

UFO

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Area sightings called legitimate

UFO center alleges government cover-up

by Michael Burke

Documents are just now being released which show that the United States government has been withholding its own proof of the existence of UFOs, according to the Center for UFO Studies. That statement, plus the fact that the Center has classified some of the spring's area UFO reports as legitimate UFOs, were the principal messages of last Friday evening's press conference/public program at the Belleville High School gym.

Don Schmitt, a co-director of the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS), and Rich Heiden of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc. also told the media and public that the UFO sightings were actually clustered around New Glarus, not Belleville. People had mistakenly assumed that Belleville was the center of the UFO activity because most of the sightings took place from the Belleville area, they explained.

By a process of elimination, Schmitt and Heiden said CUFOS had ruled out all explanations for the Jan. 15-16 sightings by Belleville Police Officer Glen Kasmar and others except that of legitimate UFOs. However, Schmitt said, "That does not mean they were extra-terrestrials. . . just that they're identified as unknown."

Schmitt later, when asked why CUFOS does not state that UFOs are of extra-terrestrial origin, replied, "We don't have anything in hand; there's no way we could say that." He did, however, say he personally was prepared to believe in the possibility.

In making its decision to hold a conference in Belleville, Schmitt said CUFOS elected to delve, as well, into some documents it is also releasing to the nation's major news services. Those documents concern a 40-year-old crash of a UFO which later was dubbed "The Roswell Incident," the title of a book on the subject.

The documents are allegedly a debriefing of president-elect Dwight Eisenhower telling him that the Air

Force had spacecraft fragments that were virtually certainly not of Earth origin. In addition, they told of the recovery of the craft's dead, decomposed occupants.

Those documents were to be released over the national wire services within the next few days following the press conference, Schmitt said.

The Roswell incident began, Schmitt explained, with a series of reports of flying disk-shaped objects in July, 1947. Then followed reports of an unusual

Yet they could not be scratched in the least, even with sledge hammers, nor melted. They also bore unusual markings like hieroglyphics.

Soon, the Air Force had the area cordoned off and no one including the press was allowed near it. The area was scoured of the material. Rasel was taken to the air base and "debriefed," after which he would not talk of what he had seen.

The government issued a cover story that the crash had been of a weather

Schmitt said public knowledge of the documents plus public pressure could force the government to share its information on UFOs on which, he said, the Air Force is still collecting data. "The Air Force is more involved than ever in UFO investigation."

Schmitt said one likely reason for the U.S. and other countries' silence about UFOs is the military applications. "Whoever can master their flight characteristics would rule the planet, or at least have air superiority," he said.



Rich Heiden holds a drawing by Don Schmitt, right, showing several Belleville resident's descriptions of what they saw one late afternoon earlier this spring. The men spoke at Friday's UFO press conference. photo by Michael Burke

explosion during a severe electrical storm.

About a week later, rancher Mack Rasel reported metallic debris on his land, a report investigated by personnel from Roswell Air Force Base. The sheets of material were light as balsa wood and flexible, Schmitt continued.

balloon with an attached dish of some kind, and the press accepted that, Schmitt said. The material was moved to the Air Force's most secret base in the world, Wright Field at Fort Worth, and nothing more, other than rumors, was ever heard about it.

That was a synopsis of information available previously from public records, Schmitt said. What was newly announced was that a document allegedly proving an Air Force cover-up had been obtained from the National Archives and anonymously sent to three men.

One of those men was William Moore, co-author of "The Roswell Incident." Another was a Los Angeles TV producer.

"They haven't been 100 percent authenticated, but we have found nothing to make us think they're not authentic," Schmitt said.

Schmitt said the documents contain an admission of an Air Force "cover story" of the weather balloon and the speculation that the craft was from another solar system.

The Air Force also apparently picked up four small, decomposed bodies of what it thinks were occupants of the craft who ejected before the crash.

UFOs have been seen to make right-angle turns in the sky and have been tracked at more than 10,000 miles per hour, Heiden said.

Nevertheless, Schmitt questioned the government's apparent policy of trying to debunk UFOs. "We have the possibility of the biggest story of all time," he said, "or at least short of the Second Coming."

Schmitt did predict that the U.S. government would eventually be making an announcement that it does have proof of the existence of UFOs. "We have heard for some time that there's a strong faction within the Pentagon that it's time to release the information," he said.

After the press conference, Heiden showed slides of photographs of UFOs and drawings of people's descriptions of aliens they said they had encountered, including some Wisconsin cases. Claims of people having been abducted by UFOs have been numerous over the years, he said.

In response to a question, Heiden said that, in some reported abductions, the victims claimed to have been experimented upon, "and not to the victims' benefit."

However, Heiden added, "By and large, (UFOs) don't seem to pose any danger."

NEWS, Danville, PA - July 1, 1987 CR: L. Whitehurst

UFO sighted

Residents of Columbia and Montour counties reported seeing a bright, round light in the sky Tuesday night.

The first report originated in Iola, where the object was described as arrayed with red and blue lights and hanging motionless in the air before moving away rapidly.

A few minutes later, a 16-year-old Jerseytown girl spotted a similar object coming from the direction of Millville which moved westward toward Washingtonville after pausing in midair.

At about 11:20 p.m., a Washingtonville resident saw a large object with lights heading toward the Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. plant in Derry Township.

Air traffic controllers at the Lycoming County Airport said the tower closes down at 10 p.m. so no radar sighting of the object was made.

UFOs OVER CORYDON

Residents say they're being watched

ed to do something to us, they would have done it by now, and there probably isn't a thing we could do to stop them anyway."

The sightings have been so widely reported that Harrison County has attracted national attention.

A film crew from the ABC news show "20/20" produced a report, and the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle (a clearinghouse for North American UFO sightings) asked the Mutual UFO Network (an international organization with more than 4,000 members) to check out the Corydon reports. The network's volunteer investigators examine sightings and report their findings to the national headquarters.

Jim Delehanty, an investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, is convinced that there will be no close encounters in Harrison County.

"These people are seeing conventional aircraft. I have been out there four times, with cameras with infrared lenses, and a shortwave radio, and I have not seen any-

thing that can't be explained," Delehanty said. "Crafts from Fort Knox do fly over the area, and sometimes they are so far away that you can see them, but not hear them. As far as I'm concerned, the Corydon case is closed."

Others aren't so sure. Some believe that the strange lights may be some new weapon that the army is testing at Fort Knox. A few more think that there are aliens in the area but that the government doesn't want to start a panic.

"The UFOs will be back, 'cause they never left," Norman said. "I think the government knows what's going on, but they aren't talking."

Susan Evans disagreed. "The government couldn't know what's going on," she said. "They can't keep a secret that well."

Joyce Blessinger, who has never seen a UFO, said the aliens have an open invitation to come see her. "I want to meet one," she said. "I'd tell them to park their ship next to the house and come in for a drink."

By JOHN C. PILLOW
Indiana Weekly Staff Writer

Janet Reising says she sees them all of the time, but her husband, Keith, says he never has.

Paul Hauswald said he saw them one night while he was fertilizing the family farm, but every time he tells the story his friends say he is still spreading manure.

And so it goes.

For the past 30 years, Harrison County residents have been reporting unidentified flying objects, but even after a recent rash of spottings there are as many skeptics as there are believers.

About 20 believers and a couple of skeptics gathered recently at the Reising home and swapped tales and looked for some UFOs. And while no one saw any strange objects that night, the real purpose was to get everyone together as a show of solidarity, Janet Reising said.

"There are so many people ... who have seen things but are afraid to admit it," she

said. "I just wanted people who have seen the UFOs to gain strength from each other."

Jim and Mogwedell Norman first saw the white, orange and blue lights circling over their home 14 years ago. "It looked like a cigar, but it seemed like every time the light changed the shape of the thing changed," Jim Norman said.

"I thought it could have been some sort of airplane or helicopter at first, but when it took off it was gone in an instant. No plane can do that. And it couldn't have been a copter, because it didn't make a sound."

Steve Hamm, of the Harrison County Sheriff's Department, saw the lights for the first time in March. "A woman called me and said these flying lights were following her, and I went out to investigate," Hamm said. "When I got out there, I saw it. It was shaped like a boomerang, with blue lights. When it left, it appeared to stand on end and spin. I have seen them so much now that I quit looking."

Retired truck driver Robert Redmon was



About 20 people, above, gathered recently in Corydon to discuss UFOs.

PHOTOS
BY MIKE FISHER

Jim Norman, left, saw an object over his home 14 years ago. Steve Hamm, right, said, "I have seen them so much now that I quit looking."



Sighting of UFOs adds excitement to vintage car race

By JENNIFER WEBER

of the Daily Press Staff

Some odd things can happen in the desert.

The crew of the 1912 fire truck competing in the Great American Race reported seeing two unidentified flying objects Sunday outside Yuma, according to Wayne Stanfield.

A Great Race participant from Costa Mesa.

A Japanese television crew, which has been following the race, reportedly has a videotape showing the two bright orange lights, Stanfield said.

But Stanfield remained unconvinced. "Maybe the heat was getting to them," he said.

Unexplained lights spotted in sky over Lake Blaine

An unidentified flying object was spotted over the mountains east of Lake Blaine early Sunday morning. According to Heath Halden, he first spotted the lights about 4:45 a.m. and they remained visible for "a couple of hours."

Halden reports that there were three vertical white lights and one other light off to the left that was blinking from white to red. "About every minute or so the lights would move to the left or right or up and down, but they would always stay exactly the same distance apart."

Halden reported the sighting to the Flathead County Sheriff's Department. Two deputies that responded to the call also saw the lights but could not determine what the object might have been.

The Sheriff's Department also reports that another sighting was noted over the Bigfork area on Monday but no written report was turned in to their office.

WEEKLY NEWS, Kalispell, MT - Aug. 14, 1987

UFOs: They're 40 and flourishing

2 Tucson groups at heart of debate

By J. RANDALL JUE
Citizen Staff Writer

Whether you believe in them or not, the UFO phenomenon is flourishing on the 40th anniversary of the first "flying saucer" sighting.

For four decades, the descriptions of unidentified flying objects have ranged from giant, weaving cigars to dancing ping-pong balls.

And for 40 years, the believers and non-believers have fought to discredit the other. Nowhere is that more evident than in Tucson.

Tucson's believers are represented by the Tucson-based Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO), the largest and oldest agency investigating "flying saucer" sightings.

The non-believers in Tucson are represented by Tucson Skeptics Inc., which calls itself TUSKS. That organization proclaims that the purpose of the organization "is to monitor and (when appropriate) bring to light the activities of pseudo-scientists and other yahoos here in the Tucson area."

Forty years ago today, Kenneth Arnold reported seeing nine shiny, pulsating objects flying over the Cascade Mountains in Washington as fast as 1,700 mph. Arnold was the first person to report seeing "flying saucers."

Arnold, a Boise, Idaho, businessman, was flying his small airplane on June 24, 1947, when he saw the objects over Mount Rainier moving in a strange, weaving motion. "They seemed to be alive in the center, to have the ability to change their density. I know that sounds strange," Arnold said.

Soon after Arnold's report, UFOs became a craze and the term "flying saucer" was created.

In 1948, the Air Force began receiving and evaluating reports of UFOs in a project called Blue Book.

The Air Force concluded the project in a \$500,000 scientific study led by Edward U. Condon between 1966 and 1968. The study looked at 12,618 sightings reported over 22 years.

The Condon report concluded that "no direct evidence whatever of a convincing nature for the claim that any UFOs represent spacecraft visiting earth from another civilization."

Some UFO experts, though, complained that the purpose of the report seemed to be to discredit as many sightings as possible, instead of objectively studying each alleged sighting.

In the following 10 years, interest in UFOs declined and the number of sightings dropped.

But in 1977, UFOs made a small comeback. In November 1977, President Jimmy Carter asked the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to take up where the Air Force had left off and investigate reports of UFOs. Carter reported seeing a UFO in 1973 while he was governor of Georgia.

In 1978, a Gallup Poll revealed that 57 percent of Americans believed that UFOs were real and 9 percent said they had personally seen something they thought was a UFO.

Today, after another 10-year decline, the UFO phenomenon is surging again.

"The public interest is definitely up," said Coral Lorenzen, acting president of the flying saucer-investigating group APRO. "We have been getting a lot more letters and material from all over the world."

APRO was founded in 1952 in Sturgeon Bay, Wis., by Lorenzen and her husband, Jim, and is the oldest UFO research organization. APRO now is based in Lorenzen's home in Tucson and has 1,100 members worldwide.

Lorenzen, 62, said that APRO was inactive from about January 1986 to April of this year because of her husband's illness. Jim Lorenzen, who was president of APRO, died of cancer last August.

"We're active again and we have re-established our publishing schedule," Lorenzen said. The organization publishes a monthly newsletter called "The APRO Bulletin."

APRO's team includes about 500 investigators who conduct the initial probes when a UFO sighting is reported. The investigators weed out the hoaxes and explainable sightings and send the unexplained ones to APRO headquarters.

Lorenzen believes that the UFOs are controlled by scientifically advanced individuals who have been around and observing us for thousands of years.

"The beings are doing a scientific job. They don't get involved. They don't seem to have emotions, as if they are curators at some kind of zoo," she said.

Lorenzen said that people do not like to look at it that way because it demeans them. "Let's face it. Most of us have been raised to believe that man is the crown of creation. UFOs prove that actually we are toward the bottom of the evolutionary totem pole," she said.

This year's resurgence of UFO reports has been sparked by an increase in alleged UFO abductions.

Three publishers have released major nonfiction accounts of humans who reportedly were contacted, abducted or tortured by extraterrestrials.

APRO has been aware for more than 25 years that UFOs are capable of abducting people, Lorenzen said. "There is not exactly a danger, but I think that if people realize that they do exist they would not be quite so frightened when these beings show up and physically take them," Lorenzen said.

James McGaha, co-chairman and founding fellow of TUSKS, agreed that reported UFO abductions are something new. "It's a new phenomenon in the fact that the people who say they have been abducted really believe that they have been abducted. In the past, I think that abductions were frauds."

McGaha, 40, said he believes the abduction phenomena is a psychological phenomena "in the fact that there is no evidence that they were abducted. There is no evidence that they have been medically examined or that probes have been put into their brains."

TUSKS' aim is to challenge claims that are called scientific but lack proof. McGaha said TUSKS has nine Tucson "fellows" and a mailing list of 200 people.

McGaha will be the key speaker at "Ufology's First 40 Years, 'Where is the evidence?'" a free talk tonight at 7:30 at the Wilmot Branch Public Library, 530 N. Wilmot.

In a recent interview, McGaha made it clear that he thinks that it is ridiculous to think that UFOs are ships from another planet.

"I do not deny that people see things in the sky that they can't explain," McGaha said. "But I think you're taking a big jump when you turn the phenomenon you're witnessing into a spaceship with windows."

McGaha said the term UFO is a misnomer. He prefers calling them UAPs — unidentified aerial phenomena.

Explainable UFOs are usually lights in the sky that turn out to be weather balloons, vapor trails or planets, McGaha said. He said that the few cases that are unexplainable are due to two things:



GARY GAYNOR/Tucson Citizen
Coral Lorenzen, acting president of a flying saucer-investigating group, displayed drawings of objects seen by five people in New York. Lorenzen said interest in UFOs is increasing.

"Either they are outright fraud or they are some natural phenomena that we just don't understand right now, such as ball lightning or swamp gas."

McGaha said that today's scientific knowledge makes it nearly impossible that extraterrestrials have visited the earth. "We are talking about tremendous resources and tremendous distances."

"We only began sending out radio waves this century. The nearest star that could have detected our radio waves by now is 80

light years away. If they did not receive our radio waves, then how could they know that we exist?," McGaha asked.

McGaha also wondered why beings would come all this way and not try to contact leaders or the Nobel Prize winners. "If I was an alien, I would not try to contact two fishermen in a boat drinking alcohol," he said.

Lorenzen predicted that UFO researchers soon would make an "incredible breakthrough" in the hunt for flying saucer evidence.

Arizona has history of sightings

Discs, bright lights, abduction claimed

By J. RANDALL JUE
Citizen Staff Writer

Have UFOs visited Arizona? Some people think so.

Internationally respected for its astronomy, Arizona also has had its share of unidentified flying object incidents over the past 40 years.

● On March 30, 1955, a Tucson musician reported seeing a "disk machine" about 100 feet in diameter and 25 feet thick while driving toward El Paso, Texas.

He said the vehicle wobbled and made electrical humming noises before it finally fired a beam of brilliant light at his car, bubbling the paint and burning his elbow.

● In 1962, a Davis-Monthan Air Force Base crew reported a brilliant light descending on a Titan II missile silo. Two jet interceptors were dispatched.

The light disappeared when the jets approached but reappeared briefly after the jets departed, the pilots said.

● A 14-year-old boy in 1967 said he observed a hovering craft near East Speedway Boulevard and North Harrison Road.

Two fairly good-sized swirls were found in the sand of a nearby wash at the spot where the boy said he saw the UFO. There were no footprints nearby or anything else to show that it was a hoax.

● On Aug. 26, 1968, Pearl Christiansen of Gleason reported seeing a UFO near Brown's Peak at Sierra Vista.

While driving home, Christiansen said she saw a huge silver circular object on the south side of the peak. When she arrived at her

ranchhouse, Christiansen said she saw a second object that was very shiny and gold-colored. It also was stationary and once in a while both glowed simultaneously.

The objects disappeared around midnight, Christiansen said.

Nearly 43 hours after the incident, Christiansen and a friend went up to Brown's Peak. Both noticed a "queer, acid-like" aroma when they arrived at the top.

"Rocks on the peak also were hot — a terrific heat. You couldn't hold your hands on them. It was like a hot iron," Christiansen said.

The Tucson Citizen reporter who covered the incident in 1968 wrote that "cactus plants (at the site) were badly charred at their bases, but not burned at the top. A direct row of four plants — measuring about 40 feet in length — appeared to have been hit by a flame thrower. Still, a plant near the fourth one hardly was singed."

The Tucson-based Aerial Phenomena Research Organization concluded that Christiansen probably did see some kind of UFO.

● The most famous UFO abduction case in Arizona occurred in 1975.

Travis Walton, according to reports filed with the Navajo County Sheriff's Department, was transported aboard an unidentified flying object near Heber in November 1975 and spent five days as the guest/prisoner of seven beings.

Walton and six other loggers had spent the day thinning trees with chainsaws in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest and were on their way home when they noticed a yellowish glow through a growth of pine trees. As they approached a clearing, the loggers later told investigators that they were stunned to see a glowing object hovering 15 to 20 feet above a pile of tree trimmings.

Walton jumped out of the truck and began walking toward the object.

The loggers said that a beeping noise came from the glowing object and then a narrow ray of intense, greenish-blue light came from the object and struck Walton, lifting

him about a foot off the ground.

The other crewmen, terrified, sped from the scene in the truck. After retreating about a quarter-mile, the loggers returned to the clearing and Walton had disappeared.

Five days later, Walton called his sister's home and said he was in a telephone booth at a Heber service station. Walton's brother and brother-in-law found him slumped in the telephone booth.

Walton told his family that the light beam that hit him knocked him unconscious. He awoke to find himself lying on a table in a room with an apparatus of some sort resting on his lower chest.

Standing over him were three hairless beings, all about 5 feet tall, with large eyes and small noses, mouths and ears. They were dressed in loose-fitting coveralls of an orange-tan color.

Scared, Walton said he hit one of the beings with the back of his arm. The beings decided against further confrontation and left.

Walton said he went out the door and found a second room. In that room, he experimented with a chair with a lever built into the left arm and series of push-buttons and a screen on the right arm.

Walton said later, three more human-appearing beings dressed in light blue clothing placed an object resembling an oxygen mask over his face and he lost consciousness.

He awoke on a hard surface and looked up to see a disc-shaped object rising into the sky above him. The hard surface was a road outside of Heber.

Five of the six loggers who were with Walton the night he disappeared passed a polygraph test that concluded that they did see some object that they believed to be a UFO.

In this case, APRO concluded that Walton was telling the truth. But many experts, including the editor of Aviation Week and Space Technology believed that the Walton abduction was a hoax.

(continued on page 4) 3

(continued from page 3 -
CITIZEN, Tucson, AZ
- June 24, 1987)

● The most recent major UFO sighting in the Tucson area occurred the night of Oct. 7, 1985.

Federal Aviation Administration radar operators at Tucson International Airport that night reported tracking about 15 groups of aircraft, at least 60 in all, as they flew from the Avra Valley area in the southwest, across the city, and out through Redington Pass northeast of Tucson.

The UFOs also were seen by various residents across the city. One witness said that one big UFO slowly flew about 500 feet over her head. She said it was cigar-shaped, had a light on each side, and had a fuselage like an Army transport plane.

Officials at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and at other military installations in Arizona have said that no military exercises were under way during the aerial display.

To this day, no one has been able to explain what the objects were or where they came from.

GAZETTE, Gastonia, NC - June 23, 1987 CR: G. Fawcett

'International UFO Symposium'

(Part 1 of 3)
JUNE 26-28 in Washington, D.C., there is going to be an "International UFO Symposium."

Speakers will include scientists and others from over the world, many of whom have made "flying saucers" a hobby, some of whom have made it a business.

The Freedom of Information Act has made available to all of us enough information so that we now know we were lied to by some government agencies during the 1940s and 1950s when "unidentified flying objects" seemed everywhere.

