

# UFO

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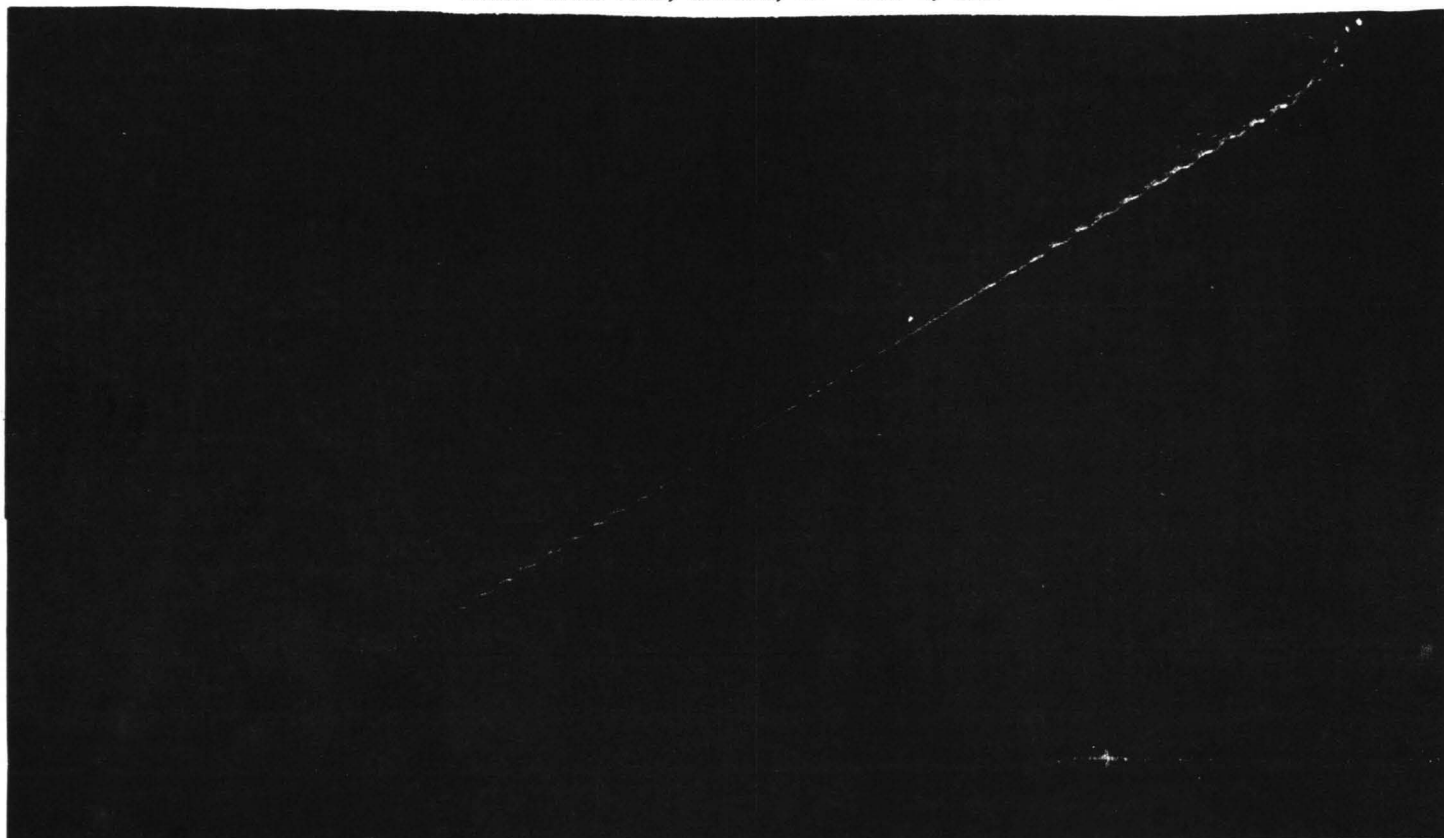
PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U.S.A.

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LITTLE RIVER NEWS, Ashdown, AR - Feb. 4, 1988



**A SLOW-MOVING FLYING VEHICLE** — The photo shows a time-exposure of 30 seconds using 1,000 speed ASA film taken Jan. 29. The object was southbound near Cross Roads about 8:24 p.m. The object was described by other family members of the photographer as making a low humming noise and prior to flying over the area, dogs nearby started

barking. Barksdale Air Force Base officials and the FAA officials in Fort Worth, Tex., said no re-fueling flights occurred during the night in the area. Only high level commercial flights and private aircraft were recorded in the area. See related story. Numerous sightings of the object were recorded in the county.

Photo by Little River News

## Two mysteries continue from the sky

Two mysteries still exist in the sky over Little River County and the documentation continues but no explanation has developed.

The documentation has explained what hasn't occurred but so far has been unable to explain what has occurred.

The action of the objects rising suddenly in different locations such as west, or southwest or south or east have been reported numerously in the last month. One theory was flares being tested, but a pilot who was assisting spotters on the ground flew his airplane toward one of the sightings. The pilot who has seen flares before said this object traveled horizontally. The typical flare will drift downward.

Bill Dempsey, a science teacher at Arkansas High School in Texarkana and who was selected as a finalist in the NASA teacher in space program, has also made similar observations south of Foreman and has reviewed photos taken by the Little River News using a computer to enhance the images, but no explanation has developed.

Dempsey also observed the object which flew over the area Jan. 29 around 7:15 p.m. in a northward pass and he described it as having no shape with multi-lights.

The object traveled north and multi-sightings were recorded with similar descriptions of the low level hum. Blanche Thornhill and Belinda Taaffe also indicated their dogs started barking when the ob-

ject passed over while other aircraft during the night never disturbed the dogs.

The Little River News photographer was located west of Cross Roads and when the object flew nearby, dogs at a house about a mile from the site also started barking. But when other aircraft passed over later, the dogs did not bark.

One theory suggested re-fueling flights, but the Little River News contacted flight control officers at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, La., and they indicated no re-fueling flights occurred.

Mel Hines, Area Manager of the Fort Worth Air Traffic Control Center, said Monday, Feb. 1, no refueling operations had been conducted in the approved F.A.A. refueling path over Foreman, Friday night, Jan. 29.

He explained jet aircraft refueling must be done between 20,000 and 25,000 feet and Fort Worth Center must be notified prior to commencing refueling operations. Although aircraft may do banking turns prior to locking together for refueling, during the transfer of fuel, the aircraft must fly a straight course.

Helicopters must also refuel in the same area, sometimes between 4,000 and 6,000 feet altitude. He said he felt like if helicopters were refueling at those altitudes, you would be able to hear the noise from the ground.

The only helicopter refueling

done Friday, Jan. 29 was during the daylight hours.

He also reported the only formation flying done was by aircraft doing a triangle flight to the south of the Foreman area in a path from Greenville, Tex., to Texarkana, to Sulphur Springs, Tex., and back, out of our viewing range.

Another suggestion was ice crystals forming after an aircraft might have flown over. Earnest Ethridge with the National Weather Service in Shreveport, La., said it's doubtful ice crystals would have formed between 5,000 and 6,000 feet which was the estimated altitude of the aircraft.

Dee Reece, public affairs officer at the Red River Army Depot, checked the last week of activity and said no helicopter flights had occurred at night. "We had no flights to cause an unusual lighting pattern," said Reece.

Ken White, an astronomer in Texarkana and a member of the Ark-La-Tex Sky watchers, published an article in the Startrails in the February issue about the sightings.

The following portion is reprinted from the White article titled, "Now you see it, now you don't."

"I don't know what I was looking at. Prior reports from seemingly reliable persons notwithstanding, I know what it *wasn't*. It was *not*: the moon, Venus, Mercury, Jupiter, any star that I know of, any of the other planets, meteors, zodiacal light—the

list could go on.

"Now, let's turn our attention to the night of January 29. We had made arrangements to go back to the area, but in a different locality. Seems the 'remote' area is fairly well populated on just about any given night.

"Bob Taaffe, of Nekoosa, took a group of us to his property, well away from the beaten path. Among the observers was Bill Dempsey; his brother, Roy; along with Jerry and David Clemons. In all, I figure there were about 16 or 17 people in 5 vehicles making the trip. As we were traveling, some had already noticed the reddish star-like object in the north-west, up about 15 degrees. Finally, Bob, in the lead car, stopped. He knew what was about to happen, and so did I. Right there on the road, all of us out of the cars, the object simply vanished.

"Since we had not yet arrived at the site, no cameras or other observing gear had been set up. You will simply have to take our word on its own merit. If all 17 of us are lying, we've got our stories *extremely* straight. If we were the victim of some kind of illusion, 34 eyes saw the same thing. If the sight was a figment of the imagination, 17 people had exactly the same hallucination, at precisely the same moment.

Dempsey said after researching and after hours of reviewing the photos taken on Jan. 29, "I would have slept a lot better if you hadn't taken the photos."

## Personal observations

**Editor's Note:** The following article is a personal account of Little River News reporter Jeanne Jackson about the observations Jan. 25 of the sky sightings.

By Jeanne Jackson

It was a planned setting for an attempt to determine exactly what is causing the light phenomena south of Foreman when we arrived at the Anderson Lateral power substation Monday night (Jan. 25).

A pilot and observer were circling the area in radio contact with those of us on the ground at the power station.

In an effort to eliminate possibilities, etc., we had in our group a professional astronomer with his equipment; Jim Williamson with photographic equipment; a former B-52 navigator with 1800 hours flying time, and a two-way radio.

Four times in the southwest sky, with Venus firmly identified, we saw a light rise vertically, remain stationary, then begin moving. We would follow the lights which appeared to be red or white and not flashing, then they would suddenly disappear as if switched off.

On one occasion, we were able to position the pilot quickly enough to have him fly in the direction of one of the lights which became white and glowed steadily. As he turned toward the light, although we could not determine exact distance, the light went out.

We both saw the light go out at the same instant even though the pilot was flying around 4,500 feet and we were on the ground. The pilot continued flying southwesterly never seeing the light.

When asked why the light would disappear instantly, the pilot had no explanation.

Another light was seen to rise vertically from the southern horizon and we again began directing the pilot.

As the light traveled a northwesterly direction, the pilot flew southwesterly, banked and tried to follow it. When it came close to our position at the substation, we could determine the aircraft had a pointed nose with a flat body which was longer than it was wide. The closest description of something comparable would be the shape of an antique grandfather clock.

The underside was lit with red lights positioned on either side of

the body with a white light on the point of the nose. The color of the craft appeared to be dark. After it passed our position, we could then hear a jet noise as it continued on northwesterly.

Our pilot was at 6,000 feet as he attempted to follow behind the plane and said his aircraft was doing around 160 miles per hour and guessed the plane ahead of him must be doing at least, if not more, than 300 miles per hour and was several thousand feet above him.

I saw this same aircraft pass over, flying in a southeasterly direction Friday night, Jan., 22, between 8:30 - 9 p.m. at the same vantage point.

The explanation for this aircraft may be the SR-71 which is supposedly a top secret jet which has a flat appearance and is used by the military.

Around 8:15 p.m. Monday night, Jan. 25, with frozen fingers and frustrated by our ability to have a chance to catch something, we told the pilot we were through and packed up to leave.

Some 10 minutes after he was out of radio range with our handheld system, we saw two orange lights, appearing much larger than others we had seen earlier in the evening.

One rose in the west to the north of Venus over the horizon. Another rose at the same time in the same direction from Venus, but to the left of the first light and closer to the horizon.

Both lights appeared to be a flat oval shape and remained stationary for 8-10 minutes. The light to the right, which was higher, then began moving to the south and gained altitude at one point coming directly over the top of the other light.

The light then continued its southerly path gaining altitude and went out. Meanwhile, the other light remained stationary, then slowly sunk below the horizon.

It was not Mercury since we had seen this planet set much earlier in the evening.

Beats me what it is. But it isn't snow geese, it isn't Venus, Mercury or Jupiter, or a reflection.

No, I didn't hear Alf laughing as it passed by, nor the strains from Close Encounters of the Third Kind, and I think I've heard all the choruses of "I Saw the Light" I can tolerate.

## Engineer observes object

By Jeanne Jackson

She considered herself to be a total skeptic concerning the recent U.F.O. sightings south and west of Foreman. But a friend convinced her to take a ride to the Anderson Lateral power substation Wednesday night, Jan. 27.

Deborah Dickey has been a design draftsman engineer with Nekoosa Papers Inc. for seven years. Her job includes designing instrument and electrical systems in the mill. Because of her education, training, and work, she is familiar with propulsion systems and what she witnessed Wednesday evening so far is unexplainable.

Dickey and a friend were driving west of the substation toward

Highway 41 when they saw an amber light glowing.

The two stopped the car and got out at which time Dickey said she could determine the light was moving toward their position. It was 7:50 p.m.

As the light grew closer, she could discern two white lights on either side of the front of the object which she described as, "cool, not harsh or glaring, but very bright. As it got closer, we could see a red light, smaller than the white in the middle."

She estimated the altitude of the object at around 300 feet and found the most amazing characteristic was no sound. After asking her companion to be quiet, she said they heard a very low hum similar to a heavy mechanical turbine-type sound, like compressed power.

It was not an internal combustion or electrical ignition engine Dickey explained and added, "I'll never forget the way it sounded." She said had it been a jet engine at the low altitude they observed, it would have disturbed the air around them and the noise would have been deafening.

Dickey described the shape of the craft as flat on the front and wafer thin. She said it looked like a rectangle from the side with lights located toward the bottom front edge, but none whatsoever on the back.

There were no wings and Dickey said, "It seemed brute force was holding it up. It defies all aerodynamics. I don't know what it was, but if it's something the government has, it's great."

She also added the color of the craft must be non-reflective since the moonlight was behind it and there was no reflection off the craft. Dickey added you could read your watch from the moonlight at the same time.

The two watched the craft till it was out of sight and said she checked her watch as they got back into their vehicle and noticed it was 8:01 p.m.

It had taken 11 minutes for her to change from skepticism to intrigue. Like so many others, she has no idea what she saw.

And Deborah Dickey says she's glad she saw it.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - Feb. 24, 1988

### Reported copter crash remains unconfirmed

A reported helicopter crash was not confirmed Tuesday by Arkansas State Police and Arkansas National Guard personnel who searched for wreckage between Conway and Little Rock, officials said.

The national guard at Camp Robinson was told Tuesday morning a citizen saw a flash in the sky between the two cities. A national guard helicopter and state police vehicles searched the area for several hours Tuesday, but did not find signs of a crash, spokesmen for both agencies said.

Officials with Camp Robinson and Little Rock Air Force Base reported no helicopters missing Tuesday.

## UFO Conference Draws True Believers and the Curious

By SHERYL STOLBERG,  
Times Staff Writer

Patty Wolfer, a soft-spoken computer operator for a Torrance law firm, does not usually tell strangers about her rides aboard spaceships from other planets.

But this weekend, in the ballroom of a hotel in Inglewood, she made an exception. "Sometimes it's at night," she said quietly, "and I'll just be taken. . . . I saw or was in this place and my energy was all different. And as I turned around, I saw all the panels of the spaceship. I turned and I saw this person in the corner and he was very tall and he was wearing a black wet suit, sort of. I saw that he was beaming me through, to be up there in this space-ship. . . ."

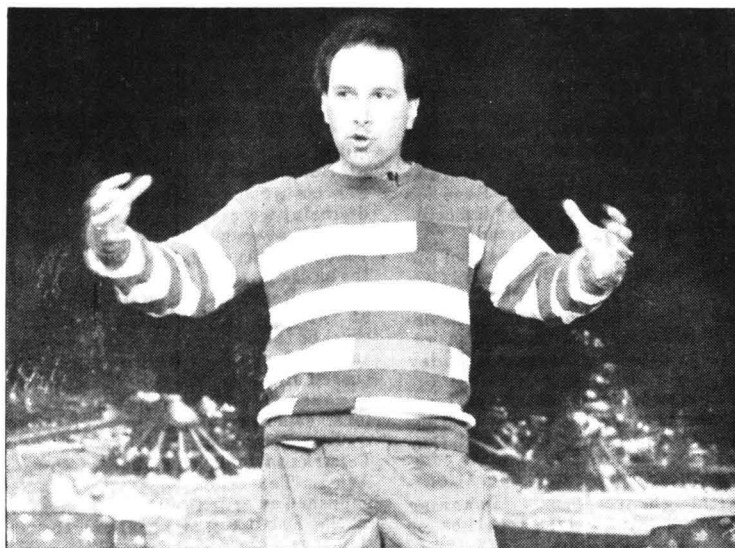
"One time in Hawaii I was completely awake. . . . They came in a form of lights and they went into my body and they scared me. I screamed because I didn't know what was going on. It was like they were researching."

### Looking for Believers

Wolfer, 31, said she went to a weekend gathering at the Quality Inn because she thought she might find some sympathetic listeners.

She found a few. About two dozen, including believers and the curious, attended the two-day conference on Unidentified Flying Objects, sponsored by New Frontiers, a Malibu group that founder Marc Michaels calls "a metaphysical society."

The conference, which Michaels said is



THEODORA LITSIOS / Los Angeles Times

Marc Michaels leads the conference on UFOs and other "new age" topics. Behind him is a photograph of Richard Murray's sculptures of a futuristic city.

part of his "psychic journey seminar series," touched on a wide range of topics that, one might safely say, were out of this world.

For \$99.99, participants heard from, among others, Frances Steiger, who said

she once used psychic energy to will a spaceship to fly over her house.

Others included R. A. Amigron, a "psychic archeologist," who believes he has found evidence of an ancient city buried in the hills of Malibu, and Alan Vaughan, a

psychic who—in addition to claiming that he predicted Watergate, the Robert F. Kennedy assassination and the Challenger space shuttle disaster—practices "channeling," in which he says a 1,200-year-old Chinese man named Li Sung enters his body and speaks through him.

A former skeptic of such alleged phenomena, Michaels, 33, spent 12 years in business (marketing, retailing and advertising) before his self-proclaimed psychic awakening several years ago during a seminar in Sedona, Ariz., an area known in metaphysical circles as "an energy vortex."

Michaels founded New Frontiers a year ago and runs it full time out of a house on his Point Dume property.

His mission: to enlighten the skeptical public.

Enlightenment, however, does not come cheap. So far, Michaels said, he has spent \$80,000 on the venture.

### Sees Possibilities

"We're appealing to the guy and girl next door," he said. "The person who sends their kids to school, the guy that's been going to his office for the last 18 years and had some psychic experience that he didn't want to talk about, because he didn't want to be considered crazy."

"There's a lot of people like that out there."

For instance, there's Philip McAiney. A Beverly Hills film producer and director, McAiney said he has just finished a documentary about channeling narrated by actor Telly Savalas. However, he is mum

(continued on page 3)



(continued from page 2 - TIMES,  
Los Angeles, CA - Jan. 25, 1988)

about his own experiences.

"I've just made a policy not to really discuss it."

Estelle Delgado, a retired school-teacher from Hawthorne, has never seen a UFO.

"I'm just interested," she explained. "I think there's a genuine possibility there are UFOs of some sort, and I think they might help us save our planet."

Edith Santos, a retired apartment manager from Los Angeles, said she saw a UFO 30 years ago, but has not seen one since. She said she has always maintained a curiosity about life on other planets, but is leery of people who say they have been scooped up into flying saucers and carried to faraway galaxies.

"There's so many loony tunes around," she said. "You don't know whether they're telling the truth."

Just as there are skeptics, however, there are believers. And where else to find believers but in Los Angeles?

"I just saw a UFO coming back from Sedona, Ariz., and the harmonic convergence [last summer]," said Topanga resident Tony Selva, who plays New Age music on an electric violin-viola. "I've sighted them many times. I've played to them. My music is where they come from."

Among the most fervent believers on the weekend's speaking roster were Sherie Stark and Vicki Cooper, editors of UFO magazine.

The two journalists used to call the publication "California UFO." But Stark said it is difficult enough trying to establish a national magazine about a topic like UFOs without having California's name attached to it.

"They [others in the publishing industry] told us California was too flaky," she said.

Stark and Cooper say they are trying to do what they say the



Los Angeles Times

Patty Wolfer

conventional press hasn't: report the UFO story in a non-sensational, unbiased and serious fashion.

It's a tough assignment, Stark said. After all, she explained, how can you report the facts on something that disappears without warning, changes form and renders witnesses incapable of describing what they have seen?

Despite such obstacles, the magazine carries articles about UFO sightings and alleged government cover-ups of such activity, and also advertises therapy and support groups where abductees (that's UFO-talk for people who, like Wolfer, say they have been taken away by aliens) can talk about their extraterrestrial experiences "in a safe environment."

Wolfer does not seem to yearn for such support. Nor does she doubt the reality of her alien visitors.

"I've always been responsible," she declared. "I am a normal person. I go about my daily work and I've had experiences with extraterrestrials."

As for the possibility that her experiences were drug- or alcohol-induced, Wolfer quickly dismisses it.

"I'm not on drugs," she said. "I don't need them."

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL - Dec. 10, 1987 CR: R. Reid

## UFO Investigation Update

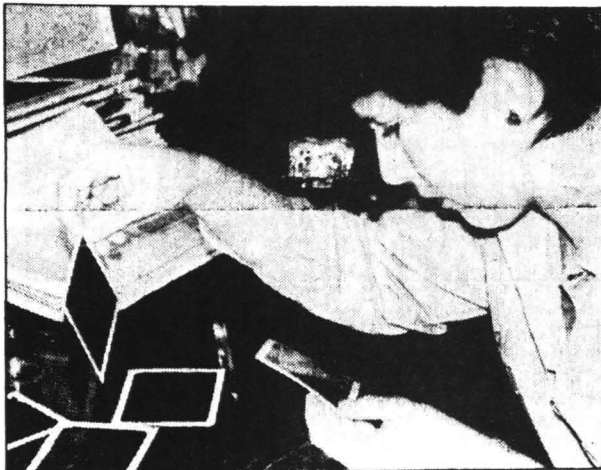
Statement from the preliminary evaluation agreed upon by **Charles D. Flannigan** primary investigator and **Donald M. Ware**, MUFON State Director: Preliminary evaluation, prior to the completion of the photogrammetric analysis, is an unknown of great significance because of the quality of the five photographs and the reputation of the independent witnesses.



Donald Ware & Charles Flannigan

**MUFON Mutual UFO Network, Inc.**

The Mutual UFO Network, Inc. is an international scientific organization composed of people seriously interested in studying and researching the phenomenon known as unidentified flying objects (UFOs) by combining their mutual talents, areas of expertise and investigative efforts. MUFON is the acronym for the Mutual UFO Network, Inc.



