacle confronting members of UFO organizations is prodding the scientific community and government to admit there always have been UFO sightings, and government has been investigating them since 1947, he said.

For the past 16 years the government has given the impression that they aren't addressing the subject and "we don't believe this," Wright said.

"Scientists at the pinnacles of their careers who have conducted serious research have concluded that some UFO reports out of 100,000 that are on computerized records and investigated are very real," he said.

In answer to the audience question of whether governmental secrecy about UFOs is a result of a belief that freedom of information jeopardizes national and world security, Robert H. Bletcher, MUFON legal adviser from Connecticut, answered, "No one

disrespects that the federal government must protect the populace, but the paramount right is that of a person to inquire of government."

MUFON members believe open involvement by the government would result in more involvement by the scientific community to secure the money necessary for analyses, he said.

While some scientists argue the issue, Wright said a 1979 Gallup Poll showed 57 percent of the American public responding said they believe UFOs are real.

He said a Stanford University survey of the country's astronomers showed a majority of them said the subject of UFOs should be pursued to a resolution.

Currently there are 600 reports of abductions by aliens and 2,500 cases of close encounters with entities that need investigating, he said.

Wright joined MUFON eight years ago after an experience his father, a bakery truck driver, had with a UFO along old M-31 in Oceana County. "I saw the dramatic change in his behavior. He was transformed from a total skeptic to a true believer," he says of his father.

He criticized the media for focusing on close encounters, which he says is a tiny aspect of a complex phenomenon.

"Over 80 percent of all reports by the public to private UFO researchers are mistakes. A fraction of a percent are hoaxes — we can spot 'em in a minute. Only the remaining 10-20 percent are genuine."





Wayne Aho says he has documentation that the government covers up UFO sightings. (Photos by Kent Kerr)

# Mr. UFO

## ET encounter rockets Aho to Milton

by Marjorie Rommel

MILTON — The years — and the frustrations — are beginning to tell on Wayne Aho, who turns 60 this year, but they haven't yet told him to quit.

Aho was back in town this week to issue dire warnings about the possible destruction of the Grand Coulee Dam — warnings he saw in a vision — and to tell about the 25th annual New Space Age Convention at Camp Edgewood on Surprise Lake this weekend.

There'll be baked salmon, frisbee contests, a banjo band, and more believers in UFOs and other futuristic-type stuff than you can shake a stick at, Aho said.

There are pouches under his eyes, and the still-dark hair under this year's UFO convention cap is a little less plentiful, but the man some call "Mr. UFO" has found a new coat of paint for the old hook he uses to hang up his theory of Unidentified Flying Objects hovering just beyond the pull of Earth's gravity.

Those silent, lighted wedge- or disc- or cigar-shaped objects are, Aho now contends, the "hosts of heaven" which keep one eye on — and another eye out for — the denizens of this world.

And if the Air Force had listened to him any year before this one, he seems quite sure the space shuttle Challenger disaster, which took the lives of seven astronauts, need not have occurred.

The Challenger exploded, Aho insists, because of our uncaring "ignorance of the facts of the universe."

All this hinges on gravity, which, according to Aho, has both positive and negative effects — and can be reversed.

Last year, just in time for the convention, a huge triangle ship with three orbiting lights was reported over Commencement Bay by a woman who saw it through her apartment house window, Aho said.

June 7 this year, a lighted disc-shaped object was sighted by two women, both known to Aho, high over the Puyallup Valley.

"McChord scrambled jets, but whatever it was scrambled too," He laughed.

"A disc-shaped craft is the most efficient — and look how our own aircraft get more disc-shaped as we progress. With gravity-driven craft, there would be no airport runway — that's where most accidents occur — no noise or air pollution, no use of our precious resources of fossil fuel.

"We've known about this for 26 years, and we've done nothing with it."

President Jimmy Carter, he said, asked to reopen the government's UFO investigation, but was told it would cost money and accomplish nothing.

"The greatest inhumanity is holding back human progress," Aho stressed.

But because Aho's "truth" is often taken by others as little more than a bunch of crackpot ideas, the UFO apologist has been considerably buffeted about by the media.

Six years ago, an area newspaper reporter debunked Aho's claimed military career, which includes a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart, and service from Omaha Beach across Europe in five campaigns.

"That caused me grief and anger and sadness for years."

Not that he's not used to it.

He was, Aho said, a well-respected man until his May 11, 1957, "ET" encounter with an alien craft in the Mojave Desert. The all-night experience, he said, "changed my life into a new direction" — a confusing, often discouraging direction, he admitted.

He said he's been asked to consult with the CIA, but the Air Force has pretty much ignored him. So has NASA. Publicly, he's shunned, but privately, he said, politicians have applauded his efforts to keep the UFO issue before the American public.

And, he said, he's been warned three times of contracts on his life.

But there have been good times. Like the summer 21 years ago when a Seattle radio station sent out signals and a UFO turned up right on schedule at the Issaquah airport to perform a few fancy stunts.

"Twenty-one years later (a Seattle television news show) said what we saw was a skydiver with a flashlight," Aho said disgustedly.

"I was on Omaha Beach. If I hadn't known the difference between a German rocket and a skydiver with a flashlight, we'd have shot down our own troops."

What he's engaged in now, he said, is a "battle of ideas, a war for the minds of men, women and children.

The \$20 billion then President Carter was told it would cost to reopen the UFO investigation, Aho said, is "darn cheap" to keep human minds alive and thinking.

But then, he shrugged, "Earth planet is an experimental world.

"We're all learning here."

# Group grows old and still watches for UFOs

By Don Tewkesbury

P-I Reporter

MILTON, Pierce County — The graying of America's "flying saucer" watchers was evident at their silver anniversary convention here this weekend.

The get-together commemorating the first UFO sighting over Mount Rainier June 24, 1947, was described as a "gathering of pioneers" by Wayne Aho, president of the New Age Foundation of Tacoma.

A disproportionate number of old timers were among about 50 people who attended the New Space Age's 25th annual convention, salmon bake, picnic, and "saucer watch," at an aging, inexpensive resort on Surprise Lake.

Aho, a World War II Army major who founded the New Age Foundation, said lack of money precluded the extensive mailing necessary to attract more people.

"I'm on a pension now," he said.

The two-day event also featured entertainment Saturday night by a Tacoma banjo band composed of 14 senior citizens.

The convention's oldest participant was Forrest Hanna, 86, of Mountain View, Calif., who once served as president of a UFO club in Oakland.

"Frankly I'm a little disappointed by this crowd," said Hanna, who recalled two conventions in the early '60s in Berkeley, Calif., that each drew nearly 900 people.

"The Bay Area had separate UFO clubs in San Francisco, Oakland and Berkeley. Interest in UFOs was great in those days," Hanna said.

He believes interest has waned because people who spot a UFO today are reluctant to tell authorities or the media.

"Airline pilots see UFOs, and

there are cases in which the engines of law enforcement vehicles have been stopped — apparently by magnetic beams," he said.

"But if they talk about it, they're ridiculed. So they just keep their mouths shut."

"Orson Welles' radio version of 'The War of the Worlds' caused panic in some areas years ago. And there probably is some concern among public officials today that a large sighting would create an even greater panic."

Hanna, a retired electrical engineer, said he first became a "believer" in 1956, when he saw a "space ship" while returning to his home in Sacramento from an outing at Lake Tahoe.

"The temperature was 100 degrees. There was no wind and the sky was clear. We encountered a big traffic jam because cars were parked on both sides of the two-lane highway. There also were several police cars there.

"When I got out of the car, I saw the reason why. In the sky, there was a huge, spherical-shaped craft of molten, shimmering silver. I could only guess that it was 100 to 200 feet in diameter."

"It had no gondola. It couldn't have been a balloon because I watched it for 20 minutes and it never moved. Then its lights flashed and it sped out of sight."

Hanna was among many veteran "believers" at the weekend conference, which also included a successful "saucer watch" on the shore of the lake between 2 and 4 a.m. yesterday.

"There was a sighting above the lake, and a photo was taken, but we don't know much more than that until the film is developed," said Aho. "I wasn't there. I went to bed because I had to get up early."

The convention featured about two dozen speakers who dealt with outer space matters — plus "relat-

ed topics," including alternate energy, holistic health, nutrition, astrology and near-death experiences.

A posthumous certificate of merit was awarded to the late Kenneth Arnold, of Meridian, Idaho, who first reported the sighting of unidentified, saucer-shaped objects flying over Mount Rainier 39 years ago.

A certificate of merit also was

awarded in absentia to retired Post-Intelligence reporter John O'Ryan for "furthering human understanding through his honest and sincere writing," Aho said.

"We describe him as a writer with a heart and an ear for a story. We don't expect everyone to believe as we do, but we found him always interested, supportive and one who cares for and appreciates the earth."

USA TODAY, Arlington, VA  
July 11, 1986

## ARIZONA

TUCSON — Pima County sheriff's deputies OK'd wage settlement with Board of Supervisors. Included \$5 pay hike effective Aug. 17. South 7%... WIKIEUP — Travelers on U.S. 93 reported UFO with flashing orange lights hovered over their cars, followed them early Thursday. North American Aerospace Defense Command is investigating.

# UFO conference hears of abductions by extra-terrestrials

By JEAN MOORE  
Lansing State Journal

She was also haunted by a recurring vision of her mother kneeling at a bedroom window with a rifle at her shoulder, Coyne said Saturday at the 17th annual UFO Symposium, which continues through today at Michigan State University's Kellogg Center.

The anxiety and the vision were part of her life for more than three decades until she underwent hypnosis and discovered the reason.

Coyne finally recalled the night she was abducted by extra-terrestrial beings.

The beings were a grayish, marshmallow color and had very large heads, skinny bodies, long arms, short skinny legs and large dark eyes, she said. They had slits where a nose and mouth should

be and called Coyne by name, telepathically, telling her to come with them.

"I was aware of the cold floor under my feet," Coyne said. "I had a strange feeling — it was like we floated out of the bedroom, across the living room."

The trio went right through the front door and out onto the porch, she said. Everything was very bright and a round craft was sitting in the garden. The terrified youngster was taken aboard, put in a room and examined. She still bears a scar from the examination, she said.

Coyne remembers her mother at the window, with a rifle at her shoulder, firing out into the brightness, she said.

Then she was taken back to her bedroom. "(The beings) were very gentle, they put me back to bed and told (me) to go to sleep."

The experience lay buried in her subconscious for years. "We believe they have the ability to tell you not to remember," she said. "It's blocked right out of your mind."

But Coyne was haunted by the vision and suffered from the fear, nightmares and anxiety until last year, when the incident surfaced during hypnosis.

Coyne was reluctant to give many details of the abduction because it is still under investigation and she doesn't want to influence recollections of other family members, she said.

Coyne, now a grandmother, joined the Mutual UFO Network Inc. (MUFON) in 1983 after she and her husband had another UFO sighting. "We had no interest in UFOs and don't watch science fiction movies," she said.

But the Coynes saw a bright, domed disc in their back yard, 12 feet off the ground and within 75 feet of them, she said. The couple has had nine other sightings in the last two years, she added.

Whether abduction reports turn out to be fact or fiction, they will have a great influence on psychology, psychiatry and the relationship between humans, said David Jacobs, an associate history professor at Temple University, who spoke on "Abductions: The Consequence of Non-existence" at the symposium, called "Beyond the Mainstream of Science."

Some researchers have attacked the credibility of such reports, saying they can be explained by mental illness, lies, or hysterical contagion (when a group of people in close proximity experience the same phenomenon), Jacob said.

But true stories of abductions are characterized by their bizarre nature, consistency, great detail and inability to remember except through hypnosis, he said.

TIMES, Washington, DC - July 9, 1986 CR: L. Bryant

## Letters Media should investigate UFOs

I recently read that the nation's major news media might pool their resources to develop their own eye-in-the-sky satellite system, allowing them to acquire real-time, uncensored access to world events.

Developing such a system might take considerable time, effort, and funds, but its dividends, in terms of just one aspect of critical intelligence gathering, would certainly justify the initial investment. I refer to intelligence on unidentified flying objects.

For the past 40 years, media reports of UFO encounters have had to rely on heavily censored intelligence collected by government agencies. And to this day such agencies insist that UFOs merit no serious attention, either by them or the media.

The content of the government's own UFO-related documents — released, grudgingly in many cases, through private researchers' appli-

cation of the Freedom of Information Act — demonstrates the fallacy of accepting the government's explanation. Such material is replete with accounts of multiple-witness observations of UFO activity, radar confirmation of UFO sightings, and serious commentary by military officials. It simply begs the news media to dig deeper into the issue.



