

UFO

NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

U.F.O. NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

ROUTE 1 — BOX 220

PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U.S.A.

CO-EDITORS: LUCIUS FARISH
ROD B. DYKE

DECEMBER 1988

NUMBER 233

POST, Washington, DC - Dec. 2, 1988 CR: L. Bryant

OBITUARIES

UFO Investigator, Author Donald E. Keyhoe, 91, Dies

Donald Edward Keyhoe, 91, a retired Marine Corps major and a former director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, died of pneumonia and cardiac arrest Nov. 29 at the Life Care Center in New Market, Va.

Mr. Keyhoe, who moved from Alexandria to Luray, Va., in 1969, wrote two books about unidentified flying objects. "Flying Saucers Are Real" was published in 1950 and "Flying Saucers from Outer Space" was published in 1953.

As director of the committee, on which he worked from 1956 to 1969, he spent much of his time attempting to persuade the Air Force to investigate UFO sightings.

"We want the Air Force merely to end its secrecy on sightings and stop ridiculing competent witnesses," Mr. Keyhoe said in a 1966 article in The Washington Post. He said that his goal was to get the Air Force to support the committee's contentions that UFOs exist.

Mr. Keyhoe's organization went bankrupt and he retired in 1969, the same year the Air Force abandoned UFO research.

Mr. Keyhoe, a native of Ottumwa, Iowa, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1919. He served in the Marine Corps for five years and attained the rank of major before retiring in 1923 as a result of a plane crash injury.

During the 1920s, he was an editor with the Coast and Geodetic Survey and an information officer with the Civil Aeronautics Branch of the Commerce Department.

Mr. Keyhoe was an aide to Charles A. Lindbergh in 1927 when Lindbergh made the first solo, non-stop flight from New York to Paris.

During the 1930s and the 1940s, Mr. Keyhoe was a free-lance writer whose work appeared in such publications as The Nation, The Saturday Evening Post and Reader's Digest.

Survivors include his wife, the former Helen Gardner of Luray; twin daughters, Katherine and Caroline Keyhoe, both of Hyattsville; a son, Joseph Keyhoe of Bethesda, and a sister, Katherine Keyhoe of Asheville, N.C.

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL
Nov. 3, 1988 CR: R. Reid



New UFO Photos Received at Sentinel

Another anonymous photographer dropped photos in the Sentinel's night deposit this week with a letter signed "A Believer".

As has become our practice, we will send the photos to MUFON for examination.

The letter is reprinted below in its entirety:

Dear Sentinel,
Please find enclosed the four photos that I took of an object which I observed on the evening of 10/12/88 at about 6 p.m. near Soundside Drive. The object moved from west to east, repeatedly retracing its path with a slow bobbing motion. It then remained motionless for about thirty seconds before moving off to the east at a very high rate of speed. The object made no noise and moved like no other aircraft I've ever seen. I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes. Sorry but because of my position, I must remain anonymous.

"A Believer"
The Sentinel has also received, this week, a report of a sighting Sunday afternoon from the I-10 Bridge over the Bay.

We will print the results of investigations of these sightings as they become available.

UFO attracts local viewers

An unidentified flying object, similar to one sighted near the mountains southeast of Brigham City in July, was reported to Brigham City police at 2:45 a.m. Friday.

Several members of the Brigham City Community hospital staff stood by the emergency room and watched the lights, reported Police Officer Jeff Johnson, as it seemed to hover over the mountains south of Box Elder canyon.

The UFO was reported to be a geo-synchronous satellite which is seen

most nights in the same position southeast of the city, but which appears brighter some nights when the angle with the sun reaches certain parts which show red, white and blue markings appearing to glow.

EXPRESS, Vernal, UT
Nov. 2, 1988

CAPITAL TIMES, Madison, WI - Oct. 20, 1988

Belleville braces for return of UFO believers Oct. 29

By BILL MERRICK
Special to The Capital Times

BELLEVILLE — When Belleville police officer Glen Kazmar looked out of his squad car window on a frigid night nearly two years ago, he had no idea that his life was soon to become a circus.

His home was barraged with phone calls and he endured many snide remarks from those who doubted his story — not exactly an easy thing for a law officer, whose credibility is supposed to be above question.

Kazmar says he saw a "clump of bright lights" hovering over Belleville, Jan. 15, 1987. He never guessed that his observation would thrust him into the media spotlight and put Belleville on the map as the UFO capital of the United States — something it'll celebrate later this month, on the weekend before Halloween.

Though other sightings were reported in the area, Kazmar feels he received the brunt of the publicity.

"I had no idea it would get so blown up,"

Kazmar says. "We had no privacy. Others saw more than I did, but people think that because of my position I'm more credible."

Though his wife "got very tired of the phone calls," Kazmar says his then 9-year-old daughter "thought it was neat."

"I told her it's unexplained, there's nothing terrestrial in it, just unexplained," he says. "I don't try to influence her thinking in any way. I said when you get older you can make a decision about it yourself."

Kazmar — who says he wondered about but never believed in UFOs — contacted the Center for UFO Studies in Glenview, Ill., for an explanation, but they could not give him one.

Kazmar uses one word to describe what he saw: "awesome."

"I can't really describe it, it was just awesome," he says emphatically. "I never saw anything like it."

"I joked with my partner, 'What if it beams us up?'" he adds.

All of Belleville will be looking for space beams Saturday, Oct. 29, when the small community — it straddles Dane and Green counties — celebrates its second annual UFO Days festival. Officials say that "2,000 to 100,000" UFO nuts will crowd into town, though Kazmar estimates the number at about "10,000 to 20,000."

In store for the throngs will be a parade, an alien costume contest, a dance and many other activities that organizers say may prove to be, well ... out of this world.

Kazmar will be in charge of a mini-rendezvous, where people dress up in 19th century garb and shoot muskets.

Kazmar, by the way, wasn't the only Belleville resident to see something strange in the sky in the winter of '87. Lavonne Freidig saw a "rocket-type object with three tanks underneath."

"The rocket took off and left the tanks hanging there," she says.

"They disintegrated and left smoke rings."

Freidig hasn't seen any similar sights since, but if she does, next time she'll look more closely.

"I'd be more prepared next time," she says. "I'd look closer at it. I wish it could come back so I could really watch it farther."

Unlike Kazmar, she says she enjoyed the attention the sighting brought her. Freidig, a legislative aide to state Sen. Lloyd Kincaid, D-Crandon, says she renewed some old ties as a result of the publicity.

"Some old friends called up and told me about their experiences," she says. "I never knew there were that many people interested in it."

People were so interested that Freidig was invited to appear on a New York television talk show. These plans fell through, however, and the public gradually forgot about the sightings. But not Freidig.

"I think about it and it's still so plain," she says. "It made life very interesting."

Kazmar hasn't forgotten either, though he may wish he could forget the hassles that accompanied the sighting. Asked if he thought he might see another UFO some day, he replies, laughing, "I hope not."

CR: R. Heiden

ANZA VALLEY OUTLOOK, Anza, CA
Oct. 28, 1988 CR: R. Decker

U.F.O.'S SIGHTED IN ANZA

COSMIC CONNECTION

A recent report of a possible U.F.O. sighting in Anza prompted a request for others who may have seen similar unexplained phenomenon to call and let us know. People are calling! We've been contacted by a couple of long time Anza residents as well as weekenders. And, so far the similarities are astounding. All have described the object in the same way, placed it in the same location and two people have intermittently observed UFO's hovering around our area for 30 years. One of the most agreed upon bits of information is that they are seen more frequently in the fall just prior to and immediately following the full moon. Most encounters have occurred between the hours of 10:00 PM and midnight, although the first was reported to have been sighted at dusk.

It is our decision not to print names because we feel more people may come forward to share their experiences if they can remain anonymous. We will share all of our findings with you in the weeks to come. Until then! Keep an eye on the sky and let us know what you see!

by Staff Reporter Debbie Steinberg

Perhaps we are visited from time to time by visitors from another planet. Could be. There are those in this area who tell of seeing the space ships. One individual said she was awakened about 10:30 p.m. by a bright light that lit up her whole living room. The light stayed till about 12:30 a.m. and then left. It was not the first time she had seen UFO's. Another individual said a beam was sent down from a ship, and they had seen the burn marks of a large space ship that had landed on top of a mountain in this area, in a valley that could not be readily seen.

How many people take time to look to the sky at night. We have seen some strange lights that stay in one place for a long time as we have driven up the hill returning to Anza. If they are around you can be sure we will try for a photo one of these days.

By Staff Reporter Carl Long

Calling all aliens? This group hopes to

By Marcia Nelesen
Gazette Staff

Tom Weber, 50, Chippewa Falls, received national attention in February when he announced plans to build a UFO landing site in nearby Elmwood, a city of about 900 in Western Wisconsin. He estimates the project will cost \$30 million and has formed a non-profit organization, the UFO Site Center Corp., to raise the funds.

Q: Why did you form the UFO Site Center Corp?

A: The event that pushed me over the top was actually going to Elmwood, meeting the people who had sightings and realizing that all the ingredients were finally there to have a community that is supportive of having the landing site in their area. Everything seemed to come together.

Q: Elmwood sightings?

A: Over the years, they've had quite a few.

For instance, their ex-chief of police, a New York transplant in Wisconsin, was vocal of his skepticism until he had his own experience. He had two sightings more than a year apart. The most dramatic was a craft that was stationary only 50 feet from him. A blue light emitted from the craft that stunned him.

A craft came down in the road right in front of a school teacher and her three small children. She couldn't get around it.

UFO conversation is part of the everyday street conversation in Elmwood. Their city celebration is named "UFO Days." This has been going on for some 10 years. The atmosphere, environment is so positive.

Q: Have you ever seen a UFO?

A: No.

Q: What convinced you of their existence?

A: I don't believe a person could walk away doubting that they are real if they spent the time to get the facts.

Q&A With UFO believer Tom Weber

Q: Where can you get the facts?

A: Keeping up with the literature and various case studies written by UFO investigative organizations.

Q: Do you think the government is withholding information?

A: I know they are. A top-secret government document has been available within UFO circles for roughly a year. It deals with the case of a crashed UFO in New Mexico that was found with four bodies. It likely is legitimate. We've been trying to get a government hearing on the document but the answers have been evasive. If this thing could be discredited easily, they would have by now. Finally, evasiveness becomes an answer.

Q: Why do alien beings need a landing site?

A: The only collective message that mankind has ever sent them was to try to shoot them down.

There is an excellent possibility, that, if roles were reversed, we'd respond to our message. We have nothing to lose by making the attempt and possibly everything to gain.

Q: What message?

A: It is actually a visual message of a human figure, one-fourth mile in length, that will be well-lighted. The alien figure is based on an international consensus of what these people would look like. (See diagram.)

It is plain and straightforward. "Members of your society and our society will meet here." It will be displayed on the (landing site) in lights.

Q: What will the landing site look like?

A: It will be approximately two square miles and will be used for transmitting the visual message. Some of the space will have scientific laboratories. We intend to invite scientists from all over the world when it occurs. We're going to need labs and housing. There will be a light border around the entire complex.

Q: Why are you convinced the aliens would be friendly?

A: If they weren't friendly, and if their goal was to enslave man or take the planet away, we think they'd have done so already. If they aren't friendly, there isn't a damn thing we could do about it, anyway.

If we don't develop the wisdom to properly use (nuclear) technology, we will self-destruct. The society that is observing us has been through many of these crises. They survived, and the only way to do so is to develop morals and the wisdom needed.

We have chased them and shot at them and they have not taken retaliatory action. I think they're waiting for this invitation as evidence that we've learned something and that our attitudes have improved.

Q: Have you been called crazy?

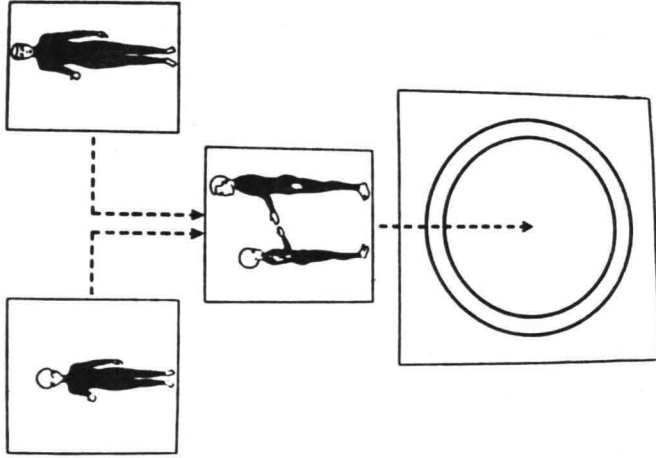
A: In the last six months, we have received thousands of letters and phone calls from all over the world. Ninety percent have come from people who have had their own sightings, who are enthralled and enthusiastic in regard to our project.

The problem is when the press gives the other side equal billing with the 90 percent.

If this thing is going to succeed, it requires the support of the people and the country. We are all volunteers. We feel a tremendous potential benefit for all humanity by contacting this society. More investigation and proof really isn't required. The next logical step is to reach out and make contact with them in a friendly way.

Q: When?

A: If we get lucky—and by lucky, I mean the involvement of some celebrities who are very good



This diagram is a welcoming for aliens that the UFO Site Center Corp. hopes to construct in Western Wisconsin.

at raising money—we could start construction shortly thereafter. Of the \$30 million needed, we haven't even scratched the surface.

Anyone interested in our project can contact us at P.O. Box 822, Chippewa Falls, 54729.

NEWS JOURNAL, Pensacola, FL - Oct. 23, 1988

'Jim': UFO pictures not fake

By Michael Burke
News Journal

Despite one scientist's suggestion that photos of a Gulf Breeze UFO were faked, the principal photographer of the spacecraft says computer analysis shows his initial photos cannot be double-exposures.

The photographer, a Gulf Breeze businessman who has passed a lie detector test, said "experts and various debunkers can say what they will, but the many dozens of witnesses and I know what we saw."

On Oct. 14, a nationally televised show on UFOs featured conflicting opinions from researchers about the validity of the photographs and sightings by more than 100 witnesses in the Gulf Breeze area.

Dr. Robert Nathan of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California said he was uncomfortable with the Gulf Breeze UFO photographs.

"I feel that many of these images are double exposure photographs," Nathan said. "The craft in many of these photographs seems to be in different focus. They are either more sharply focused or fuzzier than the surrounding background objects."

The photographer, identified in various news reports only as Ed or Jim, said blurring occurred in his initial photographs because he and the UFO moved slightly when he snapped the photos.

In an interview with the News Journal, "Jim" said he wished the television show had focused more attention on technical evaluations of the photographs.

Nathan said that with some photos, he had "the feeling that there is some kind of a cut and paste on some surface." But Jim said Dr. Bruce Maccabee obtained a computer analysis of two November 1987 photos showing a hovering UFO partially obstructed by a tree.

Jim said the analysis failed to detect any trace of a cut-out line.

Jim's 37 photographs have been studied extensively by Maccabee, a research physicist who works at a Navy laboratory near Washington, D.C. Maccabee said he believed "the photos are genuine and these crafts are not from here."

"I have considered many methods for creating trick photos," Maccabee said. "I have found that none of these methods have been used."

Jim, who has had no sightings since May 1, has submitted to psychological testing as well as regressive hypnosis to test his suspicion that he was abducted by aliens on several occasions.

Jim said the hypnosis exposed details of at least four past abduction incidents involving alien creatures he encountered late last year.

The psychological evaluation was conducted by Dr. Dan Overlaid, a clinical psychologist who is also certified in forensic psychology and psychological hypnosis. Overlaid, past president of the Florida Psychological Association, said he put Jim through at least six hours of standard tests that evaluate personality and intelligence.

"He's as normal as the rest of us," Overlaid said Friday.

Overlaid said Friday.

Overlaid said Friday.

Overlaid said Friday.

Overlaid said Friday.

Overlaid said Friday.

Overlaid said Friday.

UFO sightings listed near Portland

BEAVERTON, Ore. (AP) — Four people, including a Washington County sheriff's deputy, reported seeing an unidentified flying object west of Portland late Sunday.

A state police dispatcher, who refused to give his name, said the bright object was described as moving swiftly and leaving a white smoke trail.

All said the object appeared to be about 50 feet to 100 feet above the ground and appeared to travel between St. Vincent Hospital and nearby U.S. 26.

Washington County sheriff's spokeswoman Sherre Calouri said she had no information about a deputy sighting a UFO.

However, she said a citizen reported to the sheriff's department at 11:09 p.m. Sunday that a football-sized object appeared to be coming down in flames over the county.

Overlaid said Friday.

Overlaid said Friday.

Navy Scientist Says Gulf Breeze UFO Photographs Are Genuine

After hundreds of hours of painstaking research, noted optical physicist, Dr. Bruce Maccabee, told a nationwide television audience Friday that, "I have found nothing in the photos which would refute the sighting reports. My opinion is that the photos are genuine and that these crafts are not from here."

Maccabee shared his conclusion on the nationally televised program, "UFO Coverup Live," which focused on the government coverup of UFO Sightings around the world.

Maccabee told of the extent of his investigation saying, "I have considered many methods for creating trick photos. Each method can leave a characteristic flaw, and

I have searched for such flaws. For example, I have looked above each UFO to see if there is a fine line indicating it was suspended by a string. I have looked below each image to see if there was any indication it was resting on a table or post. I have looked for reflections in glass, double exposures, and photographic montages. I have found that none of these methods have been used.

Regarding Dr. Robert Nathan's "feeling" announced moments before that the images were double exposures, Maccabee said, "Doctor Nathan has studied only a few of the photographs. I, on the other hand, have analyzed all the photographic evidence which includes stereo photos that allowed me to calculate the distance and size of the UFO. I have also analyzed the videotape."

CR: R. Reid

Unusual marks, lights reported in Elmwood field

By Chuck Rupnow
Leader-Telegram staff
and The Associated Press

ELMWOOD — Circular marks in a Dunn County farm field and a report of a strange light sighting have Elmwood area residents scratching their heads again.