We were told that there were "no official investigations" of certain specific situations when, in fact, there were.

The whole subject is certain to return to the news late next week as symposium speakers are quoted worldwide.

I have always treated this subject with respect. I was well acquainted with Dr. Allen Hynek and his "Center for UFO Studies" at Northwestern University. I shared both his enthusiasm and his skepticism.

Recently I have seen a document which purports to be an Air Force briefing on



PAUL HARVEY

Syndicated Columnist

the subject which was presented to Gen. Dwight Eisenhower while he was a candidate for President.

The authentic-appearing document — if valid — tends to confirm that something did crash near Roswell, N.M., in July 1947.

OUR AIR FORCE was first on the scene. Witnesses said a "spaceship" had crashed "with three or more people aboard."

The initial Air Force report from the site referred to "a flying disc" but within 24 hours they relabeled it "a weather device."

Whatever it was, any debris was sent to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base,

presumably for evaluation and safekeeping.

Pragmatically, several things have bothered me about the Roswell reports. For one thing, how could any bodies from another galaxy be smart enough to come visit us and yet not smart enough to make a safe landing when they got here?

Also, we have so many blabbermouths in the bureaucracy and in the Congress, I could not imagine — if there is a valid "flying saucer story" to tell — why no "deep throat" clandestine source has come forward.

When I publicly mentioned my skepticism, I was offered contact with one such source. With his face in shadow and his voice rendered unrecognizable, this witness — presumably still in our government — gave me an hour-long description of what he said he had seen and heard.

But he delivered to me nothing tangible, nothing I could show you. When I say "tangible" I mean parts of spacecraft, space people, space anything and official documents. All I got was words. Then I decided to seek elsewhere for worthy evidence.

We will pursue that search together during our next visit.

DISPATCH, Columbus, OH - June 15, 1987

UFO followers watch and wait

By Lee Stratton
Dispatch Staff Reporter

When thousands of people have seen the light, why is the government keeping us in the dark?

That is the question UFO believers are pondering as the 40th anniversary approaches of the first modern-day sighting of an unidentified flying object.

On June 24, 1947, private pilot Kenneth Arnold reported that he saw several saucer-shaped objects zip past Mt. Rainier near Seattle. Since his account, thousands more have followed.

SKEPTICS DISCOUNT the sightings as hoaxes, airplanes, helicopters and even swamp gas. Some of the reports, however, have come from professional and military pilots.

The Air Force has abandoned "Project Blue Book," a study of UFO reports, without drawing any conclusions about the existence of flying saucers.

UFO fans remain convinced that space creatures buzz Earth. The believers have graduated from reporting lights and saucers in the sky to tales of kidnappings by aliens and the contention that the government is hiding proof of alien visits.

"I have information that the CIA believes there are four Earth-based colonies which are thousands of years old," said Donald Jernigan, founder of the Phenomena Investigation Committee. One colony is believed to be near Point Pleasant, W.Va., said Jernigan, a Central Ohio Transit Authority bus driver.

"London, Ohio, as well as West Jefferson, seems to be a hot spot for sightings," he said. In 1980 and 1981 many sightings were made near those Madison County communities.

Jernigan has photographs of streaks of light in a black night sky. He said they were taken near London. He told also of a small, mysterious building that was put up overnight and filled with computer equipment, near where the lights appeared on several occasions.

TWO MEN, wearing American Electric Power Co. hard hats, reportedly told members

of Jernigan's group the place was a weather station.

"Why would AEP be monitoring the weather?" he asked. "My source of information said it was the CIA."

Since 1947, there have been 140,000 to 180,000 sightings worldwide. Some are not valid. But many could not be explained, Jernigan said.

Several stories of the recovery of crashed spacecraft and alien bodies circulate through the UFO grapevine.

Jernigan said several saucer-shaped craft were spotted on the ground by people climbing Mt. Shasta in northern California in the 1960s and 1970s. The craft were being hidden and protected by U.S. troops, he said.

"Mt. Shasta is a landing base for their mother ships," Jernigan said. "Our government has made friendly contact with them and is allowing them to use it as a landing base."

THIRTY COUNTRIES admit UFOs are real, he said. The Soviet Union and the United States do not. Jernigan contends the two superpowers are racing to learn the aliens' advanced technologies and to gain them as allies.

"They can run rings around our fastest planes," Jernigan said. "Being thousands of years older, the aliens might contradict what the Bible says about our origins. That would be reason alone for keeping it quiet."

He believes the government eventually will admit the existence of visitors from other planets. "They are going to do it very slowly," he said. "They will spoon-feed the public."

For instance, the government may be influencing producers of such movies as *E.T.* to portray aliens as friendly instead of wanting to devour us and take over our planet, Jernigan said. He said aliens probably are reluctant to reveal their presence after observing our wars and bigotry.

"Man's basic problem is not accepting things that are strange to us," he said. "The aliens would think, 'If they treat their fellow man like that, what would they do to us?'"



Donald Jernigan keeps tabs on UFO reports.

Dispatch photo by Kate Rhodenbaugh

Tales from Alien Abductions Anonymous

INTRUDERS

By Budd Hopkins (Random House, \$17.95)

COMMUNION

By Whitley Strieber (Morrow, \$17.95)

LIGHT YEARS

By Gary Kinder (Atlantic Monthly Press, \$18.95)

By Diana Morgan

Whitley Strieber compares himself to a rape victim. In December 1985, he claims in *Communion*, he was abducted from his log cabin in upstate New York by tiny non-humans with bald heads and holes for eyes. He lay paralyzed on an extraterrestrial examining table while these beings, whom he refers to as "The Visitors," conducted a hideous form of interspecies medical research.

Strieber, heretofore the author of fantasy novels, tells the "true story" of *Communion* in a confiding, colloquial tone. He's not sure he isn't suffering from some weird hallucination and in order to make sense of it and save his sanity and fraying family life, he turns to psychiatrists, CAT scans, polygraph tests, and Budd Hopkins, a neighborhood alien buster. With the aid of hypnosis, he eventually is able to recount an entire series of abductions dating from when he was 12.

He relives years of terror, visitors haunting his infant son, ghostly invaders conducting psychological tests and touching a wand to his head to call up apocalyptic visions. *Communion* becomes, he says, a "chronicle not only of my discovery of a visitor's presence in the world but also some of how I have learned to fear them less."

Taking the place of his fear is a strange sense of mystical union with his abductors. During one encounter the aliens etch on his arm two small triangles, which he sees as universal symbols of bodily and spiritual wholeness. It could be, he says, that the aliens are using the triangles as a symbol of "shared aim, which is the continuation of life and the search for wisdom." This sounds a bit like paperback spiritualism. If Strieber was sane before his run-in with the extraterrestrials, his struggle to find in it an opportunity for greater spiritual growth and self-understanding seems to have sent him completely around the bend.

Much more practical-minded is Budd Hopkins, one of the experts contacted by Strieber in the course of his investigation. Hopkins is a New York painter and sculptor who since 1964 has been tracking alien encounters and has interviewed more than 100 people who claim to have been abducted by them. Strieber met a group of these people in Hopkins' living room at a sort of Alien Abductions Anonymous gathering.

Where Strieber's account is fast-paced and vivid, embellished by his spiritual musings and slightly wacky personality (when he tells his wife he's been flying around the room, her response is likely to be along the lines of "That's nice dear.") Hopkins' tone in *Intruders*



This photo of a "beam ship" was taken March 29, 1976, outside a Swiss village by a man who claims a series of abductions by aliens.

is prosaic and clinical. The story of "Kathy Davis," who lives with her parents and two little boys in a stone house somewhere outside Indianapolis, is especially important, says Hopkins, for the concrete evidence it offers. It appears there are burn marks on the lawn left by a UFO during takeoff, identical surgical scars on Kathy and her mother, and collaborating accounts given by family and neighbors.

Her history, revealed through hypnosis, is interspersed with reports from psychiatrists, psychologists, and obstetricians, and with case studies of a dozen other people who claim to have been abducted. But the most bizarre descriptions, make-believe or not, are of human breeding experiments. Ova and sperm are sucked from women and men prostrated on spaceship operating tables; Kathy and three other victims tell of being knocked out and artificially inseminated by what we are to suppose is alien sperm. The pregnancies inexplicably disappear during the second month, perhaps because the fetuses are stolen away by the ghostly breeders.

Kathy later is introduced to her half-breed daughter, a tiny 5-year-old with blue eyes and hair like white cotton. Three years later, in a "dream," Kathy visits the ship again, this time to cuddle one of eight more genetic hybrids. The case grows curiously and curiously, and one of the fathers of the children asks her to give names to all nine. Hopkins conjectures that the alien race is dying and needs a transfusion of red-blooded Earthling genes.

It is, in a sense, impossible to judge books like these. Either you're willing to consider the possibility of aliens touching down in the neighbor's backyard or you roll your eyes and shut the book. Strieber's saving grace is that to the end he is not a confirmed believer. But he knows that something terrifyingly peculiar happened to him and he'd like to make sense of it. Hopkins is far less tentative in his claims, but like Strieber he pleads for more research.

Far easier to set aside is Gary Kinder's *Light Years*, the tale of Eduard Meier, a one-armed Swiss who claims a series of abductions. Meier returns from jaunts in the

woods near his village with photographs of an alien "beam ship" and pieces of its metal and tells of being teleported to and from the craft by aliens who break down and reassemble his molecular structure. Kinder recounts this and an investigation into Meier's story by piecing together secondhand reports and village talk. A couple of times Kinder interviews witnesses. The result is an awkwardly written — and as it appears here — implausible narrative.

On one level, the accuracy of these accounts is beside the point. Both Hopkins and Strieber are spinning tales that will keep readers turning the pages as fixedly as any Stephen King thriller could. They

are fascinating in the same way newspaper accounts of hijackings or shopping mall gunnings are. We don't really believe they could be true, but we nonetheless read on in horror. Of course, the truth is that deranged individuals do go on killing rampages. And the aliens? That's for you to decide.

Diana Morgan is a Washington, D.C., free-lance writer specializing in science.

UFO sightings puzzle cops in Waunakee

By SHARON D. PITMAN
Capital Times Staff Writer

WAUNAKEE — When police officers Kevin Plendl and Scott McElroy went to the home of a Waunakee woman who reported seeing red and blue lights in the sky early this morning, they were sure they'd be able to explain it quite easily.

When they arrived shortly before 2 a.m. it seemed as if things were going to be even easier. The lights "weren't there when we got there," Plendl said in a telephone interview today.

The woman, who lives on Division Street in Waunakee, told the officers she had watched the lights for about an hour before notifying authorities. The two Waunakee officers were not convinced.

The officers, however, began watching the spot where the woman had sighted the object and after a moment saw what Plendl described as a one-half to one-quarter moon-shaped object with red and blue lights. "It went from not being there," Plendl explained, and then, before his eyes, simply "popped into" the sky.

Plendl said the object was very bright at times, but periodically dimmed. It also shifted in the sky from north to south, the officer said.

"I'm not sure what we were looking at," Plendl said, but he and McElroy watched it for 15 to 20 minutes before agreeing to move their vantage point to River Road, about three miles east

of the village.

As Plendl looked at the object through a pair of binoculars he "saw something come flying off it. It went at a tremendous speed."

The Waunakee officer said he followed the piece that broke off the object with the binoculars but eventually lost sight of it.

When he and McElroy left the area, the original object they had seen in the sky remained.

Authorities are investigating the possibility the light might have come from a burner on a hot-air balloon.

Sheriff's Department dispatcher Kent Kruger said Dave Bier of Morrisville saw a red and blue hot-air balloon land in the same vicinity about 6:30 a.m.

However, Bier said he was not able to talk with the balloonists or to get the license plate number of their pickup vehicle before they packed up and left.

Plendl said the incident left him "surprised and speechless. ... I don't know if there is a logical explanation for it or not, but we didn't have one."

UFOs were sighted Jan. 16 when a Belleville police officer and a civilian ride-along spotted a strange bright light in the sky west of Belleville. The object was described as being a clump of red, blue and white lights.

On that occasion, the lights were also spotted by a Dane County deputy, as well as two Green County officers.

said the wheels were about the size of a car's.

Deputy Jay Manifold said he saw the UFO "for only a few seconds." He said it was moving faster than a car, about 30 feet above the ground.

"It was about the size of my car," Manifold said. He watched the object fly over the county line into Alachua County, where he said, officials had told the Marion sheriff's communications center that no UFOs had been reported.

Manifold suggested the object may have been a military helicopter. He said all boats and planes he has seen have had the red and green lights that this object displayed. He said one of its two headlights was aimed forward and one was aimed down to the ground.

Two witnesses saw the object hover, and then fly over them. They said they did not think it was remote controlled, because it had paused in the air and then moved on.

The sheriff's department contacted military authorities and the electrical and railroad companies to verify that nothing like the UFO was in operation at the time, according to department spokesman Sgt. Ken Ertle.

"Basically all I can say," Manifold said, "is that, yes, they did see it and no, I don't know what it was."

No sightings were reported Thursday night.

What Was Soaring Over Citra? UFO Group May Investigate

By LAURA KNIGHT
Staff Writer

A no-noise unidentified flying object seen in north Marion County Wednesday night, described as about the size of a sedan and with no wings, may be checked out by the Mufon UFO Network, which investigates such sightings.

Witnesses, including a sheriff's deputy, said the UFO had headlights and one red light and one blue or green light on its front.

Allison Zaleski, a Mufon spokeswoman, said a decision on the investigation will be made today. She said witnesses may be interviewed by the organization.

"People have asked me if I thought it was operated by remote, and I've said no," Citra resident Stephanie James said. She said the object turned and moved toward her as

she sat in her car with three children and her sister on Pine Church Road. She said they watched it for about 10 minutes before they decided to leave because it got too close.

"We had never believed in (UFOs)," Mrs. James said. "The kids said it was a plane, but no, we had seen planes before."

Mrs. James said the object was about one-half mile to a quarter of a mile from the car when they first noticed it. They drove to railroad tracks so they could see more clearly and stopped at the side of the road. The object, moving just above the power lines, moved slowly toward them. Mrs. James said they decided to leave when it got about 50 feet from them.

The object was silent and had wheels on the back of it. She

UFOria

40 years after the Mount Rainier sighting, interest in flying saucers is still sky-high

by Bill Dietrich
Times staff reporter



Forty years ago this month, a Civil Air Patrol pilot named Kenneth Arnold spotted something near Mount Rainier that produced the most enduring, baffling and popular controversy of the 20th century.

Arnold was searching for a military plane that had crashed on Mount Rainier. On June 24, 1947, he reported a flight of nine bright, crescent-shaped objects flying in formation from Mount Rainier toward Mount Adams. Timing their flight between the two peaks, he estimated their pace at more than twice the speed of sound,

despite the fact no known pilot had yet broken that barrier.

Two days later, reporters met Arnold at the Pendleton, Ore., airport and heard him describe the line of objects undulating like a kite tail as they flew, like "a saucer skipping across the water."

Thus the term "flying saucer" was born, and the popular image of unidentified flying objects instantly shifted in the public mind from the boomerang-shaped craft Arnold described to that of the now-so-familiar round discs. After wire services sent Arnold's report around the globe, there were 856 UFO sightings in the next two months. UFO speculation has accelerated again this spring with publication of three best-sellers about the phenomenon.

Arnold's sighting was not the first report of UFOs. There are historical and biblical accounts of strange objects in the sky. World War II pilots reported

mysterious lights they labeled "foo fighters" and believed were a Nazi secret weapon. The Army Air Force dismissed the lights as ball lightning, or hallucinations produced by fatigue.

So it was left to Arnold to touch off "uforia," the wave of public sightings and speculation that has fascinated the media and inspired Hollywood. In March, a Gallup Poll reported that 9 percent of those surveyed had seen a UFO, and 49 percent believed UFOs to be real.

Such persistent public interest has in turn led to "ufology," the frustratingly imprecise field of UFO research where systematic seriousness has been undermined by quacks and crazies.

Today, Seattle is home to at least three major UFO-reporting organizations. In 1982 Dale Goudie, a freelance television commercial producer, began the UFO Information Service International and its companion, CUFON, a computer data bank of UFO evidence. A self-described skeptic looking for hard evidence, he specializes in Freedom of Information Act requests for government documents on UFOs.

Robert Gribble runs the National UFO Reporting Center full time. Since 1974 the center has collected 1,000 to 1,500 UFO reports per year from around the United States.

And Aileen Edwards, a Boeing secretary, heads the UFO Contact Center International, which started in 1981 and now has 22 branch offices collecting reports from people who claim they have been abducted by aliens.

A fourth Puget Sound-area group is Tacoma's New Age Foundation, which was created by longtime Tacoma UFO enthusiast Wayne Aho and for a quarter century has held annual gatherings near Mount Rainier. On June

26-28, the foundation will hold a New Age convention at Pierce College, near Steilacoom, to commemorate Arnold's sighting. Aho, 70, predicts that "1987 will be the breakthrough year" in public acceptance of UFOs and New Age beliefs.

Interest in UFOs has surged again. First there was the Nov. 17, 1986, sighting of a giant, walnut-shaped UFO over Alaska by Japan Air Lines pilot Kenju Terauchi, 47. Terauchi's credibility as a Boeing 747 pilot with 19 years' experience guaranteed his story enormous media attention, although skeptics have theorized he actually was looking at reflected Eskimo village lights and the planet Jupiter.

More down-to-earth, Dreyer's Ice Cream has recently used 72-year-old Ida Kannenberg of Hillsboro, Ore., as an "unbelievable spokesman for an unbelievable product." Kannenberg said she was abducted for 40 minutes by a UFO in the California desert in 1940, and since 1977 has been in telepathic communication with the aliens.

Seattle itself is home to several people who claim to have been abducted by UFOs but are reluctant to go public.

But it is publication this spring of three best-selling UFO books that has been most responsible for rekindling interest.

"Communion," by best-selling novelist Whitley Strieber of New York ("The Wolfen," "The Hunger," "Warday") is purported to be a true account of Strieber's abduction and medical examination by aliens. The best-written of the three, "Communion" drew a \$1 million advance for the author. By late May it had sold 225,000 hard-back copies and was being snapped up at a rate of 25,000 to 30,000 copies a week.

"Intruders," by artist and UFO investigator Budd Hopkins of Long Island, asserts that what happened to Strieber has happened to hundreds or even thousands of Americans. After interviewing women who claimed under hypnosis that their fetuses were stolen, Hopkins theorizes that short, humanoid aliens are conducting genetic experiments to create a half-breed race, for reasons unknown.

"Light Years," by Idaho author and attorney Gary Kinder ("Victims"), re-examines the case of Eduard Meier, a one-armed Swiss farmer with a grade-school education who claimed in the 1970s to have visited with human visitors from the Pleiades.

Giving all three books more believability is the authors' requests not for acceptance, but investigation.

Strieber's tone is one of bewilderment. When interviewed, he asserted he had further contact with the creatures in 1986 after the book was written, though none since it was published. He made no claim that the creatures he encountered were from outer space, or even physically real.

"What happened to me in 1986 has thrown into a cocked hat all my ideas about the relationship of the physical world and the spiritual world," he said. "I have no idea where they came from or what they are. I don't know what happened to me. Neither believers or non-believers like that."

But Strieber recently passed a lie-detector test administered by the British Broadcasting Service, and said he has received 800 to 900 accounts of similar experiences from readers.

Hopkins, who has also been deluged with new cases since publication of his book, wants scientific investigation of the abduction phenomenon. "I'm the first one to admit how outrageous this material is to accept," he said from his art studio. "I want other

(continued on page 7)



... creatures that resemble "a big bug."

VOICE GRAPHIC, South Milwaukee, WI - Aug. 13, 1987 CR: L. Whitehurst

Weekly Opinion Survey

It's up in the sky: Is it or isn't it?

This week's question: **There have been recent reports of UFO sightings in Wisconsin. Do you believe they exist?**

The replies:

Yes	49%
No	38%
No opinion	13%

Commentary: Do they or don't they? Does anyone really know if UFOs exist or whether they are the figment of a lot of imaginations. Some people think they are real because their great-aunt has actually seen one. Others say yes because the government says no and they don't believe a word the government says. Then there are those who chose to believe the authorities, or something inside themselves, and refuse to accept the possibility. So the cat and mouse game continues and no one will know for sure until they come out of the sky and appear on the evening news (if they are really up there, that is). But for many, that will probably be just another media hoax, right?

Sample comments from those who approved: "We could not exist without someone else in the universe. I think it is possible they exist." "I'm reading a book that is about UFOs. It is supposed to be true. I don't have anything to back this." "I've been reading up on this quite a bit. Yes, I do. This is a strange world we're living in. Anything is possible in this world." "Sure, they have been documented and everything." "With the millions of stars there must be another planet somewhere." "There has been data that has been substantiated. I think it is possible." "I don't know why not. If we can go the moon, why can't someone be spooking around here?" "Yes, I don't believe we are the only people on the universe." "Yes, I do. You'd be pretty naive if you thought there was nothing else in the universe." "Yes, there is something. They just haven't been identified." "There are too many

people seeing those things that can't be explained. Yes, I think they exist." "This is too small a world to have intelligent life only on this planet." "There seems to be high officials, policemen and intelligent people that see them. I don't know. There just seems to be life out there." "Yes, with space going on and on and on and all the stars, there has to be planets where there are people who probably come to visit from time to time."