Marie Price

BY ALLISON BROWN

In the past few weeks, the Gulf Breeze area community has been aroused by three UFO pictures published in the *Sentinel*.

Since the pictures were published, *Sentinel* reporters have been working with the Mutual UFO network (MUFON) in tracking the origin of the UFO sighted in the pictures, as well as other sightings reported.

The pictures have been closely examined and to this date, the authenticity of the photographs has not been disproven.

"They haven't been retouched, but they do look a little fishy though

to me," said **Marie Price** a local photographic retoucher who could find nothing really wrong with the pictures.

In the MUFON/*Sentinel* investigation, most of the reported sightings have come from the Santa Rosa/Escondido county area, but now, "Jane" and her husband from Citronelle, Alabama have come forward with the story.

This couple owns about 20 acres of mostly deer land, with two ponds on the property. On the night of November 19 "Jane's" husband was outside when he suddenly saw an object idling in the sky over one of the ponds with a beam of light shooting to the ground.

He ran inside to get "Jane" and when they returned the object moved over to dry land, then returned over the pond.

Then, her husband shined a flashlight towards the object and it disappeared.

Back in Florida last Wednesday, about 6:45 p.m. "Darlene" and a friend were driving north across the Bay Bridge. They looked over to the right by the Cordova Mall area and saw a whole ball of light pop up from behind the trees.

It was round, but we couldn't see any windows or anything," said Darlene. "We weren't close enough."

At first they laughed, thinking "there's a UFO," but as the object remained motionless the scene began to take a different tone.

Then, the light popped down again, then shot back up remaining idle until the two had crossed the bridge.

With the help of this report and others, the MUFON/*Sentinel* investigators are hopeful for a completion on their investigation soon, but several obstacles are still standing in the way. One major obstacle can be hopefully overcome with further contact with the photographers of the November 11 and 1986 photos.

Both parties may remain anonymous, but are asked to please contact the *Sentinel* office immediately and ask for Joe or Allison.

The *Sentinel* would like to thank all its readers for their reports and sightings. Because of the cooperation of local residents, our UFO story has gone nationwide, and is expected to get even bigger. We encourage readers to continue to help us keep you informed.

RICHMOND JOURNAL, Rockingham, NC - Jan. 11, 1988

## More Sighting Of UFOs Here

My column some weeks ago about the "Unidentified Flying Object" my wife and I saw in 1981 struck a sympathetic chord in a number of readers, who have told me of UFO-spotting experiences of their own.

No one has scoffed at the column, at least not openly. I believe that most of the UFO watchers with whom I have spoken, however, believe as I do in the case of my own experience: that what they saw was, literally, an unidentified flying object, rather than a spacecraft or some evidence of mystical or occult phenomena.

A reader who lives on Rt. 3, Hamlet — off Highway 177 south — took the trouble to write me a few weeks ago and tell me about three UFO-watching experiences. I won't print her name, for fear of embarrassing her. Her account, somewhat edited, reads:

"You are not alone, nor are you crazy, about UFO sighting. Last summer my husband was outside on a warm night; he glanced up and a bright light caught his eye. It was coming toward our house. It had two lights on each end and one in the middle. He kept watching it, and he called me and my daughter to bring the telescope. We looked through the telescope as the object went in front of the moon, but we couldn't make out the bright

lights through the telescope. We watched it slowly go past the moon, very low, and hover over the trees, making no noise whatsoever. We watched it, so amazed that we didn't call anyone until it had finally gone out of sight.

"About two months ago my brother, who was on his way home from Welaka Lake Fish Camp in Anson County, saw a similar object and followed it in his car. When he got underneath it, it sped off.

"On a recent Saturday night my two daughters and I were on our way home from Charlotte. We watched a strange bright light in the sky, all the way from Charlotte to Monroe. It was moving too slow to be a plane.

"I'm glad you saw a UFO in 1981, because we've seen such things since and didn't want to call the police or the newspaper, fearing they'd think we were off our rockers."

There are, I'm sure, explanations for all the UFO sightings I have mentioned in these columns. What makes the objects true "UFO's" is simply that we don't know what the explanations are.

More disturbing are the widespread reports, if they have any foundation in truth, of "abductions" by UFO's. I'll deal with these reports in a forthcoming review of Budd Hopkins's books "Missing Time" and "Intruders," and of Whitley Strieber's first-person account in his book "Communion."

Until then, I'm hoping this column puts an end to local UFO reports for the time being.



Clark Cox  
Staff Writer

PRESS & SUN-BULLETIN, Binghamton, NY

Jan. 11, 1988 CR: P. Santangelo

## 'Bright light' baffles 2 police agencies

SHERBURNE — A "bright light" in the sky last night left police from two different departments wondering about what they had seen.

The Village of Sherburne Police Department and the Chenango County Sheriff's Department said representatives of both departments reported seeing something in the sky between routes 12 and 12B shortly after 7 p.m.

Federal Aviation Agency representatives at Edwin A. Link Field in Broome County said they had no radar sightings then.

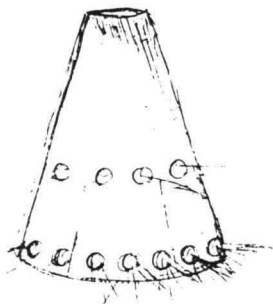
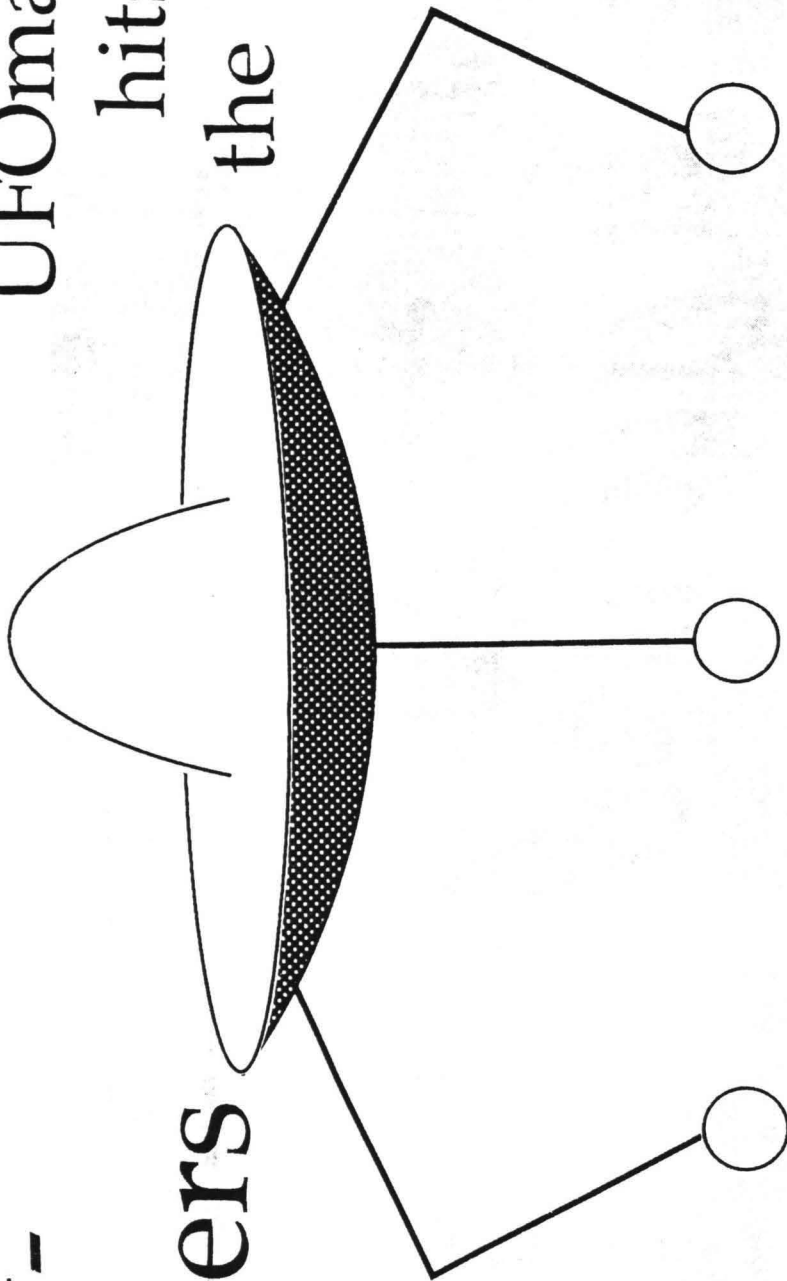
"It was bigger than a meteor," said Sherburne Police Chief William Excell. "It was extremely bright, like a flash. It caught my eye. It was coming down at an angle, short of half-moon shaped."

Sheriff's Deputy Henry Campbell said he also witnessed the light while on patrol north of Sherburne.

"It was the brightest white light I have ever seen," Campbell said, adding that another motorist also witnessed it. "It was almost like an electric transformer had blown up," he said.

There were no reports of any electrical problems in the area, Excell said.

# Sky-gazers UFOmania hits the area



Some observers say the object is shaped like a cone with bright, pulsating white lights shooting forth...others say they've seen a larger ball of light being chased by smaller lights.

UFO mania has gripped Wythe County. Every place you go, respectable law-abiding citizens are looking for unexplained phenomena in the night sky. The sightings have catapulted the county into newspapers and onto radio and television stations.

From the best evidence, these sightings began Monday, Oct. 5, when a cone or pyramid shaped object was spotted by a number of people, including three police officers. The cone had bright pulsating white lights and several other multi-colored lights. It hovered close to the ground and then sped off without making a noise.

This object was seen for three consecutive nights and was recorded for 20 or 30 minutes at a stretch.

Then, over the weekend, there was the report of an oval shaped object running a car off the road near Grahams Forge before speeding off in the direction of Pulaski County.

On Wednesday, a series of unexplained bright lights illuminated the night sky.

Edwina Stowers was leaving her fiance's house, located on Jackson Street in Wytheville, at approximately 9:30 p.m Wednesday when her fiance Jeff Lowe noticed a bunch of lights flying very fast in circles along the Sand Mountain ridge. At one point, one of the flashing lights joined up with another, and they flew off together.

The couple then saw an object composed entirely of lights approach them at a very slow rate of speed, much slower than an airplane. The object came from the west, following the general direction of the railroad tracks through the town. The object had three lights in back and a red light, which appeared as if it was towing the other three lights, in front.

Lowe's mother, father and 20-year-old sister also came out to watch the object by this time.

Lowe studied the object with binoculars and said he could see no link between the lights and could see stars through the outline of the object. He said the middle light of the three lights in back flashed green and red, while the other two lights were yellowish white.

He said the lights themselves looked lower than airplane lights, but the object itself looked like it was flying higher than an airplane.

At one point the red light in front broke off from the object to fly by itself, but the other three lights never broke out of their order. The object passed in front of the group, disappearing the direction of the Holiday Inn.

Members of the group then turned their attention to the lights still circling over the Sand Mountain ridge.

They then saw the larger object again as it came out of the south from the general direction of Reed

(continued on page 5)



(continued from page 4 - S.W. VA. ENTERPRISE)

Wytheville, VA - Oct. 19, 1987)

**Creek Mill.** On its second pass, Lowe could hear a hum coming from the object.

The whole episode lasted around 30 minutes.

A similar sighting was made at almost the same time in Washington County. As reported in the **Bristol Herald Courier** Thursday, Mike Maiden, a worker for the town of Abingdon, spotted a UFO in the shape of an arrow near his home in Saltville.

Maiden reported the UFO was bigger than a B-52 bomber and was being escorted by a smaller aircraft about a quarter of mile out in front of the larger aircraft.

He described their east to west flight path as sporadic but simultaneous.

The larger craft, he said, had a broad rear with a flashing red light, a steady red light and two green lights. Four red lights were strung across the middle of the large craft and four bright lights were at its front.

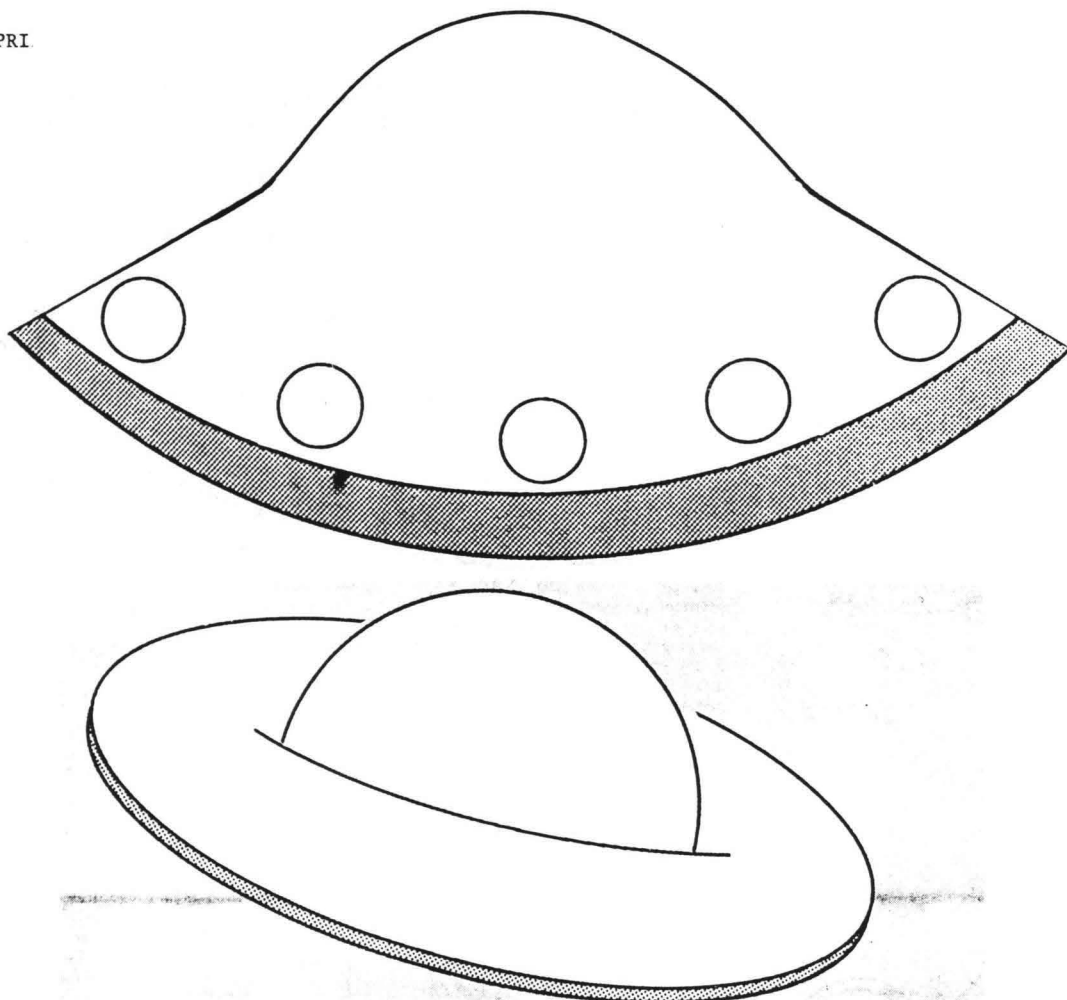
Brooks Coleman, a dispatcher for the Virginia State Police, saw two lights, one on top of the other, in the sky northeast of VSP headquarters around 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, but he did not think enough about it to tell his wife when he got home.

He said he just assumed it was something the federal government was flying and did not think anything more about it.

He went out to look at the sky after receiving a call from a woman reporting the object.

He described the object as a red light atop a yellowish green light that remained stationary the three to five minutes he watched it.

When he went back around midnight to see if the object was still there, he could not find it.

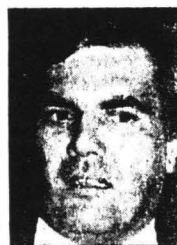


Story by Michael Hawks  
Graphics by Debbie King

RECORD-JOURNAL, Meriden, CT - Nov. 9, 1987 CR: L. Whitehurst

**Andrew Kotyk**  
Hall Acres Drive  
Salesman

■ 'I wouldn't be the least surprised, if only because I imagine the world's locality itself would enable aliens to visit it, with the grounds, the openness here. I believe in them, I really do. I was attached to a Marine fighter squad for six years and there were many times that we saw objects flying at the same time that we just couldn't identify. Flying at 600 mph and seeing an object flying faster than you are is a concern.'



## Space aliens breeding with Earth women?

By DENNIS WEBB

Repository North Stark Bureau

**PLAIN TWP.** — An alien race visits Earth, abducts humans and performs genetic experiments in an effort to create a hybrid species.

It even artificially inseminates women and abducts them again later to remove the developing fetus.

The story line reads like a second-rate science-fiction novel plot or another laughable account in some trashy tabloid.

But it is the basis of "Intruders," a nonfiction book by New York City artist and author Budd Hopkins, a longtime investigator of UFOs who realizes just how far-out the kind of incident described in the book appears.

"I know it sounds totally crazy and I'm the first one to admit how bizarre it sounds," Hopkins said in a telephone interview. "But it continues to happen over and over again."

Hopkins will give a personal account of what he has learned in his 150 UFO investigations when he appears at Walsh College's Rannou Campus Center at 8 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$1 for children 12 and under.

Included in the appearance will

be a slide-show focusing on the reported "Copley Woods" UFO abductions near Indianapolis, Ind., along with a recording of a hypnosis session with someone believed to have been abducted.

Hopkins' interest in the Copley Woods incident began when he was contacted by a woman he calls Kathie Davis (not her real name) after the 1981 publication of his first UFO book, "Missing Time."

The first evidence Hopkins encountered in the case was the scorched, hardened earth that appeared to have been left behind by a spaceship outside the Davises' home. Hopkins said Mrs. Davis recalled having seen strange lights the night before, but his later investigations led to a larger story of her being abducted so she could be artificially inseminated.

Though the aliens usually are able to impose some sort of amnesia on their victims to mask the memory of the abductions, Hopkins said, he has used hypnosis, psychiatric examinations and other investigatory measures to turn up about 20 incidents like Mrs. Davis'.

In such cases, he said, the women's pregnancies mysteriously end with no evidence of miscarriage because the aliens abduct them again to remove the fetus.



BUDD HOPKINS

"And this is the wildest thing," Hopkins said. "These people are later re-abducted and shown the hybrid baby and asked to hold it, as if there is some kind of bond."

He speculates that the aliens have reached some sort of "evolutionary dead-end" and are trying to "revivify" themselves through the genetic experimentation.

The similarities in the details of these accounts, as well as others Hopkins has studied, make them

seem more credible to him. Often there are identical scars left in the same place on different abductees, or similar descriptions of dreams that he believes were the actual experiences of abductees, he said.

His book was published in April, and has led to interviews on "20/20" and "Nightline," and with the Voice of America and British Broadcasting Corp.

Hopkins realizes there is room to find more proof of UFOs.

"In essence, we can't say we absolutely know until, as my friend said, we can go up and kick the tires on one of them."

Still, he said, "I think the phenomena has shifted from simply a fringe philosophy to something that people have to take seriously."

Hopkins said there is evidence that the government is covering up the investigatory work it has done on UFOs. But he acknowledged that if the president were to come forward with a full account of what was known and how little can be done, it could be incredibly damaging.

Were the truth known, "I've always said I'd rather be in the liquor business than the real estate business," Hopkins said.

He said one thing that makes the UFOs he has studied difficult to

comprehend is that they are neither evil nor benevolent in nature, even though science fiction has always portrayed them as being one or the other.

Instead, they are neutral toward humans, but also incapable of realizing the anguish they have wrought on their victims, he said. For all their technological prowess, said Hopkins, "they don't seem to understand what they're doing emotionally to people."

Mrs. Davis "was unbelievably upset when she found out she was no longer pregnant. It wasn't just losing a baby. There was no baby," he said.

REPOSITORY, Canton, OH

Nov. 19, 1987

CR: L. Whitehurst

# UFO - Follow Up - More Sightings Reported

In the past two weeks, the *Sentinel* has been monitoring local UFO sightings, many centering around an object photographed, Nov. 11 by a Gulf Breeze resident. Since the publishing of the three pictures on Nov. 19, another photo, taken last year of a similar object, has been submitted to the paper,

and is shown below with it's accompanying letter. We are having all photos analyzed by experts and will publish results as they become available. Readers are encouraged to continue sending all reports to the *Sentinel*.

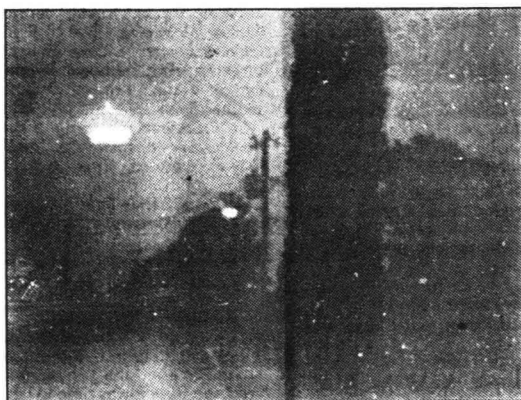


Photo taken in Gulf Breeze, November 11th, 1987(Reprinted here for comparison to photo on left.)

## Letters to the Editor

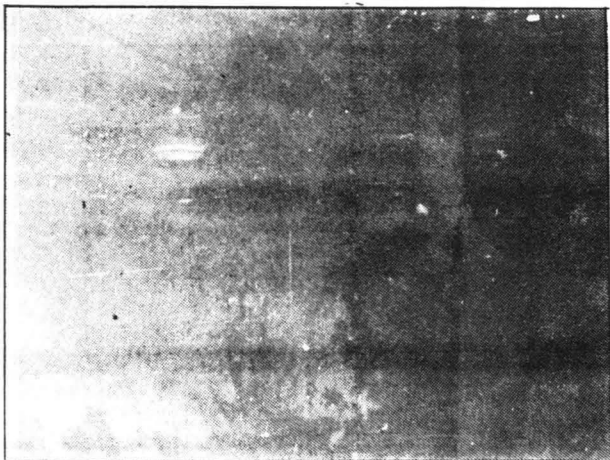


Photo taken from Shoreline Park South, June 1986

Dear Editor:

I am very relieved to see the UFO photos. They look just like the photos (enclosed) I took last June '86. I never showed mine to anybody for fear of ridicule.

They were taken with a 35mm after dusk, facing west in Shoreline Park South. It came from behind the north trees (photo #1) very fast, and then stopped perfectly still (photo #2).

It stayed there for five or six seconds before flashing off to the north and out of my sight.

It happened so fast that I doubted what I had seen. The film came back from the developer with no prints of the object - but then I checked the negatives and there it was. The developer had not printed them - thinking they were too dark.