Elmwood has had a number of reported sightings of unidentified flying objects over the years.

Tom Weber of Chippewa Falls, president of the UFO Site Center Corp., which plans to build a landing station near Elmwood for alien aircraft, Friday afternoon examined the bizarre marks at the Evelyn Hutchins farm.

"I don't know what to make of them," he said. "Farmers from around here who have farmed this land for a long time have never seen anything like this before. I don't know what we're dealing with."

The marks vary in size but are consistent in color. The purplish-gray colored circles also have a white residue that appears graphitelike to the touch.



Staff photo by Chuck Rupnow

Jim Krings of rural Elmwood, left, holds a bag that Tom Weber, right, fills with alfalfa from the Evelyn Hutchins farm near Elmwood. Charles Hutchins, behind, found strange circular marks in the hay field. Residue on the markings is being tested in a Chicago laboratory.

Charles Hutchins of Route 2, Elmwood, was cutting hay Tuesday when he looked behind the machinery and saw the colored circles.

"I didn't have any idea what they were," Hutchins said. "It's pretty strange. There doesn't appear to be any kind of pattern to them. Who knows how they got there?"

The diameter of the circles varies. The width of the markings averages about 10 to 12 inches.

Weber took some of the plants affected by the markings and planned to show them to agricultural agents in Dunn County. Soil samples also have been sent to Chicago for laboratory analysis. Weber was concerned the hay not be used for feed until the test results come back.

"We'll know more then," Weber said. "Until then, we really don't have an explanation."

Neighbors and friends started coming Friday to the remote four-acre alfalfa field near the intersection of highways P and D in southwestern Dunn County.

"I don't think people came up here and put these 15 to 20 marks in the field," Hutchins said. "I doesn't make sense. I just hope I don't get a whole lot of people around here though."

A teen-age girl, who lives about a mile from the field, told friends she recently saw flashing lights and then something drop to the ground near the Hutchins' field. She said she got scared and ran into the house.

Weber, after picking up some of the residue, said he's heard of an instance in Australia where an alien spacecraft picked up a car and set it back down, leaving a graphitelike substance on the ground.

"Sure is hard to explain, isn't it?" Weber asked a group of on-lookers Friday. "It's a tough one."

Meantime, in Sheboygan, officials said Friday the mystery of nearby UFO sightings on Tuesday night appears to be solved.

According to Sgt. Craig Dooms, a public information specialist at Eaker Air Force Base in Blytheville, Ark., a B-52 bomber was over Lake Michigan Tuesday night just after 11 p.m. dropping flares one at a time and in clusters.

The huge long-range strategic bomber was testing its wartime defense system against heat-seeking missiles.

Should the mammoth bomber come under attack, the flares distract heat-seeking missiles from the bomber's engine.

"The mission was to test the flare-drop system to see if it generates the desirable amount of heat ... more than is generated by the engine," Dooms said.

While the Air Force offered no assessment as to whether the flare drop was successful, several residents attested to the light-producing quality of the flares.

The flares were so brilliant that motorists on Sheboygan's west side believed the lights were coming directly at them.

As calls continued to come into

the Sheboygan Press, there were reports of sightings as far west as Plymouth and the Sheboygan Marsh, 15 to 20 miles distant.

Cornie Richart of Plymouth was camping at the marsh with a group that observed a light display in the eastern sky from 11 p.m. Tuesday until 12:30 a.m. Wednesday.

She saw what appeared to be an orange ball that lingered in the sky long after six lights under the ball went out in sequence, two at a time.

She said she is skeptical that the Air Force maneuvers could account for everything she and the other campers saw.

Tuesday night also produced a flurry of reports of UFOs in the Oshkosh, Appleton and Fond du Lac areas.

An Eden farmer, John Dins, saw a huge oval-shaped object with bright lights in the southwestern sky at about 11:15 p.m.

Dins said the formation was so strange it frightened his dairy herd.

The Air Force had no explanation for other UFO sightings in the Sheboygan area Tuesday night between 9 and 10 p.m.

Some reports consistently mentioned a soundless swift-cluster arrangement of lights followed by a semicircle of three lights.

Another report was of moving red lights spaced over a large area moving at extraordinary speed.

CR: R. Heiden

BOOKS

In Touch With Other Beings

Transformation
By Whitley Strieber
Beech Tree/Morrow, 256 pages, \$18.95

BY KAREN LIBERATORE

"Transformation: The Breakthrough" is Whitley Strieber's sequel to "Communion," last year's best-selling, nonfiction account of the author's encounter with strange beings.

Once again, in prose as riveting as anything he wrote when horror fiction was his metier ("Wolfen," "The Hunger" and "Nature's End," perhaps the most depressing end-of-the-world book ever written), Strieber flails away at 20th century skepticism regarding phenomena not easy to understand or explain.

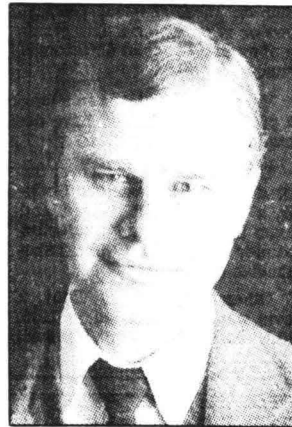
Such phenomena include his drill-sergeant-tough, 5-foot-tall, gray-skinned creatures with huge, almond-shaped eyes — beings that prodded and probed him in "Communion." To his credit as a professional writer, rather than run from the dreadful "Communion" experience, Strieber says in "Transformation" that this time he stuck it out, returning again with his wife and young son to the cottage in the woods where the visitations began — and continued with a vengeance.

Strieber reports here that the beings also come as nicer, and taller, milky white-skinned beings — so nice that Strieber confides a few of the white ones were spotted in bookstores reading "Communion" and were apparently satisfied with most of his story. The fact that one witness to these bookish visitations was an executive with the author's publisher is pooh-poohed by Strieber as irrelevant: "Morrow does not need his testimony to sell books," he huffs.

In "Transformation," Strieber goes far beyond the mere descriptions of the psychic discombobulation that his first encounter created. This time around, Strieber tells us who "they" are, sort of — "They may be extraterrestrials managing the evolution of the human mind," he writes. "Or they may represent the presence of the mind on another level of being."

He tells us, too, why they're here: to save us, if only we'd accept the challenge "to see" as he himself finally has.

And he explains why he, of all contactees, is privy to the truth of



Whitley Strieber: sequel to tale of psychic discombobulation

the visitors' mission — because of the ozone crisis, the cataclysm Strieber believes the visitors can help avert, and a crisis, more importantly, that just happens to be his specialty.

As transformations go, Strieber's was a difficult one, for in order to see the light that he says the visitors represent, Strieber writes that he first had to face his own death. "Hell" is how he describes, at great and agonizing length, his bat-

tle against a life-threatening addiction — his passion for sugar. So difficult was this seemingly easy monkey to unload that Strieber recalls how in frustration and defiance of the visitors' warnings about diabetes, he threw caution to the wind, "bought a pint of Haagen-Dazs vanilla and ate half of it."

Because Strieber persevered in all the challenges put before him — from sugar to a bumpy airplane ride (his second brush with death) to continued contact with his beings — he gained an important tool in his efforts to spread their word. Strieber says that he has conquered out-of-body mind travel, that his astral sojourns have taken him across the country to the bedsides of friends to seek their assistance.

Lest we wonder if Strieber's lights are on but there's no one upstairs, he quickly sets us straight. "An exhaustive series of medical and psychological tests proved me healthy and sane," he writes as "Transformation" begins. And in one of his many appendices, he says that all who have studied him see him for what he is, "a normally integrated man of above-average intelligence, with highly developed verbal skills."

And isn't that a relief.

Karen Liberatore is on the staff of The Chronicle.

CHRONICLE, San Francisco, CA - Sept. 22, 1988

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL - Dec. 8, 1988

Two UFO sightings reported

We had two new UFO sighting reports this week, one from Sunday night and the other from Monday evening.

At 11:30 Sunday night Jackie Swindell, 6020 East Bay Blvd., saw a light pass his window and looked out to see what it was, and saw what he described as a luminated basketball crossing the sky from the sound toward the bay. He ran and got his wife to see it and together they watched it for 4-5 minutes as it proceeded across the bay and out of sight. Jackie assures us it looked like the pictures we have run in the Sentinel so often

over the last year.

Then on Monday evening about 4:55 Betty Symons of Panferio Drive on Pensacola Beach looked North over the Naval Live Oaks and saw what she described as a bright yellow light right above the treetops. It just sat there awhile then moved to the West and settled down into or behind the trees. Betty said it reminded her of a lightbulb without the base.

"I keep notice of the sky because I'm a weather watcher for the News Journal," said Betty. "This was just weird...I can't see what it could have been."

CR: R. Reid

CR: B. Clendenon

Rural UFO sighted

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

■ LUCEDALE — An unidentified flying object attempted to land in rural George County this week, according to reports from about eight rural residents.

Deland Blackston, 27, of Basin told George County Deputy Clyde Morris that two large flying objects decorated in red, green and blue lights were spotted near his home around 8 p.m. Tuesday.

"I know it wasn't American-made stuff," Blackston said in a later interview. "It was about the size of a house, but I can't tell you the shape. It was real quick."

Blackston said he saw the UFO for only one minute or less. He said the objects made no sound.

He and seven other Basin neighbors were conversing near the county road, about 12 miles south of Lucedale, when they noticed the unusual sight in an open grazing field about 300 yards away. Witnesses said the objects lowered toward the ground and suddenly turned back heading towards nearby woods where they disappeared.

"I freaked out and started running and reported it," Blackston said.

No breaks have surfaced in the sheriff department's investigation of the UFO sighting, officials said Thursday.

THE STRAUCH

UFO

BY
TIM SCHULTZ

GIBBON — Five area bow and arrow hunters ventured out one cool, clear day in October, 1965, hoping to spot deer in the Minnesota River Bottom near New Ulm.

Although they did not spot any deer, what they saw at dusk on the drive home was different than anything they ever witnessed. And it was the origin of a hobby, or quest, for the driver, Arthur Strauch, of Gibbon.

It was Oct. 21, 1965. Strauch, his wife Kay, their son, Gary, and Donald and Ann Grewe, then of Gaylord, were on their way back from an afternoon in the woods when they spotted something strange in northwest sky. After observing the bright "object," Strauch photographed what would later be termed by him and others as a UFO.

It made a believer of Strauch, who died 10 years ago. From that crisp autumn evening until his death, Strauch became a UFO buff, and always "kept one eye on the heavens," as he later told an acquaintance. It led Strauch to read books about UFOs, write papers about his experiences and take various photographs.

Although Strauch did not report the sighting until 1966, he wrote about the incident in December 1965.

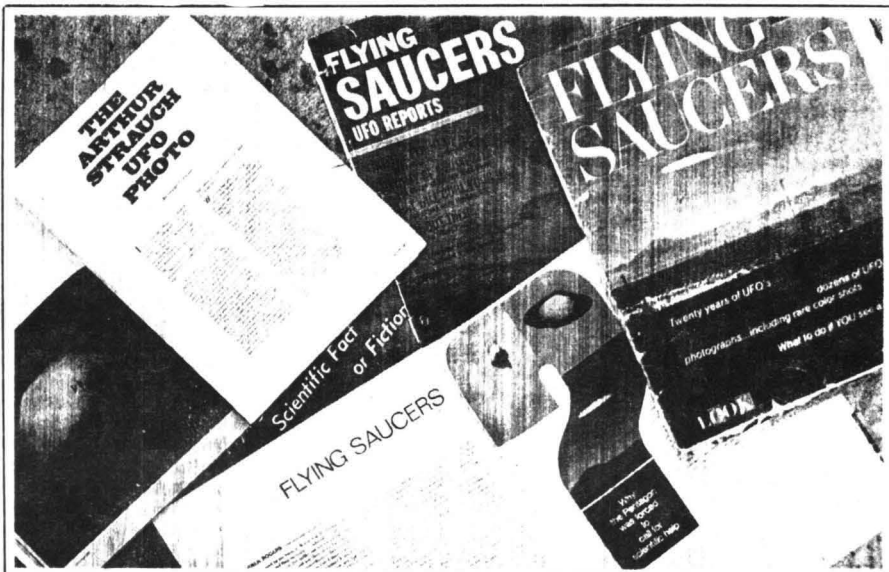
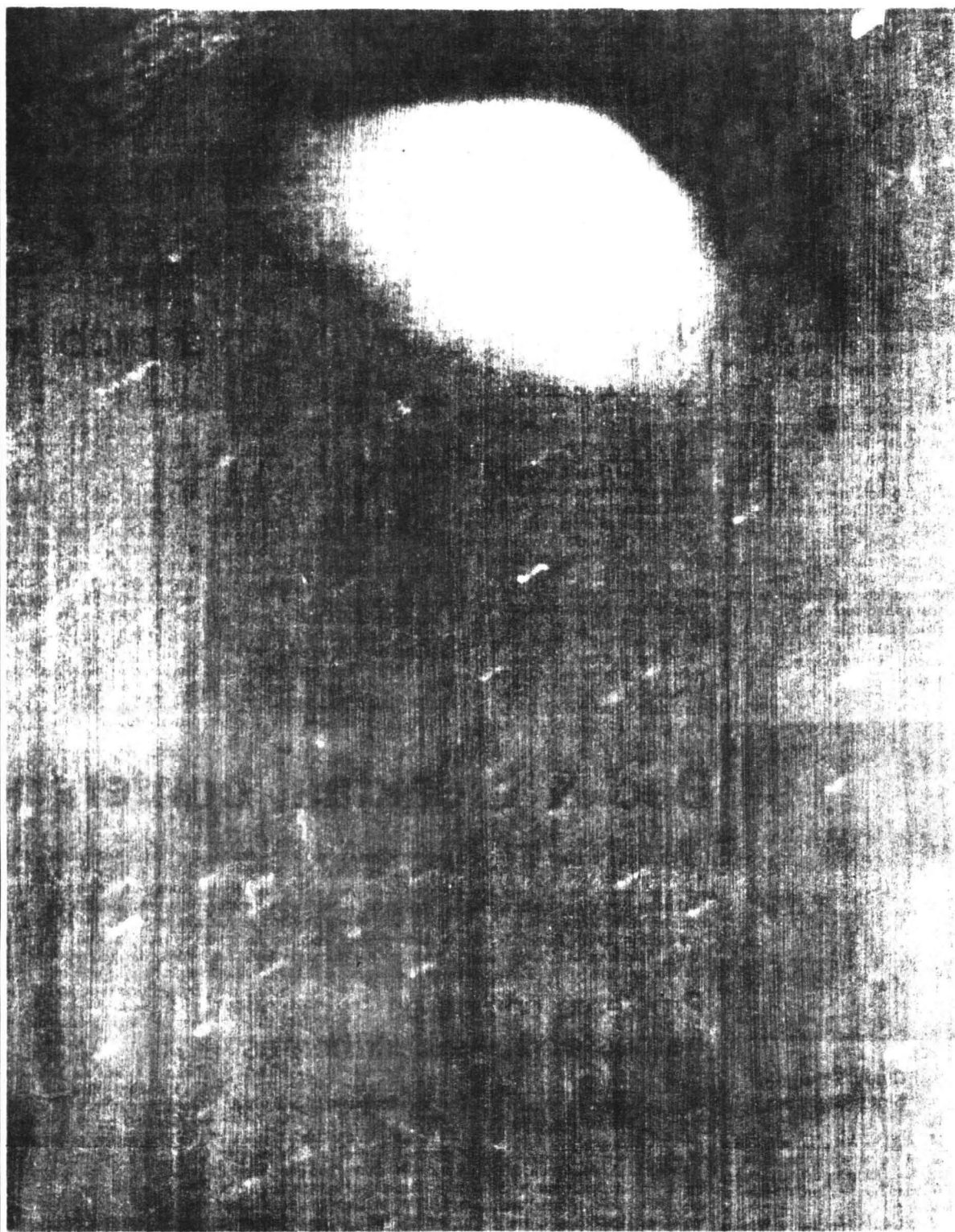
"It was just 6:10 p.m. on a clear October evening as I was returning from the Minnesota River Bottom with four other grown people," he wrote. "We were two miles north of the small village of St. George, Minnesota, when we observed a strange white light hovering in the sky to our left."

Kay Strauch, who still lives in Gibbon, said she was the first of the five to spot the UFO.

"I looked out the car window and I said, 'My Gosh, there aren't two early stars,'" she said. "Kiddingly, I said, 'That must be a flying saucer. I was kidding because at the time, it was very dramatic — people were all going wild over flying saucers.'"

Strauch wrote for an outdoors magazine at the time, so he always traveled with his camera and binoculars, according to Kay Strauch. He pulled over, got out of the car and used both pieces of equipment in following the strange sight.

"Through (the binoculars) I could see an object that was foreign to me," Arthur Strauch wrote. "It was a large silver colored disc, shaped somewhat like a derby hat. The outer rim seemed to be spinning and an orange-white glow covered the whole thing. Small, dark spots were visible around the upper part of the dome, these could have been windows or



The Arthur Strauch UFO photograph, top, as seen in the Minneapolis Tribune Picture Magazine on Sunday, March 12, 1967. The photo has also appeared in several other UFO publications including Look Magazine.

perhaps exhaust ports."

Strauch's camera was loaded and he shot several exposures of the "disc."

"After I had taken a picture, the object became bright in color and moved slowly into the wind (northeast), stopped for a few seconds, and

(continued on page 5)

with a terrific burst of speed it shot over our heads," he wrote. "As it passed over we could see orange, white and a dull red glow or color coming from the bottom. We heard no sound except a high-pitched whine, like a motor would make as it starts up. The object disappeared from our sight into the sky, headed southeast."

