

UFO

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NASA helps in reviewing research on sky activity

An official with NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center reviewed the photos of the night-time sky activities in Little River County indicating an aircraft was involved in some of the photos and contradicted previous astronomers' opinions saying the glowing light was the planet Jupiter.

Dr. Paul D. Lowman Jr. of the Geophysics Branch Laboratory for Terrestrial Physics at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., reviewed the photos. He asked to keep the photos for their records and if any additional photos are taken of the activity to send the photos to the flight center for additional review.

Dr. Lowman's comments pertained only to the pictures and not the newspaper reports.

"Your documentation on the photographs was very detailed and exact, permitting what I think are reasonably firm interpretations," Dr. Lowman said.

The photo of the bright light with a house in the background was interpreted as—the "bright object and accompanying fainter objects share the same displacement, demonstrating their extraterrestrial nature. At the time they were taken, Jupiter was in the position shown; the other objects are stars. They may also have been some camera motion."

The aircraft photo of a "Z" motion was interpreted as—The bright object was almost certainly an aircraft with flashing anti-collision strobe lights (the two repeated dots). The jog in the track was probably produced by sudden camera or tripod movement toward the end of the exposure. Fainter objects (stars) do not show this because of their faintness, whereas the brighter aircraft does."

The Little River News contacted the National Press Photographers Association Executive Director Charles Cooper in Durham, N.C., and asked the question if the camera was bumped would all of the objects moved in basically the same direc-

tion and not just a single object. The question was asked because the negatives and a lighter print show the two power lines in the background. The power lines were not disturbed. Cooper said, "Generally everything would be blurred in the whole picture." He said the small pinpoint type objects might have a minimum of movement. Cooper doubted if a definitive answer could be found whether or not if the camera was bumped.

The next photo reviewed was the bright object in a hovering position. The interpretation includes: The "bright object and fainter objects show common displacement, resulting from the earth's rotation during the exposure. Given the date and time you report, the bright object must be Jupiter."

"The faint dash-like objects are stars, showing rotation-caused displacements. The brighter trails resemble the tracks produced by aircraft navigation lights, slightly disturbed by camera or tripod vibration. The stopping of the trails marks the end of the exposure."

"In summary, I think you have photographed several celestial objects and aircraft. Whether these have any relation to the things reported by various observers is impossible for me to determine, but your detailed and precise description of the photograph makes it possible to say rather definitely that there is nothing out of the ordinary in them," Dr. Lowman said.

Dr. Lowman encouraged future observations and asked observers to "pay particular attention to: precise time of appearance; direction of travel, referred to compass direction and if possible, known celestial objects; duration of visibility; brightness, compared to planets or bright stars; fluctuations in brightness; and color."

Dr. Lowman in a telephone conversation praised the local documentation saying it "was some of the most professional observations" the agency had received.

The NASA report contradicts

reviews by the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Planetarium, and Arkansas High School science teacher Bill Dempsey and Arkla-Tex Skywatcher Ken White. Dempsey was involved in the observations because he was a finalist in the NASA Teacher in Space program.

Dempsey said the interpretation of Jupiter by NASA was a mistake."

White wrote in the Arkla-Tex Skywatchers publication saying, "I know what it wasn't. It was not: the moon, Venus, Mercury, Jupiter, any state that I know of, any of the other

planets, meteors, zodiacal lights—the list could go on."

The progression of review includes: Dempsey and White suggested the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Planetarium. After a review by astronomers and physicists at the university, the staff recommended NORAD because they believed it was not celestial objects.

NORAD reviewed the same photos and said they cannot explain the "unexplainable" and agreed Goddard Space Flight Center "would be the next best stop within the system."

Countians Also UFO Watchers

Foreman, Ark. residents weren't the only ones to see an unusual object in the sky Thursday night.

Sharon Hill and her boyfriend were sitting in a house about five miles south of Idabel when they noticed something odd outside a window: a flask-shaped object — "like the bottle in I Dream of Jeannie" — hovering over a field with lights flashing, first red, then blue.

For about 20 minutes beginning at 10:30 they watched the object stay in one spot, but swaying back and forth. It took off across the highway (US 259), Ms. Hill said, with the lights flashing more quickly as the object accelerated.

She said some planes flew by shortly after that, but she doesn't know if their appearance and the disappearance of the object were related.

Ms. Hill called the sheriff's department to report the object, but felt a little uncomfortable telling people about it. Despite her boyfriend seeing it, a neighbor she alerted couldn't.

"I don't know if I'd believe me if I didn't actually see it myself," she said. "We were both wondering why we were seeing it."

The sheriff's department said Ms. Hill's was the only UFO report it received Thursday night. The Little River County Sheriff's Department in southwest Arkansas said it received many reports during the night.

Several residents in the Tom area also reportedly have seen UFOs.

More UFOs

There were several reported sightings of bright lights in the Jake's Flat area west of Staunton on U.S. 250 and a hovering orange and blue ball in the sky near Staunton Saturday night.

An Augusta County Sheriff's Department deputy who responded to the report of a vehicle being followed by a UFO on U.S. 250 reported that he saw nothing unusual in the area.

In recent days The Daily News Leader has received a number of calls from area people concerning UFO sightings.

SUNDAY NEWS LEADER, Staunton, VA — March 27, 1988
CR: B. Pittman

WHIDBEY NEWS-TIMES, Oak Harbor, WA — March 2, 1988

UFO organization calls sighting 'credible'

By Steve Berentson
Staff reporter

Investigators from the Mutual UFO Network issued a statement last week classifying a North Whidbey man's recent UFO sighting as "credible and sound."

The network, or MUFON, is described by state director Dr. Donald Johnson as "a civilian organization of trained professionals that investigates UFO reports."

After interviewing Whidbey Island resident Dan MacIndoe about his family's Jan. 21 sighting of a UFO near Dugalla Bay, Johnson said MUFON "has ruled out all possible conventional explanations for the object seen by Mr. MacIndoe, his wife, mother, mother-in-law and 3-year-old daughter."

MUFON rated MacIndoe, a 32-year-old ex-Navy man, as an "exceptionally credible witness."

"After a thorough investigation of all

pertinent facts," wrote Johnson in a Feb. 25 statement, "the UFO sighting by Dan MacIndoe... has been given the classification of a true 'unknown'."

The MacIndoes' encounter began at 10:45 p.m. Jan. 21 at their home on North Whidbey. According to MUFON's summary, "The UFO was first observed by Cornelia MacIndoe, 72, Dan MacIndoe's mother, who sighted a bright, orange-yellow stationary light in the southern sky."

The rest of those in the MacIndoe house gathered outside "...and together they watched as the UFO shot straight up for approximately three degrees of arc from a position 25 degrees above the horizon in the direction of the (Whidbey Island) Naval Air Station."

MacIndoe's report was that the object then stopped abruptly, making a sharp right-angle turn and coming straight toward them.

According to MacIndoe's account,

the object covered a distance of 1.5 miles in about three seconds. As the UFO approached, it seemed to slow, taking approximately 15 seconds to drift directly over the heads of the six witnesses.

"It disappeared from view," the MUFON report stated, "as it traveled in a straight path to the north-northeast, passing behind some tall fir trees behind the MacIndoe house."

Johnson, state director of MUFON, said, "A combination of factors were sufficient to rule out all mundane explanations for the sighting."

He stated: "The fact that this overflight occurred in restricted military airspace, together with the testimony of multiple witnesses, the complete lack of sound, the observation of the unusual lighting pattern on the object seen through magnification (a 135 mm camera lens), and the lack of wind combine to provide sufficient information to

classify this case as an unknown.

"In other words," he concluded, "there is little possibility that the object the MacIndoes and others reported seeing that night was a satellite, balloon, commercial or military airplane or helicopter or astronomical body."

Johnson reports the "field investigation" of the Whidbey sighting is complete.

"The sighting was assigned a strangeness rating of four on a five-point scale — labeled as 'strange, does not conform to known principles.' It also received a probability rating of four on a five-point scale: credible and sound."

Johnson, who holds a doctorate in research psychology from the University of Washington, has 20 years of experience investigating UFOs. He urges people who see UFOs to call the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, (206) 722-3000.

UFOs: Are They Really Up There...Or Down Here?

by Wendell C. Stevens, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)

At UFO lectures, discussion groups and slide shows, there are several questions that are always asked: What are the beings like; where do they come from; and what are they doing here? Seems simple enough if one has not done much investigating of the phenomenon on his own, but the facts of the matter are quite different, and the situation is far more complex.

The UFOs

To begin with, there is much less in common among UFO cases in general than one might think. It is true that many of the

nearly all shades of the rainbow, in lighter and darker intensities, have been mentioned. Some have hair and some have none. Skin textures are different and sometimes body proportions are different. Some are very agile and some are torpid. They wear different styles of garments and head and foot gear or none at all. They use different instruments and different means of mobility. Some are friendly and some are not.

The craft are always substantially different in detail, though they may conveniently fall into one of the categories mentioned above. They all seem to

tions so frequently asked. The visitors are almost universally different. I don't think we can characterize them in any general terms that would be adequate. We would have to be more specific, and then we would be talking about a specific case. The same might be said about their source. Only a very few have communicated sources understandable to us, but where they have, it has usually been those alien beings who have studied us long enough to have picked up our language and be able to communicate with us in it. The sources mentioned are usually quite different, indicating a widespread distribution throughout our galaxy and even others. This certainly defies our concepts of science. The fact that they can get here at all defies explanation in the sciences we understand. To correctly understand what "they" are doing here may be as difficult for us to comprehend as where they came from and how they got here. We simply lack that level of understanding. If we are to believe their own answers to what they are doing here, many have told their witness that they are simply here observing and reporting. Others say they are carrying out research projects here, and others are collecting specimens. However, what they are observing, the research projects being carried out, and the specimens collected, are all vastly different, and seemingly unrelated to any other contact we know of.

Thus we seem to be faced with an infinity of different extraterrestrial contacts, by different extraterrestrial beings from widely different locations in space, on quite different business. Their business interests seem to be infinitely varied. We may truly be the laggards in evolution. Perhaps more time will tell.

We seem to be faced with an infinity of different contacts, by different beings, from widely different locations, on quite different business.

craft are saucer-shaped, with another saucer shape inverted on top and a raised dome on top of that. But there are nearly as many others that are oblate spheroid, spherical, cigar-shaped, and cylindrical, and there are other shapes less frequently reported such as triangular-shaped, rectangular, pyramidal and cubical. There are bell shapes and dumbbell shapes as well, all of which appear to be intelligently controlled and perhaps even manned by occupants.

There are metallic-looking craft that shine and reflect the sun's rays just like an airplane.

And then there are non-metallic craft whose finish has the appearance of ceramics, or plastics, and even these characteristics combined with metallics.

They have been photographed as bright metallic objects, highly reflective like brushed gold or brushed stainless steel, dull metallic objects of low reflectivity, and also as non-reflective or even light-absorbing objects, where the shape photographed is completely black and looking like a hole in space.

There are fast moving UFOs, so fast that they make zig-zag light streaks on film shot at 1/60th of a second shutter speed. They often make very erratic sharp-angled flight patterns with complete reversals, spirals, loops and combinations of all these maneuvers. They can also stop instantly and hover or take up any new speed with no transitional acceleration. Others cannot do all these things and behave in what appears to be a more conventional manner to us. All of them seem to be able to hover motionless in the air whether the air is still or with considerable wind blowing, and seem to be able to land and take off vertically.

The Beings

The occupants observed, where they have been reported, have been described as ranging in size from 8 inches tall to 9 feet. And skin colors in

behave a little different from the others observed, and the actions of the craft and its occupants are usually different from others reported. Some use symbols as in some form of visual marking or identification, or communication, and some use none at all. Some have been heard to communicate audibly, and many more not. Some communicate with the witness by some form of telepathy, while others articulate the observer's language either physically or by means of some communicating device. Some have charts, books and signs aboard their ships and others have no such thing.

Some of the craft observed make sounds. Some buzz, in all frequencies; some whine in various frequencies and sometimes they change frequencies constantly and also in varying and undulating intensities; some "beep" or "honk" in various tones, and some whistle in one tone or another; some pop and sputter, like a motor boat.

Which brings us back to the original very common ques-

The considerable variety in ET contacts with this planet may be seen in a series of volumes titled *UFO Photographs Around the World*, where hundreds of UFO photographs from many countries of our world are presented in each volume. Volumes 1 and 2 are available now from Christine Cox, P.O. Box 1023, Florence, AZ 85232 at \$16.95 each plus \$1.25 postage and handling.

DELAWARE VALLEY NEWS-EAGLE, Hawley, PA - Dec. 24, 1987

What Kind of Aircraft Was That, Tuesday Night?

Was it a UFO? Did you see that low-flying object with the four headlight-type white lights and the red lights in the center — the one that passed over Paupack from west to east about 10:55 p.m. Tuesday? And did you notice that while the craft seemed to be low, the sound — like that of a jet — seemed to be far away?

Well, Scott Van Gorder noticed it from the vantage point at Circle Green on 507. He's wondering if others saw it and wondered, too. The craft wasn't moving that fast — it took about 90 seconds for it to pass over.

CR: L. Whitehurst

'Intruders' author says aliens are here

INTRUDERS: The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods
Budd Hopkins
Ballantine Books, \$4.95

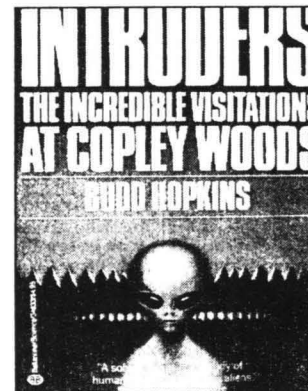
Budd Hopkins is an award-winning painter and sculptor whose works are represented in the permanent collections of such museums as the Whitney, the Guggenheim and the Hirshhorn, to name a few, and are widely shown in the United States and Europe.

He is also a skeptical (initially, at least) and meticulous investigator of UFO reports and the author of two books on the subject, including his latest, *INTRUDERS: The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods* (Ballantine Books; \$4.95). The book, was recently optioned for a movie by Twentieth Century Fox. It focuses on what Hopkins says is "the most complex — and admittedly inconceivable — UFO case history to date:" the story of an Indiana woman he calls "Kathie Davis" who painfully recalls, and can describe in detail, a series of abductions by aliens that began in her adolescent years and that are apparently part of a genetic experiment using human subjects.

He also interviewed friends, relatives and neighbors to verify the details of the Davis story.

But it is the corroborating testimony Hopkins has gathered from hundreds of other people all over the world who recall similar, if less extensive, experiences that makes the Davis account so convincing — and unsettling.

Hopkins first began collecting



UFO stories on an informal basis in 1964 after he observed, in broad daylight, a "small, circular, metallic craft" flying over Cape Cod.

After mentioning the incident a few times, he began to realize there is "a kind of underground group of people," he says, who have seen UFOs, but mostly keep quiet about it for fear of being considered insane.

After interviewing a number of other witnesses of the same event and locating ground evidence of a landing, he went public by writing an article for *The Village Voice*.

By 1981, he had documented seven case histories of people who said they had been abducted by aliens and subjected to physical examinations and medical operations, which he described in his first book, *Missing Time*.

SUNDAY EAGLE TRIBUNE, Lawrence, MA - Jan. 3, 1988 CR: L. Whitehurst

Resident witnessed unidentified object

Flying saucers aren't an everyday occurrence at the Karkutt farm on western Romulus. So then they do happen, Kathy Karkutt remembers.

The first time was in 1964. "We were driving along I-94 near Hannan Road when a beam of light shot in front of the car. That's when we saw it," said Karkutt, a housewife and mother of one. She lives on her husband's family farm. Ed, her husband of 18 years, is a farmer. She was in the presence of a friend when she witnessed her first real "flying saucer."

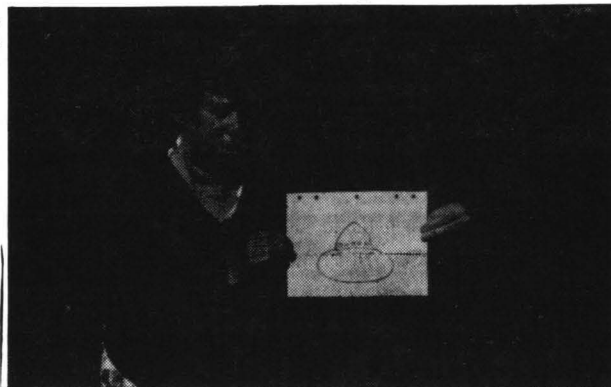
"It was shaped like a large cowboy hat with flashing colored lights. We watched it go straight up like a helicopter and zip over here and then over there like a jet engine," she said.

Karkutt talks matter-of-factly about her experiences with unidentified flying objects. She conceded that her friends

and family are not always the staunchest believers, but almost always, she has been in their presence when she's seen something unusual.

"A while later, I was with my sister-in-law and pregnant with my son. She told me to look out the window where we saw a large object shaped like a bread box. This one had lights and was a silver or grey. First it moved in one direction and then another. This one was quiet. I've noticed that you can hear the motor or engine of most of these flying saucers," Karkutt said.

How does she feel when confronted with these strange out-of-this-world objects? "I'm scared of course. But what can you do? I've called the police department and tell them I saw some strange lights. What can they do?" she said.



Kathy Karkutt holds a picture of an unidentified flying object which she saw several years ago near her Romulus home at Tyler and Cogswell roads not far from the I-275 sitings. ANP photo

UFO's seen over Arkansas and Texas

Witnesses say objects are spaceships from other worlds; scientists say it's Venus

Reports of "flying saucers" seen by dozens of witnesses, spotted over Arkansas and Northeast Texas, have been stacking up over the past week. Persons have reported watching objects flying through the skies from as far north as Little Rock, Ark., to as far south as Pittsburg, Texas.

Even though astronomical ex-

perts say they have a rational and logical explanation of the sightings, those who have witnessed the phenomenon are convinced they have seen airships from other worlds being intelligently navigated.

Clay Sherrod, Arkansas Sky Observatory director, believes what Little River County resi-

dents was as unidentified flying objects on the evening of Jan. 21, were actually the planet Venus and the moon.

The Little River County Sheriffs Department received approximately 60 reports of UFO sightings between Ashdown and Foreman near the Oklahoma and Texas borders. Observers re-

ported seeing two unidentified flying objects flying together in formation and then going off in separate directions at a high rate of speed. The objects changed color from red to green to blue, according to at least one witness.

"You can see the phenomenon from all over the country,"

Sherrod said Saturday, "I've seen the phenomenon myself." Sherrod explained that, when the moon and Venus are so close together, Venus appears to move from side to side and change colors. As Venus gets lower and lower, the more the effect becomes obvious.

According to Sherrod, the motion and color changes are illusion caused as light from the moon or other extraterrestrial objects pass through the earth's atmosphere. Air currents in the atmosphere cause light waves to bend and scatter, distorting the

images of planets and stars beyond; like looking at an object through rippled glass.

Air movement, such as that caused by the rising of warm air in the atmosphere, will make the planet appear to blink or shift from side to side. The atmosphere can also work like a glass prism as it bends light into its component rainbow colors.

Shifting air will make the light from the object pass through the air at different angles, causing the planet to appear to metamorphosis in color.

"Venus is probably the most reported UFO," Sherrod said.

But Sherrod adds that reporting a UFO should not embarrass anyone. In 1971, a similar sighting near the Little Rock Police Department caused a turmoil, reportedly causing at least one heart attack in an elderly witness who was convinced space aliens were going to land at any moment. Similar atmospheric conditions to the ones currently being experienced, and a brighter than average image of Mars in the evening sky was ultimately to blame for that sighting, Sherrod said.

The illusory closeness of Venus and the crescent moon should repeat its visionary trickery between Feb. 19, according to Sherrod. A small telescope or binoculars will make the sighting more pronounced, but the phenomenon is discernible to the naked eye.

But in Foreman, Ark., unidentified flying object authority Paul Rutherford says he was on Friday what some area residents have been talking about witnessing since Tuesday—a real, honest-to-gosh UFO.

Rutherford, the Bowie County director of the Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network, a nationwide group of UFO buffs, said Saturday he has "no earthly idea" what residents are truly seeing.

"What I saw wasn't a conventional airplane," Rutherford said. He estimated the acceleration of the object at around 200 miles per hour, travelling at an altitude of approximately 5,000 feet. Rutherford said the phenomenon zipped across the stratosphere silently, producing no noise or other discernible sound.

"It was amazing," Rutherford said. On Friday night when the object appeared to Rutherford, he said he focused his pair of binoculars in its direction, getting a favorable look at the unidentified flying object. He said that his glimpse of the enigma through the binoculars convinced him that, "it was a solid object." Rutherford is not convinced that what he saw was Venus.

Venus or flying saucer?

The planet Venus in the evening sky plays tricks with the human eye, and as this photograph reveals, it can look a lot like a spaceship.



Photo by Tom Mullins

According to Rutherford's chronicle of the sighting, the object later moved over the Idabel, Oklahoma, area.

Rutherford said he checked with officials at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, and Red River Army Depot, since area citizens began reporting unusual lights and other objects in the sky. According to Rutherford, officials at both installations have started an investigation into the sightings.

When contacted by The Times, officials from both facilities declined any comment regarding an investigation. Officials would not confirm or deny whether they were attempting to confirm the sightings, or who might be in charge of such an investigation if, in fact, such an investigation was under way.

Reportedly officials at Barksdale informed Rutherford that they had no helicopters stationed in the area at the time of the sightings and Red River informed him that from time to time they may have helicopters in the vicinity of the sightings, but had no reason to believe any of their aircrafts were over Southwest Arkansas at the time in question.

Dwana Paul, a Dallas-based member of the Mutual UFO Network, said that Rutherford went to Foreman to investigate reports about sightings of "flying saucers." He had responded to a telephone call from a housewife describing the mysterious flying objects. She was reportedly doing her laundry at the time of the sighting.

Donna Carlson, a resident of Pittsburg, Texas, said she saw a bright, shiny, saucer-shaped object travelling across the sky on Saturday evening just before dusk. She said she was certain it was some type of airship, since it "moved real fast and then slowed down and changed direction."

"I never seen nothing like it. It was really something to see, but I ain't gonna make no big deal out of what I saw," Carlson commented, adding that, "Folks around here will start thinking I'm nuts or something."

UFO Perks Up Sunday Evening

By Ned Stafford

World-Herald Staff Writer

One man reported seeing two airplanes collide in the night sky. Others thought they spotted a hot air balloon or a helicopter. At least one person said he saw the planet Venus.

But all authorities knew for sure by the end of the night Sunday was that they had a UFO (unidentified flying object). The bright light first spotted in the Omaha sky about 7:20 p.m.

Barb Klinetobe, an Omaha dispatcher for the State Patrol, said the object perked up what had been a quiet Sunday evening.

"That was the excitement of the night," she said with a laugh.

An Omaha 911 communications dispatcher said that a man reported seeing what he thought was two planes colliding near 60th and Q Streets about 7:20 p.m. Police officers who went to the area saw a bright object in the sky moving southwest, the dispatcher said.

The object caused a flurry of radio activity as four police officers followed it to the edge of the city.

