

UFO

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ROUTE 1 — BOX 220

PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U.S.A.

CO-EDITORS: LUCIUS FARISH
ROD B. DYKE

AUGUST 1987 NUMBER 217

ENTERPRISE, Lebanon, KY - May 20, 1987

UFO?

Four women sight strange light that follows their car

By NINIE GLASSCOCK
Reporter

None of the four women is completely certain what it was that they saw outside their car near Springfield more than a week ago. But all of them are certain that the bright light that followed the car for several miles toward Lebanon and then merged with another brighter light high in the night sky was not an airplane or a helicopter. And they say they'll never forget it—that they'll be telling their grandchildren about the night they saw a UFO.

Wanda Mathis, Anita Adams, Bertha Porter and Margaret Riley, all of Lebanon, have taken considerable ribbing from their friends and neighbors since they reported to Lebanon Police the strange light that followed them after they left the St. Rose bingo on May 11. But the women remain adamant that their story is no hoax. They say they're too old to make up such a story. And police officials report that the fear on the women's faces when they reported the incident about 10 p.m. that night did, indeed, seem completely genuine.

"They were shaking and carrying on—something really scared them," said police dispatcher Betty Wehington. "I don't know what they saw, but they believed they saw something!"

What happened to the four women returning from a church bingo? The strange occurrences began just beyond the red light on KY 55 in Springfield.

"We was just riding along, talking about the full moon and how there'd probably be lots of babies born that night," says 35-year-old Anita Adams, who was driving the car. "And then this little light, about the size of a cup, came out of nowhere and appeared beside my window. And I said, 'Ya'll look. That little light's following us.'"

The car continued up the hill beyond the Springfield crossroads, the women say, and the light stayed right beside Anita Adams' window. It was a soft, glowing light like a lightning bug, they say, and it seemed to mesmerize them as they looked at it.

"My sister was driving the car yet she wasn't driving the car," says 36-year-old Wanda Mathis. "We were all just looking at that light. And so was Nita...but the car stayed on the road even though she wasn't looking where she was driving."

Adams says she remembers the feeling of hypnotism from the light, too, and the sensation that some other force had control of the vehicle.

"I know one thing...we were driving and driving but we weren't getting any closer to Lebanon than we were when we started out," Adams explains.

Suddenly the little light began to move down toward the ground, Adams says, while it continued in its course beside the car. She watched it dip close to the roadside, then rise and cross the windshield to the other side of the vehicle.

"When it came over to the right side of the car, we saw this big shiny thing in the sky," says Margaret Riley. "It was like it was just hanging there up in the sky on the right of the car. It was no star! There's never been a star that big and bright!"

The four women report that the little light rose in the sky at that point and "joined up" with the bigger light above the car so that "you could see the little light hooked on to the bigger one." Then the two lights together descended in what appeared to be a collision course with the car.

"My sister screamed 'Nita move, it's coming after us!' and I put my foot on the gas and that's the first time I had control of the car again. And I went all over the road, first to the left then back to the right but whatever had us let us go then."

The bright light passed them by, but Wanda Mathis looked back through the rear window after it passed and saw "a shadow under it shaped like a mushroom."

So frightened they were shaking and crying, the women agreed that they ought to report what they saw to the police.

Three of them went into the station as soon as they got to Lebanon and told the dispatcher about the lights. The fourth, Bertha Porter, waited in the car for her friends to return.

Now that they've had some time to think about it, do they know what it might have been that they saw outside their car on a moonlight Monday night more than a week ago?

"I know one thing," Bertha Porter says with conviction. "It wasn't a helicopter and it wasn't an airplane. There was no sound at all. The windows were open and we didn't hear anything—not a thing! It was no airplane!"

MORNING NEWS, Dallas, TX - May 8, 1987 CR: L. Whitehurst



Rick Schneider of Grand Prairie marks the spot along I-20 where he says he saw a UFO.

Interest in UFOs rises

Earthlings' belief in aliens renewed by outer limits tales

By Dave Ferman
Staff Writer of The News

In 1947, pilot Kenneth Arnold saw nine silver discs flying in close formation near Seattle, Wash. They zigged. They zagged. They disappeared. And, when word leaked out to journalists of what Arnold claimed to have seen, the term "flying saucer" was coined and the modern era of "ufology" had begun.

Forty years later, UFOs are hot again — maybe hotter than ever. Cute little aliens are popping up on commercials for watches, beer and lawn mowers. The season climax of *The Colbys* featured a major character being kidnapped by aliens. Whitley Strieber's *Communion* — an account of many "abductions" into the hands of aliens — is No. 2 on the *New York Times* non-fiction best-seller list, and has prompted hundreds of people to come forward and say that they, too, have been abducted, and in some cases used as virtual guinea pigs.

National UFO organizations such as MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) and Chicago's J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies report numerous "abductees" coming forward recently. And Seattle's National UFO Reporting Center says that, while the number of reports has held steady at about six a day for the past year, they are now getting people calling in about incidents that happened to them years ago.

Why now? Why all this renewed interest?

UFO experts point first to Strieber's book. Also, there's been a lot of interest in two other new books: *Intruders* by longtime UFO researcher Bud Hopkins, which deals with abductees; and *Light Years* by investigative author Gary

Kinder, which concerns a Swedish caretaker who claims, among other things, to have received information from a female alien from the planets of Pleiades. And finally, the experts say, people are just more responsive to the idea that there's someone else out there.

"Our mailing list has gone from 150 to about 270 since January — people are just intelligent enough to realize there's intelligent life in the universe," says MUFON Metroplex president Jerry Decker. "Strieber is such a well-known author — and suddenly he has experiences and comes forward. He cracked the ice a bit, because he's what people would call normal."

Dallas-area UFO enthusiast Rick Schneider — who says he saw a UFO measuring about 300 meters long hovering near Interstate 20 one night in August 1985 — believes that *Communion* has something to do with the resurgence in UFOs. But, he says, movies such as *E.T.* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* have simply gotten people over the "panic stage" of dealing with UFOs.

"I feel the planet is getting to a state where the consciousness of the individual is ready to accept the reality of UFOs," says Schneider, a Grand Prairie taxidermist. "Now children are being raised to accept the existence of UFOs. Ten years ago, when I'd talk about this, I'd get a lot of negative reaction, and there's a lot less now. There's talk on the street now — you didn't hear it 10 years ago. I mean, when your postman walks into the office and asks what you thought of *Out On A Limb*..."

Out On A Limb is actress Shirley MacLaine's account of her "channeling" alien spirits — a book that has helped in people's growing acceptance of aliens and all things metaphysical, says Schneider. The fact that her account — like Strieber's — is finding such interest is a sign that people are more willing to accept that, as Schneider puts it, "there's more to the universe than you can physically see."

"People have seen that (Miss MacLaine's writing) and reacted to it and are now accepting the fact that people may believe in UFOs," says George Eberhart of the Hynek Center for UFO Studies. "Also, there's just the accumulation of 40 years of UFO sightings — there's not a lot of hard evidence but there is a lot of testimonials."

Robert Gribble of the National UFO Reporting Center points to an incident last year that also may be piquing people's interest: the case of a Japanese pilot who claimed UFOs accompanied him over Alaska. That incident, says Gribble, has led to three or four reports of old sightings. "That used to be a very rare thing," he says.

"People now know where to go (to report encounters)," says MUFON international director Walter Andrus Jr., who works with the Seattle group in investigating cases. "People are coming forward with things that happened years ago. And people want to know about UFOs — they want to find out about them. After all, it's the greatest mystery of the 20th century."

The Lebanon-Springfield Airport was contacted Monday and a check of the records reveal that no aircraft of any kind—helicopter or airplane—landed or took off from the airport between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. on May 11.

Glenwood UFOs have the whole county buzzing

By LYNN BURTON
TWN* Staff Writer

Don Williams claims he was misquoted when he reportedly said he was a UFO buff.

"I said I was in the buff when the UFO was spotted," the Glenwood Springs police lieutenant joked.

Actually, Williams said he'd been interviewed so many

times about the UFO sightings, he's not sure what he said. One thing he is sure of, he didn't see it. "I'd love to see one though."

The sightings immediately put Glenwood on the UFO map. Williams got calls from lots of newspapers, a Seattle-based UFO investigation outfit and even one man who

identified himself as a "certified, official UFO investigator," whatever that is. Things reached their peak when the sightings were mentioned on the Paul Harvey Show May 15.

The first sighting was called in at about 10:15 p.m. May 11. Williams said the police department's policy is to look in



ANOTHER UFO SPOTTED. This one was photographed near the Glenwood Springs police station. Eyewitnesses confirm that the saucer-shaped object had what looked just like Christmas lights across one side. It was made of shiny space material, not unlike tin foil. Aerial maneuvers included fluttering, as if suspended by a wire from an elm tree.

the general direction of reported UFOs and say, "Ah, yes," or "Ah, no." In this case, officers went out to West Glenwood to check it out.

The object was also spotted May 13 over Storm King Mountain, at about a 45 degree angle, Williams said. It was the brightest object in the sky and bigger than a star.

When viewed through the police department's 60 power scope, the most intriguing UFO detail was the lights. According to police reports,

the colored lights travelled back and forth in a halfmoon-shaped route, like a smile, beneath the object.

The object was stationary but faded away after 30 minutes to one hour.

All the standard theories abounded: it was a helicopter, airplane, satellite or reflections. So far, none of those possibilities fit.

Williams said he went out several times last week, with his clothes on, but the cloud cover prevented any sightings.

DAILY JOURNAL, Franklin, IN - June 20, 1987

Caller reports UFO

It may have been an invasion from Mars, or it may have been a tipsy tipster, but Franklin police went looking for a UFO early this morning.

Dispatcher Shirley Long said a woman called at 12:30 a.m. saying she saw a flying object "near the village." The dispatcher was able to determine that the woman meant the Village Pantry store at Main and Walnut streets, and that the flying object in question apparently flew east of the store.

Patrolman John Moore was dispatched to the Village Pantry. One of-

ficer contacted the station asking for a description of the passengers on the unidentified flying object. Another replied tongue in cheek, "They were dressed rather strangely." But when Moore arrived at the scene of the sighting, he reported back that the UFO was gone.

The incident, or prank, provided some laughs for people listening to the police scanner. "One guy called and said he was watching 'Invaders From Mars' on TV and asked if we were serious," Long said.

UFOs to be subject of discussion in BSEC

by Dan Freeman
POLARIS Reporter

Have you ever heard a noise that can't be explained? Have you ever seen something flying through the air that was definitely not an airplane, helicopter or other earthly craft? Have you then considered consulting a shrink?

Worry no more.

This morning at 10 a.m. in the BSEC, Dale Goudie, a researcher with the UFO network of Puget Sound Area Phenomenon Research, Incorporated in 1982 for instrumental research using aircraft and radar, will let us in on the real story behind UFO's in this area.

Did you know that our neighbors in Tacoma actually recorded a sighting on video tape? Goudie will show you this tape. Think it's a hoax? Then try this: The sighting was run through a computerized heat analysis and found to be a real substance of some kind - not a weather balloon or floating Hare Krishna.

UFO's have landed at top security military installations

and chased by our governments best over great distances.

To add even more spice to this occurrence, it was later discovered that this had happened at other military installations at the same time.

Not too long ago, this sort of information would have been very hush-hush. Only the top brass could indulge themselves in the details of the extensive reports.

But all that has changed.

Thanks to the Freedom of Information Act, Dale Goudie and other researchers, as well as any of us, can obtain these once-top-secret documents from the government in order to study the phenomenon.

Sound too easy? According to Goudie, it could be difficult.

"...you have to know the exact date and time..." of the occurrence in order to get the documents, which he obtains from "...a leak in security...", be it a sergeant, lieutenant, or a major. Goudie also mentioned that the government knows a lot more than what they are telling us. "The government does a good job of covering up," he stated.

But there are a lot of people who simply refuse to believe that UFO's exist - except in the minds of the people that see them.

This being the case, researchers and specialists share the information they obtain with others in their field.

Goudie's colleagues include optical and nuclear physicists, but "...we contribute [our information] to anyone that may have something to do it with."

One of Goudie's cohorts is Dr. Harley Rutledge, an optical physicist at South Eastern Missouri University, and author of five books concerning UFO phenomenon, whom he trades information with often.

"...being just one doctor [Ph.D.] in the field doesn't carry much weight. It takes five or six doctors' 'seals of approval' to make anything stick."

Henceforth, the people in this field work together instead of competing.

As an example, Goudie's team has a computer network with stations in Italy, Japan, and England for instantaneous (or thereabout) communication on any unusual activity, or for correlational studies on

sightings.

The PSAPR is taking the backwards approach to studying these sightings. Instead of trying to find out what they are, they are striving to discover what they are not. Or, more precisely, what the limit is of what they are not.

In Seattle, there is a number you can call to get information on sightings, government reports, research analysis as well as other disclosures dealing with UFO Phenomenon.

For those of you who think that UFO's are a bunch of hooey, all I can say is that you must be narrow-minded and selfish. This universe is just too big to be inhabited by only one small speck of a planet hidden by one small speck of a star. Think about it some night when you look up at the sky. Each one of those points of light is a sun, similar to our own, but thousands of light-years away. Who knows what's on the planets they are hiding.

So don't be foolish. Other intelligent beings are out there - it's just a matter of time before we meet them.

If you are still an unbeliever, come see Dale

Goudie's presentation. He will have the video mentioned previously, as well as a slide show and a wealth of information. Maybe he can even answer some of those questions that you have been dying to ask for years.

Or maybe he'll dissolve in a particle beam, and transport aboard the Enterprise...

CR: V. Frese

NEWS, New Gloucester, ME
May 30, 1987

UFOs and ALFs Reported by ET

In recent weeks there have been unconfirmed reports of unidentified flying objects. According to Androscoggin Sergeant Eric T Parker (affectionately known as E T), there have been 2 sightings reported in the West Poland area in the past few weeks. One of the UFO sightings was reported to Poland Dispatch by a teenager while babysitting. Another report was given by a West Poland resident, who claims to have talked to her ALF (alien life form) via citizens band radio.

E T told this reporter that although the Androscoggin Sheriff's Department "does not investigate UFO sightings unless they land," he did however give some sound advice. According to law-enforcement agencies there is a telephone number which one can call to report a UFO sighting. The toll-free number given will not work in this area of the country; however, if you wish to call the number is 1-206-732-3000. Kim Simpson

CR: L. Whitehurst

DAILY CITIZEN, Beaver Dam, WI - May 6, 1987 CR: R. Heiden

State Town Swept Up In 'UFO Fever'

MILWAUKEE, Wis. (UPI) — A director for the National Center for UFO Studies says his agency is ready to declare as official a UFO sighting near Belleville after it reviews subsequent reports of sightings in the area.

Residents, meanwhile, have gotten caught up in UFO fever, said Don Schmitt, director of the non-profit center in Glenview, Ill.

The center began investigating the Jan. 15 sighting after the Federal Aviation Administration office at Aurora, Ill., confirmed it had tracked the object on radar.

The sighting was reported to a Dane County Sheriff's dispatcher by a Belleville patrolman and his neighbor who was riding with him that evening. The two were not alone in their sighting.

"We are investigating a number of related

reports that came after the officer's sighting. We are just short of declaring it an official UFO sighting because through extensive investigation, we have found no natural phenomena to explain the sighting away," said Schmitt, who works in Milwaukee. He said he has determined it was not an aircraft.

The Belleville officer and his rider reported seeing three brilliant red, blue and white lights wavering close together in a straight line. Other people have said they saw the same lights and a transparent cigar shape that moved with a whooshing sound.

"Because there has been such a high degree of interest in the sightings in the Belleville area, we were interested in announcing our final determination at a conference at the high school," Schmitt said.

Schmitt said many residents are excited about possible UFO sightings in their area.

"They put up a sign by the first sighting that says 'UFO landing site.' Some of the people in town have T-shirts that say the same thing and others are wearing buttons with 'UFO landing site' on them," he said. "We'd really like to present them with our complete data and findings."

But that plan has run into a snag.

"I personally do not think this is the place for that kind of thing," said Belleville High School Principal Roger Moe. "I'll take the idea to the Board of Education, but if he (Schmitt) is so hot on getting the media together for an announcement, there's several other places he can go."

Happy 40th birthday, UFOs!

By Keay Davidson
EXAMINER SCIENCE WRITER

UFOs are back in the news, just in time for their 40th birthday party.

Until recently, unidentified flying objects or "flying saucers" seemed to be passe — a relic of pop culture as dated as tail fins. Saucer sightings had plummeted from all-time highs in the 1960s and early 1970s. Eighty to 90 percent of the sightings turned out to have mundane explanations — e.g., balloons, advertising planes, bright stars and planets, even wind-blown trash. The news media almost quit covering amateur "UFOlogists" who slogged through swamps and forests, looking for UFO "traces" such as scorch marks.

During the last decade, even Hollywood blockbusters such as "E.T." and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" triggered surprisingly few sightings of the allegedly glowing, fast-moving UFOs, which according to one saucer buff, "make 90-degree turns that would tear the intestines out of you and me."

But now, UFOlogy is on the comeback trail. A major reason is the publication of new and purportedly true UFO books about saucer pilots who "kidnap" humans. One book is "Communion," by professional horror-writer Whitley Strieber, and has hit first place on the New York Times best-seller list.

Also, UFO fans have scheduled conferences in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and New York City for next month, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the first "modern" saucer sighting.

On June 24th, 1947, private pilot Kenneth Arnold reported seeing several saucer-shaped objects zip past Mount Rainier. His account sparked a national firestorm of saucer reports and gave birth to the UFO fad.

"UFOs are just another societal issue that screams out for attention from society's leaders," says Larry Bryant, one of the leaders of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy in Alexandria, Va. He is "90 percent confident" that the U.S. government has recovered at least one crashed saucer. In recent years he and colleagues have used the Freedom of Information Act to obtain government memos about UFOs.

Bryant — a writer for U.S. Army publications — is suing his employer and other military agencies for permission to run ads seeking information from military personnel who have seen or been "abducted" by UFOs. Far at sea, "sailors are targets not just for Iraqi missiles but for UFOs," Bryant warns.

Abductions are the theme of Strieber's book and "Intruders: The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods" by Budd Hopkins.

These books present souped-up versions of an old and, to skeptics, thoroughly discredited UFO legend: that UFO pilots — who often resemble anorexic little dough boys — kidnap earthlings and subject them to weird medical examinations. After release, an abductee mysteriously "forgets" his experience, but can recall it under hypnosis.

In response, one of the nation's leading UFO-busters, Philip J. Klass, recently offered \$10,000 to anyone whose UFO "abduction" is confirmed by the FBI.

"If I'm wrong I can be bankrupted," says Klass, a noted aerospace writer. "I'm 67 years old, I have a very modest pension, and I have nothing to gain. So I risk every penny to demonstrate my confidence that ... extraterrestrials ... aren't invading our homes and kidnapping us from our cars."

Klass says hypnosis is an unreliable way to "recall" UFO abductions. Experiments by Alvin Lawson of Cal State-Long Beach and his associates have revealed that after gentle prodding under hypnosis a person will weave wild tales about UFO kidnappings and other fantastic things that never happened.

A famous parallel is the celebrat-

ed "Bridey Murphy" case of the 1950s, in which a hypnotized woman described her "past life" as an Irish lass named Bridey Murphy. The case led to a best-selling book and movie. Later, a Chicago newspaper reporter discovered evidence that the woman had innocently recalled unconscious memories of tales told her in childhood by an Irish neighbor whose maiden name had been Bridey Murphy.

News media tend to ballyhoo bizarre UFO claims without adequate investigation, Klass charged. "If Gary Hart had sought to explain the Donna Rice incident by claiming Donna Rice was working for the Republican Party or one of his Democratic opponents ... would the Washington Post have swallowed that story (without checking it out)? Hell no."

Backed by best-sellers, UFOlogy is on the comeback trail

The latest UFO fuss is "unbelievable, absolutely dismaying," says Klass' colleague Paul Kurtz, head of a Buffalo, N.Y.-based organization of professional skeptics, the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP). "All of a sudden the dam has burst, this stuff is really coming down, particularly in the last few weeks. We're attempting to evaluate what's happening."

Kurtz, Klass and CSICOP member James Randi, a professional magician, are meeting this month to decide on a course of action.

Why bother? Aren't UFOs just harmless fun? Not necessarily: "If this whole society begins to abandon rationality, how are we going to solve these complicated problems we face?" asks Kurtz, who teaches philosophy at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Kurtz's charge that the latest UFO fad is a "media event" is backed by data from an unlikely source — the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) in Chicago. (The Center is named for its late founder, a Northwestern University astronomer who served as a scientific consultant to the U.S. Air Force's now-defunct UFO study known as Project Blue Book.)

The facts are simple: Although media interest in UFOs is up, the number of sightings hasn't changed at all, said CUFOS scientific director Mark Rodeghier. In fact, "the number of sightings has decreased tremendously, at least 75 percent, from the levels of the 1960s and 1970s. No one is sure why."

In other words: For the time being, the UFO "comeback" is taking place mainly in bookstores, newspapers and TV shows — not in the skies.

"Here we are in the Year of the UFO, with three major books on the market, Shirley MacLaine preaching the Gospel of Our Lady of the Pleiades, and a Japanese airliner

serving French wine to gigantic flying walnuts. ... (Yet in) the first five months of 1987, the UFO Information Service has recorded only 27 sightings," as one UFO buff recently complained.

He registered his complaint as part of a unique "forum": a 40th-anniversary, nationwide UFO "debate" taking place on personal computers linked by telephone lines. The "debate" is sponsored by a computerized "bulletin board" called Paranet, based in Fountain Hills, Arizona.

For several years, CUFOS kept a "hotline" phone for police to report UFOs. But eventually CUFOS pulled the plug on the hotline because they learned a shocking fact: When it comes to UFOs, cops are "not any better as witnesses than average ordinary witnesses," Rodeghier said.

"Believe me, I know," he sighed during a telephone interview. "I have talked to citizens and police, intelligent people, who sat and watched the planet Venus rising in the east for an hour, (yet) thought it was a UFO moving across half the sky. I've had more than enough cases like that to fill the rest of my life."

Rodeghier estimates that about 90 percent of UFO sightings are explainable as ordinary phenomena. As for the other 10 percent — well, "there's not enough evidence to support any position. ...

"Unless they land tomorrow on the White House lawn, we have a long way to go before coming to a conclusion. We don't see any light at the end of the tunnel."

Exposes of UFO sightings often

changed colors, turned at sharp angles, etc. It's as if each subsequent witness was playing a game of, "Can you top this?"

CSICOP's exposes have infuriated UFO devotees.

Klass is "patronizing and obnoxious," charges Craig Phillips, vice chairman of the Maryland-based Fund for UFO Research. Klass is a "horrible" investigator, says Walter Andrus Jr., international director of the Texas-based Mutual UFO Network, purportedly the biggest UFO club in the world with 1,500 members. "He twists the facts, disregards facts ... His mind's already made up."

And one UFO enthusiast recently lamented on Paranet: "I envision in the near future bumper stickers that say, 'Kill a Believer for CSICOP.'"

Klass laughs about his critics. "A certain percentage of the population wants to believe in the supernatural, and in a free country that's fine," he chuckled. "All that I ask is for the opportunity of rebuttal."

Hynek's death last year deprived UFO fans of their most respected and outspoken scientific ally. To recoup the loss, they're trying to assemble other supporters with impressive credentials.

One of them is Phillips, a biologist and former director of the National Aquarium in Washington, D.C. The Fund's board of directors includes astrophysicist Richard C. Henry of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, psychologist Richard Haines of NASA's Ames Research Center at Moffett Field, and Eugene Clark, a noted zoologist and shark expert at the University of Maryland.

"I think someone on Earth knows what these (UFOs) are but is keeping it under cover," Clark said. However, she "finds it hard to believe they're spaceships" and suggests they're a secret project by the United States or another nation.

A serious student of UFO "abductions" is psychologist Leo Sprinkle of the University of Wyoming, who has hypnotized numerous people in an effort to help them recall their "encounters" with extraterrestrials. He also studies reincarnation and suspects that he has had a variety of interesting past lives: "A black slave in Africa, a young woman in Peru who wanted to read, a Roman soldier, a charioteer, a swordsman, an Irish boxer, an Eastern monk. ..."

Even more extreme are UFO "contactees" — people who claim to have met and chatted pleasantly with UFO pilots, or even flown aboard the saucers to the planets. Contactees (unlike abductees) usually describe the aliens as being angelic beings, utterly perfect in body, thought and deed — like high-tech versions of old-fashioned angels.

Why are UFOs so popular? A possible reason is that in a secular age, the discs serve as "a sort of deity substitute," says psychologist Barry Singer, co-author of "Science and the Paranormal." People are less likely to believe in gods who'll save us from woe, so instead they turn to nuts-and-bolts "gods": flying saucer inhabitants who, they hope, are "coming to rescue us from personal troubles, social troubles, international troubles."