The Strauchs forgot about the incident until a month later, when the film was processed, Kay Strauch said. Curious, Arthur contacted two local newspapers, who printed the photo. After this, Strauch's flying saucer received national and international attention.

The Aerial Phenomena Research Organization in Tucson, Ariz., took interest in the matter and later referred it to the Air Force. Strauch's photo and account appeared in books, magazines and newspapers, and WCCO-TV did a feature on the man and his "machine."

Whether Strauch's sighting was "authentic" depended on the author writing about it. Most UFO magazines lent credibility to Strauch.

UFO Magazine, in a March 1978 article, put Strauch's photo through a computer test. Hayden C. Hewes, the article's author, contended that of "several UFO photographs were taken during the many outstanding UFO encounters during 1965, only two remain on the bona fide list, the Arthur Strauch photo and the Tulsa, Okla. photo."

The opinions of other authors, arguably more objective, varied, but many were favorable. Philip J. Klass, an electrical engineer and avionics writer, devoted 24 pages of his 1968 book *UFOs — Identified*, to the Strauch finding. In the book, Klass examined most aspects of the incident and found what he called a "curious set of circumstances."

"Although I cannot bring myself to give the picture an unqualified endorsement, neither can I label it a hoax," Klass writes. "It may, as Strauch says, be an 'authentic UFO.' If so, I believe it is a plasma-UFO."

The Air Force responded that there was simply not enough evidence and therefore a conclusion could not be drawn. It appears from his writings that Strauch usually took challenges gracefully, and the Air Force response was no exception. But Strauch hinted that he thought the Air Force was not telling the whole truth because it did not want to admit the existence of UFOs.

The whole matter of authenticity probably depends on one's attitude. No matter how many books and magazines confirm the existence of UFOs, there are just as many people who cry "Hoax!" and refuse to believe, Kay Strauch said. But her family was never ridiculed or insulted because of the incident, she said.

Nor was Arthur Strauch ridiculed for the study of UFOs that lasted the rest of his life, Kay said. He chronicled various other sightings (including one over the Gibbon High School football field during a game in 1974) and corresponded with area residents who also claimed to have spotted UFOs.

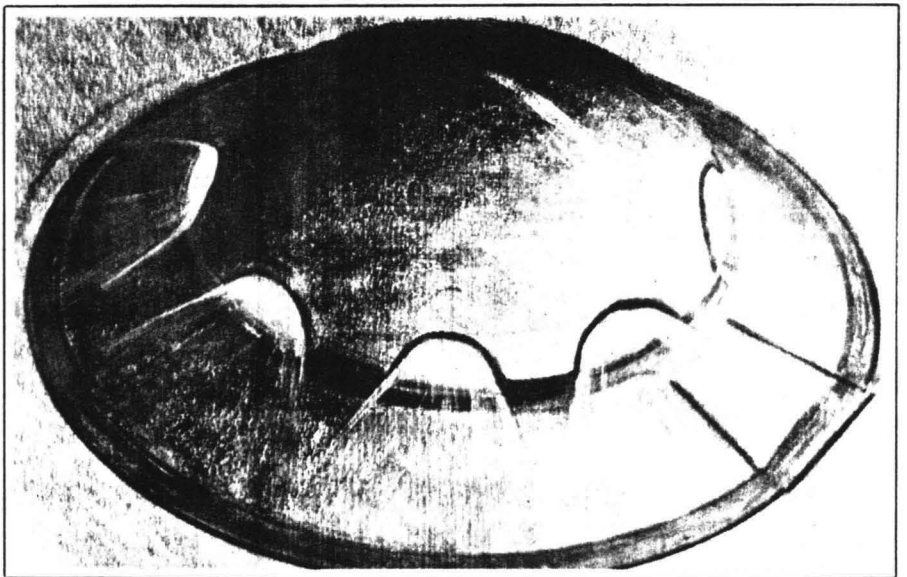
Strauch, who was a deputy sheriff, was injured in 1961 and his mobility was limited, Kay said. So his UFO hobby gave him something to do.

Kay and Gary Strauch both said they did not believe in UFOs before 1965, but that they now are convinced. Kay has spoken about the matter at schools, and she is eager to talk about the subject — motivated by personal interest and her husband's memory.

"I don't expect outsiders to believe because they didn't see anything; I saw it," Kay Strauch said. "It's healthy to think that we're not the only planet. Everybody thinks we're the only (inhabited) planet, but we're not. 'We live on it, and we can't believe that there's anything else.'"

For Arthur Strauch, it was just a matter of time.

"Whatever my wife and I were watching, it was a strange and wonderful sight and it renews my faith in the fact that 'up there' is something we still haven't the answer for," he wrote. "I have no other answer. Perhaps one day we will."



Above is an artist's rendition of what Arthur Strauch saw through his binoculars near St. George on the night of Oct. 21, 1965 prior to photographing it.

Dear Editor:

Upon arriving in Gulf Breeze on the 18th of October, I was hopeful that I would be able to clarify the meaning behind the Extra-terrestrial communications and UFO sightings. Why was Gulf Breeze the chosen city?

Speaking with GBHS students, I learned that they believed in the UFO theory, and that a photo of the mysterious burned or browned grass area was in their year book. I also found out that the majority of GB residents with whom I spoke knew that something real had been seen. The what, aspect of the sightings seems to be well known but the why aspect needed closer examination.

Why, Gulf Breeze was chosen for the communications? I learned that certain factors make Gulf Breeze an ideal location for receiving extra-terrestrial environmental communication alerts. Firstly, GB is a civilian center within a military environment. We all know that AF jets tracked and chased the UFOs. This will eventually provide hard evidence for the UFO sightings, from radar reports and military observers. The second factor ties in the environmental issue, GB is also within an environmentally delicate Bay habitat, which we also note is under toxic waste dumping from the Champion Co. High levels of ammonia have and continue to be dumped into your Bay.

From the GB reports, on the telepathic Alien goert orders or communications we find that the Thompson's son received a telepathic command to, "Stop," of which he states, "It was like the voice wasn't talking to me, but to someone else." Ed also reported that he was told "Step forward."

Considering the total picture of the events it is not difficult to theorize that the large eyed and webbed handed Alien guerts have some deep water bases nearby GB, it would be further likely that they would be extremely upset by any and all nuclear testing and toxic dumping in and around their home areas. At the same time they may well have shown GB citizens that they need to thoroughly investigate nuclear and toxic waste pollutants which may well be harming the Bay habitats and the areas food chain. It appears that GB residents may well have received a benevolent environmental extra-terrestrial warning alert.

Sincerely,
Michael Wales

BLADE-TRIBUNE, Oceanside, CA - Dec. 6, 1988 CR: W. Moyer

She hasn't seen anything weird

My great grandmother ran a hotel in Seattle when I was a little girl. It was quite a hang-out for visiting Alaskans. I dimly remember Robert Service, the poet, who with a few whiskeys aboard loved to recite "The Shooting of Dan McGrew"; Robert Beach, a fastidious fellow, who had autographed his book "The Spoilers" to Great Grand with the words: "to a Grand, Old Tillicum (friend);" and Jack London, a wild brawling man who had won the hearts of all America with his novel, "The Call of The Wild."

Mr. Jack used to bounce me up and down on his knee and the last time he came down from Nome he bought me a gold nugget and chain which I hope some lousy thief is really cherishing today!

Mr. Jack also regaled me with stories of the "little green men" who are the stuff that Eskimo legends have been made of down through the centuries. From time immemorial Alaskan tots have been told stories of the Ivaqalik — the mythical, little people who came down to earth from outer space to hunt!

True Alaskans, with deep roots, believe these stories; just as many other Americans believe in UFOs!

The Nome Nugget is Alaska's oldest newspaper. Under its masthead it runs: *illigitimus non carborundum* "This has been my



Kitty A. Peeling

motto for years: Don't let the bastards get you down! When I first moved into my retirement home I hung my stamina-building motto outside the door of my room. Of course I was firmly requested to remove it, so you see I feel a kinship to this paper — also the whole staff is composed of double-barreled "go get 'em gals!"

Anyway, the Nome Nugget lately has had vigorous articles on the "little green men." The interesting tabloid is trying to revive some of the beautiful folklore of the original inhabitants of Alaska. And who's to say if it is entirely folklore? Ever since September stories from knowledgeable people have been pouring in about the unexplained phenomena of this area!

In October some kids in their car clocked a little green fellow running between 40 and 50 mph. They not only went past him, but

accidentally ran over him and felt no bump! Thoroughly frightened they high-tailed it back to town to get reinforcements (this included the KNOM station manager and engineer). The adults witnessed the same little green man, two or three feet tall, further up Beltz Road. He seemed luminescent, turning from green to silver while his feet got darker.

A couple of the boys left the car to chase the creature. As it turned off the road it suddenly turned on them and chased them back to the car! That's when they saw its eyes were red and heard it make a dry, whistling sound.

For five nights straight, people, safe in their automobiles, observed this phenonemon. The sixth night it rained and that was the end of the little green man. Spooky, huh?

Shucks, why can't I have a vision or ever see anything weird? I have a friend, a librarian (who wishes to be nameless — and quotelless) who saw a UFO a couple months ago right here in Carlsbad. Seems I never see anything, but I'll tell you what (and I don't want to paraphrase Gillette Burgess and his Purple Cow), I do know I'd much rather see a "little green man," than be one!

(Peeling is a Carlsbad resident. Her column appears every other Tuesday.)

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL - Oct. 13, 1988

Viewpoint

BY CHARLIE SOMERBY

A few minutes after 10 p.m. last Wednesday night, telephone calls started flowing into this area of the Panhandle from folks in other parts of the country and the world with comments concerning the *Unsolved Mysteries* program.

Before the evening was over, our household had heard from folks in Honolulu, Dallas and Ocala among other points. We're sure that others had the same experience.

Perhaps overlooked by many was the "On Trial" presentation at 6:30 p.m. the same evening highlighting the recent trial of a Pensacola Beach woman following a tragic incident on the Bay Bridge. That too, was shown across the United States.

The Somerbys, Charlie and Dori, certainly enjoyed *Unsolved Mysteries* because of our participation. It was a novel experience for us as it was for other Gulf Breeze residents who participated.

A reminder that our city will again receive national as well as international attention tomorrow night on another show on UFO's to be shown over Channel 3 in this area.

Editor Duane Cook played a major role in the scenario emceed by Robert Stack. One on your quotes was not quite correct, Duane. You had Dori turning to me and asking "Is that what we saw, Charlie?" After viewing the front page pictures last November. There was no doubt in her mind in actually declaring "THAT'S what we saw!"

The continuity of our sighting should have been tied in with the pictures taken on Veterans Day 1987. We spotted the object over the East Bay shoreline in Midway a few minutes after sunset when it was moving in a southwesterly direction toward downtown Gulf Breeze. Shortly thereafter, the first pictures were taken.

Perhaps the main reason we "confessed" to the sighting was to give verification to the timely action by the photographer. Otherwise, to escape the attention which followed in the weeks and months afterwards, we probably wouldn't have said a thing about it — which was our original idea.

At any rate, it was well handled by Cosgrove/Meurer Productions, Inc. of Los Angeles in their *Unsolved Mysteries*.

Incidentally, the *National Enquirer* was one of the first to have reporters here last year after the first sighting, but for some unexplained reason backed off after spending quite a bit of time and money. But that publication devoted a page in their October 11 issue telling how Ronald Reagan, then California governor, saw a UFO during an aircraft flight and ordered his pilot to follow the mysterious object "as it streaked and zigzagged across the night sky."

CR: R. Reid

THEY'RE HERE THEY'RE EVERYWHERE

The latest UFO craze is focusing on S.A.

by Craig Phelon

TO MY KNOWLEDGE, I never have been abducted by aliens and taken away in a UFO. I've never even seen a UFO.

That makes me an oddity to an ever-growing circle of San Antonians.

Suddenly people all around me are becoming convinced they've made contact with flying saucers and 3-foot aliens.

There's even supposed to be a support group in Alamo Heights for people who believe they have been kidnapped and examined by non-human occupants of spaceships. I imagine a lot of the group's talk revolves around a UFO pit stop, of sorts, that some believe may be hidden somewhere in Olmos Basin.

What the heck is going on? Is this some type of mass hysteria?

A lot of it has to do with a couple of books written by former San Antonian Whitley Strieber.

He has made a name for himself as a novelist with successful science-fiction books such as "The Wolfen" and "The Hunger." He also co-authored "Warday" and "Nature's End."

BUT THEN HE WROTE "Communion: A True Story," which he claims to be a non-fiction account of his repeated encounters with strange beings. Strieber says he first had these encounters as a child growing up in Terrell Hills.

He followed up with "Transformation," an introspective sequel to "Communion," about his attempts to deal psychologically with the wonder and terror of his UFO experiences.

And people all over the country believed him.

"Communion" reached the top of the New York Times non-fiction best-seller list and stayed on the list through the summer. The book also has been made into a movie, scheduled for release in February.

Suddenly UFO watching, a subject more or less stifled since the 1950s, is back in vogue.

Incredible stories once relegated to check-out-line tabloids are surfacing in the mainstream press. UFOs and extraterrestrials are the latest and hottest talk-show topics. Oprah Winfrey, Phil Donahue, and Ross Shafer on "The Late Show" have made "ufologists" into celebrities. Even Morton Downey Jr., the archconservative talk-show host, has laid claim to a UFO experience.

In fact, hundreds — maybe even thousands — of people around the country are claiming to have made contact with alien life forms.

What's happening? And why is it happening here?

San Antonio seems to be in the running for the title of "UFO Capital of the World."

Some may dismiss it as coincidence, but it just so happens that Walter Andrus Jr., international director of the Mutual UFO Network, a group that investigates alleged UFO sightings, lives in Seguin.

MUFON is forming a UFO abductee support group, in addition to the more secretive Alamo Heights group.

Besides that, San Antonio journalist Ed Conroy is digging out even more local UFO information in a follow-up on Strieber's adventures, a book titled, "Report on Communion." That book will be released in mid-1989 by the same firm that published Strieber's books, William Morrow & Co.

Both Conroy and Strieber were recent guests on a special segment of "The Late Show" dedicated to UFOs. MUFON's Andrus has been a guest on the Oprah Winfrey show.

Now another San Antonian, Ron McAtee, has come forth with an intriguing story about sighting a UFO over Alamo Heights and following vague clues and intuition to what he, like Strieber, feels may be a "visitor" colony in the Olmos Basin.

Considering all the apparent interest in UFOs, Sunday Magazine seemed to have no choice but to follow the story. We went with Conroy and McAtee on a journey through Alamo Heights and Olmos Basin to search out traces and clues relating to what may be San Antonio's strangest tourists.



Photo by Robert McLeroy

Ron McAtee says he believes he saw a UFO while attending Cambridge Elementary School in 1957. He has been trying to track alien activity in the Alamo Heights/Olmos Basin area ever since.

Our first stop is Cambridge Elementary School in Alamo Heights where McAtee says he saw a UFO about 30 years ago.

McAtee is 37 and works as an energy consultant, advising businesses on conserving energy costs. He seems perfectly normal: a guy you'd probably immediately like if you met him at a party.

He seems genuinely puzzled by his strange experiences and even jokes about them.

But he is deadly serious in his belief that he saw a UFO. He says he's been obsessed for several years with the need to learn more about it.

Strieber mentions part of McAtee's story in "Transformation," but he doesn't use McAtee's name.

At the school, McAtee stands outside the chain-link fence that surrounds a playground. Nearby is the building that houses first-grade classes, McAtee points to the spot where he stood as a 6- or 7-year-old boy looking up at what he is sure is some kind of spacecraft.

"I don't know how far away it was, because I don't know how big a ship it was," he says. "I don't know whether it was 20 feet in circumference or 100 feet, because I don't have anything to judge it by."

"I just looked up and there it was. I said to myself this can't really be. I must be looking into the sun and it's causing me to see this thing. It was just so incredible."

"AND SO I LOOKED over into the other (part of the) sky and there was the sun over there. I wasn't looking at the sun. So then I looked back and it was still there. That's when I knew it was real. This thing was really up there."

McAtee says the object was not the classic silver disk frequently shown in science-fiction films and photos that claim to depict UFOs. It was a "pinwheel-like" craft that appeared to have a central core where the occupants apparently rode and an outer portion that rotated around the center. The rotating part had rockets attached to each side.

McAtee says he saw the flames from the rockets. He is also sure he saw a clear image of the craft; it was not hazy or blurry.

He also believes he heard voices coming from the craft on what seemed to be an extrasensory level.

"The weirdest thing was that you could

understand what they were thinking on the ship," he says.

"There were three thoughts that came out. They were like male voices talking, kind of low, but not like a 'Darth Vader' voice. The first one said, 'We're being watched.' That was the first thought. Just like that."

"And then the other one came in, a little more authoritative, a little deeper and said, 'We're not to be seen.'"

"And then the last thought was, 'We must leave.'"

Conroy says the three-part conversation fits the pattern of alien speech Strieber mentions in his books: the thesis/antithesis/synthesis approach.

"At that point, the rotor started to go very fast and the ship just shrunk and disappeared," McAtee says. "Now it may have accelerated very rapidly or it may have just gone into another dimension — went through the void, whatever. I don't really know."

THE EXPERIENCE lasted less than a minute, McAtee estimates. He remembers telling his mother about it, but he doesn't remember her response.

We ask McAtee if any other children saw the craft.

"There was another kid, and I still remember his name," he answers. "In fact, I called him on the telephone two or three years ago and he didn't remember the incident. Maybe if I took a drawing of the craft over there. But, you know, it's kind of embarrassing: 'Do you remember this spaceship?'"

"I don't know what it really proves. If he remembers it, fine. If he doesn't, it won't make me believe any less that it happened."

McAtee says his mental image of the UFO still is clear, but for years he put it in the back of his mind, telling himself it must have been his imagination.

"I didn't really think about it a whole lot until I read the Philip Klass book, 'UFOs: The Public Deceived.' He debunked a lot of these UFOs, but I thought, 'Oh, my God. It really happened,' " he says.