A specially equipped media-owned satellite could detect and analyze worldwide UFO activities in the earth's near-space envelope. The satellite's research and development would pose little technological difficulty, especially now that the government's equivalent satellite could serve as a model (albeit as a phantom model, since it's classified).

The same members of the scientific and technological community who produced the government version could be enlisted to help design the media version — provided that these experts were convinced of the media's serious intent and support.

If a media-owned UFO-tracking satellite had been in operation several weeks ago, it probably would have picked up certain UFO activity in the skies of Brazil. In short, such a satellite could help tell the public what the government has known for decades: some UFOs are somebody else's spaceships.

LARRY W. BRYANT  
Alexandria, Va.

STATE NEWS, Lansing, MI - June 30, 1986 CR: P. Norman

## UFO conference lands at MSU

By MARK MAYES  
State News Staff Writer

Walter Andrus Jr. first became interested in unidentified flying objects in 1948 when his son pointed to four "balloons" in the sky over Phoenix, Ariz.

Andrus' interest in UFOs grew and culminated in the founding of the Mutual UFO Network Inc. which held its 17th annual UFO Symposium over the weekend at the MSU Kellogg Center.

"We were right in downtown Phoenix," Andrus said, describing his sighting. "My son, who was then 5 years old, pointed to what he called four balloons."

Andrus said he saw four round objects in a line which were a dull aluminum color.

"THEY MOVED from east to west," he said. "When they had moved directly north, they disappeared."

Andrus said each balloon disappeared as it reached the same spot in the sky. He said he continued to track the paths the objects would have traveled. When they reached a point in the northwest sky, three of the four popped back into view, he said.

"It's the only sighting I've had that couldn't be explained," he said.

Andrus, along with John Schuessler and Tom Nichol, founded the network in 1969. In 1970, the group held its first symposium.

Today, the network's membership has grown to 1,500. There are members on every continent and chapters in every state, Andrus said.

SHIRLEY COYNE is assistant director of Michigan's 47-member chapter. She became interested in UFOs because of a sighting in 1983.

Coyne said she and her husband saw two big lights hovering 75 feet from them and about 12 feet over the trees in their back yard.

She and her husband had never been interested in UFOs before but became fascinated with them after their sighting, Coyne said. She said they informed the network about the sighting and became members shortly after.

Although members do run into skeptics at their symposiums, Coyne said, she has never had any problems from people when they learn she is a member of the UFO group.

"I have never talked to anyone who had any nasty remarks," she said. "Nobody's ever called me crazy or told me I couldn't have seen what I saw. I've never run into anything like that."

ONLY 2 percent of the sightings recorded by the U.S. Air Force are termed as hoaxes, Andrus said. Many sightings are made by airline pilots, he said.

"That's their job — they fly. They're very credible witnesses," Andrus said.

Andrus said 80 percent to 90 percent of the UFO sightings investigated by network members turn out to be IFOs — Identified Flying Objects — while the other 10 percent to 20 percent are termed authentic, he said.

Andrus said this year's group of speakers was one of the most knowledgeable ever to attend the conference. The group of speakers made the symposium one of the best, he said. However, the three-day turnout of about 200 was relatively small, he added.

Schuessler, a deputy director of the organization, is an astronautics engineer with the U.S. space shuttle program. Another speaker, David Jacobs, is a professor of history at Temple University. Jacobs spoke on "Abductions: The Consequence of Non-existence."

MICHAEL SWORDS, a professor of natural science at Western Michigan University, spoke on "The Case of E.T. . . . Within the Mainstream of Science."

Andrus called the symposium a "public education."

"We want people to come forward and tell us about what they saw," he said.





DIARIO POPULAR, Pelotas, Brazil - May 25, 1986 CR: W. Stevens [see Translations]

## Eis a foto do Ovni, próximo ao Halley!

Luiz do Rosário REAL

Devido a repercussão alcançada com a publicação do artigo sob o título "Sensacional foto de um Ovni próximo ao cometa Halley", que saiu na edição de domingo último, dia 18, do DIARIO POPULAR, na seção "Variedades", eu recebi dezenas de telefonemas de pessoas que desejavam conhecer a citada foto. Assim sendo, no intuito de atender aos interessados e também pelo fato de haver dificuldade em se conseguir o número atrasado da revista Afinal, ed. .... 15.04.86, tenho a satisfação então de publicar ao lado a foto do Ovni (objeto voador não identificado), que, por obra do acaso (?), foi fotografado pelos astrônomos Rodrigo Campos e René Laporte, do observatório de Brasópolis (MG), no dia 20 de março, com o uso de um telescópio de 600 milímetros.

O pesquisador carioca, Walter Karl Bühler, presidente da SBEDV, do Rio de Janeiro, e um dos autores do extraordinário "Livro branco dos discos voadores", ao acusar o recebimento da correspondência que lhe enviou dando ciência

da minha descoberta, diz logo ao início da sua resposta: "Caro colega Real - Você não poderá aquilatar a importância que sua última carta de .... 06.05.86 teve para nós. Digo nós, porquanto incluiu o prof. Ney Matiel Pires, de Mirassol (SP), astrônomo-amador que também está imensamente interessado na foto do Halley, feita em Brasópolis, com o disco-voador nitidamente visível no campo ótico".

A aceitação da foto em questão, como autêntica, por parte do amigo Bühler, um "expert" em DV, e veterano pesquisador de renome internacional, confere-me o direito de dizer que não se trata de ilusão de ótica ou mesmo de um reflexo da objetiva.

Esta foto, que por um descuido dos autores, foi publicada na citada revista, certamente que vai dar "pano para manga"! Isso porque ela foi obtida por técnicos capacitados ligados ao governo, e eu tenho absoluta certeza de que jamais alguém vai poder negá-la como prova real da existência dos DVs...



EAST KILBRIDE NEWS, Lanarkshire, England

June 6, 1986 CR: T. Good

## Past, present and future

I AM endeavouring to establish a fellowship with an interest in Ancient Philosophies, Meditation, Reincarnation, Telepathy, UFOs.

I should be grateful if you would mention this to your readership, as it will assist me in being able to contact those who share an interest in these things, and who like to explore these things more fully.

When we delve into the ancient mysteries of Egypt and Greece we see that the establishment of civilisation on Earth was attributed to the benevolent intervention of beings from elsewhere in the Cosmos, and there is that possibility that with continued progress that Humanity will one day be established into the Cosmic scheme of things.

Furthermore with work figuring less and less in our daily lives now that the Industrial Age is over, and with technology meaning that Humanity can live as it wants to live, I believe that once we have discovered another way of distributing wealth, and with the material needs met, there will be a growth or development of psychic ability on an unprecedented scale.

Those with a genuine interest are invited to contact me by telephone at East Kilbride 38058.

John Houston.  
128 Park Terrace,  
West Mains.

BOURNEMOUTH EVENING ECHO, Dorset, England

June 19, 1986 CR: T. Good

## Did YOU see Peter's UFO?

A BOURNEMOUTH man is trying to confirm his UFO sighting at West Howe. Mr. Peter Charman was out walking his dogs in Paddington Grove late at night when his gaze was drawn by a strange light in the sky.

"It was moving slowly but I couldn't see any definite outline - like a sparkler that kept going on and off," he said. "It was my first UFO sighting."

"It lasted for about two or three minutes and was flying at 2,000-3,000 feet," added Mr. Charman, a coach driver who lives in the Grove.

But he's not claiming the mystery night-flyer was an extra-terrestrial starship.

"It was an unidentified flying object - UFO is not necessarily synonymous with spaceships," he explained. "So I don't think I'll be carrying any little green men on my coach!"

He is appealing for anyone who saw the incident, on Tuesday (June 17) at 11 p.m., to contact him on Bournemouth 575875.

Hurn Airport had no reports of sightings on that date, they said.

EVENING POST, Reading, England - June 16, 1986 CR: T. Good

## DRIVER IS CERTAIN HE SAW UFO

READING pensioner Peter Littlewood is convinced he saw an unidentified flying object hovering above the town yesterday.

Mr Littlewood, aged 62, is so sure the jumbo jet-sized object was a UFO he wants to get in touch with experts and have his sighting recorded.

He said: "I was driving up Peppard Road when I noticed an object in the sky, in between the two rows of lime trees."

"It was stationary and remained in the air until the leaves of the trees obscured it from my view."

"I parked in Moss Close and scanned the sky but all I could see was a thin vapour trail which I think came from an aeroplane."

"I am positive it was not a hot air balloon or an airship. It was silver coloured, shaped like a hamburger."

ASHBOURNE NEWS TELEGRAPH, Derbyshire, England - June 5, 1986 CR: T. Good

## WHAT WAS THAT UFO?

Mr Dennis Harriman, who is now the sighting co-ordinator for the Nottingham Unidentified Flying Object Information Society has been in touch regarding reports which have been reaching him since the end of April of an object, seen in the area of the Drakelow Power Station, which then moved off in the Ashbourne direction.

Knowing Ashbourne's interest in UFOs he wonders if there are any readers who may have anything to link with these reports.

The object seems to hover and then to move very slowly, and has usually been spotted between 9 pm and 10 pm.

The reports to Mr Harriman have varied in description, the object sometimes having a vapour trail and other times without. Some have seen it with a red light at the front and some with a white beam at the back.

Should anyone have seen any such an object or can throw light on the sightings Mr Harriman would be pleased to hear from them on Nottingham 730919.

OBSERVER, Stirling, England - June 13, 1986 CR: T. Good

## Alison Jenkins investigates one man's strange hobby



MALCOLM ROBINSON from Sauchie runs the risk of being ridiculed when people hear what his hobby is. For he spends most of his spare time investigating the para-normal and, in particular, "ufology".

He investigates reported sightings of UFOs and believes that the more information gathered on possible sightings of unidentified flying objects can only help solve the many unanswered questions.

He accepts that most people are sceptical, and admits that he was too until he started investigating the subject, but challenges anyone who is unbelieving to read some of the better authenticated reports of UFOs then give their opinion.

He is a member of SUFON, the Scottish UFO Network which collects, analyses and publishes information or reports on UFOs.

"Their aim is to make people more aware that there is indeed something unusual being witnessed in the skies throughout the world, but whether this can be attributed to extraterrestrials entering our air-space is as yet debatable."

"I believe that there is something highly unusual going on and being witnessed throughout the skies on a global scale, but what this represents is another matter", he explained.

"We may wish it to be extraterrestrials entering our air-space in flying saucers but we should not seek to use this avenue of thought as the bottom line."

Malcolm said that people had to remember that 95 out of 100 sightings of what are termed UFOs are, after research, found to have had natural explanations.

"This of course leaves us with a remaining five per cent and, even although this would appear to be a small and insignificant amount, we nevertheless should not ignore it."

"We certainly at this point cannot account for the remaining percentage but we should continue to strive to resolve this. Only through research and dedication can we ever hope to do this."

That is why Malcolm believes it is important for anyone who witnesses something strange in the skies to report what they have seen so it can be investigated and the information kept on file.

There have been a number of reported sightings of UFOs in the Denny area which Malcolm explained is known as a 'window' area.

These 'window' areas are places where a higher than average number of sightings are recorded, but he could give no explanation as to why Denny should be one of them.

Malcolm says he always keeps an open mind when going to investigate a reported sighting and says it is up to the person who claimed to have witnessed something to convince him.

He was involved in the investigation of the reported sighting of a landing of a UFO in 1979 in West Lothian. Forestry worker Bob Taylor reported seeing an object in a field and two small spherical shapes coming towards him.

Marks were found in the field where he said the object had landed and it was estimated that whatever had been there must have weighed several tons. There were no other marks leading to the spot.

Malcolm said he found Mr Taylor to be very reliable and sincere.

"I do not think he would be the type to have made up the story", he said.

He said it was wrong of people to assume that people who say they have witnessed a UFO must be unsound.

"I think that if the man or woman in the street stopped for a moment and just read the data, their views would be drastically changed."

If anyone has anything to tell Malcolm about their interest in UFOs or if they think they may have witnessed one, they can contact him at 4 Woodlea Park, Sauchie, telephone 215929.

# LITTLE GREEN MENUHIN

Call him what you like. Professional violinist Tim Good is used to having scorn poured upon his belief that aliens frequently visit our world, and that our leaders are fully aware of the fact. By Jayne Gilman.



Tim Good, with tools of his trade (small pic), and watching the skies. He watches his interviewees, who claim to have spotted UFOs, carefully too. His investigations are rigorous to ensure he's not dealing with pathological liars, hoaxers or anyone on hallucinogenic drugs

Photographs by Rob Judges

ONE August night in 1983 Mr Alfred Burtoo, then aged 77, was sitting quietly fishing on the banks of the Basingstoke Canal in Aldershot when, he says, two beings approached and beckoned him to follow them. They were about four-and-a-half feet tall, and dressed in one-piece pale green suits with visors covering their faces. He went with them.