"They said it was a bright solid white light," the dispatcher said.

Officers speaking over police scanners were heard saying at times that they thought it might be a hot air balloon.

Ms. Klinetobe said State Patrol troopers, after being alerted by Omaha authorities, spotted the object still moving southwest towards Gretna.

She said troopers think the object might have been a Nebraska National Guard helicopter on maneuvers out of Camp Ashland.

A third explanation for the object came from Omaha police headquarters. An officer there said she was notified by an off-duty officer that the object was Venus.

"That's what he said," she said.

STAR TRIBUNE, Minneapolis, MN

Feb. 14, 1988

The media land on proposed UFO site

By Dave Matheny
Staff Writer

Elmwood, Wis.

"Envision in your mind's eye an area of 2 square miles, with a lighted border, transmitting a message up into the sky," said Chippewa Falls businessman Tom Weber Saturday to an audience of more than 100 people in the Elmwood school gymnasium.

He was talking about the just-created UFO Site Center, a facility that has no location, no buildings and no money — only four officers, a nonprofit charter, the general support of the townspeople of Elmwood, population 991, who formed

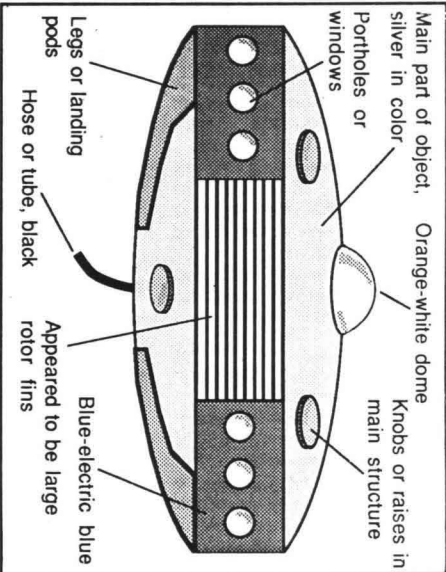
the bulk of his audience — and heaps of news media attention.

At least five TV cameras rolled and a half-dozen reporters took notes as Elmwood Mayor Larry Feiler told the crowd, "This is not a gimmick."

The City Council would like to see a landing strip for UFOs nearby, he said, and "There's no fear of the center here. Everybody's talking about it."

UFOs have been reported around Elmwood since at least the mid-1970s. Among many others, a police officer, George Wheeler, now

Star Tribune graphic
This drawing is based on the rendition of a UFO that Elmwood police officer George Wheeler said he saw in 1976.



dead, reported two near encounters. Weber, who owns a metal-finishing business, said he had selected Elmwood for that reason.

Weber said he would accept any private donations. Plans are not even in the drawing-board stage yet, but he says that by using some type of light display, a message could be transmitted "that could be clearly understood by these advanced civilizations that have been observing our planet for a number of years."

One of the images he said he might transmit would be a drawing made by Wheeler of what Weber calls "the spacecraft," another could be a picture of a human making a welcoming gesture, or a picture of an alien based on various reports and drawings

made by people who say they have seen aliens.

Weber later said privately that he had been amazed at news media reaction to the Feb. 8 announcement of his plans. He said that he had been in Texas on vacation at the time and returned to find his baby sister being interviewed live on radio, and that he and his officers have been on more than 50 radio shows in the past week.

When informed that there have been at least four other places in the United States designated as UFO landing sites by various groups since 1975 and that none evidently has been contacted by aliens, Weber said he was not aware that there had been such places and said they may have

failed because they were not equipped properly. He would like to staff his site with 100 scientists from around the world, he said.

Dolores Radtke, eighth-grade teacher at the Elmwood school and unofficial town UFO historian, said the town began holding a yearly "UFO Days" 10 years ago just for fun, but she was surprised at the Site Center proposal. "But I'm all for it," she said.

Carole Forster is not. She said she had a 1975 encounter with a saucer-shaped lighted object that frightens her to this day — although that's not why she opposes the site. "I just feel a landing strip like this will change Elmwood too much," she said.

UFO abductions topic of forum

By Kamalani Tormey-Ishida
OF THE SUN

The topic of UFO's and abductions by extra-terrestrials drew a large number of women and men in a recent Aspen Women's Forum.

By and large, it was one of the largest turnouts the Forum has seen, with 120 people, 11 from Snowmass Village.

Larry Koss, an education specialist teaching Colorado Mountain College classes on extra-terrestrials, presented the video "Man Alive," a documentary about people claiming they were abducted by beings from other parts of the cosmos.

The video shows hypnotized female abductees recalling aliens using laboratory instruments to artificially inseminate them.

The abductees show emotional trauma similar to that of rape and molestation victims, sometimes in moans and tears.

At the beginning of the presentation, Koss said he would stop the video half-way through, because he anticipated the abductees' trauma would create fear in the audience. Koss presented the material step by step, to avoid hysteria.

"I don't want to create fear in people's minds," Koss later commented in an interview. "I don't think that that's the point of introducing this kind of awareness in this area."

But when Koss stopped the video, the majority of people there gave out an enthusiastic "yes" when asked if the tape should continue.

The tape went on, the abductees giving highly-realistic descriptions of their experiences. The women abductees said long needles were stuck into their abdomens and instruments inserted into their wombs, their abductors taking out sample ovum. The men related semen was taken from them. In some cases, the women were impregnated, and claim to have given birth to half-human/half-alien offspring.

Given the authenticity of the

testimonies, the audience, mostly women, were intrigued. The question at that point wasn't whether these space creatures (they look like human insects) really exist, but rather: if they exist what are they doing, taking reproductive samples from our race?

To give an idea why these cases are called "abductions," all of the abductees said they were rendered powerless when they were subjected to the artificial inseminations, suggesting that human free will was taken away.

"One concern is the ET's that were presented were good guys -- but how do we know that?" said Peggy McGavock, who has lead Women's Forum response groups.

Adding to the good guy/bad guy concept, McGavock commented that it is perhaps the case that these extra-terrestrials have different goals than humans, and free will is something that humans prize too highly to lose it without consent from an outsider.

Yet, McGavock along with Women's Forum president Jeanne Carter, think the presentation was "interesting" and made the people there think about deeper questions concerning the abduction phenomenon and life beyond ours.

"Whether you believe in entities coming from the other side or not, it doesn't really matter when you think of the concept of the 'here and now' which makes up our spirituality," Carter said.

"We're definitely not alone," Carter added. "Not only globally, but universally, too."

In his book "Intruders," Budd Hopkins, who has studied UFO and alien abductions for the last 12 years, observes the abductees reaction to their experience as "mixed." Some of them hold deep resentment, while others have only a feeling of affection "even love" for their captors.

Yet, all abductees experience a similar emotion: trauma. In some cases, individuals who go

through this phenomenal experience are reckoned to a hospital bed for the remainder of their lives. Others, who are more fortunate, have to go through a series of therapy sessions with psychologists.

Hence, one of the reasons Koss is "opening up" the public's awareness to the phenomenon.

"I think they (extra-terrestrials) are the frontier to global peace," Koss stated, explaining his belief that contact with space inhabitants will be the barrier that lifts us out of our global problems.

"Right now we're stuck in global conflicts," Koss continued. "And we don't know how to get ourselves out of them."

"I think that when we do make contact, we can take a look at the conflicts that we are in. It will give us a much clearer idea of what we are doing."

But Koss acknowledged that the study is new, and there is a lot that's still in the dark. The result has been Hollywood depiction either of friendly aliens, such as "ET" or horrifying "Body Snatchers."

Koss explained that the issue is more complex than that, or perhaps more simple, depending on the way an observer views it.

In a recent conversation with The Sun Hopkins said the reactions of a person subjected to an abduction depend on that person's subjective understanding of what is happening.

Hopkins added that "the aliens don't see what they are doing to us," and "they don't understand our emotional subtleties or our individual free will."

The abductions were compared to zoologists' studies of animals. When tranquilizing specimens, scientists neither give thought to the emotional pain they inflict or the effect studies have on the specimen's family.

This parallel begins to make us look at what humans do to lesser creatures, Koss stated,

who also bet a London bookmaker, Ladbrokes & Co. Ltd., that at least one spaceship would arrive there by Sept. 30, 1977. According to Charles Spaegel, reached by telephone at Norman's El Cajon home, Ladbrokes originally gave 500-to-1 odds, but as bets of \$6,000 from Norman and about \$4,000 from others came in, the bookmakers reduced the odds to 50-to-1.

They could have given any odds. All \$10,000 went into Ladbrokes' coffers, but the publicity was worth it for Norman, Spaegel said. About all that was done for site preparation was to put up a sign that said "Welcome Space Brothers," although the site was attended, if irregularly. That site, too, is still there, he said.

■ In 1978, on a 14-acre site at the foot of Mt. Rainier in Washington, "Spaceport Earth" was created. The Rev. Harold R. Price, of Tacoma, was one of the proponents. For several years he and his followers held three-day gatherings there on June 24th, the anniversary of what many historians consider the first modern UFO sighting. That's the day in 1947 when a pilot named Kenneth Arnold reported seeing nine objects, later

dubbed flying saucers, while flying in the vicinity of Mt. Rainier, right in the neighborhood of what would become Spaceport Earth.

But "nothing appeared that we could see," Price said last week in a telephone interview. Although, during one campout to watch for UFOs, he said, he heard from a grandson that a flat, saucer-shaped cloud had appeared on the far side of the mountain and stayed there for more than a day. He was not dismayed when this reporter told him that such un-moving flat clouds are so common near mountains that pilots call them "lennies," because of their lenslike, or disklike, shapes. "This one was different. This one had a UFO inside it," Price said.

Spaceport Earth is now abandoned. Its 20-foot tower, surmounted by a brass disk, has been vandalized.

■ Information is sketchy, but Project Starlight International, near Austin, Texas, was apparently begun in 1975 and appears to have been the most ambitious of them all. According to Sue Taylor, an editor with the Austin American-Statesman who checked that newspaper's files, the site had a

More area reports of UFO sightings

By James W. Siehl
The Tribune-Democrat

A published account of the sighting of an unidentified flying object the evening of Feb. 10 near Blough, Somerset County, has resulted in calls from other people who reported seeing the strange phenomenon.

Stan Gordon of Greensburg, who heads a statewide volunteer organization that investigates strange and unusual happenings, said Saturday that several other reports had been received.

Davidsville man

One of the reports is from a Davidsville area man, 23, who agreed to be interviewed but asked to remain anonymous.

"The man set the time at about 8:20. He had been heading home from Windber and was nearing the top of Carpenters Park Road when he was startled by lights as an object floated across the road in front of him at a low level."

"A couple of seconds later," he said, "it would have been behind me."

"I was by myself in my truck. I was coming up the hill. You couldn't help noticing it — this big thing with a bunch of lights on it. That's what I saw at first. I stopped my truck on the hill, and it moved over to my right a little."

According to the witness, the object hovered above the tree tops — "not very far above them — about 20 feet."

He said the object appeared to be in

giving accent to scientists' view of the larger good in mind.

"I think they are working with the idea that they have a duty to perform," said Koss. "They work within a collective consciousness, like bees."

In his recently published article "Ethical Implications of The UFO Abduction Phenomenon," Hopkins writes that extra-terrestrials possess an "amoral" concept, which has led him to write the phrase: "all evidence and no ideology."

"I have to agree with that," Carter said, adding that the degree in which humans study extra-terrestrials will depend on human understanding of themselves.

A Davidsville area man said he was startled by lights as an object floated across the road in front of him.

three layers, with decks that reminded him of a cruise ship "only shorter with all kind of lights."

The lights were all different colors, he said. "Some blinked. Others didn't."

Sitting in his truck with his head out the window, the man said he heard no sounds.

"I didn't hear anything. I shut my heater and radio off to see if I could hear it 'cause it was that close and I figured I would hear it. I thought it was some kind of helicopter or something. And I didn't hear anything."

The witness said a driver of a car coming down the hill also stopped after the motorist observed the pickup truck parked along the road.

"He looked over and saw it, too," the Davidsville man said.

He said the object appeared to be 50 feet high and about 50 feet long, with tapered ends giving it a football shape.

He said it was dark and the only illumination was from lights on the object itself.

He judged a minute had gone by when he elected to "buzz up" the remaining 20 yards to the top of the hill for a better look. The summit, he mentioned, offers a view of the McNally Bridge and the neighboring lights of Richland Township.

But in the brief time that it takes to go about 20 yards — just seconds, according to the man — "that thing was way out there past Gee Bee. I could see some lights flashing on it when it went out over Gee Bee."

The experience was not at all frightening to the witness. In fact, he said he enjoyed it and found it interesting.

Reported to TV station

The thought that the object might have been a space ship didn't occur to him until he was at home reflecting on the unusual happening. That same night he reported the sighting to the WJAC-TV newsroom and was told other calls also had been received.

Mr. Gordon, director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, believes many others must have seen the object and would like to communicate with them on a confidential basis.

Bucks County report

Mr. Gordon said a similar sighting of "an almost rectangular, gray metallic object" had been reported by a woman at about 2:30 a.m. Feb. 21 in Bucks County.

"She has been having a very difficult time dealing with it," he said, "because she was a complete non-believer."

Mr. Gordon said the woman, feeling a draft, had gotten out of bed to check a window and observed two bright lights hovering low in the distance. She watched them hover for about 15 minutes, Mr. Gordon said.

"All of a sudden, they shot directly toward her house. Came right at her," he said, "and went right over the roof. It was the same description — a big, metallic rectangular object with lights on it. No sound. But when it passed over her house, everything that was uninged began rattling."

Mr. Gordon said there has been a major wave of similar sightings in the Texarkana, Texas, area since mid-January.

"In fact," he said, "they have dubbed this thing 'Big Bertha' down there."

The Somerset County sighting also was reported by a Hollisopple man, according to Mr. Gordon, but the witness was not available for comment.

CR: S. Gordon

Aliens have ignored earlier landing sites

By Dave Matheny/Staff Writer

UFO landing strips have not fared well. At least four sites have been declared open for visitation by extra-terrestrials, received fanfare from the media, and then were left waiting at the interplanetary altar.

■ One of the more ambitious was erected in 1976 in Lake City, Pa., on a 100-acre site on the shores of Lake Erie. Many UFOs had been reported near Lake City. According to Don Tome, former town police chief, it was on a mound 200 feet in diameter, was encircled by red, white and blue lights (the site was an official part of the Bicentennial celebrations) with a strobe light in the center and "a communications tower and a big fiberglass saucer next to it." From time to time, over the next two years, people gathered there to watch and wait, he said. It's still there, although "people have lost interest. We used it as a helicopter pad for lake rescue." It still exists, he said, in the sense that the pad and the saucer are there, but it's ignored.

■ Another was put up three years earlier on a 67-acre mountaintop near El Cajon, Calif., 35 miles east of San Diego, by Ruth Norman,

STAR TRIBUNE, Minneapolis,
MN - Feb. 27, 1988

Seen and
Heard in

Our Neighborhood

RECENT REPORTS of sightings of UFOs (unidentified flying objects) by residents of an area southeast of Muncie have confounded and frightened some, but a Muncie man believes he might have an explanation for at least a portion of the reports.

In a 7-page typewritten letter, Ervin Davis of 3625 N. Miami Ave. says he has spent considerable time analyzing reports of mysterious objects in the sky in the Parker City-Selma area during daylight and night hours, and he offers a possible explanation.

"Let's look at one report I've encountered several times in the past 3 or more years, as told to me by residents living in the Parker City-Selma area," he writes.

"Each report was about something flying real low to the ground, real slow like it had to crash because no airplane could go that slow and still stay in the air. Then it just stopped dead in the air for awhile, and then turned to the right and went in a straight line over to my neighbor's house where they saw it. Then without turning like airplanes do, it just zoomed off to the right again, but at a faster speed and without leaning. It just made a square turn instantly and zoomed off so fast it was out of sight in a couple of seconds.

"Both observers said they saw this UFO several times over a 3-year period and reported no sounds coming from it, even when it was overheard at an estimated distance of less than 50 feet. They did note a slight humming sound when it was closest to them.

"A man I work with heard me talking about a new military aircraft design I had read about and took me aside, asking me not to repeat this to other co-workers as he didn't want to be teased about it, but was most interested in finding out what had been flying over his farm for several weeks.

"He said the UFO looked like maybe one or two people could fit inside. It has two small wings in the front near the nose and something like wings along the side that are thin and don't look like wings — in fact it doesn't look like it could fly at all. He said it passed low over the barn while he was feeding his animals, and his dog barked at it. It didn't have propellers and no jet engines were visible, and it made only a humming sound, maybe from the wind coming off it.

"I noted the time of this flight," Davis reports, "and contacted our local air controllers, Selma and Reese airports, the National Guard, Bunker Hill [Grissom Air Force Base] and even some friends in the military, including one who works



Floyd
Creech

on new aerospace designs, all of whom reported no experimental aircraft or other flights in that area at that time."

Davis said he ruled out frequent low-level flights by A-10 jets from Grissom AFB and National Guard helicopters he said were used by state and local police to search for illegal drug (pot) growing, then turned to other considerations.

"One thing is for sure — if UFOs originate outside our earth, what the hell is around here worth their interest? Just tuning into our TV or radio frequencies would seem enough to ward off even the most earnest visitor from any far-off location; in fact, if I were a UFO occupant and noted all the hostilities on earth, I'd just place a detour sign out in space to alert other space travelers to find a more peaceful study group. So let's rule out UFOs for the moment."

Davis said he also ruled out pranks that had been played on county roads at various times by teenagers — in one case, they wrapped a large rubber doll in foil and attached fish lines to it so it would hover over a road. When the headlights of cars would shine off the foil-wrapped doll, they let it ascend into the sky, leaving motorists scratching their heads as to what they had seen.

After eliminating all other considerations, Davis said he was convinced the unidentified objects must be experimental aircraft, and he describes one in particular that seems to fit many of the descriptions.

It is called the MP-18 Dragon and is made by a West Coast company, the Phalanx Corp. Davis said this aircraft was featured in the November 1986 edition of Air Combat magazine, published in Canoga Park, Calif. In his letter, he included copies of artists' sketches of the strange-looking craft.

One, enhanced by artist Gary Thomas for The Star, appears today on Page 5.

The magazine article reports the craft costs \$1.5 million to build, weighs 2,230 pounds empty with a gross weight of 5,830 pounds; is 20 feet long, 6 feet high; has a payload of 3,600 pounds; a range of 2,600

miles; rate of climb of 50,000 feet per minute; a noise level of 88 decibels, and accelerates from zero to 60 mph in 2.7 seconds.

Davis said the craft is of the "stealth" type, making it invisible on radar beyond a quarter-mile. It can hover, fly backwards, forwards and sideways, up or down and zoom off at 2.5 mach at 60,000 feet with an 80,000 foot operational ceiling. It is a take-off on the VTOL (vertical takeoff and land) aircraft that have been in the military inventory for several years, he said. "Could this possibly explain some of the UFO reports in that area?" Davis asked.

Maybe so, Mr. Davis, maybe so. But it's hard for me to visualize an aircraft that can hover, then zoom off at 2.5 mach. And why hasn't the military grabbed it up if it can do all these things?

And finally, why would anyone select the Parker City-Selma area over all other areas of the globe to test such a craft?

It's an interesting speculation — as worthy of consideration as any other. But let's keep our options open and continue to look for more logical explanations, OK?

Floyd Creech is a contributing writer to Our Neighborhood.

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL

Jan. 14, 1988

CR: L. Whitehurst

Govt. attempts to sieze UFO photos

Our UFO update for this week came to us this morning when one of our anonymous photographers told us he had a visit from two uniformed Air Force Investigators armed with a "Material Seizure Warrant" who demanded he turn over the photographs to them.

Needless to say, our photographer was intimidated by this sudden military show of force, but couldn't help them as he didn't have the photos to give them.

We haven't heard from the men with the warrant yet. Perhaps they had to go back and get another one typed up.

We will keep you all informed as the case develops.

By ELLEN BEVERIDGE
Where were you and what were you doing a little after 10:30 Sunday night? If I'm to believe what I was told the next day (and I do), I wish I had been looking skyward.

But, like many others, I was watching the terrorist movie "The United States vs. Salim Ajami" on television. So was a woman and one of her adult children who live in the Tashua area of Trumbull.

It was this woman, whom I had met in my writings for The Times about a year ago, who came to our editorial offices Monday afternoon asking for me. We sat down to talk.

"We have large glass windows behind our television set that face in a southerly direction," she began. "Suddenly my 'child' (we will use the term because he or she did not want the mother to publicize this experience, even to the extent of being referred to by gender) jumped up off the couch and said, 'Look at that! I never saw anything like that before.'"

The child rushed to the door. The mother followed not realizing, at the moment, what the child was responding to. She described what they saw.

"There was this object, I guess it was an object, but all we could see were the lights. It seemed to be moving slowly, very controlled, not making a sound. "There was a large red light in the center surrounded by five or six smaller lights. They seemed to be yellow or perhaps green in color. I just don't believe it was anything man could have made. It was so silent."

She paused, recalling the sight. "It was really rather pretty. We watched it for about a half a minute until it passed over our house. I do remember I looked at the clock. It was twenty minutes to eleven."

Did they see it disappear? "No," she replied. "We got into a discussion about whether we should call the police. We didn't because we decided they would think we were—well, you know"—her voice trailed off but her gaze was direct. There was no doubt that she was sure of what she had seen.

"The next time we looked out it was gone. I was a little scared," she admitted. "I thought it might come down."

"We listened to the 11 o'clock news on Channel 3 (Hartford) and the announcer said there had been reports of something in the sky but he said it was probably a meteor."

Not a Meteor "That could not have been what we saw because those

reports had to have come in much earlier. What we saw was not a meteor." The woman was very definite about this.

(Editor's note: It is true that a large meteor passed over the state about 7:30 that night—some three hours before this Trumbull sighting. In fact, the meteor was seen by two members of our editorial staff. Also, we contacted both Channel 3 and Channel 8 (New Haven) and confirmed the fact that many calls had been received regarding the meteor. Interestingly, the Channel 3 source alluded to later calls Sunday night about other

sightings but would give no further information.)

Not only did this Trumbull woman verbalize what she had seen, she illustrated it on a piece of paper. (See accompanying reproduction of what she drew.)

YELLOW OR GREEN LIGHTS

RED LIGHT

"If any of your readers saw anything, I wish they would call your office," the woman said. "I'm sure others must have seen it and I would like to know if they did."

As is so often the case in these sightings of unidentified flying objects, this woman wants to remain anonymous.

This is understandable. Since the publication of a book on UFOs some 40 years ago that raised the public consciousness, there remains this stigma regarding those who report them. Also, the controversy continues unabated between the believers and the non-believers.