This was in the mid-70s, and McAtee started his own investigation of his UFO experience. This jogged his memory about another experience that, in retrospect, seemed curiously connected to this sighting.

(continued on page 7)

It may have been within weeks of the Cambridge School incident — he doesn't remember exactly when it was. McAtee, his brother and father were enjoying one of their frequent walks in what is now the soccer field area of the Olmos Basin.

All three came over a ridge and spotted what looked like a small naked man running at great speed through the woods.

From the parking lot near the soccer field, McAtee points out the wooded area where he believes he saw the naked figure.

"It was probably the middle of winter," he says. "You could see into the trees, because they didn't have any foliage. I would say he was a good 50 feet into the woods."

"WE ALL SORT of crouched down — and I don't know why we were afraid of him because there were three of us and obviously he wasn't carrying a concealed weapon. We had the dog with us and we were trying to hold the dog back.

"He was light-colored, that's why we thought he was naked, but he was a ways away, too. I don't remember whether he had hair on his head or any pubic hair. I just can't remember. Maybe he was just too far away to make something like that out. Why we thought it was a man, I'm not sure. I don't remember any breasts, so I guess it wasn't a woman. He was maybe about 5 feet tall. He wasn't really big.

"It must have been kind of hard to run through the woods without shoes," he says.

But when McAtee began to re-trace his strange encounters several years later, the idea that there might be some sort of alien life in the basin kept haunting him. Following little more than his intuition, he kept searching.

"I was sort of drawn to this area," he says. "I kept coming back and started exploring farther and farther into the woods. I finally crossed over the dam. I wasn't sure what I was looking for, but there was a spot that seemed to be drawing me in. Finally in the early '70s, I found this spot."

We drive to another part of the basin, behind Incarnate Word College. We walk into a wooded area and down a path.

WHEN WE finally arrive at the spot, we find the stone foundation of an old mill. McAtee says he knew this was the spot he was looking for because he had an intense psychological and physical sensation when he found it.

"It was quite an emotional experience," he says.

Conroy notes it is either significant or else a strange coincidence that the area that obsessed McAtee is the same area Strieber writes about being drawn to in "Communion."

But McAtee was drawn to the spot years before "Communion" was written. McAtee and Strieber never met until after "Communion" was published.

McAtee contacted Strieber and shared his story. The two, along with Conroy, later visited the area and Strieber confirmed it was the same area he wrote about — the possible site of the "children's circle."

The children's circle is one of Strieber's early memories dredged from his subconscious by hypnosis. He remembers meeting other children in the wooded area where they were taught various things by the alien creatures.

McAtee, however, says he has no memory of participating in a children's circle.

We hike out of the woods and sit down at a coffee shop where McAtee continues to explain his quest to understand his experience.

He says he went to a hypnotist in Houston about 10 years ago to see if that would help him recall more details about his UFO sighting, perhaps an exact date.

"I don't think he really successfully hypnotized me, because he said, 'In a minute, your arms are going to raise up,' and mine never did," McAtee says. "But I was very relaxed and I was able to recall some things."

A date flashed across his mind. He says he still isn't sure it was the actual date he saw the craft, but it was the date that came to mind under hypnosis — Nov. 7, 1957.

McATEE WENT to the Express-News library and searched through he micro-filmed copies of the November 1957 newspapers hoping to find something that might confirm his sighting of the UFO. He made an interesting discovery.

The front page of the Nov. 8, 1957, Express contains a story about a UFO sighting over San Antonio — witnessed the previous day by 15 Express staff members.

UNDER A headline that reads, "Round Ball 'Whatnik' Seen Over Alamo City," the story tells of an object hovering for about 10 minutes over the city in the south-southwest sky at about 7:30 p.m. Nov. 7.

Many citizens also saw the object and called local authorities. On the same day, another UFO was reported in Waco and residents in New Braunfels, Uvalde, Edinburg and Boerne reported seeing mysterious bright lights.

An Associated Press story printed in the Express a day later reported area "whatniks" most likely were weather balloons. Army officers at Fort Hood in Killeen

said the meteorological battalion of the 14th Field Artillery released nine large illuminated balloons between 7 p.m. and 3 a.m. in order to gather wind data.

However, that does not necessarily explain the sighting way down in San Antonio nor McAtee's sighting, which would have been earlier in the day. Nor does it conform with McAtee's description of the craft.

An official Air Force report of the San Antonio incident, obtained by Conroy through the federal Freedom of Information Act, makes the terse conclusion there is insufficient data to judge the object's identity.

It also is interesting to note that, perhaps coincidentally, Nov. 7 was an especially outer-space-oriented news day. Out of 10 front-page items on the following day, six were related to space.

Besides being the day of the UFO sighting, Nov. 7 happened to be the day the Soviet Union paraded its new rockets through Red Square in observance of the 40th anniversary of the communist revolution and the day President Eisenhower named the new head of the U.S. space program.

There also is a story about plans to retrieve the Russian spacedog, Laika, then circling Earth in Sputnik II; a cartoon about American scientists being embarrassed because of Sputnik; and an editor's note about an upcoming series of stories on UFOs.

However, the current UFO craze involves much more than scanning the skies for flying saucers.

The search has turned inward, thanks mostly to Strieber.

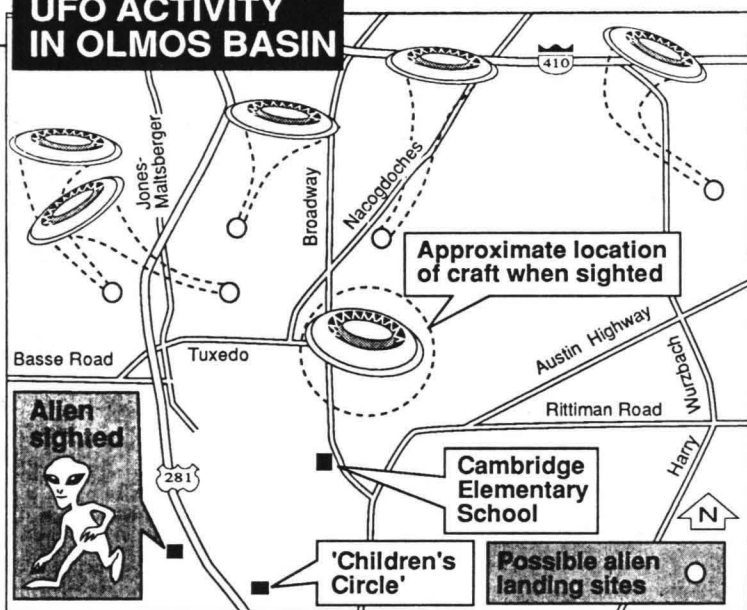
The search extends into psychology, rather than physics or astronomy, and considers such phenomenon as "screen memory," where the mind replaces actual images with symbolic ones in an apparent attempt to preserve its sanity.

For example, according to Strieber, the memory of seeing owls may replace that of seeing a space being.

In a telephone interview, Strieber says he admits there is no hard, physical, irrefutable evidence that non-human visitors or UFOs do exist.

At the same time, he believes we shouldn't ignore the experiences reported by hundreds of

UFO ACTIVITY IN OLMOS BASIN



IF YOU'RE LOOKING to make contact with an outer-space visitor, Olmos Basin seems to be the hot spot. According to Whitley Strieber's books and sightings by San Antonian Ron McAtee, the area may have attracted a lot of UFO activity. McAtee, for instance, believes he saw a spaceship near the basin while he was standing in the Cambridge Elementary

School playground. He also has sighted what he believes may be an alien near where U.S. 281 cuts through the basin. Strieber writes about an alleged "children's circle" in the woods behind Incarnate Word College, where he believes the aliens took him as a child. The additional circles on the map mark spots McAtee believes spaceships could land.

people and that he, himself, claims to have encountered.

Many of Strieber's critics say "Communion" and "Transformation" are nothing more than additional examples of his science-fiction writing skill.

In fact, a recent review of "Communion" in

The Skeptical Inquirer, a magazine fostered by the academic establishment, puts forth the opinion the book is pure fiction.

"It's a physical experience as far as I'm concerned," Strieber counters. "I have a gut feeling there's a great effort being made on the part of the visitors to keep their own secrets, because as long as they remain secret, they also remain in complete control of the situation."

However, Strieber says he believes he eventually will make open contact with these alleged beings. They're just waiting until we're ready.

He views his book and the other UFO stories people are coming out with as preparation for future contact.

"If they come out into the public eye, it's going to be scary, but I think it's going to be the best thing that ever happened," he says.

"I think the visitors are working along the lines of a very specific timetable, on an accelerating curve," he says.

"IF YOU LOOK at the modern experience from the late '40s, you can see that they have been coming closer and closer to us. There were UFO sightings in the '50s. By the time the '70s rolled around, there was a smattering of reports of these so-called abductions and now in the '80s a certain number of people have been reported to have had relationships with the individuals."

Strieber says he's gotten thousands of letters from people reporting what they think may be contacts with aliens.

"I get 20 or 30 letters a day every day and have since 'Communion' was first published," he says.

Strieber says he isn't planning a sequel to "Transformation."

"I'm writing a novel right now," he says. "If something

happens — someone proves the visitors are real, for example, I might write something else. If not, I'll go back to being a novelist. I've sort of said my piece."

Strieber, a leader of the UFO renaissance, is a genuine San Antonio product — like it or not.

His late father, Karl Strieber, was a prominent attorney. His mother, Mary, long active in civic and charitable groups, still lives here.

His younger brother, Richard, works in the law firm of Oliver Heard.

His older sister, Patricia Simpson, lives in Houston where she and her husband operate a merchandising business.

Mary Strieber, in a phone interview, says Whitley started reading at 4. In fact, all her children did.

"He started talking about being a writer when he was about 9 years old," she says. "He just always had a big imagination and was always telling me stories."

"He was a pretty funny, little kid."

Although she doesn't remember any specific mention of aliens or UFOs, she remembers what some may consider typical childhood horrors.

"I can remember one night when he woke us up screaming," she says. "His bed was right by the window and he said there was something there. I remember when he was real little he wouldn't go outside for a long time because he thought something was out there."

She says she personally has had no UFO experiences and has a hard time associating with that sort of thing. "I thought 'Communion' was kind of scary," she says.

Strieber's story apparently has convinced a lot of people there really is something "out there."

But much of the scientific community remains unimpressed.

RICHARD BARTELS, professor of physics at Trinity (continued on page 8)

University, has taught courses on the possibility of extraterrestrial life.

"I'm assuming we know enough about our solar system to rule out life existing on other planets," he says.

He adds that, while it may be logical to believe equivalents to Earth are circulating around other stars, the likelihood of any beings from there reaching here seems beyond reason.

Based on current Earth technology, our fastest spacecraft would take more than 50,000 years to reach a planet around the nearest star, he says. Even considering that other beings might have more advanced technology, the distance barrier most likely would be insurmountable.

"I do think the UFO phenomenon is very interesting, but from a psychological, sociological and religious point of view," Bartels says. "The connection between the UFO reports and the powerful human need for religion is quite obvious and has been commented upon by many persons."

Psychologists have put forth various theories to explain why people feel so convinced they've seen little creatures or have been abducted by UFOs. One of the most prominent theories involves temporal-lobe epilepsy, a condition that may distort perceptions of reality.

But Strieber claims to have been fully checked out for any psychological or physical dysfunctions.

Strieber and other ufologists also contend they're not necessarily talking about beings who dropped in for a visit from another planet. They say these beings may have been with us for thousands or even millions of years.

IN THAT CASE, the theoretical possibilities seem endless — and many of these theories have been explored in B-grade science-fiction movies.

"It's all right for your imagination to become engaged when you're dealing with the unknown," Strieber says. "We're sitting here on a little speck of dust in this enormous spectacular display of nature. It's got to be more exciting than we think it is."

Of course, imagination can take us in the other direction, as well. Maybe visions of UFOs and little blue men are merely shadowy mental reflections of objects dangled over cribs when these ufologists were infants.

Strieber says even if the visitors turn out to be mere mental images — a theory he doesn't believe — they have expanded people's expectations about the universe.

"We've got to just let this experience sort of roll over us," Strieber says. "Having an open mind is much greater than having a closed mind."

Come to think of it, if a strange species of superior beings from another planet really were here to study us lowly Earth creatures, the Olmos Basin would be a great place to set up their headquarters.

It's a relatively undisturbed area near the middle of one of America's largest cities that happens to be surrounded by several military bases.

It's within walking distance of a lot of interesting resources: the San Antonio Zoo, Trinity University, Incarnate Word College, the Witte Museum — and that earthly wonder of wonders, Alamo Heights. ■

Craig Phelon is Sunday Magazine's story editor.

TAKE TWO SPACE PILLS AND CALL ME IN THE MORNING

With so many people claiming to have been abducted by little creatures from UFOs, you may have strange, haunting feelings this has happened to you.

Then again, you may just want to know why these people say they have been contacted and you haven't.

As you might suspect, many people who claim to have made contact with the flying saucer crowd say it occurred when they were asleep or in a semiconscious state, and it took hypnosis to bring memories of the encounter to the surface.

However, a few subtle symptoms are common to many of the stories of "visitor abductions," according to Ed Conroy, a journalist currently investigating the UFO phenomenon.

Of course, these symptoms might be the result of much more down-to-earth circumstances, Conroy cautions. In fact, skeptics would say these symptoms are most certainly *not* evidence that you've taken a ride on a UFO.

But what the heck, you may be as curious about this stuff as we are and might want to be up on some of the alleged common signs of UFO contact. It makes for spiffy cocktail chatter, if nothing else:

MISSING TIME

You suddenly realize you can't remember what you have been doing for the past hour or so. Or you're driving your car on a familiar road and you find yourself farther along the road than you expected to be. You don't remember passing familiar landmarks.

DRIVING INTO FOG BANKS

On the highway, you drive through a mass of fog that seems to last a long time. Or a gravel road might appear in the middle of the fog and you get a sudden unreasonable urge to drive down that road.

SCARS, RASHES

Unexplained scars or rashes — espe-

cially triangle-shaped rashes — are said to be the possible result of probing alien instruments.

BLOODY NOSES

You wake up in the morning with a nose bleed even though you're not prone to such things. That may be the result of an alien probe, some ufologists claim.

STRANGE CUTS

Small cuts that don't heal, particularly on the right forefinger, may be an indication of an alien blood test. Ironically, it also used to be considered a sign that the bearer practices witchcraft, Conroy says.

STRANGE GOUGE MARKS

Some say they have found little spoon-sized hunks of flesh missing, especially from the legs. But there is no sign of a wound; just a completely healed hollowed-out section.

UNEXPLAINED BRUISES

Some people, especially women, claim their UFO experiences left them with bruises on the thighs.

WAKING IN THE NIGHT

You wake up suddenly in the middle of the night, perhaps after a bad dream. You may have dreamed you were falling or even dreamed of strange creatures.

FOOTSTEPS IN THE NIGHT

You hear what sounds like the footsteps of children walking across the floor, but no one is there.

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS SYNDROME

Some suspect UFO contact when they can think of no other reason for suffering this classic psychological condition. It includes a feeling of disorientation and a hypersensitivity to certain things.

For example, one may become unreasonably emotional or fearful when confronted with a television news story about a kidnapping or a missing child.

For more information, you can contact the Mutual UFO Network, 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, Texas 78155; or Whitley Strieber, Apartment 188, 496 LaGuardia Place, New York, NY 10012.

Of course, if you're seriously concerned about some strange symptoms, you should contact a reputable medical or mental health professional.

— Craig Phelon



■ "UFO Coverup? ... Live" airs at 8 p.m. today on WOFL-TV and WPEC-TV.

By Billy Cox
FLORIDA TODAY

President Reagan's abiding fascination with extraterrestrials turned yet another page recently with the publication of "Landslide: The Unmaking of a President." The book makes passing reference to Reagan having once sighted an unidentified flying object, and his aides' efforts to play it down.

The brief excerpt is illuminating only in the context of Reagan's public statements during his second term, a pattern that includes the president's allusions to an "alien threat" in a speech before the United Nations in 1987. Reagan also raised the scenario of an extraterrestrial invasion with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in 1985, with USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze last year, and this year at a press conference in Chicago.

With that pattern in mind, a California UFO investigator is looking at

tonight's broadcast of "UFO Coverup? ... Live" with keen anticipation, when two high-level security contacts who have supposedly been leaking classified information to him over the years are supposed to go public. In the final days of the first successful two-term presidency in nearly 30 years, says Bill Moore, "the administration has a unique opportunity to get this information out."

"Coverup," a two-hour special beginning at 8 p.m. on WOFL-TV and WPEC-TV, is scheduled to take a wide-angle look at the phenomenon, from the recent controversy over Florida's Gulf Breeze sightings to the testimony of people who claim they've been abducted by aliens. Film footage and interviews with scientists on both sides of the subject are set.

Last year, Moore, director of the Fair Witness Project in Burbank, released copies of the so-called MJ-12 documents, alleged presidential briefing papers mailed anonymously to him in 1985. The debate over their authenticity continues.

The documents were purportedly prepared in 1952 by the outgoing

Truman administration for the incoming Eisenhower team and describe the retrieval of a crashed spacecraft — and the remains of four tiny occupants — from a New Mexico desert in 1947. The Army immediately announced it had recovered a flying saucer, only to contradict the story the next day, identifying the wreckage as a weather balloon.

"Given the time frame this occurred, right after the second World War, it would've been a completely irresponsible act to tell about what we had discovered," Moore says. "And once that process got started, it just perpetuated itself. So now the problem is, how do you explain to the American public that you've been keeping a secret from them for 41 years?"

Moore says his sources are agreeing to talk in hopes of sparking congressional investigations. "None of the information I've seen would pose a threat to national security if it went public," Moore says.

"Coverup" originates from Washington and is produced by LBS Communications, the same group that put together "Return of the Titanic ...