He added with a laugh: "I know how they feel. I get so discouraged sometimes about the way the world is going, I'd like a flying saucer to come down and fix it."



Witness' sketch of UFO pilot

appear in CSICOP's entertaining and well-written magazine, Skeptical Inquirer. The most prolific authors include Robert Sheaffer of San Jose and Klass.

Some of Skeptical Inquirer's most revealing articles have shed light on the psychological aspects of UFO sightings.

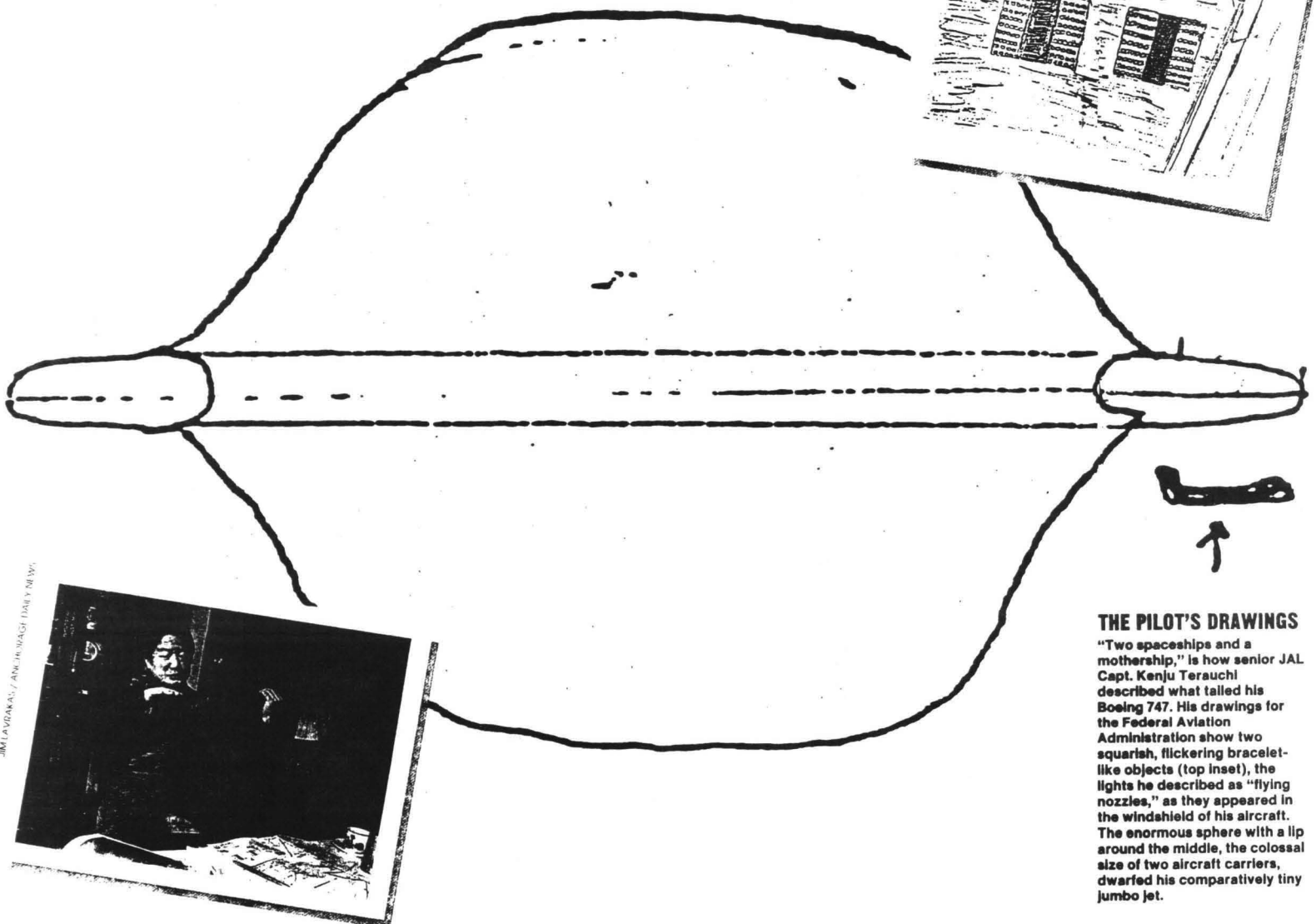
For example: One UFO sighting may beget many sightings or, as Jimmy Durante complained, "Everybody wants to get into the act." This was dramatically demonstrat-

'A certain percentage of the population wants to believe in the supernatural, and in a free country that's fine'

ed by English researchers who deliberately created fake UFOs by erecting bright lights on a distant hillside. Witnesses reported seeing the "UFOs," which made headlines locally. Then for many days afterwards, local residents reported increasingly colorful sightings of other UFOs that flew at high speeds,

THE UFO THAT CAN'T BE EXPLAINED

For nearly an hour, a huge, unrecognizable *something*, performing amazing maneuvers, followed JAL Flight No. 1628 over Alaska. Veteran pilots saw it. Three different radar scopes tracked it. And once it disappeared, it still wasn't gone . . .



THE PILOT'S DRAWINGS

"Two spaceships and a mothership," is how senior JAL Capt. Kenju Terauchi described what tailed his Boeing 747. His drawings for the Federal Aviation Administration show two squarish, flickering bracelet-like objects (top inset), the lights he described as "flying nozzles," as they appeared in the windshield of his aircraft. The enormous sphere with a lip around the middle, the colossal size of two aircraft carriers, dwarfed his comparatively tiny jumbo jet.



By
**MARGUERITE
DEL GIUDICE**

THE OTHER UFO MYSTERY out of Alaska happened some winters ago when the citizenry of Anchorage erupted with reports of wavering lights floating high in the night sky. The duty officers at the Federal Aviation Administration were going wild. The public affairs guy was up all night on the phone. The wavering lightballs were being reported *everywhere* — it was weird, and people were getting zooley.

Somebody called up the control tower at Anchorage International, and the tower said, Well, they look like balloons to us. So the reporters immediately went to the hot-air-balloon people and said, Have you been flying balloons?, and it just so happened that all the hot-air-balloon

people had just held a banquet and every single one of them was there, accounted for — so that blew that theory.

It was a nightmare, until some FAA employees with teenagers started coming up to the public affairs guy, Paul Steucke, saying things in the hallways like, "Uh, Paul, my kid tells me. . ."

It turns out that the teenagers had devised an inventive way to amuse themselves in the biting, dry, desperately uneventful Alaskan winter at 20 below. They would take those flimsy bags from the dry cleaners and fashion a contraption involving thin cardboard with a votive candle stuck to it and soda straws strung together in the shape of an X. If you light the candle and breathe into the bag, the thing will fill with light and float in a wavy glow all the way up to 5,000 feet. The teenagers would send up six of these over half a mile, confounding the adults with manufactured lightballs.

The news was a huge relief. Some bags finally turned up hanging off telephone wires — Paul Steucke took pictures — and that was the most captivating event to emerge from the vast Far North in many years.

Until news broke last Christmastime that would prove far more troublesome to explain:

A veteran Japan Air Lines pilot in a jumbo jet reported being shadowed for almost an hour by something that looked and behaved like nothing he had experi-

enced in his 29 years in the skies. His report began, *Two thousand years ago, if a hunter saw a TV, how did he describe it to other people? My experience was similar to this. . . . It created many questions that a human being cannot answer.*

His name was Capt. Kenju Terauchi. The crew was shaken but stable — and convinced they had seen something that could be neither ignored nor readily explained. But no harm had been done, and at first all the FAA appeared to have on its hands were highly credible people reporting highly incredible things — fas-

cinating, but inconclusive. The scant files on the matter dropped quietly to the bottom of the investigation heap, and the sighting seemed destined to go down as just one of those crazy Alaskan things.

Of course, that's not what happened. For Capt. Terauchi had unwittingly set in motion a sequence of events that would subject him to international attention — to excited curiosity and gawking and ridicule — and absorb the FAA in probably the biggest UFO controversy to be aired in the public domain since the Air Force got out of the UFO business in 1969.

Let's backtrack to that baffling Monday in November, around supertime in the northern skies of Alaska, where the sun disappears until the middle of March. . . .

JAPAN AIR LINES FLIGHT NO. 1628, a Boeing 747 — a "heavy" — left Iceland bound for Anchorage on the afternoon of Nov. 17, flying above 30,000 feet and under a nearly full moon. It was the middle leg of a Paris-to-Tokyo cargo delivery. A big load of Beaujolais wine had been picked up in Paris the day before, along with Capt. Kenju Terauchi, First Officer Takanori Tamefuji and Flight Engineer Yoshio Tsukuba — who rode with the wine to Iceland and spent the night at a new hotel where the beds were too small.

The next day, they took the fuel-efficient Great Circle Route over the pole. An unstable air current shook the plane for about two hours; otherwise, the flight was uneventful. But then they crossed the Canadian-Alaskan border and headed toward Fort Yukon.

Thirty-five thousand feet below, Carl Henley was placing them on his radar scope. The FAA's Anchorage Air Route

Traffic Control Center hummed with a calm intensity and glowed in radar green — the climate of an inner sanctum. Henley's a big, mustachioed fellow from Arkansas with wavy black hair and seven years' experience as a controller. This was his sixth day of work, an overtime shift. He directed 1628 to fly directly to Talkeetna, and it was at this point, as the plane turned left in response, that the crew headed dead into their curious close encounter.

At first, whatever it was looked to the crew just like a couple of lights, moving off in the distance. The lights could have been fighter jets or special aircraft on special missions. The crew ignored them.

But the lights didn't go away, so First Officer Tamefuji radioed to ground control to find out whether anybody else was up there with them. When Henley told him no, Tamefuji replied in halting-but-adequate English, "Ah, we in sight two traffic in front of us, one mile about." A little too close for comfort.

Henley wanted to know if it was military or civilian, but the crew couldn't tell. They did see what looked like navigational lights, strobe lights.

Henley: Roger, sir. Say the color of the strobe and beacon lights?

JAL: The color is white and yellow, I think.

Now that was odd. White and yellow, but no red, the international color for aircraft beacons.

THERE WERE THIN AND SPOTTY clouds near the mountain below the plane. The air current was steady, the sky was clear as a windshield, and Terauchi thought the flying conditions were quite pleasant.

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Then the two lights started maneuvering like two bear cubs playing with each other. Terauchi would write later. He had to try to take a picture of this — maybe someone else would know what it was.

Flight Engineer Tsukuba handed Terauchi his camera bag, and a comedy of errors began. Terauchi's Minolta Alpha 7000 was loaded with ASA 100 film, intended for outdoor daytime scenery on the ground, and here he was flying through the shadows of the sky, six miles up, in a darkened cockpit. It would never work.

He aimed. The autofocus lens whirled in and out, open and closed, like a dilating pupil — it wouldn't set a focus in the dark. He switched to manual focus, but the shutter wouldn't release. Then the plane started to shudder, and he couldn't hold the camera still.

I placed my camera back in the camera bag and concentrated on observing the lights.

The crew was fixated on these objects, not knowing what to think. Then the experience turned hairy — the things came at them, stopped in front of our face, shooting off lights. . . .

The inside of the cockpit shone brightly, like a small den with a big TV, and Terauchi felt warmth on his face. These things were big, at least the size of a DC-8. He thought he might be flying into the rear end of some aircraft, into a midair collision.

The ships appeared to hover in front of the jumbo jet, then flew in level flight at the same speed, slightly higher, 1,000 feet away — a stone's throw by the distance rule of the sky. Terauchi could see what looked like exhaust pipes, and rotating rows of amber and white lights in the middle of these flying nozzles.

Something about them reminded him of a charcoal fire.

No manmade machine could do what these objects were doing. Terauchi thought. Flying in tandem around a jumbo jet hurtling through space at 550 miles an hour? It made no sense.

For three to five minutes, the ships stayed in formation with the jumbo jet, then moved forward and off to the left. Honestly, we were simply breathtaken.

The fear of a midair collision had passed.

We probably would have felt more in danger and would have been prepared to escape if the spaceships were shaking unsteadily or were unable to stop themselves. But there was nothing unsteady about these airships — their maneuvers were flawless.

GROUND RADAR HADN'T registered anything near 1628, so nothing was likely to show up on the cockpit's weaker X-band weather scope. But the captain set the distance range to 20 miles — and to his surprise, something popped up. A large, green, round object, seven or eight miles away, in the direction of the thing outside his window.

Henley: Japan Air 1628. Do you still have visual contact with the traffic?

JAL: Affirmative. . . . we have radar contact. . . .

And then, so did Henley — a radar hit about five to eight miles from 1628.

He radioed Elmendorf Air Force Base, and the controller there reported picking up something, too — a weak return about eight miles ahead of 1628, at 10 o'clock. It lasted a minute, minute and a half. Radio interference, and an object seeming to register on three different radar scopes. What was this?

JAL: It's, ah, I think, ah, a very quite big, ah, plane.

Fort Yukon was diagonally below and to the right of 1628, and the setting sun painted the sky in a reddish stripe. The east side, the side where the objects were, was still pitch dark.

We had no fears so far but began to worry, since we had no idea for their purpose. . . .

Up ahead they could see lights from Eielson Air Force Base and Fairbanks.

The lights were extremely bright to eyes that were used to the dark. How bright it was! We were just above the bright city lights, and we checked . . . behind us. Alas! there was a silhouette of a gigantic spaceship. We must run away quickly!

JAL: Japan Air 1628. Ah, request descent . . . request three one zero.

Henley: Japan . . . 1628 heavy. Descend at pilot discretion. . . . Do you still have your traffic?

JAL: Still, ah, coming, ah, ah, right formation, in, ah, formation.

Henley: Japan Air 1628 heavy . . . deviations approved as necessary for traffic.

When we checked our rear, there was still the ship following us. . . . We had to get away from that object. A globular craft with a lip around the middle, the colossal size of two aircraft carriers laid end to end.

What could it possibly want — the Beaujolais?

Henley: Japan Air 1628 heavy. Sir, I'm going to request you to make a right turn, three six zero degrees, three-hundred-and-sixty-degree turn. And advise me what your traffic does then.

JAL: Right turn, three sixty.

We . . . set to turn right on a 30-degrees bank. We looked to our right forward but did not see any light.

It had disappeared.

We were relieved. . . . We returned to level flight. But when we checked to our rear, the object was still there — in exactly the same place.

On the ground, Carl Henley was glued to his radar scope. You're not supposed to have unknowns in air traffic control. There isn't much room for error, and the system relies on an unquestioned mutual trust between controller and pilot. A controller has feelings about an airplane, even though it's just a little slash on a scope. When he's talking to a pilot, he's inside the cockpit with him. This 747 was reporting unidentifiable aircraft, and Henley's job was to get him safely away. He and the other controllers assumed they were tracking a second aircraft. "I never thought of it as a UFO," he would say later.

VETERAN CONTROLLER SAM RICH returned from a lunch break and took over communications with the military so Henley could devote all his attention to 1628. Elmendorf radioed over that "on some other equipment here we have confirmed there is a flight, size of two," around 1628.

Rich: Is he following him?

Elmendorf: It looks like he is, yes.

Oh, God. . . .

Henley radioed the news to JAL and asked if the crew wanted the military to scramble on the traffic.

JAL: Negative, negative.

Uneasy as he was, the pilot didn't want to chance someone else getting hurt trying to help him and his crew. Even the F-15 with the newest technology had no guarantee of safety against the creature with an unknown degree of scientific technology. We flew toward Talkeetna. . . . The spaceship was still following us, not leaving us at all.

The FAA shift supervisor, Erland Stephens, a lean, older fellow with a graying reddish beard who is given to string ties and cowboy boots, thought a lost aircraft might be following 1628's lights into Anchorage.

"His radio and navigation might have quit," Stephens figured.

So he followed procedure and alerted the U.S. Customs office at Anchorage International, and somebody called Hank Elias — the transplanted Oklahoman who's in charge of the FAA's air traffic division in Alaska.

Elias couldn't know whether it was a system failure or a life-threatening situation. And the proximity of the Soviet Union was always a factor — it could be an exotic experimental craft, or a defecting jet. The U.S.S.R. is so close to the United States up there that two guys in eight months had illegally walked across the frozen Bering Strait from the Alaskan island of Little Diomed to the Soviet island of Big Diomed. The Soviet Union likes to send its Bear bombers into Alaskan air space, carrying electronic snooping devices and sometimes missiles, and the United States likes to send its latest F-15s to intercept and escort them off. They listen to each other's radio transmissions, obtain radar frequencies, try to determine the capabilities of each other's aircraft. Sometimes, a Soviet fighter will tuck in so tight behind the tail of a commercial airliner that the pilot never even knows. And if the Soviet jet shows up on radar, he'll register, sporadically, only as a little dot — looking just like "a split beacon," an accidental split image, of the airliner. Shadowing, it's called.

Over the phone, Elias grilled the fellow who called: What did the pilot do, say, see? Did the center have any flight plans on anybody this could be?

JAL: Do you still have the traffic?

Henley: Affirmative. Nine o'clock.

WHATEVER HAD SHOWED UP ON the military radar wasn't there anymore. And Henley wasn't seeing much, either. He had never really gotten a good track on whatever it was. United Airlines Flight No. 69 had just taken off from Anchorage; it was in the same air zone as 1628. Henley radioed the pilot to go take a look around 1628, and a Totem C-130 military flight with extra gas offered to fly over as well.

Up in the JAL cockpit, 1628 could make out the United airliner. The two planes flashed landing lights at each other, and the United pilot advised ground control that he could see 1628, set against a light background.

We were flying the east side of Mount McKinley. . . . We knew that they were

watching us. When the United plane came by our side, the spaceship disappeared suddenly, and there was nothing but the light of the moon.

Neither United nor the Totem C-130 saw a thing, other than the JAL jumbo jet.

Whatever it was had split — instantaneously, it seemed to the crew — toward the east, toward Canada.

THE STUNNED CREW of Flight No. 1628 landed about 6:25 p.m. on Runway 6R at Anchorage International, ending a 50-minute ordeal that was terrifying and fantastic. Henley immediately took a breather to clear the knots out of his gut. With "questions in my mind that I couldn't answer," he sat down to write his report, as the head of security for the FAA pulled up in his Lincoln Continental.

This would be Jim Derry, a steely, bulky, bearded man without hair, who was once an adviser with the Army's Special Forces in Vietnam. He, security agent Ron Mickle and James Wright from flight standards ran the crew around the block a couple of times on what they'd seen. "We weren't really sure what we had," Derry said later. "Was it a security situation, or a violation of air space? It was just a strange thing."

Derry judged the captain to be "a very stable, competent professional." He was sure he was concerned. "It's like driving down the highway on an empty road and all of a sudden four lights come up over your left windshield and follow you for an hour," said Derry. "It gets your attention."

The first officer and flight engineer hadn't had as clear or sustained a view as the captain. "But what they saw, they saw pretty much the same," Derry said. He made notes, judged the crew to be normal, professional, rational, no drug or alcohol involvement. . . .

It didn't seem to Derry that any further investigation would be warranted by security. "There was nothing there," he said, "to indicate that anything was insecure." If anybody decided to do anything, it would have to be the people at flight standards, or air traffic control.

Finished at the airport, Derry drove over to a hotel in Anchorage where a security guy from Washington was staying — Dave Smith, manager of the FAA's Investigations and Security Division, who was in town to talk about drug-monitoring programs. Derry had spent the day showing him around. He took Smith for coffee, told him all about the sighting, and the two men mused over the bewildering things that sometimes happen in the vast open terrain of the far Far North, in America's last frontier.

FOR WEEKS, NOTHING happened.

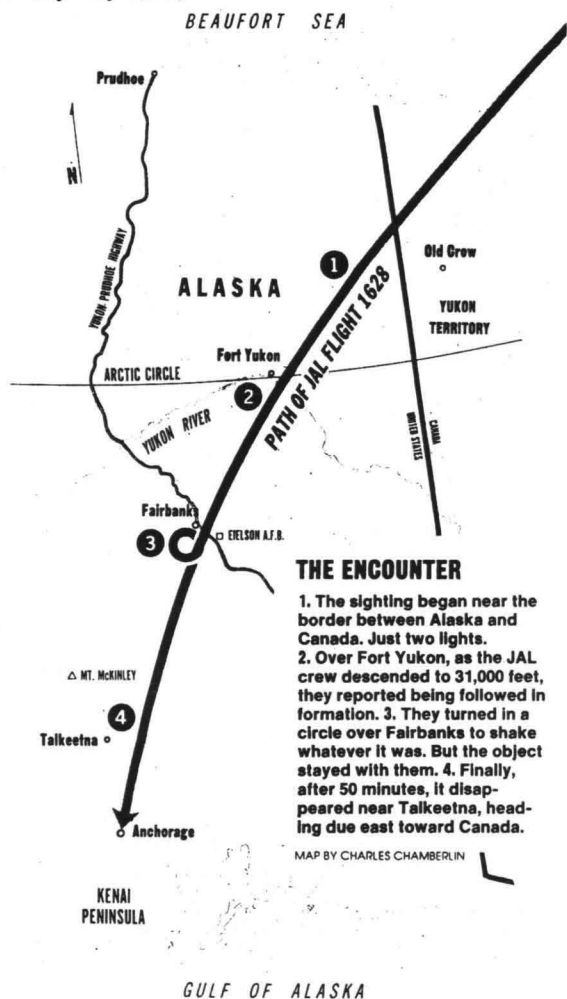
The FAA inspectors already had their hands full with far more pressing cases, crashes in which people had died, and the JAL sighting got banished to the bottom of the investigations pile. Out of sight, it was out of mind — until the day before Christmas, when Paul Steucke got a phone call from Shokichi Kibe, an Anchorage restaurateur and correspondent for the Kyodo News Service of Japan.

It seems that Capt. Terauchi's spell-binding report was the talk of the cockpit among Japanese pilots. The London bureau chief for KNS, Hiroshi Iguchi, had gotten wind of it from some Japanese fliers he was friendly with, and he had interviewed the captain at the Forum Hotel, a JAL haunt, when Terauchi flew through London in December. Soon KNS was dispatching Shokichi Kibe to confirm the story with Steucke. The forgotten JAL sighting was about to be raised from the dead.

"Somebody had picked up pretty good information," said Steucke, a lean, silver-haired career government employee, like his father before him, who drives a white Porsche and keeps a jar of M&M's on his organized desk. Kibe wanted to know if it was true.

Steucke looked back five weeks in his files and told him, "Yeah." It had completely slipped his mind. Kibe was welcome to come over — Steucke would give him whatever information was available. After all, this was Alaska. You ask a straight question up here, you tend to get a straight answer.

Steucke had no idea what he was about to get into after the holidays, even after Jeff Berliner of United Press International in Anchorage called, wanting to know about this JAL sighting that was making the papers in Tokyo. Steucke got the file out again. Berliner talked to Jim Derry, probed a little deeper and filed a



THE ENCOUNTER

1. The sighting began near the border between Alaska and Canada. Just two lights.
2. Over Fort Yukon, as the JAL crew descended to 31,000 feet, they reported being followed in formation. 3. They turned in a circle over Fairbanks to shake whatever it was. But the object stayed with them. 4. Finally, after 50 minutes, it disappeared near Talkeetna, heading due east toward Canada.

MAP BY CHARLES CHAMBERLIN

AS SEEN ON RADAR

The small diagonal slashes represent JAL Flight No. 1628 as it appeared on the FAA's radar scope. At first, the FAA said the tiny dots next to the slashes represented another object or objects. Then, after reviewing the radar tapes, the agency said the images looked like "split beacons" — accidental echoes of the jumbo jet itself, familiar radar quirks that just happened to coincide with the crew's visual reports.

story that night that was transmitted nationwide.

The next day reality set in. The phones rang and rang and rang. It reminded Steucke of the first big story he had handled three weeks after taking this job in 1983, when a Korean Air Lines Boeing DC-10 taking off on a foggy day had taxied down the wrong runway, in the wrong direction, and run over a Navajo twin-engine commuter flight with eight people on board. The office was inundated with inquiries, day and night, until Steucke could get the news out that no one had been killed.

But this story was far more idiosyncratic — and trickier to shake. Steucke was going to have as much trouble getting rid of it as the JAL crew had with whatever those tenacious lights were that had shadowed them.

Of course, most inquiries came from reporters. But Steucke just took that as a reliable reflection of genuine curiosity among average citizens — the reporters were only acting on their behalf, as scouts.

Before long, Steucke started hearing rumblings from afar that higher-ups in the FAA were uneasy about any association with unidentified flying objects. The agency's image might be tarnished.

Steucke had split for Alaska 12 years ago, to get away from the commutes and hassles of the East Coast, and word of the honchos' uneasiness made him yearn to go paint pictures — his avocation. He started to wonder where he was treading, how far he should go.