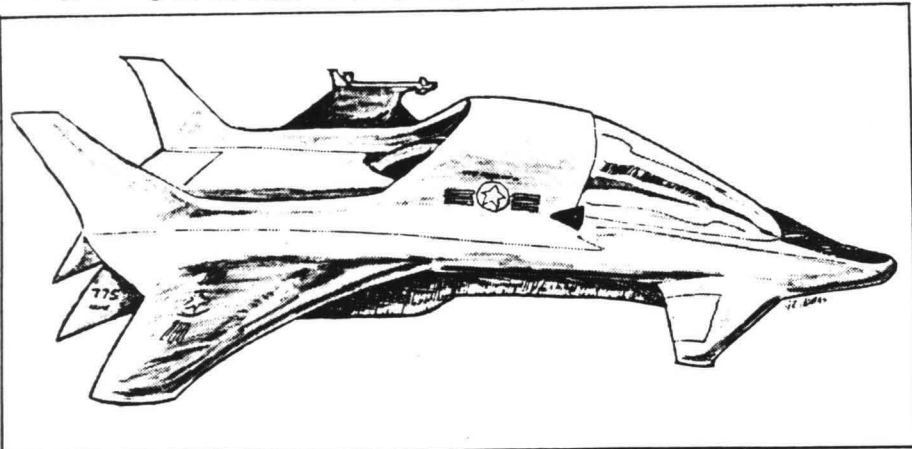
It should also be noted that the Channel 8 weather bureau spokesman said that they receive, on average, three or four calls a month regarding unexplained sightings.

Sunday was an unusually clear night with extremely good visibility.

What did these Trumbull residents see? And if you saw something too, please call us. We'd like to hear from you.

(Paper Unknown), Trumbull, CT - Jan. 14, 1988

CR: L. Whitehurst



Sketch for The Muncie Star by Gary Thomas

Have You Seen This Aircraft?

This sketch of what is supposedly an experimental aircraft is offered as a possible explanation for persistent reports of UFOs in the Parker City-Selma area. The sketch is

based on material contained in an article about the aircraft in the November 1986 Air Combat magazine. The aircraft is described in Our Neighborhood on Page 4 today.

Local woman recounts Tashua sighting of UFO on Sunday

Invasion?

Pensacola cites UFO encounters

By Michael Burke
FLORIDA TODAY

PENSACOLA — UFO investigators are making a serious attempt to corroborate a set of photographs that appear to show spaceships hovering over a Northwest Florida city.

"If it's a hoax, Steven Spielberg needs to hire this guy," said Gary Watson of Pensacola.

Watson is a member of a private group, the Mutual UFO Network, investigating dozens of UFO photographs submitted by a resident of Gulf Breeze, a coastal city southeast of Pensacola.

Since the initial publication of photographs in the local weekly newspaper Nov. 19, more than a dozen people have reported their own UFO sightings. The photographs and the newspaper's accounts of other witnesses have attracted researchers and reporters from across the country.

A businessman whose reports launched the story fears public ridicule if he is identified. He says his photos were shot during a series of 16 UFO sightings between Nov. 11, 1987, and Feb. 26, 1988.

One photo, reportedly taken Dec. 23, shows three disc-shaped objects glowing above a line of silhouetted trees.

Another photograph published by the Gulf Breeze Sentinel, allegedly taken Jan. 12, shows the outline of a spaceship hovering above a road. Bright light from the bottom of the craft illuminates the road.

The businessman said the spaceship, which appeared to be the size of a house, hovered in the sky for several minutes "before it shot straight up and disappeared. It glowed from the bottom as if that may be the power source."

He also told investigators from the Mutual UFO Network he used a Sony Camcorder to shoot more than a minute of videotape of the spaceship Dec. 28.

In a seven-page report based on interviews with the businessman, MUFON investigators Charles Flannigan of Pensacola and Donald Ware of Fort Walton Beach said the videotape shows a UFO moving across the screen before disappearing behind a tree.

The businessman also detailed a series of unusual experiences, including:

- Seeing a short, shielded creature outside his window.

- Being struck by a blue beam from a spaceship that temporarily immobilized him and lifted him off the ground. The businessman said he smelled like cinnamon and ammonia after he dropped about three feet to the ground.

- Hearing a humming sound that occurred sometimes before an appearance of a spaceship. He also heard a voice talking "through his head, not his ears," MUFON investigators said.

As part of their investigation, MUFON members conducted an intensive stakeout of the businessman's house but did not see a UFO. In a further attempt to establish whether the photographs were fake, MUFON provided the businessman with a special, four-lens camera that was sealed to prevent tampering.

Investigators asked him to use the sealed camera when he witnessed the UFO again, as he said he did Feb. 26.

MUFON investigators opened the sealed camera Friday before members of the news media. The developed film showed a small object that on enlarged photos appeared to have a light source at the base.

The photographs have aroused interest from researchers outside MUFON.

FLORIDA TODAY, Cocoa, FL - March 7, 1988
CR: M. Kurtz/R. Reid

BEACON, Beulah, ND
March 10, 1988
CR: D. Johnson

More light in the Dakota night

By Nancy Northrup
Eighteen years' reconnaissance experience in the military should qualify a guy as an observer, but though Dan Huffman has that, he's

far from certain what he saw just past midnight on Friday, Feb. 26. The same night Victor Walker, north Zap, saw an unexplainable phenomenon in the North Dakota

skies, Huffman saw something equally inexplicable near his home in the Beulah Bay area.

About midnight Huffman looked out his window at Dakota Waters Resort before heading for bed, and saw something that chased the sleep right away: Six very bright, evenly spaced lights glowing in a line about a mile and a half or two miles long over Beulah Bay just north of the DWR motel where he and wife Peggy live.

Huffman says they reminded him of nothing so much as a large military maneuver, similar to ambush patrol practices with the huge spotlights used.

It was a bit hazy out, but not foggy; and there are no yard lights spaced in such a manner in the area. The lights were very intense, very white and about the same size; Huffman says he thought they might be from someone ice fishing or having a party at the bay, but the more he thought about it, the more he thought that wouldn't fit. They were just too bright and spread out too far.

He woke Peggy, who said she'd seen them before she went to bed around 11 p.m. and was equally puzzled, and they discussed hopping in the car and driving over the hill to check it out. But, Huffman said, he felt a little uneasy about it and they decided against it.

"I joked that if it was a UFO, we should let 'em go in peace," Huffman grinned. "I woke up again later in the night and they were gone. I got up three or four times more and checked to see, and it wasn't there."

Since then, particularly after reading Walker's story in last week's Beacon of a large glowing light about 3:30 that morning, he's "kicked myself at least a thousand times for not going to see what it was."

Huffman waited to see if someone driving along 1806 or someone living in the area, perhaps at Lake Shore Estates, would mention having seen the lights. "It wasn't that late; I figured somebody else would've seen them," he said. But no one did and, until he saw Walker's story, he didn't either.

"When Peggy and I saw that, we just about freaked out," he grinned. "I wish I'd got in the car and drove up there; I usually do check it out if something unusual happens."

Huffman would like to blame it on atmospheric conditions that would have magnified someone's ice fishing lights, or military operations, or construction. But there wasn't any evidence of that.

Beulah's National Guard unit doesn't have maneuvers until March 19 and Corps of Engineers project director Lew Ruona says the Corps' largest nighttime activity is going to meetings.

Does Huffman believe in UFOs? "Yeah," he says rather sheepishly. "I believe enough people see them to have some validity, but I won't say that's what I saw. I only know I saw something unusual I couldn't explain. I watched it for about half an hour and it never moved or anything."

Huffman was hesitant about saying anything, but, like Walker, "I know what I saw."

If it comes back, he'll definitely check it out this time. "Hopefully somebody will say they were ice fishing," Huffman grins, "and there will be some sort of explanation."

was about 4 feet high, with large almond-shaped eyes and a shield over its head, chest and lower body.

The businessman reported the creature ran when he unlocked the door. When the businessman gave chase, the MUFON report said, "he was hit with a blue beam."

According to the report, the businessman fell to the ground, trying to escape the beam. When he did, he said he ran back to the house, retrieved his camera and took a photograph.

Mutual UFO Network International Director Visits Gulf Breeze, Believes Photos Authentic

BY WALTER H. ANDRUS, JR., International Director
Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), January 18, 1988

The series of UFO photographs taken by a resident in Gulf Breeze attracted nationwide attention by investigators from the Mutual UFO Network who met on January 17th with the photographer to view and analyze the evidence presented. Donald M. Ware, the MUFON State Director, for Florida, who resides in Walton Beach, was so impressed with the case that he invited Walter H. Andrus, Jr., the International Director of the Mutual UFO Network, with world headquarters in Seguin, Texas to participate in the investigation personally.

"After interviewing the photographer/witness and examining each photograph taken since November, 11, 1987, continuing through January 16, 1988, it's my opinion that the details in the photographs are incredible. This is one of the most amazing UFO cases that I have investigated in the past 30 years in the United States. Samples of the photographs have been delivered by Duane Cook to the topmost authority on computer enhancement of UFO photographs for further evaluation on their authenticity."

"I advised Mr. Cook, Editor of the Sentinel, that the photographs show many different views of some type of aerial device in far greater detail than most UFO photographs in the MUFON files. Photographs can be faked through several processes known to the investigators in the Gulf Breeze investigation. As further confirmation of the authenticity of the photographs being evaluated, the witness made a video tape of the same or similar craft from his backyard after he ran out of polaroid film. It is very difficult to fake a video tape or motion picture film."

"When evaluating the authenticity of any UFO photograph submitted to the Mutual UFO Network for analysis and evaluation, the credibility of the photographer is even more important. I drove 1500 miles roundtrip from Seguin, Texas (near San Antonio) to meet with the local UFO witness. The witness/photographer was evaluated as a sincere, truthful and successful businessman, who could destroy his personal reputation in the community, if he was perpetrating a hoax. No evidence was disclosed that this Gulf Breeze citizen was involved in anything deceptive. On the contrary, he has impressed each of the investigators by his sincerity in sharing very openly his experience."

"Over the years, newspapers and the electronic news media have sometimes exploited UFO witnesses due to the interest in UFOs by the public. The photographer, in this case, has cooperated with MUFON investigators, however he wishes to remain anonymous so as to protect his family and his own reputation from public ridicule, that is frequently prevalent in any community. I feel that it is imperative that the witness's private life and that of his family be respected and protected. Duane Cook, Editor of the Sentinel, was commended by me for his diplomatic and sensitive reporting on this important case in order to protect the confidentiality of the witness and his family's well being. The citizens of Gulf Breeze should have some respect for the photographer because he has endangered his professional reputation and subjected his family to cruel ridicule by disclosing very significant scientific information in the ongoing search to resolve the mystery known as unidentified flying objects."

EDITOR'S NOTE TO "BELIEVER BILL":

The date and precise location of your nine photos would be most helpful to investigators trying to relate your sighting with others in the area. You may, of course, remain anonymous simply by mailing the data or using our night drop as you did before.

Or, if you prefer, you may contact MUFON directly through any of the investigators named below:

- Field Investigator
 - Charles Flannigan, Pensacola - 478-5530(W) or 478-0465(H)
- Field Investigator
 - Bob Reid, Fort Walton Beach - 862-1819
- State Director
 - Donald Ware, Fort Walton Beach - 862-6582
- Investigator Coordinator, Center for UFO Studies and MUFON State Section Director
 - Robert Boyd, Mobile - 205/478-8840
- International Director
 - Walter H. Andrus, Jr., Seguin, Texas - 512/379-9216

Bruce Maccabee, an optical physicist and chairman of the Fund for UFO Research Inc., said he came to Gulf Breeze from Maryland to examine the photographs and the businessman's videotape.

"It's either a hoax on a massive photographic and acting scale, or it's the real thing," Maccabee said.

Using one of the businessman's photos showing a spacecraft above a road, Maccabee estimated the UFO was 10 to 15 feet wide and 8 to 10 feet high.

Walter Andrus Jr., international director of MUFON, came from Texas to Gulf Breeze to join the investigation.

"This is one of the most amazing UFO cases that I have investigated in the past 30 years in the United States," Andrus said.

If the businessman's photos are a hoax, Sentinel publisher and editor Duane Cook also stands to lose credibility. On Feb. 11, the Sentinel carried a story by Cook that detailed circumstances behind a photo.

Cook reported that on Jan. 24, he and the businessman were driving on Highway 98 when the businessman began to feel stabs of pain. They pulled off the road, Cook said, and the man got out of the car and looked to the sky for a spacecraft.

Cook reported that while he was inside the car, the man shouted,

"There it is!" and took a picture. Before Cook could get out of the truck, the UFO was gone.

However, when looking at the camera's film, Cook wrote that he "... carefully peeled the film apart to reveal the now familiar object with a brightly lit ring on the bottom and small portholes around its midsection."

According to MUFON's report, the businessman said his closest encounter with an alien creature came on Dec. 2.

He said he got out of bed at 3:30 a.m. Pulling up the blinds on a window, he said, he saw a creature peering at him.

He told investigators the creature

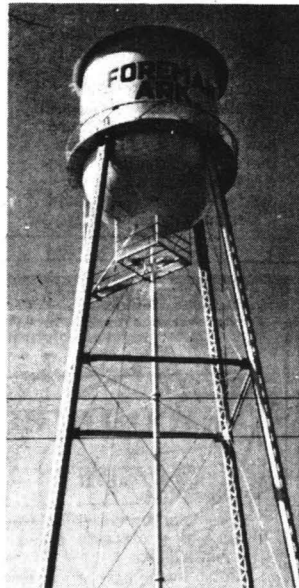
Close-up look at UFO sighting

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 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 a Times reporter on location in Foreman by eyewitnesses. At press time the sightings continue. So far, efforts to find military or commercial air explanations have yielded no answers. Today's Part III recounts a close-up sighting and subsequent investigation by members of MUFON (Mutual UFO Network.)

Part 3 of 5-part series.



Tempa and Kaye McIlhannon, left, in front of Foreman, Ark., home where UFO was reported.



(Timesphotos by Bill Macomber)

Right, the Foreman water tower.

By BILL MACOMBER
Times Staff Writer

Whatever Kaye McIlhannon saw in her back yard on Tuesday, Jan. 26, baffled her and terrified the two young women who were with her that night. A fourth witness a mile away from Kaye McIlhannon's house that evening also saw something she is unable to explain at approximately the same time.

Kaye McIlhannon is a 47-year-old mother and homemaker. Her husband owns the Foreman Chevrolet dealership on Hwy. 41, one of the most prosperous businesses in town. More than one person described McIlhannon to a Times reporter as someone who would not be afraid of the "devil himself." Others repeatedly testified that if Kaye McIlhannon said she saw something, then that's exactly what she saw.

At 8 p.m. on Jan. 26, McIlhannon was driving home from a nearby Tom, Okla., restaurant where she and two other women had eaten dinner. In the car with her were Tabby Dossett, 19, and Tempa McIlhannon, 23. Tempa McIlhannon is Kaye's daughter-in-law. Also in the car were Kaye McIlhannon's two granddaughters. McIlhannon's husband was out of town that night on business.

As they drove they spotted unusually colored lights in the sky to the north. By now reports of UFO's were becoming common in the small town of Foreman. Kaye McIlhannon didn't pay particular attention to the lights she saw while driving home. Her granddaughters were fussing that night. She just wanted to get them home.

When they arrived at McIlhannon's large home just north of

Defining some terms

By BILL MACOMBER
Times Staff Writer

When most people hear the acronym "UFO" they automatically assume the speaker is referring to a "flying saucer." For the purposes of this Times series on the Foreman, Ark., UFO sightings, and for the purpose of most serious students of the UFO phenomenon, UFO does not necessarily mean an extra-terrestrial disc.

According to J. Allen Hynek, a consultant to the United States Air Force Project Blue Book which studied UFO's until 1969, the actual definition of UFO is not necessarily suggestive of little green men. Hynek defined UFO as follows: "The reported perception of an object or light seen in the sky or upon the land

the appearance, trajectory, and general dynamic and luminescent behavior of which do not suggest a logical, conventional explanation and which is not only mystifying to the original percipients but remains unidentified after close scrutiny of all available evidence by persons who are technically capable of making a common sense identification, if one is possible."

Perhaps an answer more to the point would be in order. Charles Huffer, who made the trip to Foreman with a Times reporter, and who has studied UFO's for many years, offers another, considerably shorter definition:

"UFO just means it can't be identified, that's all."

Foreman, the women unpacked the children and went inside. After visiting a while, Dossett went outside to warm up her car. She came back inside the house to visit some more as the engine warmed.

Then, according to a taped interview with McIlhannon, "She (Dossett) got up and she went to the door and she screamed and said, 'It's here.' Then she went into hysterics. So my daughter-in-law jumps up and she goes to the door and she goes into hysterics. I got up

and went to the door and said, 'You all just move and let me out.' I went outside."

Some 30 yards from her back door a brilliant light hovered close to the ground. The light reminded McIlhannon of the clear bulbs hung on Christmas trees. "Extra-bright, with a red glow," she said. She estimated the object to be at least the size of an automobile.

A fence 15 yards from McIlhannon's back door separates the driveway from the large field behind

the McIlhannon home. After pushing her younger companions back into the house, McIlhannon walked out to the fence to take a closer look at what she was seeing. She estimated she came within 15 or 20 yards of the object, which she said was pulsating.

"It was bright enough that you could see our red barn and that barn you cannot see without a light on," McIlhannon said. Dossett added the object lit up the field behind the house for a good distance in all directions.

McIlhannon wanted someone else to witness whatever it was she was seeing. She ran back into the house and told her daughter-in-law to telephone her son. The women then stood by the back door and watched the light. They could see the brilliant, pulsating light in the back yard as the headlights of McIlhannon's son's vehicle approached from the distance. Then the giant light was gone.

"It just vanished. It didn't go up, it didn't go down, it just disappeared like you'd turn off a light switch," McIlhannon said.

Through the entire episode no one heard a sound coming from the hovering light.

Though McIlhannon could make out no structural features inside the glowing light, she came away with the distinct impression there was an object somehow attached to the light. "I had no idea. Here I had made fun of some other people about stories they had told and here the thing was in my back yard. It takes a lot to get me excited, and when I first saw it I said, 'My gosh, it is here.' Actually I said worse than that," McIlhannon said.

Using a flashlight, McIlhannon inspected the area near the barn that same night with a flashlight. Rumors flew the following day. McIlhannon's house had burned down, said some. A dead horse had been discovered. Burn marks had been found on the "landing" site. In reality, nothing was found. A Geiger counter operated by Paul Rutherford and Ed Mazur, two representatives of MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) measured radioactivity at the spot the next day. The instrument revealed only normal background radiation.

According to Charles Huffer, also a MUFON member who observed the field behind McIlhannon's house, the history of close-up UFO sightings includes few episodes involving radiation.

The McIlhannon's nearest neighbors in the direction of the sighting are at least a half mile to the north. A phone call to those neighbors determined they burned no unusual lights that night. As for a helicopter, the women were certain what they saw was no such craft. "I know a helicopter," Dossett said.

Independent confirmation?

A mile from Kaye McIlhannon's house lives Kathy McIlhannon, a relative. At 8 p.m. on the evening in

question Kathy was sitting behind her house when she spotted something she could not identify. "It was real high. I saw lights going across. I ran into the house to tell my husband and it was gone," Kathy McIlhannon said. She described the lights as orange. They moved in a steady line to the west, roughly in the direction of Kaye McIlhannon's house. Kathy McIlhannon admitted what she saw might have been an airplane. "It just didn't look like a normal airplane to me."

One other sighting in the Foreman area echoes McIlhannon's proximity to the stationary, unidentified light. This previous sighting also occurred on a Tuesday, a week before the McIlhannon episode. The earlier sighting occurred at almost exactly the same night three Foreman women said they were followed by a bright, fast-moving object in the same area.

Eula French, 19, was watching television alone at 11 p.m. on Jan. 19. French lived with her family on the Anderson lateral road in the Red River "bottoms." French first noticed a bright light flooding the living room from the windows overlooking the front yard. She paid no attention, thinking it might be her brother, J.R. French, or her father, Bubba French, returning from work.

The light moved to the back of the house, however, and lit up the window on the other side of the living room. Several dogs chained outside were barking furiously by now. French went to the window and parted the curtains. Outside she saw what she typified as a "light green light" hovering approximately 20 to 30 yards behind the house. Though the dogs were barking, French herself heard no sound.

She tried to wake two other people sleeping in the house at the time. Both told her the dogs were simply hearing things. No one would come to the living room with her. French said the light made her "very frightened." She crawled into bed with all her clothes on while the light still hovered. She did not know when it left.

"I think it was Alf," French said. She told the Times she knew exactly what Air Life, a local medical helicopter, looked like. The light she saw wasn't Air Life, she said. She also said she wished that whatever the thing was would go away for good. Since the incident, French's family has spotted a several unidentified flying objects directly to the east of the house. Those sightings will be detailed later in this series. Subsequent sightings have been witnessed by dozens of other people parked in front of the French household.

Kaye McIlhannon has not yet determined what the object she saw might have been. None of the women at the McIlhannon home that night has said the light was a flying saucer. They, like most of their neighbors in Little River County who have seen unidentified lights since Christmas, remained baffled days after the incident. Barksdale Air Force Base in Shreveport, La., to the south has claimed no unusual military activity over the Foreman area.

"It's just weird to think what it really is," McIlhannon said. "It might be something the government's working on. If it is we're not going to know anything about it."



(Timesphoto by Bill Macomber)

MUFON investigators Charles Huffer and Paul Rutherford discussing the incident at the

McIlhannon home outside Foreman

Foreman UFO sightings widespread

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 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 a Times reporter on location in Foreman by eyewitnesses. At press time the sightings continue. So far, efforts to find military or commercial air explanations have yielded no answers. In Saturday's Part III, close-up sightings by multiple witnesses were detailed. In today's Part IV, various types of sightings are outlined, including the experiences of a family living near the midst of the sightings.

Part 4 of 5-part series

By BILL MACOMBER
Times Staff Writer

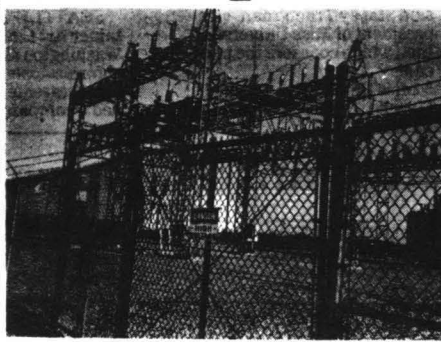
One of the startling facets of the Foreman UFO sightings is the sheer number of people who have seen objects and lights they cannot identify. Most UFO sightings involve a single sighting which never occurs again. Typical UFO sightings take place in isolated locations and more often than not involve a single witness. Almost all the Foreman UFO reports have included groups of two or more people who saw the same thing at the same time.

The time factor also distinguishes the Foreman UFO flap. Reports of unexplained objects over Little River County date back to as early as last summer, with isolated sightings in November. The thickest activity has been logged since shortly after Christmas. At last report the sightings continue. There have been other ongoing UFO episodes in the United States, but few involve more people or span a longer period of time than these.

To gather and record every sighting in the Foreman/



John Taaffe, left, a Foreman area farmer who has made several sightings, points toward



SWEPCO substation, right, where UFO has been reported.

Encounters categorized

By BILL MACOMBER
Times Staff Writer

Close Encounters of the Third Kind was a category before it became a movie.

In the teeming history of modern UFO sightings that began in 1947, three useful and typical categories have emerged.