The opposing viewpoints: "Basically, no, but anything can happen but basically, no." "No, I think it has something to do with the stars." "No, I don't believe in stuff like that." "No, because I've never seen one." "I have taken classes in astrology. I do not think anyone can come from another planet because of the distance involved." "I do not believe they exist. I think this is all in their imagination." "No, but there is something. I think the government is doing it." "No, there are just certain types of people that see them. I think they are a reflection of gases in swamps."

From those undecided: "I have a friend who says he has seen them twice. I don't know. If there is, it sure will knock hell out of religion." "I don't have any reason to believe in them and I don't have any reason not to believe in them."

Survey details: 115 persons were contacted by phoning random cross-sections of residences throughout the south and southwest suburban areas. This column's purpose is to provide on a regular basis an opportunity for a substantial number of local residents to express opinions on a wide range of subjects. Accordingly, no attempt is made to use scientific methods in selecting participants. Results should be viewed with these factors in mind.

people, scientists, to do this investigation."

Kinder's conclusion in his account is "that the truth of the Meier contacts will never be known." He told The Times that investigating UFO reports is "like quicksand."

"It's a frustrating field," Kinder said. "It's elusive. I empathize with scientists who say they will have nothing to do with it." Yet, argues Kinder, "Anyone who looks at these (released government documents on UFO studies) can't come away and say there are no such things as UFOs. The problem is defining UFOs. Most people think of UFOs and flying saucers as synonymous, when they're not. *Something* is flying in the atmosphere that scientists can't explain. There are too many credible people seeing incredible things."

Hogwash, says Philip Klass of Washington, D.C., a retired editor of *Aviation Week and Space Technology*. He is the author of three skeptical books and has become the nation's leading debunker of UFOs.)

Klass recently offered \$10,000 to any UFO abduction case that the FBI can confirm, while adding a warning that there is a potential \$10,000 fine and five-year prison sentence for falsely reporting kidnappings.

"I put my money where my mouth is," said Klass. "In 20 years we have never had a (UFO) case that could not be explained in prosaic terms." He noted his own former employer has been dubbed "Aviation Leak" for its success in obtaining secret material about new airplanes. None of his military contacts, Klass said, has ever hinted he is wrong to be skeptical about UFOs. "Washington is a city that is like a sieve," he said. "There is just no UFO secret."

Klass pointed to the three best-sellers as an example of the problem. Kinder's aliens are benevolent human emissaries, Hopkins' dwarfish humanoids are conducting genetic experiments, and Strieber's are baffling, dreamlike humanoid creatures that in some cases resemble "a big bug."

"They're as identical or similar as I am to a lizard," said Klass. Can all three accounts be accurate? And if at least one is a hoax, who is to say all aren't? he asked.

It is Klass who has attacked the account of the Alaskan UFO given by the JAL pilot, Terauchi. Klass points out that the walnut-shaped UFO was not seen by the other 747 crew members. It did not show up at all on a second ground radar used for a confirming check. It was not seen by a nearby United jet and Air Force cargo plane, which searched. The UFO could have been the combination of village lights reflecting off ice crystals in clouds, along with Jupiter, he theorized.

Klass has similarly dissected other famous sightings in articles and books such as "UFOs: The Public Deceived." Believers retort that his explanations frequently seem more far-fetched than the concept of alien spaceships.

The scientific community has neatly sidestepped the controversy by concentrating its search for extraterrestrial life on space probes and radio telescopes that search for radio signals from alien civilizations.

The media have been delighted to print UFO stories. But, aware of the conflicting claims and arguable evidence, it has been reluctant to spend much time investigating the phenomena in detail.

The government, depending on whom one believes, either tried to document UFOs for decades and gave up in 1969, or continues to compile UFO evidence through secret investigations.

Some findings have been published. The CIA's 1953 Robertson Panel concluded that UFOs

Space visitors? Read the arguments

Here are some of the key arguments for and against the existence of extraterrestrial visitors to Earth:

PRO

■ There have been at least 60,000 reported sightings of UFOs in the United States alone — by pilots, astronomers, radar operators, astronauts, even Jimmy Carter. Can all these people be wrong, or lying?

■ Astronomers estimate there are 100 to 300 billion stars in our galaxy, and as many as 100 billion galaxies. With so many potential solar systems, isn't it likely superior civilizations have arisen elsewhere?

■ Although some believe biblical and historical passages refer to UFOs, there has been a sharp increase in sightings since radio and television transmissions (which escape into outer space) and atomic explosions. Isn't such technological development a logical explanation of why aliens would suddenly show an interest?

■ Although there are numerous differences, there is also a certain consistency to many UFO reports: silent, wingless craft doing astonishing maneuvers, driven by short, humanoid occupants. People claiming to have been abducted and examined by UFO occupants also tell similar tales.

■ The U.S. government has still not released all the documents compiled on UFOs, despite Freedom of Information Act requests. Doesn't that suggest a cover-up?

CON

■ Even UFO organizations admit at least 90 percent of all sightings have been found to have a prosaic explanation — aircraft, balloons, planets, ball lightning. Experienced pilots have mistaken Venus or Jupiter, under certain atmospheric conditions, for UFOs. So, reportedly, did Jimmy Carter.

Although the number of potential solar systems is immense, the distances between them are huge. If Einstein is right and nothing can travel faster than the speed of light, the number of stars within feasible commuting distance of Earth drops to a handful.

■ Isn't it suspicious that UFO sightings accelerated with the number of human aircraft in the sky, the popularity of science fiction, mass communications that make us all familiar with UFO stories, and Cold War paranoia caused by the atomic bomb?

■ There are remarkable inconsistencies about the size, shape, appearance and behavior of alleged "flying saucers," which range from discs to triangles to spheres to cigar shapes. Moreover, the described occupants are usually human or humanoid, oxygen-breathing, and communicate by word or telepathically in English. How likely is that? Finally, if they just want to say hello, why use spaceships at all — why not use radio signals that travel at the speed of light?

■ After 40 years of alleged UFO visitation, there is not a single incontestable photograph, alien artifact, message or scientific investigation that offers undeniable proof of UFO visits.

Writer describes his abduction by aliens

by Bill Dietrich
Times staff reporter

If nothing else, Whitley Strieber's new book, "Communion," has created a supreme horror story for the late 20th century.

Alien beings emerge from the shadows of his isolated New York cabin and move to the foot of his bed. Paralyzed and stripped naked, he is transported outdoors and upward into what seems to be a sterile room in a spaceship. A needle is plunged into his brain and with cold indifference the beings shove a spidery instrument up his rectum. "Is there something we can do to help you stop screaming?" one blank-eyed creature inquires. This nightmare encompasses our worst images of invaders, rape, an impersonal and all-powerful bureaucracy, and sterile, painful medical procedures.

But is any of it real? Or are these just the feverish imaginings of an accomplished horror novelist?

"I think he's telling the truth," said Dr. John Gliedman, a research psychologist in New York

City who describes himself as a "sympathetic skeptic."

"And as a friend (he knew Strieber for a few years before the alien abductions emerged from the author's memory) I think he's as sane as I am, and I consider myself pretty sane," said Gliedman. Dr. Robert Klein of the New York State Psychiatric Institute gives a similar testament to Strieber's sanity in the book itself.

But that doesn't mean Gliedman necessarily thinks alien visitors are abducting Americans from their bedrooms. It may just be imaginings triggered by some unknown mental mechanism, he said. Or perhaps 1 percent of the population is somehow sensitive to subtle environmental changes, such as shifts in the Earth's magnetic field, that somehow trigger the same nightmares or hallucinations.

Professor Michael Swords, a natural sciences teacher at Western Michigan University, suggests "the concrete evidence is not compelling" in "Communion" that Strieber had actually been abducted

by space visitors. "It seem more internally originated than externally originated," he said.

But that doesn't mean Strieber is lying or crazy, Swords added. There may be equally exotic explanations: contact with the spiritual world, for example, or a parallel universe. He also found Budd Hopkins' "Intruders" more persuasive because it cited several similar cases and some physical evidence, such as marks of UFO landing gear on grass and tiny scars on abduction victims. Using "Intruders" as supporting evidence, Strieber's story is more persuasive, he said.

Still, a lot of UFO encounters take on the ghostly tone of myth or revelation. "For centuries," said Gliedman, "the only creatures western Europeans saw were devils or angels. Increasingly, those symbols (for the unknown) involve space and aliens. So sadly, we can't use the rough similarities between descriptions by abductees as evidence."

To the psychologist, the abduction tales eerily reflect our fears.

"There is a reflection of the suspicions a lot of people have that there is no easy fix to the nuclear and environmental dilemma we are in," he said. "That the universe is a cold, indifferent place at best. It's a bit like a religious experience except there isn't redemption, or damnation either. There's just the suspicion that these aliens would just as soon let us hang in the wind as intervene before we slit our own throats."

Still, Gliedman thinks that what UFO abduction victims are describing "cries out for study." Unfortunately, he estimates a minimum scientific effort would cost \$1 million and that the scientific establishment is unwilling to risk the ridicule to spend that sum on such a gamble.

"We need to treat these victims with respect and sympathy," he said. Whatever its reality, "it is an intense, frightening experience. Some people compare it to what they imagine it must be like to be raped." To dismiss them as crazy or liars is cruel and wrong, Gliedman said.

couldn't be proved. The Air Force's 1968 Condon Committee Report concluded that sightings had no scientific value. Yet UFO enthusiasts argue that the evidence

cited by these reports refutes their own conclusions.

Adding to the confusion is that UFO organizations often have little use for each other. For example, it was established UFO groups that first condemned the Meier case in Switzerland as a fraud.

And Seattle's Goudie criticizes other Puget Sound UFO organizations for failing to be skeptical enough about reports and sometimes seeking to profit from the controversy.

Goudie, who has never personally seen a UFO, thinks he is close to establishing a government cover-up of UFO evidence and says he has found documents he thinks refer to secret UFO investigations called Project Aquarius and MJ-12.

But Goudie makes no claim about what the UFOs are or where they come from. Seattle's Gribble has no such hesitation. "I'm a total believer," he said. Although he estimates that only 10 percent of the reports his center receives warrant further investigation, those that do seem plausible are too consistent to be fakes, he argued. The same is true of the abduction phenomena, he said. "When there is that much smoke, there has got to be fire," he said.

Edwards makes a similar argument. "It's the weight of so many cases," she said.

In a famous 1954 essay, Swiss psychoanalyst Carl Jung theorized that the saucer shape represents a mandala, a spiritual wheel that has been a symbol of order and wholeness. Flying saucers, he

theorized, are an unconscious projection of our hopes that some outside force will provide salvation from nuclear war.

In his book "Flying Saucers," Jung said "there is a tendency all over the world to believe in saucers and to want them to be real."

In the fall of 1977, Alberta photographer Douglas Curran began a seven-year, 125,000-mile North American odyssey to find and report on UFO believers. The result was a book called "In Advance of the Landing: Folk Concepts of Outer Space." Curran found a well-developed mythology, or what author Tom Wolfe described in his introduction to the book as a religion: the belief that flying saucers arrived after Hiroshima to save us from ourselves.

"The key moment in history was the first use of nuclear weapons on this planet," Tacoma's Aho recently lectured some college students. "Intelligences other than us are concerned and trying to awaken the Earth people to a new consciousness that will raise us above war."

Interestingly, Strieber now calls his alleged abduction by 4-foot-high creatures that crept into his bedroom "a spiritual experience."

The hypnosis he used to uncover blocked memories of the kidnappings, he said, has helped him confront vague fears, improve his personality and "increase my awareness of myself as a human being."

"Communion" is a testament of perceptions, of what I believed was happening," Strieber said. "It is not necessarily a true story as a physical event. All this may have more to do with the growth of human consciousness than alien visitors. Something is going on with the mind that is more complex than it seems."

So what is the reader supposed to conclude? "This is not the time to draw any conclusions," he said. "I hope it arouses questions in people's minds, about what the universe is, what people are, what we are. We need to investigate."

Search for downed jet halted; none missing

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - Oct. 13, 1987
OZARK - Authorities called off the search Monday for a aircraft that was reported to have crashed northeast of Ozark on Sunday.

Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy John Andolina said the search was called off around 3:45 p.m. Monday "because nothing could be found to substantiate any facts."

The search started late Sunday afternoon after a private pilot and two boys reported seeing a small jet go down and explode in a heavily wooded area about five miles northeast of Ozark.

Helicopters from Fort Chaffee near Fort Smith and about 40 to 50 people searched the rough terrain for the aircraft Sunday, according to Franklin County Sheriff Gordon McCain.

The search continued about 10:45 a.m. Monday, Andolina said, with military assistance and around 25 people, which included officials from the sheriff's office, off-duty police and civilians.

A spokesman from the Federal Aviation Administration had said the FAA hadn't received a report of a missing military jet or any other aircraft.

'Project Aquarius' on the horizon

(Part 2 of 3)

IN PREPARATION for the upcoming "International UFO Symposium" I re-read the Condon Report on the subject of unidentified flying objects.

Further, I re-familiarized myself with the Air Force Project Blue Book until its official closing in 1959.

Every day I was receiving calls from individuals and organizations offering to be helpful. Most of these leads led nowhere.

I did satisfy myself that President Truman did, in fact, create a group of scientists known as "Majestic 12" or "M-12" and that President Eisenhower perpetuated their effort.

I am told — though I am not convinced — that our present government's secret watch on the high horizon is identified as "Project Aquarius."

A NATIONAL security agency admits to having 160-plus documents relating to UFO investigations. While the Freedom of Information Act should give us access to those documents, a judge has said



PAUL HARVEY

Syndicated Columnist

"no" and the Supreme Court has upheld his conclusion that the documents are of "such a sensitive nature that any public right-to-know is far outweighed by considerations of national security."

And no — I cannot explain that.

I am not willing naively to accept the government's word as the "last word."

There was a time in my experience when the Pentagon was insisting that our government did not have in research, in development nor in testing "any flying vehicle resembling a saucer."

That was not true.

In my possession then — and now — are unretouched 8-by-10 fine-grain glossy

photographs of two experimental Navy planes with elliptical wings. They are photographed both sitting and flying and they do, indeed, resemble "saucers."

What we newspeople will never forget from the days of the Manhattan Project is that our nation's military and scientific leaders keep a secret best by denying any knowledge of any such thing.

THUS WAS THE atom bomb introduced to the world as a complete surprise.

There are some individuals who like to speculate about this UFO subject who are convinced that our government wants us to know — that our reaction is being tested gradually and systematically with movies on the subject: "Close Encounters," "The Day the Earth Stood Still," the movie "E.T." — and others.

I cannot subscribe to that suspicion, though the proliferation of movies on related subjects certainly demonstrates an enormous public appetite for space-related information.

So what is the bottom line? I'll tell you what I think it is during our next and final visit on this subject.

Validity of UFO's is not proven

(Part 3 of 3)

I'VE HAD MY phone lines and my doors open recent weeks to anybody on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects for several reasons.

One reason is that I have long since dropped from my vocabulary the word "impossible." So I dare not rely entirely on logic.

Also, I have offered an empathetic ear to believers in saucers because they have no place else to go.

You and I must ask ourselves — if we were approached by little green men in some secluded place, and they allowed us to examine their spaceship, would we tell?

Many tabloid newspapers over the years have published eyewitness accounts of spaceships and space people and the rest of us have dismissed such stories as incredible and labeled such witnesses irresponsible.

Now — if I should be approached by a little green man who would be willing to



PAUL HARVEY

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accompany me to a facility where he could be examined and "certified" — then I'd have something.

I have never been sure how Paul Harvey would have reacted had he been in Galileo's shoes.

In his day the Church view was the prevailing view and dissenters were beheaded. And the Church view was that the Earth was the center of the universe. While Galileo knew otherwise, he kept his mouth shut and kept his head.

SO WHAT is the bottom line?

After looking at reams of documents and listening to taped interviews and consulting with amateurs and professionals

in the UFO business — I remain a skeptic.

I suspect that some of the flood tide of information I have received recently could have to do with the upcoming symposium on the subject in Washington.

Maybe somebody hoped that I would say something to lend credibility to that event. I cannot.

You will be hearing some pretty convincing accounts from the assembled speakers, many of whom will contend that only "government secrecy" is separating you from the truth.

Do I believe that some of the people involved in UFO research are sincere? I do indeed.

And up the road ahead if anybody can provide me with tangible evidence, he or she will have a respectful audience.

But golly, I have been so careful in my selection of the products and books I recommend to you — I cannot and will not encourage your belief in something which has not first demonstrated its validity to me.

And the UFO has not.

Officers sure they weren't 'seeing things'

By Ron Seely

Of The State Journal

WAUNAKEE — This village, which bills itself as "The only Waunakee in the world," may have to broaden its claim a bit after the strange goings-on here early Tuesday morning.

How about "the only Waunakee in the universe?"

Two Waunakee police officers, Scott McElroy, 21, and Kevin Plendl, 22, say they saw something they can't explain in the sky over the village about 2 a.m. Tuesday — a round object four or five times brighter than the northern star with flashing red and blue lights.

"What they saw, they saw," said Police Chief Frank Balistreri. "They're very good officers, very reliable."

Whatever it was the officers saw, it has made them minor celebrities in Waunakee. Tuesday afternoon, they faced a room full of television cameras and microphones to tell their story.

McElroy and Plendl responded to a call from Waunakee resident Thea Hefty at 1:52 a.m. Tuesday. McElroy said Hefty told them she had been watching a strange, bright object in the sky and called the police to look at it, too. "She wanted to prove she hadn't been seeing things," Plendl said.

At first, Plendl and McElroy were skeptical because they saw nothing in the sky where Hefty pointed.

"Then, out of the blue, there it was," McElroy said. "It was a glowing object, about four or five times brighter than the northern star with red and blue flashing lights."

Plendl said the officers at first thought the object was a reflection from the clouds. But they waited for the clouds to move and when they did, the object was still there.

"It was moving north to south," Plendl said. "We could tell because we lined it up with an object on the house. It was standing still at times. Then it would go south. Then it would go north. Sometimes it just hovered."

After watching it for 15 or 20 minutes, the officers drove into the country toward the object to get a better look. From River Road, south of Waunakee, they watched it through binoculars. As they were watching, Plendl said, a most curious thing happened. Something bright and egg-shaped broke away from the main object and flew away at an extremely high speed. Plendl followed the flight of the egg-shaped object for a few seconds but eventually lost it because of its high speed.

"I was stunned," Plendl said.

The officers contacted the Dane County Sheriff's Department which contacted a radar tracking station in northern Illinois that monitors such sightings. The tracking station reported nothing unusual on its monitors, the officers said.

There were reports of a red and blue hot air balloon landing in the same area about 6:30 a.m. But Plendl and McElroy don't think what they saw was a balloon because it was too bright and hovered in one spot too long.

Marian Anderson, a Madison woman who monitors such sightings for the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Chicago, said an investigator for the organization will probably probe deeper into the sighting.

Earlier this year, investigators for the center, a private organization that studies and compiles data on UFO sightings, looked into a series of strange sightings in Belleville.

CR: R. Heiden

"The Unexplained"—

Pulsating UFO Lands In Florida Swamp

By Glenn Sparks

On the night of March 14, 1965, James W. Flynn, who is a rancher and hunting dog trainer, was camped out for the night in the Everglades. Just as he was settling down for the night his dogs became restive and upset. He looked around expecting visitors, but instead he sighted a bright light silently and slowly descending about a mile away.

Thinking that perhaps an airplane had gotten into trouble and gone down, he prepared his swamp buggy for the journey and set out to render aid if needed. He was guided directly to the spot by the glow which continued unabated. This worried Flynn as he expected to find a burning plane and probably injuries or fatalities. He found neither.

Pulsating Glow

When about a quarter mile away he grounded his swamp buggy and continued on foot. Soon he found himself in a large clearing and he wasn't alone. Some twenty yards away he saw a circular, cone-shaped object with a pulsating glow. It hovered just above the ground with a slightly perceptible wobbling motion. He detected, after a bit of study, a sound he could only describe as a hum. He estimated the size at well over seventy-five feet in diameter and

twenty-five to thirty feet thick. There were four rows of ports or windows encircling the craft, each emitting a yellow light unlike the color of the craft's overall glow. A partition immediately behind the windows prevented him from seeing any internal details or occupants.

For many minutes Flynn just stood there, amazed. He had heard of such things, but, until now, had never really taken them seriously. Overactive imagination, he'd thought. But this was not imagination. It was real.

Curiosity overcame fear. He started to approach the craft to get a better look. He never made it. A pencil thin blue light shot out from "somewhere" on the craft hitting Flynn on the forehead "right between the eyes." He was unconscious before he hit the ground.

When he regained consciousness he was partially blind, sluggish, had a terrific headache and a large, sore bruise on his forehead. The craft was gone. Somehow he got his swamp buggy going and got to his hometown of Ft. Meyers, Florida. He was rushed to a hospital for examination and treatment.

Trees Burned

After he told his story, investigators went back to the spot. They found a large

circular spot in the clearing where the ground and grass were charred. The tops of some nearby trees were severely burned. The trunks and limbs of some of the trees were scarred.