He followed them until they reached a strange craft, about 40' wide. They motioned him to climb aboard, and he did. Inside he saw two other people. Their genders weren't conspicuous, but as the creatures had "no bumps", he assumes they were male. They spoke to him in English, and asked him to stand under an amber light. Then they asked him his age. He said, "78 next birthday" and they said, "You can go. You are too old and too infirm for our purpose." Then they escorted him off the ship.

I heard this story from the mouth of a sincere, articulate young man called Timothy Good; a highly respected professional violinist who is also Britain's top ufologist. His speciality is talking to "contactees" - people who claim to have met extra-terrestrials in the flesh (or its equivalent) - and Mr Burtoo's story is just one of hundreds he has collected over the years.

"The funny thing about Mr Burtoo," he says, "is that he doesn't believe in flying saucers or little green men. His theory is that they were Chinese or Russian midgets on a spying mission."

Timothy Good does believe in little green men - and women - from other galaxies. For him, the mystery of the UFOs has become a passionate quest for the truth, which he is convinced is being covered up.

It's the kind of conviction that can get you regarded as a prize-winning fruitcake. By now, Timothy Good is resigned to that. "It's always been the same, even when I was a schoolboy in the 50s and first got interested in UFOs. I came to it naturally because I was crazy about anything that flew. I used to design spaceships when I was a child and on one occasion I even submitted them to an Air Ministry building. The official on the door kindly explained that it was unlikely they'd be taken seriously."

Thirty years on, the MoD still claims not to take Mr Good, or his spaceships (of extra-terrestrial design this time) - seriously.

There are more UFO sightings per head of population in

Britain than in many other countries, though most of them, Timothy quickly concedes, are no more extra-terrestrial than he is.

"Aircraft with their landing lights on, weather balloons, the planet Venus. Most reports are quite easily explained. But I've seen a few myself that I'm convinced are genuine."

All over the world there are sane, sensible people, many of them highly trained observers such as pilots and air traffic controllers, who say they have seen UFOs. A major part of Timothy Good's work is sifting these people from the nutters.

Timothy interviews on average one person a month about sightings, and investigates all accounts very carefully. "Before I make a report of a sighting - to the Ministry of Defence for instance - I have to be certain that it can be verified. Cross-questioning is important. I need to eliminate the possibility of someone reporting a UFO when all they've seen is a flock of birds."

One sighting which Timothy considers particularly convincing is that reported by Denise Bishop, a 23-year-old accounts clerk who lives in Plymouth. Late on the night of September 10, 1981 Denise was about to open her front door when she saw an enormous UFO hovering above. Suddenly a pencil-thin beam of green light struck her on the back of her hand. She rushed back in and called the police, who reported the incident to a local UFO investigator. When he arrived, he found that Denise had a painful burn mark on her hand. A London surgeon who examined her later said that this mark had the characteristics of a laser burn.

"I found Denise to be completely convincing and level-headed," says Timothy. "Although no one else saw the incident, local people were contacted whose pets had behaved in a peculiar manner at the precise time and place where the object was seen."

Timothy has had more opportunity than most to travel in search of contactees because his other work - music - has taken him all over the world. At the age of five a violin was put in his hand, and by the age of 12 he had decided that he was going to become a professional musician.

Given Timothy's family background, this was hardly surprising. "My father is retired now, but he was a professional violinist. My auntie is Margaret Good, the concert pianist. She used to play duets with her husband, the cellist William Pleeth. Their son, my

cousin Tony, is a cellist and my other cousin Raymond Lewis is a pianist."

Timothy was with the London Symphony Orchestra for 14 years, and is now a freelance. "I do a lot of session work with pop musicians. Recently I've been working with Sade, Elton John, and played on Paul McCartney's new single, *Only Love Remains*. I also perform jingles for TV commercials, film music, that type of thing. It's a bit precarious because you only get a couple of days' notice of a job, as a rule, but it suits me."

Music and UFOs don't leave much room for other things, it seems. He lives alone in his Beckenham flat. "Let's just say I haven't met anyone tempting enough to make me change my way of life."

Certainly anyone sharing Timothy Good's life would probably have to be a ufologist too. When's he's not chasing up contactees or badgering governments to release UFO documents he's lecturing, broadcasting or writing about UFOs.

"What my researches have led me to believe is that there are several different groups of aliens, most of them either benevolent or neutral, some less so. I am convinced they have bases in the solar system, some on earth itself, either underwater, or in very remote spots. What they're here for, I don't know but I can guess."

"I think, from what many contactees have said, that some are engaged in genetic experiments with humans. That might explain why they said Mr Burtoo was 'too old and infirm'."

He is equally sure that governments know what is going on.

The start, in UFO terms, was the end of the Second World War. There are, of course, UFO stories dating back long before that, but it was after the war that a succession of what UFO buffs call "flaps" took place. There were a lot of sightings which stimulated a great deal of interest in the subject.

Timothy showed me photocopies of a classified Canadian government document, dated 1950, which claimed: "The matter is the most highly classified subject in the United States government, rating higher even than the H-bomb". And others,

(continued on page 13)



(continued from page 12 -

SHE, London, England - July 1986)

released under the the US Freedom of Information Act, so heavily censored that only the classification "Top Secret" was legible.

The same Canadian document made reference to the "retrieval" of a crashed UFO.

"A former US Air Force Intelligence Officer, Leonard Stringfield, has interviewed dozens of witnesses in scientific and military intelligence circles who have been able to inspect crashed craft and the remains of their humanoid occupants. Another researcher, Dr Berthold Schwarz, a psychiatrist, has spoken at length to a military intelligence officer who examined a crashed craft. It's there, all right, in some hangar somewhere in America. Here in Britain I know that a small, highly classified team is working full-time on UFO research, though the MoD denies it. I also know that in 1978 alone £11m was spent on UFO research. And Lord Hill-Norton, a former Chief of the Defence Staff with whom I liaise, is convinced that some sort of cover-up is going on."

But why?

"Well, at a military level, obviously, having things zipping in and out of your air space that you can't intercept or counter is a major embarrassment."

On July 22 1985, two Zimbabwe Air Force jets were scrambled to intercept a UFO picked up on radar and observed hovering 7,000 feet above Bulawayo. The UFO then accelerated vertically. When the fighters levelled out at 31,000', the UFO stopped. The jets returned to base, from where the UFO could still be seen by the two pilots and several other officers. After a few moments it flew away. "These details were confirmed by Air Commodore David Thorne, the Zimbabwe Air Force's Director of Operations," says Timothy.

"And in America, in 1953, the then head of the US Continental Air Defence, General Benjamin Chidlaw, said, 'We have lost many men and planes trying to intercept them.'"

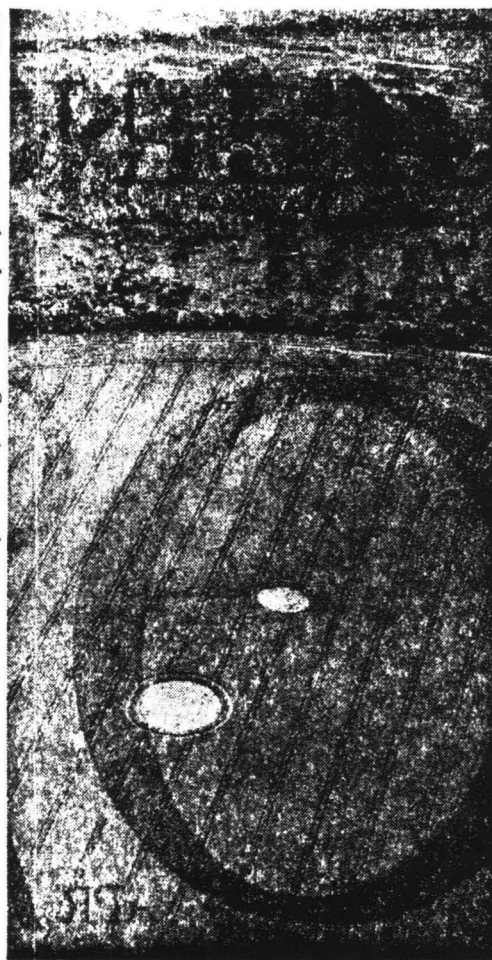
There's evidence that not all sightings are friendly. "In 1978, a young pilot called Frederick Valentich was flying from Melbourne to Tasmania when he reported being buzzed by an unidentified aerial object. He radioed base and said: 'It's not an aircraft, it seems to be playing some kind of a game with me.' Then there was a metallic noise, and neither he, nor his plane, nor any wreckage, has ever been found."

There are many people today who have a vague picture of kind, super-intelligent beings who will defuse nuclear weapons with one beam from their X-ray eyes and teach us to cure cancer.

"I'm afraid, from what little I know about them, that's not on," says Timothy Good. "Many wish us no harm, but my most impressive contactee tells me that she was told: 'We are not here for entirely philanthropic purposes.'"

"The future? I don't predict, obviously, but watch the Russians. They've set up a very high level commission to look at this, and they have more or less officially admitted that UFOs exist. I wouldn't be at all surprised if the Russians come out with a very dramatic statement within the next ten years." ♦

DAILY TELEGRAPH, London, England - July 9, 1986 CR: T. Good



Pictures ANTHONY MARSHALL

The geometric phenomenon in a Hampshire wheatfield

## CIRCLES 'CAUSED BY WIND'

By ALISON BECKETT

THE phenomenon of circles of flattened corn which regularly appear in a field inside the Devil's Punch-bowl, near Arlesford, Hampshire, is most likely due to the weather, it was said yesterday.

A second 48 ft diameter circle was discovered in the 600-acre wheatfield on Sunday evening after the appearance of a ring 68 ft across the day before. But it is believed that the wind, rather than a hoaxer was likely to have been the cause.

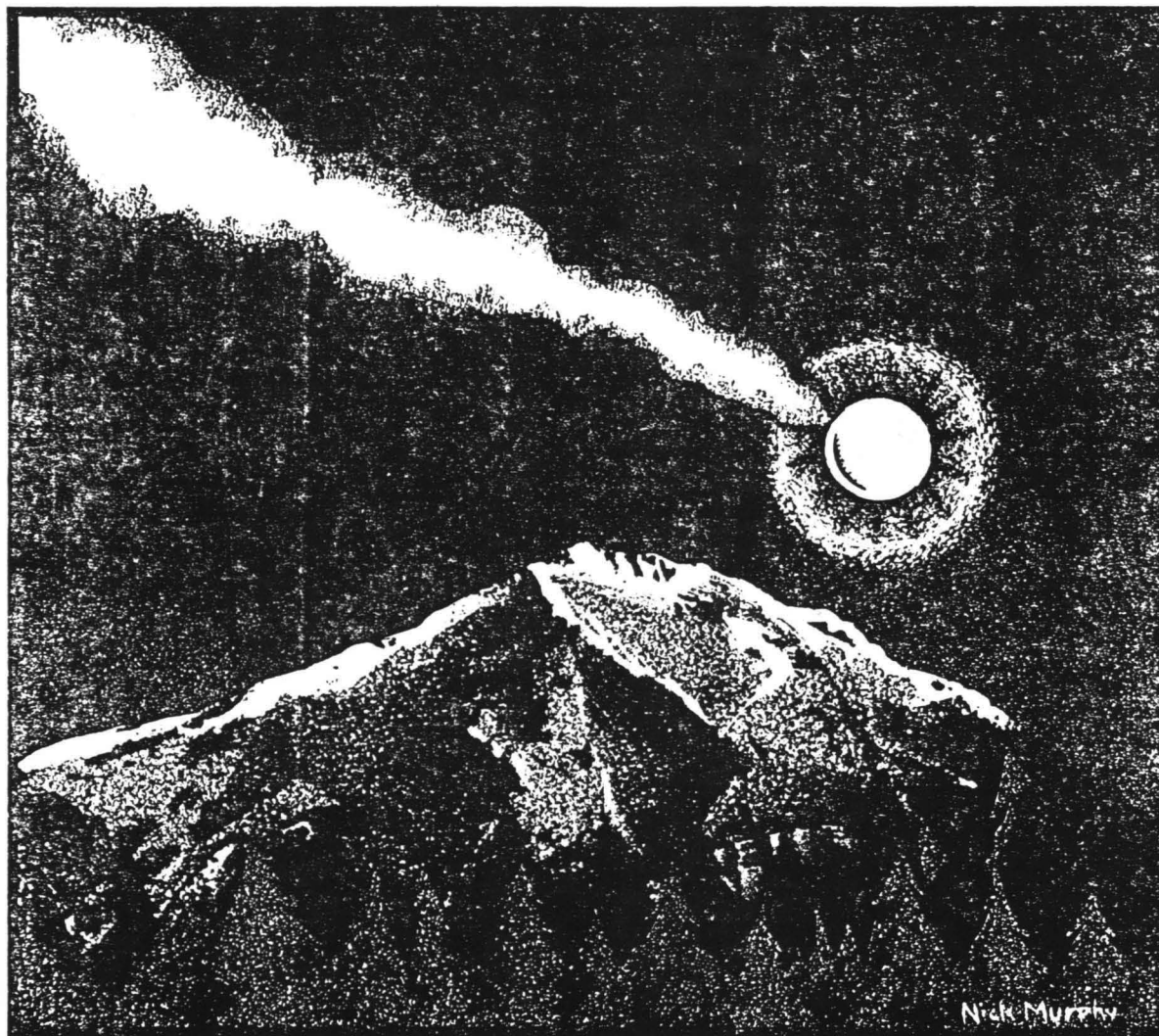
A British UFO Research Association investigator, Mr Paul Fuller said: "The weather seems to be the most plausible explanation, though there are a lot of unanswered questions. But we're sure there is no connection with UFOs. Most UFO reports have very ordinary explanations."