Close Encounters of the First Kind, roughly stated, are those in which a UFO is seen fairly close (usually within 500 feet) but during which there is no noticeable impact on the physical environment. There have been numerous UFO sightings in Foreman, Ark., which fit into this category.

Close Encounters of the Second Kind are those which include attributes of the first category with the addition of some

sort of physical impact on animate or inanimate objects. This could be grass burned where there has been a landing, or even dogs barking for no apparent reason other than the presence of the object sighted. At least one Foreman sighting has involved barking dogs.

Finally, Close Encounters of the Third Kind require sighting or contact with "occupants" of some sort attached to the UFO. Though many strange and unexplained things have happened in Foreman since last Christmas, extra-terrestrial life forms have not been included among them. To be safe, perhaps we should say that E.T.'s either haven't made an appearance in southern Arkansas or the humans involved haven't yet found the courage to report them.

Ashdown area would take weeks. Three of the more dramatic, close-up incidents have already been reported in this series. (See Friday's and Saturday's *Northwest Arkansas Times*.) Two of those incidents fell into the category of Close Encounters of the First Kind. One episode may well qualify for the designation of Close Encounter of the Second Kind.

Though every UFO incident reported in Foreman made a deep impression on those involved, to detail each one here is impractical. In the absence of a complete accounting of all the episodes in Little River County, the following are samples of the major categories of UFO sightings told by eyewitnesses to

a Times reporter in Foreman. The experiences of the French family, which lives on the Anderson lateral road where many sightings have been registered, are also included.

As far as the Times reporter and MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) member Charles Huffer could determine, the following witnesses were reliable, stable people with longstanding connections to the community.

—Linda Carr, 42, a French teacher in the Ashdown school system, was driving in the vicinity of the SWEPCO electrical substation on the Anderson lateral with two friends at approximately 10:25 p.m. At first Carr saw "a few lights" above the substation. They appeared to

revolve. Carr had the impression there was much more behind the lights than she could see. She estimated the lights at 2,000 feet. The red and white lights hovered and rocked slightly from side to side.

"When we started east it did, too. We got scared and came back," according to Carr. She drove to the French home (a family who lives nearby) to ask if this object was the one everyone had been seeing. Yes, it was, they were told. They watched the lights hover for some 20 minutes with members of the French family. When Carr and her friends got back in their car to go home the object followed them again. By now they were frightened, but they continued their trek over the dirt road to Hwy. 32. The lights followed them into Ashdown, where it disappeared. Carr returned to the area around midnight with her husband, but they saw nothing. She vowed the object she saw was definitely not a helicopter or anything else "conventional."

—Debbie Dickey, 33, an engineer at the Nekoosa paper plant, and Gail McKellar, 36, were parked near the electrical substation on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 7:45 p.m. They decided to move to another location in hopes of spotting whatever it was people in the Foreman area had been seeing. As they drove, Dickey sighted unusual lights. The women made out two white lights with a red light between them. The lights, according to Dickey, were "cool," not at all like car lights. They stopped their car and got out. Together they watched the object pass slowly over the road above them at an estimated altitude of 300 feet. This incident included one of the few reports of sound coming from the unidentified object. "It was a big, mechanical sound," Dickey said. She likened it to a turbine. Though the moon was bright that night, the women said they could not make out a mass behind the lights or a wing configuration that would describe an ordinary aircraft. The lights moved off into the distance. Neither woman was afraid of the lights they saw that night. "It was fun," said Dickey.

—Ricky Goodson, a medical technologist and member of a local city council, served 18 months on a helicopter during the Vietnam War. On Wednesday, Jan. 20, Goodson saw something over the Red River bottoms that "...wasn't a helicopter, plane, balloon or atmospheric conditions. I don't know what it was." Goodson was driving at night with his wife and two daughters on the Waldrop lateral road, which runs parallel to the Anderson lateral. One of his daughters suddenly said, "Look, Daddy, there it is." He stopped his vehicle and got out. The light Goodson saw was orangish red. He estimated its distance at a quarter of a mile. The light hovered at treetop level. Goodson hooked up a red flashing light he carried in his vehicle and began flashing the light. His daughter said, "Look, Daddy, it's coming closer." Goodson continued to flash the light despite his wife's protests. He guessed the unidentified object came to within 200 yards of his

vehicle before his wife became hysterical and pulled the electrical plug which fed the flashing red vehicle light. That was as close as the bright light came to the Goodson's vehicle. He and his family heard no sound from the object.

—John Taaffe, 50, a local farmer, reported seeing multiple lights flying in formation over the Red River bottoms. Colors included red, yellow, green and blue. He counted five distinct lights. He described their flight pattern as "wiggling like a snake." Toward the end of his sighting the lights broke up, some heading south, some moving in another direction.

—Jim Williamson, his wife Katrina and their daughter Heather were at the substation Thursday night, Jan. 21. Williamson is co-publisher of the *Little River News* in Ashdown. His wife teaches at Ashdown Junior High School. They, along with a number of other people watching the sky that night, confirmed a sighting of an object above the substation similar to the one described above by Debbie Dickey. At the time Williamson thought the lights were moving far too slowly for conventional aircraft. The object reversed directions before disappearing. The following Monday, Williamson returned to the substation with a walkie-talkie. A local pilot agreed to fly above the substation with another walkie-talkie. Williamson talked the pilot down until the small airplane looked to be the same distance above the substation as the object seen Thursday night. The pilot told Williamson that the altitude was 3,000 feet. Neither Williamson nor his wife heard any sound on their initial Thursday night sighting. "It just looked huge. How can something that big fly that slow at that altitude?" Williamson wondered.

—An great many people have seen round, orange lights rise up on the horizon in the distance. The round lights usually hovered, faded and blinked out.

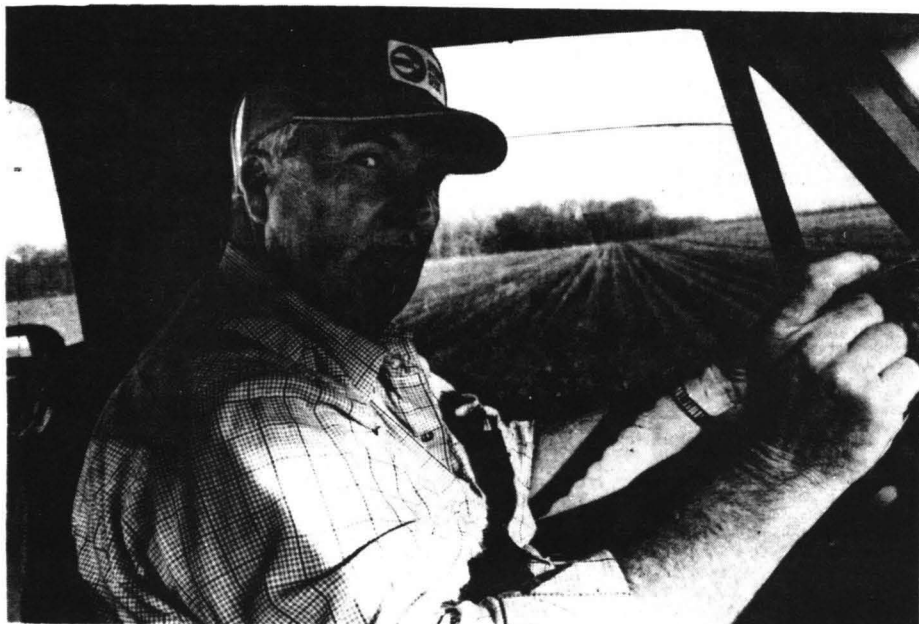
The French sightings

The Bubba French family home has been the pivot of more UFO activity than anywhere else in Little River County. The family's house on Anderson lateral road has been the site of numerous sightings, including one in which a single witness, Eula French, 19, spotted an unidentified bright light hovering no more than 30 yards from the house. (See Saturday's *Northwest Arkansas Times*.) Since Eula's observance the activity has intensified and moved away from the house across the road.

There are several people in the French household. All have seen unidentified objects as a group and singly. Often there are visitors in the house when the lights hover in the distance. Margaret Sharp, whose car chase was detailed in Part II of this series, was visiting the French's on the Wednesday following her own dramatic incident. Sharp had come to ask if the French family had noticed anything unusual that night. She learned of Eula's close-up sighting at this time. While Sharp was still visiting she looked out the front window and told the French family that the light was back. It was green, as Eula said, except this time it was hovering over trees some 100 yards across a field to the east. This was shortly after sundown. They all watched the light together until it disappeared. While it lasted the light was bright enough to illuminate the inside of the French home.

Since Sharp's visit the light has appeared again and again in the same position. Here is a prototypical appearance, the sort witnessed by dozens of people parked on the Anderson lateral road. At night the light, usually bright orange with flashes of red and green, rises above the trees across the field to the east. The light is not soft and fuzzy but extremely bright, intense enough, according to witnesses, to light up trees below and reflect off puddles of water standing in the

(continued on page 9)



Taaffe has reported seeing multiple lights flying in formation over the Red River bottoms. He described their flight pattern as "wiggling like a

snake." Taaffe's daughter, Margaret Sharp, has said she was chased while riding in an automobile with two other women by a UFO.

(Timesphoto by Bill Macomber)

field. The appearance is sometimes stationary, sometimes in motion along the treeline in a lateral, rocking fashion. After a period of time that may last as long as 45 minutes, the object will blink out suddenly, as if a light switch were flipped.

Perhaps the single most bizarre description of the light's activity came from Ann French, 23, who witnessed an episode similar to the one described above except for one important detail. The light did something during this episode that has not been repeated since. According to French, the light "shot down" 10 beams of bright red light to the ground, one right after another. Each beam lasted no more than a second. Afterward the light vanished.

With all the accounts tallied, there appeared to be two distinct types of sightings around Foreman, perhaps accounting for two different kinds of UFO's. The first UFO seemed to be the high "cool" lights that hovered or passed in a smooth vector above witnesses at altitudes ranging from 300 to at least 3,000 feet. The second UFO was the intensely bright glowing light that rarely moved far and tended to blink out like a light switch.

In all the reports of sightings, no one in Foreman used the words "flying saucer" when describing what they had seen. There was a steady avowal that the sighted objects were not conventional aircraft, stars, swamp gas, planets or the moon shining on the belly of low-flying snowgeese, however.

The same sentiment was expressed repeatedly by dozens of puzzled Little River County residents: "I have no idea what it was, but I can tell you I've never seen anything like it before in my life."

List of area UFO sightings growing

By NORMA DUPPLER, MARC CONRAD, Tribune Staff Writers

BEULAH — A Beulah-area man has reported seeing strange lights over Lake Sakakawea in the latest in a string of UFO sightings that dates to Nov. 11 in central North Dakota.

Dan Huffman, manager of Dakota Waters Resort north of Beulah, said he spotted six bright lights just after midnight above Beulah Bay on Feb. 26. The sighting coincided with unidentified radar blips at the Minot Air Force Base and with a sighting a few hours later north of Zap by farmer Victor Walker.

UFO investigator Don Johnson said the rash of sightings is the most he can remember during the nine years he has lived in Bismarck.

"It may be another wave of UFO activity such as in the early '70s, or it may be due to the national and local coverage of UFOs that makes it easier for witnesses to report their sightings," said Johnson, an investigator for Mutual UFO Network, a tracking group with

members worldwide.

In the latest report, Huffman, a former reconnaissance man in the military, said the lights were stationary, evenly spaced and stayed around for at least an hour.

"The lights were much too bright to be ice fishermen having a party on the lake," he said. "Besides, the lights were so far apart for that. They were big half moon glows, like spotlights used at a construction site."

Huffman's wife suggested checking the lights out, but he didn't go to the area until the next day.

"I had a feeling when I saw the lights. It's not so much fear as caution. It was like in Vietnam when a whole line of enemy soldiers were marching down a path, and we were outnumbered. It was 'Hey, let's let these guys go.'"

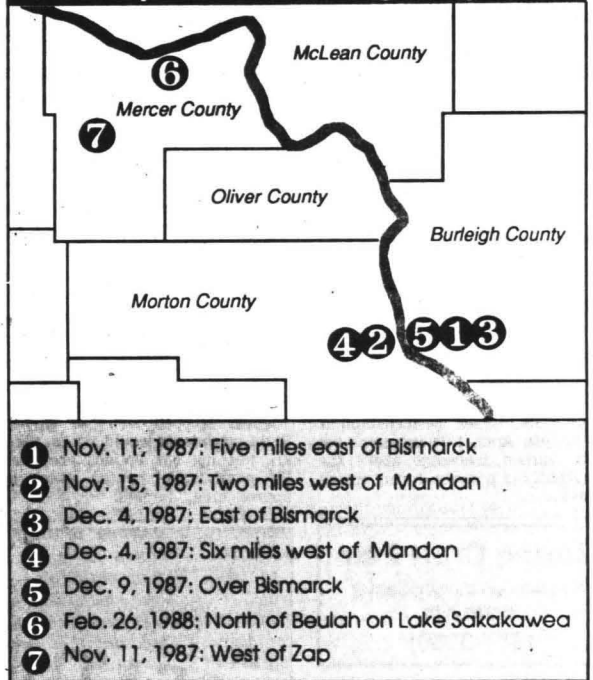
"I even joked that they were a UFO," he said.

"I sure wish I would have walked up over the hill to see. It's the first time I've ever seen anything like that. It's bothered me ever since."

Although the Minot Air Force Base did get unidentified radar returns in the area during the times of Huffman's and Walker's sightings, Staff Sgt. John Esser of the base's public affairs office said unidentified returns aren't unusual, and are often small aircraft.

The returns are unidentified

Reported UFO Sightings



Tribune graphic by Jerry Anderson

because no flight plan is filed.

Johnson said he would like to hear from anybody else who may have spotted UFOs.

Here's a recap of the sightings in the Bismarck area since November:

■ Nov. 11 — A rural Bismarck family saw an object with flashing red, green and white lights hovering above the road to McDowell Dam while driving east on N.D. Highway 10.

■ Nov. 15 — A mother and daughter saw a strange oval-like object about two miles west of Mandan.

■ Dec. 4 — Ray Griffin of Bismarck observed an object with

rotating red, green and white lights on the north side of Interstate 94.

■ Dec. 4 — Donna Mohl, Barb Grant and Carol Walter, all of Pick City, saw an object with green blue and white lights darting from spot to spot south of I-94 six miles west of Mandan.

■ Dec. 9 — A Bismarck mother and son saw an oval-shaped object with rotating green, red and white lights over Hillside Park.

■ Feb. 26 — Walker spotted a glow at 3:30 a.m. near his rural Zap home.

■ Feb. 26 — Huffman spotted a line of six bright lights glowing brightly about two miles from his Beulah home.

Daytime sighting

An Ashdown man driving north on Highway 71 near Ne-koosa Papers Monday, March 14 just after 1 p.m. noticed an unusually bright object in the western sky while checking the stacks at the mill to see the wind direction.

The man said he noticed the large bright object which he speculated must have been reflecting the sunlight like metal will do. He said the object looked to be in the shape of a figure eight with each end large and the middle portion narrow, but not as much as an actual figure eight.

After watching the object for a few seconds and realizing it wasn't an airplane, he said it suddenly accelerated off to the west within a couple of seconds and appeared to be just a dot before suddenly disappearing.

The reflection of the object appeared silver and he couldn't tell if it was hovering since he was traveling in his vehicle, but said he was sure it wasn't an airplane because of the split second acceleration more than the brightness of the object.

He indicated the distance of the object when he first spotted it would have been to the west of the mill over the Richmond Community.

UFO Column Draws Responses

My column of Nov. 24, in which I revealed that my wife and I had seen some mysterious "Unidentified Flying Objects" during the winter of 1981, inspired a couple of readers to take pen in hand. One of those letters is quoted, in large part, below; and following the letter are my responses to it.

An out-of-state reader, whose name I am withholding to prevent any possible embarrassment that might accrue to him because of the nature of the topic under discussion, wrote me on Dec. 12, saying:

"Dear Mr. Cox,
"Your article on Nov. 24, '87 regarding sighting of UFO's was very interesting. Late in the evening, I have observed a line of helicopters moving up the Pee Dee River with similar lights. When the wind blows right, there is no sound. It is an unusual feeling, to say the least. However, there was no doubt what I was seeing, different from your sighting."

"During the last few years I have noticed a few of your articles in which you wrote of other types of experiences, as you call them, supernatural and psychic manifestations. Because of the articles I stopped by your office and called you a number of times because I had the feeling that something had occurred which may have influenced you to write them. Unfortunately, you were always out. With your recent article, it appears that I may have been right."

"What you describe seems to fit a classic abduction case by UFO's. May

I suggest that you contact Mr. Bud Hopkins through his publishers regarding his work on this subject. Also read his recent book 'Intruders,' which is in your local library.

"You seem to be well read and intelligent and may already know about what I write here. Your thoughts on the subject will be very interesting to me, and I receive a mail subscription to The Journal. ..."

My thanks to this reader for his interest. I was particularly intrigued by his letter, since I had recently read of Hopkins's work and have, in fact, written to him concerning the Coxes' sighting of a UFO. Hopkins appears to be a serious researcher and has asked for a written report from anyone who has encountered a UFO; I obliged him for the sake of his research, though I doubt whether he will contact me personally because our "UFO experience" does not fit the pattern of the cases in which he has specialized in "Intruders" and his earlier book (which I have also read), "Missing Time" (1981).

Briefly, Hopkins's hypothesis — based on a number of reliably researched reports — is that many people in the United States and other countries have undergone experiences in which they seem to have been abducted by aliens, taken aboard UFO's, and become the subjects of various "experiments," some quite painful and shocking in nature. (I'll go into more detail in a forthcoming review of "Intruders.") The hypothesis seems incredible, as does the finding that these "abductees" generally become amnesiac regarding the experiences and recall them only after struggling to account for the "missing time" in their memories; but so many

persons have reported such similar experiences (and these persons show none of the usual signs of mental illness) that there must be something to it. I'm reserving judgment until I know more about the research — but my instinct tells me that, if the abductions are not actual occurrences, Hopkins must have happened upon a powerful series of archetypes, previously hidden deep in our storehouse of racial memories.

As for the assumption that my articles about the "supernatural and psychic" have arisen from some experiences of my own, I have to say that to my knowledge I have never had any psychic experiences. My interest in these subjects is no greater, I think, than that of the average person — but the fact that the average person's interest in such topics is considerable was demonstrated, I think, by the volume of responses my articles prompted.

Finally, I can't believe that the UFO's my wife and I saw were helicopters. Granted, the lights were similar — but not quite the same as on any military helicopters I have seen; and my wife and I are accustomed to seeing military helicopters, since we frequently drive through the Camp Mackall area and along the edge of the Fort Bragg Military Reservation in order to visit my wife's father in Hoke County. Moreover, as I reported on Nov. 24, my wife and I actually stood almost underneath the last of the UFO's we spotted, as it hovered apparently close to the ground — and, although there was no discernible wind at the time, we still heard no sound. I believe that UFO was a military craft of some type — but not a conventional helicopter.



Clark
Cox
Staff Writer

In the eye of Kalm's storm

Several weeks ago, I attended the presentation "ET and Me" given by the Women's Forum. The subject matter was extra-terrestrials and their abductions of earthlings.

I thought, "Well — extra-terrestrials — interesting."

In Hawaii, I've had a multitude of experiences that verge on the supernatural, so the subject didn't leave me that astounded as far as provocative material goes.

But throughout the presentation, including a video I mention in my "Aliens" article, I was taken back with the positive approach of presenting these abductions, an approach characteristic of the New Age movement.

After questioning the audience on the nature of the abductions, I seemed to see an issue most individuals didn't: that the abductions were a form of rape, seduction and totalitarian control.

So, after digging around and not getting the response I thought would give my hypothesis any credit, I had to call Rosemary Onato in New York City. Rosemary, you see, was abducted in 1973 from the roof of her Bronx apartment.

This is what she had to say:

It was late evening and I had just come back from a three-hour ride. I went into my apartment elevator and as I was going up I saw this bright light on the skylanding.

I got a strange feeling and was attracted to the bright light.

When I got on the landing, the light came down on me within seconds, and I was in the bottom of this thing that looked like a disk.

Within minutes I was on a table with creatures with almond eyes standing around me. The thing I remember most at this point was that there just wasn't enough air in the room.

Then, they did something to my chest. They started to probe me with something. I can't remember fully what they did, but it had something to do with not getting enough air.

I started to buck a lot, like I was heaving. The room was a turbulent enclosure, and they started to flood me with oxygen.

They looked like some kind of hybrid humans. But when I began to heave, someone of theirs that looked more human came out and said something about evolution — what they were doing was to help their evolution.

The most incredible thing was that I had on these crystal slippers, like platforms.

*It was amazing because when I read Betty Andreus' book *The Andreas' Affair* and saw her experience was exactly like mine with the slippers, I knew my experience was real and I didn't hallucinate the thing.*

In 1973, this sort of thing wasn't popular. I was more involved with the Watergate affair; I was more political.

Anyway, the next morning, I thought I had this rash on the back of my neck. I didn't think much about it, but I knew it

burned. My eyes burned.

That day, I went to the park with my friends and someone looked at my neck and asked me how I got that mark. I had lost my keys, and that she found them in the hallway near the elevator. In the hallway near the elevator.

If it happened now I could've put two and two together and figured it out.

Then a couple years later, I took an art class where we began by painting all kinds of pictures. The teacher just wanted us to paint, so I started drawing all kinds of things.

Then I started to draw these alien looking faces.

It wasn't until I heard Bud Hopkins on a radio station discussing UFO abduction and heard about similar cases as mine that I talked to him. He asked me if I was willing to go through hypnosis to see if what I suspected was true.

When I agreed to undergo hypnosis, it was years later and I had forgotten a lot of details. But under hypnosis, I started breathing really hard, like I had in the abduction.

The abduction took place in a desert sort of place. I remember seeing a lake. And since then, there have been UFO sightings at Mannate Lake in recent years.

I remember myself in a cabin, and it took me years to get over my trauma of fearing that someone was going to walk in the door. I kept locking my door at night.

I also began sleep walking, and found

out that Hopkins finds that that is associated with UFO abductees.

I asked Rosemary about human passivity during abductions, and if these beings exist should we try to control being taken.

For sure! It was my impression that they don't really know what they are doing to us.

It's as though they see us ripe for the picking. See us as some sort of lost species. They seem to be drawn to us, and it's something we don't know too much about and need to know more of.

I think we have to saturate ourselves with the knowledge of what they're doing. These guys see it as a perfect opportunity to take advantage of our vulnerability, like we're hipopotamuses and they're tricking us.

This is the consensus of a lot of people, not just me.

There's a strong possibility we are being visited by a kind life force. People think that when you see them and they take you away, you'll be on equal terms. But that's just not the case.

There seems to be the fantasy side to UFO's that people like to believe.

It seems that there's some kind of need in people to believe that.

I've seen soil samples of possible UFO landing sights. The soil is completely dead. Everything in the water in the soil dies, comparable to if it were burned at 600 degrees Fahrenheit.

The problem is that we do not have enough experience with it.