Live" in 1987. The moderator is actor Mike "M*A*S*H" Farrell, who has also been active in a number of social-issue documentaries.

Among the guests will be Vickie Landrum and Betty Cash, victims of one of the best medically documented UFO cases and the subjects of a FLORIDA TODAY series of stories in 1983. Cash, Landrum, and Landrum's grandson, Colby, suffered acute radiation burns when their car was blocked by a glowing object on a deserted highway outside Houston in 1980. They also claim they saw more than 20 military helicopters pursuing the vehicle.

Cash has always held the government, not space aliens, responsible for her continuing health problems.

"Before this happened to us, if somebody would've told me a story like the one I've got, I would've said they're ready for the men in the white coats," says Cash, now living in Alabama. "But now, after what happened to me, I'm thinking, 'Gosh, maybe I owe all those people with all those strange stories an apology.' I mean, who am I to judge any more?"

UFOs UNCOVERED





Lincolnton's George Fawcett, who collects information about UFOs, Bigfoot, Lizard Man and related phenomena, displays some of his memorabilia and plans for a UFO museum.

Man Keeps Tabs On Strange Events

LINCOLNTON — George Fawcett reels off little factoids about UFOs and Bigfoot creatures in a rapid-fire monotone, as if he were a military man giving name, rank and serial number.

"Did you see the movie, 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind'? About 95% of that was true. It was based on Project Blue Book, an Air Force project.

"There are about 150 reports a day, worldwide. Sixty-five percent are at night, but 35% are in broad daylight.

"Only about 10% of the people who see UFOs report them. And 20% to 30% of the reports can't be explained away.

"There have been 30 crashes in six states over 40 years. With



Allen Norwood

Also, "Other people have documented Bigfoot creatures getting off UFOs."

It was that last tidbit, the alleged connection between UFOs and Bigfoot creatures, that introduced me to Fawcett.

I wrote a silly piece about the Lizard Man of Bishopville, S.C., and then a second column about a reported sighting of a similar creature closer to Charlotte. Fawcett asked for the names of my sources. He wanted to get in touch with them, to ask questions of his own.

George Fawcett, you see, is this area's expert on UFOs, Bigfoot, Lizard Man and related stuff.

Here are some more little tidbits we'll call factoids: Fawcett, 59, has been a buff 44 years. He has amassed 30 file cabinets of clippings, letters, and similar documents. He has spent \$30,000 of his own money tracking down and talking to

bodies recovered.

Cooper Twp. Man Reports UFO Sighting Over I-80

By Marian Fahr
Staff Writer

MORRISDALE — Bright lights and a large circular airship flying over an isolated section of Interstate 80 — was it a UFO?

The question is haunting Tom Hynd of Lanse, who saw the object while traveling to work on I-80 at 10:20 p.m. Friday night. He said other cars traveling that section of I-80 ahead of him had applied their brake lights and he assumes also were looking at the airship.

He would like anyone who saw it or knows what it was to come forward.

While most people are skeptical about the possibilities of UFOs, particularly from outer

space, the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, based in Greensburg and made up of volunteer scientists, engineers and other professional persons, is interested.

Stan Gordon, director, said it is very rare for a blimp to fly at night and Goodyear generally notifies him. He checked with Goodyear today and they confirmed it was not one of their blimps, he said.

But the description given by the area resident very much fits similar sightings across the state since August 1987, Mr. Gordon said.

Power plants, such as the one at Shawville, seem to be becoming centers of the strange

sightings, he said. The majority of UFO sightings can be explained, he added but dozens in the state in the past year and one half have not been as yet.

While traveling between Kylerstown and the Deer Creek Road bridges crossing over I-80 in Graham Township, Mr. Hynd said he saw a bright light.

"I never saw anything that bright in the sky before and it was moving toward I-80," he said. It was around the 128 mile marker and the object was, he estimated, a quarter mile off the ground.

As he traveled to about where Moravian Run crosses under the interstate, he said he saw the craft just off to the side of the highway. It was very large, circular in shape and had square windows, he said.

The object, which tilted toward I-80 when he was observing it, appeared to have a flat top, gave off a glow and vapor around the bottom. It had red and blue or

people who reported UFOs and weird creatures.

In 1975, he published a paperback on UFOs. He has written scads of newspaper pieces, and been written about nearly as often. He founded four UFO organizations, including the Tar Heel UFO Study Group.

He is assistant state director of the Mutual UFO Network, an organization of several thousand buffs who collect and swap information. For 18 years, he has issued annual reports on North Carolina UFO activity. His 1986 report cited eight incidents, from such places as Maiden, Shelby and Bessemer City.

To be honest, I'm a skeptic about the whole business. But Fawcett absolutely is convinced.

"People ask me if I believe in UFOs," he said. "I say certainly not — but I do recognize they exist."

Well, maybe. . .

Whatever, Fawcett and his collection certainly are fascinating.

Fawcett's mound of memorabilia, for which he wants to establish a UFO museum, is too massive to digest at one sitting. Since it was the Lizard Man that fetched me to Fawcett's family room, down the hill a few shaded blocks from the Lincoln County courthouse, let's stick to that topic.

"I still think the young man in Bishopville saw Bigfoot," Fawcett said. "And other people have documented Bigfoot creatures getting off UFOs."

Fawcett interviewed a woman in New Hampshire who told him Bigfoot creatures are put out by UFOs to scare humans away from landing sites.

The fellow I quoted in my second Lizard Man column said Lizard

Men and UFOs are somehow linked, although he wouldn't speculate how.

Fawcett interviewed several people after an alleged incident involving both a Bigfoot creature and a UFO.

"In 1972, in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, they were followed by a Bigfoot creature. It got closer and closer. Just before they were about to experience an encounter, a UFO came down between them and the Bigfoot."

Fawcett personally stops short of trying to explain the connection between UFOs and Bigfoot, or Lizard Man. "I don't like the idea of trying to explain one mystery with another."

There are a couple of questions an admitted skeptic is obliged to ask about UFOs and Lizard Men, so I did.

"I don't know where they come from," Fawcett said, "and I won't guess."

"They are a threat to national security. Some are hostile; some are friendly. We're trying to copy their technology."

Fawcett said the "ridicule barrier," the jibes and pokes he took when he first became interested in UFOs, is nearly gone. And a Gallup Poll last year explains why: Forty-nine percent of Americans believe UFOs are real, while only 30% say they're imaginary.

Fawcett also said sightings follow patterns — and seem to go up during election years. "We always have a wave at presidential elections," he said with a chuckle. "Some people say it's a way to get people's minds off politics."

Well, maybe. . .

Wonder whether the Lizard Man of Scape Ore Swamp is a Democrat or Republican?

POST, Glenwood Springs, CO - Oct. 3, 1988

UFO sightings reported

By the Glenwood Post

Two UFO sightings in the Rifle area were reported to the Garfield County Sheriff's Department last Thursday. The sightings took place at approximately the same time, Sheriff's spokesperson Pat Davidson said.

Fern Grant, of Rifle, reported that as she was driving westbound on Highway 6 and 24 near Rifle at about 9:15 p.m. Thursday, she observed a white, long, lighted tubular object with a red fire ball trailing it. She said the object was travelling from west to east at a high rate of speed, too fast to be an airplane.

Grant also reported the interior of her car lit up at the same moment, Davidson said. Grant could not be reached for comment this morning.

Deputy Ray Willey, who

received the report, said another Rifle woman, P. Yule, reported observing a similar object at about the same time.

Willey said he called a lineman at the Garfield County Airport, Duane Duncanson, who said there was no air traffic in the area at the time of the reports. Duncanson also said that on Wednesday evening, he received a call from an unidentified man who said he observed "flares" around the airport.

Commander Dugald Gillis, of the U.S. Space Command in Colorado Springs, said the object could not have been the Space Shuttle Discovery, which went into orbit on Thursday.

Gillis said the space shuttle would not have been visible as far north as Colorado, but might be observed in Florida or Texas.

unexplained. On Sept. 2, he said, a man was sitting by a pond when an unidentified object appeared and hovered about 50 feet off the ground. The man reported seeing windows in the craft.

An area 12-foot in diameter was left with a counter-clockwise swirl in the grass and samples taken at the site are being tested.

There were a number of reports of large circular objects near the Homer City generating plant, Mr. Gordon said, adding quite often the sightings are near power sources, such as high tension lines or plants.

Mr. Gordon asked that anyone who may have seen the object along I-80 contact the center at 1-412-832-3288 or 6 Oak Hill Ave., Greensburg, 15601.

PROGRESS, Clearfield, PA

Nov. 21, 1988

CR: S. Gordon

Washington County callers report 'fireball' in sky

By JERRY F. BOONE
of The Oregonian staff

An unidentified object described as "a fireball" lighted the sky late Sunday night over Washington County, according to numerous calls to local police agencies.

The Oregon State Police office in Beaverton received about 10 UFO sighting calls Sunday night, said Sgt. Mel Thomas, a spokesman.

"Most of the callers described it as a red fireball with a red tail, trailing smoke and being low on the horizon," he said.

At 11:05 p.m., two people reported seeing a "very solid light object leaving a smoke trail" as it flew about 50 to 100 feet above the ground from near St. Vincent Hospital and Medi-

cal Center to the Cedar Hills area before it disappeared, state police reported.

Thomas said most of the reported sightings were in the Cedar Mill and Aloha areas, but that one was south of Beaverton on Interstate 5.

Jan Paul Dabrowski, director of science programs at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, said the reports received by his staff "make it sound like what came down was a bright fireball."

Dabrowski said fireballs "are not that unusual . . . but they are rare enough that you are lucky if you are outside when one falls."

He questioned reports that the fireball was only a few hundred feet in the air, saying that such estimates are difficult to make even by those

skilled in observing such things.

Dick Pugh, who teaches astronomy at Cleveland High School, said that from second-hand accounts, the object "sounds like a fireball, which is a big meteor."

Pugh said there had been an unusually large number of fireball sightings in Oregon this month. "If that's what this is, it will be the third in the Portland area this month and the sixth in Oregon," he said.

One of the sightings logged by the state police was made by an unnamed Washington County sheriff's deputy, Thomas said, but the sheriff's department had no record of the report.

One man, whose name was not recorded, called the Washington County's central dispatch emergen-

cy number at 11:09 p.m. to report a "flaming football-sized object coming down" in an area south of the Tualatin Valley Highway near 170th Avenue.

There could have been other callers whose messages were not logged in, said Sherre Calouri, spokeswoman for the Washington County sheriff's office.

"Apparently there were some calls to the tower Sunday night, but there were no sightings of anything unusual by our personnel," said Rick Chisholm, chief of the Hillsboro Airport traffic-control tower. Details of the reports were not available.

John Paulson, manager of the Federal Aviation Administration office at Hillsboro Airport, said no reports were received there, and the regional FAA office in Seattle also

had nothing to report regarding any sightings of unusual objects in the sky.

The control tower at Portland International Airport and the Kendall Planetarium at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry reported no telephone calls about the incident.

Not all reports were identical in their description or area.

A Forest Grove-area man who declined to give his name said he saw a "glowing light" about a foot long that stayed about 30 or 40 feet in front of his car as he was driving on Susbauer Road near the Dairy Creek bridge at about 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

Similar sightings were reported in the Bull Mountain area near Tigard about a week ago and in Clark County, Wash., last week.

ALUMNI NEWS [University of Wyoming], Laramie, WY - Nov. 1988

Laramie site of UFO Conference

CR: J. Waller

Best-selling author tells of contact with aliens

By Sue Carter
Alumnews Writer

The author of a book about a family's UFO experiences told a UW audience that he has led an extraordinary life because of his contact with aliens.

Whitley Strieber, author of the best seller "Communion: A True Story" was one of the guest speakers at this summer's Ninth Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation, conducted in Laramie. Along with internationally-known guest speakers, several of the 175 registrants spoke about their UFO experiences and underwent hypnosis at the conference to help them deal with those experiences.

Strieber astounded members of the audience with his tale of how he learned to live with fear.

Several times aliens from another planet appeared to him and even took him aboard their ship. He said he became afraid because "we don't know who we are or what is going on."

The aliens told Strieber they would help him confront his fears but not how they would do it.

The next thing Strieber knew he was free-falling from 10 stories above. When he had gotten over

that, he found himself on an airplane going through a "near-death" experience.

Strieber said fear is now a lot easier to deal with.

"But I knew after that I'd never be able to go back to my peaceful existence again," he said.

During his talk, Strieber showed evidence that he was contacted and examined by aliens. He showed the audience of nearly 400, slides of his MRI brain scans, a more intense type of CAT scan. The scans were taken after one of his more amazing experiences with aliens.

The slides clearly show anomalies in his brain, and one long white object over his right ear.

"I remember a needle going up my nose in 1986 and a loud crunch," Strieber said. He said the long white object in his brain is where he receives radio signals from the aliens. Yet he still is unsure where the aliens come from.

According to Strieber, there have been numerous incidents of UFO's appearing on earth and of aliens contacting humans in various geographic locations.

Strieber recalled an incident that happened to a woman who wrote him that involved a mind

contact. While this woman was vacuuming her living room, she saw small aliens come in through her door. All she remembers of their appearance was a mask-like face. They asked her to come with them and when she refused, they pulled her towards them with their minds. She does not remember what else happened to her, only that time had elapsed when she awoke in her living room.

Time lapse is typical, said Strieber, adding that he believes the "visitors" are "physically real." He said he has been taught how to contact the aliens whenever he needs to speak to them, and that his method will work for anyone. However, he cautioned the audience it could take several years before the method works, and not to attempt it unless they are prepared mentally for what may happen.

According to Strieber his method involves relaxing until a quiet, meditative state is reached. Then he projects his consciousness "To the end of the atmosphere" and finally visualizes exactly what he wants to happen.

One man who tried this method apparently became "scared to death" when aliens actually contacted him, Strieber said.

Strieber said that meeting with aliens has made him a different

person. He said he now keeps an open mind and has learned to ask questions.

One of the registrants said she has come to every one of the conferences because they help her deal with her own experiences with UFO beings.

From the time she was a young girl in Greeley, Colo., the woman, who asked to remain anonymous, said she has been contacted by aliens. She remembers once when she was trying to get into her house and a strong force field kept throwing her backwards. Her mother was calling her from the kitchen window, but every time she tried to cross its path, a violent shock kept her from reaching the door. Her mother never believed her and this had always bothered her.

Now, as an adult, things keep disappearing around her house. She'll pour a cup of coffee, and when she turns around, it's gone. She said she believes this is due to alien contact, but she is not upset by it anymore.

Organizer of the conference, Dr. Leo Sprinkle, a UW psychologist, said he has been active in UFO research since the 1960s when he had a UFO experience. His experience was detailed in Ruth Montgomery's book "Aliens Among Us."

KIOWA CO. PRESS, Eads, CO - Oct. 21, 1988

UFOs Are 'Out Of This World'

By Dan Cunningham

CHEYENNE WELLS - No one laughed or argued at what George Green had to say.

And he said a lot during a lengthy talk on UFOs, outer space aliens and coming natural disasters.

Green spoke on his esoteric subject matter before an audience of 100 people in the Cheyenne Wells auditorium Oct. 10. The speech was arranged by a Cheyenne County farmer who found a mysterious, deep hole on his property about two months ago (See last week's issue.)

Green's talk was timely, because a nationwide television program called "UFO Coverup" aired on independent stations throughout the nation last Fri. and again on Sun.

Much of what Green claimed is true was also reported on the tv show, hosted by actor Mike Farrell.

Green noted that several books have reported humans being examined and probed by aliens who abducted people from their cars and homes.

"There are 12,000 contacts going on in the world right now between people and aliens," Green said, referring to suggestions that aliens repeatedly contact the same people.

"We know our country (federal government) has an ET (extraterrestrial or alien from outer space) in New Mexico," Green said. This statement was repeated a few days later on the tv show, when a supposed CIA affiliate said the U.S. Government has signed a treaty with aliens. However, the tv show said the alien was in Nevada.

But where is the hard proof of alien contact?

Both Green and several witnesses on the tv show said the evidence is building up all over the world.

The tv show interviewed two women who were burned by radiation when a distressed hovering craft passed over them, escorted by about two dozen U.S. Air Force helicopters.

In that incident, UFO researchers such as Green said the U.S. was trying to fly an alien spacecraft but had a problem.

"A colonel was killed while trying to fly an alien space ship in Nevada two years ago," Green said of another incident.

Green claimed the U.S. government will not tell the public about its alien contact because officials fear mass hysteria and confusion. Another problem: the aliens supposedly communicate telepathically between themselves and with humans - and can place hypnotic controls over individual humans.

Much of what Green said was echoed on the tv show - but there was one important disparity.

For several minutes, Green focused on his visits to a Billy Meyer, a Swiss farmer who supposedly has been in contact with outer space aliens for years. Green showed slide after slide of space ships in Meyer's front yard and color photos of alleged alien women with long blonde hair.

Green, after his talk, said he had invested \$30,000 in a book reporting on Meyer's outer space contacts, but

a sour business deal with an American partner ended up in Green suing the U.S. associate - not Meyer - and receiving a thousand books that he has gone around the country and sold at \$29.95 to recover his investment.

On the tv show, Farrell said Meyer was an "obvious hoax" and that one of the supposed aliens seemed to be a well-known Swiss model.

Green said the earth is being visited from aliens who originate from a few dozen different planets.

The aliens go through the universe looking for planets that can sustain life, he said, then they "engineer" the planet.

Green claimed that on earth the human race is a "biological experiment that is failing because we are not taking care of the planet."

Aware of the alien presence, he said, the U.S. is proposing its Star Wars project to ward off an alien attack not the Russians. But the system won't work, Green said, because the aliens can control minds.

In his wide-ranging talk, Green alleged:

*The human races differ because varying aliens have manipulated earthlings genetically. There is a species of people in India with blue skin, Green said.

*The aliens believe the soul is immortal.