Like the other person, I too don't need the headaches that this can bring, so I withhold my name.

Dear UFO Sighter:

My husband and I feel you are not alone. However, I'm not sure if we saw the same thing. It was about 5:30-6:30 that evening. We were in our car. The object was overhead. At first we thought it might be a plane or helicopter, however, when we rolled down the window of the car, we heard no noise. Did you hear a noise from it? Was it between 5:30-6:30 Wednesday evening? I remember my husband saying when we saw it, that's not a plane - no plane can stay still like that and it did just bob up and down. He said it wasn't a helicopter for it made no noise. He rolled down the window and stuck out his head. I said get your head in for if it is a U.F.O. it may zap us up. We laughed and said if we told anyone they would take us away in white jackets. We thought it may be from the Air Force also, but we doubted it. Please let us know if yours made noise.

Anonymous

Dear Editor:

While I do not question the observance of a UFO flying through Gulf Breeze, I do wager that "it" had Okaloosa tags. Most of the objects observed flying through Gulf Breeze have Okaloosa tags.

Joe Parrish

Watch *Sentinel Focus on BLAB* (Channel 32), 6PM Thursday. This week's guest is Donald Ware, Florida State Representative for Mutual UFO Network.

## Mother & Son Report Seeing Object From Bay Bridge

BY ALLISON BROWN

About a year ago, "Jean" and her son were driving north on the Bay Bridge in the late afternoon. Out to the right over Bayou Texar, they saw an object which appeared to be hovering over the water "real close but not touching," moving in a circular movement.

"At first, we thought it was an optical illusion, but we looked back and it was there," said Jean.

By a process of elimination, the mother and son tried to determine what the object was, and "we thought it might have been a water spout," but it had windows and the

water under it was too calm to be a waterspout.

They also thought it could have been a new device used in finding oil and minerals, or possibly a new design from Eglin.

Jean's husband, who used to work at the observation tower at Eglin said it could be anything -- the base always monitors "weird things," but nothing endangering the lives of others.

Jean and her son continued to watch as they drove off the bridge, but quickly dismissed it from their minds as neither believed in UFO's.

On Dec. 23, 1987 at about 6:00 A.M. I saw three UFO's in the sky over the trees along Shoreline Drive. As I went back into my house for my camera as they moved and hovered. I took the photograph and as I lowered my camera UFO's turned white and shot up as fast as lightning.

Dear Editor...

Well, here it is. I too have to join the believers because I have now seen a UFO (3 of them). Right there on Shoreline. I can't understand why nobody stopped as I did to watch them. I waved and pointed to everybody driving by but nobody stopped. It was only about 5 or 5:30 p.m., just getting dark. I was heading east on Shoreline, very close to where you can turn to the school. In the north (looked like over the high school) I saw three UFO's just over the line of sight of trees. I pulled over to the side of the road as other cars went on by. I watched for a minute or so and remembered that the kids had left a toy camera "Hot Shot" in the back seat floor. I had no idea how many shots were left in it, if any. (I have enclosed the camera with the pictures). It was better than nothing and I got 9 pictures.

I never could get all three UFO's in the same shot. But the first three photos are shots of each. As they hovered around I could no longer

Editor's note: TO BELIEVER BILL

The *Sentinel* is having our UFO photos analyzed by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. If you could send two more sets of photos or one negative to us, it would be most beneficial to the investigation.

ALSO TO THE SENDER OF THE 1986 PHOTOS: A negative of your 35mm shots would be most helpful.



One of nine photos received this week from "Believer Bill" who saw three of these flying objects recently over Gulf Breeze High School.

## New UFO Sightings Over G.B.



This picture was turned into us by a professional businessman in Gulf Breeze who wishes to remain anonymous.

CR: R. Reid



# UFOs spotted

## Arkansas people see strange lights & shapes in the night sky

airborne craft last summer and later in November which puzzled them. At the time they discounted the sighting as strange but not noteworthy. More concerning all these incidents, including what the three women saw, will follow later in this series.

### Sightings reported

Since the Jan. 19 report of this car chase, at least 200 residents of Little

1st of a 5-part series



Map shows location of Little River County.

River County have called the local sheriff's office to say they have seen something in the night they cannot identify. No one knows how many more have seen something but refused to report it for fear of ridicule. Those who claim to have seen unidentified flying lights and objects near Foreman include teachers, engineers, a doctor, several newspaper reporters, a former military airman and at least one elected member of the local town council.

Though it cannot be confirmed, there are reliable reports that at

least one sheriff's deputy and a drug enforcement agent have also made sightings. Both men are understandably reluctant to have their names made public.

So far no one has offered an explanation that would explain all the sightings.

Initial Associated Press reports based on phone calls to Foreman told of the car chase and subsequent sightings. Soon after, the Arkansas



Timesphotos by Bill Macomber

Carol Whisenhunt of B&B Barbecue at Foreman says UFO souvenir tee-shirts, eggs (which are really ball bearings) and newspapers have been selling like hotcakes there.



A Little River News photographer took this 30-second time exposure Jan. 25 of one of the strange lights. The light was 20 degrees above the horizon and made two 90-degree turns.

**EDITOR'S NOTE** — Residents of the small southwest Arkansas town of Foreman began spotting unexplained lights in the night sky late last December. Since then, the local sheriff's department has received more than 200 reports of unidentified objects flying over the Foreman/Ashdown area just north of Texarkana. Several residents have reported that the objects do more than simply fly over at night. The Foreman sightings are unusual in the history of unexplained aerial phenomena. Rarely do such episodes continue as long as this one or involve as many people. Unless otherwise noted, all episodes recounted in this five-part series on the Foreman sightings were told firsthand to Times reporter Bill Macomber there by eyewitnesses. At press time the sightings continue. Efforts to find military or commercial air explanations have yielded no answers.

By BILL MACOMBER  
Times Staff Writer

Reports of the unexplained Foreman sightings in southwest Arkansas reached the attention of the media after a Jan. 19 incident in which three Foreman women said a "bright light" chased their automobile on a two-lane highway. The three women were driving home from a local basketball game when the incident occurred. All three have lived most of their lives in the Foreman area just north of Texarkana. They are mothers and businesswomen. Those who know them well affirm they are not heavy drinkers, nor are they drug-takers. The three women themselves say they don't know what it was they saw. They just know they saw something they have never seen before that frightened them very much.

Two of the women involved in the chase say they had already seen an



MUFON field investigator Charles Huffer looks over UFO photos in The Little River News office.

## UFO still unexplained as investigator reaches the end of the trail of leads

By Art Drake

The UFO sighting that directed the state's attention to Waunakee for a day or two in July will remain unexplained unless new evidence crops up, according to UFO investigator Don Schmitt.

Schmitt said Sunday he has exhausted all his leads in the sighting and came up with no plausible explanation for the crescent-shaped lights that were spotted by a Waunakee couple and two Waunakee police officers in the early morning hours of July 14.

"We've eliminated the conventional," he said. "We've eliminated the astronomical, the natural. We have checked about air searches, anything that required medical air transport.

"There was nothing in the entire county that night," Schmitt said.

The Waunakee couple notified police at about 2 a.m. July 14 after catching sight of the lights which moved erratically in the sky east of Waunakee. The lights were in view for more than an hour before the police officers decided to go on with their regular routine.

Their report brought reporters from Madison and Milwaukee to Waunakee for the police officers' press conference later that day.

Schmitt, a Milwaukee resident, is co-director of the J. Allen Hynek Center

for UFO Studies in Chicago. He also investigated the series of UFO reports that came from the Belleville area earlier this year.

He said the fact that two civilians and two police officers saw the lights lends credibility to the Waunakee sighting.

The erratic motion of the lights rules out a star or planet as well as conventional air traffic, Schmitt said. It couldn't have been a weather balloon because they are not launched at night, and they don't carry lighting equipment anyway, he added.

And he said a hot air balloon is not possible because it's against the law for them to fly at night. A hot air balloon was in the Leeds and Morrisonville areas that morning, but it was launched after the Waunakee sighting, Schmitt said.

Schmitt emphasized that the fact that the Waunakee UFO is unexplained does not mean that it came from space carrying extraterrestrial creatures. The "U" in UFO stands for unidentified, he observed.

As UFO sightings go, the one in Waunakee was "nothing that spectacular," Schmitt said. "There were lights in the sky behaving unconventionally."

But one interesting thing about it is that other UFOs were spotted in the Madison area that same night, Schmitt said.

A woman who lives on Madison's west side reported seeing "what appeared to be an elongated object displaying a white light in the center with blue and green lights on the side," Schmitt said. That was seen at 3:50 a.m. in the sky west of Madison.

"The intensity of lights and size were greater than any star she had ever seen," Schmitt added.

Another sighting occurred near Stoughton from 1:15 to 1:30 a.m. While driving on County Hwy. E, the witness saw a slow moving object in the sky with a large white light in front and with red and blue flashing lights.

After completing the work involving the Waunakee sighting, Schmitt still has other UFO reports to turn to, including some "abduction cases."

There is a pattern of those reports, Schmitt said. Usually, the witness is driving and suddenly feels disoriented. Finding himself on an unfamiliar road, the driver can't account for several hours, Schmitt said.

Hypnosis draws additional information out of the witnesses, who often recall being contacted by short beings with large heads and small facial features.

Schmitt said he is working on six such cases in Wisconsin and that over 300 are now under investigation in the United States.

Gazette ran a story in which a Little Rock astronomer offered an explanation of what people in Foreman, Arkansas, were spotting. Though the astronomer himself had not visited the area, he said the sightings were probably misidentifications of Venus and Jupiter. In a later article, the same astronomer said the reports could well be the result of the moon shining on the belly of a snowgoose.

### Newspapermen comment

Jim Williamson and Gerald Stripling are co-publishers of the Little River News, the nearby Ashdown newspaper which first took the story seriously. When asked if the lights could be planetary activity or snowgeese, as the Little Rock astronomer said, Stripling replied, "That's totally, 100 percent, absolutely dyed-in-the-wool wrong. Any idiot who took one look would know that's not what it is. People don't know what it is, but it's not that."

Ashdown, the home of the giant Nekosia Paper Plant, is fifteen minutes away from Foreman via two-lane Ark. Hwy. 32. The majority of sightings have occurred on a dirt farming road (the Anderson lateral) that intersects Hwy. 32 between Foreman and Ashdown.

In a telephone interview with the Times on Wednesday, Jan. 27, Stripling, who sells advertising for the Little River News, confirmed that local residents were indeed consistently spotting "a series of lights." Some lights blinked and others remained constant. Colors seen, according to Stripling, included red, yellow, orange and white.

Stripling added his brother-in-law, Jim Williamson, who writes and takes pictures for the paper, had photographed the lights for the Little River News. One photograph was a 30-second time-exposure of a brightly lit object making two 90-degree turns while the camera's shutter remained open.

### Activity continues

Stripling added the activity was continuing almost every night in Foreman. The earliest sightings, according to Stripling, were in November, though few knew about them until much later. He attributed this to the fear of ridicule.

"For a long time people didn't want to say anything," Stripling said. "They think you're crazy."

Estimated altitudes of the sightings ranged from treetop level to 4,000 feet, Stripling told the Times. Later, in Foreman, people said that since the initial sightings at least two reputable witnesses have placed the bright lights either on the ground or hovering two or three feet above it.

The nearest Air Force installation to Foreman is Barksdale Air Force Base near Shreveport, La. The Air Force spokesman could not account for what people around Foreman were seeing. He said there has been

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7 - NORTHWEST ARKANSAS TIMES,  
Fayetteville, AR - Feb. 4, 1988)

no unusual military activity in the region. While mid-flight refueling operations over the sighting area have been common for years, those operations take place at altitudes of 20,000 feet and up, according to the Air Force. Foreman residents have grown up viewing such night-sky maneuverings. They know what a refueling operation looks like, they say, and that isn't what they are seeing.

The Air Force also said no one from the military would be traveling to Foreman to look into the matter. Project Blue Book, the official Air Force study of the UFO experience in America, officially closed its files in 1969. The Air Force is no longer in the UFO business, at least publicly.

#### Regular air traffic

Other regular air traffic over the sighting area includes Air Life, a hospital helicopter operating out of Texarkana. Air Life shuttles regularly to and from rural car wrecks and other medical emergencies in the Foreman area. There are also commercial airline flight patterns approaching the Texarkana airport over Foreman. Area natives recognize these nocturnal lights for what they are. They aren't what people are seeing either, they say.

To the south of Foreman is the Red River Army Depot. Most of the activity at the military base revolves around the restoration of army tanks. A public affairs official at the depot told the *Times* there is a heliport on the grounds, but that night flights are extremely rare. The official knew of no night exercises which might involve the use of flares.

In a long-distance phone call later on Wednesday, Jan. 27, Williamson said the episodes, which had become almost nightly, appeared to be "snowballing." He said a Southwestern Electric Power Company rural electric substation seemed to be "a pivot point" for the sightings. The substation is located along the Anderson lateral, a dirt road running through the Red River bottoms. The bottoms, like most of Little River County, are flat with tall pines growing almost anywhere not cleared for houses or crops. Farmers in the bottoms grew cotton before switching recently to wheat and soybeans.

In the midst of these flat fields, according to Williamson, cars were lining up each night along the dirt roads leading to the substation. People were waiting and watching. Williamson said the substation had turned into a "cheap date." The view from the substation allows for a nearly 360-degree view.

#### Saw bright light

"We saw it Monday," said Williamson, adding he spotted the object (which he photographed making 90 degree turns) while in the company of an emergency medical technician and an employee of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commis-

sion. All three saw the bright, oddly behaving light which shows up on Williamson's film as a zig-zagging streak of light.

On the phone Wednesday, arrangements were made for Williamson to meet the following day with a *Times* reporter who would travel to the Foreman/Ashdown area in the company of a Fayetteville man, Charles Huffer, a Mutual UFO Network member who was fascinated by reports he had read of the sightings. Huffer, 47, is a math teacher who taught in West Berlin the last 19 years before returning recently to Fayetteville. He is a mathematics graduate of the University of Arkansas. Huffer has studied unexplained aerial phenomena for more than a dozen years now. A member of Mensa, Huffer expressed interest in making the trip to Foreman, noting the episodes there showed every sign of ranking among the most noteworthy in Arkansas history because of their duration and the number of people involved.

Before hanging up Wednesday, Williamson told the *Times* that stories coming out of Little Rock concerning Venus and moonlit snowgeese deeply hurt the feelings of people who were seeing things that could not be accounted for by such simplistic explanations. He referred to Bob Taafe, a Foreman man who has logged 1,800 hours in the military aboard B-52 bombers. "He (Bob) knew from the beginning it wasn't Venus or Mercury," Williamson said.

Williamson also mentioned an amateur astronomer in Texarkana who had studied the phenomena since the sightings began. Williamson said the astronomer was personally convinced that something extremely rare was happening in Foreman. The astronomer added, according to Williamson, that the lights and objects being seen over Foreman were very possibly "nothing in our solar system."

*(Tomorrow's story: Three young women are chased by a UFO.)*

WINDSOR-HIGHTS HERALD, Hightstown, NJ - Nov. 4, 1987 CR: L. Whitehurst

# U wonder F-from above O-h how strange

By Betsy Scharf  
Staff Writer

The year was 1965 and it was in the fall. Pat Marcattilio was on his way to his Trenton home after work. It had just turned nightfall and the stars were extremely bright this particular night.

Without warning, a satellite-like object flew up above. It took about three minutes to get from the horizon to just above Mr. Marcattilio's head. Then, the object took a fast right turn and disappeared into the darkness.

"Jeez, I knew that was no satellite," Mr. Marcattilio laughed as he recalled his first sighting of an unidentified flying object (UFO).

He said he wasn't scared at what he saw that fateful night in 1965, but his reaction was one of excitement. "When I saw it, I said 'Holy cow, that's got to be from some other world.'"

Mr. Marcattilio is a member of a local UFO study group which meets occasionally at Twin Rivers Library. Presently the library has a display of books and drawings on UFOs.

Mr. Marcattilio said over the past few years, scientists have started to believe in UFO's and are gathering "more and more new evidence."

Mr. Marcattilio spotted two more UFO's on the same night just last year in Hamilton Square.

"My mom and I were leaving my sister's house in Hamilton Square," he explained.

"We had just gotten into the car when my mom noticed two rosy pink and really brilliant lights, sort of like flares.

"They kind of looked like water tower lights. My mom said 'Look at that' and the two objects were moving. We pulled over as the objects went slowly across the sky."

Mr. Marcattilio said both objects were silent and were just "brilliant, solid" lights.

"We drove over to the Jamesway shopping center on Route 33 to see them better, but they disappeared between the trees. They headed toward Hightstown," Mr. Marcattilio said. "We called the police, but they said they had no such reportings. We also called my sister, and she said she saw them and was watching them also as soon as we left her house."

Mr. Marcattilio said he believes these objects and similar ones are from "other planets or solar systems." To help support this phenomenon he began the Central New Jersey UFO Study Group in three years ago with the help of a friend, Tom Benson, of Hamilton Township.

"I first became interested in UFO's in 1955. My neighbor gave me a book which I found to be exciting. I then found out about a couple of organizations," Mr. Marcattilio said. "It was first a hobby, then a research

project. Now I'm heavily into the study of abductions."

Mr. Marcattilio, at one time, was member of the National Investigative Commission on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) and the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO). Now he is a member of Central for UFO Studies (CUFOS) and Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

Presently there about 30 to 40 members of the study group who meet once a month. At these meetings, they discuss any sightings, new evidence and problems, such as skepticism from others.

"People do say we're crazy," Mr. Marcattilio concedes. "That's why the people in our group are really happy because they know we all believe in UFO's."

He said he has been collecting photos for the last 30 years. His collection now amounts to "several hundred photos" many of which are discussed in the group meetings.

Mr. Marcattilio has a sincere concern and belief for UFO's and any "beings" or aliens.

"I think they (aliens) are visiting us now and making themselves known slowly over the generations," he said. "They're also observing us now which we have eyewitnesses for."

He stated a scientifically authenticated case occurred in North Jersey about 10 years ago when someone spotted "humanoids" (human-like beings) taking soil samples and putting them into bags. This occurred in two consistent nights.

"These beings will study us like we study animals," Mr. Marcattilio said.

"They implant something inside of us to keep an eye on us or to call us for physical exams. They will take skin, blood and different kinds of examinations or tell us we have a mission in life," he said.

Laurie Frischer, 32, of Plainsboro, is also a member of the Central NJ UFO Study Group.

"I only joined the group last year, but I've always been curious about UFO's my whole life," Ms. Frischer said. "Ever since I was a child I was always fascinated by the stars."

Ms. Frischer said her first sighting was around 1975.

"I had seen a light in the Las Vegas area that was making unusual movements. I knew no military equipment was capable of that kind of movement. It was going up and down and sideways. It was really strange."

Ms. Frischer said she never reported the sighting.

She believes if you gravitate toward the center of the galaxy, you will find "more advanced life forms than we are."

"Other beings are probably more advanced than us emotionally and physically," Ms. Frischer said adding, "I'm assuming there is life other than earth."

## Was it one of ours?

# Brick family sees strange craft in sky

By Richard McDonald  
Staff Writer

BRICK — Bill and Cheryl Cook say they saw a round metallic craft in the sky Tuesday night, and they don't think it's one of ours.

Frankly, they're not sure exactly what it was.

"I know what I saw," says Cook, a 24-year-old welder, "and I'll never forget it."

What he and his wife saw, on first glance, was a row of lights in the sky.

The Cooks were sitting on the back porch of their house near Osbornville about 11 that evening, gazing up at the sky.

"Then I noticed these lights that were just sitting there and not moving," Cook said.

"He came and got me and said, 'Look at this. What is it?'" said Cheryl Cook.

Bill Cook grabbed his 1,200-millimeter U.S. Army telescope for a closer look.

He peered through the viewfinder and saw, off in the sky near

Point Pleasant and the ocean, an oval-shaped craft "that looked like stainless steel — it was almost blue it shined so bright."

The body was shaped the way outer space ships are frequently drawn: oval — almost like a hamburger — with the corners turned up in a point.

In the middle of the metallic hull were three horizontal black lines skimming across the craft's center.

Pulsating across the base were three rows of lights.

The object stayed in one spot, without a sound, for at least 20 minutes, say the Cooks.

"Then it took off across the sky like it had been shot out of a rifle," Cook said. "And it stopped on a dime."

"It shone so bright when it took off you hardly see — it was so bright," he said.

"It left a trail of a white line in the sky," said his wife.

Then it began moving in a triangular formation, says Cook, flashing four lights in sequence:

red, yellow, green, blue.

It would move to the next point in the triangle, then flash its four colors. Then it would go to the next point and flash. And the next.

Cook said he watched the craft for about 90 minutes. And then:

"Just as fast as I saw it," he says, "it was gone. It just shot straight up. I watched it until the lights disappeared."

"Then I went back inside and turned and tossed until 4 a.m.," he said.

Not too far away — and unbeknownst to the Cooks at the time — her father, John Butler, saw the same lights in the sky.

"I was just out walking the dog and a couple of lights caught my eye that were kind of unusual," Butler said.

"It was like a plane but it wasn't moving. That's what was unusual. And they were lower in the sky than stars would be."

"Then all of a sudden when I came back in the other direction," he said, "the lights are in the op-

posite direction — a mile apart.

"And the lights just hung there and that was it."

It was about 1,500 feet high, he estimated, and maybe a bit more than a mile out.

This happened from about 11:30 to 11:45, when he usually walks his dog, he said.

Neither Lakehurst's Naval Air Engineering Center nor McGuire Air Force Base reported having any planes in that location at the time.

"The only thing I'm aware of in the Northeast has been a lot of meteor showers," said Nick Grand, public-relations officer at Lakehurst.

"In all the 35 years I've been doing this," he said, "I've never had a military person say that they've sighted something."

An air-traffic controller at McGuire said civilian planes are in that area most nights.

"It doesn't sound like one of ours," he said.

CR: W. Keeler/W. Stevens

OCEAN CO. OBSERVER, Brick Town, NJ - Aug. 16, 1987



# UFOs behind brief encounter in North Haven

By Kathleen Mary Katella  
Register Staff

**NORTH HAVEN** — Between speakers at the UFO conference in the Ramada Inn Saturday, Darnell Roberts found a receptive ear.

She poured out her whole story — her mother's UFO sighting, her brother's UFO sighting and the "round thing" that landed in front of an apartment she had in Orlando.

She believes she was put in a trance and taken aboard because later her whole body was "electric ... like a lightbulb."

"Is this going to go in the newspaper? Because it's true, it's all true," she insisted.

Roberts drove up from Hoboken, N.J. and spent \$120 to attend "The UFO Experience," which continues today.