Like Capt. Terauchi, Steucke had entered the dangerous arena into which are cast all those who dare to publicly involve themselves with unidentified flying objects. UFO indicates just that, a flying object that is simply unidentified, regardless of speculation about its origin. But to many, the term has come to suggest the

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flying saucers of supermarket tabloids. Those who show interest risk being labeled as true-believers in visitors from outer space, intellectual flyweights, or just birdbrains with plenty of room upstairs to rent. To avoid ridicule, most serious researchers have retreated to the shadows and keep their mouths shut about what could be going on in the seemingly infinite universe.

Capt. Terauchi probably would have been wiser to do that; he could have spared himself the phone calls, the rubbernecking, the mockery. But by all accounts he is an honest and forthright man. By doing his duty, by reporting in good conscience something in the sky that wasn't supposed to be there, he brought public controversy upon himself and embarrassing scrutiny within a profession that is highly conscious of image.

The FAA, meanwhile, did not want to encourage public hysteria by cavalierly releasing information whose meaning it could not ascertain. It also did not want to cast aspersions on the crew — it had no reason to — or create the impression that it had anything to cover up, because it didn't. The FAA just didn't know.

It was a lose-lose situation.

THE AIR FORCE HAD spent 22 maddening years investigating UFO reports before closing down the last government watchdog, Project Blue Book — and the FAA had no interest in picking up where the retreating Air Force had left off. The UFO issue had lent itself too readily to fantasy and hoax; it was impossible to control. Its history had been protracted, complicated and attended to by myriad panels and projects that passed the hot potato around without settling anything — a scenario laid out in *The UFO Controversy in America*, a 1975 book by Temple University professor David Michael Jacobs.

Ground control: Do you still have the traffic? JAL: Affirmative. Nine o'clock.

Project Blue Book had been preceded by Project Sign, Project Grudge, Project Twinkle, with the high point of Air Force involvement occurring in 1952. There had been a tremendous number of UFO reports that year — including radar scope sightings, later deemed inaccurate, that led the Air Force to scramble jets to intercept UFOs above the nation's capital. So the CIA convened a panel of five distinguished nonmilitary scientists — the Robertson Panel — to examine whether the sightings threatened national security. After 12 hours of study over three days, the panel concluded that the real danger didn't seem to be the UFOs. The real danger was the UFO reports — seemingly more credible because of the Air Force's sustained interest — reports that could expose the public to "psychological warfare" and "skillful hostile propaganda" that might "induce hysterical behavior and harmful distrust of duly constituted authority." The Russians would surely get us.

Informed critics argued that the government was going about the investigation all wrong, that investigators were preoccupied with the potential threat to national security — this was the '50s, after all, the height of the Cold War — and not with serious scientific analyses of the thousands of cases from all over the world.

But no matter what the Air Force people did, certain UFO quarters routinely suspected them of orchestrating elaborate cover-ups.

The flying-saucer business was the biggest public-relations headache in Air Force history. Finally, the Condon Committee, an academic group convened in 1966 to come up with a nonmilitary read on the situation, said exactly what the Air Force wanted to hear — knowledge wouldn't be advanced by further study, and Project Blue Book should be put to sleep.

It was, in 1969, and the examination of UFOs passed into the hands of independent researchers and private organizations such as MUFON and CUFOs — the Mutual UFO Network based in Seguin, Texas, and the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Glenview, Ill. The vanguard of current research centers on increasing reports of abductions that involve traumatic medical examinations on members of different generations of the same families — hair-thin needles insert-

ed up the nose, plugs of skin taken from backs, arms, legs.

No — the FAA had no interest in arousing history's tendency to repeat itself. The government had learned its lesson well: The emotional, ungainly issues related to unidentified flying objects were in no way conducive to bureaucratic control.

SO NOW YOU SEE WHAT the captain and the FAA had gotten themselves into.

Dozens of times, day after day, the phone rang in Paul Steucke's office: NBC in New York, Radio Hawaii, Star Magazine, Canadian Broadcasting, The Sunday London Mirror, The French News Agency, The Washington office of TRUD, the Soviet National Daily Newspaper, National Public Radio, People magazine.

Public response was so great that the FAA decided to interview the JAL crew a second time and review the radar tapes. And Steucke started thinking strategy. What was the FAA's role and responsibility? What did it know?

The first officer and the flight engineer again corroborated the captain's dramatic report. But the FAA decided that the radar tapes did not — necessarily. The object on radar was now thought to be an accidental split image of the JAL 747, Steucke said, and not a separate object — a familiar radar quirk. The people at Elmendorf, meanwhile, emphasized that their radar signals hadn't lasted long enough to be confirmed, and they attributed the apparent hits to coincidental electronic clutter.

The calls kept coming. Steucke kept getting new bits of material, and the thread of the story kept wandering. He felt as if he were "blowing up a balloon" — each time he doled out a bit of information, the story got bigger. He was constantly looking for holes in the data and trying to stay ahead of the reporters — not always with success.

Hal Bernton, for one, of the Anchorage Daily News.

After the FAA explained its double radar signal as a "split beacon," Bernton tracked down controller Sam Rich, who told him that three controllers had seen a radar image of an object near 1628 that night, and "all three of us thought there was a track," or aircraft. (That would be Rich, Henley and John Aarnink, who had stepped in to help out.) The track may not have been very strong, Rich told Bernton, but none of the controllers at the time thought it might be a split image of the 747.

Steucke called Rich in for a chat. He made Rich aware of the awkward position he had put the other controllers in — speaking for them without their knowledge. And from then on, Rich referred interview requests to Steucke's office, where reporters were informed that Rich didn't want to talk. A message also went out over the FAA employees' "code-a-phones" at work, warning that reporters would hound them on this story and that FAA policy required them to go through public affairs.

Steucke worried that this mix-up made him look bad. One day he's saying only one controller had handled 1628, and now he finds out there were five, counting supervisors, and they seemed to be disputing the FAA's publicly stated position! What in the world was everybody going to think?

At least he wasn't handling an air crash. The subject matter was fascinating, and things kept happening. Early on Jan. 11, for instance, Capt. Terauchi again reported seeing unusual lights while flying over Alaska. Once he landed and learned the location of a reported temperature inversion, he provided an explanation: As he flew near Arctic Village, the town lights had gotten distorted by bouncing off ice crystals created when cold air got sandwiched between two layers of warm air. Not a rare phenomenon. But, initially, the information was presented as if the FAA had come up with the explanation. Terauchi complained to reporter Hal Bernton, aware that it made him look like a crackpot.

Hank Elias, the Alaska air-traffic manager, felt bad for the

captain. A pilot is always seeing things in the sky, he says, because that's where he's looking all the time. "You see things," he says, "and you rationalize." That's a star, that's another airplane, that's a navigational beacon. So the captain sees something, and it doesn't look like anything he's seen in 29 years of flying. Then, says Elias, he's "got to look at everything else real critical from now on... the poor guy's got to take a real hard look and say, 'Is that another one?'"

Inside the FAA offices, meanwhile, the attitude was, *I can't believe it. What is all this interest?* But the sighting also generated wonder: For all anyone knew, the United States or the Soviet Union was testing some advanced experimental craft — what better place? Or maybe there was a physical explanation, beyond our current awareness, as meteorites once were, and radioactivity, atomic fission, the anomalous motion of the perihelion of Mercury. And was it likely that in all the vast universe, only Earth would be singled out for life?

"We all carry with us the seed of the possibility that what Capt. Terauchi described could actually have been there," says Steucke. "The debunkers are trying to keep us honest. At the same time,

Every time the public affairs guy doled out information, the story ballooned.

the believers are trying to keep the possibility alive."

THE INQUIRIES KEPT COMING — mostly from the media and some from independent UFO investigators like Richard Haines, a compact, precise, polite California scientist in wire-rimmed bifocals who still pulls out chairs for women. When people called Steucke with scientific questions, or wanting to know about other pilot sightings, he sent them to Haines.

During the day, Haines works at NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View as chief of the Space Human Factors Office — they're helping design the interior of the space station as well as new space suits. At night and on weekends, at his own expense, he tries to keep track of and explain high-altitude sightings like Capt. Terauchi's — his hobby for 20 years.

He thinks pilots make good subjects: highly stable, highly trained, highly motivated, scientifically inclined, and unlikely to make casual reports of strange sightings, because of the potential to be embarrassed among their peers. Plus, an airplane comes with instruments that can record phenomena — "a flying laboratory," says Haines.

Over the years he has looked into 3,000 pilot-sightings and explained 2,500 of them as illusions or misidentifications of atmospheric phenomena. "But nonetheless," he says, "I have quite a few that are very unexplained, I would say 500." The Alaska sighting is one of them — but he says the only really unusual thing about it was the publicity. "People tend not to know about the others."

Like the dozen or so UFOs that six Brazilian jet fighters chased for half an hour last May after the objects registered on radar in Sao Paulo. Or the young Australian pilot Haines has just written a book about — who in 1978 reported a strange craft in his vicinity, then disappeared, while flying in a Cessna to buy some crayfish for a party.

Haines heard about the JAL sighting and proceeded to educate himself about the relevant radar systems and the dynamics of the Boeing 747. He got hold of wind aloft charts and weather photography. He worked the phones: Elmendorf, Steucke, Derry, JAL, the pilot and first officer of the United jet. And he interviewed Capt. Terauchi for three hours by telephone with the

help of a Japanese friend who is a pilot with a Ph.D. in engineering.

When Haines asked Terauchi how the two objects he first saw had moved in space, the captain said, "They move together as if they have a common center of gravity, and they oscillate slightly with a random wavering motion." The instant he flashed his landing lights at the United jet, whatever was following him disappeared.

"Whaddya mean, disappeared?" Haines asked. And Terauchi said:

"The lights went out."

IT WAS SOMETIME AFTER Haines spoke with the captain that Philip Klass, another noted independent UFO investigator, advanced a widely published theory that the captain had actually been looking at Jupiter, and maybe Mars.

It was late in January by then.

For many years, until his semi-retirement last June, Klass had been the senior avionics editor of *Aviation Week and Space Technology Magazine*. And for more than 20 years, his hobby has been to investigate "seemingly mysterious or famous UFO cases," he says.

"I have emerged — it sounds immodest, but I think it's true — as probably the leading skeptical UFO investigator in the country, if not the world," he says. "After 21 years, I have yet to find a case that I did not believe could be explained in prosaic or earthly terms. Because of this position, if there is an important new UFO case, I cannot afford to ignore it, if you will. It's sort of as if Sherlock Holmes were a real person living today, he couldn't afford to ignore Jimmy Hoffa's complete disappearance or other such seemingly mysterious crimes."

Klass didn't interview the pilot, because after hearing him on Larry King's late-night radio show, he says, "it was evident that he is not too skilled in English, and I don't speak Japanese." But his FAA contacts enabled him to "read and make extensive notes" of a transcript of the taped conversation between the cockpit and the ground. Then he approximated the southeasterly direction in which the captain and crew were looking, consulted "a professional astronomer," and worked out a theory:

Jupiter was extremely bright and visible in the direction of the reported UFO, and Mars was just below and to the right of Jupiter, which could explain the pilot's initial report of two lights.

"Jupiter was only 10 degrees above the horizon, making it appear to the pilot to be roughly at his own 35,000-foot altitude," Klass wrote in a report for the Buffalo-based Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, of which he is a founder.

HAINES COULDN'T buy the theory. It focused only on the very end of the 50-minute episode, and did not take the crew's entire experience into account.

"There's no way it could be a planet," he says. "The autopilot was flying the airplane in a straight line. Terauchi tells me that the object first appeared at 12 o'clock, then moved out rather quickly to 10 o'clock or 10:30 before it came back again."

That's not Jupiter, he says, because Jupiter doesn't move. "If the airplane is stable... and Jupiter is stable, it doesn't explain this business" of the objects moving back and forth. Besides, he says, the objects were way too big to be planets.

When the story about Klass' Jupiter theory came over the wires at the Anchorage Daily News, Hal Bernton called up Terauchi. The pilot was adamant — he had recognized Jupiter during the flight, and whatever had tailed him was no planet.

Klass laughed when told that the pilot had rejected his explanation: "This is par for the course. When a person is a dedicated UFO believer, as the pilot is and was, he'll always deny a prosaic explanation. You know, of course, that he's a UFO repeater."

Klass was referring to the captain's second interview with the

FAA. When asked if the Nov. 17 sighting was the captain's "first experience," the captain told of two other occasions. Once, from his home, he had observed bright lights for 10 minutes at what he judged to be 10,000 feet. And five years ago, on a cargo flight south of Formosa, "when we start climb we saw lefthand side big mother-ship." But he said it was too "weird," he wasn't feeling well, and he ignored it.

Asked to comment on these remarks, Steucke said, "The fact that he saw a couple of other things, I think, is outweighed by the balance of the fact that he's a captain for a large airline and has a great deal of responsibility."

AT A CERTAIN POINT, THE FAA decided not to release any more information until all the material had been gathered and scrutinized. While the lid was on, Elias, the air-traffic manager, handcarried the radar disc pack to Washington and picked up Harvey Saffer, the FAA's director of Air Traffic Evaluations and Analysis. Their mission was to take a final good look at the radar returns, with the help of the staff at the FAA Technical Center in Atlantic City. The computer there could regenerate the signals into a pattern by stringing them together like pearls.

They looked and looked and looked at it. They played the radio tapes, trying to re-create the actual scenario. Five times they looked at it.

"We came to the conclusion," says Elias, "that, uh, you know... we can't confirm nor deny. If the [crew] had never said anything, we would have said, 'We see that every day.'" It would have been passed off as a split beacon or "uncorrelated target."

This occurs when the signal coming off the skin of the airplane and the signal coming out of the airplane's transponder don't hit the ground at exactly the same moment. "It's just like an echo," says Elias. On the radar scope, it looks like a little dot next to the slash that represents the airplane. Elias noticed one odd thing: The dots jumped around in relation to the slash. It wasn't unheard of, but it wasn't usual either.

What may have caused the split beacon was not determined. But both Steucke and Elias agreed that the coincidence was extraordinary — a crew reporting something outside their window and on their cockpit radar, at the same time that both the military and the FAA were receiving intermittent radar signals in the plane's vicinity. Steucke passed off the synchronicity of events as "ironic."

Says Elias: "You can't be absolutely positive. That's an honest answer... The FAA is not saying it positively, absolutely, without a shadow of a doubt, is a split beacon... We neither confirm nor deny."

Elias returned to Alaska with his inconclusive results. "The Admiral," FAA administrator Donald Engen, an old jet pilot, wanted to be kept abreast of what was what, so Elias and the controller briefed him by phone. And someone on Harvey Saffer's staff briefed the presidential science adviser.

BY THIS TIME, ALL THE materials related to the Nov. 17 sighting were trickling into Paul Steucke's office from half a dozen different places, and he scheduled a news conference for March 5 in Anchorage.

He also drew up an extraordinary order form of materials related to the sighting — Terauchi's narrative report, for instance (\$1.10), or tapes of conversations between ground con-

The pilot was adamant — whatever had tailed him was no planet.

trol and the JAL (\$50), or
(continued on page 7)

(continued from page 6 - INQUIRER,
Philadelphia, PA - May 24, 1987)

inscrutable 8-by-10 glossy blow-ups of radar signals (\$10). The deluxe package cost \$194.30 — the ultimate inside look at this increasingly bizarre little incident. A story about it ran over the wires.

There were hundreds of requests for various parts of the package. More than a few wanted the whole thing. And everybody wanted it right away.

THE FULL AND FINAL news conference that was intended to kill this story once and for all was an anticlimactic event at which the FAA released two pounds of documents and no conclusions. It took place in a spacious room with an American flag in a corner, and unfathomable diagrams of air-planes and radar signals up on the white boards that lined the room.

Steucke was the only FAA person available to answer questions. He had called up the Air Force people, and "they told me three things to say": Their radar signal was clutter, there was no scramble, and there is no investigation. And none of the FAA's technical people would be there to answer questions, he said, because, "frankly, they're gun-shy as hell about it."

Besides, the FAA was not in the UFO business, would not be in the UFO business in the future, and did not intend to conduct a scientific investigation, he said. "We pursued this from what I would call an operational systems view. . . . We were out to determine if there was another aircraft there, which we were not able to do one way or the other."

He did mention a couple of other unusual, far less-dramatic pilot sightings above Alaska, but the bottom line on this one was that the safety of the air traffic control system had not been compromised — case closed.

EPILOGUE

RICHARD HAINES HAS moved on to other sightings by pilots. The Alaska sighting "will go down as a good case," he says. "Not the best. But a good solid case" for which "there is no logical explanation." But he's afraid the publicity it generated will discourage pilots from reporting unusual phenomena — if they realize that whatever they tell ground control could be turned over to the American public, for a fee.

Back in February he received a post card from Capt. Terauchi, who apologized for not answering Haines' follow-up letters. "Sorry for the delay," the captain wrote,

"but things are getting hot" — don't call me, I'll call you.

Erland Stephens, the shift supervisor in the control room the night of the sighting, has had some medical problems and is on sick leave. He says that if he had been in Capt. Terauchi's position, he would have kept his mouth shut, or told what he had to tell as a humorous story.

Carl Henley, who handled the JAL flight that night, wants you to know he's just an air traffic controller who likes his job. He'd like to talk to Capt. Terauchi one day — he feels they've been through something together — and find out whether there was anything he could have done for the pilot that he didn't do.

Paul Steucke and his wife went out to dinner to celebrate on the night of the final news conference. Life was good. Two galleries in Alaska were carrying his artwork, he was flirting with a third in Honolulu, and he was about to be named a federal employee of the year in a competition involving 30 U.S. agencies in the Anchorage area.

And Capt. Kenju Terauchi, the veteran pilot who did his duty and reported what he saw, has moved back to Tokyo after three years in Anchorage, where he had liked to fish for red and silver salmon. The easy speculation is that he decided to distance himself from an event that had caused him more harm than good. But JAL insists the move was a routine rotation. The captain left instructions with the airline to tell anyone who calls that he stands by his account — and does not wish to give it again. Anchorage Daily News reporter Hal Bernton was left with the impression that Terauchi felt he got hung out to dry. The pilot grew more reticent with each conversation; he seemed frustrated. But he remained convinced that Flight No. 1628 had indeed encountered something highly advanced technologically, and unlikely to have originated on Earth.

"I can't understand the technology," he told Bernton, "but it was not dangerous."

If there is a next time, Terauchi said, he might try blinking his wing lights four times, then twice more — "Hi" in Morse code. And perhaps one day, someone else will see what he saw, he said, and his controversial experience will take on new meaning.

"I think," said the captain, "we have to keep this record." □

MARGUERITE DEL GIUDICE is an Inquirer staff writer.

UFO site just uncle's antics

By Jim George
Staff Writer

David Olson's conscience got the best of him and, by his account, the mystery of Lake City's cornstomping UFO is a mystery no longer.

Olson has come forward after almost eight years to confess it was he — not extraterrestrials — who flattened two circles in his nephew's cornfield as part of an elaborate prank to fuel speculation that unidentified flying objects landed there.

He now says that what began as a practical joke on his nephew and friend, Curtis Olson, on a balmy September night in 1979 quickly ballooned out of proportion into a probe by authorities and a UFO center investigator.

"I thought my brother, Bruce, would ask me if I was responsible and I'd admit it," Olson said Monday. "But the first I heard of it was on television and then it was too late."

"It developed so fast and people were so intense about it, I thought I'd better shut up. I thought they might be so angry around there, they'd string me up."

David Olson, who admits to being a practical joker, said the idea of the prank came to him in the summer of 1979 at a family get-together on a brother's farm near Kasson.

The talk got around to flying saucers, he recalled, and his nephew seemed strongly convinced of their existence. "Chariots of the Gods" was popular at that time and the talk got around to speculating on the possibility of intelligent life elsewhere," Olson said.

His nephew farmed a few miles southwest of Lake City at the time and Olson decided to pay a visit to the cornfield in early September to set up a fake UFO landing. Olson's curving moustache and a glint in the eye lend a Mephistophelian aura that make him seem fully capable of such shenanigans.

"A good practical joke depends on patience and thoroughness," Olson said. "But I never realized it would be as much work as it was."

He said he drove his pickup truck from his home in Farmington to his nephew's cornfield about a half mile from the farm house about 11 p.m. on Sept. 7 or 8, and then lugged a posthole tamper and a butane torch into the field.

"I brought the tamper to simulate what would have been landing gear setting down and I spent a lot of time on that," Olson recalled. "I was disappointed when there was no mention of that in news reports."

He said he took special care to tamp in about seven areas to make the landing gear impressions appear symmetrical.

"I started stepping corn down and making progressively bigger circles," he recalled. "I used about two of the one-quart butane canisters to singe the corn on the ground and some of the standing corn surrounding the circle. That would have simulated a blast of energy."

The largest circle was about 50 feet in diameter, he said. He then repeated the process nearby to make another circle about 30 feet in diameter — "an escort ship."

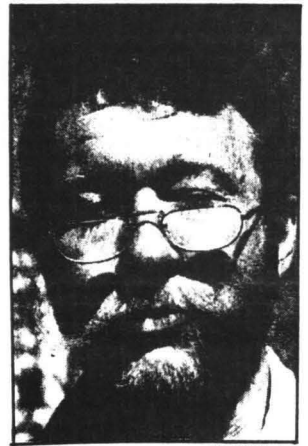
Olson said he tied gunnysacks over his shoes to avoid leaving foot prints, another item he couldn't find in news accounts. "I'm not sure all that effort was worth it," he said. "I got home just about the time the sun was coming up."

His nephew spotted the flattened corn on Sept. 16 while mowing hay in an adjacent field and an official investigation quickly followed. The Wabasha County sheriff, a county agriculture extension agent and an investigator for the Center for UFO Studies of Evanston, Ill., were among those who descended on the farm.

Olson said he kept his secret until last summer, when he told his prospective bride and the best man at his fall wedding.

"She's worried about the reaction among the family members and that officials might still want to do something to me," he said. "But I decided it was time to get it out in the open and put it behind me."

OUT FRONT UFO IDENTIFIED



Staff Photo

David Olson now admits that he spent all night flattening the corn in his nephew's field.

"Listen, I know he is capable of pranks," the nephew said. "But we had experts out there who said it couldn't have been a prank. They concluded that something came down with tremendous force. He could have been out there a week and not do what they found."

Curtis Olson said he initially thought a helicopter had landed in his field and reported it as such to the sheriff. He said he doesn't insist it was a UFO, but he maintains it wasn't his uncle.

David Olson, who now lives near Morristown, can understand the disbelief, but concludes: "There may be intelligent life out there in the universe, but I don't think it's going to manifest itself in somebody's cornfield."



Associated Press

Curtis Olson and his young son Steven survey the "landing site" in a cornfield in this 1979 photo.

NEWS, Lima, OH - Aug. 4, 1987

CR: J. Timmerman

UFO sighting reported

Most people do not know what exactly an unidentified flying object looks like. But they do seem to know immediately when they believe they have seen one.

One such sighting occurred Saturday near Delphos.

A report has been filed with John P. Timmerman, vice president of public relations for the Center for UFO Studies, claiming that a single witness sighted a UFO while he was driving near the east edge of Delphos. The witness, who wishes to remain anonymous, reported that he saw a long, cylindrical object flying at low altitude at approximately 1:55 p.m. Saturday.

The man said he was turning north toward Delphos on state Route 309 when he saw the object which he estimated to be one-half mile from him. He said he heard nothing, but observed this gray, featureless structure flying below the level of the St. Johns Church steeple.

The witness said he watched the object, which had no visible wings and a high tail structure, for about 10 seconds before it passed out of sight beyond a cornfield.

Anyone who might have seen the object and is able to identify it should contact Timmerman at P.O. Box 1621, Lima. He said all information will be kept confidential.

Outta this world: No one laughing about UFOs

By JOANNE WEINTRAUB
Journal Madison bureau

Belleville, Wis. — Naturally, there was a lot of UFO talk back in January after Glen Kazmar saw the strange hovering thing with the cluster of lights, but the talk had just begun to die down in March when suddenly Lavonne Freidig and Harvey Funseth saw the same thing, or possibly another thing, hanging up there in the sky for minutes before departing, leaving only what Freidig says looked for all the world like three giant smoke rings blown by some cosmic nicotine addict.

And that, of course, started the talk right back up again.

Americans from Maine to Maui routinely report sightings of unidentified flying objects, and their neighbors routinely snicker. But Belleville — which sits on the Dane-Green County line, has 1,300 citizens and is as pretty as its name — isn't snickering.

Its aircraft spotters, after all, are not excitable little kids, sly teenagers or well-known kooks. Funseth works for the State Department of Transportation. Freidig works for State Sen. Lloyd Kincaid (D-Crandon). Most convincingly of all, in a lot of people's minds, Kazmar is a local police officer of sterling repute.

As one Belleville resident puts it, "If it

were just the others — well, maybe not. But if Glen Kazmar says he saw something, he saw something."

Also, none of the accounts mentions little shriveled green beings, big luminous trapezoidal objects or that sort of thing. So you can just keep all those smart remarks about close encounters of the weird kind and "Belleville, phone home," to yourself.