The Air Force, at that time, normally debunked and belittled UFO sightings and the people who reported them out of hand, but in this instance they did not reckon with Flynn's standing in his community. On this occasion the Air Force had to partially back off. They only took one shot, that I can find, in that they labeled it by innuendo to be a hoax. Question is, how did Flynn fake the charred circle of ground; how did he burn and scar the trees and, most importantly, how did he self-inflect a bruise of such shape and intensity?

One final piece of evidence helped exonerate James Flynn. One of his physical injuries was atrophy of internal muscles. Medical science tells us that one can't be faked; period!

It happened, probably exactly as Flynn described it. The trouble is he doesn't know what it was nor where it came from. So, even today, it's still carried in the annals of the UFO as Unexplained!

UFOs make news again

A lot of people are seeing a lot of things, a deputy sheriff says

By PATTI THORN
Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

IT HAPPENED one hot May night. "We were sittin' down on Pearl and we were waitin' for the pizza guy," says Ana Dekker, 12. "Then we were watchin' a lot of airplanes go by." "You know how most of them have lights on 'em?" says Ana's friend Rhonda Courtney, 10. She cracks her gum. One plane, she says, was different. "See, the lights were moving. You know how most airplanes are sorta loud? It was just sorta silent. It was, like, triangular. And it was spinning around in a circle." Suddenly, they forgot all about the pizza. "I was scared. I was shaking and crying," says Rhonda. "We all were, actually," says another friend, Tricia Heit, 12. "Shaking and crying." It was around 10 p.m. It was going to be a long night.

UFOs are making news again. This month marks the 40th anniversary of the first "modern" UFO sighting, several saucer-shaped objects spotted near Mount Rainier. In commemoration, UFO fans have scheduled conferences in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and New York City. As if on cue, Whitley Strieber's book, *Communion*, based on supposed true UFO stories, has shot like a rocket up the best-seller list. And Coloradans seem to have caught UFO fever, as well.

The same week three girls in Arapahoe County say they spotted a UFO, dozens of Glenwood Springs residents reported bright multicolored lights in the sky northwest of town.

And not just any residents. Four police officers also saw the green, red and blue mystery lights.

If this is a fad, it's bound to be a big one.

Two-thirds of Americans believe UFOs might or probably exist, according to a recent opinion poll.

And you can count Tricia, Rhonda and Ana among them.

On a recent afternoon, they sit on the couch at Rhonda's house, which borders Littleton, duded up in their eye-shadow, oversize jean jackets and all. When one talks, the other jumps in to finish the thought. In between comments, Rhonda plays with her gum.

It began, they say, while waiting for the pizza.

"Not our pizza," volunteers Ana, "someone else's pizza. We prank called 'em."

"Don't write that," says Tricia, elbowing Ana.

Everyone giggles nervously.

And they continue. They were looking up at the sky when they suddenly saw the lights: red, white and blue, circling around the craft. The vehicle hovered for a minute, about 5 feet above a nearby tree. Then they thought they saw it land in a field a few blocks away.

"Ana goes, 'That's weird,'" says Tricia. "I go, 'I know, it doesn't look like an airplane.' Then Rhonda goes," — all three say this together — "IT MUST BE A UFO."

SOON AFTER, Arapahoe County Deputy Sheriff Vincent Cecilione got a call over his radio: UFO sighting. He wasn't impressed.

"A lot of time you get calls," he says, "like this guy called one time who wore paper clips (strung together) till they touched the ground. He thought he needed to be grounded all the time. . . . Normally, you would think it's a prank, someone's fooling around."



One night in May, Rhonda Courtney, left, Ana Dekker, center, and Tricia Heit looked up and saw strange lights. Others in Arapahoe County saw them, too. The girls are convinced they saw a UFO.

JOHN GORDON/Rocky Mountain News

After all, UFOs aren't often sighted in the suburbs. "I've worked here 11 years and I don't know of one (UFO sighting)," says Jan DiMaggio, staff assistant for the Greenwood Village Police Department. "We have different kinds of sightings."

For instance? "People on rooftops with BB guns shooting birds, stuff like that."

"We've had wild bears," says Sgt. Tim Mitchell, spokesman for the Englewood Police Department. "A bull got loose from the fairgrounds once. But never a UFO."

Even in Denver, where strange sightings occur daily, Sgt. Tony Lombard, public information officer, can't remember a UFO report.

But Cecilione was willing to keep an open mind. And when he arrived at Rhonda's house, he didn't find pranks. "It wasn't your typical mentally ill subject I thought it'd be," he says.

The girls were all talking at once, all breathless, all scared. They pointed him in the direction of the field.

Because he rides with a police dog, he told them to meet him at the field — but they didn't stay long. "They were so scared when they were there," he recalls, "I told them to go home."

(They weren't scared of the UFO, they say. They were terrified to walk past a house where a murder had occurred "a long time ago." "We had a great big argument about whether to go or not," says Ana.)

They weren't the only ones on edge. Cecilione was wondering what to look for as he approached the field. Burn marks on the ground? A crater? "You just don't know," he says.

He asked three men who lived near the field if they had seen anything.

"These guys had just gotten home. They had a little liquor in 'em. I said three girls saw a UFO and they were like, 'Wow, let's meet the members of the Third World.' I said 'C'mon guys, gimme a break.' They said, 'Yeah, we'll go with you and shake the martians' hands, give 'em a beer.'"

He chuckles. "They were a lotta fun, these guys."

No one knows what aliens are like. But the three girls spent part of that night speculating.

"We were saying they probably look like us, except talk different," says Rhonda.

"And Rhonda goes, 'It could have been ET picking a

flower,' something like that. That made me crack up," says Ana.

Finally, at 4:30 a.m., their curiosity got the best of them.

Armed with a flashlight and two sticks ("Just in case something. . .," says Ana, who never finishes the thought), they marched into the field with Brian, Rhonda's 14-year-old brother.

"And that's when we saw the black marks on the trees," says Brian.

They found three trees, he says, grouped together in triangular shape (just like the aircraft, they point out), with what looked like burn marks on their trunks.

TO THE GIRLS, it was proof of alien visitors.

To Mary Courtney, Brian and Rhonda's mom, it was proof of something else. "You know how kids are when they're all together. They'd see a ghost if someone told them there was one. And they'd swear it to be true."

She believes the "burn" marks were medication placed on the trees. She went out to the field and saw black marks on a bunch of trees, not just three.

And the alien aircraft? "I tried to talk them into the helicopter idea. They have red, white and blue lights."

A month later, the youngsters won't be swayed. Even if the black marks aren't burns, they say, they still saw strange lights.

"No. I don't think we imagined it," says Ana.

"Why would they all imagine it at once?" says Brian.

"And why would we all be crying?" says Rhonda.

"We believe," says Tricia.

The month of the UFO is well under way. And with two out of three of us alien believers, we could be in for a dizzy ride in the days to come.

Just ask the citizens in Glenwood Springs, who still can't explain the lights, bright as stars, that appeared one week in May.

Or talk to Cecilione.

"The thing is — I don't want to start sounding like this thing happened or anything," he says, still intrigued by the call that hot night. "The thing is, this field is big enough for something to land. . . ."

His thought trails off.

"You never know. A lot of people are seeing a lot of things."

Whatever it was, it didn't return

By JERRY AMBELANG
Area News Chief

WAUNAKEE — The UFO sighting early Tuesday morning by two Waunakee police officers still has this town buzzing — and looking skyward.

"There were no additional sightings reported last night," Waunakee Police Chief Frank Balistreri reported today.

Some had speculated that the object observed by Waunakee police officers Kevin Plendl and Scott McElroy was a red and blue hot-air balloon.

"We've discounted that," Balistreri said. "I talked to the person who was in the balloon. It took off at 5:30 p.m. Monday and landed in the DeForest area at 6:45 p.m."

"I have to go along with what they say they saw," he

added. "They are very responsible officers."

"I have to admit I have never seen anything like that," he chuckled. "I don't know if I would admit it if I did."

The two officers described it as a glowing, one-half to one-quarter moon-shaped object with red and blue lights that periodically dulled and brightened. It occasionally moved from north to south and back again.

McElroy said at a press conference Tuesday that the two officers did not want to admit seeing the object because they thought "nobody would believe us."

But after maintaining visual contact with the UFO for a couple of hours at two different sites, and watching through binoculars "as a part of it appeared to break away and move at extremely high speed," they agreed there really was something up there.

A surprised and stunned Plendl also admitted he did not have a logical explanation of the phenomenon.

Don Schmitt of Milwaukee, Wisconsin director of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Wisconsin, has already started a probe into the UFO report, according to an associate.

The reported sightings in the Belleville-New Glarus area by a Dane County deputy and two Green County officers and a Belleville police officer in January also came under scrutiny by the national organization.

Their finding on the Belleville sightings, according to Schmitt: It was not a weather balloon or airplane; it was an unidentified flying object.

He told residents there at a followup meeting that a UFO does not necessarily mean it is a space ship, just an unexplained occurrence.

Man sticks to his report

Stories of UFOs started in Pendleton 40 years ago

By Hal McCune
of the East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Bill Schuening figured the humming noise was a tractor. But instead, when his pickup rumbled over the rise and he looked across the field some 200 or 300 feet away, he saw a saucer-like object suspended five or six feet off the ground.

"I would have given anything to have had a camera with me," he says.

But his memory of that moment 40 years ago today is as sharp as a photograph.

Schuening, now 70, saw a flying saucer. To him, it's not a question of whether or not he thinks he saw it. He saw it!

"It was definitely there," hovering above the rolling farmland some 25 miles north of Pendleton, he says.

No one had heard the term UFO at the time — there had been no cause to coin it. Schuening helped usher in the era of unidentified flying objects. But it was an airplane pilot from Boise who drew the headlines.

Kenneth Arnold landed his plane in Pendleton on June 24, 1947, and told East Oregonian reporter Bill Bequette he'd just seen nine shiny, flat objects streaking across the sky at incredible speed. The story was spread nationwide by the wire services and Arnold was marked the rest of his life as the man who started the UFO craze. He died in 1984.

Schuening says he saw a flying saucer the same day as Arnold did. But he didn't tell anyone until after Arnold's story was published in the EO.

"My boss told me about a flying saucer story and I told him I saw it too," Schuening says. Lester King, for whom Schuening was ranch foreman for 17 years, convinced him to go to town and tell others what he'd seen.

"I told my wife about it. She said that I was crazy to say anything about it," Schuening recalls. "Everyone said we were just saying things."

Arnold said he saw nine flying objects traveling in formation across Eastern Washington, weaving over the Cascade Mountains at speeds he clocked at up to 1,200 mph. He spotted the objects about 30 miles west of Mount Rainier and clocked them to Mount Adams.

"It seemed impossible," he told the reporter, but added, "I must believe my eyes."

Schuening's description was similar, although he says the shiny, silver objects were perfectly spherical, while Arnold reported the objects as more crescent shaped.

Another area sighting was reported the following Sunday



East Oregonian/Hal McCune

Bill Schuening, 70, has lived and farmed in the Pendleton area all his life. He maintains he saw a flying saucer on some rolling farmland 25 miles south of town exactly 40 years ago today.

by Mrs. Morton Elder, a McKay Creek farm wife, who said she'd seen seven "perfectly round, umbrella-like" objects flying north of her farm.

The EO ran a lengthy front-page story on June 26, 1947, regarding Arnold's unusual observation. A much shorter story ran on Page One four days later that quoted Schuening saying he'd seen "flying discs" the same day as Arnold and mentioning McKay's sighting.

But Schuening was the only

one of the three "witnesses" to claim he saw more than just a flying saucer.

"There were two little guys in green suits with white helmets standing right underneath it. They were no bigger than this," he recalled earlier this month, holding his hand at waist level.

"It didn't scare me at all," Schuening says. He was too amazed to be frightened.

Schuening says he watched the helmeted creatures for a few seconds and then "they were gone. How they got in (the craft) I'll never know. Suddenly they were just gone."

Moments later the craft zipped away toward the river, made a big circle, and headed over the mountains. "The last I saw, the sun was shining on it."

The craft was "silver, all top and bottom," with no seams or doors, Schuening says. He figures he watched it for nearly a minute.

He tried to return this month to the site where he says he saw the saucer, but "there's no way to get to it now. All the roads have been plowed." But he's confident he could recognize the spot.

Arnold was so captivated by his experience 40 years ago that he ended up publishing a book years later titled "The Coming of the Saucers." He was the keynote speaker at a meeting of the UFO Congress in 1977 in Chicago.

For Schuening, life went on just as it had before the memorable day. "I didn't pay much attention to it after that. Harvest was coming up. I was too busy."

But he has read about a lot of UFO sightings over the years. And he admits he still is puzzled by what he saw on a warm June evening four decades ago.

"I can't understand it myself," he says. But he's certain he saw it!

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - Oct. 13, 1987

Crash search near Ozark discontinued

GAZETTE STAFF AND AP

OZARK — A search for an airplane that was reported Sunday to have crashed northeast of Ozark was called off about 3:45 p.m. Monday, Franklin County Deputy John Andolina said.

Deputies from Franklin and Johnson Counties, along with helicopters from Fort Chaffee, searched for about four hours Sunday after a private pilot reported seeing what looked like a small

military jet fighter crash along the county line. Two men at Ozark also reported an explosion before the plane went down.

A Federal Aviation Administration spokesman at Little Rock said Monday the agency had no reports of missing aircraft. Spokesmen for the Little Rock Air Force Base and Tinker Air Force Base at Oklahoma City said late Sunday night that no military planes were missing in the area.

'Document' revives rumors of crashed UFO aliens

VICKI SMITH
Staff writer

Rumors about the recovery of the bodies of four aliens from a crashed flying saucer in New Mexico 40 years ago have circulated for years.

But a "document" has surfaced in England and locally that describes the work of a mysterious committee which is supposed to have examined the aliens.

Lee M. Graham, a Monrovia resident and aerospace research technician, and UFO researcher William L. Moore have obtained copies of a purported briefing memo on the top secret committee, Majestic 12.

"The document and its contents appear to be genuine," said Moore, who wrote a book about the 1947 flying saucer crash, "The Roswell Incident," in 1980. His book was based on eyewitness and newspaper accounts.

The document, which was given to The Tribune this week, is purportedly written by then-CIA Director Adm. Roscoe Hillenkoetter

on Nov. 18, 1952, for then-President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The document claims that on July 7, 1947, a scientific team was dispatched to a remote region in New Mexico where Air Force aerial reconnaissance discovered "four small human-like beings" which had been ejected from a flying disc crashed 75 miles away from Roswell Air Force Base.

The document claims, "Although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolutionary processes responsible for their development has apparently been quite different from those observed or postulated in homo sapiens."

An Air Force spokesman said that Pentagon officials have not seen the purported documents and cannot comment on their authenticity.

"Nobody in the Air Force has seen the document, but as far as what the Pentagon has heard from reporters, there is no new information that wasn't out a

couple of years ago," Lt. Tim Cothrew, a public affairs officer at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, said Tuesday.

Graham said that he sent a copy of the document to the director of public affairs for the Air Force Tuesday. He said he enclosed a Freedom of Information Act letter requesting authentication of the Majestic 12 documents.

According to a July 1947 FBI telegram obtained by Graham, the remnants of the "flying disc" at New Mexico were taken to Wright-Patterson, which also was headquarters of Operation Blue Book, the Air Force's defunct UFO program.

"We have no wreckage or bodies of aliens," Cothrew said.

Moore claims he received the document in December 1984 from a source who mailed it to his research partner, Jaime H. Shander, in a plain brown wrapper with no return address.

"We have been conducting an exhaustive study of every aspect

of this document since receiving it," Moore said.

He says he has been combing the National Archives and the presidential libraries of Harry Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower for evidence to verify the information contained in the document.

"We haven't found anything to indicate it is a phony," he said. "If it is concocted, it would have to have been done by someone who has done a tremendous amount of research."

Moore would fit that description, but he said that he is not the perpetrator.

The mysterious Majestic 12 group was established by special classified executive order of President Truman two months after the wreckage was discovered, according to the briefing memo.

Supporting the memo, a purported copy of Truman's signed Sept. 24, 1947, memo to Secretary of Defense James V. Forrestal states, "Hereafter this matter shall be referred to only as Op-

eration Majestic Twelve."

Moore claims to have developed sources in the "intelligence gathering community" who have been leaking the supporting evidence to him.

All members of this mysterious committee are dead.

The briefing memo lists the members as Hillenkoetter, Dr. Vannevar Bush, Forrestal, Gen. Nathan F. Twining, Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Dr. Detlev Bronk, Dr. Jerome C. Hunsaker, Sidney W. Souers, Gordon Gray, Dr. Donald Menzel, Gen. Robert M. Montague, Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner and Gen. Walter B. Smith, who replaced Hillenkoetter when he became director of the CIA in 1950.

Moore said that the secrecy surrounding Majestic 12 and the Roswell incident is indicative of the fear the government has of causing a public panic.

To further support his claim that Majestic 12 documents appear to be authentic, Moore says he saw a White House memo at the National Archives to General Twining, Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

The memo informs Twining of an "MJ-12" briefing with Eisenhower.

Although Moore has been trying to authenticate the MJ-12 documents for two years, British UFO researcher Timothy Good beat him to the punch and gave the documents to The London Observer last week.

Dane County leads U.S. in UFO sightings

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — An official of a Chicago-based center that studies sightings of unidentified flying objects says Dane County has had the highest concentration of such sightings in the country recently.

His comment followed reports of a UFO Tuesday at Waunakee. Earlier this year, Belleville residents reported a number of UFO sightings.

Don Schmitt, co-director of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies, said Wednesday that about two dozen sightings this year have been reported by Dane County.

"It's the highest concentration of activity in the country at the moment," Schmitt said. The 13-year-old volunteer group collects and investigates reports of unidentified flying objects around the country.

Schmitt, a free lance technical illustrator in Milwaukee, said he will be in Waunakee this weekend to check out the latest sighting, reported by four people, including two Waunakee police officers.

Only six of the county's sightings have been explained so far, Schmitt said, adding that about 90 percent of all investigated sightings are eventually explained.

Mark Slovak, a University of Wisconsin-Madison astronomer, said he does not believe aliens are visiting the Earth, even though he believe life does exist elsewhere in the universe.

"Why would they (visit)? Unless they're lost, bored or whatever," Slovak said.

Slovak said he is an unpaid scientific consultant to a Buffalo, N.Y. group called the Committee for the Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal.

Slovak attributed the increase in UFO reports to fallout from the highly publicized incidents in Belleville.

"Sort of a herd effect," said Slovak. "Most people aren't astronomers. They have seen a natural phenomenon they didn't recognize."

EVENING TELEGRAM, Superior, WI - July 16, 1987 CR: R. Helden

Officials may be relaxing UFO policies

BY STEVE STEIN
Record Staff Writer

A Roswell man says a revealing document he received in February from the National Security Agency (NSA) concerning government investigations of unidentified flying objects may mean the government is reevaluating its policies related to UFO incidents.

He said serious UFO researchers, or ufologists, tend to share information or documents they receive concerning UFOs with each other.

Stone said he recently discussed the NSA document he received through Domenici's office with William Moore, a nationally known UFO researcher who co-

authored "The Roswell Incident."

The book is about a flying object which crashed on a ranch 30 miles southeast of Corona in early July 1947.

Though Air Force officials have always maintained the object was a weather balloon, government researchers believe the recovered parts of an alien craft, as well as the three or more alien victims.

Stone said Moore or other researchers might have given a copy of the NSA response Domenici forwarded to him to both Larry King, who referred to the document on one of his recent

"Domenici and his staff have been nothing short of wonderful," Stone said.

The document, which is dated Feb. 4, 1987, and is addressed to Domenici, is signed by Julia B. Wetzel, director of policy for the National Security Agency/Central Security Agency, headquartered in Fort George G. Meade in Maryland.

Domenici's Washington office sent Ms. Wetzel's letter to Stone about Feb. 10, Stone said.

Stone said the letter from the NSA is unusual in that it might be the first time the government has made a reference to project

Aquarius, which Stone and other ufologists believe is an ongoing Air Force investigation of UFOs, first begun in the 1960s.

The NSA letter to Domenici states, "The subject of paragraph 4 (in one of Stone's letters), project Aquarius, has been the subject of numerous FOIA requests. Apparently there is or was an Air Force project by that name which dealt with UFOs."

Previously the government has denied the existence of project Aquarius and investigations of certain UFO incidents, including the Roswell incident, Stone said.

Stone has seen a copy of what might be a legitimate Air Force document that refers to project Aquarius.

The document indicates the purpose of project Aquarius is or was "to collect all scientific, technological, medical and intelligence information from UFO/IAC sightings and contacts with alien life forms."

IAC stands for Identified Alien Crafts, Stone said.

Stone said he has an FOIA request filed with several government agencies in an attempt to determine the authenticity of the project Aquarius document.

"If it's a fake, it is well-done, probably by someone familiar with security procedures," Stone said.

Stone and other ufologists expect to have a difficult time finding out about the authenticity of the project Aquarius document because it might have been obtained in an improper manner.

Government agencies are not obligated to honor FOIA requests regarding documents which are seized illegally, Stone said.

In Saturday's broadcast, Harvey said he needed "tangible" evidence, such as a piece of an alien ship, before he can encourage the public to believe in UFOs.

Harvey began discussing UFOs and the Roswell incident earlier this month.