She was among a few hundred people who came from as far as California to enjoy the company of experts such as Lawrence Fawcett, co-author of "Clear Intent: The Government Cover-up of UFOs," Betty Hill, who claims she was abducted with her husband, Barney, by aliens on a deserted New Hampshire road in 1961; and Ellen Crystall, who photographs UFOs.

Attendees listened to lectures and spent free time in a hospitality lounge consuming coffee and danish and browsing over tables of UFO journals, metaphysics newsletters and astrology kits, among other things.

"This is a very important gathering," Roberts said. "I knew I had to be here."

Others didn't expect to learn more about UFOs than they already knew, but said they enjoyed being in a gathering of open minds. Donald Vredenburg, from Newburgh, N.Y., said he once had a UFO encounter of his own, but doesn't find anything "amazing" about it and doesn't like to talk about it.

"I'm just here to observe," he said, backing off.



Herman J. Adams/Register

**Ellen B. Crystall**

UFO conference speaker

Some saw the conference as evidence of the field gaining credibility. Crystall, who is trying to publish a book on UFOs, said in the last few years UFO conferences have been attracting more authorities. "It's bringing people together who have worked on pieces of the puzzle for so many years," she said.

Crystall, who is speaking at the conference this morning, said she noticed a growth of serious interest in the field after a recent New York Times article on her prompted phone calls from around the country.

She said she had a hard time getting the paper interested, though. An initial query got her a letter from the publisher explaining that "there are a great many distinguished science writers working for The New York Times and, to the best of my knowledge, none of them believe in UFOs and, I might add, neither do I."

She said she "blasted him" in a follow-up letter, and got an immediate response, landing her story on the paper's Metropolitan News page.

The conference continues today with John White, who writes on paranormal phenomenon, speaking on "Sky Creatures — Living UFOs," at 9:30 a.m.; Crystall on

LITTLE RIVER NEWS, Ashdown, AR - Feb. 18, 1988

# Same song different verse

## Unknown objects continue to appear

photos were taken.

Concerning the Z motion photo, Dr. Engle indicated a star moves only 15 degrees per hour. The question about camera movement or bumping the tri-pod during the 30-second time exposure was eliminated after the explanation of the power lines which are visible in the negative which shows no movement in relation to the Z with the power lines. If the camera was bumped, the power lines should have been blurred in the same path.

"It's extremely difficult to tie this down without information from NORAD which they may have but might be classified," Dr. Engle said.

The Little River News contacted NORAD who agreed to review the enlargements along with information concerning the camera and the time exposure. The information was sent to the agency last week. Currently no information has been received from the agency.

About 9:30 p.m. Feb. 12 west of Highway 41 the object described as a bright orange light appeared and was observed making erratic movement of both horizontal and vertical and zig-zag motion. This was observed by an off-duty law enforcement personnel.

Betty Biddix of East Ogden observed a similar light in the southwest toward the Red River on Feb. 13 between 1—2:30 a.m. On Feb. 14 about 9 a.m. she observed similar lights again in the west.

A slightly closer view was observed Feb. 14 about 9 p.m. by Gary Gilbert who had stepped outside his house at 1261 Highway 32 West in Ashdown. He looked up toward the west and saw an object he estimated to be tree top level.

Gilbert described the object as having two red lights on each side, two blue lights in the middle with white lights going around the rim.

"It didn't move and I watched it for about five or six minutes," Gilbert said. His wife and son, Chad, also saw the object. His other son, Don, who lives at Wade's Chapel, called shortly after 9 p.m. and had seen the same object.

Gilbert said he didn't see the object move off, "It was just gone and I certainly don't know what it was."

Could it have been lights from nearby Hamilton Mall reflecting off clouds?

"It was a crystal clear night with a full moon and visibility of 12 miles," said Willett.

Or maybe some kind of astronomical or weather phenomenon?

"We have nothing to do with UFO's," said a technician at the National Weather Service station at the Tech Center.

"I have nothing to say about UFO's, whether they're concerned with weather or anything else. We don't deal with anything like that at all. We're a weather office," said the man, adding, "This is just a weather technician speaking."

A Spokesman for the National UFO Reporting Center in Washington said no reports of the incident had been received there.

Willett said there was no ongoing investigation of the sighting.

"We just noted the report. As I've said on other occasions, reports of this nature are not uncommon. It's a very big, dark sky in South Jersey," he added.

CR: L. Railer

STAR-LEDGER, Newark, NJ

March 3, 1988

# Flying saucer mystery at the Shore

By PATRICK JENKINS

Was it or wasn't it?

It was reported as a UFO to the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center shortly after 9 p.m. Tuesday and hovering or slow-moving lights were confirmed by responding police officers, according to Tech Center spokesman Anthony Willett.

But in a statement yesterday, Egg Harbor Township police said what the officers saw was a slow-moving aircraft flying at several thousand feet.

The only problem with that explanation was that there were no aircraft in the area at that time, according to FAA radar, Willett said.

"We received the report of a green light or lights that appeared to be hovering over the Egg Harbor Township area," said Willett.

"We checked with the Atlantic City tower and nothing unusual appeared. The only air traffic in the area that evening was two large military planes coming up from Dover, Del., and they were in well before this. They also do not hover," Willett said.

In their statement, the Egg Harbor Township police said officers were dispatched to the area where the object was supposed to have been sighted and were told by a young male that his friends saw some UFO's hovering in the sky.

"Upon (the officers') arrival, nothing out of the ordinary was located except what appeared to be an airplane flying east to west north of that location several thousand feet from the ground," the police said.

But, again, there was nothing on the radar screen.

"Direct Observation of UFOs and Aliens" at 10:45 a.m.; Betty Andreasson and Bob Luca, an abductee and contactee, on "The Andreasson Affair — and Beyond" at 1:30 p.m.; Bud Hopkins, a UFO researcher, on "Intruders" at 3:15 p.m.

Then on Feb. 15 between about 8:05 p.m. and 9:16 p.m. seven sightings of the orange lights were reported including a larger type craft similar to the January sightings.

Concerning the questions of test flights possibly by NASA, the Little River News contacted Nancy Lovato, a spokesman for NASA at Edwards Air Force Base in California. She said NASA usually flies high performance fighter jets which have been converted to civilian use. But the aircraft does not fly this far east from California.

Lovato said NASA has larger craft with wings for scientific observation which does not fly this far east nor at night. She said NASA's aircraft are marked according to FAA regulations.

Lovato checked with Ames Research Center in San Jose, Calif., and the center had no flights in this direction.

On Feb. 16 about 8:22 p.m. an orange light was observed by Bob Taaffe and three members of the Little River News staff.

The object came up from ground level in the east-southeast between five and 10 degrees above the horizon. It hovered but didn't go down and then went out.

Another group of people also saw the same light at the same time and were located 3 3/4 miles east and a half-mile north near the Cannon Road and Mud Line Road.

A larger red object was observed about 8:30 p.m. which appeared about 5 to 7 degrees over the horizon in the east and vacillated between 70 to 85 degrees by the Taaffe group. It was observed for about 30 minutes.

A man, who has requested to remain anonymous due to harassment and teasing, said Tuesday night, Feb. 16 was the first time "I saw something and I don't know what it is." In describing the five lighted objects he observed with a group of other people, he said the objects displayed "unreal speed, and made angles and movements aircraft won't make."

The group was observing at the intersection of Cannon and Mud Line Roads facing south when they observed three, small distinct orange lights which did not flash. The man described the lights as constant until air traffic would move close to them at which time the lights would begin blinking, but not like the strobe effect seen on anti-collision systems of airplanes.

After observing the three smaller lights through binoculars, a large orange glowing light appeared in the west and moved east. Through binoculars, the man said the large orange light was surrounded on the outside edge by a "complete perfect circle of smaller lights changing colors and rotating counterclockwise around the larger orange light."

As the lights traveled parallel to their position, the man said he could see a red light on each side of the rear of the object giving him the impression the object was boomerang-shaped with the rotation of lights to the front and the red lights at the rear not flashing.

The last light observed by the man and his group appeared in the southwest in the general direction of DeKalb, Tex. He said it was smaller, like the first three he observed, and came straight up, hovered, then moved southeast. Suddenly he said the light stopped, hovered, moved again, and repeated these actions once more before heading in a straight line south-southeast in the direction of Lake Texarkana.

Of the five lights he observed, the man said all but two would flash to mimic airplanes if traffic moved in the vicinity of the objects.

# 3 women: 'We were chased by UFO Jan. 19'

**EDITOR'S NOTE** — Residents of the small southwest Arkansas town of Foreman began spotting unexplained lights in the night sky late last December. Since that time, the local sheriff's department has received more than 200 reports of unidentified objects flying over the Foreman/Ashdown area just north

Part 2 of 5-part series.  
See related story page 7A.

of Texarkana. Rarely do such episodes continue as long as this one or involve as many people. Unless otherwise noted, all episodes re-

1988, a completely unexplained, brightly-lit object chased them as they drove home from a basketball game.

Foreman is home to approximately 1,300 people. The town is located just east of the Oklahoma state line on Ark. Hwy. 41. Texarkana sits to the south. To the east is Ashdown, Arkansas, a community dominated by the Nekoosa Paper Mill. The huge pine trees that feed the mill grow almost everywhere that hasn't been cleared for housing or agriculture.

Hwy. 41 runs north and south through Foreman. Hwy. 32 runs into town from the east.

The incident began at 10:15 p.m. Terri Jeanes, 30, was driving her



Deanna Irvan runs a hairdresser shop on Ashdown mainstreet.

the Red River bottoms.

Jeanes pulled the car onto the shoulder. The three women watched as the orange light "lunged" three times at treetop level toward the north and then disappeared. Sharp described the vanishing light in the same words as almost everyone who has seen it: "It was like turning out a light."

The women pulled back onto Hwy. 41 and continued driving south to the Hwy. 32 turnoff. They then drove east towards Ashdown, eventually turning off on the Anderson lateral road, where Sharp and her husband live. The Anderson lateral is a ruler-straight road running south from Hwy 32.

As Jeanes' car topped a small rise on the Anderson lateral, all three women saw the light again in the distance to the south. It appeared to hover over the "bottoms," they said. At first Jeanes thought the light might be Air Life, a medical helicopter operating out of Texarkana. What they were seeing contained four distinct lights; red, blue, green and amber. Standard light configurations on jets or airplanes include a green light on the right wing, a red light on the left wing, with various white lights. No aircraft operating in the United States flies with blue lights.

## Light approaches them

Jeanes parked the car in a driveway so they could observe the light. They watched it hover for three to five minutes, during which time they became convinced that what they were looking at was not Air Life. Margaret Sharp's husband was at work that night, and Margaret now decided she didn't want to come home to an empty house. Jeanes backed the car out of the driveway to return to Foreman. It was then a "huge white light," according to Deanna Irvan, came on among the other lights. The object's light then turned bright red, she said, and began to approach them.

"We just nailed it," said Sharp.

Sharp's uncle, Bob Taaffe, lived some two miles away on Hwy. 32.

Jeanes headed back up the Anderson lateral road toward his house.

The light followed their car at treetop level, running slightly to the right of the road and parallel with the car. Before arriving at Taaffe's house, the object passed over the top



Margaret Sharp (left) and Terri Jeanes pose in video store where Sharp works.

of the car, according to Irvan, throwing a shadowy "red cast" of light inside the car as it disappeared.

## Terrifying chase

Sharp was frightened enough by what she had seen to crouch on the passenger-side floorboard of Jeanes' car. At Taaffe's house the women ran inside and told Sharp's uncle what they had seen. In a later interview, Taaffe said the moment he opened the door to his niece and her friends on the night of Jan. 19, he knew something was wrong. At first he thought they might have had an accident of some sort. Sharp decided she would wait at Taaffe's house for someone to come and take her home.

At approximately 11 p.m., Jeanes and Irvan left Sharp at Bob Taaffe's

house and got back in the Maxima. As they began rolling east on Hwy. 32 towards the Hwy. 41 junction and home, the object appeared again out of the south. To Irvan, who was now seated on the passenger side in front, the light resembled a large ball of fire.

The light behaved as it had earlier, running almost parallel with the car, except this time it glided to the left of the automobile. "It seems to adjust itself to the terrain, up and down," Irvan said. "Where there are no trees it will get lower very quickly. Very quickly."

Jeanes floored her Maxima. When they got to Hwy. 41 they turned right, or north, toward Foreman. The light also turned north. Irvan said the turn made by the object did not describe the typical arc of a car merging with a perpendicular highway. Instead, the light made a sudden, 90 degree turn.

## Large metallic machine

Completely terrified now, the women sped toward Foreman at speeds that reached 120 miles per hour. As they approached town they could see the lights of the local Chevrolet dealership ahead on the left. Jeanes remembered thinking at this time that the light must have come closer to the car or changed somehow because Deanna Irvan suddenly became even more terrified than before.

Irvan's terror increased because she was getting her first clear look at the object behind the bright light. In front of the Chevrolet dealership in Foreman stands a brilliantly-lit advertising sign. "It went right in front of their sign," said Irvan. "That's where I could really see it. It was a large metallic machine. The lights seemed to be in the center of the object. It threw a glow out to where I couldn't see the top as well as I could see the bottom. To me it was shaped like a tank. It was flat on the bottom. It had a dull finish. Dark." Irvan estimated its width at two pickup trucks side by side, and its length at three pickups end to end.

In a drawing Irvan made the next morning, the "tank's" turret is evident above the main body. Two bands of light circle the object, one high and one low.

Irvan watched the object all the way into Foreman. She said the light came to a halt over the rodeo arena next to the highway. It hovered a moment and streaked into the night sky. The light appeared to become a distant star "in half a second," according to Irvan. At no time during the incident did anyone hear sound coming from the object.

The women turned into a convenience store where they saw a police car parked. By the time Irvan and Jeanes convinced those inside to step out and look, the light was gone. The police officer made fun of their sighting. Since their sighting all the women have become acquainted with ridicule.

They have remained adamant that the light they saw was not the Air Life medical helicopter. Even if the lights were the same, they said, no helicopter makes the kind of high-speed 90 degree turn this object made over the intersection of Highways 32 and 41.

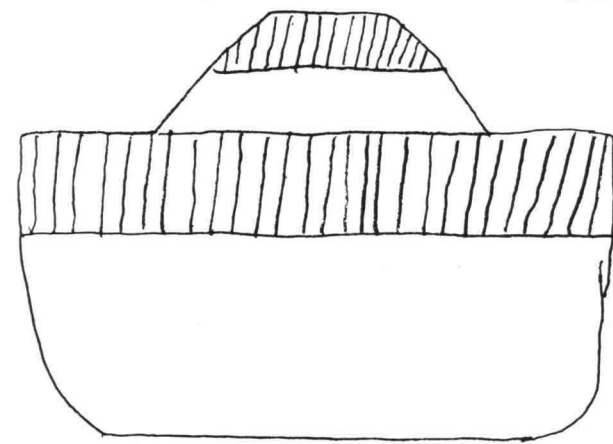
None among the three women has claimed the object was a flying saucer. They simply said the object was something very strange that they had never seen before that night.

## Women ridiculed

"I don't know why people think we would make something like that up," Deanna Irvan said. Irvan, who is married with children, runs a hair-dressing business in Ashdown. The women received obscene phone calls shortly after reporting their unexplained sighting. Friends and neighbors ridiculed them. The ridicule has died down, however, as more and more UFO reports flooded the local newspaper and sheriff's office.

As in most UFO sightings, the women have no absolute proof of what happened to them. The only potential physical evidence can be explained. Across the trunk of Jeanes' white Nissan Maxima were odd markings. Each group of markings has four lines side by side. The lines are approximately three inches long and are dotted. The black marks appear to the naked eye to be rubber marks, though Jeanes has been unable to wash them from her new car. Jeanes said the markings were not visible on her trunk the day before the "chase." She first noticed

(continued on page 11) 10



Deanna Irvan's drawing (above) depicts object she saw in the sky. The women said the brightly lit object chased them along Hwy. 32 (below) towards Ashdown.



counted in this five-part series on the Foreman sightings were told firsthand to Times reporter Bill Macomber on location there. At press time the sightings continue, and efforts to find military or commercial air explanations have yielded no answers. Part I in yesterday's Times outlined the background of the sightings. Today's Part II installment in this five-part series details the episode that brought the sightings to more widespread public attention.

By BILL MACOMBER  
Times Staff Writer

Three Foreman women have reported that on Tuesday, Jan. 19,

white, 1988, Nissan Maxima home from a basketball game with two friends. Margaret Sharp, 23, was in the passenger seat of the car. Deanna Irvan, 33, was in the back seat. The women had not been drinking at the game that night, they said. "We wish we had been. We needed one after all that," Jeanes said later. Close friends and relatives affirm the women do not take drugs or drink heavily.

## See orange light

As they drove south on Hwy. 41, Sharp told Jeanes to stop the car. She had spotted what she described as an orange light to the east less than a quarter of a mile away. From their position, the light would have been over what is known locally as

WORLD, Wenatchee, WA - Feb. 1, 1988

# Strange lights in the night — UFOs?

**DULEY LAKE** — An Omak man says that twice over the weekend he saw strange twinkling lights hovering over the horizon near Duley Lake, though Okanogan County sheriff's deputies who investigated the first sighting say he was seeing only lights from Chief Joseph Dam.

Richard Roundstone, 36, flagged down a sheriff's deputy on Cameron Lake Road Friday night to tell him he could see eight saucer-shaped, house-sized objects surrounded by white lights that changed color.

After the Colville tribes, the Federal Aeronautics Administration and the UFO Reporting Station were notified, police determined the lights came from Chief Joseph Dam.

But Roundstone said this morning the lights he saw again Sunday night can't be from the dam because they're in a different direction — about three miles northeast of the wheatfield where he was feeding cattle for Mary Louise Jones.

"The dam's in the other direction," said Roundstone. "Besides, light has never carried that far, and Chief Joseph Dam doesn't expand. It isn't that wide."

Roundstone said the "sparkly" lights seem to cover a distance of eight miles and, through binoculars, appear to change colors, including green. Never in the four months that he's worked for Mrs. Jones had he seen such lights, he said.

"There's not just one, there's quite a few of them," Roundstone

said. "They're sparkly, small lights, and one travels between the spaceships — or whatever they are."

"I believe they're UFOs," Roundstone said. "I'd like to get up close to them, but it's too darn cold to be out there."

"I have seen them before, but that was in Montana," the Omak man said. "At that time I was skeptical, but I do believe in them now. They're still out there, if other people want to go look at them."



them the next day. The marks could be explained as the residue left by a threadbare car wash roller, for instance.

#### Man sees light also

Though it was impossible to verify, the object seen by those in the car may have been the same one spotted by Jerry Grant, 29, who was coming home from work at 10:15 p.m. that night. Grant was returning to Foreman on Hwy. 32 from the Nekoska Paper plant. To the east he saw a very bright light. He observed the light as it remained stationary for 10 to 15 minutes. The light, he said, appeared to turn red and move off quickly. "I didn't say much. I didn't want to end up in the funny farm, because I don't know what it was," Grant said.

In another nearby sighting (one of the most dramatic in terms of short distance from the object) Eula French, 19, who lives with her family on the Anderson lateral road in "the bottoms," saw a large greenish light extremely near her home at 11 p.m. on this same night. Her story, and the frequent sightings over the bottoms, will appear later in this series. French is quite sure what she was was not Air Life or any other sort of craft she has ever seen. It, too, made no sound, though her dogs were barking furiously, she said.

Margaret Sharp, also married and the youngest of the three women, described how the incident in the car continued to affect her nine days later. "I'm just drained. I know what I have seen. I just wish it would go away. It terrifies me. It followed — or chased — us, however you want to word it. I even unlocked the door in case I needed to jump out of the car. It's the closest I've ever felt to death. I can't sleep. I've only stayed in the house one night in the last five," she said.

As for possible planetary misperceptions, Sharp said, "I've seen Venus in the west, and this was in the southeast. I've seen a lot of stars, but I've never seen a star chase after a white Maxima."

#### Frightening memories

Deanna Irvan has had much the same emotional reaction as Sharp. "I felt threatened by it. We were crying and yelling. It's like an invasion of privacy, like a rape victim, like I'm always looking over my shoulder now. I feel calmer at home. At work I get a shaky feeling, like I'm hypersensitive."

Though they are relieved other Little River County residents have seen something unidentified, the women remained baffled as to what the object might have been. They simply did not know. Barksdale Air Force Base in Shreveport, La., said there has been no unusual Air Force activity around Foreman.

"I hope it is a government thing because I can't think, I'm terrified all the time," Margaret Sharp said.

All three women agree that if they were chased again they would tell no one.

"We're tired of all the ridicule and the stupid explanations like the moon shining off snowgeese. I saw something, and it isn't any of those things," Deanna Irvan said.

## Irvan saw UFO last summer also

By BILL MACOMBER  
Times Staff Writer

Deanna Irvan remembered seeing strange objects over Foreman on two occasions last year. Until her high-speed chase by an unidentified light in January, however, Irvan didn't tell anyone about what she saw. (See related story page 1A.)

One incident occurred in November. The other was last summer. Both times Irvan was at the Foreman High School track exercising with at least one other person. Irvan works during the day as a hairdresser in nearby Ashdown. She exercises at night.

At approximately 10 p.m. on the nights in question, Irvan and her companions saw something unusual pass over the track as they sat on the bleachers cooling off. This ob-

## 'Communion' with other worlds

### Author angry that officials don't believe tales of alien encounters

By Peter Turnbull  
Scripps Howard News Service

Whitley Strieber is angry. He believes that he has been abducted and subjected to terrifying, ongoing biological experiments by non-human "visitors" from another planet or dimension, and that the situation has been officially ignored and ridiculed.

Whitley Strieber also is getting rich.

He wrote a book, *Communion*, about his experiences and his attempts to understand what he thinks happened, and is happening still, and he's well on the way to becoming wealthy because of it.

William Morrow & Co. gave him a million-dollar advance for rights to the hard-cover edition of the book. Sales figures aren't available, more than 260,000 copies are in print.

Then Avon came out with the paperback edition, and the skies really opened: No. 1 on the *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and *Publishers Weekly* best-seller lists; 1.72 million copies in print—and the official paperback publication date was only Feb. 1.

Strieber, who lives in New York, also is collaborating on a movie based on the book; produc-

tion is due to start this spring. He has a sequel to his book coming out in the fall.

The evident popularity of *Communion* notwithstanding, Strieber is perturbed at the lack of any official effort to understand what he maintains is a widespread phenomena.

"I'm very, very tired of the laughter and contempt," he says.