The circles, which appeared in June or July (the surrounding corn was undisturbed), are thought to have occurred for 40 years or more. But Mr Fuller added: "Similar circles do occur elsewhere in the world. We've had another 10 sightings just in the South of England."

Dr Paul Mason, of the Meteorological Office at Bracknell, said such a phenomenon could be brought about "by a whirlwind near a steep hill or a small tornado if, say, there was a thunderstorm, though usually there would be a trail of damage rather than a circle."

The owner of the field, Lt Cdr H. V. Bruce, was not available for comment.

# UFOs at Squamish?



Nick Murphy

Nick Murphy

Something UFO-like, glowing white and blue, is reported to have crashed behind Blackcomb Mountain, as in artist's drawing.

By IAN AUSTIN  
Staff Reporter

The hills of the Squamish Valley are alive — with something.

Weird, UFO-like lights have been sighted at least three times dancing around the Stawamus Chief mountain. And a fiery crash was also sighted near Whistler's Blackcomb Mountain.

Late Saturday, more than a dozen wide-eyed watchers were treated to a cliffside spectacular around Stawamus Chief.

"There were two bright lights right on the face of the Chief," said Fred Bevilacqua, 38.

"One shot down really fast and disappeared. Another turned and turned up into the sky until you couldn't see it anymore."

Squamish carpenter Ken Granger was also blinded by the lights.

"There was one large amber light in the sky. A smaller light came down onto the Chief. But then it started going up diagonally across the side. It went around the corner and disappeared."

On June 27, several residents of Squamish's Valley-cliff area saw two small lights and a large light travelling very fast in a northeast direction.

And June 13, Greg Stoddard and Sam James of Whistler saw what looked like a meteor crashing behind Blackcomb Mountain.

"It was a small spherical fireball that glowed white in the centre rimmed by blue and trailing a smoky white trail," said Stoddard.

The numerous sightings have been reported to RCMP, who have passed it on to authorities in Ottawa.

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - July 7, 1986 CR: MUFON

BURTON DAILY MAIL, Staffordshire, England - June 3, 1986 CR: T. Good

**Watch out! more UFO sightings on the way**

UFO's are certainly here! Recalling back the object reported as being spotted earlier this month was seen over Barton in March 1982. It was travelling from south to north west. A blue light is carried and a red light could be tongues of flame if seen through a telescope. It is most likely that there will be more sightings as the month ends. This cigar-shaped UFO might be an observation craft. — James Price, Station Road, Barton-under-Needwood.

BRIGHTON EVENING ARGUS, East Sussex, England June 18, 1986 CR: T. Good

GATWICK may have been "buzzed" by a UFO, it was claimed today. A security guard called police to report seeing a flying object just before 3 a.m. A spokesman for Gatwick police said: "He reported seeing a very bright light at cloud base level above the airport."

He said no other sightings have been reported

June 13, 1986 CR: T. Good

Evening Telegraph, Derby, England

**Mystery sighting inquiry**

UFO investigations have appealed for witnesses to a mystery sighting over Derbyshire. A bright object has been seen by several people on a number of occasions since the end of April — over Drakelow Power Station, Burton, Ashbourne and Fenny Bentley. It has been described as cigar-shaped, with a red light and a white beam of light. National UFO Investigation Society officials say the sightings are of "great interest" to them, and Derby spokesman Mr Denis Harriman wants other people who have seen the object to contact him on Nottingham 730919.

July 7, 1986 CR: T. Good

Daily Telegraph, London, England

**PUZZLE OF MYSTERY CORN CIRCLES**

In the quiet of a Hampshire field, the phenomenon of precise circles of flattened corn which has been puzzling scientists for more than a decade has appeared again. The mysterious circle in the wheatfield at the Devil's Punch-bowl, near Winchester, measures 68 feet in diameter and is bounded by another ring four feet wide, five feet from the circle's outer edge. Over the years, the circles, which appear in several parts of England and overseas, have been said to be caused by visits from Space, freak weather conditions, druid ceremonies or electro-magnetic fields.

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - July 8, 1986 CR: J. Deardorff

**Strange lights may be a prank**

**By IAN AUSTIN Staff Reporter**

Squamish residents don't need fireworks — they've got their own special brand of dazzling light show. Sunday was the third in three nights that the community was treated to an unexplained display of UFO-like lights that lit up the sky and surrounding hills. But there's a skeptic in the crowd. Mechanic Lane Boyd said he watched the whirling wonders and concluded it's all just a harmless prank. Toni Aabye is a believer. She was one of four enthralled employees of Squamish's Hilltop House who sighted the lights at 11 p.m. "A light brighter and three times bigger than the stars went up the side of the Chief," said the 39-year-old nurse's aide. "It let off what looked like small red flares, and shifted up and down very fast with no noise at all." Aabye said if she'd been alone,

she wouldn't have told a soul. "If somebody hadn't been there with me, I wouldn't tell anybody because they'd think I'm crazy." Nurse's aide Coreen Stelmachuk also saw the sky light up. "An orange light moved up the side of the Chief, then went up into the sky," she said. "Sparks started shooting down, and the light came down very slowly." Squamish RCMP Staff Sgt. Daniel Leroux also saw the brights. "It looked like a very bright star off to the southeast toward Indian Arm," he said. But Boyd thinks some prankster turned the lights on. "It's the oldest trick in the book," said Boyd, 35. "You take a ring of light steel or a cross of balsawood and attach candles to it. "Then you tie a garbage bag on top with string. When the candles are lit, the garbage bag fills with air and rises."

SUNDAY MIRROR, London, England - July 6, 1986 CR: T. Good

**The Martians HAVE landed**

**UFO expert's encounters of an alien kind**

By BRIAN ROBERTS

**S**TOP worrying about an invasion from Outer Space. The aliens are probably already here. That's the verdict of UFO expert Dr Jacques Vallee advisor to Hollywood director Steven Spielberg for the universe-shaking film Close Encounters of the Third Kind. He says extra-terrestrial beings could be with us all the time observing our lives, but we can't see them.

**Laughed at**

When we do see them arrive or depart it's listed as a UFO sighting. In a lecture to Space watchers at London's Covent Garden, the French astrophysicist said scientists were talking about the existence of as many as 130 dimensions. The much-respected Dr Vallee says people are afraid to report these Close Encounters of the



Mystery visitors over a sleeping landscape

Fourth Kind in case Medieval times even to they're laughed at. the Pharaohs. He said in his lecture Out of all the UFO that UFOs could be case-histories he's studied traced back through the following stand out:

**Paralysed by UFO**

A FARMER near the French town of Valensole walked towards a grounded, large metallic object. Near it were two small humanoid people. Suddenly he became paralysed and temporarily struck dumb. Minutes later the creatures went back into their craft, it vanished and his movements returned.

**Cured in a flash**

A FRENCH doctor saw a flash of light outside his house and noticed two large objects merging with blinding light underneath them, then flying upwards. The next day a nervous disability he had suffered for years had gone and so had a minor leg injury.

**TRANSLATIONS**

City and country of incident: Minas Gerais, Brazil  
Date of incident: March 20, 1986  
Name of newspaper and date of clip: DIARIO POPULAR, May 18, 1986  
City and country of newspaper: Pelotas, Brazil

[CREDIT: Luiz do Rosario Real - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Wendelle Stevens]

SENSATIONAL PHOTO OF A UFO NEAR COMET HALLEY! by Luiz do Rosario Real

Incredible as it may seem, astronomers Rodrigo Campos and Rene Laporte of the Brasopolis Observatory, in the southern part of Minas Gerais, on 20 March last, were photographing Halley's Comet with a 600 millimeter telescope, perhaps without noticing (?), happened to photograph in the direction of Halley, an authentic "UFO"! The sensational photo is printed on page 12 of AFINAL review of April 15, 1986, and the UFO can be seen clearly in the lower part of the photo, or ahead of the comet Halley. For comparison, it is similar to the type of object in photos 2 and 3 printed in Tabua 23 of "Livro Branco dos Discos Voadores" by Guilherme Pereira and Dr. Walter Karl Buhler, now on sale in bookstores of the city. For better identification of the UFO in the referenced photo, turn the page upside down and then the UFO is more apparent, of a common type of discoid form, having a cupola on the upper part with a dark stripe around the base.

**ASTRONOMERS AND FLYING SAUCERS**

With reference still to this photo, we may inform interested readers that on the 2nd of the current month, Rodrigo Campos wrote one of the astronomers of the Observatory of Brasopolis who had obtained the mentioned photo, asking for a good copy for publication in the DIARIO POPULAR. Meanwhile, as most of the astronomers do not accept flying saucers, there is little hope of receiving a favorable response.

We should remember the well-known case of VASP Flight 169 piloted by Cmte. Britto who, on 8 February 1982, was pursued at close range by a UFO. Astronomer Ronaldo Mourao, Director of the National Observatory of Rio de Janeiro, affirmed publicly that an approach at close range to a Boeing 737 of VASP, witnessed by more than 150 passengers, was nothing more than the planet Venus! It was only when they came near the airport of Galeao, that the "planet Venus," seeing that it could not fit there due to its dimensions, decided to desist pursuit of the Boeing and return to its place in the skies.

Happily, not all the astronomers are of the same opinion as Mourao, with relation to the problem of UFOs. There are scientists who are open, above all, to truth!

(continued on page 15)



The respected carioca writer, Paulo Coelho Netto, one of the best known UFO investigators Brazil has, in his book "Astronomos e Discos Voadores," published the following: "On 24 July 1959, three Brazilian astronomers observed the passage of a flying disc in the skies of Rio de Janeiro: Mario Dias Silio Vaz and Luis Eduards Machado, declared in the magnificent book, "Discos Voadores: Impreviseveis e Conturbadores" by Felipe Machado Carrion, and in the "Diario de Noticias" edition of June 14, 1969, Mario Dias affirmed: 'The object was seen with the naked eye, near the star Grou Gamma, and with the help of a telescope as a small moonlet. It emitted a jet of green light and accelerated at spectacular velocity. Its course was: near the constellation Indio at 22:10 and near the Southern Cross at 22:20, toward Argos on the horizon at 22:30. I viewed the object with two satellites, a ray and other movements! I know that flying saucers are not built on Earth.'"

The statement of Silio Vaz, a teacher at the Army Technical School, was made as follows: "The luminous jet, the speed and the movements in motion were not like that of a common balloon. It gave the impression of being controlled. In 20 minutes, it described an arc of 130 degrees. It was seen at first with the naked eye and later with a 200mm telescope. Its light was a green beacon that did not scintillate." Astronomer Luis Eduardo Machado said, "I observed the luminous object from the Observatory of Valongo. It had a conical rise in the central part, and an array of separate green lights forming, optically, a Maltese Cross, with six lights on each side. It looked 3 times the size of the planet Jupiter. It had a metallic appearance."

City and country of incident: Sao Jose dos Campos - Anapolis, Brazil  
Date of incident: May 19, 1986  
Name of newspaper and date of clip: ULTIMA HORA, May 24, 1986  
City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[CREDIT: Robert Pratt - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Wendelle Stevens]

PILOTS CONFIRM THAT THEY SAW THE UFOs - IMPOSSIBLE THAT THEY COULD BE STARS

The Ministry of Aeronautics announced yesterday evening to the press, in Brasilia, that seven pilots of the Brazilian Air Force and of Embraer had, on the night of Monday to Tuesday last (19/20 May) tried to intercept a formation of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) between Sao Jose dos Campos and Anapolis.