Encounters with UFOs? Kirkland man checks 'em out

The last time I did a column on UFOs, I was sitting in an apartment, listening to a Bellevue businessman tell me how he had been abducted by aliens on Crystal Mountain. Inside the space craft, he had been examined by "grayish-green humanoids," he said.

Now, here I am, listening to a Kirkland man telling me stories about local people who have experienced "vehicle interference." In UFO lingo, that doesn't mean a blocking accident on the bridge. That means like the *Close Encounters* scene in which Richard Dreyfuss pulls up to the railroad crossing and his pickup has a UFO-caused electromagnetic seizure.

But here's the difference between the two Eastside men: Man #1 is, well, like the kind of guy you'd expect would tell a story of being abducted by grayish-green humanoids. But Man #2 is, well, not like that at all.

His name is Donald A. Johnson. A Kirkland resident, he has a Ph.D. in quantitative psychology from the University of Washington. He's 35. Married. Two daughters. Works as a research associate in UW's School of Nursing. And, to my knowledge, has never appeared on *Real People* for receiving Vulcan messages on his Walkman.

Johnson is the Washington State Director for the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), a national organization of volunteers who investigate, analyze and record UFO sightings.

"I call myself a skeptic," says Johnson. "The right approach is a skeptical approach."

That said, Johnson readily admits he's a



Bob Welch

believer. "The evidence suggests there's something there."

And, interestingly, more Americans agree with him than disagree. A 1987 Gallup survey showed that only one-third of Americans flatly deny the existence of either UFOs or extraterrestrial life.

Those most likely to believe? College-educated people in the West between the ages of 30 and 49 — categories in which roughly 6 of 10 believe in UFOs.

SOUNDS pretty Eastsidish to me.

Which brings us back to Johnson, who has been chasing flying-saucer reports since he was a 15-year-old in Connecticut. His most recent investigation came after a Jan. 21 Whidbey Island sighting.

An ex-Navy lieutenant and six family members say they watched an orange-yellow light in the southern sky. The object shot straight up, abruptly stopped, made a sharp right-angle turn in the horizontal direction and came straight toward them.

The ex-lieutenant said the object covered a distance of 1½ miles in approximately 3

seconds, which works out to be 1,800 mph. As the object approached the family's house, it slowed, taking approximately 15 seconds to drift over the onlookers. Then, the noiseless craft disappeared.

"The fact that this overflight occurred in restricted military airspace, together with the testimony of multiple witnesses, the complete lack of sound, the observation of the unusual lighting patterns on the object seen through magnification (135 mm telephoto lens) and the lack of wind, combine to provide sufficient information to classify this case an unknown," Johnson's report says.

Here's the kicker: In the same area, about the same time, a Navy man was driving along when he noticed a bright light in his rear-view mirror. When he turned to look, the light shot past him.

Then, according to Johnson, the man's car experienced vehicle interference: The engine stalled. The dashboard began going berserk. The oil and water digital read-outs stopped working. The outside temperature gauge was stuck on 98 degrees.

BECAUSE he's still investigating this case, Johnson hasn't made an official conclusion. But he thinks there's a strong possibility the two are related.

Why should we believe him?

"Anyone can call themselves an expert and go to the media with some loony-tune theory," he says.

But Johnson says he's credible for two reasons: 20 year's experience and a deep background in psychology, which helps him weed the reliable reports from the

unreliable. He doesn't believe anything unless there's sufficient evidence, he rarely accepts single-witness reports and he says only about a fourth of the 200 cases he's investigated offer "solid" findings of a UFO.

"For example, there's no compelling evidence to say they're extraterrestrials. But there's evidence that something's there. And if you believe the account of witnesses, we're dealing with an intelligently controlled phenomenon."

If not extraterrestrials, then what are we talking about? The possibilities are endless, but a couple Johnson mentioned — neither with much credence — are parallel universes or a sort of "super technology" developed by some nation, perhaps the United States.

I showed Johnson the latest issue of *The Skeptical Inquirer*, in which the magazine shoots down abduction-by-alien stories. Johnson, too, is skeptical of those. But he also believes the magazine's publisher — the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal — needs to be more open-minded to UFO evidence.

"Some of them take the stance that it can't be true, therefore it isn't true," says Johnson, who has debated the group's chief UFO debunker, Philip J. Klass.

True or not, the idea of UFOs is interesting to ponder — especially when you're driving that dark country road and your dashboard lights up like a pinball machine.

Probably just a loose fuse.

Bob Welch's column runs Monday, Wednesday and Friday in *The Journal-American*. Have a question, comment, idea? Call him at 453-4246.

Last year filled with unexplained sightings

A statewide volunteer scientific clearinghouse that conducts open minded investigations of UFO sightings and other strange occurrences reported by the public says that such incidents were numerous in 1987. The Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained (PASU), based in Greensburg, investigated several hundred cases of these events, and received reports of such occurrences from 22 counties in the Commonwealth.

The majority of strange incidents reported in 1987 were alleged sightings of UFOs, but many other odd occurrences were also reported. These cases include sightings of Bigfoot, mountain lions and other

strange animals, unusual underground rumblings, fireballs, unexplained sounds, disappearances and unusual killings of farm animals as well as giant footprints found in the ground.

From January through July, a number of different people reported seeing Bigfoot. The creature described as standing from about seven to nine feet tall, had long dark hair in most cases, with no neck, and very long arms hanging down below its knees. In some cases a strong rotten egg smell was reported at the same time. Animals showing unusual reactions to the presence of the creature, something which has shown up many times

over the years, was also reported. Many of the Bigfoot sightings were along Chestnut Ridge from Latrobe to New Derry.

UFO sightings were sporadically reported since the start of the year. But with the beginning of August, a major wave of unexplained UFO activity began, and this continued into November.

On Sept. 3 at about dusk, four witnesses including police officers watched a huge metallic cigar shaped object, estimated to be 300 feet long, with multiple lights, move from the west over the high tension power lines toward the wooded area behind the Greengate Garden apartment complex along Route 30.

If you have seen a UFO or have experienced other strange occurrences, PASU would like you to write a narrative report of when, where, and what you saw and what took place. You may write to Stan Gordon, Director of Operations, or Steve Pelles, a Pittsburgh Electronics Engineer and Assistant Director, at 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, Pa. 15601.

SPIRIT, Jeanette, PA

Jan. 6, 1988

CR: L. Whitehurst

Close encounters

Strange sitings remembered by teacher

By BOB DENYS
ANP Staff Writer

Harry Willnus didn't expect a thing.

It was an ordinary Friday and following classes at Romulus High School, Willnus played a little pick up basketball and then stopped at a local pub for some refreshment and conversation.

He had no idea that his life would never be quite the same.

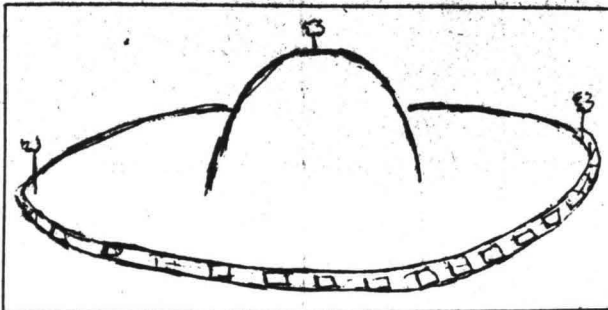
Harry Willnus was about to hear a first-hand account of an experience he had only read and speculated about. It was Feb. 8, 1978 when numerous area residents began to report the sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects to local police and aviation authorities.

Ten years later, Willnus remains fascinated with the possibility of space travel, UFOs and extraterrestrial phenomena. Last week, Willnus recalled the specifics of several of the sightings in Romulus for his students.

"I had always been interested in UFOs. Now, a full-blown wave of sightings happened right under my nose and in my own backyard. I'll never forget that day," he said enthusiastically.

He was listening to WJR-AM radio personality Warren Pierce was answer calls on the air from people reporting "strange lights in the skies around metro Detroit."

Moments later, according to Willnus, Mark Avery, a well-known radio personality and WJR afternoon disc jockey, called in to say he actually encountered a UFO near the free-



This unusual object was sketched by a Lower Huron Park ranger shortly after he witnessed it at about 10:45 p.m. Feb. 8, 1978.

way interchange of I-275 and I-94 shortly before 7 p.m. in Romulus. Willnus phoned home and family members recorded the radio conversation.

"For probably the first time in history," Willnus said, "two radio jockeys discussed a first-person close encounter before a live radio audience. Avery said he was traveling south on I-275, when two very bright lights came out of the darkened sky and headed directly toward his car. His first thoughts were about a distressed plane making an emergency landing on the freeway. He pulled to the side of the road and stopped. About a dozen other cars followed. What happened next amazed both Avery and his wife," explained Willnus.

"Mark described in great detail his experiences that night. The object was large about the size of a commercial airliner. It stopped dead in the air and hovered above the car for about 30 seconds. It then headed west toward Willow Run Airport," Willnus said.

Pierce confirmed that other people called to report "lots of lights blinking on and off" in that area. In a strange twist, Willnus said the following Monday, he overheard two seniors "discussing a story they heard at Daly's Drive-In in Romulus over the weekend."

Willnus tracked down the source and soon he learned of another encounter just two days earlier at the Lower Huron Metro Park. He calls the episode, "The Park Ranger Case."

"On this particular clear, crisp night, as the park ranger completed locking the Hannan Road gate, he noticed lights in the northwest sky by the pool area. At first, he said, he didn't give it any thought. But as he continued moving toward the area, the lights remained stationary. When he got his first clear view, he was so intent on watching this, he backed his squad car into a snow bank.

"Dead ahead about 150 yards, was a large object hovering above a tree. He said

the object was sombrero shaped and about 25 to 35 feet across. It had multicolored lights which oscillated around the perimeter of the craft. The ranger said he heard no noise from the object," said Willnus.

The ranger radioed his partner who arrived in time to witness the object "move slowly back and forth across the tree tops and it suddenly jetted off," the ranger told Willnus.

"The ranger said he felt a calm excitement and a kind of internal warmth during the encounter," Willnus added.

These sightings occurred shortly after the movie premiere of *Close Encounters of a Third Kind* Willnus noted.

"I was so intrigued with this. I've been interested in UFOs since I was kid. Over the years, I've since read numerous books related to the UFO phenomenon. I am definitely acquainted with the subject," he said.

Willnus was working as an authorized volunteer investigator for the Center for UFO Studies. The Illinois-based center was run by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, considered the foremost authority on UFO investigations at the time.

He added that two men walking near Michigan and Merriam roads reported seeing a huge circular object moving from east to west at about the same time as the I-275 sighting.

"I believe Romulus is a hot spot for UFO activity. The first wave of modern UFO sightings occurred in 1947. It makes me wonder, what's here in Romulus that's so interesting. It doesn't make sense to me.

UFOs sighted in Battletown

By MARK BANDURSKIE
Staff Writer

WHIZZZZZZZZ!

"What? What was that thing that just flew by?" "I don't know, do you think it was a — UFO?"

Such was the conversation of some of the residents in the Battletown and Wolf Creek area a few weeks ago after spotting what they described as a UFO. Another sighting was reported this past week. All of the sightings occurred between the hours of 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

The residents told *The Pioneer* that the sightings were in the shape of discs that rotated with rays of light spewing from the hull of the object.

Some of the Battletown residents were near the Cold Spring Baptist Church when they saw the illuminous object hovering above the treetops on the Indiana shoreline.

The following day, a couple of people heard that a lady's car was tossed against a tree the day after the UFO was sighted in Battletown.

"I was standing at the Cold Spring Baptist Church when I saw this huge white light up in the sky hovering above some trees this side of the river," patrolman Earl "Lucy" Smith said with his eyes growing to the size of golfballs as he recounted the story.

The object had bright yellow, red and green lights flashing, he

said. All of a sudden, the object just flew off in an instant's notice."

Smith swears that he did see something, though inexplicable, as people questioned what he saw.

Roy Padgett was also with Smith and he said that the two saw a green light.

"We then drove down toward the Battletown Elementary School," Padgett said nodding his head, "and saw the lighted figure in the sky."

"We backed into the school parking lot and watched the object for 15 minutes. After awhile, we drove up to see a lady that we originally came to see."

Padgett said that the woman also saw the object.

"To have seen the look on her face would make anyone believe that there was indeed something. Those to whom this reporter talked gave the same description of what they saw."

Fort Knox officials said that there were not any aircraft in the air at the time of the sightings.

Padgett said he was sure there weren't any helicopters in the air.

"This thing sat still for too long a period of time and also left too fast," Padgett said.

Routinely, Fort Knox sends planes to aviate the area and use spotlights to identify checking points that are specified on their land charts for surveillance.

One observer agreed that some of the planets are so far away that

we cannot see anything but the shapes of the planets. How do we know that planets don't have life forms with technology advanced enough to travel to our planet?, he asked.

Many stories are spread about the sightings of unidentified flying objects. Research in the Meade County Public Library gave one such example:

In this county, an elderly woman who owned a large farm said that she heard something that resembled the sound a top makes when it spins.

After the sound was heard, the lady walked to her window and saw a spaceship hovering above the farm pond. Soon, the ship flew away and the pond was gone. No fish, no water, and no vegetation was left. The bottom of the pond was dry and cracked.

The rest is up to you to believe. Are these people exaggerating? At least eight people from different areas in the Lower End drew the conclusion that they saw something they couldn't identify.

PIONEER, Brandenburg, KY

Feb. 23, 1988

SUN, Bremerton, WA
March 2, 1988

Green object reported over Bangor base

Several Kitsap County residents reported seeing a bright green object in the skies above Naval Submarine Base Bangor Monday evening.

Local authorities, however, including the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, apparently didn't log any reports from residents.

Mike Schroer of rural Poulsbo said he saw the object as he jogged on Clear Creek Road near Sherman Hill Road south of the Bangor base about 6:20 p.m.

He said the object was larger than a commercial aircraft and traveling about "10 times the speed of an airliner."

Schroer said the object was bright green and appeared to come down on the Trident submarine base, disappearing into the trees.

A Seattle radio station reported the object could have been debris re-entering the atmosphere.

"That was my first thought when I saw it," Schroer said. "Space debris."

A dispatcher at CenCom said he understood the evening shift had gotten "several reports from residents, primarily in the county."

"Not a thing," said KCSO Chief of Detectives Dave Morgan, in reviewing deputies' reports from that evening.

PRESS, Atlantic City, NJ
March 2, 1988

EHT Cops, Residents Spot UFO

By MICHAEL FLEMING
Press Correspondent

EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP — Several residents and Egg Harbor Township police reported seeing an unidentified flying object Tuesday night, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration said.

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

"The technical center was notified by an Egg Harbor Township resident at approximately 9:15 this evening of a green light or lights that appeared to be hovering in the Egg Harbor Township area," Willett said.

"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.

"They did indicate, I'm told, that the lights were in fact hovering over the Hamilton Mall in Hamilton Township. I checked it with the Atlantic City tower at the Atlantic City Airport and there has been no radar activity."

"Visibility is 12 miles or better and the only aircraft activity that has come into the technical center has been two C-130s up from Delaware which were here for about 20 minutes at about 10 minutes of 9. A C-130 does not hover. It is a large, large aircraft," Willett said.

Police Lt. John Pope downplayed the incident, saying, "What my men saw was an airplane."

Early today a patrolman who saw it described the UFO as slow-moving but not hovering.

"It was pretty far off. It looked like a slow-moving plane. It was moving. It was not stationary," Patrolman Ed Kulesa said.

"No, we did not react militarily," said Mike Henry, a duty officer at the technical center.

The last local UFO sighting was Dec. 1 but that later was thought to be a meteor.

JO-1 Walter Rekoski, a spokesman for Submarine Group Nine at Bangor, had this comment: "Items of a significant value are routinely entered into the chronological log at the United Airlines Services Corp. security police. And there was nothing entered yesterday, concerning a UFO sighting over Naval Submarine Base Bangor, nor were there any official reports received by the command duty officer of Submarine Group 9."

"There were, however, only unofficial reports received by the United Security police from the nearby civilian community, concerning a flaming object in the sky that was heading westwardly towards subbase. No further notification of this reported incident was made."

Witness violates first photo rule

By CHARLES F. TRENTLMAN
Standard-Examiner staff

And now, an instructive story which will help make us all better people.

We swear the following is exactly as reported to us:

We got a phone call a while back from a guy who said his name was Ervin.

No last name — he didn't want his name in the papers. But he wanted someone to believe him very badly.

He had big news. Beings from outer space have visited earth and (State Division of Wildlife Resources please note) they are taking deer out of season.

There he was, he said, on the night of Dec. 20, at 3:45 a.m. driving down I-84. He was 65 miles east of Ogden when he saw this startling object off to the side of the highway.

"There was a rectangular shape, it was low toward the ground and I saw it picking up deer," he said.

Hard to believe, we said.

"I know," he agreed. "If someone told me this I would think they was crazy too." But, yes, he said, that's what he saw.

"It had to be about... shoot! I'm trying to figure out the size. It was about as wide as a big house and I just seen it picking up deer. It was unbelievable. I seen this stuff on TV, but I never thought I'd see it."

What did it look like, we asked.

"It was just flat-like," he said, and was a light color, "like a light green glowing color."

"It didn't really make a sound because the wind was blowing. You see, you couldn't really hear it."

He didn't try to get close to it, he said — it was on the other side of the highway for one thing, and you know how the highway patrol feels about people crossing interstates. For another who wants to get too close to a flying saucer?

Wasn't he scared?

"Yah, a little bit, but I was more interested than scared." He watched it for a while, he said, then left.

Ervin swore his story is true. He is 20, he said, and a student at Weber State College. He promised he hadn't been drinking, smoking anything funny or taking strange pills that night. It was late, he admitted, but he was wide awake.

Well, we said, of course you can prove your story. You can, for example, provide us with a picture of this flying device?

No, Ervin admitted. He couldn't.

Which brings us to the meaning of this little parable.

Here's Ervin, a nice enough sounding guy with a story that could make him large amounts of money from the newspapers you see in grocery stores.

If he had a really clear proof, such as a nicely exposed picture, not faked or anything, he could possibly even interest professional skeptics such as those who work on daily newspapers. Maybe even the Standard-Examiner.

But he doesn't have that proof.

Ervin violated the first rule of photography, which is — you always carry your camera with you, no matter what. You just never know when a picture will be there, aching for you to take it.

But no. Ervin blew it.

He said he'd take a camera with him the next time he went by that piece of road, but it's too late for that. He hasn't called back, so we must assume the flying things didn't show up on his return trip.

So Ervin must go through life knowing that when his ship came in he was at the harbor but his camera was at the airport.

Let us all learn by his experience.



Charles F. Trentelman

About photography

Planely, folks, it was no UFO

By SHARON BROUSSARD

Daily News Staff Writer

Hundreds of callers lit up switchboards in New York and New Jersey last night, breathlessly reporting a cigar-shaped UFO lurking in the sky.

After some confusion, state police determined the bizarre apparition was a gaggle of airplanes whose pilots were imitating a UFO.

"A trooper with binoculars saw they were ultralight airplanes, about five or 10 of them," State Trooper Greg Porteus said at the Peekskill barracks.

"They are convincing to people who don't

know what they are looking at. They do this to get this kind of reaction," he explained.

The ruse worked. Sightings were reported along the Hudson River all the way to Ossining and in Mahopac, N.Y.

Police said the airplanes achieve their eerie look by flying in various formations and then cutting their throttles to make it appear as though they are floating.

State police did not seem amused. "Some elderly people were very upset, because they said it was hovering near their house," said Porteus. "They were very scared and frightened."

UFO sightings reported in Staunton area

Several area residents have reported separate UFO sightings over the past few weeks and again Wednesday night.

Area residents who spoke with a reporter on the condition they remain anonymous, Thursday said they saw what resembled a huge star at approximately 9:45 p.m. Saturday.

One eyewitness said she had been driving on Statler Boulevard to Kroger's when she noticed a large bright object to the right of her.

"It was too low to be a star. I guess that's what caught me, the brightness of it and the lowness of it," said the lifelong Staunton resident who runs her own business.

She described the object as a white light, somewhat oval in shape, surrounded by red lights.

At times, the object would shrink and disappear before reappearing in a different part of the sky, then it turned entirely red several times before disappearing altogether at approximately 10:30 p.m., she said.

"You would have had to have seen it in order to believe it," she added.

A Crimora man and a Mt. Sidney woman all reported similar sightings.

All reported a bright light surrounded by red ones which seemed to shrink, disappear and then reappear in a different part of the sky.

In another sighting, a Rockbridge Baths woman reported seeing a UFO at approximately 10 p.m. Wednesday.

"I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it," she added.

She said she was approximately two miles from her home about five miles west of U.S. 39 when she saw a large flying object shaped like a capital I on its side with green lights on all four corners pull in front of her car.

"I saw this flash of green. It was right in front of my windshield so I slammed on the brakes," said the woman.

The object she could only describe as a UFO was about 15 to 20 feet long, six to seven feet high and a foot thick. She said it hovered about six feet above the ground.

She rolled down her window and turned down the radio and watched the missile-like object drift soundlessly across the road into a pasture and eventually into the woods, she said.

"Then I just sat there stunned. It really shook me up," she said.

She and two men in a car behind her all saw the same thing, she said. She said they all talked about the experience and waited about a half hour to see if it would reappear, but it never did.

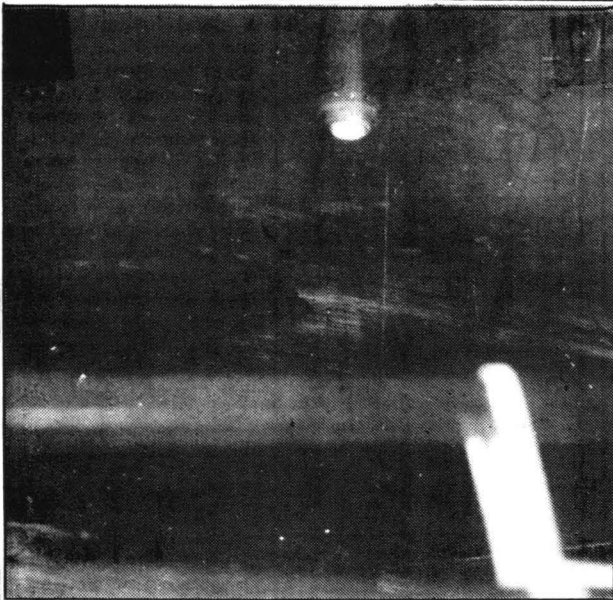
"We thought it would pull up over the woods but we didn't see it again," she said.

"There was just no explanation for it," she added.

Military and police officials contacted Thursday said they had not received any reports of UFO sightings in the area.

An Air Force spokesman said that department had once pursued most incidents reported, but dropped that policy in 1969.

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL - Feb. 11, 1988 CR: R. Reid



Above UFO photograph taken January 24th at Tiger Point East. The craft lit up briefly, then departed straight up as the picture was being taken.

Famous UFO Author Visits Gulf Breeze, Believes Sightings are Authentic

BY HANK BOLAND

Well known author and U.F.O. expert Budd Hopkins was in town earlier this week.

Mr. Hopkins is the author of *Missing Time* and the current best seller *Intruders The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods*.