To read his description of his abductions is unpleasant and unsettling, if only because of the wealth of detail he gives about the variety of "E.T."-variety beings that have stalked him, the intense fear and helplessness he felt in their clutches, the numerous physical examinations and probes to which he was subjected and the efforts he made to comprehend his dilemma.

Since the publication of *Communion* last year, he says, he has received more than 4,000 letters from people all over the world describing abductions similar to his, all of them frightened and confused by what he called "the agonizing, difficult and painful experience" they've undergone. "How do these people live with this?"

And what has he done with these letters? "Nothing," he says. "What can I do?"

What he can do, although he doesn't say so, is offer empa-

thy—and a lot of righteous indignation. "They're not crazy," he says of his fellow sufferers, despite the fact that in their terror and confusion "there is absolutely no social institution to which they can turn."

What does he suggest be done? "I think it would be very interesting, for example, if the established scientific community were able to accept the fact that anomalous experiences do happen to people... and would spend some time and money, beginning in the mental health community, in helping these people."

Instead, he says, those "visited" are "kept in a state of embarrassment" by the government, which refuses to acknowledge that what they say happened may have happened, because there is no proof—which Strieber readily admits—and by the scientific community, none of whom "would dare to propose such a study."

Strieber suspects that the government may have more than an inkling of what's going on. In fact, officials may already have had contact with the "visitors," he says, but have covered it up.

Consequently, he says, "The effect of this is to deliver ordinary citizens, naked and alone in the middle of the night, into the

hands of these experimenters, and that is an absolute outrage."

His last experience with the "visitors" took place on Dec. 23, 1986, he says. Although he still has no proof, he is surer than ever that there is a purpose to these visits. "They're not here on some kind of scientific expedition," he says. "They do seem to be making a great deal of effort to keep us from knowing where they came from."

Instead, he thinks they are seeking contact for other reasons, perhaps spiritual or cosmic in nature.

Therefore, he has decided that he is neither crazy nor ill and he has tried to exert an element of control during the visits. "I've tried to overcome my fear," he says. "These guys are fierce and intense."

His next book, *Transformation*, is "about how I learned to cope with my fear," he says.

Despite the notoriety he has gotten from his revelations, Strieber, who has written several other books of fiction and non-fiction, isn't worried about how his future work will be received. "I will write what I want to write," he says.

Still, the disparagement *Communion* received troubles him. "But I'm not going to give up," he says. "It's worth it."

### Egg Harbor residents report UFO sighting

COURIER POST, Camden, NJ  
March 3, 1988 CR: A. Latorre

EGG HARBOR TWP. — Several residents and Egg Harbor Township police reported seeing an unidentified flying object, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said yesterday.

The report initially was phoned in to the FAA Technical Center in Pomona at 9:15 p.m. Tuesday. The center then notified local police, said FAA spokesman Tony Willett.

"We in turn notified Egg Harbor Township police, who, to my knowledge, went to the area and confirmed the light or lights, apparently saw one move or even maybe disappear," Willett said.

The lights appeared to hover over the Hamilton Mall in Hamilton Township, Willett said.

"I checked it with the Atlantic City tower at the Atlantic City Airport and there has been no radar activity," he said.

ject, she said, was "much huger" than the one she would see in January. She estimated it was at least the size of a football field. She heard no roaring sound accompanying the object's flight.

As it passed over, she and the people with her could clearly make out details of the underside of the object. She said its underbelly appeared to be covered with "crossed pipes." Irvan was somehow reminded of an erector set.

The craft looked highly unusual to Irvan. There had been no UFO sightings in Foreman at the time, however, so she made no connection. She told herself the strange craft was perhaps an extraordinary experiment by Barksdale Air Force Base near Shreveport, La. She dismissed these early sightings entirely until the more intense sighting activity began in late December. So far the Air Force has denied responsibility for unusual air maneuvers over the Foreman area. Regular Air Force refueling operations normally occur at altitudes above 20,000 feet. Irvan said she could not have mistaken this object for a refueling flight, which she has seen before.

More recently, other Little River County residents have reported seeing unidentified flying objects similar to what Irvan remembered. One man described a low-flying object that passed over his house as resembling an electric substation. The substation he mentioned is made of a series of crossed metal pieces. He, too, noted the resemblance to an erector set.

## UFO research deals in human frailties

By TIM NORRIS  
of The Journal staff

SEEING, WHEN IT comes to UFOs, is not necessarily believing.

Lacking undisputed physical evidence, nearly every UFO account made public is based almost entirely on eyewitness accounts. And eyewitness accounts, says a man who has made them his life's work, are notoriously unreliable.

"People are prone to all sorts of optical illusions and can be deceived quite readily," says Steve Penrod, an associate professor of psychology at the University of Wisconsin — Madison, who specializes in eyewitness descriptions of crimes.

"We can misjudge distance and scale, size and speed, color and shape."

When people do not know what they are seeing, Penrod says, they borrow from their preconceptions. With UFOs — unidentified flying objects — experience offers plenty of them. Through films and books, fiction and non-fiction, UFOs have become part of America's everyday life.

"I suspect that most people are not eager to see an unidentified flying object," Penrod says, "but whenever an anomalous sighting comes up, there are people prepared to interpret it in that way, gather observations together and see something systematic happening out there, even without any compelling evidence."

Most alien sightings show a pattern: people in cars on lonely roads encounter bright lights. In abduction stories, people sometimes report blacking out and losing time, several hours or more. Through a technique called "hypnotic regression," UFO investigators have helped witnesses "recall" events from this lost time.

These events often involve aliens taking them into saucers and conducting bodily examinations.

But hypnosis itself can be faulty. Penrod says the detailed abduction stories may come, like dreams, from the subconscious.

"There are very strong indications that hypnosis can prompt people to recall things that they did not see or experience," he says. "If those hypnotic procedures have been conducted by people who believe that these



A UFO was reported near Union Grove a year ago

subjects have experienced an abduction, that approach would have to be viewed with great suspicion."

UFO researcher Don Schmitt agrees that hypnosis presents problems, but he points out that fully one in three people claiming abduction have a full waking memory of it. He adds that his group, the Center for UFO Studies based in Chicago, carefully monitors the use of hypnosis to avoid suggestion.

"There have been so many cases with nearly identical descriptions," he says, "that you're either talking about a worldwide psychological problem or people are describing what they saw and experienced."

As for cases involving multiple witnesses, both Schmitt and Penrod agree, natural phenomena such as bright stars or planets, light diffracted by ice crystals, mirages, meteorites or falling satellites would offer the same images to one person or a hundred. They are less certain about multiple abductions.

Penrod does not dismiss claims of UFO experiences, but he questions whether they reflect inward or outward realities.

"It's very difficult to come to terms with these stories," Penrod says. "It's as though you have to engage in several levels of trust. The question is, where do you invest your trust?"

# Objects continue unusual actions

**Editor's Note:** When interviewed, the woman requested her name be withheld. She is a teacher and indicated that she did not want to contend with crank calls.

Last Saturday night, Feb. 6 at approximately 11:40 p.m., a woman driving into Foreman on Highway 41 saw lights top the second hill past the roadside park.

"It startled me and my first thought was a car or vehicle with lights on bright, so I blinked my lights at it for them to dim their lights," she said.

"The lights didn't dim and were coming straight toward me, right down the middle of the road." Two hours later, several Nekoosa employees watched two bright objects in the western sky.

She said as they moved toward her she saw "two separate horizontal lights close to the ground." They came from north to south down the highway.

"The best I can describe was like headlights across the hood and then like fog lights on the bottom; there was a distinct separation between them."

The woman also emphasized the lights did not blink or pulse. "They just moved down the hill at me and as they got closer, I saw them shimmer around the bottom light."

"By this time I was convinced

whatever those lights were—they were going to hit me and I braced, ready to run into the ditch."

The woman estimated the lights were approximately 100 feet from her "when this rush came over me that those lights were going to hit me, then . . . nothing. There was absolutely nothing, no lights, no sound, and I could see the road in my headlights."

The woman described feeling absolute terror at this point and was driving well past 85 mph into Foreman.

When she reached Foreman she contacted the nightwatchman and he said he would go out there. "I was so scared I could hardly talk, but I got to a friend's house."

The woman said that originally, she had been going home to DeKalb after visiting friends in Foreman. She had gone through Foreman and past the roadside park when she noticed a white car turned around facing her then went a way and then turned around again.

"By this time I had this uneasy feeling and as I went past the Royal Church I saw a man or boy in a car with no lights on blocking the entrance of the church. I looked to the southeast toward Red River, then looked down the road and didn't see anyone."

The woman said her sense of

unease made her decide to turn around to go back into Foreman and get a friend to drive home with her.

"That was my mistake. I don't mind telling you I didn't want to see those lights and I don't ever want to see them again. I'm still upset and don't really want to go out at night and I have to because I take a college course at night, but at least I have to go Interstate 30 to get there."

"As far as I'm concerned, what happened to me was terrorism."

About two hours after the woman reported the incident to Foreman Deputy Marshal Howard Trone, several employees of the woodyard operation watched two objects in the western sky.

Johnny Setliff who was working the graveyard shift in the woodyard noticed two bright objects between 2 a.m. and 2:30 a.m. Sunday. Setliff said one object was southwest of the mill across Pine Prairie Road.

Setliff said the first object was noticed about 500 feet above the ground and then moved downward to about 200 to 300 feet above the ground and hovered.

"With just your eyes, you could tell it had different colored lights which were changing. It hovered and made some zig-zag motions,"

Setliff said. The lower object, Setliff indicated, was observed for 15 to 20 minutes. He requested some other employees to watch the objects with him which included a shift supervisor.

He said the lower object continued to hover and then "went down fast. It didn't ease down."

The second object was spotted in the northwest and he indicated when the first object went down the object in the northwest "moved fast" toward the south.

He said the actions appeared to be separate and not related to each other. The object which came from the northwest "stayed high" in the western sky and had similar movements as the lower object such as hovering and zig-zag motions.

Setliff said the object located higher in the sky was observed for about 30 minutes and it eventually moved toward the west until it was too dim to view.

## UFO FALSE RUMOR REPORTS

As more people claim to have seen the UFO being reported in Little River County, others have become creative in describing its alleged activities.

Here are some of the alleged activities which are false:

There is radiation at one home north of Foreman after the UFO reportedly landed, burned grass, killed a horse and part of the resident's home burned. The Little River News checked the location with a highly sensitive Geiger Counter loaned by Wadley Hospital in Texarkana and there was no radiation anywhere in the area. Also not true were the burns on the

ground, the resident did not see it land. The house is just fine, plus their horse was not killed since there wasn't one there.

Margaret Sharp said rumors her car was picked up by a UFO and the paint blown off are ridiculous. The car is still the same color and in excellent condition, solidly on the ground, where it has always been.

Other rumors said government agents had told the three women in the car which reportedly was chased to not talk about the incident and also visited the Little River News to tell us to keep our mouths shut. Obviously after last week's edition and

this week's, we, nor the three women, have had any government visits.

Bob Taaffe said he has not taken a ride in a UFO nor claimed to have gone for a spin. He also remains solidly on the ground.

Reports circulating saying a Winthrop man was burned to death as a UFO passed above him are also totally untrue.

Not one of the early observers of the phenomena have ever claimed to have seen a flying saucer, only something which flies, is an object, and cannot thus far be identified.

## Lights leave residents of Tier blinking

By ROQUA MONTEZ IV  
Staff Writer

Colorful blinking lights have left at least two Conklin residents wondering exactly what was in the cloudy Southern Tier sky early last night.

The reports follow sightings Sunday by law enforcement personnel in Chenango County of bright lights in the sky. Police were between routes 12 and 12B shortly after 7 p.m. when the sightings were made.

Last night's reports occurred about the same time, but police, weather officials and even residents were at a loss to explain what they saw.

"My first impression was that it was a falling star," said M.A. Malloy of Brady Avenue in Conklin. "But the lights on it began to flicker; it almost looked like it had prongs on it."

Malloy, who saw the sky-riding object about 6:30 p.m., said the object had bluish-green lights and remained in one spot for several minutes before moving on. Before the object was out of sight, she telephoned her next-door neighbor, Richard Stank.

"It definitely wasn't a star," Stank said last night. "But I don't know what it is."

Stank said his son was able to take at least three pictures of the object. The photographs, he said, could be developed as early as this week.

Stank said the object had "three lights in a circle that moved around a center light." From his home, the object appeared to be the size of a dime, he said.

"The light seemed to be twinkling on and off," he said. "It was bright and glowing."

Sherburne police Chief William Excell, who reported seeing a bright flash on Sunday, said no sightings had been reported to his agency yesterday. An investigation, he said, is not planned.

Excell said he had no clues as to what he saw Sunday. "Maybe it was a meteor. It looked like a falling star, maybe bigger," he said. "But I'm sure it wasn't a plane."

National Weather Service officials said no sightings were reported by late last night, but helicopters practicing maneuvers could have been mistaken for the lighted objects.

"Unusual" astrological conditions this year may also be a contributing factor, said forecaster Jim Malinosky.

"The evening and morning stars will be more pronounced," he said. "It has to do with rotation and alignment of the stars and the planets."

## NORAD:

### We don't try to explain unexplained phenomena

The report of unidentified sightings in Little River County along with the photos published last month were reviewed by NORAD near Colorado Springs, Colo., and was summarized by a spokesman for the agency. "We don't try to explain unexplained phenomena."

After reviewing the accounts of the sightings and the photos along with the information concerning the photos with times, dates and locations, Capt. Thomas Niemann said, "It's terribly fascinating. I'm afraid I'm not having any luck with the receptiveness of people at this end in terms of what to do with it."

Niemann is stationed at the U.S. Space Command of NORAD (North American Air Defense Command) at Peterson Air Force Base.

The photos had previously been reviewed by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock planetarium who recommended NORAD.

Niemann was asked if NORAD was able to identify the aircrafts as military and he said "no" with an explanation. "See, the NORAD sensors are oriented toward the ocean and . . . away from the coast line and not internally."

"In other words, your best bet was the FFA (Federal Aviation Administration) and when they couldn't help, most of our correlation would be things entering what we call our air defense identification zone around the United States. . . . In other words, they say right now, in terms of NORAD sensor capabilities and correlating against

our records, we can't correlate it," said Capt. Niemann.

"We can't tell you it was a military aircraft and we don't necessarily monitor any testing and evaluation that's going on by the other U.S. agencies, be they civilian or military, and since it was happening internally," he said.

Niemann said he was attempting to locate an agency in Washington, DC., called NICAP (National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena). Niemann contacted the newspaper Wednesday (Feb. 24) saying he found the agency no longer exists.

"I'll be perfectly honest with you the biggest problem I'm having is the fact that in 1969 the United States Air Force abandoned what they call Project Blue Book. And what this does has the very familiar scent of a UFO. And, consequently I'm running into resistance from people pursuing it," said Niemann. The Blue Book project allowed the U.S. Air Force to investigate, but was shut down after 20 years.

In questioning, the newspaper asked again if the object might be military. Niemann said, "No, they were rather tight-lipped about it. Just because the official position now is that we don't try to explain unexplained phenomena. Does that make sense? I had some folks trying to help . . . and I'm afraid we just ran into some dead ends."

"I was hoping to put some of your concern and confusion to rest, but I'm afraid to this point I haven't

had any success in doing so," he said.

The Little River News contacted Goddard Space Flight Center of NASA in Greenbelt, Md., near Washington, D.C., who agreed to review the photos for possible computer enhancement. Niemann said the agency would be the next "best step" within the system.

And random sightings have continued in the area.

James Paul "Bicycle" Jones of Foreman said prior to Monday night, Feb. 22, "I hadn't paid a lot of attention to this." But as he and his wife were traveling north on Highway 41 toward Foreman around 10:15 p.m., both saw a light Jones described as "huge, much brighter than an automobile or electrical light. It was a tremendous light going on and off."

The Joneses were driving between the bayou bridge north of Red River and the Royal Church when they noticed the light to their right or to the east in direction of the REA substation and pulled to the side of the road to watch.

Jones said the light was going on and off and appeared to be around three-quarters of a mile from them at treetop level. It moved across the field and everytime the brilliant white light went out, he said they could see an orange glow below it which disappeared when the white light came back on.

They watched the light for about 10 minutes until it went out completely.





(Paper &amp; City Unknown), Australia - Jan. ?, 1988 CR: P. Norman

# Out of this world!

ALL it took was the reported sighting of one UFO... and now almost everyone in the WA bush outpost of Eucula is claiming a close encounter of some kind or another.

After Wednesday's alleged extra-terrestrial attack on four travellers on the lonely Eyre outside the tiny town, local publican Steve Papuptis said yesterday he had seen strange lights over Eucula on January 5.

When pilots flying light planes between Adelaide and Perth stop over at Eucula, Mr Papuptis goes to the airstrip to take them back to his Amber Hotel.

A booking was made for a pilot to stay on

January 5, but when he didn't turn up at the airstrip at 7 pm as expected, Mr Papuptis went home.

Later that night Mr Papuptis's wife said she could see a plane coming in, so he thought his guest had arrived.

"I saw what looked like navigation lights moving over the west of the town towards the airstrip," Mr Papuptis said.

"The lights came slowly down like a plane preparing to land... but then hovered at a 20-

degree angle for about a minute.

"I thought what the hell is the pilot doing."

Mr Papuptis, who has spent 20 years at Eucula, said the lights moved lower, then slowly east before vanishing over the horizon.

He reported the incident to police because he feared the plane might have crashed.

On police advice he also reported it to air traffic control in Perth, who checked with Adelaide airport.

"They said no plane was supposed to be in

the area," Mr Papuptis said.

He said he was mystified by the incident until last week's claim by Perth woman Faye Knowles that she and her three sons were chased by a huge "bright glowing" object as they drove near the WA-SA border town.

Mr Papuptis said the lights he saw "were two twinkling white lights on top of an ultra-violet light, but I didn't bother to look at its shape".

He can't remember whether he heard the sound of a plane because

By ANDRA JACKSON

"when I saw the lights I thought it was a plane anyway and there was an east wind blowing at the rate of about 15 knots".

But he doesn't believe in flying saucers.

"I had seen light streaks from Skylab and I think maybe what I saw in January was some part of a rocket," he said.

Another Eucula resident, 28-year-old cook Jeanette Dodd, isn't so sure about what she saw in the sky.

Her house is on a hill with a commanding view of the Southern Ocean.

"About a month ago we were in bed looking at the stars and this bright light was coming towards us," said Ms Dodd.

"It sort of flew into the angle of the window and then zoomed away."

"It was very big and must have been travelling at incredible speed."

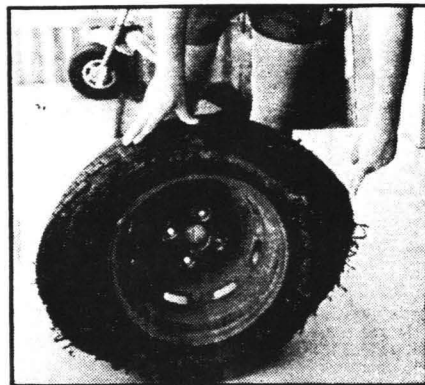
"It hovered above the horizon on a 30-degree angle, so I knew it wasn't a boat... and then it disappeared."

Another local with a strange tale is bar manager Stan Mossdeld, who said: "I was going home from Border Village about 10 days ago and as I was coming towards our place I saw this great big light hanging up in the air."

"It was then for about 5 km and then when we rounded a bend it was gone. It was scary."

Mr Mossdeld believes the various sightings add up to visitors from space.

"Most people in town think something is occurring and I think these creatures from outer space are ready to communicate with us," he said.



A damaged tyre from the Knowles family's car.

## Backing for UFO claims

CLAIMS by a family of four that they were attacked by a UFO on the Nullarbor plain have been backed by a researcher.

And Australian International UFO Research director Colin Norris believes the family's Nullarbor encounter will be repeated.

Mrs Faye Knowles and her three adult sons are adamant there is something out there after their car was allegedly shaken and lifted by an extra-terrestrial marauder.

Pictures taken yesterday of the car indicate a violent encounter.

One tyre was shredded and a spring within the front-wheel well showed an area of bright metal

as if buffed in a violent up-and-down motion.

Mr Norris said: "The family had an experience. Exactly what is hard to determine."

"But it is not the first out on the Nullarbor and it won't be the last."

The last major rash of UFO sightings on the Nullarbor was near Cook on the Transcontinental Railway in June last year.

Between midnight and early morning, six witnesses watched a saucer or football-shaped object zigzag seven metres above the horizon.

AGE, Melbourne, Australia - Jan. 22, 1988 CR: P. Norman

Picture: CHANNEL 7



The driver of the family car, Mr Sean Knowles, 21, and his brother, Wayne, 18, in Adelaide yesterday.

By EDMUND DOOQUE, Adelaide

After 36 years of UFO-watching, Colin Norris had his heyday yesterday.

The report of a UFO sighting in the Nullarbor, and the media scramble that followed, helped to compensate for years of frustration, Mr Norris said.

"I am delighted with the whole thing," said the man who set up Australia's first UFO club in 1952. "I am rather concerned for the people in the vehicle, but it's the greatest thing since sliced bread. I am not scared. I hope these people come down more frequently."

"I don't have to apologise any more. Let them (the sceptics) explain it to me."

After years of being rejected by the media as a fool, Mr Norris became their darling yesterday, with calls from radio stations and newspapers across Australia and overseas, and television interviews lined up for last night.

Mr Norris, 67, claims that he saw a UFO in Geraldton in 1942 when he was a member of a Royal Australian Air Force crew. Since then he has kept reports, published quarterly magazines and kept in contact with like-minded people across the world.

He has the biggest collection of information on UFOs in the Southern Hemisphere, including an album of photographs of alleged sightings in Australia.

## The 'visitors' make a UFO expert's day



Mr Norris: incident is "the greatest thing since sliced bread".

Mr Norris, who is director of Australian International UFO Research, an organisation with 110 members, said that Wednesday's Nullarbor incident supported his request that the

Federal Government investigate UFO sightings.

"As a taxpayer, I want the departments of Defence and Science to tell me what happened," Mr Norris said.

Using the word "people" to describe the occupants of UFOs, Mr Norris said that the visitors from outer space were humanoid, with feet, arms and eyes.

"People had better take a warning from this and recognise that we are not the only God-chosen planet with humanoids on it."

Asked if he believed the visitors were dangerous, he said that UFOs had done nothing hostile. But by launching armed satellites, Earth with its "military philosophy", was provoking the sort of action which the UFO undertook in the Nullarbor, when it allegedly raised then dropped the car driven by the Knowles's family from Perth.

"We in our wisdom feel quite free to shove cancer and AIDS on to chimpanzees and think it is our right to do so, but let some alien do that to us and we are up in arms. We are in a big universe and big fish eat little fish and that's that."