The mission of the seven experienced pilots commenced when the radars of Cindacta (Integrated Air Traffic and Defense Control) painted blips that were not moving. None of the pilots affirmed categorically having seen a flying disc, but they gave explanations of the unidentified objects that were seen. Colonel Sidney Azambuja, Brazilian Air Defense Control Chief at the time, gave a succinct version of the phenomenon observed by the seven pilots.

"Signs of the objects were not spotted on the radar of Cindacta at the time, due to the pressure of other work. But their persistence brought them to select a group of seven pilots and try an interception. To say that they were flying discs would be too hasty as the question is still under investigation. Technically, what the group observed were points of light moving on the screens of the radars."

Captain Abreu, one of the pilots participating in the mission described his sighting of the UFOs: "We were called to alert by the radar of Sao Jose dos Campos who had traffic in the vicinity of the airport. I spotted one of those points as it made a line oriented toward the radar. At first it looked like a star, quite big and with a steady light, and growing. It was a big star that, for the altitude where it was, could not in any manner be a celestial body. I did not believe it was a flying disc, because I simply do not know about flying discs. Have you seen any? My Flight Controller was seeing the same thing. Leaving there, I contacted my base and confirmed having seen the unknown object in that direction. A star was not the target, moving like this object, changing place variously between 90 and 120 degrees. It was a light that moved."

The Ministry of Aeronautics did not furnish any more about the affair and now the Technical Commission is going to classify the accounts to study the case. This commission has not had time to conclude its work.

City and country of incident: Sao Jose dos Campos - Anapolis, Brazil  
Date of incident: May 19, 1986  
Name of newspaper and date of clip: O GLOBO, May 24, 1986  
City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[CREDIT: Robert Pratt - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Wendelle Stevens]

PILOTS AFFIRM THE UFOs HAD BRILLIANT MULTICOLORED LIGHTS

BRASILIA - "The comportment of the lights and radar contacts captured during the night of Monday to Tuesday (19/20 May) above Sao Jose dos Campos and Anapolis, does not correspond to any known pattern in international aviation."

That phrase with small variations was repeated yesterday by seven pilots and three flight controllers who detected and pursued UFOs in the Sao Paulo and Goias regions. They agreed on another point; all this occurred on a clear night, ideal for distant visibility without any cloud interference that could cause anomalies in the radars.

The seven pilots were all extremely experienced, including Captain Alcir Pereira da Silva, 37, a civilian pilot. He was employed as the private pilot of the executive aircraft of the President of Embraer--a Xingu, two-engine, of Brazilian make. At his side the night of the UFOs was engineer Ozires Silva--who two days earlier had assumed the presidency of Petrobras--the first to see the luminous point dancing in the sky.

Captain Alcir, a pilot with 6,000 flight hours in 14 years in the profession, gave the alarm to Cindacta (Integrated Air Traffic Control and Defense) in Brasilia. Santa Cruz Air Base in Rio diverted two experienced pilots to the area: Flight Captain Marcio Brisolla Jordao and Lieutenant Kleber Caldas Marinho. Lieutenant Kleber, according to Flight Control, came to be surrounded by 13 objects, seven on the left and six on the right of the airplane he was piloting.

"I was not afraid," said Kleber, "I find that people only fear what they can see, and I did not see them." According to the account of Lieutenant Kleber, Flight Control said they had a target 35 miles ahead of his F-5E.

"I could not get any closer," he said. "Suddenly, Brasilia Control said that the target had changed its direction and was approaching me rapidly. I saw nothing on my radar screen. Then I received an order to turn to the right, because the targets were behind me. I turned and looked toward the position indicated, and again saw nothing."

After that, Lieutenant Kleber made visual contact with the unidentified object. "It was above the Serra do Mar," he said. "The Control Center indicated a distance of 35 miles, now confirmed by my radar aboard. I tried to get closer, but it was like I was trying to catch up to an infinite point. Flight Control indicated that the distance remained at 35 miles. I was flying at 1,000 kilometers per hour and began to run low on fuel. I turned back for Santa Cruz. The object had a very bright red light. Only when I ceased the chase did it change color, first to white, and then to green, only to return to red again."

Captain Marcio Brisolla Jordao had more luck. He was able to get to within a distance of 12 miles of one target, which "changed color constantly, from white to green."

The object made a turn to the left "and headed in the direction of Ilhabela, always maintaining its initial distance from the F-5E." The pursuit was continued to the 200 mile limit from Santa Cruz, when Captain Jordao decided to break contact and return to base.

"I was always curious to see something like that," he said. "It was like a very bright lamp with a continuous brilliance. Sincerely, I do not know what I saw that night."

All these missions were flown between 20:50 and 22:50, when a third F-5E took off to aid the two already in the air. His contacts took place from 23:15 to 23:30. Meanwhile, at Anapolis, a Mirage III took off. It was piloted by Captain Armindo Souza de Freitas, with 1,000 combat missions to his credit. He was able to capture the target on his radar aboard. "It zig-zagged in angles up to 80 degrees," he said. "At no moment was I able to see anything in front of me. I know of no machine capable of curves like that at 1,000 kilometers per hour." The military traffic controller said, "In 14 years in radar, I have never seen the like."

City and country of incident: Minas Gerais, Brazil  
Date of incident: March 20, 1986  
Name of newspaper and date of clip: DIARIO POPULAR, May 25, 1986  
City and country of newspaper: Pelotas, Brazil

[CREDIT: Luiz do Rosario Real - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Wendelle Stevens]

A PHOTO OF A UFO, NEAR HALLEY! by Luiz do Rosario Real

PELOTAS - Due to repercussions stirred up by publication of the article, "Sensational Photo of a UFO Near Comet Halley!", which came out in last Sunday's edition of DIARIO POPULAR for the 18th, in the section "Variadades," I received dozens of telephone calls from people who wanted to know more about the cited photo. It being my intent to please those interested, and due to the fact that I had difficulty in obtaining it, it was too late to publish it in that review. Finally, I have the satisfaction of publishing here, a photo of the UFO, that was on that occasion, photographed by Astronomers Rodrigo Campos and Rene Laporte of the Observatory of Brasopolis (MG), on 20 March, using a 600mm telescope.

The carioca investigator, Walter Karl Buhler, president of SBEDV of Rio de Janeiro, and one of the authors of the extraordinary "Livro Branco dos Discos Voadores," whose letter I had just received, said in his reply, "Dear colleague Real -- You cannot realize the importance your last letter of...06.05.86 has for us all, including Prof. Ney Matiel Pires of Mirassol (SP), an amateur astronomer, who is also immensely interested in the photo of Halley, made at Brasopolis, with the flying disc clearly visible in the optical field."

Acceptance of the photo in question by my friend Buhler, an "expert" on UFOs and veteran investigator of international renown, gives me the right to say that this is no optical illusion, nor a reflection in the lens.

This photo, which by neglect of the authors, was published in the cited review, certainly is going to give "cloth to the sleeve!" This because it was obtained by capable technicians connected to the government, and I am absolutely certain that there will be some who will deny it as real proof of the existence of UFOs!

City and country of incident: Mendoza, Argentina  
Date of incident: June ?, 1986  
Name of newspaper and date of clip: JORNAL DO BRASIL, June 25, 1986  
City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[CREDIT: Cynthia N. Luce]

FLYING SAUCER MAKES SPECTACLE FOR ARGENTINES

Mendoza, Argentina -- A squadron of flying saucers flew over the Argentinian city of Mendoza and made "a marvelous and unbelievable spectacle," declared one of the witnesses, the scientist Bernardo Razquin.

The flying saucers appeared at 6:00 in the morning. Another witness recounted that the UFOs, with an orange light, were in a V-formation. In front was an object in the shape of a disk, followed by others of a smaller size.

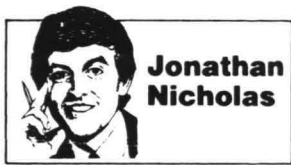
"I never thought UFOs had the capacity to present such a spectacle so marvelous like the one I observed," said Razquin.

Mendoza is near the Andes mountain range, 1097 kilometers to the west of Buenos Aires.

Last month, UFOs also appeared in Brazil. On the 21st of May, three Mirages from the Air Force Base in Anapolis (Goias) and three F-5's from the base at Santa Cruz (State of Rio), chased various 'balls of light.' On the following days, UFOs were seen in various suburbs of Rio.



OREGONIAN (?), Portland, OR - June ?, 1986



**Jonathan Nicholas**

## Webfoots & Bigfoots

It must be summer. The signs are everywhere. School's out. The silly season has hit City Hall. (Mildred Schwab makes headlines by posing as part of the solution without even nodding in the general direction of the possibility that she may have been part of the problem these past 14 years.) Oh yes, and people are talking again about Bigfoot.

You may never have had a close encounter of the hairy giant kind. But you probably know somebody who has. Or says he has. Or wishes he had. Whichever. Anyway, the good citizens of Edmonds, Wash., want to hear from you.

The Edmonds Arts Commission has decided to sponsor a Sasquatch Sighting Writers' Contest. Judging day isn't until Nov. 15, but since, Edmonds Mayor Larry Naughten reminds me, summer is prime Sasquatch sighting season, the town decided to get an early start.

The rules of the contest are simple enough — "Describe your encounter in 400 words or less in prose, or a one-page narrative poem." Full details are available with a stamped, self-addressed, legal-size envelope mailed to Sasquatch Contest, 8620 Olympic View Drive, Edmonds, Wa. 98020.

One final point — Naughten promises that no lie detectors will be used in judging.

CHRONICLE, Houston, TX  
June 1, 1986  
CR: J. Buehring

## Nauseating fumes probed

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — The origin of fumes that sickened 60 people and forced the evacuation of 10,000 workers and students remained a mystery despite examination of sewer lines and other potential sources, experts said. The fumes blew through a two-block area in this western Massachusetts city Thursday, sending people to their knees within minutes and causing dizziness, shortness of breath and nausea.

## Unrelenting inventor puts all his energy into energy gizmo

By Susan Lampert Smith  
Of The State Journal

Joseph Newman, the inventor from the piney woods of Mississippi, works up the fervor of an evangelist when he talks about the potential of his energy machine.

"It is my gift to the world," he said, of the machine that seems to make more energy than it takes in. "It will do more to bring peace than all the kings or queens or ambassadors in the world."

Two things, Newman says, are standing in his way.

One is the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which for six years has denied Newman a patent, dismissed his invention as a perpetual motion machine and refused to test it.

The other is U.S. Rep. Robert Kastenmeier, D-Wis.

"I'm tough as a bulldog," said



**Joseph Newman**

Newman, who looks like Jerry Lee Lewis. "Slap me in the face and, I'm coming atcha. Slap me again, and I'm coming that much faster. I'm tough as a bulldog, but a tear comes to my eye when I see injustice."

Newman sees injustice when he

eyes Kastenmeier.

Kastenmeier, in turn, sounds pained when he discusses Newman.

A bill that would give Newman a patent has been stalled in Kastenmeier's Judiciary Committee since October.

Kastenmeier said the appeals court that is now considering Newman's case should decide the issue. He said he doesn't want to turn Congress into a branch of the patent office, adding, "Next year we'd have 10,000 bills from disappointed inventors."

Newman, who has been lobbying for government support since Richard Nixon was president, refuses to give up that easily.

"I challenge Kastenmeier to go on any live radio show and debate this with me," Newman says. "You can't hide the truth. I'd ask him, 'Do you have anything in Congress now that would change the world for the good?'"

Newman has been on radio and on television. His machine has been featured in major newspapers, on network television news and, last Thursday, on the Tonight Show. His supporters include Sacramento Kings owner Don Benvenuti, actor Eddie Albert and scientists from respectable places such as Yale University, NASA and Sperry Uni-Vac Corp. who have been willing to sign statements saying the machine works.

Kastenmeier said he has received "hundreds of letters" from Newman supporters.

"I must say I don't like his tactics," Kastenmeier said. "I have never been exposed to these kind of tactics. He's got a (public relations) firm that is working on the press relentlessly. He fosters the illusion that forces are working against him."

Newman is actually more blunt.

He said large oil companies are fighting him because home-sized versions of his device would provide power for pennies. Newman — who already holds patents for plastic-coated barbells and an automatic fruit picker — envisions a future where people just need a few batteries to meet their energy needs.

Which brings in the other Wisconsin connection to Newman's machine.

The Rayovac Corp. has sent hundreds of lantern batteries to power Newman's machines. The batteries set in motion revolving magnets that create an electrical current.

Pat Spellman, head of Rayovac's consumer products development section, admits to being skeptical when Newman first contacted him.

"Anytime someone starts talking about making more energy than they're putting in," Spellman said, "you think they're a little screwy."