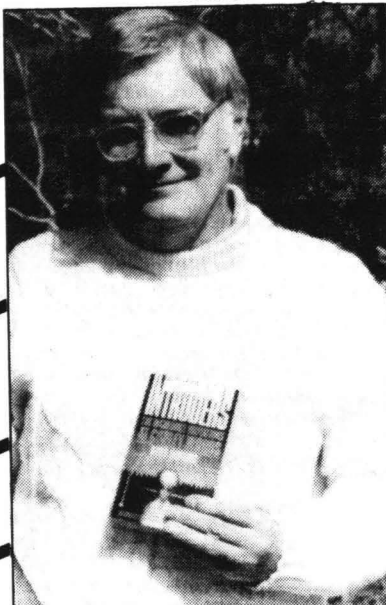
Intruders tells the story of Kathie Davis family and their experience with U.F.O. abductions. The book is a tender, scientific study of a family that has come face to face with the unknown and how they handled their confrontations.

Mr. Hopkins statement of the Gulf Breeze U.F.O. incident is as follows:

"The credibility of the pictures and the photographer should not be questioned. The fact that the photos are clear, detailed, and contain so much information that can be validated, shows they are authentic."

"The abundance of sightings and witnesses is of such a magnitude as to render the orchestration of a hoax highly unlikely."

Mr. Hopkins went on to say that the classic U.F.O. hoax is typified by the involvement of only one person working covertly. He added that his presence here was meant to be more therapeutic than investigative.



For twelve years Budd Hopkins has been a skeptical & meticulous investigator of UFO reports. As a painter & sculptor he has received many awards. His work is shown in galleries & museums around the world, including the Guggenheim & Whitney Museum of American Art. He lives in NYC & Cape Cod.

DAILY NEWS LEADER, Staunton, VA - March 25, 1988 CR: B. Pittman



STAR, London, England - Jan. 27, 1988 CR: D. Speed

UFOs: TELL US THE TRUTH

By ROB MCGIBBON

A UFO expert yesterday urged the Government to admit that aliens exist.

Dr. Richard Lawrence accused the Ministry of Defence of covering up thousands of sightings for fear of causing panic.

And he claimed droves of aliens would visit Earth when all the facts are released and accepted.

Destroyed

"The Government does not want to admit there is a superior power of intelligence," said Dr. Lawrence, European head of the Aetherius Society, a worldwide body devoted to proving extra-terrestrial beings exist.

"It has all the evidence needed to prove aliens exist but won't let the public have it."

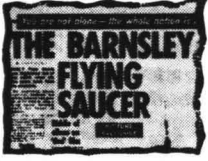
"There is nothing to fear. There certainly are other forms of life much more

advanced than us. They do not kill people — it they wanted us dead they could do it in seconds."

"They want to help us to progress and improve the world for a better life."

The MoD has publicly acknowledged that unidentified flying objects exist, and has catalogued them.

Mysteriously, files of sightings in the 1950s were never released under the



UFOs galore... Star headlines on alien encounters.

30-year Information Protection Act because the MoD had destroyed them to make room for other documents, said Dr. Lawrence.

He added: "The belief in superior beings threatens the whole Establishment."

That's why the Government wants everything hushed up.

"UFO sightings have been going on for centuries. Now the believers are in the majority."

Since Dr. Lawrence opened a hotline last April,

450 "genuine" sightings have been logged. Calls have come from as far away as Majorca, Italy and Australia.

The two most common sightings are of "cigar shaped" objects, believed to be mother ships, and flying saucer shapes, believed to be scout craft.

Interest

The most popular areas for sightings in Britain are in the West Country and South Wales.

The MoD refused to comment officially on Dr. Lawrence's allegations of a cover-up.

A spokesman said: "Our sole interest in UFO reports is to establish whether they reveal anything of defence interest."

"Reports are passed to operational staff who examine them as part of their normal duties."

The spokesman could not confirm records had been destroyed in the 1960s.

ANOTHER 72 SIGHTINGS

By IAN TRUEMAN

THERE have been an amazing 72 sightings of UFOs in the North of England since New Year's Day. And on one occasion, a spaceship actually touched down.

It happened at 11.15 p.m. on Saturday, January 9, in a field just off the A525 at Audlem, Cheshire.

Several passers-by saw a brightly-lit object hovering in the sky, and then with a flash it swooped down and landed for 10 minutes.

Eric Morris, an expert member of

the British UFO Research Association, received several calls about the sighting, and when he visited the spot he found newly-scorching trees and grass.

Journal

Eric, 34, a psychiatric nurse, from Crewe, said yesterday: "After listening to the people who claim to have seen the UFO and making my

own investigations, I am convinced there was a landing."

Mark Birdsall, a researcher with the leading UFO investigation journal, Quest, said: "Something is happening. We have never received so many reports of sightings in a confined area in such a short space of time."

"They have come from the public, police, RAF officers and astrologers. We have even had reports of military aircraft chasing the UFOs."

TIMES SERIES, Bedfordshire, England - Feb. 25, 1988 CR: D. Pearson

Mysterious lights spark UFO alert



● Watcher of the skies: Patrick Lyell.

MYSTERIOUS flashing objects, travelling silently at a high speed, have been sighted in the skies over Ampthill.

Witness Patrick Lyell said he saw 20 or 30 lights grouped over Ampthill and Stewartby, coloured orange, red and white and moving erratically.

And he has dismissed suggestions that they could simply be aircraft or stars.

"Two of them went right over my head," said Patrick, of Cornwell Road, Bedford. "I could see seven or eight different lights on them and the strange thing was that they made no noise whatsoever."

"There's no way I could have mistaken them for anything but UFOs."

Speed

The 21-year-old decorator first noticed the objects as he and his friend, Robert Finch, drove from Bedford to Ampthill.

"We watched them for about half an hour. Sometimes two would join into one and they would move off at high speed. We weren't frightened. It was fascinating."

Needless to say, nobody believed him when he arrived home.

The incident happened last Thursday night and although no sightings were reported to the police, a spokesman at Cranfield aerodrome air traffic control confirmed that there had been queries about similar sightings on the same night.

Nearby RAF Chicksands confirmed that they had no suspicious radar signals on that night.

UFO sighted over garden

YET another UFO sighting has been reported in the "News" area — this time in Rushmoor.

Since Christmas a number of strange objects have been seen in the night skies around Bagshot, Lightwater, Blackwater and Yateley.

Now an elderly Farnborough woman has spoken about a mysterious craft she saw two weeks ago.

Miss Mary Sackley (78), of Prospect Road, says she was locking her garden shed one evening when she was startled by a large object coming in to view from behind the rooftops.

"It was just like somebody running very quickly with a torch across the sky — I had never seen anything like it before," said Miss Sackley.

The noiseless craft then stopped for a matter of seconds and green and blue lights began flashing from the edge

of its circular body. It then vanished.

Miss Sackley did not think any more of it until she saw the drawing of a UFO seen by Andrew Findlay of Camberley, on the front page of the "News."

SPATE

"I never thought about it until I saw the picture," said Miss Sackley. "I bumped into my niece and I said 'you know that thing in the paper about

the flying saucer — I saw it out the back!'"

Local UFO expert Mr. Rex Dutta said he believed that the current spate of sightings had nothing to do with an increase in extra-terrestrial activity in the area.

"Sightings are constant — they are happening all the time. It is the reports in the media that come in spurts. As soon as you do one story you uncover other sightings," he said.

UFO sightings being logged

LAST week's Gazette story about a group of seven people who spotted an unidentified flying object over the Brampton area caused a great deal of interest.

But what would you do if you spotted something out of the ordinary in the sky?

Well the first thing you should do is call Shuttlewood woman Elsa Lee who is the assistant director for investigations for the Yorkshire UFO Society.

The group, which was set up in Leeds but has now gone international, logs reported sightings and all data is fed into its computer.

To most people the letters UFO conjure up images of flying saucers manned by little green men from Mars, but Elsa is quick to point out that, after a little research, most of the "unidentified" objects

are after all, accounted for.

"Usually we manage to identify about 90 per cent of them, but of course it is the other ten per cent which intrigues us," she explained.

Elsa revealed that there had been a spate of sightings in the north of England since the turn of the year.

"We've already had around 100 reported 'sightings' this month including another particularly interesting one in Derbyshire close to the A38 between Burton and Derby," she said.

So, when you just can't believe what you are seeing in the night sky, give Elsa a ring on Cld 822300.

Mystery light seen hovering

A mysterious light has been spotted in the sky above Dudley just weeks after reports of a strange UFO in nearby Staffordshire villages.

Workers at a Wolverhampton horse sanctuary claim they have now seen a huge light above Dudley twice.

Their sighting comes less than two months after a large UFO shaped like Concorde was reported over Wombourne, Codsall and Penkridge.

The new sightings have been made by staff at the Tettenhall Horse Sanctuary, Jenny Walker Lane, Wolverhampton.

The sanctuary is on a hill and employees say they have seen the light hovering above the Kingswinford area before moving towards Dudley and vanishing.

The first sighting before Christmas was shrugged off but when staff saw it again on Thursday at the same time, 4.30 pm, they became concerned.

EXPRESS & STAR, Wolverhampton, England - Jan. 23, 1988

Dawn UFO spotter no hoaxter — police

POLICE ARE taking seriously reports that a giant UFO paid a flying visit to South Wales yesterday.

The sighting was made by a resident of Pyle during an early-morning walk along a lane near Meadow Street in North Cornelly.

A statement from South Wales police said, "His attention was drawn to a large object in the sky roughly over the area of South Cornelly."

Coloured

"He described the object as being the size of three maisonettes with three rows of different coloured lights."

"The object moved off, but he could not state in which direction."

Officers have interviewed the man, who does not want to be named, and are satisfied he is no hoaxter.

WESTERN MAIL, Cardiff, Wales - Jan. 28, 1988 CR: T. Good

ALDERSHOT NEWS, Hants., England Jan. 22, 1988 CR: T. Good

UFOs 'Captured' On Film

By CYNTHIA CHAN

When Dorothy saw a strange flying object one afternoon in her Richmond backyard 14 years ago, she enthusiastically reported this sight to her family.

But her children weren't very impressed. "At the time, I was going through menopause, so my children thought I was going a bit crazy," remembers Izatt, 65, a petite woman with large intense eyes.

For advice, the desperate woman turned to a sympathetic newswoman who suggested that she get the objects on film.

So Izatt borrowed her husband's movie camera and zeroed in on the objects. Today, she says she has over 300 films showing strange looking crafts darting through the air, even leaving messages for scientists to unravel.

Her films, she says, have been "tested and tested" by the experts who can offer no explanation for the objects.

But Izatt who claims to be psychic, says the aliens are here to try to save humanity.

"My experience is that they are higher beings. They are concerned with mankind because we are going to the dogs and they are trying to help. In the old days, I guess we'd call them angels. Nowadays, we refer to them as UFO's."

Izatt's interest in this subject is apparent. Although she speaks almost non-stop about her UFO experiences, her home gives little indication of her unusual pastime. Her living room is neat and quite simply furnished. A battered up movie camera, held together by an elastic band, is the only indication of her interest in extraterrestrials.

Other people may be frightened of the idea of aliens visiting earth, but Izatt, herself, is rather calm and blasé about the space creatures.

They're here to promote peace and love, insists

Izatt, who says the world is closer to destruction because of countless wars and the nuclear arms build up.

The aliens have taught her a lot, says Izatt. "I get an intense feeling of ecstasy" when the beings are near. "I feel an incredible love of humanity."

The Richmond grandmother, however, can't explain why she is the recipient of an incredible number of sightings.

"I don't know," she says. "But if they want you to see them, they just lower their vibrations."

Apparently the aliens have taken a special interest in this attractive human. She shows a photo in her album which displays her initials etched in the sky by the humanoid artists.

Izatt admits that there are many skeptics. "When some people hear that I have over 300 films of UFO's, they just walk away."

But that's fine with Izatt who says people have the right to believe or disbelieve in UFO's.

She's more concerned with folks who have seen the strange objects and are questioning their sanity.

She tells these people not to worry because there are many people in the world who have had close encounters with extraterrestrials.

She has spoken out about UFO's through a number of guest appearances on TV shows, and in public meetings.

But she is choosy about who she talks to.

One American TV show offered her a guest spot, but she nixed the idea because she says her story might have been "sensationalized."

Her unusual experiences will be detailed in a book, which is half-way completed.

"I'm hoping that others who have experienced UFO's will learn from my experience," she says.



NEWS, Richmond, B.C., Canada - Dec. 9, 1987 CR: G. Conway

Mother backs tale of alien

STAR, Shropshire, England
Jan. 26, 1988 CR: D. Speed

Several unidentified flying objects have been sighted in the Cheswardine area near Market Drayton, a woman has claimed.

Mrs Margaret Bourne, of The Bungalow, Hopshort, whose 47-year-old bachelor son Malcolm was reported as having come face to face with a 6ft alien in his own bedroom, says she believes her son's story.

Horsebreeder Malcolm said the "muttering monster" terrified him and he is still haunted by the vision, which was in 1985.

Malcolm, who his mother claimed was offered money for the article, said the vision vanished in a circular swirl of white smoke.

Mrs Bourne said she believed Malcolm's story and claimed she saw a UFO herself one night last October.

She described it as a seven to eight-inch dinner plate floating outside her kitchen window. It was followed by a streak of lightning and a tiny rainbow.

'Flying bulb' UFO hunt

WESTERN DAILY PRESS,
Bristol, England - Feb.
19, 1988 CR: T. Good

POLICE have been scouring fields near Bradford-on-Avon for a mysterious UFO which fell from the sky.

A large black bulb shape, spurning flames underneath, came crashing down and was spotted by worried Peter and Irene Golding.

They called the police,

fearing it was a crashing plane or hot air balloon, but the object could not be traced.

It fell over their home in Budbury Circle and disappeared towards fields at Westwood.

"It was there just a few seconds, I had never seen anything like it before. It is

very hard to explain," said Mr Golding.

Many unidentified flying objects have been spotted in Wiltshire over the years, but most of them disappear in the other direction over Westbury.

Inspector Max Phease of Wiltshire police said: "We think it must have been a meteor, but we did not find anything."

A bright light puts the experts in the dark

NORTH WESTERN DAILY MAIL, Barrow-in-Furness, England
Feb. 18, 1988 CR: T. Good

THE mysterious bright light in the night sky to the west of Barrow, reported in Monday's Evening Mail, has still not been explained.

Scores of people witnessed the phenomena but Furness Astronomical Society has been unable to come up with an answer.

And an idea that it could have been the flickering of an off-shore gas installation burn-off is discounted by the sighting of the light by people as far inland as Cartmel.

The light was first spotted by Mrs Margaret Dacre of Laburnum Crescent, Barrow, and it also caught the eye of Hawcoat Lane resident Wilfred Docker and Peter Bibby of Headless Close, Cartmel, who watched it with visitors to his home.

Mrs Dacre said she watched the object for some half hour during which it changed colour on a number of occasions.

SATELLITE

Mr Docker noticed it as he was drawing the curtains at his home.

To him it first appeared to be a bright sphere in the sky and he went to fetch field glasses to get a better view.

"It gave the impression of having a kind of axle through it, so I came to the conclusion it must be a satellite and did not think any more about it until I

read of Mrs Dacre's sighting of it in the Evening Mail.

"It was so unusual that I called to my wife to come and have a look, but we did not watch it for long and I can't recall that it changed colour," said Mr Docker.

To Mr Bibby at Cartmel it appeared as a very bright star.

"We rang some friends to go outside and have a look at it," he said.

Furness Astronomical Society secretary, Robert Sylvester said: "None of our members could shed any light on what kind of

astronomical object it could be."

Initial ideas that it could have been either Jupiter or Venus could perhaps be discounted because of the time. Venus could sometimes give off colours, but not until much later in the evening than 7pm when the light was seen.

"No astronomical object we know of fits the description given at that time and place," added Mr Sylvester.

Mr Ben Wilson and his wife, Mona, of Bank Top, Ark, also saw the object.

"It was a round object with flashing lights revol-

ving round the base, we watched it for a quarter of an hour.

"We see aircraft flying over at night regularly,

and this was certainly nothing like we have ever seen before.

"What it was I just don't know," said Mr Wilson.

Luminous UFO reported over Beira

STAR, Johannesburg, South Africa - Feb. 15, 1988
CR: D. Powell/G. Conway

MAPUTO — A luminous, unidentified flying object was seen over the port city of Beira, the official newspaper *Noticias* reported at the weekend.

The newspaper said the object was observed by many Beira residents for about a half-hour on Thursday evening, shortly before dusk.

The Beira station of the Mozambican Meteorological Service also observed the object and said it was not one of its balloons, *Noticias* reported.

The weather station estimated that the object was 175 km from Beira and was at an altitude of 11 km. — Sapa-AP.

Now everybody's seeing starships

EVENING MAIL, Birmingham, England - Feb. 18, 1988

Reported sightings of UFOs have been coming in from throughout the West Midlands today — 24 hours after two separate police patrols claimed to have spotted unidentified flying objects over Walsall.

Mr Stewart Norris, his wife Teresa and their 16-year-old son Richard from Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, all say that they

BY HELEN GLANVILLE

saw a "huge cream light" in the sky as they were driving home on the A38 13 days ago.

"We thought at first that it might be a helicopter but it didn't look like one," said Mr Norris.

"Then it took off at terrific speed towards Barr Beacon. It changed into four lights — two at the front and two at the

side. Because of its speed we didn't believe that it could possibly be a helicopter or a plane."

Mr Adrian Scott, a 35-year-old security officer at the Birmingham Science Museum, contacted the International airport a day before press reports of UFO sightings.

Mr Scott, of Harborne Park Road, Birmingham, claimed that he saw a UFO two nights running.

"I saw it first on Sunday night. It was

like a large white collar in a W-shape. There was no sound at all.

"On Monday night I was putting out my rubbish when I saw green and red lights in the sky. A white light in the middle kept going on and off. There was no sound whatsoever.

A spokesman for Birmingham International Airport said: "Walsall is under a direct flight path between Birmingham and Manchester which may have accounted for sightings."

CR: T. Good



The discopter was front page news in 1949. Peter Weygers shows a U.S. newspaper cutting about the patented flying saucer.

Man-made answer to the great UFO mystery

By BRENDAN NICHOLSON

CLAREMONT mayor Peter Weygers believes he knows the answer to the great UFO mystery.

He is convinced flying saucers come not from some distant world, but from the United States.

And his uncle invented them.

Mr Weygers thinks some of the UFOs seen around the world may be part of a secret development programme based on designs submitted to major U.S. aircraft companies in 1944 by his inventor uncle Alexander Weygers.

What the Java-born Mr Alexander Weygers named a "discopter" was ostensibly rejected as too advanced for its time.

Though he is now in his 80s and retired in California, Alexander Weygers was in his younger days a highly-innovative engineer and a talented artist.

In 1927 he conceived a revolutionary disc-shaped flying machine able to take off and land vertically.

It was to be powered by a set of rotor blades revolving around the cockpit, but within the body of the aircraft.

Air drawn down in this way would be pushed over a series of slatted steering blades to provide directional control.



This sketch by Alexander Weygers shows his vision of the San Francisco waterfront with several discopters unloading passengers at circular terminal ramps

Long before jets emerged during World War II Mr Weygers added a modification allowing his craft to be powered by a jet engine instead of the original blades.

The concept is not beyond the realms of possibility.

Though Mr Weygers patented his designs they were never formally accepted by any aircraft company.

The Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation said its engineers found the design most interesting, but felt it was so revolutionary that its

development was "beyond our capacity"

Another corporation returned his plans with a note saying they had not been opened.

But it also sent Mr Weygers a letter asking him to sign a release on any "similar development the corporation might have already experimented with".

In 1950 he turned his attention from aviation to art, commenting that "when they are ready they will come for it"

His family now believes Mr Weygers' ideas were adopted and developed in secret.

Brian breaks silence over UFO sighting

THE UFO sightings reported in last week's "News" have finally prompted a man to recount a close encounter which left him truly scared for the first time in his life.

Mr. Brian Wall, of Bicknell Road, Frimley, has described how he was followed along the M3 from the outskirts of London to Lightwater by a brightly lit object in the sky.

"It seemed to be attracted by the lights of my car. As I got out of the car this thing came down. There was no noise. I got quite scared. I must admit. It must have hovered there for five seconds, until it vanished in about a second," he said.

The object was lit up with different coloured lights, he said. It could have been a mile away from him, it was difficult to judge, but the most fascinating thing was its speed.

"It travelled at a terrific speed," said Mr. Wall, a super-

visor in a computer company. His encounter came shortly before Christmas 1986 and apart from telling his wife, who laughed at the story, he has kept it to himself.

Although he realised Heathrow was nearby, aeroplanes had been a hobby of his for 20 years and he knew full well the object was neither a plane nor a helicopter.

Even so, he checked with Heathrow to find out if any craft were up around 4 a.m. that day, but Heathrow did not know of any.

"When I waited for this object to come down I thought if it does it will land right on those pylons. It is the only time in my life I've been really scared," said Mr. Wall (46).

New UFO sighting

A BOLTON civil servant is the latest witness to an unidentified flying object over the moors north of the town.

Julie Nuttall, of Rosedale Avenue, Sharples, got a clear view of an object floating above Winter Hill.

It is one of many UFO sightings in the area this year.

Julie said: "I was travelling home from a friend's house along Old Kiln Lane. I saw something in my windscreen and I thought it was just a reflection."

"I got out of the car and got a clear view of this object."

"It was shaped like a flattened rugby ball lying flat on its side. It was circled with white lights which seemed to be revolving."

STAR, Johannesburg, South Africa
Feb. 16, 1988 CR: D. Powell/G. Conway

Newspaper publishes pictures of Beira UFO

The Star's Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Photographs of a large, bright and boomerang-shaped unidentified flying object (UFO) have been published by the Beira newspaper *Diario de Mocambique*.

The UFO was spotted by Beira residents, meteorological staff and a pilot on Thursday afternoon. The photographs, although published by the newspaper on Saturday, only reached Maputo yesterday.

Diario de Mocambique said the UFO was seen in the sky south-east of Beira at about 3 pm and it remained in the same position for about three hours.

The Beira station of the Mozambican meteorological services estimated its height at 3 000 m.

The Mozambique news agency AIM quoted two of the meteorological staff, Ms Augusta Alberto and Mr Octavio Chimundo, as saying they had observed the object with the aid of binoculars.

They said it was constantly rotating and moved southwards soon after 6 pm.

They said the UFO had "two very powerful floodlights".

The pilot of a Mozambique Airways domestic flight which made a refuelling stop at Beira said the UFO switched off its lights when the plane, a Boeing 737, attempted to identify it.

The object went dark immediately the Boeing switched on its own lights.

At one point the UFO gained altitude and the Boeing flew underneath it. Once the plane had gone the UFO lit up again.

The meteorological services said the object was not a weather balloon or any other weather observation apparatus.

STAR, Johannesburg, South Africa
Jan. 22, 1988 CR: D. Powell/G. Conway

UFO phone-in: callers tell of strange sights

By Duncan Guy

Zimbabwe featured prominently as a place where unidentified flying objects had been sighted in the past 10 years, a Radio 702 announcer said yesterday after a phone-in programme on the topic.