*Aliens claim time does not exist as we know it, and earthlings "are a slave to our bracelets, referring to watches."

*The alien space ships use gravity for power.

*The surface of the earth will soon shift in a few years, with Colorado being pushed a thousand miles to the south.

*The aliens are starting hybrid embryos in human mothers, then taking them away to develop. But without their mother's love, these hybrid children are dying.

*The aliens claim that this planet is designed to accommodate 500 million people - but there are now ten times that many people on earth today.

*More earthquakes will occur in the triangle between San Francisco, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. The weather will change dramatically, and there will be mass destruction of people.

*Until recently, the aliens had a mother ship with 25,000 people aboard on the far side of the moon.

When Green's talk ended, some in the audience related their own encounters with UFOs in Cheyenne County. But there was no mention of contacts with actual aliens.

As Green talked on and on, about a third of the audience walked out. But the majority stayed to the end.

CAPITAL TIMES, Madison, WI - Oct. 20, 1988 CR: R. Heiden

UFO Club leader rips skeptics as prejudiced

By BILL MERRICK
Special to The Capital Times

Are UFO skeptics racist?

Chris Hempowicz thinks they may be. Leader of the American UFO Club, a new University of Wisconsin-Madison student group, he bristles at implications that UFO believers are short a few bales in the haystack.

"I believe there are other civilizations and other beings," he says. "Some people think it's fantasy, but it's real. People who are scared of themselves don't believe. They are scared, prejudiced and maybe racist."

Hempowicz started the club because of many area UFO sightings in recent years. He's hoping someone will come forth with a personal experience involving UFOs, but so far he hasn't heard one.

He adds that a friend of his says she was contacted by aliens and "paid a big price for it in terms of her health."

"Many people who have experiences (with aliens) don't realize

they have them," Hempowicz adds. "They may have pushed them into their subconscious because it was frightening. Others know they have had experiences but don't say anything because the current climate isn't supportive."

Encouraging people to talk about their run-ins with extraterrestrials is the main purpose of the club, Hempowicz says, and he is quick to add that the club doesn't try to convince people that aliens exist. The subject is only discussed, he says.

Hempowicz hasn't always believed in UFOs, but for the last 10 years he's been inspired by the science-fiction author, Whitley Communion, who also claims to have been abducted by zealous aliens.

Though the Midwest seems to be ripe for UFO sightings, Hempowicz says the real hot spot for space buffs is Washington D.C.

Each year a UFO conference is held there, drawing over 500 people, Hempowicz says.

"The people there are very passionate, they really die for it."

Unidentified object steals across valley sky

By SCOTT REEVES
Bee staff writer

If you were a space creature who lived a few thousand light-years west of Alpha or Omega and your leader gave you a souped-up triangular spaceship to explore distant galaxies, what would be the odds of finding your way to Dinuba?

Some people there and in other parts of the San Joaquin Valley believe they were visited by a UFO Wednesday night. Others speculate that the low-flying, slow-moving object was the U.S. Air Force's new Stealth bomber.

The Air Force isn't talking. Northrop Corp., which is building the

super-secret plane in Palmdale, would only say that the Stealth bomber will be rolled out Nov. 22. And the space creatures, if they exist, could not be reached for comment.

Nevertheless, people in the valley say they saw something in the sky.

Bryan Neel, a resident of northeast Fresno, said he was "so excited" by the object that he forgot to load his camera when he spotted it about 9 p.m. Wednesday and began clicking the shutter.

"I've never seen anything like it in my life," Neel said. "I wasn't scared — I was curious. I'm sure there is a logical explanation for it. I don't think it was a UFO and I don't think we're being invaded."

Jim Lindholm, a resident of Kingsburg, said he believed the object came from another world.

"There was a series of red lights behind the main object — I'd say three lights," he said. "Then they went into a V-formation and continued to circle in the direction of Fresno."

Lindholm said he and his sister followed the object with binoculars for about 45 minutes.

"I heard a very low rumble — and my sister could kind of make out a hissing sound," he said. "It was definitely a low rumble — and it wasn't a plane. When it flew in front of the moon, there weren't any wings. ... I believe it was a UFO — I really do. I tried to dismiss it or eliminate it,

but there is no type of aircraft like that."

Roy Yates, a field investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, a nationwide group of volunteers devoted to the study of reported sightings, said he would check out the incident and file a report.

"I don't know what to make of it," he said. "I'm trying to gather the information. ... UFO reports exist and I think it's plausible to assume that UFOs may exist, if you mean objects that behave in extraordinary ways in the sky."

The Stealth bomber, so secret that the research and development budget is not listed with other military expenditures, is believed to be a triangular flying wing.

The bomber is believed to be invisible to radar and may have the ability to fly silently at low levels. A mock-up of what some believe the plane will look like appears in a car advertisement, but the design and capabilities of the new aircraft are classified.

"I really can't discuss the details of the program," Tony Cantafio, a spokesman for the Northrop Corp. in Los Angeles, said Thursday. "The Air Force says it will unveil the plane on November 22 and will make its first flight sometime after that."

A spokeswoman at Castle Air Force Base in Atwater said there were no military planes in the area of the sightings Wednesday night. She said Edwards AFB, Vandenberg AFB and the Air National Guard in Fresno also reported no activity at that time. A spokesman for LeMoore Naval Air Station said all military planes had landed by 8:15 p.m. Wednesday.

Ken Hyman, plans and procedures specialist at the Fresno Air Terminal, said the airport radar picked up no unusual activity.

"But we've been getting calls, too," Hyman said. "I wouldn't buy the Stealth theory. If the Air Force wanted to test it, they wouldn't want anyone to know about it, so why fly around Fresno where everyone could see it?"

Marlene Morris, a resident of North Fork, a small lumber town in the Madera County foothills, said she saw "three huge lights" on an object that appeared to be "hundreds of feet long" move across the sky.

"I was amazed — and somewhat frightened," Morris said. "When I realized whatever this was was moving away, it didn't bother me. But when it was coming back, I felt it had to be something that our government was doing. It was definitely a motor sound — nothing eerie like something from another world, although I still think that's possible."

Kent Holcomb, a Dinuba police officer and a private pilot, said he saw "several sets" of strange lights in the sky about 11 p.m. Wednesday.

"The lights were quite a distance from each other, but moved in the same way in perfect formation — like the lights were somehow connected, but they couldn't have because they were too far apart," Holcomb said. "It made very little noise, if any. I would guess it was flying at an altitude of 5,000 to 10,000 feet."

Holcomb said the object moved very slowly and estimated its speed at no more than 100 mph, or slower than the small planes he flies.

"I'm not ruling a UFO out, but I'm skeptical," he said. "I believe it was some military-type thing. Based on my experience, I'm putting my money on the Stealth bomber. But I'm curious about this. If it was a military operation, why fly over Dinuba? It was there for 30 to 40 minutes. Maybe they wanted to see if they would get a reaction out of the general populace."

Laura Hardwick and her husband, Thomas, said they stepped out of their house at about 10:15 p.m. after hearing a report of the flying object on a police scanner.

She described the object as triangular with four other objects trailing it. Her husband said he thought it was a blimp because it moved slowly.

"I was amazed," he said. "I was in awe just trying to figure out what it was."

UFO sightings in Lemont

Lemont police Sgt. Tom Hess couldn't believe what he saw the night of Friday, Sept. 23. This was the type of thing hysterical kooks call into the station, the type of thing he, as a trained observer, could explain logically.

But there was no explanation for this. He was looking at an Unidentified Flying Object.

"I was with another officer in a squad car eastbound on Main Street (in Lemont), heading toward Route 171," Hess said. "And all of a sudden coming out of the north I saw a real bright light. We both caught a glimpse of an oval shaped object."

The bottom half of the object was bluish green and the top half a bright white. The entire object was illuminated, Hess said.

"It entered the clouds," he said, "and lit up the entire cloud. It lit up the cloud like a lamp."

The object came closer to the ground and made an erratic movement from north to south, impossibly fast for an normal aircraft, Hess said. Then it disappeared behind some trees.

The police officers didn't say anything for about 30 seconds. Then Hess said: "By the way, I didn't see anything and neither did you."

It was about 10:30 p.m. At roughly the same time, in a squad car at Lemont Plaza on the other side of town, two other officers apparently saw the same object.

"As I looked up toward the cemetery, between two trees I saw a flashing object like a spotlight," said patrolman Mark Janusz, 24, of Lockport. He, too, said the object lit up a cloud and was bluish green on the bottom and white on the top.

"It hovered and then shot straight up, and was just gone," he said. "I know it wasn't an airplane or anything because it made a real swift, erratic movement."

Janusz was relieved when Hess and another officer told him that they had seen the same thing.

"I was amazed at what I'd seen," he said. "I didn't tell the other guys because I didn't want them to think I was a little bit off."

The other two officers who saw the UFO could not be reached for comment. One had reported seeing the same object a week before, on Friday, Sept. 16. Hess

was in a squad car beside the other officer's when he saw the bluish green object.

"He said, 'Look at that! Look at that!'" Hess recalled. "I didn't see it because I was facing the opposite way." The UFO apparently came out of the west that night he said.

Lemont Police Chief Don Wiegand, though somewhat reluctant to discuss the sightings, confirmed that four of his officers did report seeing a UFO. He also said the officers have good reputations and he has every confidence in them.

"You read about this in the paper all the time," Wiegand said, "and now here it is."

MARK REMALEY, AN INVESTIGATOR with the Center for UFO Studies in Chicago, said a total of nine people from the Lemont and Lockport area reported seeing a UFO. All described the object the same way the police officers did, he said.

A large number of sightings in a short period of time qualifies as a "mini-flap," he said.

The flap began one unspecified day in July. Then there was a sighting — by the Lemont police officer — on Sept. 16. There were six sightings on Sept. 23 and one on Sept. 25.

In July, a man reported seeing a UFO at 3 a.m. one morning while he was at work east of Lockport. The "blob" of light was about half the size of the full moon, he said, as he saw it coming out of the east.

After diving and scaring the man by coming fairly close to him, the UFO pulled up and went north to northeast "faster than anything I ever saw," the man reported.

At about 7:45 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 25, a Lemont woman left her house through the back door. She was taking a casserole dish to her mother a few doors away.

"I noticed a flash in the sky," she reported, "that I thought was a reflection off the aluminum foil covering the dish."

Then she noticed a disc shaped object moving from east to west across the evening sky. It was not a spotlight but it moved incredibly fast. The UFO stopped and hovered in a clearing before flying away, she said.

Remaley said the center for UFO studies tries to explain such objects logically, as natural phenomena. In more than 95 percent of the cases, they can do just that.

"But this one, I don't know," he said. "There's too many strange things in this case."

The witnesses, particularly the police officers, are all very credible, he said.

That's not always the case. As might be expected, the center gets its share of crank calls.

Remaley cited the case of a woman who called him to report a UFO hovering over her house. He asked her how she knew it was a UFO, and she told him that "UFO" was printed on the bottom of the thing.

ASKED WHY THE UFO SEEMED to be attracted to the Lemont-Lockport area, Remaley said he had two thoughts.

"They — if you'll pardon the expression — seem to like empty areas." While the Lemont-Lockport area isn't exactly empty, he noted that there are a large number of forest preserves and open area. "They don't seem to hang around populated areas," he said.

Another explanation he considered is Argonne National Laboratory, which might be high-tech enough to interest extraterrestrial visitors. Officials at Argonne declined to discuss the matter, Remaley said.

He hopes more reliable sources will provide information on the UFO. Those with information should contact the Center for UFO Studies at (312) 271-3611. All sources are guaranteed anonymity.

"We are not here to prove or disprove any one theory," Remaley said, "but to extract all the basic information available from each report and put it into a coherent and easily accessible form."

"If it turns out that UFO's really are alien spacecraft, fine. If it turns out that they are some new or uncategorized atmospheric phenomenon, equally fine."

Any explanation would be a surprise to police officer Mark Janusz. Said he: "I don't expect to ever see anything like that again in my life."

Reports of UFO sighting investigated

HERALD TIMES REPORTER, Manitowoc-Two Rivers, WI
Oct. 21, 1988
CR: R. Reid

CHILTON — Calumet County authorities are watching an unidentified object in the sky.

According to Calumet County Law Enforcement Lieutenant Jeff Williams, the sheriff's department received an anonymous call at 2 a.m. Thursday that there was a foreign object in the sky.

The object, Williams said, is in the southeast part of the sky, quite high and white like a normal star, and was moving, but not blinking.

Williams looked through binoculars at the object, but said he couldn't get a good view because of its distance from him. He was not able to see the object Thursday evening due to cloudy conditions.

"It could be anything, a weather balloon, a UFO, a star, or even an airplane, but it was moving," Williams said.

Dale Voskuil, a Chilton High School science teacher, said the object could be a planet.

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL — Nov. 24, 1988



CR: R. Reid

After the publication of the UFO photos from "A Believer" a few weeks ago, The Sentinel received four more polaroid photos from him. We sent the first four to Dr. Bruce Maccabee who said Tuesday he has looked at the photos but can't begin a formal investigation without knowing precisely when and where they were taken.

UFOs gone, but mystery remains in once-quiet Lucedale

By JOHN FULMER
JACKSON COUNTY BUREAU

rural community 12 miles southwest of this small city of 2,500 people.

made a quick, aerodynamically impossible turn toward a field where it consumed itself in a blaze of light and disappeared.

was something I never seen before. It lit up like a flash of lightning."

office had received similar calls, most of them anonymous and all of them ignored.

didn't have a "Made in the U.S.A." sticker on it."

But whatever it was, Blackston's UFO touched off another sighting flurry in Rocky Creek, seven miles north of Lucedale.

One woman, who refused to be identified, said her daughter and son-in-law saw an unidentified object "as big as an aircraft carrier" suspended in air above some power lines by their home the night of Dec. 2. It acted and looked much like Blackston's craft. "They didn't want to say anything because people will think you're crazy," she said.

Two more unidentified callers in

Rocky Creek told the Sheriff's Department they had seen Blackston-like UFO's that night. That week, the department was turned into a regular clearinghouse for UFO information. According to Morris, 50 or 60 calls were logged in on UFO inquiries, and one woman telephoned from Louisiana saying she had seen Blackston's light-ship crossing the state line.

The Sheriff's Department is taking the UFO sightings with a grain of salt, and Morris leans toward the theory that customs agents were looking for drugs in the fields surrounding Lucedale.

"If it's Customs looking for drugs, they're not going to tell us," Morris said.

Bill Massengale, a supervisor at the U.S. Customs office in Gulfport, said his agency does run air searches out of its Belle Chasse, La., office. Customs uses helicopters with 1 million candlepower lights that can blind a man as though he were looking into the sun.

"They tell us to not even look at the thing," Massengale said.

But Gary Carpenter, supervisor at Belle Chasse's air operations wing, said no Customs agents were searching near Lucedale that night.

Sheriff's Department dispatcher Linda Davis, tongue planted securely in cheek, thinks the recent UFO sightings may be part of ritual revisitation. Davis noted that UFOs made a big splash in Pascagoula 15 years ago when Charles Hickson garnered national attention after claiming he was picked up and examined by aliens.

"Maybe they come back every 20 years," she said. "Maybe they come back to Mississippi to visit."

But another man, who did not want to be identified, thought the idea of turning Lucedale into some sort of an alien airport was yet another subtle slur against a state that is sometimes touchy about its image.

"We've got a bad reputation," he said. "People think all we are is a bunch of crazy rednecks, and nobody's going to believe us anyway. Like, maybe these aliens are not so worried about being seen down here."

While most people are looking to the sky for explanations, Jed Dorsett, owner of the Coffeepot restaurant in downtown Lucedale, is thinking more about the drinking water in Basin.

"Sounds like a little swamp water and home brew," Dorsett said. "I think the water's tainted down there. I didn't see nothing."

Morris is not denying that Blackston saw something, and Kenny Woods, who lives within a mile of Blackston, said he also had seen silent, fast-moving objects skimming the trees near his home. But Woods, 34, didn't think the sightings were worthy of attention.

"I see things in the sky around here all the time," he said. "I don't know what it would be. It don't make no racket. I don't think it's a jet going across, but whatever it is, it's fast."

Gerry Williams, who also lives near Basin, is 66 and at the age where "you're supposed to see things." But she was outside at the time Blackston spotted the UFO and didn't see anything.

"Didn't see it. Wouldn't tell you if I did," she said with a laugh. "I've always wanted to see one, but I don't want one of those little fellers to take me by the hand."

Williams did hear what she thought was a "odd-sounding plane" or small gyrocopter that night.

"Nothing but a fool would be out in a gyrocopter at night," she said. "But there's a lot of fools out there."

Blackston, who is now the only name connected with the incident and a reluctant celebrity because of articles in local newspapers, wants to forget his UFO.

For more than a week now, he has been the object of teasing and ridicule at work and wants things to return to normal. He doesn't discount the possibility of life on other planets, but he doesn't plan to spend his life trying to find out if his UFO was from another world.

"I like a quiet life," Blackston said.

CR: B. Clendenon

SUN HERALD, Biloxi, MS - Dec. 11, 1988

MISSISSIPPI PRESS, Pascagoula, MS - Oct. 12, 1988

Men 'taken aboard' 15 years ago

By DON BROADUS

Mississippi Press Staff

Fifteen years ago today, the lead headline in *The Mississippi Press* proclaimed, "Pas men 'forced' aboard UFO here."

Charles Hickson and Calvin Parker, then 45 and 18, said they were fishing the night before on the west bank of the Pascagoula River at an abandoned boatyard (now Colle Towing) when a "spacecraft" appeared behind them and robot-like creatures floated toward them from the craft which hovered just above the ground.

As the creatures took them by the arm, Parker passed out, but Hickson said he was floated aboard the brightly lighted craft where a football-shaped instrument passed over the length of his entire body which seemed to be suspended in mid-air.

Hickson said after the examination by the aliens, he was floated back to the pier and deposited beside Parker, who may or may not have been taken aboard the craft.