But Spellman, who has visited Newman's research barn in the pine woods near Lucedale, Miss., is now a firm supporter. He said the machine seems to be turning mass into energy, and he's impressed by the quality of scientists who support Newman.

Spellman said data supplied by Newman show the batteries aren't wearing down as fast as they should. He said the information could help the company develop batteries that last two to three years.

## New Non-fiction Book On Lake Monsters

If you want your summer reading to include a book on aquatic mysteries like: lake monsters, ship and aircraft wrecks, ghostly apparitions, monster stalking airships, and possible underwater megalithic sites, consider reading MONSTER WRECKS OF LOCH NESS AND LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

The book is Joseph W. Zarzynski's new nonfiction book published by M-Z Information of Wilton, New York. Zarzynski is a resident of Greenfield Center, New York and has been teaching Social Studies since 1974 at the Saratoga City Schools.

When not teaching, Zarzynski is researching the mystery creatures of Scotland's Loch Ness and nearby Lake Champlain. MONSTER WRECKS OF LOCH NESS focuses in on some of the mysteries of these two monster haunts. Zarzynski's first book entitled CHAMP—BEYOND THE LEGEND (Banister Publications, 1984) has become the "manual" on the subject of Champ, the Lake Champlain monster.

So, if trying to hunt down that book that might even inspire you to scan the waters or depths in search of summertime adventure, consider MONSTER WRECKS OF LOCH NESS AND LAKE CHAMPLAIN. The book will be published in July 1986.

MONSTER WRECKS OF LOCH NESS AND LAKE CHAMPLAIN can be ordered from: M—Z Information, P.O. Box 2129, Wilton, New York 12866. \$8.95 per book plus 7% (\$1.63) per book for sales tax. Add \$1 for p & h for first book and \$.50 for each book thereafter!

CR: J. Zarzynski

COUNTY CONSUMER, Saratoga Springs, NY - June 18, 1986

**James Kilpatrick**



sneered: "Such a machine is impossible."

Dr. Robert E. Hebner, speaking for the Bureau of Standards, filed a declaration in the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The thrust of his declaration, said Judge Pauline Newman (no kin), is that "the applicant's device may be a hoax."

When Newman's appeals through the Patent and Trademark Office were exhausted, he filed suit in U.S. District Court here in Washington, asking an order to compel the issuance of a patent. Rookie Judge Thomas P. Jackson, a gentleman who had learned nothing of thermodynamics at Harvard Law, recognized the yawning gap in his competence and appointed a special master to make a recommendation.

The special master could not have had more impeccable credentials. He was William Schuyler, a former commissioner of the PTO who is himself an electrical engineer. Schuyler found "overwhelming evidence" that

Newman's motor worked as claimed.

Then a peculiar thing happened: It is almost unheard of, especially in cases of this nature, for a federal judge to overrule the report of a special master. This can be done only if the master's report is "clearly erroneous." But Judge Jackson overruled it — and he cited no supportive evidence.

Newman then began a round of legal maneuvers in an effort to get his machine fairly tested. The PTO fought him every inch of the way. The Bureau of Standards, never enthusiastic about the project, haggled and stalled over details. Judge Jackson proved to be an implacable opponent.

Ultimately an arrangement was worked out by which the National Bureau of Standards would test the motor and report to the District Court. That report is due June 28. The bureau has acknowledged that Newman's motor, if it works, would be truly "revolutionary." It would "fly in the face of all the laws of physics." That's about the same thing the Patent Office said some 70 years ago to the Wright brothers. Their application for a patent was rejected because a heavier-than-air machine would never fly.

## Joe Newman: a genius or just a con man?

WASHINGTON — Joe Newman is 49 and lives just outside Lucedale, Miss. He has no formal higher education, but he is obviously an original thinker and a self-taught electrical engineer.

After 17 years of labor, Newman filed for a patent in March 1979 on a novel kind of electrical motor. His claim is that the motor produces an output of energy far in excess of its input. His theory is that electromagnetic energy can be stored and applied in ways not heretofore thought possible.

His claim is bolstered in impressive ways. At least 30 scientists and engineers have filed affidavits in support of his invention. His backers say the Newman motor could effectively revolutionize the production of energy. They envision a day when large-scale Newman generators would replace conventional plants fueled by coal, oil or nuclear energy. Smaller motors conceivably could replace internal combustion engines. The prospect is breathtaking.

The Patent and Trademark Office isn't holding its breath. After a cursory examination, the PTO in 1984 rejected Newman's application. His purported invention, said the PTO, "smacks of perpetual motion." The Board of Patent Appeals heard his appeal and

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - June 22, 1986

EXAMINER & CHRONICLE,  
San Francisco, CA

May 18, 1986 CR: D. Vance

■ **Secrets of the pyramids:** A French-Egyptian archeological team discovered several hidden compartments inside the largest of the three Great Pyramids at Giza, and said they might unravel some of the mysteries shrouding its construction 4,500 years ago, the chairman of Egypt's Antiquities Department said yesterday. Ahmed Kadry said each compartment inside the Pyramid of the Pharaoh Cheops is about 3 yards long, 2 yards wide and 2 yards high.



## Massive Search On For Life In Outer Space: But Will We Understand?

By DANIEL Q. HANEY  
AP Science Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The most ambitious and sophisticated effort ever is being planned to scan the heavens for signals from outer space, but one expert doubts humans will be smart enough to understand the messages even if they hear them.

The project, when finished, will search for alien signals through the end of the century, Jill Tarter of the University of California, Berkeley, said Wednesday at the

annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

"These are the first initial steps of what will be a grand exploration of the microwave system, looking for evidence of an artificially generated signal. Our civilization, for the very first time, can contemplate undertaking, out of pure curiosity, a search that may not bear fruitful results for many generations," she said.

However, Robert Jastrow of

Dartmouth College doubts earthlings will get any message, and calculates that other civilizations — if they exist — may have been evolving for 1 billion years longer than humans.

"If you ask what life would be like on those planets that are a billion years or more beyond us in their evolutionary development," he said, "for a clue to the answer, one could look at the fossil record on the Earth."

A billion years ago, the highest life form on this planet was a

worm-like creature, he said. So humans stand in relation to the aliens as worms do to humans.

"We communicate poorly with earthworms, which are not aware of our existence unless we step on them," he said. "I'm not sure how we'll be able to detect the presence of life, if it's there, and if we'll be able to communicate at all."

Tarter said the extraterrestrial search is in the third year of a five-year research and development program. Such

searches have occurred, off and on, since Frank Drake of Cornell University conducted one 25 years ago.

The program, financed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, will eavesdrop on microwave radiation that reaches earth from space.

Machines and computers will listen for microwave patterns that nature never produces but that humans, with their crude technology, often do. The program will break the

microwave spectrum into 10 million or 100 million channels and search them systematically.

"They will cover a volume of space that's 10 million times greater than everything that's been done over the past 25 years," Tarter said.

But even if microwaves are the right place to look for alien codes, no one can guarantee that the search will succeed, she said. "We hope that what we plan to do will be enough, but we realize that, in fact, there may be more to be done in the future."

EXAMINER, San Francisco, CA - June 4, 1986 CR: J. Laurino

## Extraterrestrials will send lasers, not radio signals, physicist says

By Patrick Young  
NEWHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

PHILADELPHIA — Since the first search for extraterrestrial life a quarter century ago, astronomers have concentrated almost exclusively on looking for radio signals from some distant civilization.

That has been the wrong approach, said laser physicist John D.G. Rather.

If a distant civilization is advanced enough to attempt to communicate its existence, it will use

high-energy lasers. Rather argued here last week at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Any other inhabited planet is at least a few light years away and almost certainly tens, hundreds or even thousands of light years from Earth. Thus, a civilization seeking to make contact would want to include enormous amounts of information about itself in any message, said Rather, vice president of Kaman Aerospace Corp. in Arlington, Va. Laser beams can transmit vast-

ly more information than radio signals in the same time span.

The first search for evidence of extraterrestrial beings was made in 1960 by astronomer Frank Drake, who turned a radio telescope on a few nearby stars in what he called "Project Ozma." Since then, said astronomer Jill Tarter of UC-Berkeley, at least 47 attempts have been made to find extraterrestrial intelligence.

NASA is planning a major, systematic listening effort for life elsewhere. "We are starting a program

that may not bear fruit for a lifetime or for generations," said Tarter, who is helping development equipment for the NASA project.

The possibility of laser communications from another world has been largely ignored because of arguments that fail to consider that an advanced civilizations would have laser technologies superior to ours, Rather said.

For example, people have argued that a laser's light would be blanked out by the brightness of the sun around which the inhabited

planet orbited. But Rather argued that an advanced civilization would have developed lasers powerful enough to outshine their suns.

Some also have argued that the vast amounts of dust in the plane of our galaxy would block laser light. But Rather said many stars are outside the galactic plane and lasers from them would not be affected.

"The dust may be important or it may not be," he said. "If it is, you can go to the infrared wavelength or beyond, even into the X-ray wavelengths." Infrared, ultraviolet,

gamma- and X-ray lasers would be unaffected by the dust.

Contact with an advanced civilization would greatly affect Earth, and that might be the greatest motivating force for a distant people to make contact with less-intelligent beings, Rather suggested.

"They probably want to promulgate their culture and perpetuate themselves," he said. "The most profound implication of all this is that it is really a means of transferring an alien culture to new worlds" without ever visiting them.

# Inventor has 'never say no' attitude on patent

New York Times

WASHINGTON — If Joseph Newman is right...

Newman, who is from Lucedale, Miss. (pop. 2,500), claims he has come up with the greatest thing since the invention of the wheel, sliced bread, canned beer and the skate key, all wrapped into one. He says he has invented a machine that produces more energy than it consumes.

Which is to say he claims to have given the lie to the laws of thermodynamics — that no energy transaction can break even, much less gain energy — by inventing the ultimate solution to

the world's energy worries: an inexhaustible supply of electricity.

The dawn of a new age? No. Absolutely no, says the United States Patent and Trademark Office. It has refused to grant him a patent.

But Newman also has an inexhaustible supply of persistence. Unlike many rejected inventors, he did not return to the drawing board upon receiving word from the Patent Office about six years ago that his invention was, well, patently impossible. Rather, he headed for court and Capitol Hill.

In an unusual move, the federal district court here ordered the machine turned over to the National Bureau of Standards for testing. And Newman

has persuaded seven members of Congress — Reps. Dan Burton of Indiana, William E. Dannemeyer of California, Thomas N. Kindness of Ohio, Bob Livingston of Louisiana, Trent Lott of Mississippi, Robert G. Torricelli of New Jersey and W.J. Tauzin of Louisiana — to sponsor private bills in his behalf that would order the Patent Office to grant him a patent and then allow the marketplace to decide whether, in fact, the energy machine works.

Newman, folksy and low key when not defending his machine, remains convinced it will eventually win over its critics. "Truth is like a high intensity laser beam," he says. "It cuts through a lot of garbage."

The Bureau of Standards presumably will soon have something definitive to say on this, and Congress seems likely to defer any action until the bureau has turned over its findings to the court and the court has ruled.

"It's very unusual for us to be testing something for a patent," said Matthew Heyman, a bureau spokesman. "I'm not aware of us ever having been involved in a patent case before."

If Newman, 49 years old, does win, it will not be the first time he has received a patent. He already holds licenses on plastic-coated barbells and on a deflector to keep an automobile's windshield dry in the rain at drive-in movies.

TIMES, New York, NY - June 17, 1986 CR: G. Earley

## Fossils of 'Man Tracks' Shown to Be Dinosaurian

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

**I**N a new analysis of giant fossil footprints in a Texas riverbed, paleontologists have concluded that there is no evidence of human prints mingled with those of dinosaurs. The finding, they said, undermines a key argument advanced by religious fundamentalists who have cited the "man tracks" as scientific evidence of a relatively recent, divine creation of life on earth, in keeping with a literal interpretation of the Bible.

But the discovery has left paleontologists mystified anew about an important aspect of dinosaur behavior: the way they walked.

Scientists called the discovery an "exciting development" in their running dispute with those fundamentalists, known as scientific creationists, who argue that the biblical account of creation should be taught in schools on an equal basis with the Darwinian theory of evolution.

Confronted with these findings, a leader of the scientific creationists conceded that the tracks could no longer be "regarded as unquestionably human." A movie incorporating the disputed tracks, "Footprints in Stone," produced by the Films for Christ Association, has been withdrawn from circulation as a document in support of divine creation.