Harvey said he believes the government "lied" to the public when they denied certain UFO investigations in the past, but he is not sure whether project Aquarius exists or has ever existed.

Some of the recent interest in UFOs might have been generated by individuals who are going to participate in an International UFO symposium in Washington, D.C., June 26-28, Harvey said.

"I have always treated this subject (UFOs) with respect," Harvey said.

He said that if an Air Force document once shown to President Eisenhower is valid, it would tend "to confirm that something indeed did crash near Roswell, New Mexico, in July 1947."

But Harvey said he could not understand how beings intelligent enough to visit earth could not make a "safe landing."

He also wondered why, if so many government officials know UFOs exist, as UFO researchers have always indicated, one of the government "blabbermouths" has not yet come forward about UFOs.

He said some government reactions to UFO investigations are still confusing. As an example, he said the NSA refuses to make available to the public some 160 documents relating to UFO investigations.

Harvey said that after all his research into the subject, "I remain a skeptic."

Another Roswell UFO researcher, Ralph Heick, 40, who often works with Stone on various UFO investigations, said Saturday he was disappointed in Harvey's broadcast.

He said he was glad Harvey had pointed out that the government tells the public that UFOs are hocus-pocus and then refuses to grant FOIA requests concerning UFO investigations on the grounds the information would violate sensitive areas of national security.

Heick said he and Stone are confident the public will, in the near future, learn the truth about UFOs and the reasons the government does not release reports about UFO investigations.

Stone said a major American television network is expected to release in late September a documentary about UFOs which will discuss concrete evidence that UFOs and extraterrestrials exist.

On Friday, representatives from "Nightline," an ABC nightly news program, told the Daily Record that a program dealing with the Roswell incident and UFOs has tentatively been scheduled to air Wednesday night.

Stone said he believes evidence from one or more governments confirming the existence of UFOs will probably be released this year.

Possible UFO abductions reported in two cases

by Michael Burke

Although Don Schmitt, co-director for the Center for UFO Studies, has yet to do a thorough investigation, he confirmed Monday that he thinks there is a possibility of abductions by UFOs having taken place in two area cases.

Schmitt was responding to several recently broadcast reports, picked up from the United Press International wire service, to that effect.

Schmitt said he based his preliminary conclusions on evidence of unexplainable gaps in the time sequences related to him by the parties involved. "They show all the characteristics of a time

loss, but we can never be assured that abductions were involved," he said.

Schmitt was careful to explain that the parties had, in conversations with him merely reported close (that is, within 500 feet) observations of UFOs — not stories of having been abducted.

However, in talking with them, Schmitt said, the signs of possible abductions — gaps in the time sequence and confusion — began to show up. He will be starting a more thorough questioning and investigation with both parties within about a week, he added.

The purpose of the investigation will be to "try to establish and confirm the time sequence," he explained.

Both reported incidents occurred in Dane County, and both parties reside there, Schmitt said. One sighting was reported to have taken place before police officer Glen Kasmar's, and one after it. He was unwilling to release further details that might hint at the parties' identities.

The reports came to him shortly after the UFO conference in Belleville several weeks ago, Schmitt said. One was made directly by the observer and one came to him second hand. His follow-up call elicited cooperation from that observer.

"Both parties were reluctant to approach us that evening," he added.

Schmitt gave a typical example of the way in which possible UFO abductions reveal themselves. Last fall in Kenosha County, a couple reported having had a close encounter with a UFO. It had appeared close to their car, and they had stopped and gotten out to look at it.

When they got home, Schmitt said, "They owed the babysitter for an extra hour of time, but there were no apparent stops" to explain that hour.

In addition, he said, "They had difficulty remembering the trip home after that. They kept saying, 'We are not supposed to remember.'"

Although the couple was open with information at first, they later clammed up, preventing the UFO center from being able to draw any conclusion except that the UFO sighting had taken place.

The case does help illustrate the Center's manner of investigating that type of case, however, Schmitt said the

investigator must be careful not to ask leading questions but to simply let the story reveal what it can.

"If they feel obligated to supply us with a ready-made story, . . . incidents tend to be invented, he said.

"The less they know about it, the better," he added. "It's not for them to try to say they were abducted."

He said the center prefers to use outside witnesses to confirm a story which might include a time gap, confusion, memory loss or evidence of someone being inexplicably late for an appointment.

"I'm concerned," he said, "that many UFO investigators are looking for abductions in almost every UFO sighting. We have to be so very cautious. . ."

Schmitt said he had been the source for UFO's report which was then picked up by area radio and television stations.

The results of the center's investigation of the two cases will be made public later, Schmitt said.

TIMES, St. Petersburg, FL - July 5, 1987

UFO sightings to be investigated

By BRYANNA LATOOF
Times Staff Writer

OCALA — An investigator for a national UFO study group said he will be in Ocala soon to study recent reports of strange aircraft in Marion County skies.

Virgilio Sanchez-Ocejo, director of Mutual UFO Network's (MUFON) Dade County division, was scheduled to arrive today, but his car broke down Saturday en route. He said he is "very interested in investigating accounts of several Marion residents and a sheriff's deputy, all of whom reported seeing a silent, lighted flying object on June 17.

MUFON investigators are also interested in claims by an Ocala woman that a mysterious metallic craft landed in her front yard late on the evening of June 23.

The first report to Marion County sheriff's officials came from five Citra people who said a large silent object hovered near power lines just above their car around 11 p.m. on June 17.

They said the craft resembled "a large Volkswagen" with two headlights, a string of red and green lights on the back and a large white beam which shone down onto their car and the ground around it.

They said the object "shot something out of the back twice (that) looked like sparks" and had two back wheels.

Although the driver of the car, 24-year-old Stephanie James, reported the sighting to sheriff's officials soon after returning to her Citra home, a deputy was not dispatched until just after midnight.

Several other anonymous calls made shortly after James' prompted the sheriff's department to investigate.

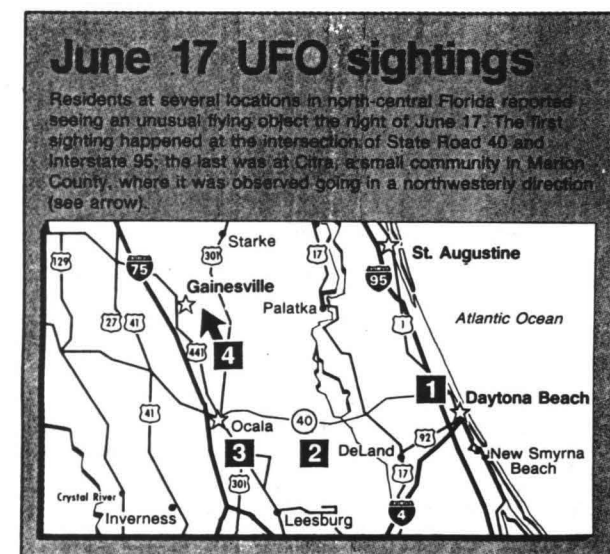
The deputy, Jay Manifold, found no trace of the craft at the railroad tracks where James and her passengers reported seeing the craft.

But after driving around Citra, he wrote in his report that he "observed a flying craft" (near the Alachua County line) that he was unable to identify.

He reported that the object, which "made no noise and did not have the shape of any aircraft known (to him)," moved northwest "at an extraordinarily high rate of speed."

The next day, June 18, two more people came forward to tell sheriff's officials that they, too, saw an unusual flying object that baffled them.

Then on June 19, two St. Petersburg men said they watched a lit-up, silent craft shaped like "the top of an egg" on the nights of June 15, 16 and 17 while camping at Lake Farles in the Ocala National



Times art — FRANK PETERS

Forest.

The two people who contacted sheriff's officials on June 18 told a *Citra Times* writer they were mystified by what they saw and failed to report it until they learned that others also saw the craft.

Gillette Schram, a 70-year-old Ocala widow, said she was driving north with two passengers on Interstate 95 in Volusia County about 9:15 p.m. June 17 when they approached a craft hovering low in the sky.

Mrs. Schram said she, her 51-year-old daughter and 15-year-old grandson were about two or three miles south of the State Road 40 exit when they passed under the object.

She said it had one red light and one green or blue light, and was a little higher in the sky "than a big tree."

"He was right over us. He hovered over; he was standing still. All I saw is one red light on the left and a blue or green light on the right. They were great, big lights that didn't blink," she said.

Mrs. Schram said she could not make out the shape of the object connecting the lights, but she said it made no noise.

"It stood there and we kept on driving. I looked back and it was standing still. We didn't say nothing until we saw the sheriff department on the news the next day," she said.

Another person reported to police on June 18 that he also saw something strange near Belleview the night of June 17.

Joe Fitzpatrick, a 50-year-old retired Navy diver who has also worked as a police officer in California, said he decided to report

what he saw in the sky because he felt (sheriff's deputy) Manifold was probably being ribbed by his co-workers for his report.

"When they said a deputy was involved, being (an) ex-law enforcement (officer), I wanted to try to get the monkey off his back a little," he said.

Fitzpatrick, who lives in Ocala about a mile north of Belleview, said his dog, which is "scared stiff of thunder and lightning," started "pestering to get in" about 9:30 p.m. on June 17.

When he went outside to tend to the dog, he looked toward the eastern sky, which was filled with what looked like heat lightning, he said.

"One thing I've never seen before is heat lightning striking simultaneously in different spots. It was coming from the east and the south. It was like fireworks going off — no sound, but flashes," Fitzpatrick said.

"All at once, a bright light came at me. My first thought was that it was a shooting star. It came from the east; it was going fast. It was just one bright light," he said.

He said the object then dropped lower to the ground before making a quick right turn. At this point, the craft was within a quarter-mile of his house.

"I only seen the one bright headlight, then I seen an exceptionally bright red and green light blinking on the back. I'd never seen that bright a light on any aircraft. The red and green lights were exceptionally bright, and they were extra big for a normal plane," Fitzpatrick said.

Fitzpatrick said he thought the craft must have been a low-flying

plane trying to make a narcotics drop, but that he never heard any sound.

"It was traveling at an incredible rate of speed. I waited for a sonic boom, but I never heard one. I just figured it was something the Navy was trying out that was quicker than sound," he said.

Fitzpatrick said he watched the craft head north "toward Gainesville."

Officials with the U.S. Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marines, Air Force, National Guard and Weather Service said they had received no reports of unusual flying craft on June 17.

They said they had no unusual equipment in Marion County that week and knew of nothing that matched the descriptions given.

Officials in the nearby counties of Lake, Volusia and Alachua said they have received no reports of strange objects in the sky.

Another account was given on June 27 by Louise Stevens, a 58-year-old secretary at Munroe Regional Medical Center.

Stevens, who did not make an official report to police, told a *Citra Times* writer that something strange landed in her front yard the night of June 23.

She said she was preparing for her bath between 11:30 p.m. and midnight when she heard a "whoosh" just outside her living room window.

"I looked out the window and I saw this strange thing out there. It was sort of round with two lights pointed up. It was like they (the lights) had fire sparking from them. It seemed like it had some little things — square-shaped — like windows, I guess," Stevens said.

She said the "whitish, metallic" object was about 6 feet tall, disc-shaped and rested atop some sort of base on the ground, which she said left a section of dead grass in her front yard.

She said she ran into her bedroom to call police, but "I got put on hold and that was it."

She said she was afraid to look out the window again, but about 20 minutes later, she said she heard a "clunk" which sounded like someone pulling into her driveway.

Thinking her son had returned home, she peeped through a window. The sound was not her son coming home, but the object in her yard was gone, she said.

Stevens said she talked to neighbors, but none of them saw or heard anything unusual that night, which made her more hesitant to report what she saw.

"I always have believed in the unknown, but I don't want to be curious by myself. I don't want to be called a nut," she said.



Closed encounters: the top secret UFO 'cover-up'

by JOHN BURNLEY

In late October 1957, a British Air Force corporal at the British nuclear test site in Maralinga, South Australia, saw a strange object hovering over the airfield.

An air traffic controller also saw the object. A check with the civilian airport at Alice Springs and the Royal Australian Air Force revealed there were no aircraft in the vicinity at the time.

The corporal later described it to top British UFO researcher Jenny Randles: "A magnificent sight. A craft of silver blue with a metallic lustre and a line of windows or portholes along its edge."

Both men saw it so distinctly that metallic plating could be distinguished on its surface.

"I swear to you as a practising Christian this was no dream, no illusion, no fairy story, but a solid craft of metallic construction," said the corporal.

Nothing was ever officially released about the sighting. The secrecy could possibly be linked to the sensitive nature of the Maralinga base.

Hush-hush Australian investigations into unidentified flying objects go back to 1920 when the ship SS Amelia J. disappeared at the same time strange unexplained lights were seen at the entrance to Bass Strait.

A search aircraft sent to investigate the lights also disappeared. Bass Strait has since featured in a number of mysterious cases.

UFO expert Timothy Good says in a new book, *Above Top Secret*, that cases like the Maralinga sighting beg explanation. The book documents numerous "close encounters" worldwide.

Is there an international conspiracy of silence among governments to withhold dramatic evidence, even proof, that UFOs exist? Have we been visited by extra-terrestrial beings?

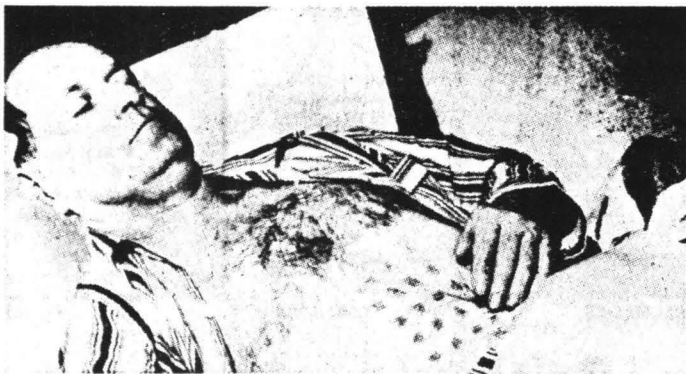


A leaked CIA document obtained by a British researcher shows that bodies of four aliens from a crashed UFO were recovered and examined by a special US government team 40 years ago.

It has sparked a fierce debate among UFO experts about the existence of a mysterious operation code-named Majestic 12, said to have examined the aliens.

The document is apparently a briefing for President-elect Eisenhower on Operation Majestic 12, also known as MJ-12.

In it, CIA head Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter reported: "Although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolution-



UFO victim...? Stephen Michalak in hospital after encountering what he said was a landed UFO. He claimed that when he touched the object, his clothes caught fire.



UFO victim...? Fred Valentich, who vanished mysteriously while flying a light aircraft over Bass Strait. No trace of plane or pilot has been found.

ary processes responsible for their development have apparently been quite different from those observed in Homo sapiens."

In *Above Top Secret* Good claims MJ-12 was a committee of senior US officials which investigated and then covered up news of flying saucer crashes. Others say it could be a fake "plant" in the files of air force intelligence.

The Eisenhower briefing paper, dated November 18, 1952, said the MJ-12 committee was set up by former President Harry Truman on September 24, 1947, as a "top secret research and development intelligence operation responsible directly and only to the President of the United States".

It said on June 24, 1947, disc-shaped aircraft were sighted in the United States. A local rancher reported that one had crashed in a remote region of New Mexico about 120 km north-west of Roswell Army air base.

On July 7 a secret operation began to recover the wreckage for scientific studies. It discovered four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft before it exploded, and fallen about 3 km east of the wreckage.

The bodies were badly decomposed due to predators and exposure.

The paper concluded: "A covert analytical effort (found) the disc was most likely a short-ranged reconnaissance craft."

It recommended the findings be protected by strict security precautions.

If authentic, the briefing provides the most damning evidence for Good's theory of a world-wide UFO cover-up. New evidence from US intelligence files confirms a secret group called MJ-12 did exist, although US authorities are silent about its function.

Responsibility for monitoring unidentified or unusual aerial sightings in Australia rests with the RAAF. But following the Maralinga case, strange events occurred at the Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau in 1959.

Mr Stan Seers, then the president, received a call from a man requesting a meeting in Brisbane. The stranger introduced himself as "Mr D" from the Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation and produced an identity card.

He offered a deal in which ASIO would co-operate with the QFSRB if they made

available all information on UFOs available and deflected publicity.

Seers agreed. In the following weeks, Mr D interviewed all 12 members of the QFSRB. He remained in close but shadowy contact with the group (now UFO Research Queensland) for 11 years.

Mr Seers claimed similar ASIO surveillance had been carried out on at least one other state UFO group.

Sightings and strange occurrences continue unabated throughout Australia, in many cases without official interpretation or explanation.

Of all the sightings, none generated as much worldwide attention as that of Frederick Valentich, a 20-year-old flying instructor. Valentich and his Cessna 182 single-engine plane disappeared shortly after he reported a UFO sighting over Bass Strait, near Cape Otway, on a flight from Moorabbin in Victoria to King Island on October 21, 1978.



Forty-seven minutes after leaving Moorabbin airport at 6.19 p.m. Valentich reported an unidentified aircraft to Melbourne Flight Service Unit controller Steve Robey.

Despite careful study of the transcript of the conversation between the two men, no satisfactory answer has been found for what subsequently happened.

At 7.06 p.m. Valentich asked if there was any known traffic below 5000 ft. Robey replied there was none. Valentich then said: "There seems to be a large aircraft below 5000."

Valentich told Robey the object seemed to be playing games with him, flying over the top of him at speeds he couldn't identify.

He said it was sometimes stationary and then orbited close over the top of him. It

was metallic, shiny on the outside, with a green light.

His last message was that the object was still with him and he intended to land at King Island.

"That strange aircraft is hovering on top of me again," he said.

Valentich and his aircraft were never seen again, despite a massive sea and land search.

The Aviation Department is thought to have erased the original tape, and no copies exist.

Similar inexplicable encounters have occurred throughout the world.

In 1961, a Soviet plane disappeared from radar screens shortly after communicating with ground control.

A search party found it in a small clearing in a dense forest, intact. It appeared the plane had been set down gently from above. The passengers and pilot had vanished.

No official explanation was forthcoming.

In Britain the same veil of silence exists on UFOs.

In 1955, the Air Ministry announced the results of a five-year probe into flying saucers by the Royal Air Force had been submitted, but it was never to be revealed to the public for security reasons.



Close encounters over British air space continue. In 1981 Denise Bishop was returning to her Plymouth home at 3 a.m. when she saw an enormous UFO hovering above houses on top of a hill.

"I was very frightened although the UFO was a fantastic sight to see," she said later.

"It was metallic grey and shafts of light were coming from beneath it. I put my hand on the handle of the house door and a lime-green pencil beam of light came down and hit the back of my hand. I couldn't move."

Ms Bishop was later found to have a burn mark on the hand with spots of blood and severe bruising.

The recorded landing at Lord Mountbatten's Hampshire estate, Broadlands, in 1955 was one of the most significant British encounters. Investigated personally by Lord Mountbatten, it involved one of his trusted workers.

Bricklayer Frederick Briggs was cycling to work on the estate when he saw something resembling a huge humming top. A column the thickness of a man descended from the centre of the saucer, and he saw what appeared to be someone standing on a small platform at the end.

But although many questions were asked in the House of Commons, no satisfactory explanation has emerged.

ABOVE TOP SECRET by Timothy Good. Sedgwick & Jackson (distributed by Macmillan) \$39.95.

POST, Birmingham, England - Sept. 17, 1987 CR: T. Good

Mystery as UFO sightings continue

Reports of a mystery object seen in the sky have been pouring in from throughout the country to the Birmingham office of UFO Studies Investigations.

After a series of sightings throughout the West Midlands, the British Aerospace-funded organisation has now received reports from as far afield as Yorkshire and the Lake District.

Mr John Hurley, chairman of the organisation, said: "All of the local sightings were within 30 minutes of each other, at about midnight on Monday."

"The first sighting was by a woman, who was travelling from Birmingham to Bromsgrove on the A46, when she saw an object which she said seemed to light up the sky."

"It was orange with a green light on the top and she watched it for four minutes before it moved off," he said.

Another sighting was made by Mr Lyn Gunter, aged 67, of Wash Lane, Yardley.

Mr Gunter, who was reading in bed when he looked out of his window, said: "There was an exceptionally bright light in the sky which is never normally there."

Mr Hurley said all the reports had come from reliable witnesses, including a retired police officer and two workmates just finishing their night shift.

"Apart from the first sighting, everyone reported the object, which was about the size of a caravan, travelling at great speed and then suddenly stopping dead."

Mr Hurley said the telephone had not stopped ringing with reports of further sightings after a newspaper article appeared on the UFOs.

He asked anyone else who saw anything to contact him on 360 4580.

Orange riddle in the sky

A woman claims to have seen a UFO over Bromsgrove, the second reported sighting in the space of two months.

Barbara Hodgetts, who lives at Fordhouse Lane, said she saw the mystery object from her bedroom window last Wednesday night, at about quarter past ten.

"I had just gone to bed when I was woken by a very bright glare," she said.

"I went to the window and saw a brilliant orange light in the sky, which was stationary for at least three minutes before it drifted away out of sight," claimed Mrs Hodgetts.

Birmingham air traffic manager Ralph Eaton said there was a possible explanation:

"That week there were a great deal of electrical storms which could account for what the lady saw, or it could have been an orbiting body burning up on re-entry to the atmosphere," he said.