Unidentified flying objects made the news yesterday following a report from the Nullarbor Plains, Australia, in which a family claimed a UFO had landed on top of their car, leaving scratch marks and ash.

They said the object was "egg-shaped and bright and glowing".

Talk of all shapes — oblongs, rectangles and triangles — came up in conversation with local callers, announcer Stan Katz told *The Star* last night.

He was convinced they were not cranks.

"One report from a game warden at Pilanesberg National Park was consistent with a report by an ex-Zimbabwean. The UFO was described as being the size of a double-storey building," he said.

Mr Katz added that many of the UFOs seen were reported to have been flying close to earth, silently, and leaving burn marks where they touched down.

One caller spoke of a whole mealie field being blown away, while another spoke of the tops of gum trees being chopped. Both callers said they had seen the UFOs north of the Limpopo River.

DAILY NEWS LEADER, Staunton, VA - March 5, 1988

UFO sightings reported

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — Police deployed a dozen patrol cars and a helicopter in a late-night chase for a craft from outer space, a police spokesman said Friday.

The hunt, accompanied by dozens of calls from all over the Dutch capital reporting unidentified flying objects, failed to yield anything extra-terrestrial, according to spokesman Klaas Wilting.

"We were alerted late Thursday night by Schiphol (airport) air traffic controllers who observed

bright lights in a stationary position over the port area which didn't show up on their radar screens," Wilting said.

After a radio newscast had mentioned the Schiphol sighting, calls started pouring in from all over the city, describing objects ranging from "airplane-like things to fantastic contraptions with Darth Vader at the helm," said Wilting.

Around midnight, 12 patrol cars and a police helicopter were involved, Wilting said.

CR: B. Pittman

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - Feb. 9, 1988

UFO sighting reported near Persian Gulf

DOHA, Qatar — The official Qatar News Agency said Monday it had received several reports of an unidentified flying object over the northern Qatar peninsula Sunday night.

The agency said many people gave described a "bright revolving disc with changing colors that emits a low hissing sound."

The apparition lasted for three hours, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., and the object, "which was shaped like a helicopter pilot's cabin," eventually took off "like a rocket," the accounts said. It did not say whether photographs were taken.

The agency said that earlier UFO sightings were reported in Qatar on December 30 and that similar sightings were reported recently in Kuwait.

The reports prompted one Arab publication to quip that "alien powers" may have decided to join in the current foreign military buildup in the troubled Persian Gulf region. (DPA)

MYSTERY UFO DUST IS 'OUT OF THIS WORLD'

POLICE forensic scientists will today conduct exhaustive tests on samples of a mystery dust taken from a car allegedly buzzed by the 'Nullarbor egg' UFO.

Preliminary tests in Adelaide yesterday reportedly failed to establish whether the substance, described as a black dust, was earthly.

The scientists said it was not ash, as was originally believed.

Mr Ray Brooke, of the UFO research centre, said he hoped to obtain a sample of the dust for independent examinations later today.

"Until we speak to the forensic boys I really can't say what it is," he said.

Mr Brooke was also planning to get further details of sightings of similar UFOs from interstate colleagues.

Last night a prominent Tasmanian businessman, who did not wish to be identified, told the Victorian UFO Research Centre he had encountered an unknown ball of light on December 14.

The egg-shaped object landed on a country road

Boffins probe 'flying egg of the Nullarbor'

From PHIL SKEGGS in Melbourne

"I don't know how they can even think of that," he said.

"This situation lasted 90 minutes but ball lightning only lasts 20-30 seconds at the most."

Mr Brooke spoke to the Knowles family before they were interviewed on Channel Seven last night.

He believes their claims were genuine and hopes to interview them further before they return to

Perth. He said hypnotherapy could be used to verify their accounts, if they gave consent.

Mr Brooke described the family as "very down-to-earth people" and believes they have no reasons for inventing a hoax.

But as for what happened to them, Mr Brooke will only say it was "some kind of flying object".

He plans to check with the RAAF to see if any unusual activity was recorded near the WA-SA border on Wednesday.

Nulla UFO movie bid

PERTH — You've seen *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, now brace yourself for *Invasion of the Car Snatchers*.

Yes, the Knowles family's story of an encounter with a UFO on the Nullarbor Plain could hit the big screen.

A "story scout" for television company Aaron Spelling, best known for its glossy soap *Dynasty*, picked up the story after it was given wide news coverage in the US.

The company is negotiating with Adelaide's Channel 7 for the rights to the story.

An Aaron Spelling spokesman in Los Angeles said he had been trying to contact the Knowles' who are holidaying in Melbourne.

— AAP

Mystery of the circles in the corn

UFO enthusiast Colin Andrews of Salisbury Road, Andover, is the co-author of a book featuring the 'circles in the corn' phenomena which appeared in the area in 1985.

The book, 'The Circular Evidence', is written with Mr Pat Delgado, also from Hampshire, and is likely to be published in June.

Among other phenomena, it investigates the mysterious appearance of circles in the cornfield between Stockbridge and Goodworth Clatford which some scientists are convinced came from no earthly source.

In fact, Mr Andrews claims the circles coincide with UFO sightings in the area the same night.

Scientists are still baffled by unique substances found in the circles. These phenomena and other fascinating research based on the Winchester-Andover-Warminster area are the basis of the book.

Although it is Mr Andrews' first book he already has plans for a second and also writes for the world's premier journal in that field, *Flying Saucer Review*.

Passengers report UFO

BEIJING (AP) — Passengers on two flights to Xinjiang, China's northwesternmost province, reported UFO sightings, an official report said Sunday.

The state-run Xinhua News Agency said a passenger on a flight from Beijing to Urumqi, the provincial capital, last Friday sighted the unidentified flying object to the right in front of the plane at 9:35 p.m.

When the flight crew contacted local airports, they were told there was no plane in the area at that time.

The object was described as being about the size of a basketball and sending out a beam like a searchlight. The crew sent a

light signal to the object, which was flying opposite the plane, but received no response, Xinhua said.

Three minutes later, the object changed directions and headed north, then split into two, with a smaller ball above a bean-shaped object. They were spinning at high speeds and gave off a ring of green light, the news agency said.

By 9:48 p.m., the objects had disappeared, according to the crew.

Half an hour later, passengers aboard a flight from Canton to Urumqi spotted the UFO over the same area in western Xinjiang, Xinhua said.

Two spot UFO over Whitnash

Something strange seems to be happening in the skies over Whitnash — with two reported sightings of a strange flying object last Tuesday evening.

Mr Michael Cox, of Rowley Road, was walking home from work on the Heathcote Industrial Estate when he noticed something unusual in the sky.

He said: "I was down by the Heathcote Hospital when I saw a red light in the sky with a smaller white one. I did not think any more of it until I saw

one of these jet planes go past it and it did not move at all. I stood watching it for about ten minutes. It was just hovering and not making any sound at all."

He added: "I was not going to mention it to anyone until I saw in the papers that people in the West Midlands had seen something unusual."

Mr Cox, who is adamant

that it was not a plane, said that people have just laughed at him ever since he mentioned his experience.

But one person who is far from sceptical about it is his father Mr Gerald Cox. He was in the garden of his home in Crutchley Way, Whitnash, on Tuesday night when he saw exactly the same thing.

He said: "It is a red light in the sky going from left to right and seemed to be a long way away. For me to have seen the lights of an aeroplane like that, it would have had to be flying backwards or upside down. I realised then that what I was seeing was not a plane."

Mr Cox said that he was not going to mention it either until he saw some people on the television who had also seen something strange in Birmingham.

Spokesmen for both Warwick and Leamington police said they had had no reports of anything unusual on Tuesday night.

ROTHERHAM & SOUTH YORKSHIRE ADVERTISER, England - Jan. 22, 1988 UFOs on film?

Excited UFO-spotters claim to have captured two brightly-lit "doughnut-shaped" objects on cine film.

The objects were spotted flying from Wentworth on Tuesday night.

Rotherham UFO investigators captured them with cameras and a hand-held cine — and they now hope to show the results at March's national UFO conference in Rotherham.

Last week the *Advertiser* reported a January leap in UFO sightings — plus claims that jet fighters had been seen chasing the mystery objects across the night sky.

A close encounter with film company

HOLLYWOOD film giants have shown interest in tapes about unidentified flying objects made by former Todmorden policeman Alan Godfrey.

Mr Godfrey, of Summerfield Road, Todmorden, hit the headlines in 1980 when he claimed he was beamed up into an alien spaceship after getting out of his patrol car in Burnley Road, Todmorden.

Now Warner Brothers has copies of tapes made by him about his experiences and tapes made when Mr Godfrey was under hypnosis.

The company also has newspaper cuttings about the event. Mr Godfrey said the film company were interested in including his "close encounter" in a film based on people's experiences with alien beings.

At this stage he did not know what form the film would take.

NORTH WESTERN DAILY MAIL, Barrow-in-Furness, England Feb. 15, 1988 CR: T. Good

Star men puzzled by 'light' over Barrow

MEMBERS of Furness Astronomical Society are to asked if they spotted an unusually bright object visible from Barrow in the western sky on Thursday night.

The light was seen by Mrs Margaret Dacre of Laburnum Crescent, Ormsgill, just after 7pm and she watched its changing aspect for about half an hour.

And yesterday Furness Astronomical Society secretary, Robert Sylvester, said he too was initially unable to explain the phenomenon.

He said he would be consulting with members of the society in the hope that the object may have been spotted and conclusions drawn.

ORANGE

Mrs Dacre said: 'I first saw it about 7pm and watched it for about half an hour. It wasn't an intense light and it changed colour through orange to beautiful red then an iridescent blue.'

She said it was clearly visible out to the west and she tried to ring Walney airfield to see if anyone there had seen it.

The police said they had not received any reports and Mrs Dacre rang the Evening Mail to see if

'It went orange, red, blue'

there had been any other sightings.

'It seemed to be moving with the stars as their position changed, I could see it over the top of the slag bank and the rooftops from my house.'

VENUS

'I don't know what it was, but I know I saw it — I'm no crank,' said Mrs Dacre.

Mr Sylvester said Venus and Jupiter were currently very bright and were indeed so last night. 'But the changing colour rather discounts them as they would have a very whitish light.'

'That area of the sky is not visible from my house but I will ask other members of the society who may well have been observing on Thursday as it was a fairly clear night,' said Mr Sylvester.



Mark Morson/Staff Photographer

Diver Rick Nelson of Brooklyn Park emerges from a hole in a Rosemount pond on Wednesday. The hole is of a mysterious

origin, but University of Minnesota geologist Calvin Alexander says it would be a long shot if a meteorite caused it.

Hole in ice causing more than a ripple

By Michele Cook
Staff Writer

There's a hole in the icy pond behind Pete and Kathy Peterson's house in Rosemount, and on Wednesday it was getting an awful lot of attention.

Officials from the Federal Aviation Administration, the University of Minnesota, the local police force, and a society that investigates unidentified flying objects all stopped by to get a look at the hole and take a guess at what caused it.

Rosemount police ruled out an ill-fated snowmobile rider because they could find no tracks, and the

FAA had no reports of fallen aircraft parts, so the Petersons and their neighbors thought they might have a meteorite in their midst.

The people who run KSTP-TV decided to get to the bottom of it all and hired divers from the Over Easy Scuba Center in North St. Paul at a cost of \$300.

In the end, this much is certain:

"What we have here is a hole in the ice," said University of Minnesota geologist Calvin Alexander.

Divers Rick Nelson and Bill Schmidt spent an

hour pawing through 4 inches of silt and found nothing save a couple of rocks. That doesn't mean there isn't a meteorite down there, buried deep in the pond's floor, but Alexander recommended the search be continued in the spring.

"For it to have been caused by a meteorite, we're talking fundamentally about a long shot," he said.

Alexander gets 20 to 30 calls a year from people who think they have a meteorite on their property, but in 14 years, he has had no real McCoys. This

was the first time he's been called to investigate a possible meteorite under ice. He scrubbed his own plans to send divers into the hole this weekend when KSTP-TV's expedition came up empty.

"You take the calls seriously and you keep looking," he said. "Sooner or later, someone is going to find one."

Also checking the hole Wednesday was William McNeff, state di-

rector for the Mutual UFO Network. The last time he checked out a possible UFO sighting in Minnesota was in 1985, when a Park Rapids woman claimed that she was visited by a friendly alien in the family's pig lot.

Whatever it was that busted the 8-inch-thick ice on the pond, it was loud enough that Pete Peterson sat upright in bed at 1 a.m. Tuesday.

"Pete got up and looked down the basement thinking that the cats knocked something over. I didn't

hear it — I sleep like a rock," Kathy Peterson said.

Pete Peterson, a St. Paul police officer, described the sound as a sharp crack, much like lightning striking a tree. He took a look around the house, found the cats and dog behaving themselves, and went back to bed.

In the morning, neighbor Karin Draxten spotted the hole and called police.

George Freier, a retired University of Minnesota physics profes-

sor, said the hole probably was not the work of a meteorite, but simply the result of shifting water in the pond.

"Sounds to me like the water leaked or dropped and the ice caved in," he said.

Pete Peterson said the pond's level had appeared to drop by a couple of feet since the hole appeared. Freier said a meteorite would have cut through the ice like a bullet, making a hole the size of the meteorite and generating a big

splash.

"If that hole represents the size of a meteorite, it would have blown a ton of water out of that pond and you'd have heard the crash all over the city," he said.

In Minnesota's 130-year history, only four meteorites have been found and documented, Alexander said. On average, five to 10 meteorites are believed to fall in the state a year, he said, but most probably end up in farm fields and go unnoticed.

Brown Chunk of Smelly Ice Plummets Into Va. Bedroom

By Caryle Murphy
Washington Post Staff Writer

The huge mass of hard brown ice that crashed through Roger Bange's roof Friday afternoon, splattering into hundreds of tiny pieces in his son's bedroom, did have "some kind of weird smell to it," Bange recalls.

Sensing something strange had happened, the Centerville resident put on rubber gloves and scooped up some of the frozen bits into a plastic bag, which he placed in a cooler.

But it wasn't until he reached an inspector from the Federal Aviation Administration on the phone that his worst fears were confirmed.

"It's supposedly human waste," Bange said yesterday from his home about two miles south of Dulles International Airport.

"We will be investigating this, of course," FAA spokesman Fred Farrar told a reporter. "We will attempt to determine if, indeed, it did come from an airplane [toilet], and it appears there's a good likelihood it did."

Bange, 30, said he was home Friday afternoon around 3:20 with his 9-year-old son Bill, who was out sick from school, when they heard a crash. "The whole house shook," Bange said, adding that he raced outside, as did a neighbor who heard the noise.

When Bange saw that some shingles on his roof were "messed up," he dashed inside and up to his son's bedroom.

There was a two-foot-wide hole in the ceiling, insulation strewn around the room and "brown ice all over the place . . . It got all over everything," he said.

"It was just a big ball of ice . . . It was pretty weird," said Bill, who was in his father's bedroom at the time, watching television. "It just went splat and shattered into small pieces—hundreds and hundreds of pieces. My desk got banged up."

The youth said he was glad he was not in his room at the time "cause I could've been hurt really bad."

Bange said he saved some of the frozen material because "I didn't know what it was, or who may want it to find out what it was." Yesterday he moved the bag to his outdoor trash barrel, where chilly temperatures were keeping it frozen, he said.

Though such incidents are rare, Farrar said, they have occurred in the past when the drainage valve on the holding tank of a plane's toilet was not properly sealed before takeoff.

"Every once in a while, the valve does not close properly and the fluid leaks out little by little," he said. At high altitudes, below-freezing temperatures keep the fluid fastened to the plane in a frozen glob.

But as the plane descends and the temperature rises, "the piece of ice tends to loosen. Then you get vibrations from the flaps going down, and it sometimes tends to break the ice loose," Farrar said.

The FAA will be checking to see what flights were passing over Bange's home at the time of the incident, but "we haven't been outstandingly successful in the past in pinning it down" on a particular plane, Farrar said.



BY JEFFREY MARKOWITZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Roger Bange holds what is probably matter from an airplane toilet after it fell into his house.

DAILY NEWS, New York, NY - Jan. 4, 1988

Mystery lingers in captain's disappearance

MINNEAPOLIS—The disappearance of a ship captain as his freighter plied the calm waters of Lake Michigan has baffled authorities for 10 weeks.

"We have not found his body," said John Smietanka, U.S. attorney in Grand Rapids, Mich. "But we will. Someday we will." Smie-

tanka hopes that eventually an autopsy will help determine what happened to Fredrich Helling, a popular West German, who disappeared from the freighter Sirius in the early morning of Oct. 21.

Calm seas and the 48-year-old captain's experience argue against an accident.

But investigators said yesterday they have found no evidence of conflict between captain and crew that suggest foul play, and nothing that would indicate a suicide.

The Associated Press

CR: S. Garrett/COUD-I

Professor knows when Bigfoot roams

By Gerard DeFiltch
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

It was just a little over 20 years ago that Sgt. Pepper taught the band to play and the summer of love was in full bloom. It was especially blossoming on the sunny West Coast. But love wasn't the only thing running free that year in California.

So was Bigfoot.

Dr. Paul G. Johnson, a chemistry professor at Duquesne University and member of the Creature Study Group, says a prospector named Roger Patterson became the first to "capture" Bigfoot on color movie film when he tracked the hairy man/animal near Bluff Creek, Calif.

Johnson says Patterson's film ranks as the "only authentic picture of the elusive creature. I believe he was using 16mm film. I've got slides taken from the film. What he shot has been analyzed: The result has been that if Patterson faked it, nobody can tell how."

Patterson and another Bigfoot pursuer set out that day — like many others on many other days — hoping to film the elusive creature and they were lucky enough to spot him.

Johnson — who has had no such luck — has been actively involved in pursuing Bigfoot reports in western Pennsylvania for more than 10 years. Two years ago, he published a book which offers a chronology of all Bigfoot sightings in this area to that date.

He also disputes a theory by West Coast academicians who study Bigfoot and other such non-mainstream animals who doubt the existence of a Pennsylvania Bigfoot. The Keystone State ranks third in sightings behind California and Oregon, according to Johnson.

"Those in the West say that our area of the country — Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland — is too highly populated for a Bigfoot to exist under cover. But 65 percent of Pennsylvania is wooded forest and 70 percent of Westmoreland County alone is wooded and isolated. True, that's not as much as California and Oregon but it's a lot.

"They also claim that we've never found any bones, but fossilization is impossible here because of the acidic content of the soil."

Johnson is one of about a dozen members of the Creature Study Group. The individuals include those with sincere interest in studying not only Bigfoot, but "those related to UFOs and, say the Black Panther sighting. In fact, in late October and early November, I had about six or seven calls from folks in the Spring Church area of Westmoreland County who reported seeing a black panther. They aren't supposed to be around here but..."

Johnson, 44, a Pittsburgh native who grew up near New Castle, has been interested in such phenomena for about 15 years, but his interest deepened in 1977 after he interviewed witnesses in Kittanning who reported sighting a creature.

The Creature Study Group has investigated nearly 200 reports of Bigfoot sightings in 20 years, but Johnson says the bulk of the sightings occurred between 1972 and 1978. Eighty percent of the sightings occurred in Allegheny, Armstrong, Fayette and Westmoreland counties.

"It's been sporadic the last 10 years. The most recent report we got was in the

late summer and early fall when we got several phone calls from the Jumonville area. There's a picnic area around the summit that's real popular with kids parking up there. The report was that a hairy creature appeared, leaned on some cars and peered into them.

"We've had other reports from Jumonville over the years. Unfortunately, it's very rocky up there so we can't get footprints. We have secured plaster casts of footprints from other areas, however."

There are several constants to the sightings, according to Johnson:

— "The average height is 7½ feet, with a range up to 9 feet. We've had some very rare reports that put the creature at 12 to 15 feet."

— "He's always walking erect but with the stoop shoulders ... like bad posture."

— "He has no neck, the head rests on the shoulders. Witnesses recognize this because his entire torso must turn for him to look at them. That's when they realize he doesn't have a neck."

— "He's very hairy, color brown or black and even on the face with the possible exception of over the eyes."

— "Thirty-three percent of the witnesses report an odor and we suspect that the others just weren't close enough to smell it. It's a sulfur-type. Most describe the smell as similar to meat that's been left out in the sun for several days."

— "The foot ... is not only big but it's apparently of a different species than the Bigfoot creature in the Pacific Northwest. There, it's a larger foot with five toes. In Pennsylvania, the foot is shaped like a fan with a narrow heel and either three or four toes. It measures anywhere up to 22 inches long."

— "The arms are always below the knees even when it's erect."

— "The creature acts curious and has always been docile. Once it sees someone, it either runs or walks away."

— "The size and stride shows that it's not a person in an ape suit. We've measured strides as long as 3 yards."

A typical sighting, Johnson says, occurred in Allegheny County on Dec. 29, 1974. Two boys walked to the family living room window to see the evergreen tree outside which their father had decorated with multicolored Christmas lights. They were quite surprised to observe a huge, hair-covered, but man-like beast standing at the base of the tree as if mesmerized by the brilliant lights. The young men yelled for their parents who also saw the creature just before it retreated into nearby woods. It was over 7 feet tall and left 14-inch long footprints which were found early the next morning.

Johnson says those who contact him are a mixture of embarrassed and excited and although names are confidential, many refuse to give them. "I think many of the sightings are by hunters and hunters by nature are conservative and they just don't want other hunters to know that they've seen something."

"The callers have seen something real and they are dumbfounded and most of them want me to tell them what they saw and, of course, I really can't because I don't really know what a Bigfoot is."

Anyone who wants to report a sighting or who would like to order the book (\$6) can write to Johnson in care of the chemistry department at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15282.



TIMES-DISPATCH, Richmond, VA - Feb. 16, 1988

Scientist stresses 'gray areas'

By Beverly Orndorff
Times-Dispatch science writer

BOSTON — Scientists should take a serious look at some things they cannot explain, like ball lightning, or things that may or may not be real, like UFOs, because advances in science could come from such "gray areas."

That's the view of a Stanford University astrophysicist and space scientist, Dr. Peter A. Sturrock, who leads an organization formed to promote responsible discussions of so-called anomalous phenomena.

Anomalous phenomena, he said at a session of the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, may include such puzzling things as ball lightning, claimed relations between the sun and the weather, bird navigation, claims that animals can foretell

earthquakes, claims of the existences of the Loch Ness monster or Big Foot, dowsing, paranormal phenomena, unusual effects of hypnosis and UFOs.

The problem is, Dr. Sturrock said, that it's difficult for many scientists to know what the evidence is for such phenomena, and how studies are being carried out.

He mentioned the case of UFOs. Some years ago, he conducted a survey of astronomers on the topic and most, the survey indicated, were interested in solid, scientific information, such as reports in reputable science journals.

But such journals don't carry articles on that topic, or on certain other kinds of anomalous phenomena, he said.

That's why he and some of his colleagues formed in 1982 the Society for Scientific Exploration, to provide

what he said is "a forum for the responsible discussion" of anomalous phenomena and related subjects.