He also said the "visitors" could have a sense of humor in lifting the Knowles's car and then dropping it.

"We do things to tantalise people, so why shouldn't they?"

Mr Norris said that in South Australia eight authentic UFO sightings were made last year.

SUN, Melbourne, Australia - Jan. 27, 1988 CR: P. Norman

## Close encounter crash claims get smooth ride

CLAIMING a UFO damaged your car may be considered far-fetched, but the repair bills are sure to bring you back to earth with a bump.

For motorists who tangle with the unusual, the Insurance Council of Australia has some reassuring, if mundane, advice.

Those dented panels, blown tyres and damaged shock absorbers are something insurance companies have to cover under a comprehensive policy.

And although some do believe in attacks from outer space, insurance companies coolly lump UFOs in the same category as damage caused by unknown vehicles.

A council spokesman said yesterday the key word in an insurance claim was "unidentified".

He said it did not matter whether it was an unidentified car or flying object that caused

By SUE HEWITT

the damage. He compared the damage caused by a supposed UFO with that caused by a vehicle side-swiping a parked car and disappearing.

Both would be covered by a comprehensive motor vehicle insurance policy, he said.

He was unable to confirm reports that an insurance company had refused to pay up on the damage caused to a Perth family's car, which they claimed was attacked by a UFO on the Nullarbor Plain last Wednesday.

But he advised the family to contact the council if they needed help.

Mrs Fay Knowles and her three adult sons claimed a UFO picked up their Ford Telstar, denting the roof, and then dropped the car back on the road. They also claimed a tyre was

punctured during incident.

The family is believed to be visiting friends in Melbourne, courtesy of Channel 7, which has bought the rights to their story. The insurance council spokesman said he had seen the Knowles's car on TV, but was not an assessor and declined to estimate the damage.

He said comprehensively insured motorists claiming a UFO "attack" would be expected to pay any policy excesses and might lose their no-claims bonus.

He said because damage was caused by an unknown party, the insurance company could not recover a client's excess.

As for some of the unusual things that have been insured, try Jimmy Durante's nose, Marilyn Monroe's legs and a policy just in case the Loch Ness Monster is taken into captivity.

EVENING NEWS, Bolton, England - Jan. 9, 1988

## Probe on Belmont UFO

UFO investigators are probing reports of a strange bright light over the moors at Belmont.

The light was spotted by Mrs Dorothy Lomax while she was washing the dishes at her Dunsar home.

Mrs Lomax said: "It was about 5pm. It was a

bright white light with a green haze around the edges. I looked through binoculars but all I could see was a haze."

"It was definitely something strange. It just hung above the moors for three quarters of an hour. I did not see it move at all then all of a sudden it van-

ished."

UFO expert Steve Bolan is to investigate Mrs Lomax's Belmont sighting. He said that UFOs are normally sighted over isolated areas like moors. He said: "They seem to know where to go. They are seen in less populated areas."

CR: T. Good

# DOCTOR TREATS 'UFO' FAMILY

By  
TONY WELLS

**A MELBOURNE doctor yesterday treated three members of the family which last week claimed it was attacked by a UFO.**

Mrs Faye Knowles and sons Patrick, 24, and Wayne, 18, yesterday were taken to Dandenong Valley Private Hospital by relatives who were concerned about their condition.

The doctor who treated them said: "They're fine but that's about all I'm prepared to say."

The Knowles were discharged yesterday afternoon and last night were spending time with family and friends.

A relative, who asked not to be named, said the doctor had given them each a cup of coffee and had counselled them to "take it easy".

"They were told it could last anything between two weeks to six months to get over what they've been through," the relative said.



The Knowles family ... Patrick, Wayne, Faye and Sean.

Mrs Knowles last night hit out at the TV station which paid for exclusive rights to the bizarre story about a UFO attack on the family car near Mundrabilla on the Nullarbor plain.

This follows scientific tests showing the car had no signs of a close encounter of an unearthly kind.

An angry Mrs Knowles declared her disgust with the tests which were done on behalf of Channel 7 in Adelaide.

"They're calling us liars," she said in an interview shown on Channel 7, adding: "That's not true. What we know happened to us did happen to us. There's definitely something out there."

Mrs Knowles and her sons Patrick, Sean and Wayne were sticking to their story that a UFO chased their appropriately-named blue Ford Telstar along the Eyre Highway early last Wednesday.

Media coverage of the "Mundrabilla incident" has captured the imaginations of overseas UFO watchers.

"I can't think of any other case like it," said George Eberhart, from the Chicago-based J.L.Hynek Centre for UFO studies. "It's incredible."

The Knowles claim that the object — likened to a large glowing egg in a cup — picked up their car and slammed it back on the road, blowing a tyre.

Their car was covered with a film of black dust and was dented on the roof.

However, tests commissioned by Channel 7 found there was no evidence to support the claim that the UFO landed and dented the roof, or had been responsible for the damaged tyre.

Mr Monty Luke, from Australian Mineral Development Laboratories, tested the vehicle yesterday and on Friday.

He said the dust was consistent with material from brake linings and was consistent with similar material found on other vehicles.

Results of police tests won't be known till the end of this week.

The Knowles have been contracted to Channel 7 for a sum believed to be \$5000. It is understood the terms of the contract prevent them speaking with other media for three months.

The reporter who compiled the story was Channel 7 Adelaide's chief-of-staff Frank Pangallo.

"Nobody's really disputing that they didn't see anything," Mr Pangallo said yesterday. "It's just that nothing hit the car."

Mr Pangallo said some dents found on the car were old and consistent with wear and tear. There were two dents on the roof and some on the side of the car. Two dents were fairly recent.

Mr Pangallo said geiger counters had been used in the tests but no trace of radioactivity had been found.

Asked about Faye Knowles' angry reaction to the Channel 7 tests, Mr Pangallo said: "I've spent a bloody hour trying to explain to them they're not being made out to be liars. I just said to them 'look you just got it confused'."

"The smoke in the car was caused by your burst tyre. It wasn't this UFO. There's nothing saying you didn't see a UFO because it has been witnessed by other people on the road."

"Independent witnesses have seen it and it was seen again the following night. And it also buzzed a tuna trawler at Port Lincoln on the Wednesday night."

"So it's not that they're being made out to be liars. They were genuinely distressed at seeing something."

Mr Pangallo also defended the Channel 7 contract which prevented the Knowles from discussing the story with any other media group.

"There was some commercial interest but it was a drop in the ocean compared with the fistful of dollars the Mike Willesee team were waving around the Eyre Peninsula and the Nullarbor," he said. "They were going as high as \$20,000."

Mr Pangallo described how he had "stitched up" the Seven exclusive.

He said he was the first reporter on the scene and arranged for the Knowles car to be hidden on a property in Wudinna on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula.

"There were film crews and journalists from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth scouring the town trying to find it," he said.

Mr Pangallo said the initial tip-off came from police on Wednesday night.

"When we got the tip from the cops that this was happening I just rang the Ceduna police, found out what time the family had left and ascertained about what time they would be passing through Wudinna," he said.

Mr Pangallo's next move was to contact a former journalist colleague, Mr Paul Jackson, who runs the Eyre Highway Motel at Wudinna.

"I got him to sit out there on a box of Eskies and just wait until they came. He flagged them down, took them inside and by that time we were on our way in a fixed-wing plane," he said.

"And we got there about three hours before anyone else."

Mr Pangallo was asked whether he was concerned about the use of cheque book journalism.

"Mate, as far as cheque book journalism is concerned, I just don't want to hear anything about it because everybody does it," he replied.

"But make it quite clear it wasn't an outrageous figure. And the only reason we had to do something was because the Willesee team was telegraphing their offer in advance on the phone."

"They were still a day away. They were ringing through. It was almost like being at Christie's. You know, like the bids are coming up."

"I can honestly tell you we would have got the story. That family weren't looking for money."

Why were they offered it?

"Well we just wanted it exclusively. We didn't want the Nine network to just take it away."

He added: "It was just one of those stories that lent itself to a situation of exclusivity."

COLCHESTER EVENING GAZETTE, Essex, England - Dec. 8, 1987

## UFO whirring scares Owen

DRUMMER Owen Morgan has heard a space ship — but he does not expect many people to believe him.

However, he can think of no other explanation for his mysterious early-morning experience in Braintree.

Mr Morgan, a drummer living in Edinburgh Gardens, was walking his dog at 2am on Friday after finishing work.

He heard a high pitched whirring sound on his right hand side.

"I admit I was scared but I looked in that direction and there was nothing there."

"The noise continued as if I'd disturbed something and then it went across the road in front of me, all the way up Portland Close, and finally seemed to disappear into the air."

The whole episode, says Owen, took no longer than seven seconds, and he describes the noise frequency as four sounds per second.

"I don't suppose anyone will believe me but I know something was there."

### ALIENS

The extraordinary thing is that the dog didn't take any notice."

UFOs have been out of the news lately. Sensible aliens have probably chosen a different planet to observe — one without so much garbage drifting around in space to make space-flight hazardous.

But Owen Morgan for one would like to hear from anyone who has had a similar experience.



## Meteorite 'not UFO answer'

By Carolyn Collins

A LEADING UFO researcher has dismissed claims that a meteorite "attacked" the Knowles family's car on the Nullarbor Plain.

Mr Paul Norman, vice president of the Victorian UFO Society, said these and other similar explanations were "hogwash".

"They watched it fly off - what sort of meteorite does that?" he said.

Mr Norman and fellow researcher Mr John Auchetti were in Adelaide to carry out a series of tests on the Knowles' car.

Although the encounter took place 12 days ago, the men were satisfied the results of their tests would reveal

evidence of a UFO encounter. The car has been impounded by Channel 7 since it arrived in Adelaide from Ceduna.

Mr Auchetti said the dents on the roof could not have been caused by the car rolling, as some reports have suggested.

"The probability of getting them so evenly spaced is very rare. It is not like someone has walked over it," he said.

The blown-out tyre was also "very unusual" because there were no signs

of wear and tear and it would be sent to its manufacturer for analysis.

The pair collected dust samples from inside the car and from the brake linings, and tested the car for radioactivity and changes to the its magnetic field.

Mrs Faye Knowles and her sons Patrick, 24, Sean, 21, and Wayne, 18, claimed their car was picked up by a bright white object near the W.A.S.A. border on January 21.

They told police their car was covered with ash before being dropped, bursting a tyre.



Mr Norman (left) and Mr Auchetti examining the car today

## Tuna boat crews buzzed by UFO

MELBOURNE: The crews of two South Australian tuna boats today reported that they were buzzed by a UFO similar to the one which attacked a family in a car yesterday.

The crews of the Port Lincoln-based Empress Lady and the Monica reported the incident as happening about 30 minutes after the mainland attack.

The boats were in the Great Australian Bight near the West Australian-South Australian border.

South Australian police hope to interview the crews when they return to port some time next week.

The sightings were relayed from the boats to a light aircraft in the area this morning.

The Empress Lady's skipper told the pilot that six crewmen saw a bright light approaching the boat.

The light hovered above their boat, causing their voices to become "slowed and distorted", before the light moved off.

The incident was witnessed by the crew of the second tuna boat.

Their descriptions of an egg shaped object matched those given by the Knowles family.

Mrs Fay Knowles, of the Perth, and her sons, Sean, 21, Patrick, 24 and Wayne, 18, claimed the car in which they were travelling across the Nullarbor was lifted off the Eyre Highway near Mundrabilla by the UFO.

They also claim their voices were altered during the experience.

Detectives have taken samples of black ash found on the car to Adelaide for analysis.

A Melbourne-based space engineer said today the UFO could have been a rare phenomenon known as "ball lightning".

MAIL, Farnborough, England - Jan. 12, 1988 CR: T. Good

# THREE CLAIM UFO SIGHTINGS IN NIGHT SKY

by LINDY WARBURTON



Andrew holding a drawing of the UFO he saw hovering above his home in Yaverland Drive, Bagshot.

A 16-year-old schoolboy plus a woman and her friend have joined the ranks of people who claim to have had a close encounter of the UFO-kind.

Andrew Findlay's sighting at Bagshot came just a day after eight policemen and a teenage girl reported seeing grey-green, pink-blobbed objects in the skies above Kensington, West London.

Andrew was in the garden of his home in Yaverland Drive on Wednesday at about 9.25 p.m. when he looked up and saw an object "like a flying saucer".

Nine days earlier, Mrs. Tricia Hodgson and a friend were travelling along the M3 at Lightwater towards London when they spotted unidentified flying objects in the night sky.

All three are convinced that what they saw were not aeroplanes.

Andrew, a pupil at Collingwood School, Camberley, said: "I was cleaning my rabbit's pen and looked up. There was a gap in the clouds and out of it came a flying saucer shaped thing. It was bright white with green lights in the middle of it."

"It hovered for about seven to eight seconds, making no sound whatsoever. Then after I had looked down and then up again it shot across the sky very quickly and disappeared through another gap in the clouds."

"I could see the glow from its underside as it tracked across the sky. I am convinced that what I saw was a spacecraft from another world."

### Lights

Andrew's brother Peter had only moments before gone back into the house, missing the sighting. Andrew rushed in to get his camera in the hope the object would return, but it did not.

He said: "It had a definite shape to it, a base and a top — like a flying saucer. In the middle it had a strip with green lights. There were other lights on it as well — I think some red ones."

"I couldn't see how big it was, but it looked bigger than an aeroplane."

He added: "I have always believed in UFOs, but I never thought I would actually see one. There is no doubt in my mind that that's what it was."

Mrs. Hodgson, of Old Pasture Road, Frimley, was a passenger in a car being driven by Mr. David Myers when she spotted three objects in the sky over the motorway. All appeared to be similar, but she paid particular attention to one which she described as "a big, bright light on the right of the sky, stationary."

The object had one green light and one silver light on its side and as Mrs. Hodgson watched, it moved off.

"On the back of it there was

a very large round area which was dark one minute then went pinky red, pulsating. It got brighter and brighter and then went dark again," she said.

Two of the objects were on the right hand side of the sky.

"After we had stopped to watch it, it started to move and we began to set off again. But as it went over the car I looked to my left and saw this very large, circular area of glowing pinky-red light. I asked David to stop and he stopped again."

"It was pulsating. It came from nothing, fading right out, then pinky red, then brighter — not really bright — then fading again. After about a second it began again."

### Convinced

She could see a glow at the back of the third UFO.

"It could not have been an aeroplane. The glow at the back was the strangest thing. It was nothing like the rear of a jet aircraft, I couldn't hear any noise, but it was noisy by the motorway anyway," said Mrs. Hodgson, a mother of three.

The sighting was made on December 29. Mrs. Hodgson went away immediately afterwards and only on her return thought to contact the "News" to see if anyone else had reported lights in the sky.

A nurse, but at the moment concentrating on bringing up her three children, Mrs. Hodgson said: "There may be quite a few people like me who saw it and did not say anything."

Mr. Myers, who was visiting this area from his home in Bude, Cornwall, said: "It was one of those things where you don't know whether to say anything or not. People can think you are a bit daft, but we are convinced we saw something."

He put the time of the sighting at 7.45 p.m. and said the objects — he only saw two of them — were stationary for about five minutes.

"Then they moved across the motorway and vanished altogether. They were very, very bright. Other people must have seen them; we can't be the only ones," he added.

Local UFO expert Mr. Rex Dutta said he had received a report of a third sighting in the area, this time in Blackwater the day before Mrs. Hodgson's sighting.

WALSALL OBSERVER, Staffordshire, England - Nov. 13, 1987

## UFO spotters report in

More people have reported seeing a UFO over Aldridge after the disclosure in the "Walsall Observer" about two ambulance drivers who claimed to have witnessed a mysterious light.

Mrs Heather Leonard, of High Street, Clayhanger, was driving home with her husband, Terry, and her three children when they saw the UFO.

"We saw this big, bright light, and watched it for ages. It seemed like it was moving only slightly,"

she said.

"Then it just shot away," she added.

The Leonards saw it at about 9.30pm — an hour before the two Aldridge ambulance drivers Brenda Coyne and Clive Pearson, saw the same large, hovering light.

And Mrs Pemberton, of Vigo Road, Walsall Wood, wrote to Brenda and Clive saying she had seen the UFO around Birmingham Road and Tynings Lane at about 7.20pm.

CR: T. Good

HERALD EXPRESS, Torquay, Devon, England - Oct. 12, 1987 CR: T. Good

## 'NO UFOs' SAYS NAVY

CLOSE encounters with objects from outer space in South Devon have been nothing more than night flying military aircraft — it was revealed today.

Two Royal Navy Air Stations have laid frightened people's fears at rest saying: "You saw our aircraft — don't worry."

There have been several reported sightings of bizarre objects flashing

around the skies of Teignmouth and district over the past few weeks.

Three Teignmouth women have spotted the unidentified flying objects around 20 times — they even claimed an object with green and red flashing lights trailed their car.

A spokeswoman for the Navy base at Culdrose said there has been a lot of exercises in the skies off South

Devon in recent weeks.

RNAS Portland said their 'copters had also been involved in night flights.

"There has been a high level of activity with many night flying exercises involving our helicopters," said the spokeswoman at Culdrose, Helston, in Cornwall.

"Every night we have flying exercises depending on the weather conditions.

"The green and red hovering lights will be our Sea King helicopters — they have conducted many exercises around Lyme Bay," she told the Herald Express.

She said some of the larger, faster sightings would have been VC10s, Hercules and Hawk jets from RAF bases in Devon also taking part in night time flying and re-fueling exercises.

## The Unidentified Flying Objections

JUST who DO you run to in horror when that strange object looms over your back yard — or family car?

"Not us, not us," an adamant Department of Aviation spokesman said yesterday.

What about the air traffic controllers at Melbourne airport?

Surely they monitor unidentified hovering peculiarities.

"Oh God, don't tell them to ring us. We already get the crackpots calling us from all over," a spokesman said.

Ah, the police then?

"We are definitely NOT the ones to investigate any reports of a UFO," a police spokesman said firmly.

But, she conceded, most people usually bolted to the nearest police station anyway.

"We tell them to ring the airforce. They usual-



ly know if there's any space junk or anything flying about."

So it's the RAAF who is responsible for defending both our shores and sanity — to investigate the wild assertions and the serious sightings?

The RAAF wasn't answering the phone yesterday.

## Police hit claims on dust tests

SOUTH Australian forensic police have slammed reports that they have tested the ash allegedly left by a UFO.

Police say the sample collected from the car of a Perth family who claim to have been harassed by a UFO on the Nullarbor Plain last week is probably road dust and will not be tested.

The officer in charge of SA's forensic police, Supt Schulz, is angry at recent reports that police tests had found it to be an identifiable substance.

"That's all bullsh\*t," he said. "I have the sample here in my office and I've looked at it and read the report on it. There were certainly no great mounds or layers or heaps of dust as was alleged."

Supt Schulz said, when a forensic investigator arrived in the SA town of Ceduna on January 20 to examine the car, dozens of townspeople had crawled over and contaminated the vehicle in a search for traces of black ash.

The investigator, who took a tape-lifting of specks, dust and grime, had noted there was no black substance visible on the vehicle.

"All I have is two little slides with a minuscule amount of grime or substance on it. It's probably only road grime anyway," Supt Schulz said.

## Local claims encounter with 'object from the sky'

A BRISBANE man has claimed to have seen a UFO similar to that allegedly seen by a West Australian family this week.

Mr Ron Warman read newspaper reports of the Knowles family's claims of an encounter with what was described as a UFO, while driving across the Nullarbor Plain.

Mr Warman, 56, said that last October he and four friends were returning from a Saturday night dance at Samsonvale, outside Brisbane.

About 1 am, they were driving along a road between Samsonvale and Petrie.

"This object came down from the sky," Mr Warman said. "It was white with a yellow centre and came straight

at the windscreen."

The "light" went over the top of the car and disappeared.

He said he did not report the encounter as he thought people would think he was mad.

RAAF and Brisbane airport air traffic control spokesmen said there were no reports of UFOs that Saturday night or early Sunday morning.

In Adelaide a second tuna boat crew yesterday reported sighting a UFO in the Great Australian Bight.

In Canberra, a spokesman for the Defence Department said the area of the alleged UFO sighting was out of the range of radar at the nearest RAAF base to the scene at Edinburg on the northern outskirts of Adelaide.

## Sighting by Chch couple

By SUZANNE KEEN

A Christchurch couple who believe they saw an unidentified flying object while on holiday in Australia say that they are not the type of people who "imagine little green men on Mars."

Mr Alan Parkes and his wife Tina, of Kaiapoi, had decided to take the scenic route from Mount Gambier to Melbourne last Saturday evening, but while they were driving along the coast road, the trip became a little more scenic than they had anticipated.

"My wife saw it first and drew my attention to it," said Mr Parkes. "There was a very bright, greenish-blue object, rectangular in shape, and it seemed to be hovering on the horizon, at least 10 miles away."

"It was not any too exciting. I did not see any little green men jumping inside or anything like that."

On returning to Christchurch on Tuesday, the Parkes had decided to keep the sighting quiet, only telling a few relatives and friends at work. However, after hearing reports on the radio of similar sightings in Australia during the last week, they decided there could be some connection.

"My first impression was that it was a ship, but I knew it couldn't have been that," said Mr Parkes.

"I immediately tried to justify what it was — the only other light in the sky was the very last glimmer of sunlight behind us, and it could not have been a reflection of anything else."

He said that there was other traffic on the road, as well as people fishing along the coast, and said he would feel much more comfortable if they had reported seeing the U.F.O. as well.

Mr and Mrs Parkes said that the object was not moving, but rather hovered in the same place for one to two minutes. The couple had done a lot of photography during their two weeks in Australia and were disappointed at missing the picture of a lifetime, because the road was too narrow and winding for them to park the car.

"It would have been very dangerous to stop, but now I wish I had done to get the photo. I thought it (U.F.O.) would still be there for a while — it did not actually disappear, it seemed to

fade away in a cloud."

Mr Parkes, a salesman at Whitcoulls, Ltd, won the trip to Australia for being the employee who sold the most printed ballpoint pens. His colleagues were more than slightly surprised by the story he had to tell on his return to work.

"The mouths hung open a bit when I told them about it."

The South Island director of the Mutual U.F.O. Network, Mr John Knapman, said there had been no report of U.F.O. sightings in New Zealand for several years.

He received about five reports from Australia in the mail yesterday, giving details of recent sightings in Queensland and said he was eager to talk to Mr Parkes.

## Truckie backs desert UFO claim

By DAVID FISHER

THE Knowles family was telling the truth about seeing a UFO last Wednesday, according to the first person to see the terrified family after their encounter.