What exactly did Kazmar, Freidig and Funseth — along with several others in Belleville and nearby towns — see in the sky on the nights of Jan. 15 and March 6?

Most people tell of a large, segmented object, variously described as cigar-shaped, fuselage-shaped or Chinese-kite-shaped. According to Funseth, a surveyor for the Department of Transportation, it hung close overhead, no more than a quarter of a mile in the air.

Kazmar saw red, white and blue lights. Funseth saw flames and a vapor trail. Freidig saw those Brobdignagian smoke rings.

All have been interviewed extensively by representatives of the Center for UFO Studies in Chicago. Since it was established in 1973, the center has received and investigated hundreds of thousands of reports of saucer sightings, object observations and the occasional alien abduction. They reportedly have cross-checked the Belleville accounts with those of airport officials, military personnel and others who regularly send things up into the air. So far, nobody has claimed any knowledge of the object or objects.

The UFO Center people have promised to return to Belleville June 5 with a full report on their study. Based on the buzz in town last week, there will be few empty seats at the meeting.

Main Street merchant Don Little thinks somebody — or, at the very least, something — was up there those two nights. Little, the proprietor of Frenchtown Spirits and Floral, is an amateur astronomer and a self-described realist. But he also thinks there are more things in heaven and Earth than even Steven Spielberg dreams of.

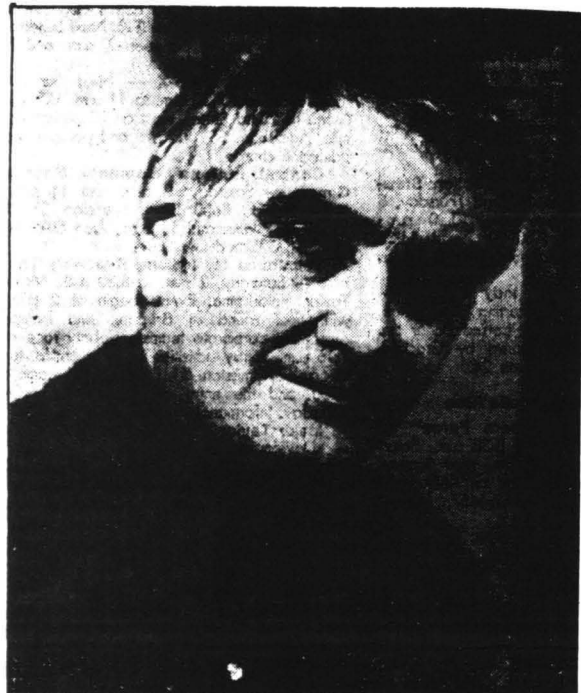
"When you think of the enormity of space," muses Little, "I really think it's egotistical of us to think we're the only things alive in the universe."

So maybe there really were extraterrestrials over Belleville, Little says. On the other hand, maybe it was just the feds.

"The government has been known to conceal things before," he observes. "There's a lot of people think this is experimentation."

That would be Mary Pilgrim's best guess. She thinks it was the US Army sneaking around up there without telling anyone. They're like that, she says.

Army, aliens or whatever, Pilgrim, a teacher's aide at Belleville Grade School, thinks the whole thing is kind of fun. The sightings are an active topic in the schoolyard, she says, with first-person reports of



Budd Hopkins

UFO grabs Hoosier — believe it or not

On June 30, 1983, in a wooded area east of Indianapolis, a craft from outer space landed and then abducted "Kathie Davis."

Kathie (not her real name) still lives in the city. She's a beautician. She doesn't want her real name used.

Was she really abducted? She thinks so, and so does author Budd Hopkins. The incident is the jumping off point for Hopkins' book, *Intruders*.

Whether or not readers believe the book is their own concern, Hopkins presents his evidence — all in the form of testimony from abductees, much of which is delivered under hypnosis — in a quasi-scientific style he feels will give the book a ring of authority. Unfortunately, what it does is give the book a ring of boredom. The personal narratives are compelling and interesting. But when the major points are repeated, then amplified, repeated, amplified again, and repeated a third time, the reading gets trying.

But to get back to Hopkins' thesis, he describes Kathie's encounters with UFOs and aliens. They started when she was a child and continued into her adulthood. This continued curiosity, Hopkins eventually asserts, has to do with genetic experimentation.

Hopkins doesn't argue the existence of UFOs. He takes it as a given. He also doesn't argue whether citizens have been abducted. But he goes a step further: It is his belief that many of these abductions have been part

Local phenomena

Title — *Intruders: The Incredible Visitation at Copley Woods*
Author — Budd Hopkins
Pages — 224
Price — \$17.95
Publisher — Random House

of an alien culture's attempt to conduct genetic experiments involving Earthling ova and sperm.

Kathie, Hopkins says, was artificially inseminated in 1977. Then, in March 1978, the developing fetus was surgically removed. Still later, the aliens returned with a human-like girl. Kathie says she knew instantly it was hers.

Hopkins offers a couple of other similar tales, although they aren't nearly as detailed as Kathie's. Some details, he writes, have been left out on purpose, awaiting independent confirmation.

The basic supposition of Hopkins' study is similar to an approach the literary detective Sherlock Holmes is said to have taken. Holmes says that when one eliminates all the probable explanations, whatever is left — no matter how improbable — must be the answer. Hopkins insists his interpretation of the evidence is this improbable-yet-true answer.

Whether the reader will agree remains to be seen.

By RICH GOTSHALL

Gotshall is a copy editor for *The Star*.

UFO topic merits better coverage

ABC's Nightline with Ted Koppel on June 24 dealt with UFO's for 20 minutes. But, as in the past, the public was left out on a limb.

If the media would get off Jim, Tammy and Donna's back about their sex lives and get on the back of the U.S. Congress about UFO's, the public would be better served.

The media has not covered UFO's on a wide enough or long enough time span. Accurate coverage has been lacking on the subject of UFO's. The media does not ask the right questions of the right people.

Case in point: Detroit, Oct. 24, 1966, the media asked the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek, U.S. Air force special investigator, what UFO's were. He replied "swamp gas." He was asked about the object in the UFO photograph taken by the late George Adamski. When asked if it was a flying saucer, he replied "It is a chicken feeder."

But, in a letter of April 20, 1966, to the late Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, the Air Force told Morse the same Adamski photo was analyzed by the Air Force. They determined it was a tobacco humidifier top and a baby bottle nipple attached to the top. So much for government credibility!

When compared to they should be, the UFO photos of George Adamski, Cal., Dec. 13, 1952, Rex Heflin, Cal., Feb., 1965, and Kurt Kreits, Lancaster, Pa., Feb. 1969, all showed strong resemblance to one another. I looked into this matter and I was given the runaround by the Air Force and the media.

A number of UFO investigators, who have long said Adamski was a con man and his UFO photos were fake, use hypnosis on people who have been involved with a UFO. These three men were never hypnotized.

Thirty-five years ago, Adamski made public his now famous photograph, followed over the years by others. I myself have been within 15 feet of a UFO that appeared to be identical with Adamski's UFO, labeled by U.S. Government agencies as false.

I say the UFO photographs mentioned are real and if they have absolute proof to the contrary, then prove it to the public. I also ask the media and the Congress to help clear up all the confusion about UFO's.

I doubt this letter will be read nationwide, but if it was about PTL or the sex life of a boilermaker, it would probably be placed in orbit for the whole world to read. I rest my case.

BILL CLENDENON
Biloxi

SUN HERALD, Biloxi, MS - July 6, 1987 CR: W. Clendenon



Lavonne Freidig

considerable floridness still heard from day to day.

Belleville has even been mentioned on national TV, she adds proudly.

"It's put us on the map, that's for sure," says Pilgrim, interviewed during recess as she deftly put an errant kickball back into play.

When she and her husband visited relatives in Arizona last month, everybody wanted to know about those "UFO things." The Pilgrims have had to buy half a dozen "Belleville UFO" buttons because people from other places keep begging to buy theirs.

The buttons used to be available downtown at Main Street Station Paraphernalia, but owner Robert Belle says he's sold out of the first run of 250. He may have to order more if the UFO guys from Chicago come back next week with something interesting. He also hopes the meeting will help move his remaining bumper stickers, which for some reason never took off quite the way the buttons did.

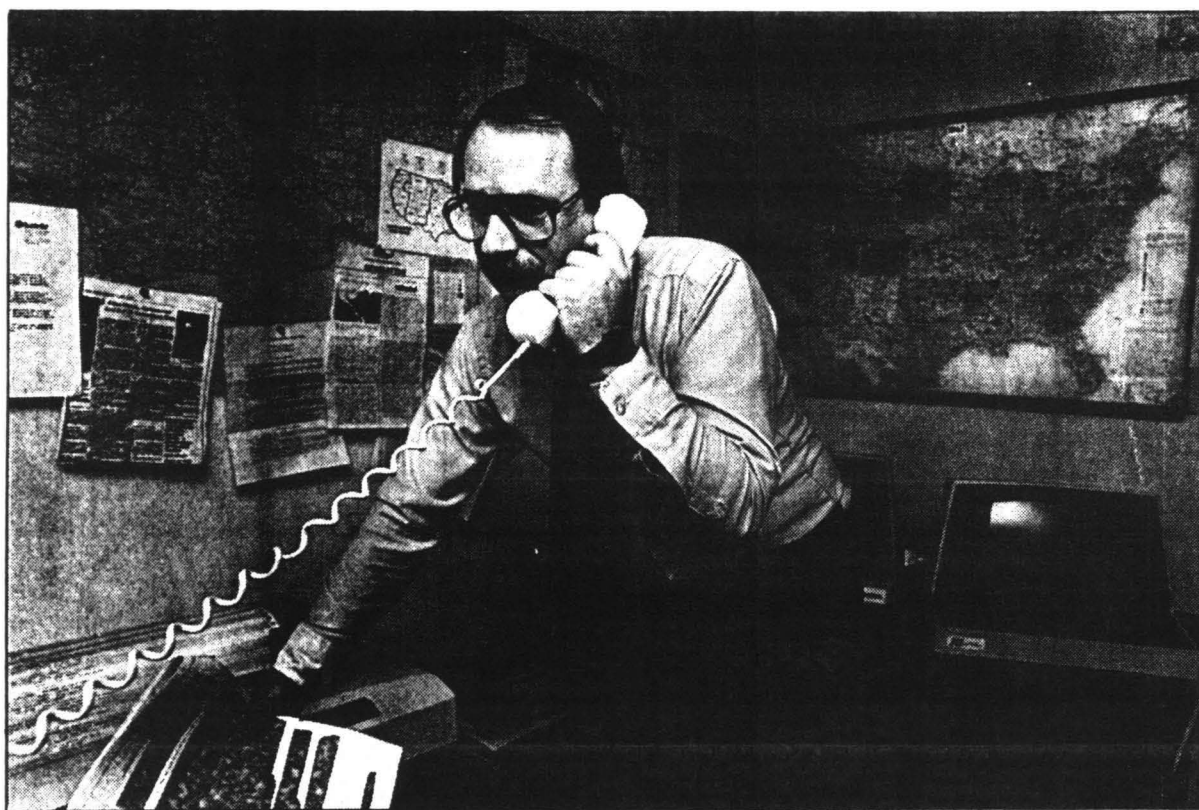
On the basis of items sold per capita, though, the sightings have been only slightly less marketable than, say, the Los Angeles Olympics.

The 50 official Belleville UFO T-shirts designed by Don Little — a striking flying-saucer motif in glowing pink on midnight black — are just about gone. Little may re-order, however. Lots of people are still asking about them.

Lavonne Freidig actually dropped some broad T-shirt hints to her family, but no one caught them.

"I thought I'd get one for Mother's Day," she says, "but I didn't."

Surely an official UFO sighter deserves her own official UFO T-shirt. Freidig supposes she'll have to go buy one herself.



Natalie Forbes / Seattle Times

Surrounded by maps that have UFO sightings marked by pins, Dale Goudie answers a call from a person reporting an appearance.

Skeptics don't sway UFO guru

60,000 sightings can't be wrong, Seattleite insists

by Peter Lewis
Times staff reporter

In their most commonly reported form, the aliens have large heads and stand 3½ to 4 feet tall. Their enormous eyes rest under a transparent helmet. Clad in jumpsuits adorned with insignias, the humanoids walk in sure, positive movements.

Far out?

Maybe so, but that's where they probably come from.

And Seattle resident Dale Goudie has talked to people who say they've seen them.

Goudie has spent the last 14 years researching UFOs and using the Freedom of Information Act to collect federal documents that he contends prove UFOs exist.

The official position of the U.S. Air Force, for example, is that it got out of the UFO business when Project Bluebook ended in 1969. But Goudie says the Bluebook was succeeded by Project Aquarius.

Since 1942, there have been an estimated 60,000 UFO sightings in the United States alone and only 5 percent of sightings are actually reported, Goudie says. Feeding characteristics of the 60,000 sightings into a computer, 250 different shapes emerged, suggesting to Goudie that there may be more than one species involved in UFOs.

"The bottom line is: Don't believe me, but do read what is available," says Goudie, who has dedicated a room in his home to countless files and papers on UFOs.

"The real problem is, no one wants to take the responsibility of telling the American public this (UFOs) is real."

Consider a series of once-classified material on Project Aquarius:

An Air Force document dated Nov. 17, 1980, from the Office of Special Investigations at Rolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C., to OSI at Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico refers to a "request for photo imagery interpretation."

Other papers indicate that the request stemmed from a series of "alleged sightings of unidentified aerial lights" over the Manzano Weapons Storage Area at Kirtland between Aug. 8 and Sept. 3, 1980.

An analysis of at least two pictures of the sightings concluded that the film was unaltered and that they were "legitimate negative(s) of (an) unidentified aerial object," according to the Nov. 17, 1980, document. Of the two confirmed sightings, one "contained a trilateral insignia on the lower portion of object . . ."

The document also states: "The official U.S. government policy and results of Project Aquarius is still classified top

secret with no dissemination outside official intelligence channels Because of a chance of public disclosure, no knowledgeable personnel with SPA (it's not clear if SPA stands for Special Project Aquarius, or something else) will be provided"

But another Air Force document dated Jan. 25, 1983, says "possible unauthorized release of classified material" cast doubt on the authenticity of the Nov. 17, 1980, document. The later document says the earlier one included nonexistent offices and officers, and several misspellings — and it sought to discredit the validity of the purported imagery interpretation.

When a Freedom of Information request letter dated Feb. 20, 1986, sought information on Project Aquarius, the National Security Agency responded, in part, with a letter dated March 3, 1986:

"Please be advised that Project Aquarius does not deal with unidentified aerial objects. We, therefore, have no information to provide you on the subject."

But when U.S. Sen. John Glenn wrote the National Security Agency on Jan. 7 of this year on behalf of a constituent who was having trouble getting responses to Freedom of Information requests about Project Aquarius, the reply letter, dated Jan. 27, said in part:

"Apparently there is or was an Air Force project by that

name which dealt with UFOs. Coincidentally, there is also an NSA project by that name. The NSA project does not deal with UFOs"

It is Goudie's contention that the responses about Project Aquarius demonstrate the government is saying one thing and doing another. He theorizes that the government is reluctant to admit the existence of even one UFO because as soon as it does, it fears opening the door to mass hysteria.

Spokesmen for the Pentagon, the Air Force and the National Security Agency either declined comment or denied that any government agency is actively investigating UFOs.

The Air Force quit studying UFOs in 1969 after a \$500,000 study conducted by the University of Colorado concluded that "UFO phenomena do not offer a fruitful field in which to look for major scientific discoveries," according to Capt. Jay DeFrank.

DeFrank noted that in 1977, President Carter asked the National Aeronautic and Space Administration to look into the possibility of resuming active investigation of UFOs.

This is the same man who in 1973, when he was governor of Georgia, said, "I don't laugh at people anymore when they say they have seen UFOs because I've seen one myself."

NASA spokesman Dave Garrett recalls that agency's response to the president: "We said, 'Thank you, but no thank you.' We have never been in the business."

Dennis Chadwick, chief spokesman for the National Security Agency at Fort George Meade in Maryland, an arm of the Pentagon, would not say whether NSA or any other government agency is actively investigating UFOs.

Goudie, a 45-year-old freelance ad man and former TV talk-show producer, is not deterred by the government's stance. Two years ago, he established a computerized UFO bulletin board — CUFON (for Computer UFO Network) — that has more than 1,400 members. It spits out information, free of charge, to anyone with a computer and a modem.

He also runs UFO Information Service International, a global network of UFO sightings, and Puget Sound Aerial Phenomena Research Inc.

None of these enterprises, he says, is a money-making operation.

Goudie says he and others like him have been helped in their many Freedom of Information requests by military personnel who want the public to know about UFOs, but who can't afford to be named.

Many of the documents he's obtained indicate that "suspicious unknown air activity" has occurred at top-security military installations where nuclear weapons are stored.

The documents relating to UFOs dropping in on Air Force bases have been published elsewhere — and professional skeptics such as Philip Klass, an editor with "Aviation Week & Space Technology," have written books debunking the authenticity of those and other sightings.

But Goudie notes the government itself has never volunteered any information, much less any explanations, about UFOs at military bases.

"You can explain anything away," says Goudie, referring to Klass and the other debunkers. "But these aren't solid answers."

Goudie also says he has consulted with "optical physicists" who have performed "video-negative photoanalysis" of videotapes of UFOs to substantiate that the objects are not of this earth.

Goudie also says he has interviewed about 40 people over the years who claim to have been abducted by UFOs. All occurred in rural areas, including some episodes outside Redmond, in Maple Valley and north of Seattle. He thinks about three-fourths of them are telling the truth.

In many cases, the victims have suffered physical scars that they didn't have before their encounter, Goudie says. "I've tried to get these people to come forward. They don't want anything to do with newspapers. They're scared to death of losing their jobs"

Considering the threat to national security and the risk to civilians, Goudie believes the government has an obligation to be more forthcoming.

You don't have to look to far-away places for physical evidence of UFOs, according to Goudie. He has a videotape of an object flying over Tacoma in 1982, enhanced by a process known as "video negative photo analysis" which allows the viewer to see vertical and horizontal lines within what Goudie calls "the plasma" that covers the true shape within. He expects the video to air on Sunday's "Town Meeting" on KOMO.

Television, specifically a Dick Cavett show that aired in 1973, started Goudie's preoccupation with UFOs. He's since appeared on CNN's Larry King Show and CBS-TV network news shows, among others.

He has spent countless hours and dollars pursuing UFOs.

His goal, he says, is to see the subject become an area of serious scientific inquiry.

"I'm doing it because I think people deserve the facts, and no one's taking the time to do it."

TRIBUNE, Mt. Pleasant, TX - June 9, 1987 CR: L. Whitehurst

Resident recalls sighting of an UFO

By DAVID CAMPBELL
Tribune Staff Writer

UFOs may not exist, but you will have a hard time convincing Roy L. Norman of Mount Pleasant.

In a recent interview, Norman recalled his sighting of a UFO in the mid 1970's.

"It was hot, mid-summer, I don't remember the exact year." He recalled the sighting was during the year a number of Titus County cattle, drained of blood, were found east of Mount Pleasant.

"I was returning home from work at Red River Depot and I had just turned onto E. Ninth Street." It must have been somewhere between

6:30 and 7 p.m., Norman believed. The sun had gone down, but it wasn't dark yet, just dusk dark.

"I had turned the radio on to hear the news, but all I could get was a beeping sound," Norman said, giving a demonstration.

"I tried a couple of other channels, but the sound was on all of them. At first I thought the kids must have tore it up."

Through the trees, Norman said, he saw the UFO slowly descending over the McKellar Ranch near a place called the railroad pool.

Norman, who viewed the UFO from a distance of about two or three miles, said, it had a flat base,

probably as big as the Titus County Courthouse and a raised dome.

A light came from underneath the craft, bathing the countryside in red. "The lower it descended the brighter it became."

Norman described a belt of smaller white lights, like lights from windows, which was visible above the base.

When he turned south toward E. Eighth Street, the beeping on the radio stopped. After arriving at his home, he was joined by several other people viewing the craft. He identified his wife, daughter, Rose, another of his eight daughters, and members of the Roney and Capps

families as spectators.

"The saucer stopped its descent about 100 feet above the ground and hovered there for several minutes."

"Suddenly, it took off. It seemed to rise straight up and to the east."

Norman said the craft was out of sight within a couple of minutes, but it left a trail of smoke which remained in the sky for several hours.

"I had never seen anything like it before or since," Norman said. "I told some people about it then, but they thought it was a joke."

He described his sighting as similar to a sighting reported on the channel three news Wednesday night.

Marion residents report seeing UFO

By BRYANNA LATOOF
Times Staff Writer

OCALA — Stephanie James was driving home over a winding blacktop road in rural Marion County about 11 p.m. Wednesday when a 10-year-old passenger in her car pointed fearfully to the sky.

It took James, a 24-year-old Citra woman, and two other passengers a few seconds to see what Rickey Monroe was trembling about.

Then they saw it.

Hovering at treetop level was a strange, brightly lighted aircraft.

"We thought it was lightning at first. But then we knew it wasn't. It was going real slow and came on top of the car," said Wanda Lasher, James' 21-year-old sister.

Lasher, James, Rickey and his 13-year-old brother, Jason, watched in awe for several minutes before speeding home to call authorities.

Lasher said the aircraft looked like "a large Volkswagen," with green and red lights forming a half-circle along what appeared to be the back of the object. Two wheels also protruded from the back.

Two lights were on the front of the vehicle, with one large white beam shining down from underneath, lighting up the car.

"It shot something out of the back. It looked like sparks," Lasher said.

Other Citra residents called the Marion County Sheriff's Department late Wednesday to report an unidentified flying object over their rural community, which is about 20 miles north of Ocala.

Rickey called the sheriff's department at 10:57 p.m., but a deputy wasn't dispatched until 11:43, after two more calls came in.

Deputy Jay Manifold arrived in Citra about 12:03 a.m. to find the aircraft still in the area. He reported seeing "an object hovering over the railroad tracks just above the treetops, going slowly," said sheriff's spokesman Sgt. Ken Ergle.

"(Manifold) couldn't tell the shape, but it was the size of a car with sparks coming from the rear.

The vehicle then took off at a high rate of speed and disappeared within two seconds," Ergle said.

Manifold, who could not be reached for comment Thursday, said in a written report that the object made no sound as it streaked northwest.

According to his report, Manifold did not see the object at first. Then he drove toward U.S. 301, and about 300 yards south of the Marion County line he "observed a flying craft," the report says.

Manifold wrote that he "was unable to identify the object, but did notice that it made no noise and did not have the shape of any aircraft" he had ever seen.

In response to the reports from residents, the sheriff's department contacted the U.S. Navy Air Station in Jacksonville, and utility and railroad officials, all of whom said "they had no equipment or aircraft in the area at the time of the sighting," said sheriff's Cpl. Otto Wettstein.

A spokesman for the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville said that training flights do take place both day and night around the Citra area, but he could not say whether there were any Wednesday night.

The aircraft probably was not a weather balloon from the Naval Oceanographic Command Detachment at Jacksonville, said Lt. j. g. Greg Beck.

Dick Lewis, manager of the Ocala Municipal Airport, said he was unaware of any unusual sightings in the area and there are no unusual aircraft headquartered at the airport.

Wettstein said he thinks the hovering object was a legitimate aircraft headed northwest to Payne's Prairie, a large, open area just south of Gainesville and the University of Florida. The university is about 20 miles northwest of where the sightings occurred. Payne's Prairie has an aircraft range transmitter that guides planes and helicopters.

Wettstein said the lights on the aircraft "are identical to those required of most aircraft in the country. This report in no way describes any extraterrestrial machine, which everyone has blown this up to be," he said.

Tell that to James, Lasher and the Monroe boys.

James, quick to emphasize that she does not smoke or take drugs, said what she saw in the sky was "definitely not an airplane or helicopter. It was close enough for us to tell that."

— Staff Writer Barbara Behrendt contributed to this report.

Downed-plane search

Meteor theory on flash of light

By James W. Siehl
The Tribune-Democrat

If not the flash of a downed aircraft, what was it that scared a group of campers in the mountains near Seward around 10 p.m. Sunday, touching off an extensive, but fruitless, search?

Stan Gordon of Greensburg, director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, said Tuesday he was assuming it might have been a meteor.

Adding support to the meteor theory are reports that no flight plans had been filed with the regional radar center in Cleveland nor with the Flight Service Station in Altoona that would have placed an airplane in the area in the time period. In addition, no overdue crafts or missing planes have been reported.

Uncertain about loud noise

Attempting to account for the loud noise heard by the campers, Mr. Gordon said he did not know whether it was motor noise or a type of wind velocity they were describing.

Mr. Gordon said that a sound similar to a sonic boom sometimes accompanies a bright meteor. He said it also will give the impression of an aircraft on fire or a plane going down in a crash.

"What bothers me, it is the only report," he said. "Normally, a bright meteor is seen over a large area. Normally, after really brilliant meteors, there are quite a few calls from other sources. At this point, we have not heard from anyone else who saw it."