The Birmingham-based UFO society have said that a similar sighting was made over Lickey Ash just two months ago.

UFO puzzle as police told of sightings

STRANGE UFO sightings in Ebbs Vale are intriguing locals who are sure the UFOs are not planes.

So far two sightings have been reported of eerie revolving lights in the sky on the same night.

A Rassau man, Mr M Sullivan, described to police three zig-zagging lights he saw from his back garden at about 10.30 pm on August 27.

At the same time Kevin Cross, of Ebbs Vale, was watching three red, green and blue lights from his back window.

"They seemed to be above Leo's," said

Kevin. "They were altogether in one spot then they spread out in different directions."

However, he forgot all about his UFO until he saw a report of Mr Sullivan's sighting in the Gazette.

Sightings are reported to the RAF at West Dreyton for investigation — who then inform the Ministry of Defence because of "national security implications", said a civil aviation press officer.

But an MOD spokesman said most sightings could be explained by aircraft or were caused naturally.

UFO Over Shanghai

BEIJING (AP) — An unidentified flying object described variously as looking like an oval, a comet or an orange was sighted Thursday night over Shanghai, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

The news agency said the UFO passed over China's largest city between 7.50 and 8.30 p.m. Some said it looked like an oval plate, others said it resembled a comet with a tail like an umbrella, and one eyewitness said it appeared to be an orange spinning clockwise.

Military planes took off to trace and observe the object, but the army did not release details of their findings, Xinhua said.

JAPAN TIMES, Tokyo, Japan
Sept. 1, 1987 CR: Y. Matsumura

UFO might have been falling ice

BEIJING (AP) A meteorologist in Shanghai, where an unidentified flying object was sighted Thursday night, said the object might have been falling ice from a collision between a meteor and a comet, a local newspaper reported.

The Saturday edition of the Liberation Daily (Jiefang Ribao), seen in Beijing Sunday, said more than 10 UFO sightings have been made in the area in the past year. Earlier, the state-run Xinhua news agency said it was the first UFO sighted in Shanghai.

Some of the earlier sightings turned out to be meteors or other fireballs, the paper said.

The UFO passed over China's most populated city between 7:50 and 8:30 p.m. and was described as whirlpool-shaped, shining in the center, rotating clockwise and moving northeasterly, the paper said.

Astronomers and other specialists in a meeting Friday at Shanghai's observatory said the object was too slow to have been a comet and too fast to have been a meteor, it added.

Shu Jiaying, an engineer with the Shanghai Meteorological Bureau, said the object might have been ice shattered by a comet colliding with a meteor, the paper reported.

Chinese UFO Identified as Japanese Rocket

A spectacular light show which danced over the evening skies of Shanghai, China, for several minutes on Thursday, Aug. 27, and widely reported by the U.S. news media as a UFO, has been identified as part of a Japanese satellite launch by an investigator for the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP).

James E. Oberg, an aerospace engineer at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston and a member of CSICOP's UFO Subcommittee, reported Sept. 4 that evidence clearly shows the apparition was nothing more than excess fuel dumped from the second stage booster rocket of the Japanese launch.

The Chinese news agency Xin Hua reported residents of Shanghai claimed to have seen a bright object pass over the city. It was described as being "like a comet with a tail like an umbrella," and a flying orange which traveled clockwise and eastward, the news agency said.

Oberg became interested in the sighting upon learning of an account of it broadcast by ABC News Friday night. Stories on the sighting were subsequently carried by major wire services. Based on descriptions given, Oberg noted a marked similarity to a number of past UFO sightings that were later revealed to be rocket launches from Earth.

"In the current Chinese case we have a complete correlation of the sighting with the second launch of a new model Japanese rocket called the H-1," stated Oberg. He said the launch occurred about 9:20 Greenwich Time, Aug. 27, from the Tanegashima Space Center on Kyushu Island.

TRIBUNE, New York, NY - Sept. 10, 1987

HERALD, Melbourne, Australia - Aug. 27, 1987 CR: P. Norman

A 'wedding cake' UFO proves an eye opener for Broadford
Flying in the face of fiction

ARMY exercise searchlights? A plummeting, exploding meteor? Neither, says Cheryl Kerslake of Reedy Creek, near Broadford.

Either, say the skeptics.

But how, Mrs Kerslake asks, could either look like this (right)? It was certainly unidentified, perhaps not flying but clearly hovering, and definitely an object. A classic UFO.

Mrs Kerslake and her husband, Trevor, saw the phenomenon near Broadford on Tuesday night. It was, she said, in three layers, like a wedding cake.

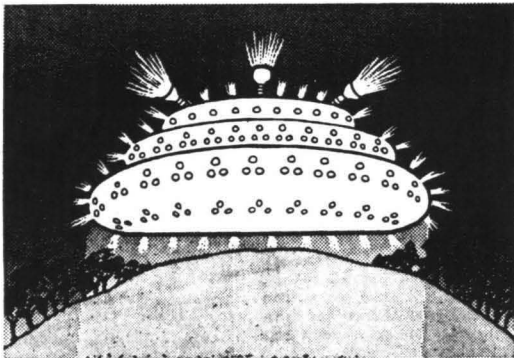
It did not appear to be touching the ground, but resting just above it.

At least six locals say they saw the object about 10 pm.

The Army denied it was connected to a defence operation.

"We didn't have any rehearsals at Puckapunyal which fitted with the descriptions people gave. We did have tanks on the range with searchlights but they were about 20 km away so the lights would have easily diffused," a spokeswoman said today.

A Seymour policeman today said he was treating the sightings as genuine even though the UFO left no trace.



GRAPHIC GARRY BRYAR

"They (the witnesses) all seem to be exceptionally genuine. They weren't just people who would come out of the blue and they were genuinely distressed about what they saw," he said.

HV McKay Planetarium director Dr Robin Hirst said the UFO may well have been a bolide or exploding meteor.

"I got a call from a pilot who

was coming down over Cooma and the way he described it, the objects sounded very much like a meteor which split into several pieces."

The Australian Skeptics' Mr James Gerrard said there was no scientific explanation for possible UFO sightings.

"(But) people should look for explanations within the realms of science," he said.

LOOK NOW, London, England - Sept. 1987

● LIGHT YEARS

Suspend disbelief and read *Light Years* by Gary Kinder (Viking, £10.95). Subtitled 'The Best Documented UFO Case Ever', it tells the story of Eduard Meier, who says he first saw an alien spacecraft when he was five and a half years old. He then began receiving telepathic messages: the first was from Stath, human but immeasurably old and occupying a spacecraft, and who was

Meier's 'spiritual mentor', preparing him for contact with 'higher life forms'. Next was Asket from the DAL universe, who continued teaching him, and then a visit from Semjase. Semjase was a female from the Pleiades star system, who told Meier that he had been chosen to provide proof to the people of earth of the existence of intelligent extraterrestrials. The Pleiadians' mission was to guide earth in its 'spiritual evolution'. Why, you might wonder, would ETs bother with us? It seems that the Pleiadians had discovered earth thousands of years ago and some of them had stayed and mated with earth humans. The Pleiadians want to help the earth humans 'avoid the setbacks experienced by their Pleiadian ancestors'. Over the years since his contact with aliens, Meier has amassed hundreds of photos, sound recordings and has written records of his meetings. A metal sample from the 'beam-ship' has baffled experts and scientists at NASA and IBM are intrigued by his films and photos. Is it all an extremely sophisticated hoax by a brilliant fraud? Possibly. But Meier has had only a primary school education, has been employed only in menial jobs, and lives in a rural Swiss village with his wife and three children. He has very little money and is disabled, having only one arm. He could not have afforded, known how to, or physically have managed to put together such a complex hoax.

It's a fascinating book, and although poorly written, its subject matter is compelling. Read it and decide for yourself if we have really been visited by aliens from outer space.

CR: T. Good

EVENING NEWS, Manchester, England - Sept. 1, 1987
CR: T. Good

How to join the stars

JUST as I suggested a month or so ago, we'd better prepare to be abducted by aliens from other worlds — a fashionable experience among New Yorkers which is suddenly growing in popularity here.

For some curious reason, I have always hated driving down the East Lanes Road — but now I think I know why.

According to some of the nuttier tales which have been pouring through the letter-box of indefatigable Stockport UFO researcher Jenny Randles, the notorious A580 from Salford to Liverpool serves as a sort of lay-by for visiting aliens, who like nothing better than to park their craft by the roadside and nip out to kidnap unsuspecting travellers.

One poor motorcyclist, who felt compelled to stop and investigate a bright, glowing light in a field near Lowton, found himself confronted by two beautiful blond-haired creatures from another galaxy who sported silver suits.

A mother and daughter who spotted a disc-shaped object in the Leigh sky had memories of being "teleported" to a treatment room, where vague figures in white suits carried out a medical examination.

Unless you have a high scepticism threshold, better steer clear, too, of the Macclesfield/Buxton area, where chaps in silver suits and balaclava helmets, it seems, are rather prone to leaping out of egg-shaped ships to "spacenap" passers-by.

George tells of his close encounter with a flying lampshade



RETIRE chemist George Jolliffe swears he has had a close encounter of a very mysterious kind.

For the pensioner was sitting by the window of his Autumn Grove home in WGC when a strange object appeared in the sky.

At the exact time as there were reports of a ball-shaped "UFO" being sighted by sky-watchers from Highgate in London to Oxfordshire, George, 81, saw the strangest object.

"It was not an aeroplane, it was not a helicopter and as the sun was going down it was not a reflection," he said, amazed.

IT WENT THAT-A-WAY!

"I was sitting by the window and I looked up through the trees and saw a round bright ball like an old-fashioned oil lampshade."

"All of a sudden it seemed to shrink and go smaller — I would say it was about 20 miles away."

"Then just as suddenly it came back." The "saucer" then moved gradually and quickly disappeared from view.

George, who has never seen a UFO before, said he could not explain the strange phenomenon, but has made detailed drawings of his sighting.

"I wouldn't say it was solid. It was like a white ball of mist."

"I am not nutty. I had that queer feeling when I watched it that there was something up there, but I didn't know what it was."

Sped off

He was rooted to the spot. Then suddenly the unexplained object sped off.

Mystery light in sky

A MYSTERIOUS object in the night sky over Rustington last week worried a local resident.

Mrs Mary Sheppard, of The Street, said she watched the object for at least 45 minutes late last Tuesday night.

Mrs Sheppard thought at first it was a plane in trouble but she saw an aircraft from Gatwick fly straight past.

She added the object was a bright light but it was not a star or Venus.

It was the first time she had seen such a sight, and she telephoned the police.

A spokesman for Littlehampton police said no other calls had been received.

CR: T. Good

GAZETTE, Arun, England - Sept. 4, 1987

LIFESTYLE

Walter's guide to the galaxy



● Walter sorts through years of scientific research into UFOs.

After over 40 years of space watching retired miner Walter Blythe is convinced there's life on other planets. And now he is starting a UFO group for people who want to know more about the controversial subject. Observer reporter Sangeeta Chauhan finds out why space isn't the final frontier.

FLYING saucers, little green men from Mars and even Cling-ons on the starboard bow are things that immediately spring to mind when the subject of UFOs is raised.

This is the comical idea that many people, if they believe in UFOs at all, have of life on other planets.

But there is a growing number of people who seriously believe that there are alien lifeforms and who claim to have seen flying saucers.

One avid space watcher is Walter Blythe of Padley Hill, Mansfield whose interest in the subject goes back 40 years when he heard that 9 flying saucers had been spotted in America.



Ever since then Walter has taken a keen interest in UFOs and claims to have seen flying saucers on 24 different occasions around Mansfield.

"People usually laugh when I tell them that I've seen flying saucers and I suppose their initial reaction is understandable," said Walter.

"But I've been studying this phenomena for most of my life and I think that it is only common-sense that if life exists on our planet, it can exist on others."



Walter's first sighting was in August 1966 when he saw three discs hovering in the sky near Rufford Colliery.

"As I was walking along the pit lane I saw three objects which looked like soup plates hovering in the sky above me. It was a clear night sky so there



● Walter and his wife Venesia show sketches made from local sightings.

was no possibility that I could have been mistaken," explained Walter.

Since his first sighting Walter has spotted flying saucers around the town quite frequently, his latest sighting being in May last year outside his home in Padley Hill.

"I am dedicated to my 'hobby' and I often stay awake until the early hours of the morning on the off chance of a sighting."

"It was roughly 2am on this particular night and I was standing outside my house when I saw two discs which looked like fris-bys travelling side by side across the sky."

"They couldn't have been helicopters or aeroplanes because they weren't making a sound - it was quite a frightening experience," he said.

"Most people approach the subject of UFOs with a

closed mind and that's why I don't report my sightings," said Walter. "They don't like to accept that there are other life forms which are more technically and mentally advanced than we are."



Walter's enthusiasm for the study of UFOs prompted him to start a club in the 50s called 'The Mansfield Flying Saucers.'

It had 24 members who were interested in sharing their experiences with other people and learning more about UFOs.

But the group broke up in 1960 as the members began to move away from Mansfield.

Now Walter is trying to restart the group and is looking for anyone who is interested in the study of flying saucers and alien lifeforms to go along to the first meeting on Monday 24th August at the Community Arts Centre on Leeming Street, Mansfield at 7pm.

So if you've always thought that Mars, Galaxy and Milky Way were just chocolate bars why not go along to the meeting and let Walter be your guide to the galaxy!

'It's common-sense that life exists on other planets'

EVENING POST, Bristol, England - Aug. 28, 1987

BOOKS

Lockleaze: the legend...

IT WAS on August 5, 1981, that a UFO may have given the editorial staff of the Evening Post one of its most enduring memories writes JAMES BELSEY.

Mysterious surges of power struck the West Midlands-Bristol power lines at 9.08 am, starting a chain of failures on the grid.

As yet another sub-station blacked out, an over-excited news executive shouted

across the open plan newsroom the thrilling news: "Lockleaze has blown!"

LHB has entered our archives, and I must admit I never realised that little green men might have been responsible until I read ABOVE TOP SECRET by Timothy Good (Sidgwick and Jackson £14.95).

Well, it might have been little green men. "There is no evidence that UFOs were re-

sponsible for this massive black-out but it may not be without significance that the only sightings reported between 2 and 9 August were in Southern England," says the book.

Oh well. At least we have LHB to cherish.

Bizarre

Otherwise, yet another book which offers us the bizarre idea that beings from outer space spend aeons travelling to Earth only to manifest themselves to Mid-West farmers, lonely goatherds or other folk in remote places.

And that, of course, there is a huge conspiracy to keep us all in the dark in case we... well, what, I wonder?

An amusing, if rather over-long, piece of silly season reading which doesn't answer the question I long to hear answered.

It isn't whether or not there are little green men blowing up Lockleaze. It is why people think there are.

CR: T. Good

Humming UFO spotted

POLICE today released details of an unidentified flying object which was spotted over South Wales at the weekend.

Military experts at RAF St. Athan cannot fully explain the sighting, made at Treharris near Merthyr late on Friday night.

The UFO was spotted by a local woman, who has asked not to be identified.

"She reported seeing a large blue light surrounding an orange centre," said a police spokesman today. "It was making a humming noise and this object was seen moving away in a north-westerly direction."

The police contacted RAF St. Athan, who stated that they had no air traffic in the area at the time.

"They did state, however, that the object could have been caused by a cloud in the area reflecting on a TV transmitter, but this would not account for the humming noise," said the spokesman.

CR: T. Good

HERALD EXPRESS, Torquay, Devon, England - Sept. 24, 1987 CR: T. Good

UFOs sighted

Two people have reported seeing UFOs over South Devon this week

One man says he saw a long flying object with lights over Oggwell on Tuesday night and on the same evening a Torquay man saw a brightly lit object "performing extraordinary manoeuvres" about 200ft above Torquay harbour.

Helicopters? No, the rings are a mystery

MYSTERIOUS circles which have appeared on Wiltshire farmland are baffling locals.

Keen aerial photographer David Burden, of Esmead, Chippenham, snapped the group of circles embedded in a wheatfield off the Devizes road, near Beckhampson, as

he flew over in a helicopter.

"I've been flying for years, and I've never seen anything like this," said David.

"I went down to have a look at the rings, and they must have been made from the air, by something very heavy."

"There were no tracks

leading up to the rings, so vandals couldn't have done it. And the wheat was actually flattened in a spiral shape."

Farmer Stephen Horton, of nearby Firs Farm, who owns the land, is also baffled by the mystery rings.

He said: "I don't know what they are, they just seemed to have occurred about three days ago. I thought they might have been caused by a freak whirlwind or something."

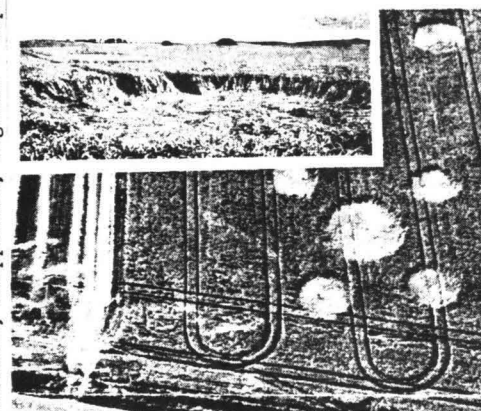
The rings form a pattern of two large circles surrounded by smaller rings, and one slightly indented circle.

David said: "The third circle is below some telephone wires, and it looks as if whatever it was attempted to land and then changed its mind."

David said the rings could not have been made by a helicopter.

"I've seen helicopter landing patterns, and they don't look like this," he said. "It was definitely something unusual."

"I've photographed lots of things from the air, from towns to archaeological digs, but this is a first."



The pattern of tractor "tramlines" and, inset, the mystery damage. — Pictures by David Burden (in the air) and Colin Kearley (on the ground).

NORTHERN ECHO, Darlington, England - Oct. 2, 1987 CR: T. Good

Was choc UFO invaders from Mars?

FACTORY workers had a terrifying close encounter when a sweet-toothed UFO hovered over their chocolate works.

A glowing red square the size of a double-decker bus appeared over Terry's chocolate factory in York before disappearing out of sight.

The unidentified flying object lit up the dawn sky as factory workers

arrived just after 7am.

There were three separate sightings from six people - and all say they were frightened and mystified by the object.

Frightening

Process workers Val Sutcliffe, 47, and her twin daughters Amanda and Louise, of Marston Crescent, were left in no doubt that it was not the sun.

Mrs Sutcliffe, who has driven the

same way to work for 25 years, said:

"It was square at the top with a semi-circular base. It was a bit frightening."

"The woman in the car in front of ours nearly veered off the road."

Beautiful

She said it hovered for a few minutes before disappearing behind the factory.

"I was not a believer before

yesterday. Now I could be swayed."

Alma Crake, 46, of Chapelfields Road, York, another Terry's process worker, said: "It was quite beautiful. I wish I had had my camera with me."

Two girls cycling across York racecourse also saw the object.

RAF Linton on Ouse reported nothing unusual on radar screens at the time of the sightings.

Yorkshire has been identified as a hotspot for the UFO. SUSAN MITCHELL investigates

Pie in the sky ... or real visitors from space?

A WOMAN from Wakefield who stood and watched as a saucer shaped object carrying three silver suited spacemen landed in her garden may not have been imagining things, according to UFO researchers.

In fact they say Yorkshire has become a hotspot for UFOs and experts are so keen to investigate sightings that they have launched a 24-hour UFO hotline for the region.

One Yorkshire family contacted the UFO enthusiasts after seeing a dazzling blue and white spacecraft above the A1 near Grantham. When they pulled into a lay-by to investigate the object disappeared. It is claimed that the first flying saucer in modern times was identified on June 24, 40 years ago, when Mr Kenneth Arnold, a pilot, spotted nine bizarre objects zig-zagging over the mountains on America's west coast.

He described them as: "a chain of saucer-like things" and they became dubbed "flying saucers." In an attempt to solve the mystery

he later wrote a book called "The Coming of the Saucers".

Since then there have been thousands of sightings of objects ranging from flying saucers to cigars, triangles, rectangles, spheres, blimps, tops and lights.

And reports have not just come from people walking dogs at closing time — doctors, business executives, police, servicemen and even the former United States President, Mr Jimmy Carter, claimed to have spotted UFOs.

The co-ordinator of the UFO hotline, Mr Philip Mantle, of Batley, a member of the British

UFO Research Organisation, believes that thousands of people have experienced Encounters of the Third Kind — actual contact between people and alleged alien craft.

The 24-hour hotline, which covers Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Lancashire, should encourage people to come forward and tell us what they have seen. We can then begin the process of investigation," he said.

Yorkshire, he says, is particularly renowned for its UFO sightings: "We have had reports of startling lights coming from the

sky in South Yorkshire and of circular objects spotted in Leeds: North Yorkshire is also very good for sightings."

Past mysteries include bright shapes seen over Carleton Moor, near Skipton; three large white glowing balls of light seen mid-way between Skipton and Grassington and reports of white lights moving from a valley in Halifax.

In Leeds two 14-year-old girls reported seeing a large cluster of lights as they played in Meanwood Valley. A grey low-flying object landed on the grass and then, with

a low humming noise, took off again.

"Yorkshire is known as something of a hotspot for UFO's and we have been amazed by the response we have had from people — we are busy investigating all reports," said Mr Mantle.