Melbourne truck driver Graham Henley yesterday said the family was now upset that people could think they made up or imagined the encounter on the Nullarbor Plains.

Mr Henley said "shell-shocked" members of the Knowles family received medical treatment for a "nervous condition" at the weekend.

He said theories aimed at debunking Wednesday's encounter near the WA-SA border were "a lot of rot".

One theory was that the dust on the car roof came from over-heated brakes.

"I felt the sooty material on the roof of the car and it was not brake dust," Mr Henley said.

"I've been around the car racing scene and I know what brake dust is like."

"This stuff was a fine silicon-type material. It



● Mrs Knowles... near hysterics after incident.

was like powdered glass, it had an incredible feel to it.

"Brake dust only gets on the wheels, not on the roof... and the brakes weren't even hot."

"It was the coolest part of the day and the road is virtually straight for about 75 km, so they would hardly have used their brakes."

Mr Henley said he was convinced when the Knowles first told him what they had seen 20 minutes earlier. "I knew they had seen something when I saw the terror on

lightning in the area at all, and there are no street lights for miles."

The Knowles claimed dents in their car roof were caused by the UFO picking up their vehicle.

"There is no way that the car was rolled because the front end was not misaligned, nor was there the damage you would get from rolling a car," Mr Henley said.

"One dent in the roof was particularly pronounced but I hit the roof and couldn't make a dent."

Meanwhile, Mrs Pajauta Patupis, a motel licensee at Eucla, near the WA-SA border, yesterday said she saw what appeared to be a UFO on January 5.

She said she saw a craft with red and white flashing lights at about 9 pm on a clear night.

"My husband and I saw it coming from the west, it turned around and sort of stood still. It was very close to the ground," Mrs Patupis said.

"The strangest thing was that it had no engine noise."

"We reported it to air traffic control in Perth and they said there were no planes in the area."

## UFO 'over South Wales'

POLICE are taking seriously a report that a huge UFO paid a flying visit to South Wales yesterday.

The multi-coloured object was spotted above Pyle

yesterday morning before it beamed off into the sky.

The sighting was made by a man living in Pyle during an early morning walk along a lane near Meadow Street, North Cornelly, yesterday morning

The man, who does not wish to be identified, described the object as being the size of three maisonettes with three rows of different coloured lights.

It was hovering roughly over South Cornelly near the M4 before it shot off.

Police have interviewed the man and are satisfied he is not a hoaxter.

South Wales has been a particularly notable spot for UFO reports and sightings of lights and objects in the sky are reported with some regularity.

## UFO spotted over Brampton

A GROUP of seven people watched in fascination, some of them for almost an hour, as a giant UFO and her "chicks" hovered silently in the skies above Chesterfield.

Afterwards one of the watchers, retired college lecturer Geoffrey Thorneycroft, declared:

"There have been so many sightings throughout the world I firmly believe there is another technolo-

gy, equal to or superior to our own, which is responsible for these manifestations."

His hour of wonder began as he descended the stairs at his home in Old Road, Brampton.

"My wife pointed out a static illumination, glowing green, blue and

red - a bit like Blackpool Illuminations," he said.

"She called in neighbours David Wheatcroft, a senior building inspector with Chesterfield Council, his wife and sister-in-law and shortly afterwards I alerted another neighbour and his son. They all saw the big disc-shaped UFO and the three smaller ones."

Mr. Thorneycroft added: "Most interestingly, during the time we watched the UFOs an aircraft proceeded towards the north-west and someone in the plane must have seen

what we saw, it was such a clear night."

"Eventually, the angle of elevation of the big UFO changed a few degrees until it went behind the trees to the north of us, although we could still see its brilliance through the trees."

"I could kick myself for not getting the car out and driving to Pudding Pie Hill at Wigley and taking the binoculars with me. It's just that we were all stunned by what we saw."

Mr. Thorneycroft, a lecturer in motor engineering at colleges in Sheffield until he took early retirement at age

55 three years ago, said he telephoned the police to report what he saw.

He went on: "It's not the first time I have seen anything like this. Three or four years ago I was travelling between Heath and Sutton-cum-Duckmanton late one afternoon when I saw three spheres travelling at high velocity across my path and disappearing from north to south."

A police spokesman said: "We gave Mr. Thorneycroft the telephone number of a UFO investigator, as we do with all such reports."





## CRYPTOZOOLOGY

# Sea monster sought along B.C. coast

By PAUL MUSGROVE

UNIVERSITY OF B.C. oceanographer Paul LeBlond doesn't want people to think he believes in at least one of his research topics.

To LeBlond, the word 'belief' implies accepting something without actual evidence and "I don't do that."

In addition to being an oceanographer, LeBlond is a cryptozoologist, a scientist who studies unknown — or at least scientifically unverified — animals.

That includes everything from sasquatches and abominable snowmen to the Loch Ness monster, Ogo-pogo, tentacled creatures as depicted in LeBlond's favorite cartoon by Herman creator Jim Unger, and an old B.C. coastal favorite, Cadborosaurus.

"If you asked me whether I believed in large, unknown animals, I'd have to say 'no,'" LeBlond said.

But, that said, the idea of unknown animals clearly excites LeBlond.

And he agreed with theories that argue there could be more than half a dozen large, unknown species of marine animal wandering around the ocean out of the reach of mankind.

"If it stays away from the sea lanes and fishing areas or lives a couple of thousand feet down, it would be out of our normal catchment area and

could easily escape detection," LeBlond said.

LeBlond said unknowns like Cadborosaurus, or Caddy, an obliging marine beast that has been reported numerous times over the years — especially near Cadboro Bay — are far more likely than Ogo-pogo or Nessie, the Loch Ness monster.

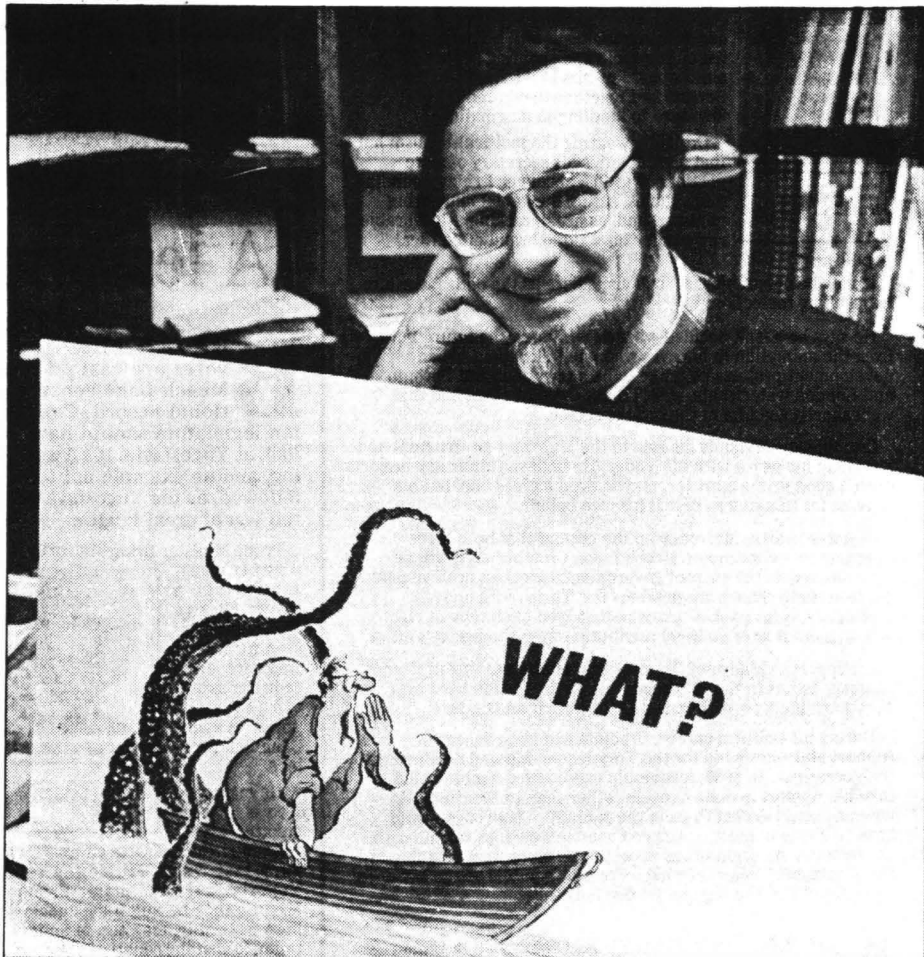
"The problems with lake monsters include the amount of food that would be required to support a biologically viable population and the absence of remains," he said.

"There are calculations that indicate there would be just enough food in Loch Ness to support a viable population but there have never been any remains (of dead Nessies) found."

The same argument, he said, applies to the sasquatch — nobody has found the remains of one.

Referring to a famous segment of film that apparently shows a female sasquatch running away from the cameraman, LeBlond said: "We screened that film here and it didn't look like a person in a monkey costume but I don't have a lot of experience with looking at people in monkey costumes."

Following an extensive survey in the 1970s, LeBlond and colleague John Sibert sifted through reports of large marine animals over 1,600 kilometres of coastline and more than 60 years to come up with three



MARK VAN MANEN

IS THERE ANYTHING OUT THERE? Unger cartoon tells of Paul LeBlond's quest

main types of B.C. coastal sea monster.

Here's what might be out there:

- A creature with a head like that of a camel or a horse mounted on the end of a long neck and sporting

large, laterally set eyes. It has short brown fur and no mane. LeBlond concluded that, if it exists, it is likely a mammal related to seals.

- A similar beast with much smaller eyes, sometimes bearing horns or a mane.

- A long, serpentine animal with a head like that of a sheep and a dorsal fin running along its back

If you see one, LeBlond would like to hear from you. Preferably with a good picture attached to the letter.

# UFO group brings display of mysterious crystal skull

By TODD BENSMAN  
Progress Staff Writer

Anatomically, it has all the lumps and bumps of a human skull, yet it's made from crystal.

Its curators insist there is no known explanation for its existence and that scientists consider it an enigma to their well-ordered world.

Others claim the thing contains miraculous healing properties and telepathic information on the origins of mankind.

But whatever it is — or does — the Crystal Skull is back in town.

Weighing in at 11 pounds, 7 ounces, the glistening chunk of crystal will be on exhibit from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. today through Sunday at the Scottsdale Camelview-Radisson Resort.

Scottsdale Mayor Herb Drinkwater was scheduled to kick off the exhibit today by extending an official welcome to the skull's owner and discoverer Anna Mitchell-Hodges, Toronto, Canada.

For a fee of \$8, visitors may view the crystal oddity and talk to its 84-year old discoverer.

"She puts it on a table and lets people come up to it to see if they feel anything," said Brian Myers, president of the Scottsdale-based International Center for UFO research, the show's sponsor. "A lot of people are into psychic speculation. Some of these people are really far out there. But Anna just lets people think what they



want to think about it."

Mitchell-Hodges could not be reached for comment.

The skull, which was on display last January at the Scottsdale Center for The Arts, was unearthed in 1923 at an archeological dig site in Lubaantun, British Honduras (now Belize), Myers said.

Mitchell-Hodges was at the site with her archeologist father, Michael Mitchell-Hodges, when she spotted a gleaming object beneath the fallen ruins of an ancient Mayan temple, Myers explained.

"The native workers thought it was a god and that it had healing properties," he said. "(Anna's father) had it until his death, at which time, the skull was passed along to Anna."

Myer said the crystal is believed to be an ancient Indian artifact

dating back to a civilization which existed prior to the days of the Mayan empire. He said that subsequent testing by Hewlett Packard Laboratories have revealed that the skull was made from one block of rare crystal.

"They don't know how it was made. It's one of the hardest substances known to man," he said. "You really can't carve on it."

Despite the fact that chrysal cannot be carbon dated, Myer said the relic is from 12,000 to 30,000 years old.

Dr. James Schoenewetter, professor of archeology at Arizona State University, said the skull is far from an enigma. He first saw a similar crystal skull exhibited at the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City. About six such artifacts have been found. But, he said, the skull probably dates back to pre-Aztec times, about 800 years ago, not the 12,000 years some suggest.

"I do have some personal doubt that such artistic skill existed among people 12,000 years ago. This is a block of rock crystal that has been grounded into shape, which is a particularly challenging piece of work because crystal is very brittle," Schoenewetter said. "It does need to be grounded and polished and sculpted very carefully."

In addition to the display, the exhibition will include a Meditation for Peace in the presence of the skull on Wednesday, Jan. 20.

PIONEER PRESS DISPATCH, St. Paul, MN

Oct. 26, 1987 CR: E. Helwig/COUD-I

# Ship captain disappears; searchers are still baffled

Associated Press

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The disappearance of a West German ship captain from his freighter in Lake Michigan last week still is unsolved, but a shipping agent who spent time with the skipper said Capt. Friedrich Helling didn't appear suicidal or prone to accident.

"Falling off a ship is not that easy," said Peter Hahn, a marine superintendent who met Helling when the freighter Sirius made its first stop in Cleveland after leaving Antwerp, Belgium, nearly two weeks ago.

"The ship is surrounded with the high rails that go a least to your belly button," Hahn said. "Someone would have to lift him over."

Hugh Goldie, vice president of World Shipping, the Sirius shipping agent in Cleveland, said Helling did not appear to be preoccupied or bothered by anything.

The ship was on its way from Chicago to Duluth when the captain was reported missing.

"There was nothing out of the ordinary that I could see," Goldie

said. "He didn't complain about the ship. He didn't complain about the crew. He was basically no different from any other skipper I meet."

U.S. Attorney John Smietanka in Grand Rapids said Saturday that nothing has been ruled out — accident, suicide or homicide — in the skipper's disappearance.

Helling, 48, a resident of Buxtehude, West Germany, was reported missing from the ship early Wednesday as it moved through northern Lake Michigan on its way to Duluth.

The Sirius and Coast Guard boats searched until dark Wednesday, retracing the ship's route back to Chicago, where it had unloaded a cargo of steel. The search was called off Wednesday night and did not resume.

The freighter continued on to Sault St. Marie, Mich., where FBI and Michigan state police officers from Marquette searched the ship and interviewed 10 of the 35 crew members Thursday evening and Friday morning, Smietanka said.

The FBI boarded the ship shortly after it entered the Duluth Harbor about 8:30 a.m. Saturday to interview the rest of the crew.

The FBI joined the investigation because in some cases it has jurisdiction over possible criminal violations on the Great Lakes.

The Sirius was scheduled to move to one of the Duluth port's Cargill elevators today, fill its holds and sail for Venice.

# Hair samples: Could they belong to Bigfoot?

The wisps of hair — longer and finer than that from many animals — might not have drawn much attention from most people. But to Paul Freeman, who claims to have seen a Bigfoot in the Blue Mountains while on watershed patrol, those hairs possibly indicated evidence of what he had seen in 1982 on an abandoned logging road high up Tiger Canyon out of Mill Creek.

For near the young pine sapling, snapped off as if by a hand more powerful than his own, were a long line of giant-sized footprints in the spring softness of the trail. The hairs were found on the saplings. Other hair was found high up on the bark of an old fir tree snag alongside the same trail.

This was last spring, early in the year when so much was seen of Bigfoot evidence. This showed up in '87 in the form of not only an abundance of footprints in several locations of the northern Blues, but also these hair findings, unexplained fecal droppings, the hefty green saplings snapped off in a line as if to mark a territory and the marks high above a tall man's head, indicating rubbing by a shoulder and scrapings not like any known animal's.

So, the hair was tangible evidence one could pack off and examine at leisure.

Suited to that action, Freeman and I took ourselves to the labs of Walla Walla Community College's cosmetology department, headed by Mildred Harvey. She was soon having the hair placed into the hair-examining equipment and a greatly enlarged view



**Vance Orchard**  
Blue Mountain Ramblings

of the hair shown on the "TV screen" of the equipment.

Human hair (from one of us) also was shown.

The two hair samples bore no resemblance as they were shown in color enlargement (and enhancement) on the 25-inch TV screen.

While the two hair types puzzled us, we understood not enough to hang much on, so prevailed upon Harvey to send the samples to the Redken Laboratories for testing by their hair experts.

What was learned at the lab has been received here recently.

Excerpts from the examiner's letter follow:

"The hair is different from any I've ever looked at in my 25 years of hair analyzing. Since I do not have a 'Big Foot' comparison — and as you advised, he isn't available for interview — all I can tell you is that it IS hair, but it is not completely human or animal. I've never seen hair of this nature!"

"Most of the hair fibers were fractured (as in photo No. 1). Also note the even, al-

most fluid-like appearance of the medullary canal in photo No. 2. The green retardation of color is also something I've never seen. All human or animal hair will retard yellow and magenta regardless of condition. All the hairs I looked at (20) were this shade of green.

"The only other possibility is that the hair was human and a chemical process was applied, then dyed with a very strong chemical before being made into a wig. But, again, I have looked at lots of wig hair through the years and this shade of green has never been seen by me and when hair is chemically processed for wig making, the medulla is completely destroyed or diffused in the process.

"This hair still has a very different medullary structure.

"The mystery still lives."

In the next day's mail (following receipt by Mildred Harvey of the Redken report) there was an allied item in the "Bigfoot Cop," a quarterly publication which disseminates news of the Bigfoot phenomena. In the issue was more on the matter of hairs which possibly have come from a Bigfoot.

When the finding of hair samples was reported in the October issue, an editor wondered "why there has been no analysis, etc."

This query was answered by a Malibu, Calif., reader, Erick Beckjord, in the current (December) issue, who wrote:

"You asked why all hair samples have not

## Bigfoot?

been compared to each other and what does the analysis show: The answer is: they have been compared by Project Bigfoot, back in 1978-79 and the results were reported in 'Frontiers of Science' magazine, April, 1981.

"Four samples from Washington, Oregon, California and Maryland were compared with 84 samples of North American land mammals and six major higher primates, including man. The results are:

"A. Four samples matched each other.

"B. Five others submitted by various researchers did not.

"C. Of the four, they did not match any of the 84 mammals.

"D. They did not match any of the primate samples, however, they were slightly similar to gorilla, but not gorilla.

"E. (They) were judged to be of a higher primate of unknown type.

"F. Tests were done by a staff member from the Wyoming Fish and Game Lab and by two anthropologists from the University of Maryland who do work for the FBI and other government agencies.

"G. One sample had blood with it and this was found to be of higher primate origin by Dr. Vincent Sarich, University of California at Berkeley, famous for his blood sample analysis work on primates."

A further note on this matter of hair, obviously a prime example of Bigfoot "evidence," although not exactly accepted as evidence of Bigfoot, came last week.

More samples of suspected Bigfoot hair has been produced, this time by Wes Sumerlin and his brother, Swede Sumerlin. The hair found by Wes comes from the mountains, while that of Swede was found while he was running a winter trapline on Mill Creek, a few miles into the foothills.

These too, have been placed in the WWCC cosmetology machinery as well as other examinations in an effort to determine their origin.

We shall see.

But it all is a provocative cap on an interesting year of Bigfoot excitement in the Blue Mountains, more or less getting to be the center of such activity.

## Rosemount neighbors seek origin of mysterious holes in pond, ground

By Jon Jeter  
Staff Writer

No one seems to know the origin of the huge hole that appeared smack dab in the middle of the pond behind Leonard (Pete) Peterson's Rosemount home early Tuesday.

One tongue-in-cheek explanation, provided by Peterson after he and neighbor Barry Draxten inspected the pond Tuesday, is that the hole was left there when an alien spaceship landed on the small pond.

And what about the five smaller holes several yards away from the large one?

They were left, Peterson said tongue-in-cheek, when the aliens planted their eggs in the frozen pond. Well, you explain what left a 12-foot-wide hole in the middle of the pond in rural Rosemount. No one else can — for now anyway.

Shortly after midnight Monday, Leonard Peterson said, he heard a "loud crack, like a tree being hit by lightning." He and Draxten discovered the hole Tuesday morning. The pond lies between the two homes.

The Draxtens and the Petersons actually think a meteor splashed into their pond, creating the large hole and then the several other nearby holes. They suspect that its heat melted the 2 feet of snow that covered the pond a day earlier.

But others aren't quite so sure.

"I don't think it was a meteorite," said Dr. Calvin Alexander, a University of Minnesota professor of geology and physics, although he didn't rule it out. The Draxtens and Petersons called him to look at their mysterious aperture Wednesday morning. Alexander said that if a meteor had hit the 4-foot-deep pond, divers, who explored the area for two hours

yesterday, probably would have found it.

Alexander said only four meteorites have been discovered in Minnesota in the last 100 years, even though scientists estimate that five to 10 meteors fall in the state per year.

A Federal Aviation Administration inspector also inspected the hole and said it was not caused by any aircraft or aircraft parts, Draxten said.

A local UFO investigator looked at the pond but couldn't say one way or the other — to everyone's relief.

CR: R. PanLener

## Don't doubt power of written word

If you doubt the power of the written word, read on.

Or, if you think not that the pen — in this case, word processor — is more powerful than the sword, consider the following.

We recently received a most delightful letter from a reader new to our valley, but to whom the reading of a local newspaper brings something special. In the case we're telling, it brought the family something to enrich their lives.

The letter from Julie Biornstad, 1025 Alvarado Terrace, follows:

"The summer of '86, while looking for a challenge for my then 9-year-old, I came across your article suggesting the 'Sasquatch Sighting' writing contest. Traci nibbled and wrote a rather 'cute' story and mailed it in to the Edmonds Art Council director, Ann Saling.

"Not only did her story get published in the first booklet, but they used her drawing for its cover.

"When the council published their final book, Traci's article again was used (although her drawing was not).

"Our family was proud of her and thought you should know how instrumental you were in creating a 'published' author.

"The books have been available since June, 1987, through Edmonds Art Council, 700 Main St., Edmonds,



**Vance Orchard**  
Blue Mountain Ramblings

Wash. 98020.

The book, "Sasquatch Sightings," likely is available through local book stores as well.

### Budget dials ET

WASHINGTON — Buried deep within the \$1.1 trillion budget President Reagan sent Thursday to Congress is a proposal to spend an unspecified amount to find out if there is extraterrestrial intelligence.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration would use sophisticated listening devices, based in California and trained on outer space, in their search for ET.

If they hear anything unusual, it could indicate the presence of life on the outer edges of the universe.

## Hole in ice caused by pond's lack of water

By Kevin Diaz  
Staff Writer

Police are pretty confident there's no mystery to the hole in the ice they found in a Rosemount pond this week.

The ice, it appears, caved in of its own accord because there wasn't enough water underneath to support it. The water level had dropped almost 3 feet lately, and the snow on top weighed it down until the ice broke, said Rosemount Police Chief James Staats.