### 5-Year Investigation

What specialists in dinosaur studies have reported finding are clear traces of dinosaur toes associated with the so-called "man tracks" along the Paluxy River near Glen Rose, Tex., southwest of Fort Worth. The discovery was described by scientists who visited the site early this month and reviewed the results of a five-year investigation of the tracks by Glen J. Kuban, an expert on dinosaur footprints.

Because the "man tracks" were mingled with indisputable dinosaur prints, creationists argued that this was scientific "proof" that humans and dinosaurs co-existed. This, they said, represented evidence for the divine creation of all species in the beginning, according to the account in Genesis, and that this occurred as recently as 10,000 years ago, according to creationist chronologies.

An accumulation of fossil and geological evidence has led scientists to conclude that the earth is 4.5 billion years old and that dinosaurs inhabited the world for some 160 million years, becoming extinct 65 million years ago. Fossil discoveries in Africa indicate that early human ancestors appeared about three million years ago.

But the Paluxy River tracks, which were known of for decades, had posed a problem for scientists. The tracks were indeed humanlike. Each print is elongated, about 15 to 20 inches in length, and ends with an apparent round heel. The toes are missing or indistinct, however, and this made it impossible to reach any satisfactory identification. The identified dinosaur prints in the same sediments have the distinctive three long digits, resembling the feet of huge birds.



Fossil footprints in a riverbed near Glen Rose, Tex.

Glen Kuban

Then along came Mr. Kuban, a computer programmer from Brunswick, Ohio, who majored in biology in college and has become an experienced student of dinosaur tracks. In 1980 he began to re-examine the Paluxy tracks in question, finding some faint impressions of toes that had gone largely unnoticed.

Two summers ago, pursuing the investigation, Mr. Kuban said he found evidence that "practically jumped out at you." Ronnie J. Hastings, a high school science teacher from Waxahachie, Tex., made a similar discovery at about the same time. Almost every one of the alleged human tracks, they found, was accompanied by distinct colorations in the rock that, upon detailed analysis, revealed the pattern of dinosaurian digits.

The colorations ranged from blue-gray to rust, in contrast to the ivory to tan color of the surrounding limestone bearing the rest of the fossil footprint. To Mr. Kuban and scientists who had a look, this suggested that the digit impressions were somehow filled in with sediments different from those in the rest of the track. These sediments later hardened to rock. This phenomenon presumably went undetected until exposure to air and flood waters from the river eroded the surface and contributed to oxidation processes.

Mr. Kuban said a careful re-examination of color pictures taken by creationist investigators and used as a basis for their arguments revealed that some traces of the coloration and some actual impressions had been detectable all along. He said this tended to rule out the possibility of some kind of hoax.

In an article in the current issue of *Creation/Evolution*, a publication of

the American Humanist Association, Mr. Kuban wrote, "I have concluded that no genuine human tracks have been found in the Paluxy riverbed."

Mr. Kuban also presented his findings to scientists two weeks ago at the First International Conference on Dinosaur Tracks, held at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History in Albuquerque. Robert T. Bakker, a paleontologist at the University of Colorado Museum at Boulder, said scientists are now agreeing with Mr. Kuban's interpretations. David Gillette of the New Mexico Museum reported finding similar tracks with an almost identical coloration phenomenon at a site near Clayton, N.M.

"This strengthens our confidence that Kuban has correctly interpreted these footprints," said James O. Farlow, a paleontologist at Fort Wayne campus of Indiana University. "This is an exciting development."

### Locomotion Is Debated

For some time, paleontologists had withheld an endorsement of Mr. Kuban's interpretation because it went against the traditional view of how bipedal dinosaurs walked. It was assumed, based on the preponderance of footprint evidence, that they almost always walked in the digitigrade fashion — on their toes. Many of the Paluxy tracks were, indeed, the more familiar three-toed birdlike prints. But many of those that resembled human prints, Mr. Kuban decided, must have been made by dinosaurs that on occasion placed the full weight of the soles of their feet on the ground, creating the elongated impressions.

Neither Mr. Kuban nor the paleontologists could determine what species of dinosaurs were responsible for

the disputed Paluxy tracks. They could not be sure whether the more flat-footed tracks represent a regular type of locomotion for some dinosaurs or merely occasional or aberrant behavior.

Some other alleged human footprints, Mr. Kuban said, appeared to be the result of erosional distortions, natural irregularities in the rock or perhaps the impressions left by dinosaurs dragging their tails or pressing their snouts to the ground while feeding.

### Creationists Accept Report

After several creationist leaders visited the site, at the invitation of Mr. Kuban and Dr. Hastings, John D. Morris of the Institute for Creation Research at El Cajon, Calif., acknowledged in an article that none of the tracks "can be today regarded as unquestionably human." He also wrote, "It would now be improper for creationists to use the Paluxy data as evidence against evolution."

Several scientists who discussed the discovery emphasized that their work should not be viewed as an attack on religion. "A majority of the people at the dinosaur track conference are devout Christians," said Dr. Farlow.

In an "afterword" to his article in the *Creation/Evolution* magazine, Mr. Kuban wrote: "I am a Christian and believe in the Creator but have not yet formed definite conclusions about some aspects of the origins controversy, such as the exact age of the earth or the limits to biological change. I chose to publish my research in *Creation/Evolution* not to attack creationism but to help set the record straight on the true nature of the Paluxy evidence."



# Researchers Seeking Galactic Club Linkup

## Think Powerful Radio Beam Will Locate Extraterrestrials

By Joel Achenbach

KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

**M**OFFETT FIELD, Calif. — Bernard Oliver, head of the United States government's effort to discover alien civilizations in the cosmos, has a theory about little green men: They belong to something called The Galactic Club.

The Galactic Club's membership is made up of civilizations spread across the vastness of the Milky Way galaxy. Club news travels by radio wave. To join the club, Earthlings would have to build a huge transmitter, or "beacon," so other club members can find out everything about us.

"There have been civilizations in the galaxy for billions of years," said Oliver, director of NASA's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence program — SETI. "Entry into the Galactic Club might be construction of a beacon... I think it'd be terrific. You'd have all the natural history of the galaxy at our disposal. Aren't you interested in life elsewhere? Aren't you interested in the aesthetics and art forms of other civilizations?"

The SETI people are tucked into a corner of NASA's Ames Research Center in the Silicon Valley. Here one finds a striking juxtaposition of lofty concept and humble environs. These scientists who seek a historic and potentially revolutionary revelation about the cosmos are squirreled away in a few windowless offices in a building of the style that might be called "Early Junior High." But then, science is like that.

Down the hall from Oliver is the man who might become the first to get the signal from the Tralfamadoreans, or whoever might be calling. His name is Kent Cullers, he is 36 years old, he is a physicist, and he's blind. Cullers is in charge of the signal-detection team, and he's trying to write computer programs that can make sense of the static of the heavens. For any sky search to be effective, computers must be able to listen to the simultaneous crackle of thousands of stars, and sort through the chaos for a coherent, intentional alien message.

"In my lifetime, I might be the one who finds and begins to decode that message from an extraterrestrial

civilization," Cullers said.

"I am absolutely certain that life is present in the universe other than on the Earth. I am pretty certain that there are other intelligent beings like us in the galaxy in great numbers."

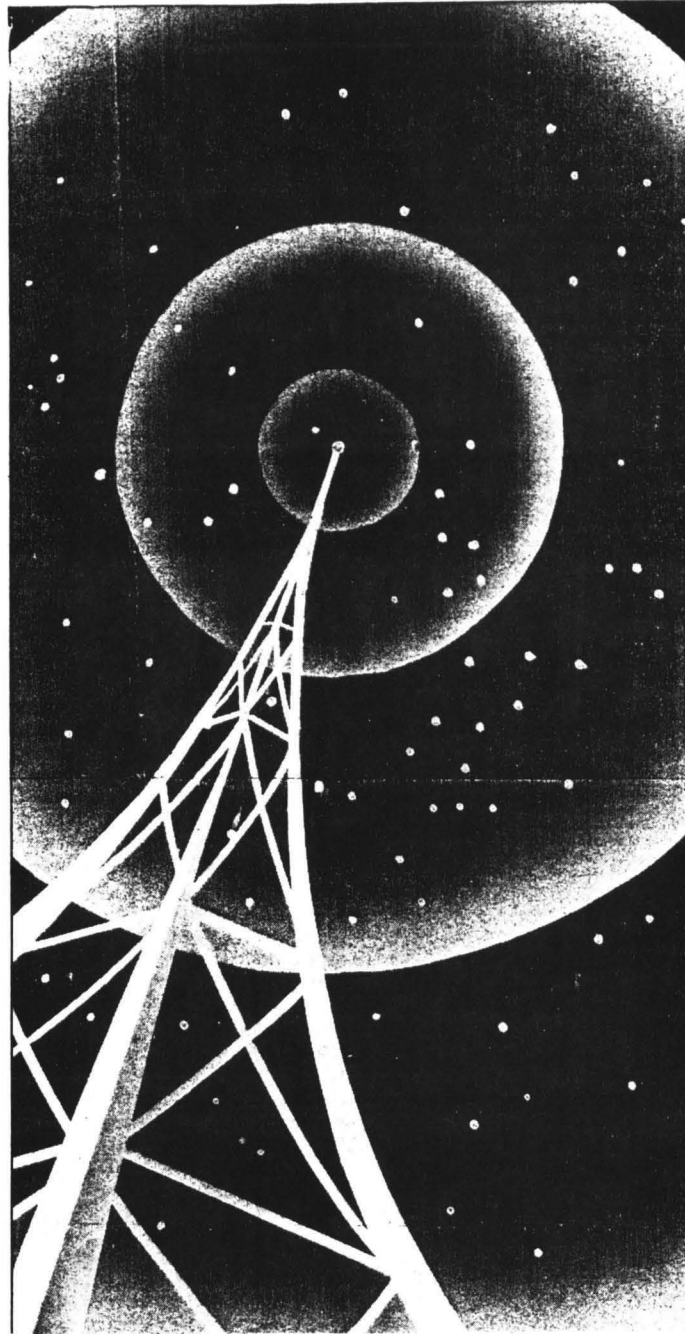
The search for alien life is intensifying. Oliver plans to start his all-sky search in 1988. A smaller search at Harvard has been going on since 1983. Carl Sagan's new novel, "Contact," dramatized the issue, arguing that the conflicts that divide the peoples of the Earth would wither away if we had to respond to an extraterrestrial message. James Beggs, erstwhile NASA administrator, had made SETI one of his pet projects.

Finding support for SETI has been difficult. In 1978, Sen. William Proxmire, D-Wis., awarded the proposed SETI program his Golden Fleece award for wasteful government spending, noting that it is hard enough to find intelligent life in Washington. Critics correctly point out that any aliens would make poor pen pals, because even though radio waves travel at the speed of light, they still need years to get across the void of space, even between the closest stars. Proxmire, after blocking funding for one year, eased up when NASA pointed out that the technology of SETI would contribute to other astrophysical research and could be a cooperative effort with other nations.

"I am one of those people that says full ahead and damn the torpedoes," Cullers said. "I always think it is dangerous not to look, because if you don't, someone else might."

NASA's response to the Washington flak has been to proceed cautiously; no one is proposing to follow the Soviet Union's more ambitious example, CETI — Communication with Extraterrestrial Intelligence. Funding has been relatively modest. The government is employing only 15 people in the search for alien creatures, and they work on a budget of \$1.5 million. Oliver said that in 1988, SETI will gear up to about \$15 million a year, if Congress consents, and eventually level out at \$7 million or \$8 million a year.

Of course, there is the pressing question of whether aliens, talkative aliens, exist at all. The scientific community likes to kick around the Fermi Paradox. Many years ago, the



JOURNAL ILLUSTRATION / MIKE KIMBALL

great physicist Enrico Fermi, listening to someone discuss the possibility of alien life, suddenly blurted out, "Where are they?" This question was evidently concise enough to incite the scientific community to christen the Fermi Paradox. If there really are so many little green men out there, why haven't they visited us?

Oliver's response, shared by many others, is that the distances between the stars, coupled with Einstein's cosmic speed limit of 186,000 miles per second (the speed of light), make interstellar space travel impossible. So we'll never know of the aliens unless we start listening, Oliver said.

"We haven't made a good listening program yet. They may have been trying (to contact us)," he said.

SETI was first seriously proposed in 1959 in an article in *Nature* magazine. The next year, University of California astronomer Frank Drake started Project Ozma, the first of 35 major attempts worldwide to hear the sounds of alien intelligence. Project Ozma pointed a radio dish at two stars. There was no one there. Since then, scientists have covered thousands more stars, but that is only a minuscule fraction of the 200 billion stars in our galaxy, and only a narrow range of frequencies has been sampled.

The likelihood of extraterrestrial intelligence is calculated by what is known as the Drake Equation, named after the astronomer.