Alan Jenkins of 195 Barron Ave., one of the campers, said he had been in the company of three others sitting around a fire in the Big Springs vicinity when a plane appeared to pass low right over their heads.

"I couldn't see anything right then," he recalled, "but I didn't make a 360-degree look around. I did glance from right to left the way I was sitting."

"After that, there was like a two-or three-second silence — and then a

real loud explosion and a flash of light."

Mr. Jenkins described the flash as "a real bright, brilliant white light." And, he said, "It wasn't that far away."

Closeness was frightening

The location is what made the experience so frightening.

"When I first heard the explosion, I actually thought they dropped a bomb — is what I thought," Mr. Jenkins said. "We just packed up there and got out of there. We were packed up within five minutes. Dumped all of the ice out of the freezer chest right on the fire. Threw everything in the truck and got out of there."

Mr. Jenkins said it took the group 45 minutes to an hour to clear the woods and report the incident to the authorities.

He said his recollection of the sound overhead seemed like a turbo jet engine — more engine roar than wind. He and his friends also considered that the loud noise and flash that followed may have been made by an aircraft breaking the sound barrier.

"We kicked that idea around, but I don't think so," Mr. Jenkins said, "because we would have heard the plane after that."

May 1 incident

According to Mr. Gordon, an unexplained incident took place at 12:15 a.m. May 1 between New Florence and Bolivar.

He said a very brilliant shaft of luminescent white light had been seen over the woods, extending to the treetops. The beam was described as approximately five feet wide and was raised and lowered six different times over a five-minute period, Mr. Gordon said. Strangely, the light did not penetrate the floor of the woods. It just lit up the tops of trees, Mr. Gordon said.

A high percentage of UFO-sighting reports have logical explanations, Mr. Gordon said. Some of them turn out to be misidentifications — lights on aircraft, meteors, bright stars and planets.

About New York

The Victims Of U.F.O.'s Try Therapy

By WILLIAM E. GEIST

Oh, sure, it's an enormous thrill and you do suddenly become the focus of attention at parties, but being abducted by aliens from outer space is not all it's cracked up to be.

Right off the bat, you are going to be late to wherever you were going, depending on how long those big-headed, bug-eyed extra-terrestrials keep you. And what's your excuse for being late? Try telling your friends about your exciting experience with flying saucers. Try keeping quiet about it. What if your boss hears about this?

It helps to go to group, the abductees say, meaning the group therapy meetings for those who have been abducted by aliens. They are run by Budd Hopkins, author of "Missing Time" and "Intruders," two books about contacts with aliens, which grew out of research by Mr. Hopkins, a 56-year-old artist.

"The abductees are veterans of a trauma," Mr. Hopkins said, noting that about 20 people show up for the meetings that are held every month or so. He described the experience as "a severe, nightmarish thing that none of them wanted to happen." He added, "Some are in awe, some are bitter, others are ashamed and questioning their own sanity."

Group therapy for New York's U.F.O. abductees would seem to be the latest outgrowth of a U.F.O.-mania. Several U.F.O. conventions are being held around the country, a U.F.O. book has been atop the best

seller list, there are charges of a U.F.O.-gate government cover-up and membership in U.F.O. groups is rising dramatically along with a rise in reported sightings and abductions.

One would think New Yorkers have enough to worry about without being snatched by aliens from sidewalks, parks and rooftops. The rapidly increasing number of abductees usually report that they are carried off by beams of light to spaceships, where they are given physical examinations by these funny-looking gray people. Some return with small patches of skin removed. They are often hazy on the details until put under hypnosis by Mr. Hopkins, who said he has investigated 145 abductions.

"Luckily we live in New York," said May Pang, who said she has twice sighted U.F.O.'s over midtown, once with John Lennon. "People see everything else here on a daily basis," she reasoned, so why wouldn't they believe she had witnessed flying dinnerware?

Her latest sighting was outside the Tavern on the Green restaurant last year, and the previous sighting with Mr. Lennon was in 1974 on the terrace of her 52d Street apartment overlooking the East River. "No one else saw it," she said. "It was an August Friday night, and everyone was in the Hamptons."

Ms. Pang, who wrote a book about her relationship with Mr. Lennon, thinks New Yorkers have gone beyond having a simple willingness to believe. "It's almost like a status symbol now in some circles," she said. "You say you've seen a U.F.O. and people say, 'oh, so have I.' It's very in right now."

Rosemary Osnato is a graphic artist who said she was abducted from the roof of her Bronx apartment building by gray people in a space ship. "When I say I was abducted, a lot of people envy me," she said. "Some of them treat me like a saint. I tell them it was horrible and frightening, and they don't want to hear it."

"But they still wish it had happened to them!" she said. "They think it is like a spiritual experience that would make their lives better or more meaningful. Fanatics want to form a church around my experience."

"They hate it," she said, "when I tell them I felt like a trapped animal. The aliens treated me with no respect at all."

"It's not fun," she said. "Many people are very leery of fruitcakes in New York. When they find out you think you were abducted by aliens, they treat you like a weirdo, like you wear unmatched outfits or something."

Helen Wheels, a stage name used by Helen Robbins, a rock group singer, said she and her brother were abducted when they were children from their front porch in Rockville Centre, L.I., by a huge space ship in broad daylight. She said she sighted another U.F.O. recently on the Long Island Expressway, at exit 44.

"The aliens keep taking me for medical tests," Ms. Wheels said. "I feel like a high school science project. Maybe I am, like a turtle we would tag."

"I had no interest at all in U.F.O.'s," said Ms. Osnato, sounding almost eerily down to earth, like so many of the others in the group, "except to laugh at those Enquirer headlines."

"We serve supper at the meetings," said Mr. Hopkins, "and there is a lot of social chatter. If you walked in you would think you were at any other New York cocktail party."

"We talk about our concerns," said Kris Florence, who worries that her story of five abductions will adversely affect her dancing career.

Constance Morgan, an aspiring actress whose agent is not altogether thrilled about her abduction story, said, "I mean, Shirley MacLaine was famous before she was nuts."

Time travelers

Editor: Re: Marion residents report seeing UFO, June 19.

I must respond to this article due to the fact that not only did area residents see the object, but an on-duty sheriff's deputy also saw it. Deputy Jay Manifold stated that the object made no noise and that eventually it disappeared within two seconds' time. The fact that the object made no noise further reinforces a theory that I have had for several years about these sightings.

I believe that many genuine UFO sightings that remain unexplained have nothing to do with extraterrestrials, but these objects are from right here on Earth. I believe that they are military "craft" from our future that are involved in historical research and have passed through some sort of dimensional interphase to our time. Anyone who does not believe in seeing into the past should just look at their surroundings: The sunlight we see at this moment occurred eight and one-half minutes ago. We see the stars at night as they were hundreds, even thousands of years ago. Who is to say that in our distant future mankind will not have the knowledge and technology to view the past?

I strongly feel that if travel into the past is eventually possible, it will only be in a visual sense. A "craft" will interphase into our dimension and be visible, but its tangible form will remain "on the other side" in its own time. We would be able to see the "craft," but we could not hear it nor make any physical contact with it. An analogy to the "craft" would be a person inside a house looking outside through a window.

Therefore, I have no doubt that those people in Citra saw a genuine UFO. With all of the numerous accounts over the past 20 years of UFO sightings ranging from Brooksville to Marion County, it makes me wonder what is so special about that portion of Florida to warrant such scrutiny by these objects.

John S. Longo, Largo

Unidentified flying objects:

Kirkland researcher tracks elusive evidence for national network

By Carol Fern
Staff Reporter

Donald Johnson's conversation is littered with terms like "multi-variate data analysis" that make it easy to believe he has just completed graduate work for a degree in research psychology.

Harder to believe is that he is also the Washington State Director of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

Johnson, who lives in a quiet, residential neighborhood near central Kirkland with his wife and two daughters, is eager to dispell the popular misconception that people who study the Unidentified Flying Object phenomenon are superstitious or deluded.

"Some data has been collected about people's attitudes toward UFO's," he said. "And what they've found is that people who are younger, higher income, higher education, are more likely to believe UFO's are real."

Johnson became interested in UFO's at the time of a "flap" or series of sightings, in 1966, while he was still in high school. He later went to the University of Colorado and worked with Dr. David Saunders, a psychologist who was part of a U.S. Air Force team that studied UFO sightings in the late 1960s.

Today, as state director of MUFON, Johnson helps collect information about sightings in Washington state, and corresponds with researchers in other states who are studying various aspects of the UFO



Quick Notes

As Washington State Director of the Mutual UFO Network, Kirkland Don Johnson has accumulated a wealth of information about UFO sightings in the Pacific Northwest and around

phenomenon. MUFON, a national network, includes about 1100 volunteers who investigate and record UFO sightings. Johnson occasionally holds training sessions to teach volunteer field in-

vestigators how to interview witnesses, or search for physical traces left by UFO's.

The first step is an interview of the witness. Standard questions include the size of the ob-

ject, its behavior, speed, and appearance, and any physical effects resulting from the encounter.

Next, investigators go to the scene of the sighting and look for physical evidence, such as

radiation, depressions in the earth, or changes in soil or plants.

The problem with the analysis of the data is that even if it is good data, it's sometimes patchy, depending on how good

COURIER REVIEW, Kirkland, WA - April 15, 1987 CR: MUFON

the field investigators are," commented Johnson. Graduate training as a psychologist has led Johnson to be wary of "eye-witness" testimony and the distortions that preconceived notions exercise on memory. Nonetheless, he believes that most people who report a UFO sighting really have seen something they, and often the scientific community, cannot explain.

"The reason I've stuck with it so long," he said, "is that when you talk to witnesses, (even though you do encounter your share of people who are having delusions), you come away with the impression that there really is something serious going on here."

In fact, according to Johnson, most people who see a UFO, far from seeking the limelight, are reluctant to report the sighting, because of the "ridiculous element."

Top priority for Johnson is to "convince the scientific establishment that something is going on that is worthy of their attention."

As a psychologist and statistical analyst, Johnson is curious about the social science aspects of UFO's: who sees them, where do they see them, at what times, and under what conditions.

"Even if this is an entirely psychological phenomenon, studying it would contribute greatly to our understanding of mass hallucination, etcetera," Johnson said.

But he does not believe that UFO's are simply the product

of overactive imaginations.

"I think this is, at least sometimes, a physical phenomenon," he said. "It does leave physical evidence."

For instance, many people who sight UFO's report that their automobile stalled or almost stalled when the UFO passed over.

Researchers of the effect believe that some kind of high intensity fluctuating magnetic field interferes with the cars' electrical systems, causing them to fail.

By studying records of such incidents, Johnson has found a statistical correlation between distance, duration, and size of the object, and the intensity of the effect on the automobile.

"For example," he said, "if the UFO came within 500 feet of the car, stayed for over 30 seconds, then the car would likely come to a complete stop."

To get these results, Johnson analyzed records based on the testimony of independent individuals who reported sightings all over the world, over a period of years.

Another interested researcher in Oregon has done a laboratory study showing the likely effects of the kind of magnetic pulse UFO investigators think causes the car failures, so that field investigators will be able to identify tell-tale signs of the effect, Johnson said.

But such studies are few and far between.

"The truth about science is that the research goes on where the money is," he said.

Johnson believes a comprehensive UFO research program would cost about \$6 million, and that the public would support federal government involvement in such a project.

A satellite surveillance system in underpopulated areas (where UFO's are usually sighted) would provide possible verification for individual sightings.

Physicists and engineers would be assigned to investigate the vehicle interference effect, and other physical evidence of UFO's.

Johnson also advocates a random survey of the general population, in order to solicit a representative sampling of reports and compensate for the "reluctance" factor in reporting.

Finally, Johnson envisions an archival center that would support statistical research to look for patterns in the data already collected.

Johnson, who calls himself a "skeptic," does not believe that there is any compelling evidence that UFO's are extraterrestrial in origin.

What they are, Johnson argues, is unexplained.

And that alone should provoke the scientific community to investigate, he said.

"When we solve this problem, it may be a quantum jump in our knowledge of the universe," he said. "Or it may not."

"But even if you acknowledge that the subject isn't necessarily compelling for astronomers, still social scientists should wonder, what are all these people reporting and why?"

UFOs 'buzzed' bases'

By GEOFFREY BARKER

and Reuter

WASHINGTON, Fri. — UFOs have been swooping over US military bases, according to government documents released by UFO researchers.

The visits caused concern in the Defence Department, the papers said. The documents were shown to the media on Thursday on the eve of a conference on UFOs at the American University.

Mr Dale Goudie, president of the Unidentified Flying Object Information Service, said the documents were released to



him under the Freedom of Information Act.

One US Air Force document from 1980 describe in detail the sighting of an "unidentified light in the air" by three guards at Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico.

Mr Goudie said the incident was one of many at

US military bases, but gave no further documentation.

Ufologists from around the world are attending the conference.

One delegate, Cynthia Hind, said she learned aliens had reached planet Earth from tribesmen in wildest eastern Zimbabwe, who said they had seen big balls of fire rolling across the ground and men in shiny suits had emerged.

Paul Norman, of Melbourne, an expatriate American, said he was convinced the disappearance of Australian pilot Fred Valentich over Bass Strait in October 1978 was the work of extra-terrestrials.

Los Angeles TV produc-

er Jaime Shandera provided a purportedly secret briefing prepared for President-elect Dwight Eisenhower in 1952, which claimed a UFO crashed in June 1947 in a remote part of New Mexico.

It said there was a "secret operation" to recover the wreckage "for scientific study".

Searchers found "four small beings had apparently ejected from the craft" before it exploded. The bodies, although "human-like" appeared quite different to homo sapiens.

New York artist Bud Hopkins, who has just written a book *The Intruders*, said he had interviewed many of the 140 people who claim to have been repeatedly abducted and examined, often painfully, by aliens.

All said their captors were small grey-complexioned people with big heads and cat-like eyes.

A German gentleman snorted. "Vot would you say if I came und told you I had seen a spaceman who looked like a box of breakfast cereal?"

Hopkins replied gently: "You would find me very open-minded."

So, apparently, did a lot of other people whose little grey men were rather nastier than a box of Weetles.

Book tells of one man's 50 years of experience with UFOs

By PAUL PINTARICH
of The Oregonian staff

It is not true that Gary Kinder acquired his shock of gray-white hair while observing one-armed Swiss farmer Eduard "Billy" Meier being "beamed up" into the belly of a Pleiadian saucer ship.

No, Kinder, 40, an attorney and free-lance writer, earned his gray the old-fashioned way — he inherited it. In fact, though he spent weeks with Meier, the subject of his book "Light Years: An Investigation into the Extraterrestrial Experiences of Eduard Meier" (Atlantic Monthly Press, \$18.95), he has never seen a Pleiadian, a "beamship," as he calls them, or any of the other phenomena Meier claims he has experienced frequently since a first encounter with extraterrestrials nearly 50 years ago.

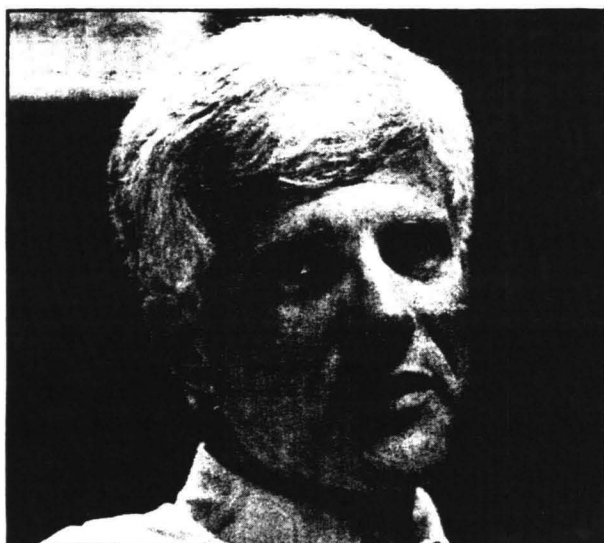
Kinder does believe, however, that "there's something out there. There's no question UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects) exist, the problem is in definition. A UFO is exactly that, 'unidentified.' Though someday we may discover they may be some kind of physical phenomenon."

The author is a native of Florida, a non-practicing attorney with a degree in journalism who began writing after moving to Sun Valley, Idaho, 15 years ago. His previous book is "Victim: The Other Side of Murder," a study of a brutal murder in Utah, and he came to Meier's story innocently, asked by his agent if he might like another writing project.

That was 3½ years ago, and Kinder says, "I tried to remember how I felt going in. I had no interest in UFOs, but I thought Meier's was a real interesting story. If it was a hoax, there was no clue. Everything was so sophisticated."

Meier, who lives near the small Swiss town of Hinwil, southeast of Zurich, claims to have begun communicating with the space visitors when he was 5, and began photographing their beamships — from inside and out — from about 1975. A gentle soul who lost an arm 20 years ago in a bus accident in Turkey, Meier has visited with the Pleiadians many times, he told Kinder, and communicates with them telepathically as part of an ongoing educational process.

The Pleiadians allegedly live in a perfectly peaceful society on a planet in the star cluster Pleiades, in



Author Gary Kinder had no interest in UFOs before writing the book "Light Years: An Investigation into the Extraterrestrial Experiences of Eduard Meier." His research for the book persuaded him that "there is no question" UFOs do indeed exist and have been seen.

the constellation Taurus, and are keeping a careful eye on us. According to Meier, who not only has been beamed up, but also has swooped through space with his tutors, there are millions of human cultures in this and other galaxies, all linked by what his Pleiadian tutors refer to, simply, as "creation."

Meier claims that war, once involving Pleiadians, has destroyed life on earth twice before, and says human stupidity will lead to another global war relatively soon. He has been advised by the Pleiadians that war will be eliminated when we have evolved to a satisfactory plane of sophistication.

The beamships, by the way, are relatively simple craft, though capable of tremendous speeds through a technology some of our scientists are, surprisingly, beginning to work on.

This is, of course, all great sci-fi, pulp and tabloid stuff — except (there is always an exception in these cases) that Meier has virtually thousands of photographs of beamships, a small particle of one of the ships, as well as tapes of their eerie and ethereal sounds.

"The things that sets Meier apart," Kinder says, "is the massive amount of evidence. This has been examined by good scientists at good laboratories. No one has ever found evidence of his tampering with the pictures or the sound, and he certainly hasn't made a lot of money off of this."

There are several color photographs of beamships in Kinder's book, and a landing site where tall grass has been scrunched into three tight circles. Kinder points out that, significantly, the grass has been bent rather than broken, and refused to bounce back over a long period of time.

He also refers to Meier photographs of a manned Soviet spacecraft — taken from outer space — and of Meier's most recent Pleiadian counselor, an attractive, multi-lingual woman named "Semjase," who Kinder describes as a "blonde, Nordic type."

Why weren't these more astonishing photographs included in the book?

"I don't know," Kinder explains. "The publisher picked those that are in there."

Kinder reminds readers, however, that "it is impossible to enter the field of 'ufology' without treading upon many footprints."

His research, aided by his law background, has been extensive, and he uses material from both private and highly reputable government sources. Kinder also quotes the primary investigators in the case, Lee and Brit Elders, private investigators who work for some of America's largest corporations, and retired Lt. Col. Wendelle Stevens of the U.S. Air Force, a meticulous investigator of UFOs for decades.

"As I got into this thing," Kinder says, "I found the same stories around the world. Everything fits — the descriptions of the ships, the contacts, the sounds ... everything."

I did find a lot of people who had seen them — though I never have — including a talk show host in San Francisco and a book reviewer in Sacramento, and many others. There are just too many sightings, too many people. These sightings seem to come in 11-year cycles, and each time they reappear, the scientists are left scratching their heads. They have been scratching their heads since the 1940s."

The irony, Kinder admits, is that people who want so desperately to see UFOs hardly ever see them. And why Meier? Why some fairly ordinary, one-armed man living in a remote village in Switzerland?

"Why this guy?" Kinder throws up his hands. "I don't know. I just know there's something out there."

NEWS, Indianapolis, IN - March 31, 1987



David Mannweiler

'Kathie' and the aliens

Did a flying saucer land on the night of June 30, 1983, in a wooded area on the Eastside of Indianapolis?

Was "Kathie Davis" immobilized and taken onboard for a "missing hour" while aliens surgically planted something in her ear?

Did aliens artificially inseminate Davis in 1977 and remove the fetus in another abduction in March of 1978, as part of on-going genetic study of the human species?

Budd Hopkins says all of that is true.

He also says Davis' story "will almost certainly strain your credulity to the breaking point."

He's got that right.

The multiple UFO abductions of Davis are the subject of "Intruders: The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods," Hopkins' new book from Random House.

Hopkins will be in town April 22 as part of a national book tour.

"There is no 'Copley Woods.' He made that up to protect the location of my parents' house," said Davis, a 28-year-old Indianapolis beautyician who doesn't want her real name used.

Is the book accurate?

"Yeah," she said.

Did the events described in the book happen to her?

"I don't know what happened, if it's all a big, scary nightmare or something. The mark in the yard is still pretty much there. That's definitely strange."

8-foot circle

Divorced, Davis and her two

sons were living with her parents when something seared an 8-foot circle and a 49-foot-long swath in the backyard grass on June 30, 1983.

Hopkins calls it a UFO's "landing trace."

"The outline is still there. It's like a wound that's still healing," Davis said.

It took three years before anything started to grow back, she said.

"The grass on the ring finally came back in purplish clumps. The strip is real visible. That grass withers in cycles and turns purple, too. That burns my father up. Boy, he loves his yard."

Hopkins first heard from Davis in September 1983 when she sent him 15 color photographs she had made of the backyard markings.

"At that time, I didn't have much money. My favorite form of entertainment was going to the Warren Library," Davis said.

That's where she found Hopkins' first book, "Missing Time," about seven UFO abductions.

Davis made three trips to New York to be hypnotized and questioned by Hopkins. He made four trips to Indianapolis to interview her, her family and her neighbors.

"I almost had a heart attack when he called the first time," Davis said.

"I don't know what I was hoping (by talking to Hopkins). That he could tell me I was all right and I wasn't crazy, maybe. That he could explain it, maybe."

"A lot of people laugh at this stuff. A lot of people think I'm crazy to say this happened," Davis said.

"If that's what they want to think, that's fine with me. People who care about me don't judge me just by this."

"I feel anything is possible. When it hits this close to home, it is a little bit different. I don't know what any of it means, or could mean."

"Maybe," she said, "I got a glimpse of whatever else is out there besides us."

CR: R. Swiatek

JOURNAL, Alexandria, VA - July 9, 1987 CR: L. Bryant

'To the moon!': What Gleason saw

Editor, The Journal:

Not too many of us realize the historic (and ironic) coincidence in the passing on June 24 of one of America's legendary entertainers.

When he was making history with his charm, wit and comic insight, Jackie Gleason also was making intellectual history, albeit behind the scenes.

He was known to have possessed an extensive library on the controversy about unidentified flying objects. He even subscribed for some UFO-oriented periodicals — including "Just Cause," the quarterly newsletter of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy.

But Gleason's ultimate place in history might evolve posthumously — from an event revealed several years ago by his second wife.

She chose to set down details of it in her unpublished memoirs, some of which she shared with a nationally circulated tabloid.

According to her account, Gleason had come home one night in 1973 visibly disturbed and eager to unburden himself. What he had seen earlier in the day, he told her, not only confirmed his position that the UFO problem merits serious attention; it also confirmed that our government has been concealing

the reality that some UFOs are somebody else's spacecraft.

Gleason, as his wife's story goes, had just returned from a visit to Homestead Air Force Base, Fla., where, as was prearranged by his friend former President Richard M. Nixon, he was treated to a tour of a secret repository of the recovered remains of several UFOs.

Armed with that sketchy account, I sent a freedom-of-information request to Homestead to gain access to all official records pertaining to the repository and to Gleason's visit. Word came back, of course, that there are no such records — and that the base historian has no record of any visit there by Gleason.

While waiting for a response to the FOIA request, I sent a draft affidavit to Gleason, asking that he execute it as part of the body of evidence being gathered in a forthcoming FOIA lawsuit to compel the government's release of all records about UFO crash retrievals.

Though I never heard from Gleason, I did learn that he had been approached by a third party in the film industry. At this confrontation, Gleason chose neither to confirm nor deny the story, saying that he'd prefer not to discuss it at all.

The way I see it, Gleason easily could have set the record straight in a reply to my proposal or in an explanation to the inquisitive film-industry representative. If the story

was a fabrication or misinterpretation on the part of his wife, he now had every opportunity to say so. That he chose not to merely deepens the mystery.

To resolve the issue from another angle, I sent one of my "UFO-coverup whistleblower" advertisements to the Homestead AFB base newspaper. The ad solicited the testimony/evidence of anyone who could shed more light on Gleason's story.