The group, of which he is president, published the first issue of The Journal of Scientific Exploration in December. It included discussions of parapsychology, UFOs and the Loch Ness monster.

Articles selected for the journal go through review processes, just as articles for other science journals do, he said.

Often, anomalous phenomena are treated in a joking manner, or they stir hostile responses among some scientists, Dr. Sturrock said. That session, incidentally, was titled "The Edges of Science."

He mentioned instances in the history of science when anomalous phenomena were dismissed for a long time, thus delaying serious study of

something that was ultimately enriching for science. One example was meteorites; the French Academy of Science declared at one point that stones could not fall from the sky.

As a result, Dr. Sturrock said, many museums threw away their collections of meteorites, which are stony objects that plunge through the atmosphere from space.

Another participant in the session, Dr. Rolf M. Sinclair of the National Science Foundation, suggested there ought to be a means for scientists with evidence of anomalous phenomena to present their work to respected groups of scientists in various fields.

Someone in one field, perhaps far removed from the one in which the phenomenon occurs, may have a significant insight, Dr. Sinclair suggested.

Dr. Sturrock offered several reasons for scientists not to become in-

involved in anomalous phenomena studies.

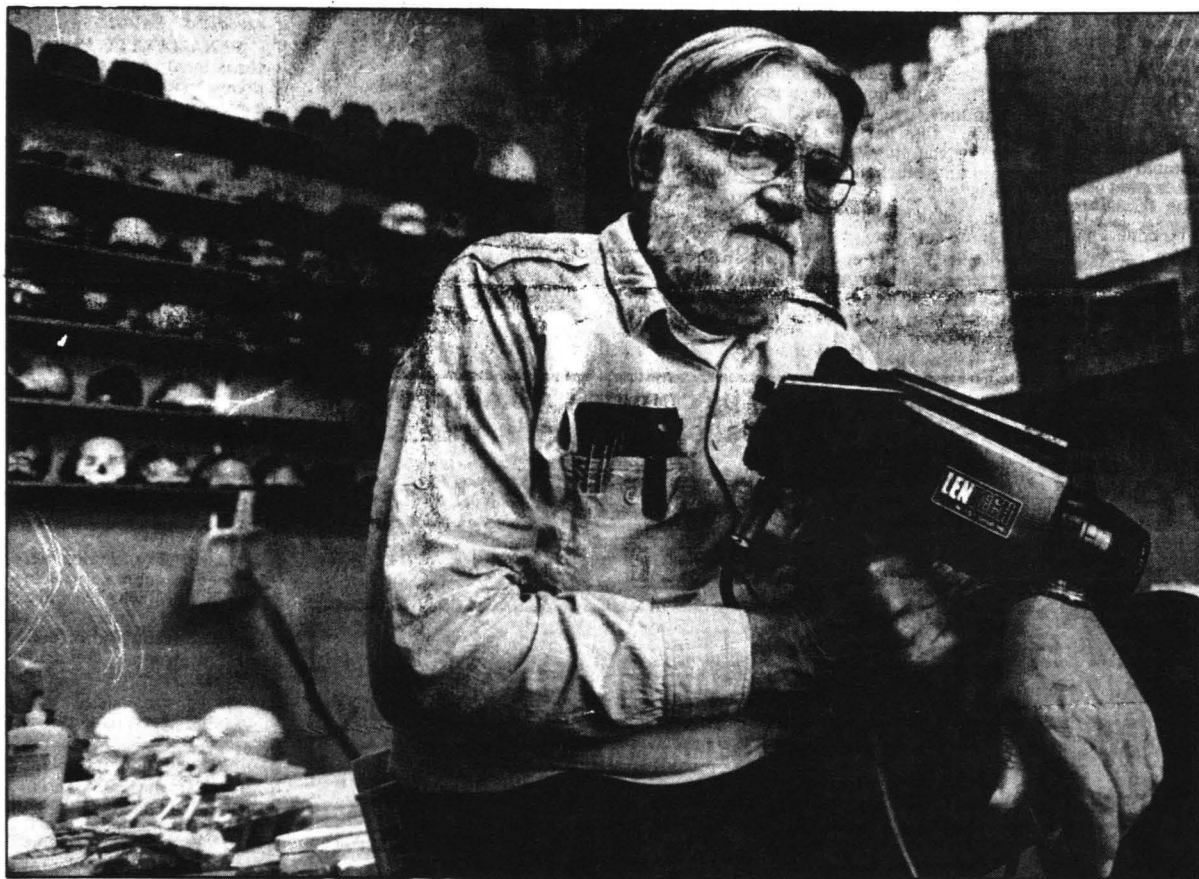
"They are uncomfortable," he said. "Your friends may doubt your judgment. You may lose the respect of some of your colleagues. You will get no funding. You will have difficulty publishing your work. Your boss may think you are wasting your time."

And, he added, "If you don't have tenure, don't even consider it."

But the reasons why there should be serious consideration of at least some anomalous phenomena, Dr. Sturrock said, include the fact that "the gray area of science is the crucial area. ... You may — perhaps without knowing it — start a scientific revolution."

Also, he added, "You may be honored — posthumously."

In Search of Sasquatch



GORDON KING PHOTO

ON BIGFOOT'S TRAIL: In his latest search for Bigfoot, Grover Krantz will use a \$10,000 heat detection device.

If he finds it, Krantz vows not to kill it

By MICHAEL SHEPARD
Staff Writer

Grover Krantz is not a terribly popular guy these days.

A Washington State University anthropologist, Krantz is used to ridicule from his peers for his 18-year effort to prove the existence of Bigfoot, a legendary man-like creature said to inhabit wilderness areas of the Northwest.

What he wasn't planning on was the

storm of protest that flooded his office last month after a nationally circulated news story reported his plans to stalk a Sasquatch this summer. The story noted that the WSU professor would search for the creature in a homemade helicopter, and attempt to locate it with a hand-held infrared scanner he purchased for \$10,000. The story said he would shoot a Sasquatch if he found one.

Letters and phone calls, many from school children, poured in. Most decried the notion that Krantz would shoot the animal

rather than tranquilize or film it.

Krantz's goal, he says, is to detect the body heat of a recently deceased Bigfoot, collect the corpse and prove the creature's existence.

The death of a Bigfoot, he maintains, won't come at his hand.

"There are hunters all over the place out there who will shoot one if they get the chance," the bearish but soft-spoken

researcher said this week. "I know nothing about big game hunting. I don't own a rifle and I don't know how to shoot."

Either way, Krantz is convinced at least part of a corpse will be needed to convince the scientific community of what he's been sure of since examining his first set of Bigfoot prints north of Colville, Wash., in 1970.

Sasquatch, as the creature is often called, is no myth, he contends.

"People think it's my decision that a body is necessary — it's not. It's the top scientists at the Smithsonian and other places who have to have that," he said.

Since his first encounter with the foot-long tracks, Krantz said, he's collected distinct foot prints from 20 different Bigfoot individuals.

He used that information — along with "credible" sightings in California, Oregon, Idaho, Washington and British Columbia — to determine some 2,000 of the nocturnal creatures are out there somewhere.

For Krantz, finally proving Bigfoot's existence would not only be a scientific boon, but a personal reprieve.

Though respected by many in his field for his work in human evolution, Krantz says his unwavering, public belief in Bigfoot has put a damper on his career. And he's been harmed even though the search was done on his own time and is in no way supported by the University.

"My reputation has been damaged very badly," said Krantz, 56. "It's like being a woman or a black, you have to do things far better in order to get accepted."

Anthropology Department chairman Geoffrey Gamble agrees.

"It probably has had a retarding effect on his (Krantz's) career," Gamble said.

But Gamble — who tends to believe in Bigfoot's existence, but is not convinced — said Krantz's interest in a rainbow of anthropological sub-fields may be a more accurate explanation.

"He is quite daring and willing to go outside his area of expertise and try other things," says Gamble, noting that a broad brush approach is rarely the way to climb the academic ladder.

Krantz's highly publicized Bigfoot work, Gamble says, also has cast a light on other scientists in the department.

"I tend to look on it as an opportunity," he says. "I tell people, 'If you think Grover's work is something, wait until you hear professor X, Y or Z's.'"

Though virtually none of Krantz's drive to find Bigfoot comes from supporters in anthropology, he said surveys have shown up to 15 percent of his peers believe the animal is likely to exist.

A number of scientists — who fear their reputations will suffer if they show public interest — quietly back his efforts, Krantz says.

Gamble hopes Krantz can erase the doubt, one way or the other, about Bigfoot. And he won't discourage Krantz.

"Think about the points in science where big discoveries have been made," Gamble says. "What if someone had said don't do that?"

But regardless of the scientific community's collective thoughts, Krantz said he's likely to grasp at every gimmick on that chance he'll find his prey.

"I'll keep at it until I'm dead, or incapacitated."

GAZETTE TELEGRAPH, Colorado Springs, CO - Feb. 8, 1988 CR: J. Johnson/W. Thompson

UPDATE

Strange footprints baffle researchers

By Raymond McCaffrey/Gazette Telegraph

Footprints of unidentified "creatures" reportedly seen roaming around Green Mountain Falls do not appear to be made by any species of animal in North America, according to researchers at Louisiana State University.

Dr. Vaughan A. Langman, a physiologist at LSU, had believed that the two sets of footprints photographed by a Green Mountain Falls resident may have belonged to grizzly bears, which are listed as an extinct species in Colorado.

But after learning that scientists at the Museum of Life Sciences at LSU failed to identify the prints, Langman was at a loss to explain the identity of the creatures.

"I'm not going to conjecture anything for you," Langman said. "It's difficult what to think... we find it all pretty amusing. It's kind of wild really."

Langman said the photographs will be turned over to a Baton Rouge museum, which will be able to determine

if the prints match up to a species living outside of North America.

He also plans to submit the evidence to researchers interested in crypto-zoology — the study of unknown animals.

Green Mountain Falls resident Dan Masias said he first spotted the creatures in March 1987. Masias said he saw two large beings running along the road with their long arms swinging in a pendulum motion. In the darkness, it appeared as if they were covered with hair.

"If you've ever seen (the movie) '2001: A Space Odyssey' — the monkey creatures in the first part of it — that's what they looked like," Masias said last month. "It's like something dropped off ET's relatives in our back yard. It's real strange."

Before that, he heard a loud banging against his house in the middle of the night. The disturbing noises continued, and his children, Jeffrey, 10, and Somer, 6, now sleep on couches near their parents' bedroom.

The Masias family hoped LSU researchers would be able to put their fears to rest.

"It would be nice if they could have just said: 'This is what it is,'" said Masias' wife, Fawn.

Langman said the failure to discover the identity of the creatures had nothing to do with the quality of Masias' photographs.

"They said the print's fine," Langman said. "It just doesn't fit into anything they have."

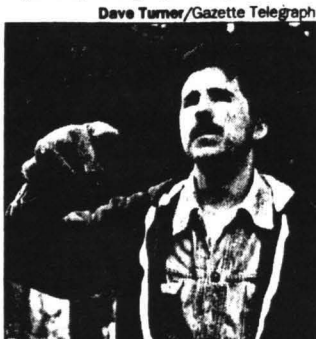
Although Langman admitted it was difficult to explain why the creatures would be running in a standing position, he said he still believes "it's something we know about."

"Whether it is something obvious and staring us in the face or something less obvious I don't know," Langman said.

Langman also maintained that a thorough search would have to be conducted before any credence could be given to speculation that the prints were made by "Big Foot"-type creatures.

And yet the memory of last year's sighting still haunts the Masias family. Fawn Masias said she and her husband are well aware of the approaching anniversary of last year's sighting.

"We keep thinking: 'March is coming.'"



Dan Masias of Green Mountain Falls photographed the footprints.

Bigfoot! Searcher gets back on the trail

By KEVIN HARDEN
Post-Record Reporter

It's been 10 years since William Jevning concentrated his spare time in a search for the legendary Bigfoot.

Today, more than a year after he left the Army and a decade since his search for the creature took a detour, the 29-year-old Vancouver man is back in the woods again looking for the elusive being that has stomped in and out of public attention during the past 20 years, leaving behind a chorus of unusual tales and a platoon of plaster-cast footprints, most about 16 inches long and several inches deep.

Jevning's Pacific Coastal Sasquatch Investigation Team has been back on the track since late last year, when Jevning decided to return to his sasquatch search. The "team" is a loosely-organized group of Jevning's friends who also have been looking for Bigfoot for the past 10 years, often on weekend camping trips into remote wooded areas in western Washington.

"I've learned to think objectively about it," Jevning said last week, the first time he had been interviewed about his search for sasquatch. "I try different things each time we go out to look for them. I've found that it's not always good to take a particular stance on this. I like to go at it from a scientific viewpoint. I'm really going at it for the information and that's all."

During the weekend, Jevning's search began in the upper Washougal River area near the southwestern edge of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, where several sasquatch had been sighted during the past 20 years.

Jevning said he planned to concentrate much of his search in east Clark County and west Skamania County, a place he thinks might be the home of several sasquatch, perhaps a "clan" of the creatures.

Things that go bump in the night

Jevning's 10-year hiatus from his Bigfoot search ended in mid-December when a small group traveled on an abandoned logging road near the Nisqually River on Bald Hill east of Olympia. At about 10 p.m., as Jevning drove his Mercury Capri along the road in the dark, the car's headlights caught something large moving a short distance ahead.

Although it was difficult to make out, Jevning said it almost definitely was a sasquatch because of the size and depth of the footprints left in the dirt road that was frozen from the chilly night air. Jevning photographed the footprints that measured more than a foot in length and were not similar to a bear's paw prints, something often mistaken for sasquatch prints.

Jevning and his friends turned around and drove back down the same road a few minutes later, and encountered the thing again, this time it bumped or stepped on the back of the small car.

No one in the car saw the thing the second time, but Jevning said it was only a few hundred feet from the first sighting, so it could have been one or two of the creatures moving around in the dark.

Reconnaissance training helps

Finding sasquatch has always been Jevning's knack. "I've got a real good gut instinct about finding these things," he said.

His Army training as a reconnaissance specialist with the Third of the Fifth Air Cavalry stationed for several years at Fort Lewis near Olympia helped Jevning in his search for Bigfoot. During the past 10 years, his work in the Army took him to Europe and also took up much of his time, leaving him with little time to devote to a sasquatch hunt.

Besides work on reconnaissance, Jevning also is certified to participate in archeological digs. He worked on one in the Chambers Creek area of south Puget Sound that included test pits for early dwellings along the sound.

Since leaving the Army, Jevning has returned to college, studying at Clark College for a degree in anthropology. He eventually hopes to study the "deaf culture," the world of hearing impaired people that exists often as a subculture of the rest of the world.

Jevning, a friendly man who speaks quietly about the serious anthropological implications of sasquatch, is hardly the picture of a Bigfoot hunter. His modest home near downtown Vancouver holds only a few books on the issue, most written by John Green of British Columbia, a journalist who took up the sasquatch search in the early 1960s.

Jevning hopes to someday write a thesis about sasquatch, using as its premise his theory that the creature is actually a member of the human family that is closer to man than the primates.

Creature seen across the nation

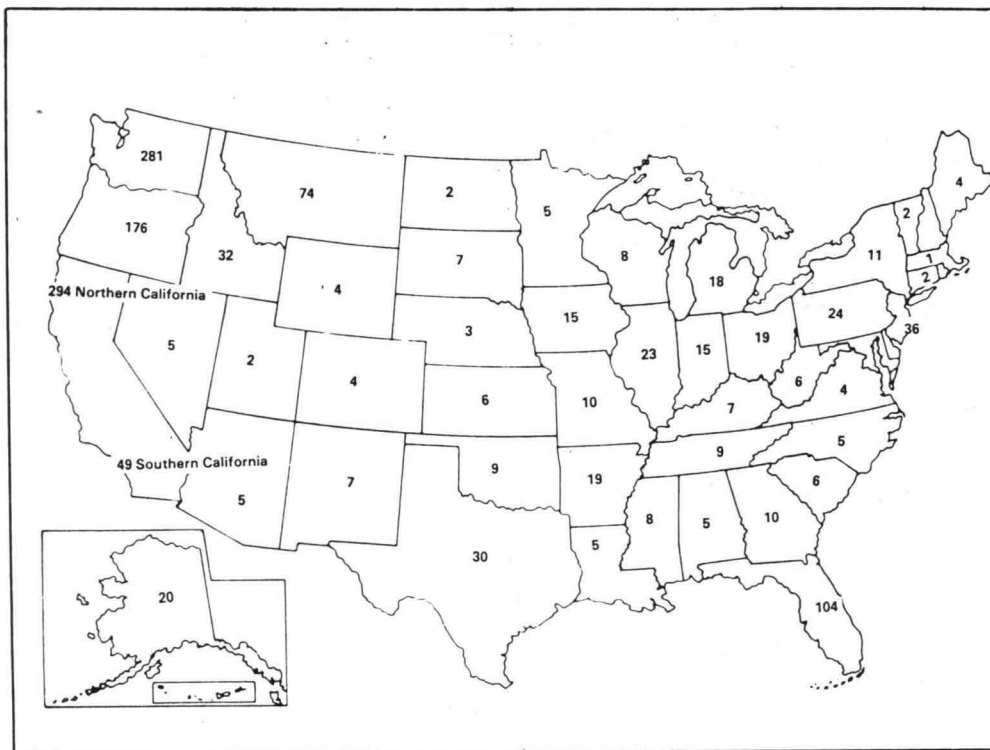
Sasquatch hunters are nothing new to the Pacific Northwest. Between the late 1960s and mid-1970, Bigfoot was big game in Washington, Oregon, and northern California.

Novice investigators and big game adventurers alike scattered across the states looking for the creature that has shown up only once on film, in a short 16mm color movie taken by Roger Patterson of Tampico, Wash., in 1967 of a Bigfoot crossing a dry creek bed in northern California.

The large creature — estimated to be more than 6 feet tall and weighing between 350 and 800 pounds — was moving swiftly a few hundred feet from where Patterson and others in his group and the jerky movie provided the publicity boost that sent hundreds of sasquatch hunters into the forests in search of the creature.

Patterson died in January 1972. Although many theories about about the creature in his film, Patterson's movie has not been proved a fake.

Sightings of the creatures exploded between 1967 and 1977, when more than 1,500 sightings were reported across the nation. Although there were several sightings in



THIS MAP taken from a book by British Columbia journalist John Green, shows the number of sightings of sasquatch in the United States until November 1977. Many of those reported included both tracks and actual sightings of the creature.

• People who have seen a sasquatch during the past few years can report their sightings to the Pacific Coastal Sasquatch Investigation Team, 1701 Broadway, Suite 208, Vancouver 98663. The sightings and information will be confidential, according to William Jevning, who hopes to use the information to track the elusive creature.

nearly all 50 states — including two in North Dakota and one in Massachusetts — since the late 1970s the sightings have dwindled and Bigfoot has remained the fodder of blaring mass-media tabloid headlines that screamed at potential readers from grocery store checkout counters.

By November 1977, there had been 281 sightings of the creature in Washington, 176 sightings in Oregon, and 225 in British Columbia. Most of the sightings included footprints.

Skamania County takes action

Included in the sightings is the report in November 1969 of Louise Baxter of Skamania, who said that a "very, very big" biped creature walked across State Route 14 in front of her parked car at about 10 p.m. near North Bonneville.

Baxter told Green (who included the account in his 1978 book, "Sasquatch: The Apes Among Us") that the creature sat on the edge of the road for a few minutes watching as she checked her car tires (she thought one was flat). The creature did not move, she said, but just watched from a short distance as the terrified woman hurried around her car and sped away.

The "coconut brown" creature had amber eyes that "seemed to glow like an animal's eyes at night when car lights catch them," Baxter told Green.

"I screamed or hollered but whether I made any noise I can't tell I was so terrified. I know it didn't move while I looked. I don't remember how I got back in the car or how I started it. As I pulled out I could see it standing there, all 10 or 12 feet of him."

It was the second time in about a year that Baxter had seen a similar creature in the rural area of Skamania County.

Similar sightings months earlier eventually prompted the Skamania County Commissioners to approve a law that made it illegal to shoot a sasquatch in the county. The law, adopted in April 1969, carried a \$10,000 fine or up to five years in prison for anyone convicted of shooting a Bigfoot in the county.

'It was kind of an interesting thing'

Since the late 1970s, however, interest in Bigfoot has waned and sightings have rarely been reported. "People have either lost interest or they just don't care anymore," Jevning said.

Jevning's own first encounter with the creature took place in 1972, while he was in junior high school in Graham, Wash., a rural town south of Puyallup. He and a friend were walking along railroad tracks in the snow during a cold winter when they noticed a neat hole cleared in the middle of untouched snow and a pile of still warm animal intestines dropped into the open space.

Further searching around the area revealed several large footprints and a fist print on the bank above the railroad tracks where they were walking, Jevning said. From that day forward, Jevning said he was hooked on finding a sasquatch.

"It was kind of an interesting thing, we had all lived in a wooded area and we had never heard anything about this at all until then," Jevning said.

A few years later, while he and his friends were camping in rural Thurston County, another encounter

with the creature caused quite a stir. Jevning said he and members of the then-Pierce County Sasquatch Investigation Team were camping in a remote site when they heard something large moving in the distance. Although they passed it off as a large deer or bear, one member of the group was later almost pulled out of the tent by a creature whose grip spread across his back, Jevning said.

Paul Willis, a 6-3, 250 pound man, had gone to bed at about 10 p.m. when he felt something rummaging around in the tent. He thought it was a member of the camping party until the thing wrapped its hand around his sleeping bag and tried to drag it out through the bottom of the tent.

Jevning said Willis bolted from the tent and sounded the alarm, sending the other campers into alert. They kept watch all night around a campfire, listening as one or more of the creatures circled the camp site for hours in the dense woods.

Jevning said a member of the group spotted the sasquatch towering over the back of the tent just after Willis jumped through the flap. A hand drawing of the creature shows only the head and eyes, which were wide but not menacing, Jevning said.

"For all the times that we've exposed ourselves to them, we've never had a problem. One time we had a branch thrown at us, but that was all."

Closer to humans than anything else

If all goes according to his plans, Jevning hopes to extend his sasquatch investigation team into southwest Washington in hopes of someday locating a clan of the creatures. His search is scientific, and he hopes to learn more about the creatures through reported sightings and his own research.

"I think that for the benefit of these things if some kind of protection is not set up they might become extinct," Jevning said. "I believe that these things are closer to human beings than anything else. There can't be too many of them left."

"But one benefit of people kind of laying off for the past 10 years is that they've been able to go back to a normal way of living."

Abominable Snowman Allegedly Spotted

MOSCOW (AP) — A Mongolian adventurer claims he made plaster molds of an abominable snowman's footprints and photographed the creature sitting on a rock, a Soviet newspaper reported.

Leninskoye Znamya, the Moscow region's Communist Party newspaper, said R. Ravzhir spent 1,340 days searching for the beast Mongolians call "yeti" or "almas." "He succeeded in seeing from a distance the snowman three times and more than 30 times photographed his footprints and gathered dozens of eyewitness accounts about the almas," the newspaper said.

MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, Tokyo, Japan
March 20, 1988 CR: Y. Matsumura