The hard part comes in trying to figure out what numbers to plug into the equation. Scientists have yet to discover conclusively, for example, the existence of a single planet outside our own solar system, though planets are believed to be fairly common. Except for theological explanations, we don't know how life started on Earth.

And we don't know about this "communicative phase." Earthlings have themselves only flirted with communication. On Nov. 16, 1974, astronomers beamed a message of friendship from the Arecibo Observatory toward the Great Cluster in Hercules, about 25,000 light-years away, home to 300,000 stars. The message was strictly scientific, a binary code that discusses the molecular structure of DNA, the location of the Earth in the solar system and the height of a human being.

But so far, NASA has shied away from broadcasting signals into space. To find us, aliens will have to detect the effluent of our society, our TV shows and radio programs that are streaking away from the planet on UHF bandwidths. Little green men on the sun-like star Capella, 45 light years away, would only now be receiving the early Nazi television broadcasts that

Hitler used to whip up popular support within Nazi Germany.

The last factor in the Drake equation is the most open to philosophical rather than scientific speculation. How long do technological civilizations survive? Perhaps not long. On Earth, we discovered a fundamental secret of the universe — the existence of a "strong force" within the atom — and immediately responded to this revelation by building arsenals of weapons so deadly that their detonation could destroy all life on the planet.

Mike Klein, a SETI astronomer based in Pasadena, thinks the detection of an alien civilization would have a profound sociological effect on mankind.

"If we find out that we're not alone, and that any communicating will take decades, then we start to think about communicating beyond our own lifetime. And that opens up our whole perspective of who we are," Klein said.

Scientists suspect that any communicative civilization will figure out that radio waves are the best medium for sending messages. Then, it is hoped, the aliens will make a second intuitive leap, realizing that the best frequencies for sending messages are in the vicinity of the "hydrogen line" and the "hydroxyl line" — the radio frequencies of water.

A pioneering 1971 study at Stanford University known as "Project Cyclops" gave the analogy of a watering hole: "Nature has provided us with a rather narrow band in this best part of the spectrum that seems especially marked for interstellar contact. Standing like the Om and the Um on either side of a gate, these two emissions of the disassociation products of water beckon all water-based life to search for its kind at the age-old meeting place of all species: the water hole."

It's a rather romantic conceit. But it may also prove true. Bernard Oliver points out that though such an approach is "chauvinistic" to water-based life — discriminating against the poor suckers out there that happen to be made of, for example, silicon, or (gad) ammonia; nevertheless water is probably the most common, if not the exclusive, foundation of life in the universe.

What the aliens would look like is a subject of debate between two schools of thought, the "conversionists" and the "diversionists." The first school holds that Earthlike life would be found around the galaxy because it is the best design for an animal. The second school holds that aliens would be completely different.

But either way, would they be nice?

Or, if we ever met, would they immediately conclude we are a dangerous pest, and try to eradicate us? "My guess," Oliver said optimistically, "is that empathy is a quality that grows with intelligence."

# Fainting Spells Baffle Mexican Town

By STEPHEN BAKER

SAN FRANCISCO DEL ORO, Mexico

When the wind picks up and the rain starts falling in this little mining town, many of the teenage girls here faint.

Some just tumble to the ground, limp and unconscious. Others fall stiff as boards and remain zombie-like for hours on end. When they awake, the girls reach for their throats and gasp for air.

"This is like 'The Twilight Zone,'" says Ruben Perez Mendoza, a young doctor investigating the phenomenon in the city some 400 miles south of El Paso, Texas.

The fainting began last September, soon after the sole industry in town, Compania Minera San Francisco del Oro, opened a new oxidation plant to produce fluoride. For much of the summer, residents say, the town smelled like rotten eggs. People complained of headaches.

The situation turned from fishy to bizarre on Sept. 13, during a patriotic ceremony just down the hill from the oxidation plant, at the town's public school.

"It hadn't been 15 minutes before the girls were falling like flies, everywhere," recalled the principal, Teodoro Hernandez. Started administrators, helped by parents and army officials in attendance, loaded about 35 unconscious girls into two school buses, which carried them 15 miles to a hospital in Parral.

Sitting in his office at the school, amid a swarm of flies, Hernandez paged through his handwritten "journal of the plague year," as he called it, and narrated the strange history.

When the busloads reached the hospital, doctors there did not know what to make of the fainting adolescents, the principal said. Several of them prescribed sugar water.

Residents in the town of 10,000 were equally puzzled by the fainting.

"At first," Hernandez said, "people thought that maybe the military guests we had invited had something to do with it. And then some thought the girls came from dirty homes. Others thought the girls were pretending."

If they were pretending, the game got out of hand. "We'd have 15 or 20 girls faint in a day," the principal said. The busiest days, he added, were the windy ones, especially when the wind brought rain.

Concern grew later in September, when the illness seemed to advance. Some of the girls now went rigid when they fainted. "They were like boards," Hernandez said. "You could pick them up by their feet and their heads, and they wouldn't bend."

Several doctors speculated that the disorder was neurological, perhaps the result of heavy metals in the girls' bloodstreams. They pointed



to the oxidation plant up the hill from the school. None of the doctors, however, dared to implicate the mining company in an official report, the principal said.

At the same time, word spread around town that someone had botched a chemical blend at the oxidation plant. Company officials denied the rumor but agreed to close the facility indefinitely.

The school also closed its doors in late September, and moved the 900 students to a dance hall and a union headquarters. But the attacks did not stop.

To this day, over 100 teen-agers — all of them girls — continue to faint on a regular basis, from three or four times a week in some cases, to once a month in others. Some fall

**"The others tease us and say we're faking. I wish we were."**

—Gabina Maldonado, 15.

limp, others stiff. A couple of them have turned blue during attacks from lack of oxygen.

While conscious, the girls complain of headaches, leg pains and loss of appetite. One girl has dropped from 56 to 34 pounds in the last nine months, said the doctor, Perez Mendoza.

Gabina Maldonado sat on the bed in the tiny living room and described the last time she lost control.

"It was just yesterday," the 15-year-old said sheepishly. "I was sitting at the table talking with my mother, and then I felt myself black out."

The next thing she knew, the girl said, it



was two hours later and she was lying on a bed gasping for air. She felt exhausted.

Her mother, also named Gabina, said the girl gasped and fell into a trance, her body stiff and tense. "I just moved her across the bed," she said. "Then we waited."

Gabina, a pretty young woman with bright eyes and full cheeks, looks neither sick nor psychotic. But her condition, she said, is exasperating her. "The others tease us and say we're faking," she said. "I wish we were."

Experts cannot agree on the nature or origin of the disease. Some say the girls are poisoned, others conclude that they're simply neurotic. And no one has figured out why the girls fall and the boys don't.

Most people in the town of 10,000 attribute the disease to an alleged escape of poisonous gases from a fluoride oxidation plant owned by the town's mining company, Compania Minera San Francisco del Oro.

Although company officials deny reports of contamination, workers at the plant report feeling sick while working at the facility. "Last summer, I used to get horrible headaches and throw up," said Julian Holguin, 34. He said he still feels pains in his lower legs.

Holguin, a 17-year veteran at the company, said that 1,200 hundred workers had quit their jobs and left town since last September, when the fainting started. "Most of them went to Juarez and Chihuahua," he said.

A company spokesman, Jose Sanz, denied

the reported exodus. He said the company still employed 2,700 workers and 250 administrators, about the same level as a year ago.

Many of the government experts have visited San Francisco, carrying away samples of blood, hair, soil and water. But few of them have reported their findings. "We don't know what they do with all that blood," said Fernandez. "Do they sell it, eat it?"

Perez Mendoza, a recent medical school graduate who works at the state-sponsored health clinic in San Francisco, is convinced that the entire town was subjected to "acute intoxication by a mixture of gases." Among factory workers and other townspeople, he said, the poisoning produced headaches and nausea. But, for some reason, it hit the teen-age girls harder.

Poisonous residue which lies in the ground, he said, blows into the air on windy days, triggering more "crises," as he calls them. Following a rainstorm, he said, evaporating water lifts more metal poisons into the air.

The nine-month-old drama in San Francisco has sparked countless charges, recriminations, and even occasional threats. Doctor Mendoza has already received two mailed warnings to keep out of the controversy.

"The last one said, 'You'd better mind your own business, doctorcito,'" he said.

Stephen Baker is a reporter for The El Paso (Texas) Herald-Post.

SUN, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
March 27, 1986

## BIGFOOT SPOTTED?

Loyal Page Sixer, Nanon Aubry, phoned to report a rather odd sighting at 10 p.m. Tuesday night behind her apartment building at 12141 Jasper Ave., located on the edge of the Victoria Golf Club.

"Coming from the dense bush, I saw some huge footprints that continued to the rear of my building, around it, and out to the street," said Nanon. "They went for at least 150 feet."

Nanon measured them, and the footprints were 17 inches long, and the span between the prints measured a whopping 60 inches!

I figure it's either Bigfoot, or Hector Pothier was in the area!

RIO GRANDE SUN, Espanola, NM - June 19, 1986

# Cow Mutilated In Ojo Sarco

By JOCELYN LIEU

SUN Staff Writer

The mysterious phenomenon of cattle mutilations has visited Ojo Sarco.

A six-year-old black Angus cow owned by Orlando Sanchez Sr. was discovered early in the morning June 7 with several neatly incised cuts. Missing from the cow's body were its udder, anus,

left eyeball and lip.

"It's pretty weird," Orlando Sanchez Jr. told the SUN Tuesday. "Things like that don't happen up here very often."

The younger Sanchez said his father found the registered Angus dead at the family ranch in Cañada de los Alamos near Ojo Sarco.

"It was right in the middle of

the field," Sanchez said.

The animal apparently displayed the classic signs of mutilation — the bloodless cuts targeting its sexual organs, anus and eyes.

According to a report prepared by N.M. State Police officer Robert Chavez, the cow was mutilated sometime between 7 p.m. June 6, a Friday, and 7 a.m. June 7. Chavez said the animal had been valued at \$1,000.

Chavez noted in his report he could find no place on the cow's body showing a gunshot wound or other apparent cause of death. Sanchez concurred, "We couldn't find nothing."

He said a neighbor who was staying at a cabin less than half a mile away that night hadn't heard gunshots or any disturbance.

Sanchez added his family couldn't find footprints or any signs people had visited the site.

However, Sanchez said he believed the black Angus met its demise at the hands of a person and not, as some believe, extra-terrestrials.

"I don't believe in UFOs or that stuff," Sanchez said, adding he wanted to find out who killed the animal. "It sure was a nice cow."

Sanchez said his family dragged the cow into an arroyo and buried it.

Sanchez said whoever mutilated the Angus must have had unusual motivations for removing the organs.

"I'd rather have a T-bone than an eyeball," Sanchez said.

Sanchez said a neighbor of his had a cow mutilated last year.

But, he said of the phenomenon, "I didn't even think it was true until I seen it."

Officer Chavez said in his report the owner of the black Angus couldn't understand why coyotes hadn't attacked the body of the cow.

Reports on numerous previous mutilations indicated dogs, coyotes and other predators shied away from the strangely diced up cattle.

Sanchez said that in addition to Officer Chavez, state livestock inspector Teddy Abeyta came to look at the deceased animal.

"He wasn't too excited," Sanchez reported of Abeyta's reaction. "He's already seen it before."

Abeyta could not be reached by the time the SUN went to press.

Sanchez said he himself was more concerned over a recent grasshopper infestation than the mutilated cow.

In Chama, N.M. State Police Officer Gabe Valdez said Tuesday the Ojo Sarco mutilation broke a dry spell in the unusual incidents reported to police.

"It's the first one we've had in

about two years," Valdez commented.

However, a cow belonging to Chimayo resident Tony Martinez was reported mutilated last April.

A five-year-old Hereford cow was found dead without apparent cause. Its udder, anus and sexual organs had been neatly removed.

Valdez had been in the forefront of investigations into the baffling cattle deaths in northern New Mexico during the '70s and early '80s.

Valdez noted that while New Mexico apparently has had a respite in cattle mutilation, occurrences have been bountiful in nearby Colorado.

"They've had quite a number," Valdez said.

At least three theories as to the cause of the mutilations reported in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado exist.

One places the blame on curious extra-terrestrials. A second unsubstantiated theory pinpoints a clandestine U.S. Department of Energy investigation.

A report released in 1980 written by former FBI agent Ken Rommel said "Mother Nature" was at fault. He blamed coyotes for the cattle killings, adding some mutilations were performed by human hands in copycat cases.

Rommel also blasted what he called "creative writing" — press reports he said blew cattle mutilations out of proportion.

CR: T. Adams