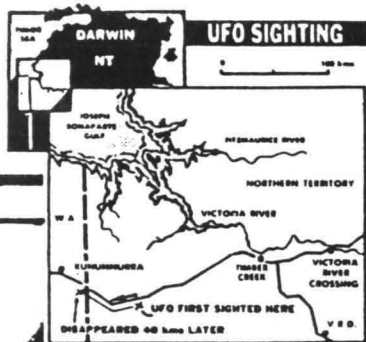
But Homestead's public affairs officer denounced the ad and prohibited its publication. That censorship figured in the recent lawsuit of Bryant vs. Weinberger, et al., which, on April 15, resulted in a consent judgment barring the military from further interfering with my ad submissions.

Because of that interference, the public has incurred a setback in resolving the Gleason story — for had he seen another published reference to the case, he might possibly have declared, "All right, enough! Here's the lowdown on what did, and did not, happen."

Gleason's death on June 24 denied him not just the chance to clarify his role in the Ultimate Secret — but also the chance to take part in the 40th anniversary of the modern era of unidentified flying objects.

LARRY W. BRYANT

Director
Washington, D.C., Office
Citizens Against UFO Secrecy



Bright object 'buzzed me'

Mysterious lights where boys disappeared



Article from the March 29 edition of the Sunday Territorian.

A 23-year-old Casuarina man has brushed aside fears of being labelled a "nut case" to give his account of the night he was followed by an unidentified flying object near Kununurra.

Damien Monck came forward with his account after newspaper reports last month that three men travelling from Lake Gregory station to Kununurra saw mysterious lights in the area where two teenagers disappeared in December.

Mr Monck said he saw a strange light about 90km from the area one month before this sighting.

He said he was with two passengers driving along the main Darwin to Broome highway and was 70km from Kununurra on a clear November night when a bright light followed his car. He said it travelled with the car for about 40km and appeared to be coming from a round object travelling at the same speed as his car but at least 4km away. It was first spotted by seven-year-old passenger James Newton, who pointed it out to his mother Karen. Mr Monck ignored Ms Newton's pleas to turn back and look for the

'There were about 20 cars there but after the lights buzzed us everyone got in their cars and drove off'

By ALISON WRIGHT

light after it disappeared over a hill 30km outside Kununurra.

But the experience changed Mr Monck's belief in UFOs... previously he was sceptical but this made him curious.

Shooting

Then just before Christmas last year he was duck shooting with about 40 Darwin people north east of Holmes Jungle when mysterious lights hovered over the shooting area. He said five lights travelled past the shooters one after the other, and the last turned and travelled towards Leanyer.

"There was a big gust of wind before each one went past and we thought the lights might

have been from jets but there was no noise," he said.

"There were about 20 cars out there but after the lights buzzed us everyone jumped in their cars and drove off."

Mr Monck said the UFO he saw at Kununurra was not the same as the one sighted in Darwin. He said the UFO near Kununurra was surrounded by other lights and had a tail like a comet. In the Darwin sighting the light was surrounded by about seven others.

Mr Monck's only experience with mysterious lights before these sightings was a visit to a Sydney exhibition of material gathered on UFOs.

"I just went there out of interest, not because I believed in UFOs. Now, two years later, I feel certain I have seen them," he said.



Darwin plant operator Damien Monck wonders what he really saw during his two encounters with unidentified flying objects

'Weird lights' where boys lost

PERTH: Weird lights and strange phenomena have surrounded the area where two young boys have gone missing near the Gibson Desert.

Two men have reported lights, which looked like a big bus or a convoy of trucks in an area where there were no roads, and which seemed to follow them near where teenagers Simon Amos, 17, and James Annetta, 16, went missing.

Their sightings have caused conjecture in nearby Kununurra about whether the boys stumbled on a clandestine drug running operation.

Speculation is also rife in relation to unidentified flying objects.

Either way, Kununurra businessman and contractor, Mr Monty Barr, and compatriot, Mr Wayne Trembath, are sure they saw lights of an extraordinary nature on a trip back from Lake Gregory station about four weeks ago.

Mr Barr has been reluctant to reveal his experience and the pictures he took because of scepticism, but finally agreed to make public what he knew or saw on the basis that people could "take it or leave it".

Four weeks ago he used his huge semi-trailer to deliver a transportable home into the Lake Gregory area for an Aboriginal mission.

Coming home, he and two colleagues saw some unusual lights which followed them for about 40 km.

Mr Barr was on the road from Lake Gregory station and Balgo Mission, towards Caranya Station and Sturt Creek station, where the two boys went missing.

Earlier this year, oil rig supervisor, Mr Doug Hodgekiss, reported strange lights, saucer shaped burns in the scrub and loud noises.

The area concerned in the reports from Mr Hodgekiss, Mr Barr and Mr Trembath, and the last known location of the two missing boys, are all in the same longitude.

Mr Barr, regarded in Kununurra as a level-headed businessman, was not keen to talk about his photographs or findings, but said he would tell what he saw on the basis that anybody who wanted to challenge or debate would not be accommodated.

Mr Trembath said that on the 80-km trip north from Lake Gregory, Mr Barr had said nothing, but believed the whole time the lights were following them.

When they stopped to have a meal the first thing Mr Barr did was to take a photograph which later showed a saucer-shaped object.

EVENING NEWS, London, England - July 21, 1987 CR: T. Good

BE PREPARED TO MEET THINE ALIENS!

STAINES & ASHFORD NEWS, England
July 30, 1987 CR: T. Good

UFO 'seen over town' - claim

A CHERTSEY secretary got a shock last week when she saw a bright light in the sky over Staines which she claims was a UFO.

Diane Cole was driving along Chertsey Lane last Tuesday evening at about 6.30 when she saw the unexplained object.

Mrs Cole said: "I was approaching the Causeway roundabout when I looked up in the sky and suddenly saw this light to the left of me. It was a really bright light, like the headlights of a car."

The "UFO" disappeared but reappeared

after she had gone past the roundabout.

Mrs Cole said: "It was coming towards me. It suddenly started spinning and took on a saucer shape. It disappeared after a few seconds."

Mrs Cole insisted it was not a plane. She said: "I was brought up near the planes and I know it wasn't a plane."

Egham police said that people often report UFO sightings in Englefield Green but not in Staines.

Perhaps Staines will be visited by beings from another planet in the near future. Watch out tonight for a hungry visitor!

VATICAN theologians have acknowledged that there could be life on other planets.

Now they plan to train missionaries capable of working in space and meeting aliens.

The strange and historic decision was taken after Vatican theologians decided that future developments would make the training of space missionaries of prime importance.

Jesuit scientists at the Vatican observatory in Frascati, near Rome, have reported moving lights and other unidentified phenomena in the sky.

Starting in September, the Vatican University will have a special UFO section.

Vatican theologian Father Pierre Thorel said that special courses concerning future missionaries in space and first contacts with alien races would be held by Austrian Professor

Evening News Reporter

Resch who was responsible for the new chair at the university's Alfonsian Academy.

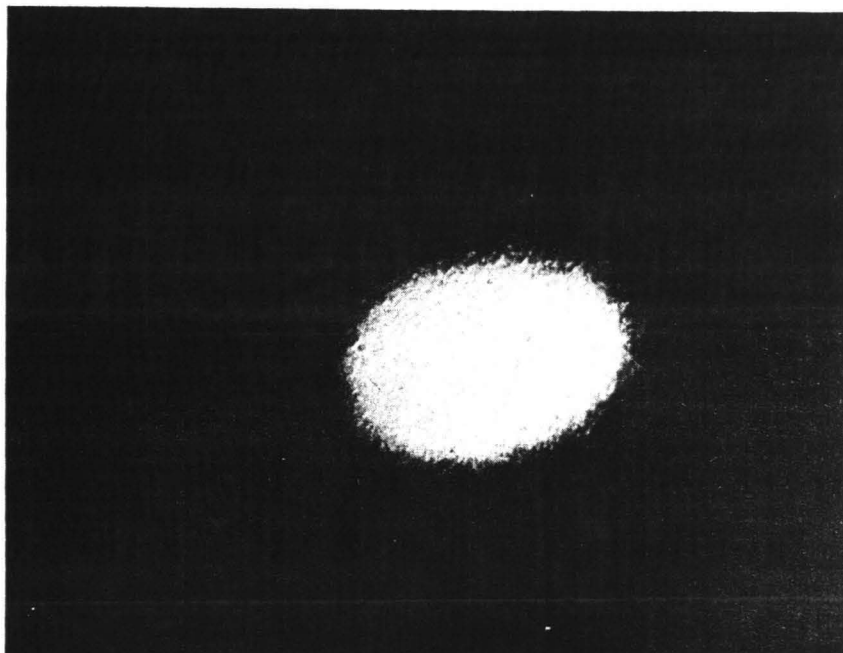
Fr. Thorel said: "I am surprised that there should be enthusiasm over missionaries in space or the Christianisation of alien races."

"Their existence is hardly certain. However, the main worry of the Church is to keep up with the times and this means we can neither ignore space exploration nor the possibility of meeting other living creatures."

Tefat över Dalarna?



Paul Hellbergs (th) kamera hade ett 800 mm objektiv när han tog bilderna natten den tredje maj. Kjell Östling bär det dyrbara och spännande materialet i vaskan. Det skall till Solna. Foto: Evert Larsson.



Den lysande inre kärnan syns på framkallat kort, men auran kring det och det svarta korset kommer fram bara på diablenderna och vita duken. Foto: Paul Hellberg.

WEST AUSTRALIAN, Perth, W.A., Australia
March 26, 1987

Puzzle of buried UFO

TWO Mt Magnet men are still bewildered by an unidentified object they have buried in the bush for fear of radiation poisoning.

Early this year Mr Brian Watts and his brother found a light, spongy, soccer-ball-shaped object near Leonora. It was encrusted with minerals and surrounded by a circle of mineral chunks.

Experts say it is unlikely that the object is a meteorite because it is too light.

The president of the Astronautical Society of W.A. Mr Geoff Davies, said that it would have become extremely hot coming through the earth's atmosphere and anything of a spongy material would probably have burned up.

However, he said there was a chance that the object was a tank from a satellite, designed to hold pressurised gas.

The two men will take the object to Mt Magnet next week for investigation.

YORKSHIRE EVENING PRESS, York, England - June 2, 1987 CR: T. Good

Yorkshire tops for UFO sightings

YORKSHIRE is top of the table for the number of unidentified flying objects sightings according to a meeting of the Yorkshire UFO Society over the weekend.

The meeting in Leeds heard there have been 75 sightings in the county in the last year compared with only 13 con-

firmed reports throughout the country.

But top UFO authority, Mr Timothy Good, was unable to explain why Yorkshire is popular with UFOs. He believes there are more incidents which have not been reported because people are afraid no-one will believe them.

Mr Mark Birdsall, press liaison officer for the society, said

the group was enthusiastic about its recent successes in attracting the interest of scientists and the credulity of the public.

Unconvinced

But Professor Michael Woolson, president of the York Astronomical Society, is not convinced of the figures.

"One needs very, very much

stronger evidence before one accepts such views," he said. "You won't find many scientists who would go out on a limb on this subject."

He was careful, however, not to exclude the possibility of UFOs saying: "There do seem to be well authenticated accounts by people whom one would not imagine to be prone to the imagination, who report things one cannot explain."

New light on those close encounters

Teacher in UFO appeal

AN Adelaide school-teacher claims he was wrongfully sacked for discussing UFOs with his students.

Mr John Connaughton, formerly an English teacher at Smithfield Plains High School, yesterday appealed against his dismissal to the Teachers' Tribunal Board.

Outside the hearing Mr Connaughton admitted having had an interest in UFOs for more than a decade.

He showed a memo he claimed had been sent by school principal Mr Jim Devitt, listing reasons for his dismissal. The memo stated Mr Connaughton's behavior had been "bizarre".

He was alleged to have told staff and students that he had been in contact with beings from outer space and that his life was threatened by a secret police force.

Mr Connaughton, who was sacked a month after he started the job, claimed his investigations into UFOs had been used as an excuse to get rid of him.

EX-PRESIDENT Jimmy Carter has seen one. Astronauts have allegedly encountered them on the Moon. And Winston Churchill asked: "What does all this stuff about flying saucers amount to... what is the truth?"

Forty years after the term flying saucer was first coined, Churchill's question has still not been answered.

Are all those unexplained sightings — not just by ordinary people but trained observers such as pilots, air traffic control officials and the military — really escaped weather balloons, meteors, freak atmospheric conditions or artificial satellites? And even if 90 pc can be explained away, what about the rest?

In a new book, *Above Top Secret*, flying saucer researcher Timothy Good makes the sensational claim that astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin saw UFOs on the Moon during the 1969 Apollo 11 mission.

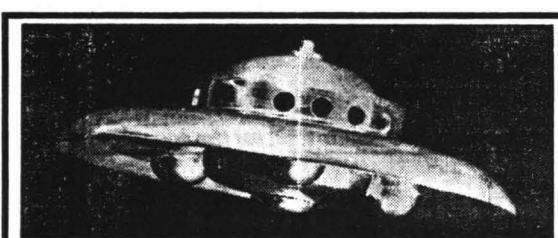
Millions around the world heard a tantalising reference to a light in a crater during the live transmission but Good claims that what followed was censored and diverted to another radio channel, to be picked up by radio "hams."

Mission Control: What's there? Mission Control calling Apollo 11.

Apollo 11: Those babies are huge, sir... enormous... Oh, God, you wouldn't believe it! I'm telling you there are other spacecraft out there... lined up on the far side of the crater edge... they're on the Moon watching us.

Good claims (this word has to be used a lot about his book because much of the evidence is hearsay) that Maurice Chatelain, former boss of the NASA communications system, confirmed in 1979 "the encounter was common knowledge in NASA but nobody has talked about it until now."

Corroboration has come from Soviet sources and, subsequently, from Armstrong, who is said to have



DO you believe in flying saucers or do you put little green men on the same level as the Loch Ness Monster? MARTIN DAWES has been reading a new book that raises some intriguing questions.

remarked in a private conversation that the Moon exploration programme was ended because "we were warned off."

Good says in his 590-page book, given credibility by a foreword written by Lord Hill-Norton, Chief of Defence Staff from 1971-73, that the Russian Voskhod I and II flights were cut short in 1964 and 1965 after being "buzzed."

There have, apparently, been other instances. After the US Juno 2 rocket was allegedly deflected from orbit Dr Werner von Braun, "father" of the American space programme, is quoted as saying: "We find ourselves faced by powers which are far stronger than we have hitherto assumed and whose base is at present unknown to us. We are now engaged in entering into closer contact with these powers."

If all this sounds like science fiction the author goes on to claim that a number of flying saucers have been recovered after crash landings in the US and they and their occupants taken away for examination.

These claims have been made in previous UFO books (indeed, much of Good's material is a re-hash of what has appeared in print before), but he reproduces in his book what he says are seven

pages of an "eyes only" briefing paper prepared for President-elect Eisenhower in 1952, referring to a crashed saucer in New Mexico in 1947.

It reports that four dead human-like beings were recovered nearby, apparently having ejected before the crash. From the report, it appears that investigators were puzzled as to what was the form of propulsion.

There is, or has been, a top secret investigation into UFOs called Majestic-12, so what happened when President Jimmy Carter promised in 1976 to "make every piece of information this country has about UFO sightings available to the public and the scientists?"

Carter had seen a UFO seven years before. Good suggests Carter was thwarted, for nothing came of his pledge.

While there have been a number of well-documented hoaxes (Mosborough schoolboy Alex Birch and friends invented a flying saucer and faked pictures to prove it in 1962, fooling the experts for ten years before they owned up) which only serve to reinforce public scepticism, many sightings from all parts of the world share the same puzzling characteristics.

While the shape varies, the self-explanatory saucer or cigar is the most common, and eye witnesses talk of electro-magnetic interference such as stalling engines, fantastic acceleration or deceleration, right-angled turns and other manoeuvres impossible for man-made craft (or physical phenomena such as meteorites) to perform.

They are also frequently seen on radar screens, devices not known to have hysterical delusions. While UFOs are believed by some to have been seen throughout man's history — there are Biblical references to fiery chariots which intrigue — modern sightings date from just before World War Two.

The word flying saucer was first coined in 1947 by an American. It was so apt that it has stuck, even though all sightings are not saucer-shaped.

One of the most amazing sightings in Britain occurred in December 1980 when strange lights were seen in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk, on the perimeter of RAF Woodbridge, in reality a USAF base.

According to Good, they were investigated by American and British personnel, some of whom saw a triangular object on legs and had the impression it was occupied by robot-like creatures. Pictures and film were taken (which, as in so many of these cases, have disappeared) and a tape made of the search.

Good believes there has been a global cover-up by leading nations to prevent the undoubted shock and the moral and social collapse that would follow proof we are not alone in the universe.

Or perhaps the reaction would be rather different. When people in Detroit were asked how they would react to visitors from space one man said: "I'd teach them to stay on their own planet. We've got enough people on welfare without supporting a bunch of Martians."

*Above Top Secret is published by Sidgwick & Jackson at £14.95.

Take me to your reader

Whitley Strieber has turned his uncomfortable close encounter into a best seller. He told YVONNE ROBERTS what it means to mankind

AT FIRST glance, Mr Whitley Strieber of New York looks remarkably familiar. Dressed in tweedy casuals and brogues, the slanted eyes and light lemon complexion nag at the mind. A quick look at the cover of Mr Strieber's best seller, *Communion - Encounters With The Unknown*, and you realise he looks exactly like the chief female "unknown", painted in ochre on the jacket. Is this narcissism on a scale which is literally out of this world?

Mr Strieber replies mildly that, yes, others have noticed the similarities. The "woman" he met on December 26, 1985, had no hair, leather-like skin and black holes where her pupils should have been, but there is a certain Strieberism to the cheek bones and the tilt of her eyes.

And Whitley, the original terrestrial toy-boy, admits to a certain affection for this older "woman" - even though she and a hundreds of other little creatures, kidnapped him from his bed, whisked him away to perform all manner of terrible experiments on his body and left him, in the short term, terrorised and mentally tortured. And in the long term, very, very rich.

Sincerity is his biggest asset

Communion was published in the States in February. Mr Strieber had already received a million dollar advance and it is selling there by the thousands; it is published here tomorrow. Of course, others have been kidnapped by unknowns before - but Mr Strieber is the first intellectual. Or Intellectual, as he might prefer it. Had it affected his friends? Do they expect him to turn mauve at dinner parties?

"No," says Mr Strieber a touch flatly. "Lots of people have had experiences. And once you begin to talk about it, you realise how - by chance or whatever - these people tend to cluster together."

In the artificial light of a London hotel room, Mr Strieber, 41, who also looks remarkably like John Denver after a particularly tough night, is low key to the point of impassivity. If the "unknowns" have selected him to be one of the Chosen Few, then they are obviously not opting for Earthlings Who Like A Good Time.

Sincerity is Mr Strieber's best asset - that and what he terms his Credibility. Unlike the stereotype of many who have seen an Unidentified Flying Object - never mind boarded one - Mr Strieber did not need the notoriety. In the States, he says, he was Already Famous.

Two books he has co-authored, *Warday* (about world peace) and *Nature's End* (the environment), have been well received and entered the New York Times best seller list. Indeed his publisher was so concerned about Mr Strieber's reputation he refused to publish *Communion*.

"It was important for me to go ahead," Mr Strieber says. "People in the media knew me, they knew I wouldn't do anything fraudulent." Subsequently, a phalanx of doctors have judged him not to be nuts; lie detector tests have said he is speaking the truth and his saga, under hypnosis, remains consistent. The story goes, in part, like this.

On December 26 1985, Whitley, his wife Anne and their small son, were asleep in their log cabin near New York. He woke to the sound of swirling in the house, "as if a large group of people were rushing around the liv-

ing room". Two groups of "unknowns" appeared by his bed. One group were shorter and dressed in blue or grey overalls; the other were slender and taller.

They took him away to perform experiments on him, which included inserting a small thin needle into his brain (the pin prick was visible to Anne the next morning) and they placed "an enormous and extremely ugly object, grey and scaly with a sort of network of wires on the end" into his rectum.

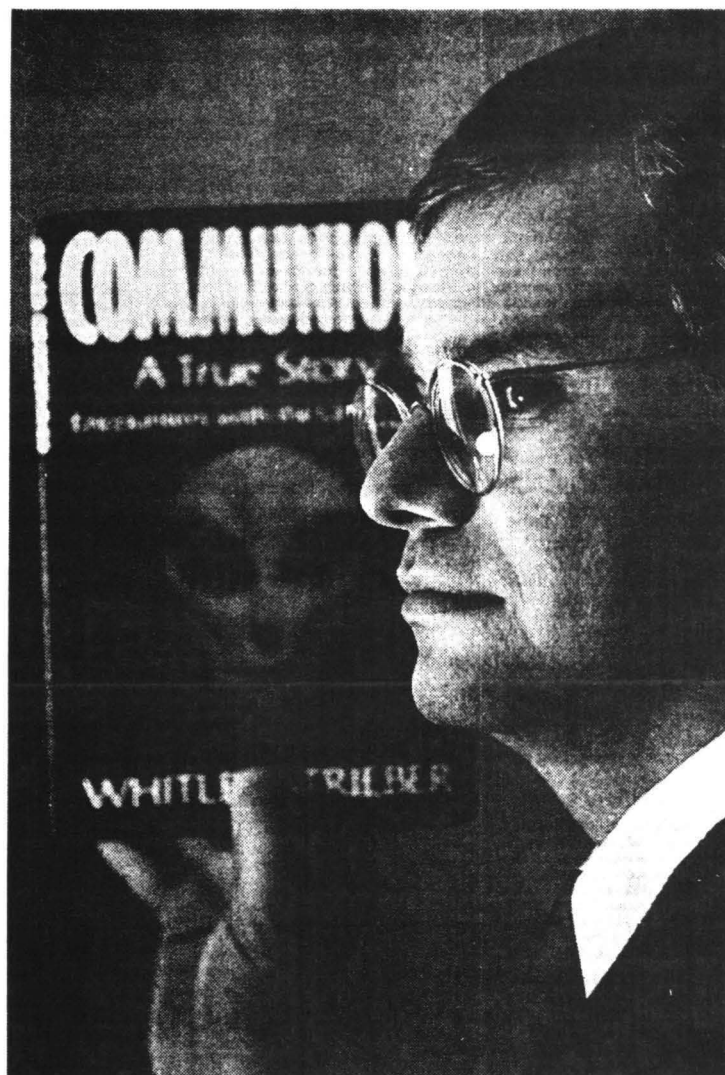
Not unnaturally (no pun intended), Mr Strieber screamed and felt absolutely "terrorised". At this point, the unknown on the cover of the book - the older woman in Mr Strieber's life - asked "What can we do to stop you screaming?"

A crusade for fellow abductees

"You could let me smell you," Mr Strieber reports himself as saying - and is given a whiff of something which is akin to cheese and old cardboard or cinnamon. A perfume which, he discovers later, has haunted his life.

Communion tells the tale of how he comes to terms with being one of the chosen few. Under hypnosis, Mr Strieber realises that it was no accident that at the age of 13 he announced "spacemen" had helped him to build an anti-gravity machine; he recalls how on a visit to London, staying in a flat in the King's Road, he "crossed the rooftops". And then there was the time in New York, in the early Seventies, when he and Anne had had a dialogue with the stereo.

Didn't Mr Strieber think all of this was odd, long before December 26? "No," he answers simply. "Perhaps, I didn't want to."



Allen fancy: Whitley Strieber has found fright turned into fascination

RON ANDERSON

Which brings us instantly back to Mr Strieber's sincerity.

Since the book's American publication, Mr Strieber says, he has had only two hostile interviews ("C'mon, Whitley, you're making a mint...") and Phil Donahue on his talk show had tried to do him down - but Mr Strieber's Sincerity won the day. Following his TV appearance, *Communion* moved up from Number 7 to Number 3 on the best-seller list.

As it is, Mr Strieber's present crusade is to give fellow abductees - people who have had remarkably similar

experiences but who are too frightened to speak out - a better break. "They deserve to be treated with dignity".

Therapy has taught him "to live with a high level of uncertainty" and if the visitors come back he's no longer worried. "It's gone from frightening to fascinating." Besides, they might not be visitors. *Communion* ends with musings on the wonders of synergy; the spiritual balance between us and the world. And the Eagle within Mr Strieber.

It's much easier to come to grips with his little visitors hypothesis. If he was taken by little visitors, he offers,

then they may have "doing something to me to cause an effect on our culture". This sounds more familiar. "You mean, you might be a sort of Messiah?" No, Mr Strieber is emphatic, that is not what he means. And here, suddenly, his hitherto dormant humour jumps into life - the effect is rather like hitting Voice of Bulgaria after hours of radio crackle. "They may have been programming me to forget something they'd done. If that's the case, they cocked up. And my wife tells me," he adds, chuckling, "I may be in bigger trouble than anybody has ever been in this world before."

CAMBERLEY NEWS & MAIL, Surrey, England - July 7, 1987 CR: T. Good

UFO author backs old Alf

AN Aldershot pensioner's account of the night he was taken on board an alien spacecraft has been described in a new book.