Some hours later, after heatedly debating what to do, Parker and Hickson told their strange story to the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and later to officials at Keesler AFB.



FILE PHOTO SHOWS Charles Hickson near site of UFO encounter which is located on the West Bank of the Pascagoula River just south of the U.S. 90 drawbridge

No one apparently saw the craft land beside the Pascagoula River but there were many reports of UFO activity in the Pascagoula area on the night of Oct. 11, 1973. The reports continued for several days.

Despite the fact that Hickson and Parker submitted to and passed lie detection tests, and their story stood up under hypnosis, there were many non-believers.

Others were convinced that a UFO landed in Pascagoula. Parker soon left

Pascagoula and virtually disappeared from public view.

Hickson, on the other hand, became somewhat of a celebrity, appearing on national TV talks shows, being interviewed by many national and international publications and co-authoring with William Mendez a book, *Pascagoula UFO*, based on his story.

Hickson was employed at a small boatyard 15 years ago.

He still works in his trade today, commuting from Gautier, where he lives now, to Mobile.

Hickson was more than mildly interested when three persons reported they saw UFOs last Thursday night.

"There is a lot of (UFO) activity around now," Hickson said. "There is a woman in the Escatawpa area who is in almost constant contact."

Hickson was interviewed by a Mobile television station Monday night for airing on the anniversary.

"I got a lot of telephone calls today from friends around the country," Hickson said Tuesday night. "I used to go back to the site (where the abduction occurred) on the anniversary but it's been fenced ..."

"Something keeps pulling me back there. I've thought about it all day ..."

HERALD, Hancock, NY - Nov. 30, 1988 CR: J. Clark

Local UFO Stories Being Investigated

Apparently we have not heard the last word on the reported UFO sightings over Lake Como at the beginning of the month. According to an article in the *Wayne Independent*, the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research is investigating the reports.

Dr. Paul Johnson, director of the Center, has put together the following account of encounters for Wednesday, November 9, in Wayne and Susquehanna counties.

The encounters began around 7:00 p.m., says Johnson, in Susquehanna County. A woman driving west on Route 492 in New Milford began having car trouble near the Interstate 81 overpass. Seconds later she heard a whistling sound above the car. "I looked out my side window," she said, "and saw this 'thing'."

It had swooped down over my car, and it was huge and moved very slow, maybe only 10 to 15 miles per hour. The witness said positively that it was not a jet, saying it reminded her of a "river barge" in the air.

She described the object as being flat bottomed, and about 65 feet long and 40 feet wide. There were 30 or 40 red and green lights underneath the object. The craft glided slowly away at tree top level.

After telling her story to her

family at home, near Starrucca, the witnesses' 17 year old daughter and a friend drove to Starrucca, and observed the object themselves. It appeared to be scanning the ground below with a large searchlight. As the car passed the field, the radio abruptly stopped.

Meanwhile, the object was observed again over the home of the original witness. She and her 23 year old daughter watched it pass over their home at an altitude of less than 100 feet.

At about 8:30 a Lake Como resident and his father saw a large, orange ball of light several miles north of their home. At first it made a jet like sound, but after a few seconds the noise ceased. After several minutes the light dropped below the tree line and disappeared.

Other residents claim the object was a jet. Still others say that they have been told a large helicopter with a searchlight is traveling through the area at night. The purpose of these nocturnal visits is unknown.

Anyone with additional UFO information can call Dr. Paul Johnson, Department of Chemistry, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15282. A hotline number is (412) 823-1834, and Dr. Johnson's work number is (412) 434-6615.

HERALD, Hancock, NY - Nov. 16, 1988

UFO Or Jet? Tune In Later

Pennsylvania State Troopers received at least three calls from Pennsylvania residents reporting a UFO sighting on Wednesday, November 9.

According to one Lake Como observer, three members of his family saw a "ball of fire" pass over the Village during the early evening. Others reported a strange object hovering in midair for some time, before taking off with a roar. They described the object as having "no tail or wings".

Corporal William Ace of the Honesdale State Troopers

Barracks investigated the sightings. Some of the witnesses involved received phone calls from people interested in UFO sightings, including one professor from Penn State.

According to others, however, the object was a jet, flying at "treetop level", with its landing lights on and landing gear down. Eyewitnesses in both Lake Como and Lakewood described the jet, saying they believed the plane to be in trouble and waited, but heard no crash. Many people in the area heard what sounded like an airplane coming in for a landing at approximately 7:00 p.m.

On the following Saturday at

NEWS JOURNAL, Pensacola, FL

Nov. 22, 1988 CR: R. Reid

Gulf Breeze men report UFO close encounter

Two drivers along U.S. Highway 98, roughly two miles east of Gulf Breeze, reported seeing what they said was a UFO around 10:45 p.m. Monday.

James Larkin of Gulf Breeze said he, his brother and a friend, saw a UFO hovering about 25 feet above the treetops. The object was about 12 to 13 feet in diameter and it stayed in the air about 30 seconds and then disappeared.

Another man, who refused to give his identity, reported a similar sighting at the same time.

Gulf Breeze has been the scene of several reported UFO sightings since last November.

CR: J. Clark

5:00 p.m., one family in Poyntelle saw an unusual light in the sky over Lake Lorain Golf Course which remained stationary for some time before vanishing abruptly.

The question of what the Pennsylvania residents actually saw in the night sky on November 9 and 11 may never be understood. No official explanation of a jet airplane in trouble has been offered. However, one of the original eyewitnesses has described an unusual amount of jet activity, consisting of "at least 50 planes" on the night following the reported sightings.



Up in the air as we encounter more and more

MP asks ministry what are they?

THE UFO phenomenon has probably hit the headlines more times in the past year than any since the Seventies.

Sighting after sighting has been made by sane, honest and reliable witnesses, causing such concern that a local MP has requested government ministers to look into the matter.

Stafford MP Bill Cash is still awaiting results of enquiries made to Roger Freeman at the ministry of defence before the parliamentary recess.

An official account of what was seen by a number of different people in various different locations in May this year over Stafford will no doubt be interesting. It is really an otherworldly visitor or the top secret American Stealth F-19 fighter?

The likelihood, of course, is that Venus, refuelling operations or simply a night time aircraft will be given as explanations.

But surely there's much more to it than that. Since August 1987, according to British UFO Research Association statistics, more than 1,000 sightings have been documented around Britain - treble the usual number.

Staffordshire has witnessed a number of strange objects in the sky which no one so far has come up with any explanation for.

In August last year, Margaret Hamer from Burton Road, Woodville arrived home from Burton at about 6pm. She let the dog out into the back garden and was confronted with a vertical row of lights in the sky at about a 45 degree angle.

The red and orange lights made a cigar shaped object which began to move away slowly followed by a separate

set of lights accompanied by a low rumbling sound.

After watching this for several minutes, the lights veered off towards slowly Burton. Another sighting was made over Abbots Bromley the following month by a Uttoxeter man and his father.

Dominic Goodwin and his father James were driving by Baggot's Wood. "My father suddenly shouted 'what on earth's that', and I looked up and saw the underneath of what looked like a strange triangular shaped craft," said Mr Goodwin. "It was moving very slowly, almost stationary."

"I wound down my window and there was no noise at all. It slowly banked over to one side. The underneath had lights which were pulsing in sequence and on each point were large strobe lights. It moved away then towards Abbots Bromley."

In May, Eileen Ballard, from Fernwood, Stafford, saw two odd triangular shapes while she was talking late at night in a neighbour's garden with four of her friends.

"We were standing in the garden when two spot lights came through the sky towards us. They banked over and went into side by side formation, one above the other, and flew very slowly across the sky without any noise at all."

"There were a lot of lights underneath, red and green again around the edge with lots of others within that. I was in the RAF for four years myself and if these weren't planes."

The appearance of Mrs Ballard's sketches of what she and her friends saw in the Newsletter provoked a number of responses from various other people who had seen the same thing. Some said they might be

VC-10s, but aviation enthusiast Enid Turner from Uttoxeter said: "I would know a VC-10 if I saw it. VC-10s are pretty big and heavy and they make a lot of noise. These were low, slow and very quiet."

Mrs Turner said she saw the mystery craft appear over her garden hedge, very low, silent and with a lot of bright lights. A number of other people in the town had also seen it but were afraid to speak up, she said.

Reports also came in from Penkridge of clusters of red and orange lights on the same night, Monday, May 16, which moved very suddenly from one place to another and sightings were also made in Wolverhampton.

Mr Cash's appeal for information to present to the ministry brought a number of other reports forward.

Joan and Michael Acocks of Hillcote Hollow, Stafford, actually saw a similar UFO which appeared and disappeared in exactly the same position several times.

"We were just on the way back from a stroll on the Monday night and we saw two triangular shapes hovering over some trees. They were lit up but somehow they didn't seem solid objects."

"I stood there looking, but all of a sudden it just disappeared. I stood there for a while and then it reappeared again exactly as before in the same place. What struck me more than anything was that it was absolutely silent."

Another witness, Elaine Willacy of Harrowby Street, Littleworth, had a look at the objects through binoculars with two neighbours. She described an amazing array of lights, complete silence and a feeling that someone inside the craft was watching her.

The sightings in May also prompted a number of reports from people who had seen UFOs similar to the triangular objects years before, but had been afraid to say anything.

Carole Goodwin, from Weeping Cross, Stafford, wrote in to say the sketch was exactly the same as one she had made in Spring 1981 after seeing something in the sky over Brocton.

"I stopped the car and got out and saw this thing which had flashing blue and red lights in the sky," she said, "it wasn't moving, so I sketched it and then it just disappeared. It didn't fade or move away, one second it was there, the next it was gone."

David Myatt, from Marston House Farm, Church Eaton, also reported having seen the objects in 1981. "I saw it just outside Brocton," said Mr Myatt.

"I was in my car when I

looked up and saw it and stopped. It was about 50 feet in the air, completely motionless and completely silent. There were lots of lights around it and I got out of the car and stood underneath it for 15 minutes."

More recently, a large UFO about 30 feet across and enveloped in a gaseous cloud was seen by Reg Morgan and Gloria Hall returning to Cannock late at night over the edge of Cannock Chase.

"It was a circular object about 30 feet in the air with a gaseous cloud around it. Some of it seemed to touch the ground as well, overhanging a hedge. The cloud was fluorescent and glowed red near the ground."

"We saw it for a few seconds and then it disappeared and then reappeared a short distance away. We were both very shocked," said Mr Morgan.

Even more interesting was that this UFO actually left physical traces on the hedge which was badly burnt in one semi circular patch.

So, why so many in the past year and particularly in Staffordshire? National co-ordinator for BUFORA, Jenny Randalls put forward several theories.

"There have been an awful lot over the past year - 520 last year, due almost entirely to the last few months and 662 so far this year."

"UFO reports go in cycles. We've noted that the seventh year in every decade is always significant. In 1947, it all really began with a sighting in Staffordshire when a silver craft was seen at Ranton."

"There were also a lot in 1957, which was also the time Sputnik went up, and 1967 was Britain's great wave year for UFOs, particularly in Staffordshire. May 1977 also saw an enormous wave of reports, so we were sort of anticipating something."

"There could be a real correlation with sunspots because they increase electrical activity which could account for a lot of UFO 'lights' sightings."

"There's also UFO reporting, as opposed to sighting, which is a social thing, and goes in waves of media interest."

"The climate of credibility goes up and last year there were a couple of books and lots of reports."

But BUFORA work from the premise, surprisingly, that nine out of ten sightings have a conventional explanation.

That sounds somewhat fishy since the UFO investigation industry is famous for its political infighting and splits between groups all supposedly interested in the same thing.

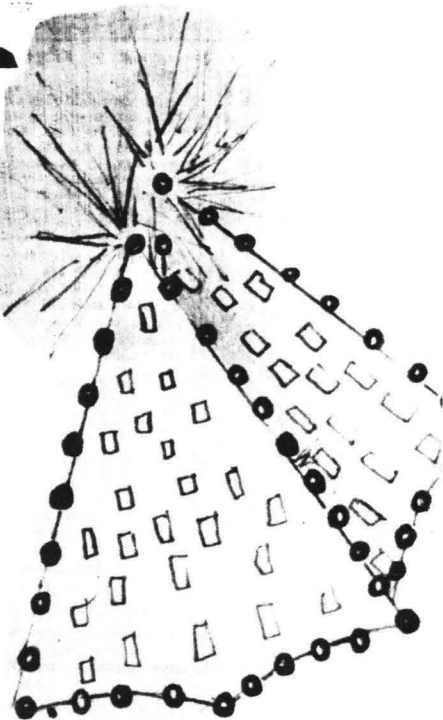
Often, it seems, what they

really want is to get hold of information first which can't be in any common interest of actually discovering what they are.

At the same time, the police never ever reveal details to the casual enquirer about a UFO sighting and will frequently deny they have received details even when witnesses say they have provided them.

So the mystery continues. It's highly unlikely, in actual fact, that very many UFO sightings have real conventional explanations. Those given above are perfectly good examples, though other phenomenon are recorded like time lapse.

Often witnesses will swear they saw a UFO at such and such a time and then suddenly find that several hours have elapsed when it only seems like a few minutes.



● Sky-high mystery... the formation of lights which fascinated so many

NEWSLETTER, Stafford, England - Sept. 9, 1988

CHASE 'NOTORIOUS FOR SIGHTINGS'

Glowing UFO shock for pair

THE British UFO Research Association is to look into claims of a mysterious object seen on the edge of Cannock Chase.

It was sighted by Reg Morgan and Gloria Hall who were on their way back to their Little Haywood homes from an evening Gingerbread group meeting in Cannock.

Mr Morgan, a plant operator at Rugeley B Power Station, said the UFO suddenly appeared in front of them just after they crossed over Wheatman's Bridge about 30 feet up in the air.

"Gloria was talking to me and then she sort of went quiet," said Mr Morgan, "I looked up in the air and said what the dickens is that?"

"It was a circular object, about 30 feet up and 30 feet in diameter with a gaseous cloud around it. Some of it seemed to touch the ground as well,

overhanging a hedge.

"The cloud was sort of fluorescent and near the ground, it had an infra red glow. The hedge now looks crumpled as if it's starting to die," Mr Morgan said both of them were very shocked.

"It left us both with a very queer sensation, and we were unsettled for some time. Neither of us heard any noise at all or any wind and none of the bushes or trees were blown about."

"We saw it for a few seconds and then it disappeared and then it reappeared a little bit of a distance away across the road. I couldn't believe it at the time. We stopped after the bridge to regain our senses."

National co-ordinator for the British UFO Research Association, Jenny Randalls said: "Cannock Chase is a notorious spot for sightings,

and it does sound like the sort of case we would like to look into."

"The bit about the bush is very interesting, the more so because it might provide a direct correlation."

"We would like to get a scientific examination of the remains and we'll certainly be following it up."

Mr Morgan said he immediately informed the police at Great Haywood. "They didn't seem particularly surprised by it," he added.

"The UFO left us both with a very funny feeling - disbelief and shock at what we had seen. Neither of us had had anything to drink at all, nothing alcoholic."

"It made us both think. Why were they there, what kind of people were they in the UFO and where do they come from?"



CR: T. Good

Report by Barry Heafield

YORKSHIRE EVENING PRESS, York, England - Sept. 14, 1988

THE MINISTRY of Defence has been notified of the reported sighting of an unidentified flying object over Knaresborough.

Chief Insp David Lodge, said police were notified of the sighting by Mrs Lynne Bentley, of Spitalcroft Green. He said the object appeared to be a slow-moving black dish-shaped object which moved without making a sound.

Chief Insp Lodge confirmed that, in line with usual police policy, the Ministry of Defence had been told of the reported sighting so they could investigate further if necessary.

Mystery object seen over town

Mrs Bentley said she was convinced the object was not an aeroplane.

She added: "I have no idea what it was, but I have no reason to believe it was Martians."

Mrs Bentley believed the object could, possibly, have been a "weather" balloon op-

erated by the Meteorological Office.

"I don't think it was likely to have been anything weird. I'm a sane sort of person."

Mrs Bentley said she informed police of the sighting because she was hoping they would find a rational explanation.

BURY ST. EDMONDS LEADER, Suffolk, England - Oct. 4, 1988

'I saw flying saucer'

A BOY is claiming he saw an unidentified flying object land in a field at the rear of his home.

Eleven-year-old Peter Topham says he saw the mystery object with purple, green and red flashing lights as he watched from the rear of his bedroom in Farnham All Saints one evening.

The following day when he went to investigate in the field, Peter found the spooky sight of an 80-metre wide ring of sugar beet which had been scorched.

"I'm sure it was a flying saucer", said Peter, who lives at C'est Ça, Tut Hill.

"While I was watching it flashed a huge white light like a massive camera which was about the size of a field," he added.

Now he is busy trying to convince classmates in the third year at Westley Middle School that what he saw was a flying saucer.

He said: "They don't believe me but I know what I saw. I shall never forget it."

CR: T. Good

ANDREW STEPHEN

Riddle of the perfect rings

IT WAS a conversation with friends in Wiltshire which first caught my interest. 'It is really weird,' they said. 'You must look into the phenomenon of these circles that keep appearing in fields near us. No one can explain them.'

Then they sent me a copy of the front page of the *Marlborough Times*. 'Speculation and rumour heightened this week after a second set of mystery circles appeared,' its front-page splash said.

Beside it was a photograph of what looked like two perfect 40ft circles of flattened wheat in a field—each surrounded by four smaller, satellite circles. There were now 70 such circles sighted in England this year, said the news story.

Being cautious, I thought I ought to discuss these reports with colleagues first. One pointed out that new natural phenomena are being discovered all the time: in the last few days, for example, we have been told that there may be a hundred billion stars in our own Galaxy that we did not know existed.

A second then suggested I speak to Professor Archibald Roy, his old tutor at the University of Glasgow and a scientist who apparently casts a stringent academic eye on such matters.