The 100-foot-wide pond between the homes of Pete and Kathy Peterson and Barry and Karin Draxten became a gathering place Wednesday for

divers, geologists, UFO enthusiasts, police and journalists — all of whom came to speculate on the cause of the 12-foot-hole in the middle of the pond's eight-inch ice.

The Petersons and Draxtens found the hole Tuesday morning after hearing a crack in the middle of the night, which they likened to the sound of lightning hitting a tree. But the investigation turned up no evidence of an other-worldly explanation. Divers found only rocks and silt at the bottom of the pond.

There are hold-outs, however. William McNeff, state director for the Mutual UFO Network, said, "I'm pretty well convinced it was a meteor." Having been told that even a marble-sized meteor traveling at supersonic speeds could have caused the hole, he plans to look into it further.

And just for good measure, even the police might take another look. Said Staats: "I suppose in the spring they might go out and take another look."

STAR TRIBUNE, Minneapolis, MN  
Feb. 5, 1988 CR: R. PanLener

TRIBUNE, Tampa, FL  
Feb. 19, 1988



# SCIENCE

J. ANTONIO HUNEUEUS / SCIENCE FRONTIERS

## Despite Setbacks, Romance and Mystery of Loch Ness Monster Remains

Like UFOs, parapsychology, bigfoot, and other topics on the fringes of science, the famous Loch Ness monster has its ancient and modern eras. The latter can be traced to legendary folktales of the "kelpie," the evil water-horse of old Scottish and Gaelic stories. The chronicles tell of "Morag, Harbinger of Death/Giant Swimmer in deep-green Morag," as well as other kelpies in Garloch, Loch Awe, Lochfyne, and other Scottish lochs, or lakes. "An niseag," the Gaelic word for water horse, comes out as Nessy in English.

For color, however, there is no better story than that of Saint Columba, who brought Christianity to northern Scotland in the fifth century A.D. Chapter 27 of the saint's biography, written in 565 A.D. by St. Adamnan, is entitled, "Of the Driving Away of a Certain Monster by Virtue of Prayer of the Holy Man."

St. Columba was in the province of Picts, and he needed "to cross the River Ness." It so happened, however, that the inhabitants were terrified after "some water monster had snatched ... and bitten with a most savage bite" a local swimmer. The saint ordered another local to swim in the loch and, as he did so, the monster "rushed up with a great roar and open mouth."

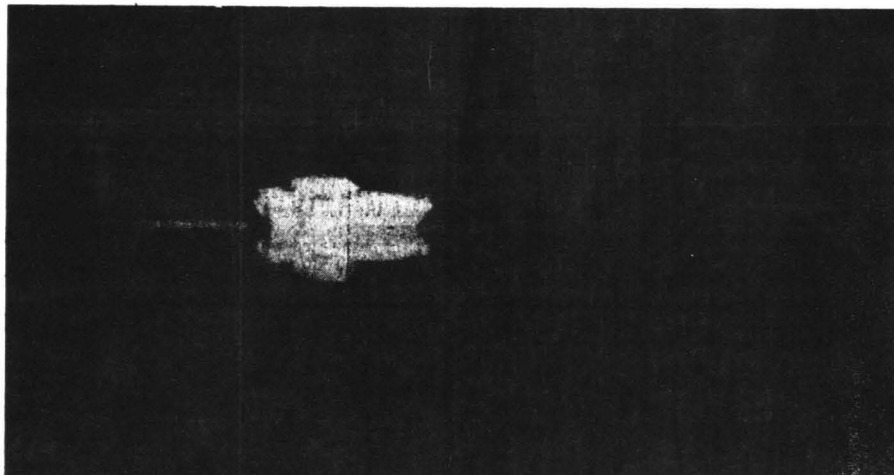
Columba then made the sign of the cross, invoked the name of God, and commanded the monster to go — "the beast on hearing this voice of the saint, was terrified and fled backwards more rapidly than he came ..." Such is the enchanting chronicle of St. Columba, who was credited by his biographer Adamnan of "raising folk from the dead, curing all manner of ills, sailing against the wind, and magically opening locked gates," according to Dennis Meredith's *Search at Loch Ness*.

Although some sporadic reports have been discovered scattered over the centuries, the modern birth of the Loch Ness monster occurred in 1933, ushered in by the first of a series of sensational reports in London's *Daily Mail*. Scorned first by scientists, a volume of somewhat convincing evidence was built slowly, as sightings by reputable people continued to pile up, followed by scores of photos, and later sonar returns. Nessie gained more credibility as the level and number of amateur scientific expeditions increased in the 1960s and '70s.

In the last decade or so, these expeditions have been sponsored by institutions like the Academy of Applied Science in Boston, the National Geographic Society, MIT, the Royal Ontario Museum, and *The New York Times*. High-tech sonar and camera equipment, dolphins, and other schemes have been used to stalk the monster. However, other than a few sonar returns and some photos, no hard evidence has been produced.

Yet theories about Nessie's origin have flourished. One of the favorites is that — together with other similar legendary beasts reported in cold water lakes and bays, anywhere from Lake Baikal in Siberia to Champ in Lake Champlain — Nessie is a kind of Plesiosaur which somehow survived prehistory. In particular, the 40-foot long elasmosaur with a long neck and four large flippers has become one of the candidates. Professor Roy Mackal of the University of Chicago, author of probably the most scientific of the Nessie books, inclines toward an amphibian, such as newts and salamanders. Needless to say, other scientists think Nessie is just a myth or a fable, and nothing more.

The Loch Ness saga reached a new height in October, when a mega-expedition of 24 boats engaged in a sonar sweep of the 23-mile-long lake. Operation Deepscan, as



STREAK PHOTOGRAPHED in Loch Ness by retired garbage man Alex Crosbie on July 29, 1987, two months before Operation Deepscan.

it was dubbed, was a \$1.6 million red herring. The limits between scientific research and plain old tourist hype were hard to separate.

As put by *The Washington Times*, "they (Operation Deepscan) have attracted the largest news media circus ever to invade Loch Ness — some 300 reporters from all over the world." Betting odds kept by The William Hill Book Making Agency also jumped from 250 to 1 before Deepscan to 100 to 1 during it.

Yet despite all the hype and expectations raised by the sonar armada's three-day sonar scan of the lake, all that project director Adrian Shine could produce were a few sonar contacts of "something very interesting," and apparently "large and moving" 230 feet down. He later explained that, "my Nessie has to be a sonar contact I can't explain."

In still another setback, the so-called 1975 "gargoyleshed" photo taken underwater by the Academy of Applied Sciences was debunked as well; a large, 300-pound stump was pulled out of Urquhart Bay at the Loch, and was found to match the famous photo, reported the Cryptozoology Museum Project (CMP) in Malibu, California, which has been following closely Nessie and other elusive and mysterious creatures for a number of years. But not everything is lost. CMP Director Jon Erik Beckjord, has produced eight new photographs of "something" in Loch taken two months before Operation Deepscan by Alex Crosbie, a retired garbage man from Edinburgh.

The photos' mystery image, however, is quite blurred and details are very hard to see. A series of enlargements were made by Beckjord in Los Angeles, which led him to interpret the object's head as "reddish brown, with two large eyes, and two pointed ears, giving the overall impression of a feline-looking creature. No fins, flippers, tail or arms have yet been seen in the shots."

Beckjord maintains the Crosbie photos are very similar to others taken by him during a CMP expedition in 1983,

as well as to the 1967 35mm motion picture film shot by Richard Raynor of the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau — and earlier still, to the 1936 Irvine film.

Beckjord had the photos analyzed by various zoologists from the Los Angeles Zoo and the Natural History Museum, who discounted waterbirds or ducks like loons and cormorants, snakes, or marine mammals like a whale, porpoise, otter, seal, manatee, or deer. Yet although the Crosbie photos remain unidentified, one also has to bear in mind that its extremely difficult to see any clear image in them, other than a long streak.

As with other anomalous or so-called Fortean phenomena, both material and nonmaterial theories have been offered to explain Nessie's origin. The prehistoric plesiosaur seems to be the favorite material speculation, akin to the "nuts and bolts" proponents of flying saucers. On the other side of the spectrum, we find the "energy" advocates. Beckjord is one of them. He speculates that, "the Loch Ness monster is an energy form, a form of intelligent energy."

Beckjord elaborates that things like lightning bolts, tornados or magnetism are all energy forms. "Tornados can sometimes be seen on radar," he says, "sonar is aquatic radar. If Nessies register on sonar in the Loch, it may be in the same way as tornados do on radar." Furthermore, he adds, this would explain why no dead remains of the monster have never been reported in 1400 years at Loch Ness.

The Loch Ness monster will likely continue to flourish in the future. It provides an important source of tourism in northern Scotland, and an endless stream of motivation from the press, amateur and professional scientists. In the end, it brings cash to the region and mystery stories to entertain many thousands of people around the world.

J. Antonio Huneueus is a freelance science writer who has written frequently for publications in North and South America.

OBSERVER, Charlotte, NC - Nov. 26, 1987 CR: G. Fawcett

## Is The Abominable Snowman Debunked? Not Yeti, He Isn't

By MALCOLM W. BROWNE  
New York Times

Most of the unicorns, sea serpents and other fabulous creatures that once tinged the everyday world with romantic mystery have succumbed to the withering touch of rational inquiry.

But an English physicist is offering skeptics what he considers fresh evidence that the Himalayan yeti — the abominable snowman — may, in fact, exist.

Anthony Wooldridge encountered what he believed to be a yeti in the Himalayas last year.

His main evidence consists of two sets of photographs taken on March 6, 1986, on an 11,000-foot-high Himalayan trail near India's border with Tibet.

One shows fresh tracks in snow made by enormous feet with widely splayed big toes. The other, taken from 150 yards away through a wide-angle lens, shows craggy mountains and a snowfield in which an ambiguous, vaguely human figure is silhouetted.

Although the photograph is sharp and well-exposed, the figure in question is so distant that an enlargement reveals little detail.

"I had never thought much about yetis until that day," Wooldridge told a reporter.

At the time, Wooldridge, an amateur runner, was making a marathon run for charity between the hamlets of Gangaria and Hemkund in northern India.

His photographs, published in *The Journal of the International Society of Cryptozoology*, which studies such "hidden" creatures as the Loch Ness monster, have prompted skeptical comment even from yeti believers.

Dr. Grover Krantz, an anthropologist at Washington State University, said, "Those pictures are definitely not of a yeti." By his own account, Krantz said, Wooldridge never positively saw the thing move.

Besides, he added: "There are other details that look wrong, too. The head, for instance, doesn't appear to join the spine at an angle one would find in a primate, if that's what it is."

Krantz said he was sorry to cast doubt on the pictures because he is "absolutely convinced" that the sasquatch — the North American equivalent of the yeti — exists.

Will the yeti and sasquatch legends ever be put to rest one way or the other?

"The only way to prove their existence is to shoot one of the creatures," Krantz said.

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England - Dec. 20, 1987

## IT'S A MAD, MAD WORLD

## Shying away from the Yeti

MOSCOW: The Abominable Snowman has been captured—at least on film. A short sequence, showing the Yeti looking into a TV camera and moving away up a slope has been shown on Russian television.

Zoologist Mrs M. Bykova said: "It was about 7ft tall, thickly covered with fur. It looked like a large human being. The eyes were slightly longer and set deeper in the skull. They were bright red."

"The head was round and there was hardly a neck," she added. "The chest was huge and barrel-shaped. He was very well built, like a superb athlete."

"The legs started very high up. At first one could think it was a bear standing on its hind legs, but

resembling a human. The arms were slightly longer than they should have been, and he was leaning forward."

She warned that going on expeditions in search of the Yeti was often stupid and sometimes dangerous, because to meet him by chance was practically one in a thousand and might provoke the creature to attack, which would end tragically.

Mrs Bykova said she thought the world was not yet ready to meet the Yeti. "What would we do with him? Probably kill him in some way or another and open him up to see how he was made."

Meanwhile, a leading Soviet newspaper says the name "snowman" is incorrect because there have been sightings in warmer regions like the Ukraine.

CR: D. Speed

# 'Yeti' tried to befriend expedition, Soviet says

MOSCOW (UPI) — The leader of a Soviet scientific expedition in search of the abominable snowman said Wednesday that one of the creatures tried to make friends with researchers in the Pamir mountains.

Igor Tatsl, a veteran "Yeti" hunter and scientist, told the official Tass news agency his expedition recorded "several" nocturnal sightings of the abominable snowman during a December visit to the

Pamir mountains, near the border with Afghanistan.

He said the creature paid frequent visits to the researchers' camp in an apparent effort to become friends. Tatsl said the snowman, which he has seen in the twilight from a distance of 90 feet, appears shy.

"But the increasing frequent visits by the Yeti to the vicinity of the camp are evidence that it is showing an interest in us and attempting, even if timidly, to make con-

tact," Tatsl said.

He said he believes a daylight encounter with the creature is "not far off."

Tatsl has led an expedition to the same spot in the Pamir mountains near the border with Afghanistan for the last several years in hopes of drawing out the snowman.

Because of growing interest in the creature, the Culture Ministry recently set up a Society of Cryptozoologists to study the possibility of its existence.

A recently discovered report said Marshal Pavel Rybalko, a famed Soviet tank leader, carried a snowman-like creature in a railroad freight car for several days in 1939 during fighting against the Japanese in the Soviet Far East.

The Soviets also say there is evidence that Maj. Gen. Alexander Topilsky found a dead "snowman" following a shoot-out with White Russian troops during the Russian civil war in the 1920s.

## Ice 'bomb' from plane wrecks a caravan

A massive block of ice plunged thousands of feet from an airliner and smashed through the roof of a caravan as a baby slept just a few feet away.

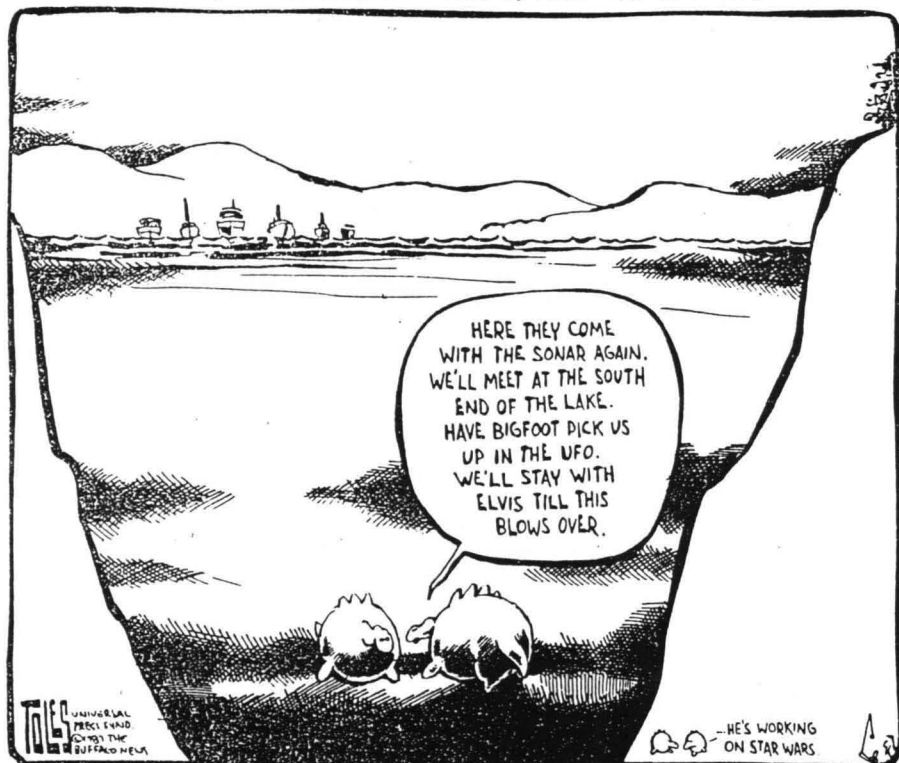
Little John Brown was in his pram in the living room of his home in Carlisle.

The 2ft ice "bomb" just missed the house as it wrecked the caravan.

"We heard a terrific bang, but it wasn't until some time later that we realised what had happened. The ice had fallen off the aeroplane and crashed straight through the roof of my caravan parked just outside," said the baby's grandfather Mr Derek Winter.

A Civil Aviation Authority spokesman said "This sort of thing is usually caused by a leak in an aircraft's drainage." "At this stage we haven't been able to identify the plane."

THE DAY, New London, CT - Feb. 3, 1988 CR: G. Earley



## The hunt for 'monsters' continues

By George W. Earley

Loch Ness monster buffs were dealt twin blows this fall. "Operation Deepscan," an attempt by a fleet of sonar-equipped motorboats to map the waters of Loch Ness turned up a few anomalous 'blips' on the sonar, but failed to locate the fabled monster.

They did, however, locate a rotting tree stump which Deepscan organizer Adrian Shine told the Associated Press was "identical" to the photograph of Nessie's head taken by the 1975 Academy of Applied Sciences (AAS) expedition.

Now, ignoring the fact that Shine's assertions about that stump are questionable — more on that later — did Deepscan prove the non-existence of Nessie? In a word — no.

As Shine himself admitted, rough water — the Loch, nearly 25 miles long by about 1 mile wide, is seldom mirror smooth — made it impossible for the fleet of 24 little boats to maintain an unbroken electronic 'net' as they moved over the Loch.

Over the years, the Ness beasts — there needs to be a breeding herd, not just one Methuselah of a monster — have demonstrated their timidity and dislike of untoward sounds. What could be worse than a fleet of noisy motorboats chuffing about one's lake? Given the surface turbulence and resulting holes in Shine's sonar net, those 'anomalous' sonar readings could have been a few Nessies slipping through his techno-trap.

As for that rotting stump, questions do arise. Shine says the stump found in October 1987 in 22 feet of water is 'identical' with the object the AAS filmed in 1975. If he really means that, he's saying that the stump stopped rotting once its picture was taken over 12 years ago. Seems unlikely.

It also seems unlikely that no one in the intervening 12 years found

that stump. Searches have gone on every year and the area where the AAS photo was taken has been a popular spot for monster sightings. It seems a bit too coincidental that it wasn't found until Shine-the-Skeptic and his well-publicized search party appeared this year.

But the larger question is — could there still be animals of great size here and there in the world? Animals not officially listed in the biology books, resident in zoos or stuffed in museums? In a word — YES.

On November 15, 1976, the U.S. Navy caught a shark totally unknown to the scientific community. Measuring 14.5-feet long and weighing over 1600 pounds, it was, if not a monster, a sizeable critter to be an unknown. It was eight years before another one was caught off the California coast. None have been taken since but as

Dr. Leighton Taylor of the Waikiki Aquarium put it, the capture "reaffirms science's suspicion that there are still all kinds of things — very large things — living in our oceans that we still don't know about."

David Stead agrees with Dr. Taylor. Stead has seen shark teeth — fresh ones, mind you, not fossils — brought up from the sea floor off Australia that were five inches long. "A shark possessing such teeth would be from 80 to 90 feet long," Stead wrote in his book "Sharks and Rays of Australia Seas."

But what of lake 'monsters'? For years fishermen frequenting Seattle's Lake Washington were laughed at for claiming a "duck-eating monster" lived in the lake. The laughing stopped on Nov. 5, 1987, when the 1,000-pound body of an 11-foot long sturgeon was pulled from the lake.

Could sturgeon, known to grow even larger than the Lake Washington specimen, account for lake monster reports? In some cases, yes. But not in cases, such as at

Loch Ness, Lake Champlain in New England or Canada's Lake Okanagan, where witnesses describe a creature whose head was seen well above the water at the end of a long and flexible neck.

White men first became aware of Lake Champlain's monster following the 1609 sighting by French explorer Samuel de Champlain, sighting reports persist to this day. The Ness and Okanagan creatures, as well as others elsewhere in the world, have also been reported for hundreds of years.

In 1812, Baron Cuvier, the French scientist called the "Father of Paleontology," told his colleagues that all the world's large animals had been found: "There is little hope of discovering a new species of large quadrupeds."

But in the years since then, science has added to its roster a wide variety of zebras, deer, gazelles, a wild horse, the mountain gorilla, pygmy hippopotamus, and the giant panda.

Reports of Yeti in the Himalayas, Bigfoot in our own Pacific Northwest, 30-foot lizards in the Australian outback and relic dinosaurs in Africa, are, if not common, sufficiently frequent to warrant serious study and field expeditions.

So the next time someone tells you a monster story, don't scoff. You may, like Baron Cuvier, live to see the unknown become the known.

Freelance writer George W. Earley of Bloomfield, is a member of the International Society of Cryptozoology, an organization dedicated to discovering the truth behind "monster" reports.

## Martian moons

This July, the Soviets will drop a soft probe onto the surface of the tiny Martian moon, Phobos. Since it is only 5 to 10 miles in diameter, one wonders why anyone would want to go there, even when both superpowers plan major manned missions to Mars in the '90s. Scientific curiosity in Mars was fanned with the discovery of "canals" on its surface by an Italian astronomer in the 1880s. Although the word translates into English as "channels," newspapers initially said that "canals" were discovered on Mars. Although there are tiny greenbelts each "spring," within other color patterns, scientists now assume they are lichen, at most.

Lest we forget, however, the tiny moons, Deimos and Phobos also were part of the Victorian hysteria but never quite explained. First, they rotate in almost completely circular orbits, very close to the surface of Mars, which means they are not captured asteroids. Normally, Martian gravity should have caused each to crash to the surface years ago. Second, they are always two to three times brighter than comparable celestial objects (other moons, or planets without atmospheres). Our moon's albedo (reflected sunlight) is about 13 percent. No other planetary moon reflects much more than this. Third, neither moon rotates in the plane of the ecliptic, like all other natural planets and moons in the solar system. If I am not mistaken, the Martian moons rotate in a counter-direction.

Long before they were discovered by telescope, the presence of two moons for Mars was referred to by Jonathan Swift, in "Gulliver's Travels." Because Swift was himself a physical and intellectual 'giant' among men, because his tales sounded like what a space explorer might write (ex.: "The Land of the Lotus Eaters"), and because he took on king and court alike in his satires, but deftly eluded their reproaches at a time when it could have cost him his head, many thought Swift might have been "Our Favorite Martian."

Currently, with little data beyond mathematically working out the orbits, our scientists have generally discredited any possibilities of self-propulsion for these moons. Not explained is why they orbit outside the plane of the ecliptic, circularly, nor why they shine so bright (ice?).

Probably, nothing phenomenally exciting will happen in 1988. But when the mystery is unraveled, there will still be some unpredictable reason for the uniqueness of the Martian moons.

JACK LAWRENCE  
Law student  
Houston

ENTERPRISE, Beaumont, TX - Jan. 15, 1988 CR: S. Parker/COUD-I