Leading UFO expert Timothy Good has gone into print with his belief that the experience of Mr Alf Burtoo is absolutely true.

Mr Burtoo died in 1986 - three years after his encounter as he was fishing along the Basingstoke Canal.

With the publication of "Above Top Secret" it has been ensured that the "greatest experience" of Mr Burtoo's life will go down in history with authoritative backing.

Mr Good's book blows the lid off what he has labelled the "worldwide UFO cover-up."

DETAILED

He sets out on a controversial path to prove international political suppression of facts and sightings and to show that UFOs do exist.

To this end the author has seen hundreds of declassified Governmental papers and interviewed dozens of witnesses.

Singled out for special attention is old soldier Alf Burtoo,

who lived in Pegasus Avenue until he died at the age of 80.

Mr Good described the pensioner's experience as "an important and highly detailed account which might teach us a great deal about UFO phenomenon."

And as the author relates the story behind the close encounter of the third kind, he remarks: "I am convinced he was not lying."

Mr Burtoo told how he was taken on board the spacecraft by two "forms."

They were literally "little green men," who were about 4ft. tall, unusually thin and wearing green overalls. Visitors covered their faces and they spoke with a sing-song accent.

Mr Burtoo said he was taken into a black room of unburnished metal and told to stand under an amber light.

The one of the forms said: "You can go. You are too old and infirm for our purposes."

The pensioner recalled that he felt no fear and was "mildly disappointed" that the aliens did not want to abduct him.

Mr Good concludes: "This is one of the most convincing close encounter cases I have investigated."



Flashback to 1983: Author Timothy Good interviews Alf.

POST, Birmingham, England - July 29, 1987 CR: T. Good

By coincidence I saw a UFO, too

Sir, - I was interested in the article about UFOs (*Post*, July 25) and it may seem a strange coincidence, but I saw a UFO recently - honest!

Luckily, I snapped it as it took off late on Thursday night.

I think this photo is just as authentic as any of the pictures you showed.

You may print this historical photograph.

JAMES THOMPSON, (aged 12),

Solihull, West Midlands



The UFO spotted by James Thompson, see *By coincidence I saw a UFO, too.*

UFO conference planned

CR: T. Good

Reported UFO sightings in Scarborough and other parts of North Yorkshire are to be discussed during a conference in Leeds on Saturday.

The Yorkshire UFO Society will be staging its annual conference.

Mark Birdsall, the society's head of research, will be giving details to the conference of UFO sightings reported from various parts of the country.

He said: "In the past there have been sightings above the sea off Scarborough. Obviously, some have been aircraft lights, but not all have been satisfactorily explained."

"There have been numerous sightings in recent years in North Yorkshire, and

for five or six years there have been interesting sightings in the Skipton area for which there are no satisfactory explanations. Skipton seems to be the focal point of UFO activity in the country."

Mr Birdsall said that the conference was also to be addressed by Mr Timothy Good, Britain's foremost lecturer on UFOs.

The conference is being staged in Centenary House, North Street, Leeds.

Mr Birdsall said: "Because the hall only holds about 200 people, and we have had to turn people away in the past, anyone travelling some distance, such as from Scarborough or Whitby, should aim to arrive by 11.30 pm."

Governments' silence on UFOs is very suspicious

CR: T. Good

From A. C. Avent, 21 Lower Brimley Road, Teignmouth

I was intrigued by Roger Malone's article about Timothy Good the author of "Above top secret" in the article Mr. Good states that he believes the USA will be the first government to officially recognise the existence of UFOs.

I am quite sure that I saw a UFO at midnight on May 25 when standing in the lane at the side of my house. I noticed a bright light to my left - it

was rapidly approaching on level flight. It flew by with a soft swishing sound at about 1 should think 600 feet up. It was going from south east to north west.

In appearance it was a flatish cylindrical object and bright gold in colour.

Some days later I contacted a police constable who was on patrol in the town at that time but he did not see the object - probably houses could have obscured his vision.

It would be interesting to know whether the object was observed by any other member of the public.

After many reports from the public and sometimes on TV one becomes suspicious of the silence of governments on the subject.

There have been numerous reports by USA airmen of sightings of unidentified aircraft especially in the Bermuda Triangle area.

UFO could have been a satellite

BRITISH AIRWAYS remains baffled by an unidentified flying object seen over Russia by one of its Boeing 747 flight crews.

By Nigel Botherway

BA flight 009 from Heathrow to Bangkok changed course to avoid the object, which was not picked up by Russian air traffic controllers.

First Officer Tony Collin, 42, gave a vivid description of the mystery object seen by him and four other crew members.

"We were changing over duties on the flight deck, so all five of us were together," said Collin. "Suddenly we saw what appeared to be another aircraft away to our right. It was displaying two white lights just like an aircraft would."

"We watched it carefully and then noticed that there was a green light where there should have been a red port-side navigation light. It was clear that it was coming towards us at about the same level so we turned towards it to ensure that we passed behind it."

Collin continued: "As we did so it accelerated across our nose, displaying a long line of small lights. They were vaguely phosphorescent and vanished off to our left at high speed. It was impossible to

say exactly how far away it was, but I would guess it was about a mile.

"It was definitely not an aircraft, of that I am positive. None of us had ever seen anything like it before. We are all bitter, cynical aviators who like to find a scientific explanation for everything. But this has got us foxed."

In his report to British Airways, Collin said the object was about half a mile in length, and compared the experience to standing in a field watching a train go by.

British Airways has logged the incident, which took place above the Kazakhstan border on April 22, but plans no further investigation.

An expert from the British Astronomical Association believes the object could have been a Russian satellite re-entering the earth's atmosphere.

Howard Miles, director of the Association's artificial satellite section, said: "It is a standard description, with the greenish glow as parts of the satellite break up. Although they normally burn up about 80 miles up and the aircraft was only ten miles high."

"It must, therefore, have been an optical illusion with the actual lights being much further away."

UFOs

The article *Recovery of aliens alleged* (Free Press, May 31) states that a "bitter debate is likely to develop among UFO experts over the existence of a mysterious committee named Majestic-12."

Consider the following information which tends to back up the existence of Majestic-12. From Canadian documents, interviews and letters it is quite apparent that Wilbert Smith, the Canadian government's top UFO expert knew of and was in close contact with this top secret group. Of three direct references that have surfaced, the best is found in a declassified top-secret memo from Mr. Smith to G. P. Edwards, deputy minister for the Department of Transport, dated November 21, 1950. It read:

"I made discreet enquiries through the Canadian embassy staff in Washington, who were able to obtain for me the following data:

"The matter is the most highly classified subject in the U.S. government, rating even higher than the H-bomb. Flying saucers exist. Their *modus operandi* is unknown but concentrated effort is being made by a small group headed by Doctor V. Bush. The entire matter is considered by the U.S. authorities to be of tremendous significance."

If the Eisenhower briefing paper is a sophisticated fraud, how does Barry Greenwood explain a 37-year-old document asserting the existence of this top secret group?

GRANT CAMERON
Winnipeg

TWO WOMEN SAW THAT IN THE TVIKSTA ROAD CROSSING

"We were very much afraid, but we would very well like to see it again. Next time, we would handle it differently."

That was the statement by two ladies who, during the Maundy Thursday Eve, were followed by a light phenomenon on the road between Hedemora and Borlange.

It was in Tviksta where the mother and daughter first saw the light phenomenon. At first, they thought it was an air-plane, but that theory was dismissed when the object made a rapid dive to the ground and later very slowly "flew" alongside the town hill. During this time, the yellow-green-red lamps turned into one big object with a yellow-white underside and one black lid where it had three green lamps.

Powerful shining light

The women continued to drive toward Borlange. During the trip, they could see the mysterious light, although it sometimes disappeared. After a while, there was a powerful shining light behind the car, later both beside and above the car.

"My daughter was very frightened," said the mother. "I asked her to keep her eyes on the road. But we were very upset when it looked as though the lighted object was following our car. The shining light moved tremendously fast and was noiseless. The only sound we heard was the engine noise. After that, we wished we had stayed and listened. I hope we will have something like that again. I have never seen anything similar and I'm sure I'll never see anything again. Afterwards, we both were somewhat shocked, but above all, we were excited. We wondered what it really was that we had been observing."

More witnesses

After the shining light passed the women's car, the object disappeared to the west. The day after, there were reports about inexplicable incidents in Soderbarke village. Exactly 24 hours later, also at 23:00, a total of 16 people, independent of each other, observed a big object of 15-20 meters in diameter, floating over the surrounding area. Many who saw the object compared it to two deep soup-plates, but with the window turned against each other, said Gudrun Andersson. In a camping area, four TV sets were destroyed and one of them was burned. Also one TV set refused to work, but was okay the following day.

City and country of incident: Digervala, Ludvika, Dalarna Region, Sweden

Date of incident: May 3, 1987

Name of paper and date of clip: BORLANGE TIDNING, May 12, 1987

City and country of incident: Borlange, Sweden

[CREDIT: Erik Fredriksson]

UFO OVER DALARNA?

Now BORLANGE TIDNING can introduce a picture of the UFO observed by the man from Idkerberg. The photo shows a rose-orange colored field around a bright center or core. In the color field appeared a black cross. The inner core was vibrating and the whole object was big as a house. It was now standing still at 200-400 meters above the photographer.

This story was told by Paul Hellberg who took some color photos with his big 800mm telephoto lens. He is contactman for UFO Space Guard in Nyhammar, a local group associated with Solna Astronomiska report group.

"We are in the field many times during each week, observing the heavens and often we have a skeptic as observer, rather than a member of the club. This time it was Kjell Karlsson, 42 years old. We had been outside and observed for a while and were on the way down from the high slag-heap near Digervala. We saw the object when it was moving toward us. At once, there was a big, orange-colored object and it stopped right over us near the high spruce forest tops, very near the surrounding town of Ludvika. The date was May 3, 0030 SNT.

One disc inside

"Before it disappeared, it changed sides and I saw one disc inside with my eye. I had put my equipment in the car already, but Paul was lucky to take some photos during the 15-20 seconds that the object was standing still. Then it disappeared quickly--in less than two seconds.

Disappeared very fast

"Before that, the object grew smaller and at once went up into space at an incredible speed and was invisible in the same time. I don't believe it. It feels creepy, but at the same time, fantastic. anyway, I had supposed there could be UFOs, but now I had to believe my own eyes. I hope to see it again many times." He was very shocked for three weeks after that. Also, the man from Idkerberg who had seen the object at 01:30 the same night. He also observed it over the tops of the trees and outside his window. He estimated the size at 15 meters in length, as his house is 12 meters and the object was longer.

TRANSLATIONS

City and country of incident: Tviksta, Hedemora, Dalarna Region, Sweden

Date of incident: April 23, 1987

Name of paper and date of clip: SATERS TIDNING, April 28, 1987

City and country of newspaper: Sater, Sweden

[CREDIT: Erik Fredriksson]



Skeptics doubt hunter's pyramid claim

ORLANDO (AP) — A Vero Beach treasure hunter says he has found an underwater pyramid off the Central Florida coast that could force a rewrite of history books, but a state archaeologist is skeptical of the claim.

The main problem with Alfred Conway's alleged discovery is he says he was unable to mark the exact spot where he found the estimated 30-foot stone structure.

He has tried twice in the last two years to drop buoys on the spot after spotting the structure from a plane. Once the buoy mysteriously disappeared and once the buoy line became tangled in the plane's stabilizer.

Crews from his company, Underwater Salvage, have been searching the general vicinity since the most recent sighting last summer.

"We expect to find it shortly," said Terry Brooks, a Casselberry musician and commercial video maker who is president of the company.

Until the structure can be found, archaeologists will argue the possibility of its existence.

"This discovery represents the greatest archaeological discovery of the 20th century because we can demonstrate a pyramid culture that predates the Near East and the New World," said Thomas Chisholm, an Orlando man who is the salvage group's archaeological consultant.

"It doesn't sound too real to me," said Calvin Jones, archaeologist with the state's Division of

Historical Resources. "I'm always open because we're always learning new things. But the whole idea of a mound made of rocks under more than 10 feet of water — the chances are about one in a million."

Jones said underwater archaeological sites have been found off Florida in less than 10 feet of water, but they consist mostly of arrowheads and animal bones.

No evidence has been found on the Florida Peninsula or offshore to indicate an ancient culture ever lived here with the sophistication to build such complicated stone structures, Jones said.

"It's hard for me to believe it's out there, too," Conway said. "But I've seen it with my own eyes."

Conway had his first inkling of something odd on the sea bottom in 1980. He was taking depth readings during a cruise off the coastline of Indian River County and got readouts showing a stair-step structure. Though it intrigued him, it was not metallic, and therefore, nothing that seemed to have any salvage value.

He spotted what appeared from the air to be the top of a pyramid during a 1985 flyover, but the buoy he dropped couldn't be found the next day. Last summer, Conway says, he spotted it a second time from the air, only to have the buoy become tangled in the plane's stabilizer.

Conway described the structure he and another pilot saw as a stair pyramid at least 30 feet tall, with a base about 80 feet long on each of four sides. He claims to have seen the outline of two other structures nearby that he described as O-shaped and L-shaped.

As usual among salvagers, he refused to even give a good hint about the location, saying only that it was in about 100 feet of water.

The pyramid would have to have been built between 10,000 B.C. and 6,000 B.C., when the continental shelf was not covered by water, said archaeology consultant Chisholm.

State archaeologists agree with him on the time span, which they use to disprove Chisholm's theory.

Florida State University anthropology professor Glen Doran said the earliest Near East pyramids are dated to about 4,000 B.C. and all New World pyramids are dated after 1 A.D. So such a structure off the coast of Florida would be at least 2,000 years older than all other known pyramids.

None of the Indian earth mounds found in the state has been dated prior to 2,500 B.C., he said.

"It seems unusual that there isn't anything similar (to the pyramid) on the coastal inland," Doran said. "And it strikes me with as much diving that has been done in Florida, it's surprising that we haven't found anything similar."

Mystery cloud causes havoc

A MYSTERIOUS cloud which people said caused sore throats and runny eyes descended on three counties yesterday.

The blue-tinged cloud, estimated to be 45 miles long, was first spotted over Nottinghamshire before moving across Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. Police issued 'stay indoors' warnings.

Dorothy Harwood, who runs The Three Crowns Inn at Wymesley, Leicestershire, said: 'Within minutes visibility was less than 100 yards. It was like something out of science fiction.'

'When we looked up we saw the sun had a dark red ring around it. Then our eyes started stinging.'

Weather

Initially it was thought the cloud was of deadly chlorine gas, then that it was sulphur dioxide from a power station.

But last night Nottinghamshire police said it had been identified as a photo-chemical smog, a haze caused by freak weather.

Experts had analysed sulphur dioxide and ozone levels, the constituents of acid rain, as above normal, but well within safe limits.

A spokesman said: 'Light was reflecting on particles in the air to produce a blue mist. I think reports about stinging eyes were from people who over-reacted. We have all been out in it and have suffered no ill effects.'

BULLETIN, Latrobe, PA - April 30, 1987 CR: S. Gordon

Area Bigfoot sightings continue

By KIM OPATKA
Bulletin Staff Writer

Since two articles on Bigfoot sightings in Derry Township appeared in The Bulletin last month, reports of the creature have continued to filter in, not only in Gray Station area, where an eyewitness claims to have encountered it, but in other parts of Derry and Unity townships.

While the creature has allegedly been seen in the area since about 1972, Bigfoots or similar animals have been reported throughout the country and around the world for decades, and in some cases, for centuries.

It was in Bluff Creek, Calif., in 1958 that a series of immense humanoid tracks were found by workers making timber access roads. In 1967, again in Bluff Creek, which is located on Lonesome Ridge, the only filming of the creature considered to be authentic occurred, though it is not agreed what the film shows.

Bigfoot-type creatures have been known as Yeti or the Abominable Snowman in the Himalayas, and Sasquatch in Canada and British Columbia. Such creatures have been reported in Russia, Siberia, Mongolia, and Tibet, as well as across the United States.

The World Book Encyclopedia describes Bigfoot as "a human-like creature said to live in the Pacific Northwest." It is described as being ape-like, with long arms and thick fur, from seven to 10 feet tall and weighing up to 500 pounds. The creature is said to walk upright, like a human being and leaves large footprints, some as long as 16 inches and about six inches wide.

"Evidence of the Bigfoot's existence has not been sufficient to convince most scientists," notes World Book.

Sightings have been reported in 40 of the American states and five Canadian provinces, at around 500 different locales, according to Janet and Colin Board's book "Alien Animals." Bigfoot's traditional territory is supposedly the Northwest United States and coastal British Columbia, areas where there are few roads, few

people, few visitors and thousands of square miles of forested mountains.

Indian lore includes tales of such creatures and white men reported seeing it in this country as far back as the 1800s.

Bigfoot stands between five and nine feet tall, with an average of about seven feet, has red eyes, is hairy, smelly and has footprints similar to humans, according to "Alien Animals."

"There have been more sightings of possible Yeti footprints than of the elusive creature himself, but footprints are open to many interpretations and rarely provide conclusive proof, especially in such a field as this, where the very existence of the (Bigfoot) is not generally accepted," the book states. "Face-to-face confrontations provide the researcher with information of a different kind, but even close encounters do not prove the creature's existence to the unbeliever." (page 146).

Later, the book states that the odds are against fakery in some footprints, because of the detail in the prints, which "would be difficult and time-consuming to incorporate in any mould." Other factors, such as stride and depth of the print, would be difficult for the human faker to achieve.

"If these are faked, it means that the faker wanders around uninhabited forested mountain areas, often in winter, wearing cumbersome fake feet or soles, without certainty of the tracks ever being discovered," the books states (P. 172).

Sightings in Whitney and Derry were referred to in the book. In the Whitney sighting, a man heard a banging noise, looked outside and saw a tall, hairy man-like creature standing motionless with its back toward him.

In the Derry incident, a woman awoke one night to find a "horrible face" staring in at her through the window. She described it as having oval eyes, dark with no whites and no eyelids or eyelashes and having a 'pushed in' nose. The window was over nine feet above the ground, according to the report.

Locally, sightings date back to reports in the Derry Township Village of Kingston in 1972. The number of reports was greatest during the end of August of 1973, with reports filtering in from Bradenville, Kingston, Keystone State Park and Hillside in Derry Township; First Ward, Latrobe Borough; Lloydsville and Donohoe Road, Unity Township; Jeannette; Greengate Mall, Hempfield Township and from as far as Perryopolis, Sewickley Township, Beaver County, Irwin, Herminie, Yukon and the Mon Valley.

It was described as having long, dark hair, pointed ears, large glowing red eyes, a human-like face, long arms. Bigfoot was reported as being around nine feet tall, having a sulphur or "rotten egg" smell and making sounds similar to a baby crying or a man in pain screaming, according to previously published stories in The Bulletin. Alleged Bigfoot footprints were 13 by eight inches, with three large toes.

On Aug. 24, 1973, the creature was nearly apprehended near Superior Mobile Home Court, Route 982, Derry Township, according to a Bulletin story.

A couple reported hearing scratching sounds on the exterior of their mobile home and called police, the story stated. When they went outside, the woman saw something and screamed, arousing neighbors. Police arrived minutes later and found three large footprints outside the home.

A search was organized and the creature was pursued, but searchers were unable to keep up with it. It reportedly disappeared into an abandoned mine shaft.

On Aug. 27, 1973, a man who was approached by the creature in Derry Township panicked and fired several shots at it, another article states.

There were also skeptics who became believers. A man living on North Greengate Road smelled a foul odor as he was preparing for bed, peered out the window into a pair of huge red eyeballs and closed the window. He banished the in-

cident from his mind until later, when he realized that his window was nine feet above the ground, according to another article.

In 1973, about 60 persons, including radio operators and scientific consultants, joined in helping organize reports and respond to calls for a study group on Bigfoot.

Sightings started occurring again in the fall of 1986 and continued sporadically through the winter. One Derry Township man claims to have encountered the creature twice in Gray Station, while phone calls to The Bulletin have reported signs of Bigfoot in Brenizer, New Derry, Bradenville, Derry Township and Unity Township.

There is life on Mars, say Soviet space scientists

From WILLIAM LOWTHER
in Washington

THERE really is life on Mars according to Soviet space scientists. And how they aim to find it.

They are to launch a series of unmanned missions to the planet starting in four years' time and expect to find an underground 'oasis' where they believe micro-organisms are thriving.

The plan, announced yesterday, came during a four-hour satellite link up with American scientists.

The Americans maintain that the U.S. Viking probes that landed on Mars more than ten years ago showed that no life exists there.

But the Russians insisted yesterday that Viking looked in all the wrong areas.

Prediction

There are parts of the surface of Mars that resemble the permafrost that blankets Northern reaches of the Soviet Union, and the Soviets say that the micro-organisms almost certainly exist below it.

Already there are predictions of a new space race to find the first 'martians'.

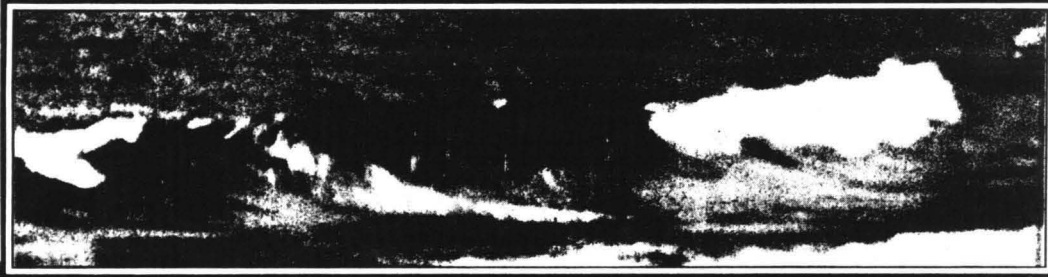
Astronomer Carl Sagan, of Cornell University, said: 'Now remember, we are not talking about little green men living under the ground. What we are dealing with here is little black microbes.'

DAILY MAIL, London, England - May 7, 1987 CR: D. Speed

DAILY MAIL, London, England - July 20, 1987 CR: T. Good



IS NESSIE A SPACE MONSTER?



UNEARTHLY . . . Tim Dinsdale, top left, claims there's more to the loch than hump-backed monsters, like the object above, but the sonar-equipped boats will be out searching again for the best known of them all

IS it a tree or a telegraph pole? An eel or an elephant? A gas-filled log? Or just a lot of gas? There are plenty of theories about the Loch Ness monster, and some experts believe there may be a link with UFO sightings. Nessie is by no means the only weird phenomenon in this remote part of northern Scotland.

There are unnerving tales of ghosts and black magic, unexplained blue lights on the loch's shore at midnight—and UFOs. People have disappeared under strange circumstances . . .

Most stories of monster sightings date from 1933 after a road was built along the north side of the 750ft-deep loch. But for long before that witches' covens used to gather at the loch's eerie Rock of Curses and the last witch burning in Scotland took place 50 miles away at the coastal town of Forres.

More recently, in nearby Inverness, Scotland's grimmest murder hunt began after Mrs Renee MacRae and her small son Andrew disappeared without trace. Their burnt-out car was found in a lay-by, but their fate remains a mystery.

Tim Dinsdale, one of the best known monster investigators, who has spent many months in the area since 1959, claims his three Nessie sightings—in 1961, 1970 and 1971—are not his only odd experiences around Loch Ness.

"There's much more to the place than the monster," insists Tim, a 62-year-old author and engineer. "It's a very peculiar region indeed."

One of his strangest experiences occurred one night when returning to his boat on the loch. "A strange, bluish light flooded the fields and trees below me at

ance of a woman, a strong swimmer, in the waters early in the century. "She was with her husband when their launch caught fire," says Tim. "They were only 40 yards from the shore and she followed him into the water. But when he turned she had simply disappeared.

"That has always struck me as odd. People don't simply disappear without a sound. Even if they are attacked by something, there's a splash or commotion. Divers went down but never found any trace of her."

According to Tim, nearby Loch Morar—the deepest water in Britain—can be even more scary. Unseen monsters are thought to lurk 1,000ft down. Tim recalls: "One night I heard a terrible cry while on my boat on Loch Morar.

"My blood froze. I knew no animal could make a sound like that. It was a human cry from a ruined croft." Later he learnt that another researcher had heard similar, unearthly cries—and that a former inhabitant of the croft had gone berserk and killed his wife with an axe.

The late Ted Holliday, a noted Nessie investigator, believed the monster was the malevolent ghost of a prehistoric creature. He wrote two books on the subject and became convinced that the entire area was plagued by the paranormal.

In 1973 he invited Dr Donald Omand, an exorcist from Devon, to perform a ceremony to rid the loch of evil influences. If anything, the exorcism—an eerie business on a boat in the middle of the loch—appears to have made matters worse.

Dick Raynor, an electronics engineer and local resident, explains: "The following evening Ted was indoors overlooking the loch when three terrible crashes were heard outside.

"Then a swirling black cloud appeared at the window and a beam of pure white light shone on his forehead. Two days later he heard loud knocking at the back door, but no one was there."