Some reports turn out to be clouds, meteors, aircraft, ball lightning, lighthouses, tricks of the light, reflections, the planet Venus, alcohol, hallucinations, and even badgers.

Others are harder to explain away — in 1976 a fighter pilot chased a UFO the size of a Boeing 707 across the skies above Tehran.

He described it as an intensely brilliant object with flashing lights. Suddenly a smaller bright object descended from it and rushed towards him at unbelievable speed.

He attempted to fire a missile, but all his weapons and communication systems suddenly failed.

The smaller object rejoined the mother ship which landed on the ground casting a glow up to two miles around it.

This comes not from a science fiction movie but straight from the pages of a CIA report which was kept secret until the enactment of the Freedom of Information Act.

According to Mr Mantle this is just one of many sightings which are kept from the public's attention: "We have set up the hotline so that people can come straight to us."

The hotline number is 0924-444049.

CR: T. Good



The giant circles which appeared on the hills over the weekend.

Mystery circles are back

THE mysterious Bratton circles have reappeared, sparking off more rumours of unidentified flying objects.

The circles, this time a large one about 25 yards across, with two smaller ones beside it, appeared beneath the Westbury White Horse at the weekend, to be greeted with cynicism from local farmers.

"This time they aren't very far from the road, and that's an obvious sign," said Mr Bob Moger, of Hillcroft Farm.

"When they first appeared years ago I was fascinated because they were symmetrical but as it keeps happening you begin to get suspicious.

"I can't believe it's meteorological and they are certainly not being made by a helicopter."

Last weekend's circles appeared on land farmed by Mr Peter Gale, who, while hoping that not too much of his corn had been damaged, felt that crows could have been responsible.

The circles have frequently appeared in Wiltshire, and the most popular shape has been a large circle surrounded by four smaller ones.

Lack of a suitable explanation has fuelled speculation about UFOs, particularly as the pattern of the circles coincides with many people's concept of spaceships.

Other, more rational explanations, have included youngsters swinging a large chain around in the fields, although footprints or witnesses have never been found.

NEWS, Luton, England - Sept. 3, 1987 CR: T. Good

'UFO' sightings probe

ONE of Britain's top UFO experts is to travel to Luton to probe sightings of a mysterious object in the night sky over the town.

Mr Ken Phillips, an investigator with the British UFO Research Association, wants to interview two women whose observations have been reported in the Luton News.

In the August 20 edition, we told how Mrs Win Crawley, 72, of Cowper Street, Luton, spent 20 minutes looking at the object through her binoculars.

She described it as being whitish silver, with a black hole in the middle and what

looked like wires running through it.

After reading the story about the sighting, Mrs Mary Lovett, of Holgate Drive, Luton, contacted us and reported seeing a similar object on the same night.

Another member of the British UFO Research Association, Mr Bill Dillon, of Hollybush Road, Luton, read the stories and contacted Mr Phillips, who lives in London, with the details.

Mr Phillips said this week: "I hope to come to Luton to interview these two ladies about their sightings, which

sound extremely interesting. There was a BBC TV news report about objects seen over north London around the time the sightings took place in Luton."

ENFIELD GAZETTE & OBSERVER, Middlesex, England Aug. 20, 1987 CR: T. Good

Duo spot UFO

A SILVER space craft with flashing lights was sighted in the skies of Enfield on Sunday, it's claimed. The British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association said the sighting was reported by two separate witnesses.

TRANSLATIONS

City and country of incident: Pordenone Province, Italy
Date of incident: August 6, 1987
Name of paper and date of clip: HET VOLK, August 10, 1987
City and country of newspaper: Brussels, Belgium

[CREDIT: Dirk Gillabel via George Andrews]

UFO "DISPLACED" A CAR FOR 90 KILOMETERS

Rome - Three tourists on vacation in Italy were witnesses of a strange incident with an unidentified flying object. According to their statements, a UFO made the motor of their car fall out, after which the "thing" displaced the car with the trio on board for a distance of 90 kilometers in ten minutes, without their being conscious of it. This was mentioned last Sunday in the normally very serious Italian newspaper CORRIERE DELLA SERA.

The three tourists were in the mountains of Pordenone province, northwest of Venice, Thursday about 11:00 PM, when they suddenly saw a blinding red light, and at the same time, the motor of their car fell out. When they got out of the car in order to see its appearance more clearly, they noticed a lens-shaped object about 8 meters long about 20 meters above their car. It was radiating reddish beams of light in all directions.

The trio, very frightened, fled back into their car, the interior of which was brightly lighted. When the light disappeared, the motor started up again of its own accord.

At that minute, the three tourists noticed that they were in the neighborhood of Udine, which is 90 kilometers distant from the place where they had the strange encounter ten minutes previously.

They told their story to Professor Antonio Chiumento, President of the Italian Center for Ufology, who sent them to Pordenone Hospital for physical examination. They were there diagnosed as suffering from conjunctivitis and nausea.

[NOTE: The term, "the motor of their car fell out," is obviously not to be taken literally, but rather as an indication of engine failure upon the close approach of the UFO.]



They say they saw the real Sasquatch

By ANN REES
Staff Reporter

FELLERS HEIGHTS — Myles Jack was still shaking the day after he and his hard-hat buddies chased what they thought was a seven-foot Sasquatch into the frozen B.C. bush.

The hairy, 181.4 kg (400-lb) monster with size-18 feet "sent a cold chill up my spine," the 30-year-old said in an interview.

The black, human-like beast stood upright on heavy-set legs and was "more like a man than an animal," he said.

"But it was a real mover. It was really fluid in the way it moved."

It took huge steps — twice that of a normal man, he said.

And the footprints were still visible when a Province reporter visited the isolated clearing about 30 kilometres south of Dawson Creek.

Jack and his three buddies weren't drinking.

They were involved in a dangerous, high-pressure job with ambulance attendants standing nearby when the legendary wild man appeared in the moonlight.

The seven-man Albertan oil crew was working in the bitter cold Sunday night when four of the team spotted the hulking beast skirting the worksite.

It peered at them intermittently as it circled the clearing around the rig.

"He was kneeling at the edge of the trees, just checking us out, when I saw him the first time," says Jack, his eyes as big as saucers.

"He crossed the road at least twice and came in behind us. It was like we were on his territory and he was checking us out. He seemed really curious."

Jack yelled at his pal, Bryan Mestdagh, who thought it was a joke.

Mestdagh's worked in the northern wilderness for more than a decade and has never seen anything like Bigfoot.

"But then I happened to turn around and there he was standing over in the corner of the clearing," said the 34-year-old father of three.

Now Mestdagh is sure it was the B.C. cousin of the Himalayan Yeti — the abominable snowman.

"I've seen a documentary on the Sasquatch and I'd have to say what we saw was identical," he said.

"There was no drink or anything else. We saw what we saw."

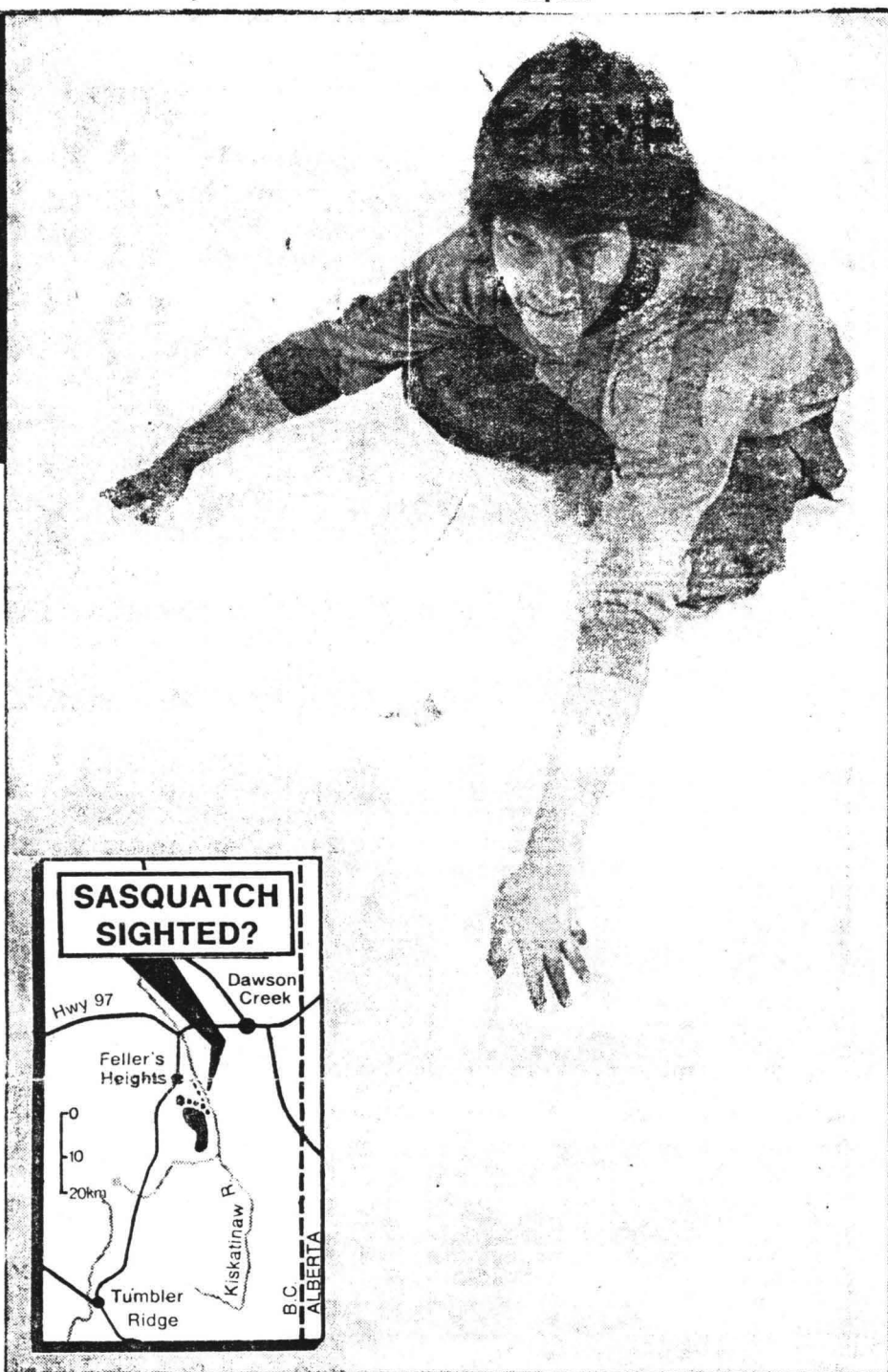
Both men discount the possibility that the creature was a giant bear.

"A bear would be almost impossible this time of year for the simple reason that they are still hibernating," experienced bushman Mestdagh said.

"Its legs were too long and it moved too quick and too fluidly for it to be a bear."

And Jack says there's no way it was a practical joker with nothing better to do on a freezing cold northern night.

"No man that big could move like this did," Jack said shaking his head. "I believe we saw a Sasquatch."



Staff photo by Les Bazso

Myles Jack points to huge 'hoofprints' in the snow at Fellers Heights (see map, inset).

GRIT, Williamsport, PA - Aug. 23, 1987 CR: L. Whitehurst

Attorney Doggedly Tracks Elusive Loch Ness Monster

By DICK O'DONNELL
For GRIT

FOR 16 years, Robert Rines has been spending his summers trying to take a photograph of a most elusive celebrity — without success.

Rines, a patent attorney and president of Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, N.H., wants to photograph the Loch Ness monster.

Since 1971, he has headed a research team from the New Hampshire-based Academy of Applied Science that has traveled to Inverness, Scotland, with sophisticated electronic and photographic gear to be used in the event Nessie decides to make an appearance.

Members of the group have included Dr. Martin Klein, a sonar expert; Isaac Blonder, president of a New Jersey elec-

tronics firm, and British researcher Tim Dinsdale, an expert on underwater photography.

"Members of our group change from year to year," explains Dr. Rines. "It all depends on who is free to make the trip over to Scotland during the summer months. Members of our group work on a volunteer basis, and pay their own way."

THE lawyer said he first became interested in the legendary sea serpent back in 1961 while vacationing in Scotland when he came across a book about Loch Ness. Ten years later, he organized his first expedition to Inverness.

Over the years, the group has picked up a "very big target" on its sonar equipment at Loch Ness. And once Rines reported seeing what appeared to be "the

back of a big elephant" in Loch Ness.

But Nessie — if indeed there is a creature in the deep loch — has yet to sit still long enough to pose for a photo.

"Let me clarify a point," says Rines. "Many people believe there is only one sea serpent. We have come up with evidence that indicates there may be more than one sea creature at Loch Ness."

He said a photograph taken at Loch Ness one summer showed "two parallel wakes on the calm loch."

Despite his failure to photograph Nessie, Dr. Rines intends to keep trying. "I intend to keep returning to Inverness during the summer until we finally get a photo of that sea serpent," said the lawyer. "We are not about to give up. And some summer soon, we will get that photo."

TIMES, New York, NY - Sept. 29, 1987 CR: R. Collins

Catastrophes Can Still Explain Earth's Changes

To the Editor:

C. Leroy Ellenberger thinks the catastrophist theories of Immanuel Velikovsky have been refuted (letter, Aug. 29). I've lost count of how many times such statements have been made over the last 37 years. The debate will continue for the next 37 years and beyond, because the central dispute is ancient.

Adherents of uniformitarianism and catastrophism have been at one another's throats for thousands of years. Uniformitarianism is an overview of science and history that holds that past changes on the earth were produced slowly and calmly by processes still active today. Catastrophism points to abundant evidence that global changes also occur rapidly and violently.

Aristotle was a uniformitarian. Plato was a catastrophist. Cicero was a uniformitarian. Ovid was a catastrophist. Isaac Newton was a uniformitarian. His assistant, William Whiston, was a catastrophist. Today, uniformitarianism rules the aca-

demie roost. Immanuel Velikovsky, the best-known catastrophist of the 20th century, is in official disfavor.

If Mr. Ellenberger believes that Greenland ice cores will put Velikovsky to rest he is sadly mistaken. He writes that there is an "absence of copious cometary debris in the cores." However, in Science Watch (Science Times, Sept. 1) you report that a "surprisingly high abundance" of black dust "extraterrestrial in origin" has been found in the Greenland ice. The same issue of Science Times also reports that "mysterious meteorites" from Mars have been found on earth and offers a catastrophist explanation. The front page of the section also carries a story about the widespread sacrificing of children in ancient Carthage to appease their planetary gods.

Immanuel Velikovsky's work sheds light on all these findings. He wasn't always right. Neither was Columbus. But Velikovsky's day is coming, too.

CLARK WHELTON
New York, Sept. 7, 1987

METEORITE



Globe photo/Toby Talbot
Laurel Sicard holds part of an object she and her mother saw fall to earth.

Jeanne Sicard's close encounter with the universe not all charming

By Mark Muro
Globe Staff

BARTON, Vt. - The other day, Jeanne Sicard was out on High Street, pointing.

Next to her lawn, she pointed at the sky. Down at the corner, she showed how she drove up the hill, then made a left. A little farther on, by a house marked "KAMBOUR," she pointed again, this time at the telephone wires.

"See, it came in real low, slanting, like right below the wires there," she was saying, telling a visitor how it was that purplish February twilight. One couldn't miss how sober, how factual, even how

concise was her tone.

Speaking there in the breezy noon sun, Sicard was like hundreds of other American visionaries, miscellaneous school teachers and heavy equipment operators who, out of the blue, see a light, a cometary flash, a UFO and - dammit! - know what they've seen.

There she was, that cold-snap evening of Feb. 19, when suddenly - "like a sparkler" - this mild mother of two thinks she sees the crash of what would be the first meteor ever recovered in the Green Mountain State. "I could see it was angling in and not going to take off and head over the mountain, so I just pulled my car over and got out to go looking," she says.

And, to her mind at least, she did find something. That evening, as Sicard has documented with fastidious notes, snapshots and plastic cases filled with dusty powder, she and her 7½-year-old daughter Laurel went digging in the snow. There, on Si-

card's mother-in-law's lawn, they retrieved a softball-sized mass of frozen matter: "a ball of ash," she calls it.

And that was the beginning.

"My husband told me not to touch it, so I put it in a shovel," Sicard remembers, relating her excitement at taking a "meteorite" home to her basement.

Yet what's followed these two months has been decidedly less pleasant. As in many stories of the cosmic intruding into the ordinary, Sicard quickly found herself humbled. But then it got ridiculous. From garbled news reports to preoccupied experts, she's been frustrated by rumors, poo-pooed by professors, confused at every turn. Reporters misspelled her name; investigators from the Smithsonian patronized her.

Increasingly, she says, she's found her close encounter with the mysterious universe a real drag. Now, she says, she almost wishes it never happened.

It all began that cold evening in February.

Then, as always up here when the weather's frigid and crystalline, the west was beginning to go plum-colored, and so, after feeding the family horse at its barn across town, Jeanne Sicard started toward her husband's mother's house. It had been cold all week, she remembers; the streets were banked wholesale with frozen snow. But mainly it was just a regular day, she and Laurel driving, a routine family supper planned after a routine day at her part-time job in the state attorney's office. Nor was crossing town any big deal, either: There isn't much to Barton but a couple of New England churches off the common, a bright-red-trimmed "BARTON FIRE DEPT.," some lovely old houses in disrepair, the Blue Seal feed store by the railroad crossing.

So there they were, Jeanne and Laurel - driving across the tracks, up the hill to High Street, then left.

Then it happened.

They'd just turned, just begun grinding up the icy High Street in their Dodge, when Laurel shouted "Mom: Look!"

Recalls Sicard, "It was out of nowhere: a ball of light with sparkles coming off, like a sparkler." "And no way was it miles away," she goes on, walking there on High Street past elaborate old houses and mailboxes. "No, it was right there, right between the windshield and the house, and it was beautiful, white, not even going that fast." What's more, she adds, it was low. "You could just see it was going to hit right near us," says Sicard, remembering how the bright light passed behind the high snowbank of her mother-in-law's raised lawn. "At first I thought it was the local teen-agers with firecrackers," she adds.

Then Sicard decided otherwise. Pulling into the driveway, she started looking around in the snow while Laurel ran inside to tell her grandmother, "Grammy: We saw a falling star!" After a while, Sicard found something: "a hole with something in it."

That something - a brownish mass like mud on snow - would become the cause of all her trouble.

At first, of course, it was fun.

The next day, a Friday, Sicard's husband Rick took the snowball to the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium in St. Johnsbury. There staff members confirmed it was "probably" a meteorite, though they suggested further consultation. Meanwhile, at her job, Jeanne was shocked.

"I'd kind of forgotten about it," she says now, "and then this girl at work says 'Guess what I saw?' I was flabbergasted. She'd been driving toward Irasburg and seen something, too." After that, the attorneys at her office suggested she call Stuart Hall, the popular weatherman at WCAX-TV in Burlington. She did, and by noon Friday her name was winging out on TV. Suddenly, New Englanders knew Jeanne Sicard as the finder

of the first meteorite ever retrieved in Vermont. Right away reporters started calling: from AP, from UPI, from the Burlington Free Press. "I got a little tired telling the story," Sicard says, but at that point her excitement charmed her.

It turned out that others had also seen something.

Over in Glover, Dorothy Perron had been driving home that Thursday on Route 122 when she and her farmer husband and two cousins saw "this flying object." "It was just a big ball of fire, bright and glowy," Perron would relate later. A few days later Rick Sicard - a TV repairman - was working on a neighbor's satellite dish when the owner said he'd seen something land close. After that, a Digital Equipment engineer from Lunenburg, Mass., wrote. He said he'd been driving Route 190 home that Thursday night when he saw something: "something real ... bright, with pieces falling off." Jeanne Sicard wrote back, touched.

So far she'd "pretty much" enjoyed her brush with the universe. But then it soured.

Many of the news reports contained inaccuracies. Not only did Sicard not relish finding her name spelled "Jean" and "Sicord" in various places, other reports were just plain wrong. One stated the "object" had fallen in January. Another said for certain it was a "meteorite," which had yet to be proved.

Then it got worse.

The Smithsonian called from Washington but the investigator struck Sicard as so "superior" she decided not to send samples. The Fairbanks Museum spoke of a meeting of experts who could inspect the material, but they never got around to it. Then, more erroneous news stories appeared. Finally, the Sicards decided to send their "meteorite" - now melted, reduced and dried to a grainy powder - to a relative in Boston, who could take it to the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at Harvard. He did and what followed was weeks of silence. Finally, a few weeks ago, her brother called to say the Harvard investigators had determined her "meteorite" was likely no such thing, that it was "ordinary sand," that, as Jeanne Sicard says, "I'd probably seen it from 12 miles away."

"My husband and I were very disappointed," she says.

Eventually, Sicard adds, her husband called the observatory to ask what tests had been run and was told none, because they weren't necessary. On April 3, Jeanne also called - "I just had to talk to them," she says - and found that a test for nickel could be performed, but would be expensive. Two days later, on Sunday, a UPI dispatch carried in the Globe and elsewhere made the whole affair seem ridiculous. That report suggested - wrongly - that Harvard scientists had confirmed that Sicard's object was a meteorite.

In fact, the pleasantly authoritative Ursula Marvin - the scientist who examined the Vermont material - stands by her original verdict.

"All I can say," she concluded Wednesday, "is it was not a meteorite, it was not comet dust, not anything extraterrestrial. Rather, it was ordinary sand and gravel, just quartz, feldspar, other familiar minerals."

She sounded almost apologetic. "All I can surmise," she said, "is perhaps a fireball did occur but that people were deceived, as they often are, that it was near them when really it was miles away."

And that, sadly, is the unfortunate pass to which Jeanne Sicard's meteorite has come.

But the finder cannot, will not, accept that.

"All I know is what I saw," she said.

Now, Jeanne Sicard waits and wonders.

(continued on page 19)

(continued from page 18)
- GLOBE, Boston, MA
- April 20, 1987)

Evenings, the stars press down close, hundreds and hundreds of them, while days, Sicard said, she's been reading the National Geographic for stories about falling rocks. Then, too, there's a book her brother sent her from the Smithsonian. "What I'm really interested in is the stony meteorites," she says, happily.

Beyond that, this quiet housewife remains tirelessly insistent. Recently she made a visitor a grilled cheese sandwich, pointed out the window some, then spread out a green folder on the kitchen table with a passel of clippings, miscellaneous snapshots, a Polaroid. "Object from 'Space' Examined," "A Star Falls in Barton: Smithsonian Interested," "Fireballs Light Up Vt. Sky," read the clippings; other papers noted phone numbers, addresses. From over on top of the refrigerator she proffered the plastic box of dust. She said she'd lent out a few of her articles to a neighborhood 8th-grader for his school report on her experience.

"You can't but get interested," she exclaimed. "It's fascinating."

And yet, Jeanne Sicard mostly seems frustrated.

At the end of the month she's going to retrieve her samples from Boston and maybe send them somewhere else, she says. Right now she's just plain miffed. "See, it would have been easier if they'd just do a real test and say 'yes' or 'no,'" she says, "but the way it is now I kind of feel like 'Why me?'"

"I mean," she says, "those are educated people who don't think much of this and I respect that, but maybe there's something else up there they don't know about."

"Sometimes," she murmurs, "I wish it'd never happened."

STAR, Auckland, New Zealand - Sept. 4, 1987 CR: R. Collins

-Technology closes in on Nessie-

LONDON. — A team of American and British scientists is to launch a new hunt for the Loch Ness monster, using sonar equipment which they say cannot fail to spot Nessie if he or she is there.

"It will be one of the largest scientific expeditions ever undertaken on the mysterious lake," said Adrian Shine, a veteran monster hunter and the co-ordinator of the latest attempt.

Operation Deep Scan is to start next month at Loch Ness, the Scottish lake near Inverness, where for more than 50 years unconfirmed reports of a monster have kept tourists coming and scientists guessing.

The expedition will take a formidable amount of equipment to scan the lake, which is 40 kilometres long and about 250 metres deep.

For 10 days, 20 boats loaded with electronic equipment, sonar scanners and underwater cameras will hunt for Nessie in the murky depths.

During tests last year, the sonar equipment was perfected so that no fish bigger than about 10cm could escape detection. Organisers believe this means that if there is a Loch Ness monster, it has little hope of hiding from them.

The results of the electronic hunt will be analysed and decoded by a team of about 60 scientists on shore.

In 1983 Mr Shine, in an article in *New Scientist* magazine, caused a sensation by declaring that there was no monster. Six months later the magazine had to admit that some details of the Loch Ness file were still

unclear and deserved "deeper" consideration.

The Loch Ness and Morar Project, which is also associated with Operation Deep Scan, is convinced there is "something" there. It carried out a hunt in 1982 and said it made 40 recordings of something like a fish, but more developed.

The equipment makes previous attempts to find Nessie look pitiful, but nearly everything else has been tried in the past, including telepathy and the sending of waves to attract the monster by stimulating its erogenous zones.

One West German industrialist tried to attract the monster with 10 tonnes of breadcrumbs spread across the surface, while Yoshiro Kuo, a businessman of Chinese origin, prepared a

mini-submarine equipped with an underwater tranquillising rifle. The Scottish authorities banned him from using it.

After 50 years scientific experts are divided on the prospects of ever finding Nessie. Sceptics have said it is a clear case of collective hallucinations, or that it is the bodies of dead cows or tree trunks that have come to the surface.

Among pro-monster advocates are those who say it is an unknown variety of the plesiosaur marine reptile. The theories are numerous but hard proof is less abundant.

The latest sighting was last month. A retired American street cleaner said he saw a creature with "a sort of cat face with a kind of stupid look."

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - March 7, 1987 CR: G. Conway

Cavities puzzle pyramid probers

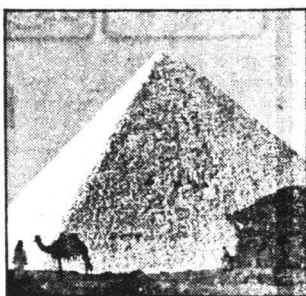
By ASHRAF FOUD
Reuter

GIZA, Egypt — Japanese and French experts are investigating a new mystery at the 4,600-year-old pyramids — why the pharaohs built geometrical cavities inside the Great Pyramid of Cheops and filled some with mineral-enriched sifted sand.

The foreign archaeologists arrived in Giza last year to search for the missing mummy of Cheops inside his pyramid, one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world.

Instead, they uncovered a new mystery in the ancient funerary complex just outside Cairo.

From the outside, the pyramid appears to be built of solid blocks of limestone. But two French architects, Gilles Dormion and Jean-Patrice Goidin, discovered cavities which could total 15 to 20 per cent of the structure.



PYRAMID AT GIZA:
unknown passage found

"It could be for a religious function, an engineering function or just stores," said Ahmed Kadry, head of Egypt's Antiquities Department.

He called the discovery "the

threshold of a new archeological revolution."

The French team used an instrument which measures differences in gravity to find the internal spaces. Then they drilled small holes through the 1.8-metre blocks and found sand — but not ordinary sand from the nearby desert.

Laboratory tests showed it came from another part of Egypt and was sifted and enriched with minerals before being placed inside the pyramid by the ancient architects.

Japanese specialists equipped with scanners hooked to video screens conducted a week of tests and, on the basis of preliminary results, confirmed the French findings.

The Japanese also discovered a new empty space behind a corridor leading to the so-called Queen's Chamber.

This void might be a secret cham-

ber where the missing treasures and mummy of Cheops are buried, team chief Sakuji Yoshimura said in an interview.

The pharaohs believed in life after death and were buried with their treasures and food. To confuse grave-robbers, they built several burial chambers in each funerary complex.

The archeologists from Tokyo's Waseda University also found a previously unknown passage starting 42 metres from the Cheops pyramid and running beneath it. Yoshimura said the tunnel, mostly filled with sand, might be a secret entrance.

While the French team continues work at Giza, the Japanese will be running their data through computers in Tokyo. They aim to have full results by mid-April giving a graphic picture of the pyramid's interior.

SATURDAY OKLAHOMAN, Oklahoma City, OK
Aug. 29, 1987 CR: T. Adams

Fish-Finder Joins Hunt for 'Nessie'

By Ann DeFrango

If an Oklahoma fish-finding device can locate a crappie in an Oklahoma lake, scientists figure it should be able to find the monster in Loch Ness.

If it does, a legend that's existed since the sixth century is about to be demythified by 20th-century technology.

When the newest exploration of the mysterious Scottish lake begins Oct. 9, a group of Oklahomans will be aboard. Co-sponsors of the venture are Loch Ness Exhibition Centre of Drumnadrochit, Scotland, and Lowrance Electronics Inc. of Tulsa.

Lowrance, an Oklahoma-based firm

for nearly 30 years, manufactures a sonar scanner that helps boaters navigate or helps sportsmen locate fish. The device emits sound waves through the water which bounce back to the surface when they hit bottom or a solid object in between, then prints a graph of the findings. The same principles can be used on the alleged monster nicknamed "Nessie," said company spokesman Steve Schneider.

Engineers and others from the Tulsa company, including president Darrell Lowrance, will join scientists at the lake in early October. The project itself will take three days. The water

has already been tested for density, mineral content and other factors that affect the sound waves.

Twenty of the "fish-finder" units will be placed on 20 boats, borrowed from a Scottish tourist cruise company. The boats will line up across the 1-mile-wide and 24-mile-long lake, 200 feet apart, and sweep the span of the water. Schneider said scientists estimate that will take about 12 hours.

"Our units can pinpoint objects one inch apart," Schneider said. "They are capable of showing anything there. Undoubtedly we will find thousands and thousands of game fish and schools of bait fish."

And, maybe, the monster. According to legend, it is 30 feet long.

Schneider said that among the scientists working in the project, "Some insist there is something there and want to identify it." Others want to finally prove there is nothing mysterious about the lake.

Schneider said, "For years there were rumors of giant octopuses and squid in the ocean, and people scoffed. Then time proved them wrong."

Personally, "I'd certainly like to see the expressions on the faces of the people who insisted it was never there."

"It," Schneider added, "it is there."

'Curious things' conference ends

By Graham Heathcote
of The Associated Press

EDINBURGH, Scotland — Scientists who investigate such mysteries as psychic spoon-bending, mind-reading and things that go bump in the night wound up an international conference Saturday saying there's something out there, but they aren't sure what.

"There is now enough information from research to suggest that some odd things do happen, but there's no cohesive theory as to why and how they happen," said American Professor Robert L. Morris of Edinburgh University.

Morris, 45, Britain's first professor of parapsychology, said in an interview that his science deals with "curious things that aren't explained."

"We don't know what the outcome of the many investigations will be and if it turns out that psychic phenomena are merely the application of known physics and biology, and can be explained in ordinary terms, well, that's fine," he said.

Morris, formerly of Syracuse University, New York, joined 140 other scientists

in the field to discuss their work, in Edinburgh at the five-day, 30th annual conference of the Parapsychological Association.

A note of caution about believing fantastic stories was sounded by Dr. John Beloff, a retired Edinburgh University psychologist who organized the meeting with Morris.

"I consider that excessive credulity does far more harm than excessive incredulity," said Beloff.

In his address on the credibility of psychic claims, Beloff said there were fewer cases around of alleged psychic activity than there used to be.

He said Uri Geller, who gained fame with his claimed ability to bend spoons by thought alone, "has taken a terrible battering and the mini-Gellers have become even scarcer."

But from time to time, there were amazing claims, Beloff said. "Our ancestors called them miracles or witchcraft but modern researchers should adopt a neutral term such as 'extreme phenomena,'" he said.

If such extreme phenomena exist, it is intellectually dishonest as well as cow-

ardly to discount them, Beloff said.

Morris said investigators of the paranormal have a handy short name for the apparently inexplicable. They call it psi, which rhymes with sigh.

Psi covers extrasensory perception or ESP, which is knowing things you couldn't have known by the usual means, like sensing the death of a relative at the moment of death, or dreaming of a plane crash that happens next day.

"I know of an Edinburgh woman who left her work suddenly because she felt something was wrong at home and on arriving there she found one of her children had been sent home from school ill," Morris said.

The power of mind over matter, like spoon-bending or rolling a string of winning combinations with dice by apparent will-power, is called psychokinesis or PK.

In a PK case cited by Alok Saklani of Garhwal University in Srinagar, India, a Himalayan shaman or faith-healer persuaded one group of wheat seeds to germinate more abundantly than another group, seemingly by concentrating her thoughts on them, and under test conditions.

Robert McConnell, a retired physicist

at Pittsburgh University and the association's first president, told The Associated Press: "We don't have any idea what we're doing. All we know is that something occurs."

McConnell said: "Despite enormous interest among laymen, we need more recognition from the scientific establishment so we can get support, and I don't mean just money. We have too much popular attraction and not enough willingness to examine the evidence."

"Parapsychology is totally unrewarding financially, so we can't attract enough of the most brilliant young men and women," McConnell said.

Asked if investigating the paranormal could have any result beyond advancing knowledge, McConnell responded: "Psi has to do with the relation of consciousness to the physical world. Ultimately, I expect we will find relationships between people which are now regarded as impossible or absurd and once we have more intimate relationships, we might conceivably be able to overcome our desperate problems, like overpopulation and war."

CR: J. Deardorff

GAZETTE TIMES, Corvallis, OR - Aug. 9, 1987

Loch Ness hunt most extensive ever

Depth sonar detects 'lump'

The Associated Press

DRUMNADROCHIT, Scotland — A motorboat flotilla moved down the inky waters of Loch Ness like an out-of-step chorus line Friday in the biggest scientific hunt yet for Nessie, the lake's elusive monster.

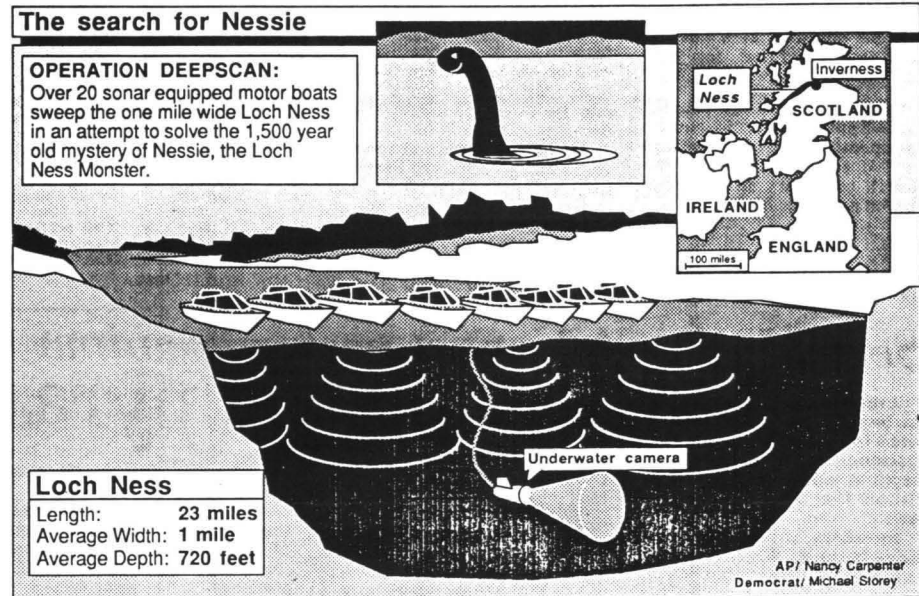
Several sonar contacts with unidentified objects were reported and Tony Harmsworth, director of the Loch Ness Center, said of one at a depth of 244 feet: "If we have a monster, it would register exactly like this."

He said the contact "must have been strong to register as it did."

The others reported were at the bottom of the lake, including one "very large lump."

Adrian Shine, an avowed Nessie skeptic who organized the three-day hunt, said it would be the most thorough ever of the murky lake but would not resolve the 1,400-year-old debate about whether the monster is fact or fantasy.

"Keep faith with all the maligned eyewitnesses who look to you for vindication," the 38-year-old London salesman told his 100 volunteers before the boats set out. "You all know where I stand on this issue. I want you to suspend



my skepticism."

It was Shine's 1982 expedition to Loch Ness, during which 40 strong sonar contacts with large and sometimes moving objects were reported, that led to this week's Operation Deepscan.

Twenty-four motorboats equipped with the latest American-made sonar echo sounders straggled into place across the center of the mile-

wide lake.

Wind made the surface choppy and the 32-foot vessels could not hold to a straight line.

"In this weather right now it's pretty horrible, but it will start to shape up," said 14-year-old Sebastian Callaway of Los Angeles.

As the flotilla made its way down the middle of the lake, the area where Shine's sonar

contacts were reported in 1982, voices on the marine radio reported the new ones.

Each was marked with a buoy for a follow-up to determine whether the object remained there or had moved off.

Shine said he was looking for "a very large fish" and "would be delighted with a 20-foot eel or sturgeon or something like that."

CHRONICLE, San Francisco, CA - Aug. 4, 1987 CR: W. Thompson

BOOKS

Speculation on Landmarks Of the Martian Landscape

The Monuments Of Mars: A City on the Edge of Forever
By Richard C. Hoagland
Atlantic, 348 pages, \$14.95

BY PENNY SKILLMAN

If you enjoy science mysteries involving outer space, evolution, extraterrestrial speculation, ancient history and anthropology, then you'll like this book. If, on the other hand, you're a believer in the kind of scientific investigation that never puts the cart before the horse, you're bound to experience fits of exasperation over "The Monuments of Mars."

On the basis of computer-enhanced 1976 Viking Orbiter photos taken of Mars from a thousand miles off its surface, science journalist Richard Hoagland speculates that there may be artificial structures there, including a mile-wide humanoid "Face" and a "City" built in geographic relation to one another.

There are no two ways about it, is Hoagland's challenge: The structures are either natural or artificial; if the latter is the case, he deems this "one of the most important discoveries of our entire existence on Earth." Hoagland, who it's clear is passionately obsessed with the idea that the Martian features are arti-

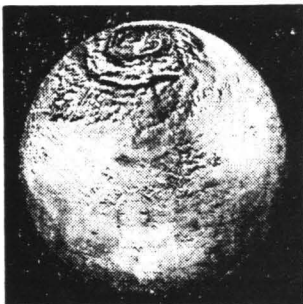
San Francisco writer Penny Skillman is a recent contributor to Small Press Review.

facts, has produced a book top-heavy (as he admits) with excessive theorizing. It is a series of speculations on how, and by whom, the "monuments" were built, and what they might mean.

Did life evolve on Mars in the distant past, despite the fact that it now has an environment hostile to the evolution of life as we know it? Did earlier Earth societies, which enjoyed a higher order of technological development than we, travel to Mars? Did extraterrestrials from outside our solar system visit Mars? And, a more chilling hypothesis: Was Mars at one time a habitable planet that was subsequently destroyed by nuclear war?

Hoagland spins out his speculations for perhaps a hundred pages too many. Yet despite this, and his tyranny by exclamation point (the reader at times experiences a desire to reach for an envelope with which to send NASA a donation and request to, for heaven's sake! send another orbiter up to Mars and find out what those structures really are!), the book has a lot to commend it.

The author does dare to tread where mainstream scientists wouldn't. And he does appreciate the difference between science and fantasy, discussing the pros and cons of various hypotheses objectively. In a way, Hoagland's theories make the planned 1988 Russian mission to the Martian moons and the 1990 U.S. "Mars Observer" mission



Mars: Artificial or natural landmarks?

more potentially exciting than the Super Bowl.

And there's a bonus here, too. Part of the book is a journal of the story of how Hoagland has tried to interest scientists and institutions such as Stanford Research Institute in his Mars investigation. He gives us an inside view of how the scientific community responds to fads and negative feedback, as any other industry does, and what it takes to get backing for projects out of the mainstream.

Then, too, if by some rare chance Hoagland has hit the bulls-eye with his theory about the formations on Mars being artificial, those 20 publishers who turned down his manuscript before Berkeley publisher Richard Grossinger willingly took it on no doubt will be crying in their Martian beers. And Hoagland would enjoy the distinction of having literally, as well as metaphorically, put a new face on the subject of the exploration of outer space.

HARTFORD RECORD, Bel Air, MD - Sept. 23, 1987

Earthline

Encounters in Chase

By Bob Chance
"Try to be like a turtle—at ease in your own shell."

B. Copeland
Maryland Bigfoot investigator Mark Opsasnick recently recalled several stirring accounts of Sasquatch sightings which took place throughout May and June of 1976. Centered in the Harwood Park area of Chase, dozens of encounters were investigated by the Baltimore County Police. In one instance a Sasquatch was seen at night crossing Harwood Road by two police officers who have requested anonymity. Sgt. George Brooks recalls that K-9 units tracked the creature to the drainage tunnels where the Little Gunpowder River flows under I-95, then refused to go any further. These tunnels are the same exact location where at least two separate teams of police officers reported seeing the Sasquatch during that early summer invasion.

These reports quite probably illustrate the Harford County Sasquatch's search for territorial expansion. Moving south from his Deer Creek watershed home, the creature traveled down along the Little Gunpowder Falls, under I-95, and then seemingly headed west through the Days Cove region of the Bird River and over to Chase. By mid-June the reports had stopped and the Sasquatch returned to Harford County. Any readers with any further Bigfoot information from these areas should write to: Mark Opsasnick, 114 Rosewood Dr., Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Recently I heard of an episode

from a Chase grocery store conversation involving the unsubstantiated incident of dozens of soldiers combing the swamps and the Gunpowder delta a decade ago. Rumor had it that an experimental mammal might have escaped from the nearby military property. Over the last 15 years there have been several unusual sightings, and some were substantiated by the local police.

Often I have shown people maps of concentrated areas of possible Sasquatch sightings. Latrobe, Pa., has been one such area that has received a lot of attention in the last 20 years. Recently, additional sightings have occurred.

In 1982, three people were camped near a stream about half a mile above the Bear Cave. They saw the top branches of mature mountain laurel moving in an unusual manner. This is the same ground cover surrounding all of the Muddy Creek reports 15 years ago. The campers moved to another valley to look for old bottles. Off toward a rocky bluff they saw a primate with a lot of hair on its arms and a lot on the top of the head. It dropped its arms down and walked into the green laurel. The hiker stated that he had been going to the same area for 20 years and had never seen an animal like that. "I'm 100 percent sure it was not a bear."

Dr. Cynthia Walter, professor of biology at St. Vincent College, says it seems extremely unlikely that such a creature exists in the 20th century. The area has been so thoroughly examined and there are hunters everywhere.

CR: M. Opsasnick