Dick, who later experienced poltergeist activity at his own lochside cottage, continues: "The black cloud may have been a fairly common local sighting known as a black bogel. One old lady used to chase these around her house with a vacuum cleaner!"

Ted Holliday also claimed to have seen two mysterious "men in black"—a phenomenon more usually associated with UFO sightings. He claimed they were standing across a road and suddenly disappeared as a car passed.

Rather understandably, he cracked up, convinced he was being punished for interfering with unknown forces. He suffered a heart attack and died five years later from an unrelated brain haemorrhage.

Holliday became rather an embarrassment to other monster hunters, who fear they are figures of fun even at the best of times.

For this reason, investigator Tim Dinsdale takes pains to stress that he is a down-to-earth engineer and is unwilling to discuss the many peculiarities of the area in full. However, he does refer to the place as "magical".

The infamous black magician, Aleister

Crowley, thought so, too. Crowley, who called himself the Beast, lived near Loch Ness for three years at the turn of the century, believing that magic said to emanate from a mountain named Mealfuorvie would help his progress in the black arts.

The Nessie theory gaining most ground today is that the monster is somehow linked with UFOs. According to author Paul Devereux, UFOs and lake monsters go together where a fault-line in the earth (in this case the Great Glen) is combined with a body of water.

Devereux's theory is that both may be a figment of the imagination—hallucinations caused by the effect of geographical peculiarities on people's minds—although this would not apply to UFO sightings in other places.

There is certainly plenty that is unearthly about Nessie, which has been sighted more than 4,000 times.

For a start, it is silent. A fisherman once reported it was large enough to smash a boat to pieces, yet no damage has been caused in several reported collisions, including one in which the vessel was said to have been lifted into the air.

Mike Carrie, a photographer from Aberdeen, who used a remote-control camera to take an underwater film of the loch in 1981, remarks on the fact that no monster bones have ever been sighted. "These are unlikely to have sunk into the sediment when heavier objects, like wooden boats and a Wellington bomber, have lain on the bottom," he says.

Could the monster be all in the mind? "If the monster were a figment of the imagination, it would also explain odd land sightings of an enormous creature up to 45ft long," says Carrie. "An aquatic monster would be too big and heavy to cross land."

But it is hard to swallow hallucination theories if, like Tim Dinsdale, you've seen a neck the thickness of a telegraph pole rise 10ft out of the water . . . In his opinion, Nessie is simply an evolved plesiosaur or a new, as yet undiscovered, animal.

The latest Nessie hunt, using sonar equipment, was called off last October in appalling weather conditions. But the same team of investigators will be back this year with up to 45 boats. They have already had 40 inexplicable sonar contacts.

Tony Harmsworth, of the Loch Ness Exhibition Centre, explains: "This is a long-term, methodically planned search." Provided necessary funds are raised—the venture is financed by proceeds from the board game "Nessie Hunt"—they intend to put camera equipment down in 1988 and solve the mystery once and for all.

In which case, it may well prove that the Loch Ness monster story is easier to explain than many other peculiarities in this strange, isolated area.

The Loch Ness area is rich in ghostly happenings, unexplained disappearances, magic . . . and UFO sightings

By ALISON LEIGH-JONES

exactly midnight," he says. "I had just looked at my watch when, for a fraction of a second, this light shone up from the ground at the water's edge.

"A second flash then occurred just over the water, but, of course, no one was there."

He has never been able to explain what he calls the "ghostly fireworks" he saw beside the 23-mile-long loch.

Equally bewildering was the disappear-

Energy machine: Progress or inefficient invention?

By Billy Bowles
Knight News Service

LUCEDALE, Miss. — A mechanical engineer with the Mississippi Bureau of Geology calls Joe Newman's invention "probably the most significant discovery in the history of man."

But the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dismisses it as just another unsuccessful attempt to build a perpetual motion machine.

Newman, who never took a physics or engineering course in his life, has been fighting unsuccessfully for eight years to get a U.S. patent for his "energy machine" that he said will solve forever the world's energy problems and replace everything from home furnaces to automobile engines. He already has patented the device in Spain, South Africa and India.

Members of Congress and California millionaires are arrayed on Newman's side. The patent office, National Bureau of Standards and a federal judge stand against him.

"What I've done," said Joseph Westley Newman, 50, "is create a mechanical means of converting mass into energy on a 100 percent conversion process without any pollution to the environment or human race."

He said his machine — he has built six of them so far — captures the energy from particles moving at the speed of light in the conductor of a magnet. It is not a perpetual motion device, he said.

But it is so efficient, he said, "you could hook such a device to your home and run it for a hundred years and it would be difficult to weigh a change in the mass of that material."

Recently before 2,000 people in the Mississippi Coast

Coliseum in Biloxi, Newman demonstrated his invention under the hood of a fancy red sports car. Using the amount of electrical current that powers a transistor radio, he ran the car "at walking speed" for two hours.

When he called off the demonstration, Newman said the 1,800-pound car could have continued circling the interior of the coliseum indefinitely without noticeable wear on the 1.5-volt transistor battery that provided electrical current to the engine.

About 5 mph is top speed for the car, but it could be brought up to highway speed and mass produced, Newman said.

For centuries, inventors have pursued the myth of perpetual motion.

Some have appeared for a time to succeed. At the Boston Museum of Science, a bicycle wheel has been spinning non-stop for 13 months. The museum offers \$1,000 to anyone, scientists included, who can explain how it works.

Lawrence Bell, associate director of the museum, said that machine's inventor, David Jones, concedes it is a fake. Yet no one has solved the mystery.

Jones, a Briton, has been quoted as saying, "Scientists are very gullible."

In Newman's case, the question is which scientists are gullible: Those who believe in his machine or those who don't?

Roger Hastings, a physicist with Unisys Corp. in St. Paul, Minn., said the problem is that Newman's invention is based on a theory of thermodynamics that is so revolutionary and complicated that "it probably is beyond any competent scientist to (test) in less than a year or two of competent measurement."

Hastings testified in U.S. District Court in favor of granting a patent for the energy machine.

So did an electrical engineer, William Schuyler Jr., appointed by the judge as special master to make a recommendation to the court. Schuyler, a former patent office commissioner, said evidence is overwhelming that the device puts out more energy than it gets from the batteries that power it.

But the judge, Thomas Jackson, ignored the master's findings and ruled against Newman after receiving a report from the National Bureau of Standards. Newman has vowed he will take his appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, he is taking his fight to the people, holding demonstrations in such places as the coliseum in Biloxi and the New Orleans Superdome.

Eleven congressmen have introduced bills to grant Newman a "pioneering patent" and let the invention stand or fall in the competition of the marketplace.

A group of California investors believe in Newman enough to put up \$10 million last year to back his invention. Among the backers is Dan Benvenuti, whose family owns the Sacramento Kings of the National Basketball Association.

At a news conference announcing his support for Newman's invention, Benvenuti said: "There will be no force on this earth that is going to stop it. . . . I will stake all I've got on this man, because I believe in him."

Milton Everett, a mechanical engineer with the Mississippi Bureau of Geology, said he read about Newman's invention years ago with skepticism.

"I thought (Newman) was a fraud or a con man," Everett said.

Everett went to see the device, however, out of curiosity

and has examined it numerous times over the last four years. At Biloxi last week, where he attended Newman's demonstration of his transistor-powered automobile, Everett appeared on the CBS Evening News touting Newman's energy machine as "probably the most significant discovery in the history of man."

Yet the National Bureau of Standards, a non-regulatory agency of the federal government, tested the machine and pronounced it far less efficient than a standard electric motor.

Newman and his supporters, including Everett, believe the bureau conducted its test incorrectly. But bureau spokesman Matthew Heyman said, "We've heard nothing that has made us second-guess any of our measurements."

He conceded, however, that it "is not an easy device to run a test on."

Patent office officials decline to discuss the invention while Newman's lawsuit against them is pending.

The energy machine is not Newman's first invention. He holds the U.S. patent on nine inventions, including plastic-covered weights for barbells, a device that keeps rain off a car's windshield at drive-in movies, and a water see-saw that catapults one rider over the other's head.

Newman said he has made his living solely from his inventions since 1962.

An accounting and economics major who quit the University of Alabama in his junior year, Newman taught himself physics, chemistry, astronomy, electrical engineering and other disciplines from books. That proved to be an advantage, Newman said.

"When you teach yourself," he said, "you have an opportunity to question what you are learning."

Pyramids made of synthetic stone, researcher reports

Huge blocks were not quarried, but mixed and formed

Scrrips Howard News Service

WASHINGTON — An authority on ancient building materials reported evidence Friday that the Egyptian pyramids were built of a remarkable synthetic stone that was cast on the site like concrete.

The new theory challenges the widely accepted belief that the pyramids were built from natural stone obtained from quarries and laboriously moved to the site over thousands of years.

Dr. Joseph Davidovits said that the synthetic pyramid stone was made with cement far stronger than modern portland cement, which binds together the rock and sand in concrete. Portland cement has an average life span of about 150 years, he said. But cements like those used in the pyramids last thousands of years.

Indeed, Davidovits said the Soviets should have entombed the damaged Chernobyl nuclear reactor in the kind of cement he claims was used in the pyramids. Pyramid cement would have isolated the reactor from the environment for several thousand years, he said.

Davidovits said he has reproduced the formula for several kinds of ancient cement. He is working with commercial firms to produce modern versions of the cements in large quantity.

One possible use of the cements would be encapsulation of nuclear wastes, he said.

Davidovits reported on his research at a meeting of the American Chemical Society. He is founder and director of the Institute for Applied Archaeological Sciences, located near Miami.

Questions always existed about traditional accounts of construction of the pyramids, Davidovits noted. These generally portray the Egyptians as superb masonry craftsmen who quarried immense limestone blocks without any powered machinery or iron tools.

The blocks were cut to precise dimensions with soft copper or stone tools and dragged — sometimes for many miles — to the construction site or transported in barges on the Nile. The Great Pyramid at Giza required 2.3 million blocks, each weighing an average of 5,000 pounds.

Authorities have speculated about how the blocks were cut and

raised into place because of the lack of a description of the construction process.

Davidovits said a new deciphering of an ancient hieroglyphic text now provides some direct information about pyramid construction and supports his theory that synthetic stone was the construction material.

The text, called the "Famine Stele," was discovered 100 years ago on an island near Elephantine, Egypt. It consists of 2,600 hieroglyphs, about 650 of which have been interpreted as dealing with stone-fabrication techniques. The text claims an Egyptian god gave instructions on making synthetic stone to Pharaoh Zoser, who built the first pyramid in 2750 B.C.

Included were a list of 29 minerals that could be processed with crushed limestone and other natural aggregates into a synthetic stone for use in building temples and pyramids. Like chemists in the 17th and 18th centuries, the Egyptians named the minerals after their physical properties. The materials were called "onion ore," "garlic ore" and "horseradish ore" because of their distinctive smells.

Davidovits believes the ores were minerals containing arsenic. Other ingredients for making synthetic stone — phosphates from bones or dung, Nile silt, limestone and quartz — also were readily available.

The ingredients would have been mixed and placed along with water into wooden forms like those used for concrete. The use of forms explains why the stones are of such precise dimensions, he noted.

Davidovits said the cement used in pyramid stone binds the aggregate and other ingredients together chemically in a process similar to that involved in the formation of natural stone.

Portland cement, in contrast, involves mechanical rather than molecular bonding of the ingredients. Thus, pyramid stone is extremely difficult to distinguish from natural stone.

He cites a number of other pieces of evidence to support his theory. Chemical analyses of stone from pyramids, for example, show it contains minerals not found in Egyptian quarry stone.

Laboratory analyses also have revealed indications of organic fibers — possibly human or animal hair — inside the stone used to build the pyramids. Davidovits said he believes that the materials accidentally fell into the forms when ancient Egyptians were casting the stone.

Congresswoman witnessed 'unusual things' on pilgrimage

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Rep. Lindy Boggs, D-La., said Saturday that during an Easter pilgrimage to the Yugoslavian village of Medjugorje she witnessed the type of phenomena that some believers describe as miracles.

She said she was reluctant to discuss the "many unusual things" that she said happened during the pilgrimage "because the true miracle is the peaceful feeling of getting back to the true meaning of life."

Nevertheless, she had a couple of stories to tell.

She said three of the beads on her sterling-silver rosary had turned a golden color and another pilgrim had a silver crucifix turned golden during the pilgrimage.

Another woman took pictures of the

sun that came out showing a door within the sun, she said.

"I looked at the sun and it just looked like the sun," Boggs said. "But then she took a picture. I saw her take that picture, then I saw the picture come out of the camera."

"There's no way that picture could have been doctored — but sure enough, when it developed, there was a door that looked like a door to a tabernacle."

Report any sightings of the "Lake Champlain Monsters"

WILTON, NEW YORK.—The Lake Champlain Phenomena Investigation, a research group that has been studying the Loch Ness-like mystery animals of Lake Champlain, is asking people to report their sightings of Champ. The L.C.P.I. is also interested in reports of any sonar/fish finder targets picked up by Lake Champlain fishermen that might be of a Champ animal.

According to the L.C.P.I. there have been 275 recorded sightings of Champ. Many of those sightings date back to the 19th century. There were 13 reported sightings of Champ in 1986 reports the L.C.P.I.

Sightings should be reported by writing to: Joseph W. Zarzynski, Lake Champlain Phenomena Investigation, P.O. Box 2134, Wilton, New York 12866.

Warmer weather aids dedicated Bigfoot tracker

Early this year, we wrote here of having little to report for the past year concerning the Bigfoot phenomenon.

It was like opening the mythological Pandora's box — or, opening the can and finding all kinds of worms therein, and spilling all over the ground.

Signs of activity on the part of more than one of the hairy animals have been seen in the nearby Blue Mountains as the snow line recedes and entry into the mountains is made easier as warm weather arrives.

Former Mill Creek Watershed patrol rider Paul Freeman, who claims to have seen a Bigfoot up close in 1982, was quoted in the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin following my year-end report. He told of seeing tracks in at least one place. He has since reported to me the finding of a host of such tracks — of more than one creature and in more than one location mostly rimming the watershed boundary.

I accompanied Freeman and Greg May (Bigfoot Expedition 1, Pullman) on April 14 to a stretch of the watershed boundary and saw tracks along a half-mile stretch of the trail.

I accompanied Freeman, Washington State University anthropologist Grover Krantz and another WSU anthropologist on May 2 to locate more tracks but in another



Vance Orchard
Blue Mountain Ramblings

stretch of the watershed boundary trail.

Since then, I have been to other areas and have seen other tracks and in one segment of the mountains over a distance of probably four to five miles, have seen tracks indicating possibly four creatures having departed the Watershed and gone in the direction of the South Fork of the Walla Walla River or into Tiger Canyon.

At one of these track sites, deep, clear and very impressive tracks have been made in mud and late snow pack. At one point a track had been dug up and packed off by someone who left a small garden trowel in the process. A hole at least a foot deep and one by two feet long was also there in place of the track.

At other tracks is ample evidence of plaster casts having been made of tracks.

Veteran tracker and packer of big game, Wes Sumerlin, has also been investigating

(sometimes with Freeman) many of the track sightings, but also other interesting finds first reported by Freeman: Small trees twisted like no human could achieve and hair found at the twist sites. Sumerlin this week reported that a party of three people from Ellensburg had been in the mountains the past weekend to tell of seeing a host of Bigfoot tracks near tracks of cow and calf elk.

Sumerlin and Freeman are both convinced the Bigfoots are preying on the newly born calves as sorely needed sustenance by the Bigfoots after hibernation (or semi-hibernation the past winter).

Another interesting find of Freeman this week was that of rubbing signs and scraping of what appear to be broad nails (not claw marks) high up on a dead fir snag in two widely separated points of the Blues. Hair found at each site has been microscopically examined indicating a vast difference between it and human hair, although to the naked eye there is resemblance.

Embedded in the bark of one such tree is material resembling dead skin. This, too, is being examined and analyzed.

Sent me by a friend in Vancouver, B.C., is a newspaper clipping telling of a Bigfoot sighting early in March by four men work-

ing on a project in a heavily forested area there.

But, as in all cases reported to date, both sighters and the Bigfoot take some inquisitive looks at each other, then head off in opposite directions.

These statements are not intended to project an argument favoring the existence of the Bigfoot but only what I have seen and heard. It is a subject I have pursued with interest since the mid-1960s in this vicinity but there does seem more and more that there will be proof of the creature offered up real soon in this area.

Or, as WSU's Krantz has said more than once, after all the years he has been studying the matter:

"There certainly seems like there just has to be something out there."

TRIBUNE, New York, NY - June 22, 1987

LEGENDS

Documentary Presents Compelling Evidence Concerning the 'Bigfoot'

BY EVANS JOHNSON
New York City Tribune Staff

If hikers in the forests of Alaska, the bayous of Louisiana and the mountains of New York saw a legendary monster at roughly the same time, does that prove its existence? Or could there have been a conspiracy afoot, hatched by extraordinarily tall pranksters dressed in shaggy black fur, who timed their appearances to coincide across the nation in hopes of "proving" the existence of the mythical beast?

These types of questions are aired in the 1-hour documentary film, *In the Shadow of Bigfoot*, produced by Amazing Horizons Inc. of California. Unfortunately, they are not answered irrefutably.

"Bigfoot" is in the news this summer, with the release of *Harry and the Hendersons*, a sentimental comedy in which a family brings one of the ape-like beings home from a camping trip. Sometimes known as Sasquatch, the Yeti or the Abominable Snowman, Bigfoots (feet?) are very real, but extremely shy animals, who have managed to survive in the wilds of central Asia and North America, according to *In the Shadow of Bigfoot*.

All American Indian tribes, says the film's narrator, share common tales of encounters with the placid Bigfoot. Animals, including domestic pets, are said to be unafraid of the harmless beast. Yet, its size is so great, and its appearance so fantastic — the Bigfoots captured on film in this movie are steeply cone-headed — that most recorded encounters with the animal have ended in hysterical flight.

A great deal of the documentation of the existence of Bigfoot in America is the work of naturalist Ivan L. Marx, who has been tracking the animals since 1951. Marx has waxed so enthusiastically in his belief in Bigfoot, that he has run afoul of some scientists who have apparently dismissed him as a crackpot.

However, the footage he has provided for this film is compelling. Most of it has been shot with hand-held 8mm movie cameras, but a series of three 35mm stills is quite dramatic. In these, a Bigfoot stands in water at the edge of a meadow in northern California. He — the animal is presumed to be male because of what appears to be his genitalia — bends down, scooping up water, and splashes himself. He then shakes the water off with the intensity of a dog just out of a pond. The water sprays evenly and everywhere.

When shown the photos, Vermont

anthropologist Dr. Warren Cook said: "I do not think that a human in a contrived disguise could shake his entire body in such a fashion as to cast drops of water in every direction simultaneously."

What the public and scientists do not have — despite numerous Bigfoot expeditions in North America and Asia — is a live animal or the actual carcass of one. That is the subject of heated debate among the naturalists interviewed on this film.

Some say that the existence of Bigfoot can never be proven without such evidence. Others, though, caution that killing a Bigfoot might lead to the species' extinction, since nobody knows how many of them there are — if there are any at all.

Also, they warn, trying to tranquilize a Bigfoot might prove fatal, because no one knows if their systems can handle drugs.

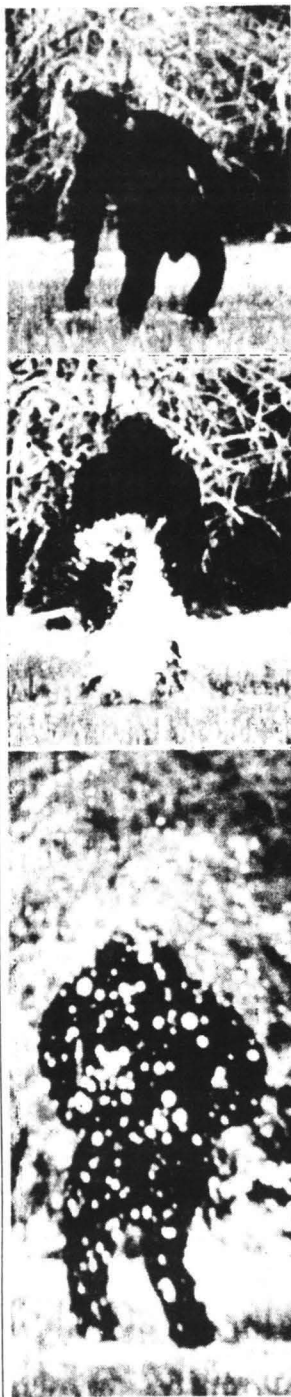
What the viewer of this amateurish film is left with is a conundrum: If they can't be captured for fear of costing one its life, and one shouldn't be killed, who's to say for sure if Bigfoot really exists?

The producers of *In the Shadow of Bigfoot* say that Marx has shot even more detailed film since the documentary was first made in 1982. Though it's 5 years old, Amazing Horizons president, Ernest A. Montiel, said it has never been shown on television, or to an audience other than a select few invited to private screenings.

Chinese anthropologists who've seen the film, Montiel said, were quite excited. They told Cook that China may have four different varieties of surviving, pre-human hominids. If true, it's as if the 2 million-year-old hominid skeletons found in East Africa suddenly took on flesh and walked among us.

Viewers intrigued at the possible existence of Bigfoot — perhaps having seen *Harry* on the big screen — can order 1/2-inch VHS copies of *In the Shadow of Bigfoot* from Amazing Horizons, at P.O. Box 61662, Sunnyvale, CA 94088. (408) 947-5857.

IS THIS BIGFOOT? Naturalist Ivan L. Marx claims that these three 35mm stills taken by him show the legendary "Bigfoot" creature standing in water at the edge of a meadow in northern California, covering himself with water, and then shaking the water from his body. An anthropologist, Dr. Warren Cook, after examining the photos dispelled the possibility of a human (in a Bigfoot costume) duplicating the same action as the subject in the pictures.



Booger haunts Bardin woods

BARDIN (AP) — A large hairy creature called the Bardin Booger is said to roam the deep pine forests in this Northeast Florida community, striking fear in some and laughter in others.

"This thing came out of the woods. It was big and hairy and looked like a bear, but it had a pug nose and walked upright, like a man. The way it walks, a bear couldn't walk like that. Its arms were swinging, just the way you and I walk," said Randy Medlock, a Bardin-area farmer who claims to have seen the Booger.

"It walked across about 30 feet in front of the car. We were on a big sand hill. It

looked sideways at us and kept walking. I knew it was strong because when it walked back into the woods, it just slapped these pine saplings out of its way like they were nothing. We were scared.

"After a while, we got out and I tried to step in the tracks. They were a lot bigger than my foot and I wear a size 13. I stretched as far as I could and I couldn't reach between them," said Medlock, who stands 6 feet 2 inches tall.

Medlock said he's tried to keep quiet about it, but his younger brother-in-law, Ronny Cone, who was with him when the Booger was spotted, has talked throughout the piney woods community, west of Palatka in Putnam County.

"I tried to keep quiet because I knew people would doubt me," he said.

Medlock said he declined to be photographed and said he was misquoted by a national tabloid newspaper reporter, who made up a story about the creature tearing up his dog pen and eating one of his dogs.

Retired logger Bailey Glisson said the same tabloid reporter made up a quote that he had been feeding the creature table scraps.

"I told him I sure wouldn't feed him if I ever saw something like that. The only Boogers I've ever seen was us," he said.

Bud Key, who owns Bud's Grocery in Bardin, has made a few dollars off the Booger by selling T-shirts, caps and records featuring the creature.

The T-shirts show a heavily muscled, furry creature carrying a lantern. Its long tongue is sticking out. The shirts also advertise Bud's Grocery.

Key's creature holds the lantern because there is another old tale that an eerie light will

follow you down back roads near Bardin.

Billy Crain, a country music band leader in Palatka, wrote, sang and produced a record about the Booger and said he has sold more than 1,000 copies in about six years.

"Hey, Mr. Bardin Booger, Bardin is you home and every day you love to roam. You run through the bushes and you run through the trees. Hey, Mr. Bardin Booger, don't get me, please," are the lyrics to the chorus of his song.

Crain has never seen the creature, but he said he's talked to others who have.

"I've got out in those woods at night on horseback and it gets pretty spooky out there. You start to thinking about that old Booger and you can psyche yourself up to where you get real scared. I've talked to people who have seen it. They say it has a real bad stink."

The legend also has been good for a few pranks. One young man cut a piece of plywood into the shape of a large foot and stamped tracks down a dirt road.

Pranksters rigged up a sound system on a truck to produce strange noises outside the home of Margaret Warren.

"We called it the Bardin Booger truck," she said.

Ethyl Crews said she doesn't believe in the legend.

"I've lived her 71 years and I haven't seen the Booger yet," she said.

But after some conversation, her parting comment was, "You be careful. Don't let the Booger catch you."

NEWS TRIBUNE, Ft. Pierce, FL
July 21, 1987 CR: L. Farrell