What Professor Roy said made me even more determined to solve the mystery. 'I simply don't understand these circles,' he told me. 'I'm totally convinced that it's a very—how shall I put it?—a very interesting mystery. I mean, I've visited a large number of these circles and they are perfect.'

'When you get to the edge, you're in flattened crop. An inch further on, they're untouched. None of the explanations seem to fit.' There were simply too many for them all to be hoaxes, he added.

There was not a cloud in the sky when Jane Bown and I set out to investigate next morning. We wanted, above all, to establish why there seemed to have been such a proliferation of the circles this summer. Were they man-made? Or did they have some cause beyond our earthly understanding? Why all the sudden publicity?

For hours we clambered over ditches, carefully avoiding barbed-wire fences, and trekked to wheat fields to see for ourselves. There was not a moment to be lost, because harvesting was already underway and circles were fast disappearing.

We went first to Andover in Hampshire to see Colin Andrews, an electrical engineer who works for the local council and who the *Marlborough Times* described as a 'circles expert'. It turned out that he is 42 and runs a group he calls 'Circles Phenomenon Research'.

It takes up so much of his time, he explained, that his wife pleads with him to give it all up. A bedroom in their house is devoted to circles data, and he has a fortified shed outside with countless circles details entered into a computer.

'We have categoric evidence that we're looking at a genuine phenomenon, he told us straightaway. 'There's something here which is quite extraordinary—nothing that is going to be easily explained

away. This is the sort of thing,' he went on, showing us blown-up photographs of circles of crops dramatically flattened to the ground.

'We're getting single circles, doubles, triples, straight lines like this one, equilateral triangles, quintuplet sets. The anti-clockwise swirls, the clockwise swirls, the radial bursts—you see this is, in itself, we believe, conclusive evidence that there's no hoax.'

The computer, he said, had concluded that such effects could not be replicated by man. Helicopter downwash and herds of stampeding hedgehogs—other explanations put forward—could also be safely discounted.

He then showed us a picture on his wall of 'a double annular ring, seen in Warminster last year. Since then four others have shown up. This is what is happening. The whole thing is evolving at a rapid rate for reasons unknown at the moment.'

'We're now getting two or three new reports a day.' Inside the rings, he said, electrostatic crackling sounds could sometimes be heard soon after they appeared. It almost always happened at night, too.

Circles have also been reported in Japan, Italy, France, Canada, Brazil, Australia, and the US—but southern England has 'by far' the most.

Sites tended to be clustered around military installations—that might be significant in itself—and ancient archaeological sites—ditto. The first report of a circle was in 1946, but they have only been 'sprouting like mushrooms' for one or two years.

Now there were 15 in his group, Mr Andrews told us, and they were mainly engineers and scientists—including Professor Roy as well as a former NASA man.

They finance it all themselves, and make two aerial reconnaissance flights every week (the pilot lives locally). They go to every circle and check its molecular structure, radiation, and the PH levels of the soil. Individual circles could range in diameter from five to 15 metres.

By now we were very keen to see some of them for ourselves, so Mr Andrews drove us to what he called a 'double ring' in a remote field outside Goodworth Clatford.

It was so isolated that the three of us must have been a good mile from anybody else. Jane Bown took the picture of him at the top of the page, and we lazily ate one or two ears of wheat—apparently courtesy of Waitrose, who (Mr Andrews said) own the field. Sure enough, the crop was mysteriously and inexplicably pushed firmly to the ground in neat concentric circles.

Then we drove to an ancient, renowned archaeological site—I agreed with the farmer not to reveal its exact location—and looked down from a hill on two more sets of quintuplet circles.

Two large ones, each with four circles of smaller ones of the same size neatly surrounding it: it all looked rather like an extravagant Christo art project, though by this time we were convinced that neither artists nor hoaxers could have been responsible for the rings we had seen. It was

time to return to London to decide the next phase of our investigation.

Later, though, I took the precaution of talking to a wider range of people. To the wife of a farmer, who told me that 13 circles had gradually appeared overnight on their 800 acres. It was very, very strange, and nothing like it had ever happened during three generations of farming there.

Or to a helpful Army Air Corps officer, who said he had seen the circles from helicopters and found them 'totally mysterious', adding that he would be 'most interested' if I could shed any light on what was happening.

Then I spoke to a retired Lieutenant Colonel who had been based at the Middle Wallop airbase in Wiltshire, and who told me he had 'no reasonable explanation' and was satisfied the circles were not due to any of the proffered explanations.

And finally to a Hampshire landowner, who also owns 800 acres and who reported that some farmers were now keeping quiet about other circles lest their land be trampled upon by sightseers and investigators. 'It's not wind, I can tell you that—or hoaxes,' he told me with unmistakable authority. The mystery was deepening.

But what I did not know at this stage was that Mr Andrews, who keeps the media informed about new circles, is an enthusiastic contributor to *Flying Saucer Review*. I discovered this only after speaking to Dr Terence Meaden, an academic meteorologist who runs an organisation called the 'Tornado and Storm Research Organisation' based in Bradford-on-Avon.

It was Mr Andrews himself who had actually given me Dr Meaden's phone number. Meaden, he had told us as we drove across Wiltshire, had been a member of the research group until he suddenly announced that he had solved the mystery. His views subsequently even appeared in *The Observer*.

But Meaden was most definitely wrong, Andrews

had said with some vehemence, and he had moved the goal posts in the investigation. They had all fallen out with him as a result.



All done by wind?

That, of course, made me want to contact Dr Meaden (an expert on tornadoes, waterspouts, and whirlwinds, I read) all the more. Was he 100 per cent satisfied, I finally asked him, that he now knew the explanation for the circles?

'Absolutely,' he replied. 'This is where I come in, speaking of a spinning column of air, a vortex, that's descending—an eddy effect, just like eddies of leaves you might see by the corner of a building whirling around, if the wind is

'You've got to be a physicist and meteorologist to understand what is going on.'

He knew all about Mr Andrews. The man had certainly seen a lot of circles, he said—but he is a 'UFO believer'. Mr Andrews and some of the others in the group are hoping 'that by looking at the data they will see the hand of some intelligence at work.'

'They're looking for something extraordinary, possibly extra-terrestrial. They were, he went on, linking the crops with reports of UFOs in the area—and coming to extraordinary conclusions.'

And his explanation? It was disappointingly prosaic. 'The wind can do more things than it has been given credit for,' Dr Meaden said, struggling to find words I could understand.

Quite unwittingly, I soon realised, I had also stirred up a hornet's nest in the British UFO movement. For Dr Meaden put me in touch with Paul Fuller, a statistician who has himself carried out detailed research into the circles.

He is also a member of the 'British UFO Research Association', a serious body which investigates UFO reports but which has fallen out with the more flamboyant *Flying Saucer Review* wing of the movement.

Not all of the circles were circular, said Mr Fuller. What appeared to be the centres were often actually displaced. Flattened crops were layered, which

showed that whatever is causing it is 'moving around'. Half the swirls were clockwise and half anti-clockwise, he said. It all showed that vortices of air were responsible. There was much more, too, but he recommended that I read 'The Guinness Book of Weather Facts and Feats'.

Before the end of the week, nevertheless, it was clear that our great circles investigation was drawing to a close. I duly went round to the public library to get the book out, and next day Fuller sent me some impressive material he had written on the circles. I could not speak to Mr Andrews himself, because his wife had dragged him off to Ibiza.

But by now I needed no convincing about the origins of the circles. The instinct to make our lives exciting, relevant, crucial to history, is a strong one—overwhelmingly so for some. For Jane Bown and me, at least, the circles were no longer a mystery. I phoned my friends in Wiltshire to tell them what I thought.

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ECHO, Sunderland, England - Sept. 3, 1988 CR: T. Good

Lily's bright light puzzler

SUNDERLAND pensioner Lily Blueti is a puzzled woman after seeing a UFO hovering near her Grindon home.

Lily (66) of Nookside, was in bed shortly after 3.30 a.m. on Thursday when she was woken by a bright light.

She looked out of her front bedroom window and saw the light motionless above the houses for three minutes.

Lily said: 'It was like a headlamp off a brand new car—very bright—and it was high up. It did not move for three minutes and made no sound. Then it just faded away. It was not a frightening experience. The light was lovely.'

She is convinced it was not an aeroplane and has wracked her brains for an explanation but has ruled out all possibilities.

'I do not really believe in UFOs but I have never seen anything like it,' she said.

SECOND SIGHT ... Lily scans the skies



JANE BOWN



In Hampshire with Colin Andrews, circles expert: 'There's something here that is quite extraordinary—there's no hoax.'

Riddle of the alien 'dust'

POST
EXCLUSIVE

EVELYN TSITAS
REPORTS

AUSTRALASIAN POST, Melbourne, Australia
Nov. 26, 1988 CR: P. Norman

STARTLING scientific evidence may now prove a Perth family's claim of having been chased by a UFO on the Nullarbor Plain earlier this year.

Scientists have isolated particles believed to have been left behind by the UFO. Researchers say this is the first time in the world that physical evidence of a UFO encounter has been isolated.

Members of the Knowles family were thrown into national prominence after they claimed a UFO landed on top of their car on January 20, as they were driving from Western Australia to Melbourne.

They said the object picked up their car, shook it and slammed it

to the ground, showering it with ash before flying away.

The Victorian UFO Research Society, the largest in the Southern Hemisphere and third largest in the world, has released a 300-page research report on its investigation into the Knowles incident.

Scientists from Melbourne's Monash University have confirmed that the "UFO dust", although made of potassium chloride, looks like nothing they have ever seen before.

Victorian UFO research society member John Auchetti, who led the Knowles investigation, said that under an electron microscope scientists found the enlarged dust particles to be "unusual".

"The particles were made of potassium chloride, but instead of being a crystal formation, which is usual, they were velocity particles," Mr Auchetti said.

"This means that the dust must have been forced out of something at a great velocity."

Scientists said that under enlargement the dust molecule looked as though it might have come from a space shuttle blast.

"The UFO society theory is that the dust came from the UFO," Mr Auchetti said.

"In fact the dust had such a dense amount of chloride in it, scientists thought it might have come from a swimming pool, which wasn't possible."

"The dust backs up the Knowles' claim. The UFO society was on the scene as soon as we heard about the incident and we went through their car with a fine-tooth comb."

"This time, we were leaving nothing to chance."

According to Mr Auchetti, a former pilot who has been involved in UFO investigation for 10 years, the Victorian UFO Society only concerns itself with the "nuts and bolts" of UFO sightings.

The society focuses its research on computer analysis of UFO photographs and films, as well as extensive analysis of weather maps and satellite data.

"People who discredit UFO

sightings usually don't do any research into their theories," Mr Auchetti said.

"I consider the sceptics my conscience. I am always questioning and looking for the fake UFO sightings. That way we know a real encounter when it occurs."

There is no doubt in Mr Auchetti's mind that Mrs Faye Knowles and her sons Sean, Patrick and Wayne had a real UFO encounter.

Investigation of weather and satellite maps for January 20 revealed there were no storm clouds, weather balloons nor meteor dust in the area at the time. There was also no chance of the "orange-

colored, egg shaped light", which the Knowles claim they had seen, being a planet or moon overhead.

UFO researchers insisted the Knowles family receive independent medical and psychiatric examinations.

Although the family had not suffered from radiation, as was feared, Mrs Knowles' hand still swells up at night. She claimed she had felt the top of the car and touched the UFO, which felt like a "rubber suction pad".

Mr Auchetti said that under hypnosis the Knowles family stuck to their original story, although nothing new was revealed.

"We were looking for subconscious lies, but their stories hold true. The Knowles family are not sophisticated people who could make up complex lies and stick to them under hypnosis," Mr Auchetti said.

According to the Knowles, the Ford Telstar, driven by Sean, almost collided with a huge "bright glowing" object at barn, January 20, on the Eyre Highway, near the WA-SA border.

They claimed the object parked on the road in front of them and that Sean swerved to miss it and nearly hit a car and a caravan coming the other way.

They said their car was then engulfed by a glowing ball and lifted in the air. Sean maintained that at one stage he was driving at 200kmh to get away from the object.

"The Knowles didn't really know how much time had passed, but I am of the opinion that time was lost, that they actually disappeared for about four hours," Mr Auchetti said.

"We investigated truck drivers in the area at the time and we have one truck driver saying that on the way to SA he didn't see them, yet a short time later a truck driver

travelling the opposite direction saw them on the road.

"Also, there are no reports of a car and caravan on the road at 5 am. No truck drivers saw them.

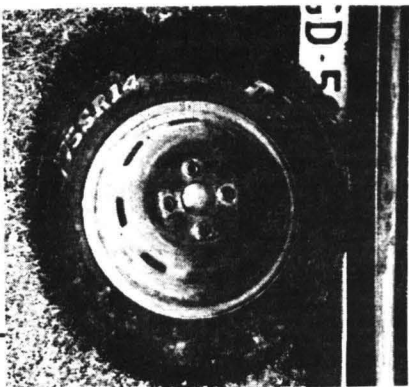
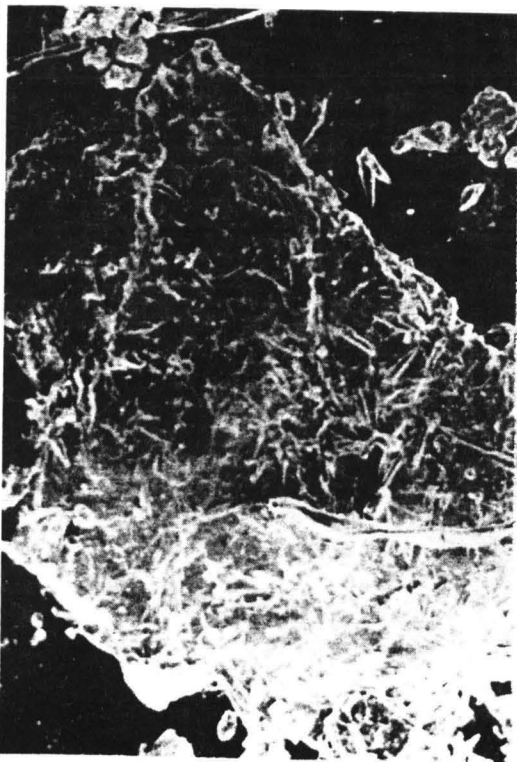
"My opinion is that this car and caravan were in fact a UFO, maybe a second UFO, that was on the road. Sean described it as a car and caravan because they were the only words he had to describe that image."

Mr Auchetti said investigations revealed damage to the top of the car wheel spring, consistent with the car being dropped. In answer to sceptics who said the Knowles' car could not do 200 kmh, tests with the car raised off the ground showed that kind of wheel speed was easily achieved, and accordingly registered on the speedo.

"There was an independent sighting before the Knowles' encounter, by a truck driver who claimed to have been followed by an object in the area," Mr Auchetti said.

"The Nullarbor is an area active with UFO sightings, but what makes the research into the Knowles' encounter so important is that this time it wasn't just a damn light in the sky.

"This time, something was left behind."



* Tire damage consistent with a car hitting the ground at extremely high speed.

* The potassium chloride particles found in the car were velocity instead of crystalline formation.

RECORDER, Newham, England
Aug. 18, 1988 CR: T. Good

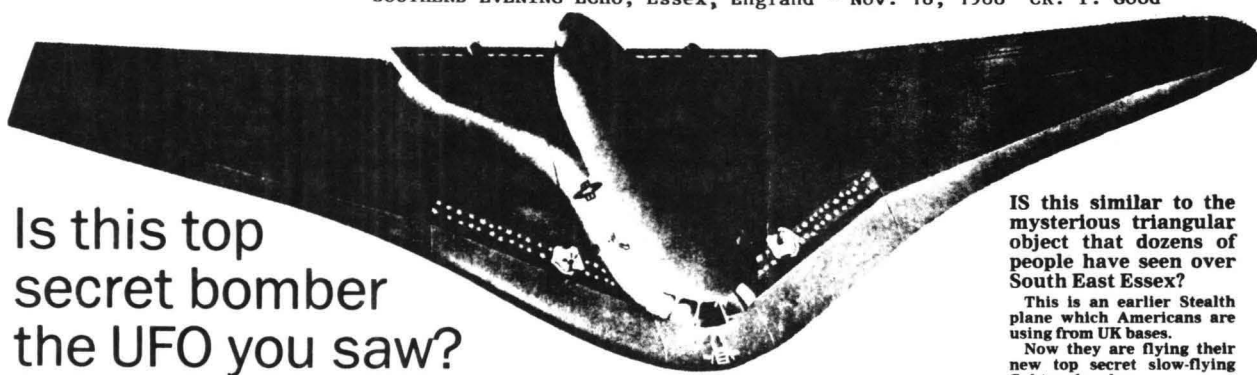
TRAFFIC POLICE IN UFO SIGHTING

TWO amazed traffic policemen reported a V-shaped UFO hovering over them in Barking Road, Canning Town on Monday morning.

The UFO was reported to have red and white lights and to have stayed for over an hour before zooming off. A Ministry of Defence spokesman suggested it was a kite.



* UFO sighters Kaye Knowles and sons (l-r) Patrick, Sean and Wayne ... science supports them.



Is this top secret bomber the UFO you saw?

IS this similar to the mysterious triangular object that dozens of people have seen over South East Essex?

This is an earlier Stealth plane which Americans are using from UK bases.

Now they are flying their new top secret slow-flying fighter bomber

Descriptions of angular-shaped flying objects at low altitude fit the aircraft.

One of the best views was seen by a South East Essex engineer who spoke of an object round at the front and square at the rear

Now Southend East MP Teddy Taylor is to find out whether the Stealth has been operating in our skies.

One report says the single-seater secret fighter bomber was shipped in crates to the UK to avoid detection by Soviet spy satellites.

The East Anglian UFO Research Association thought the triangular sightings could well have been Stealth aircraft. But when they contacted the USAF they denied there was such a plane.

SOUTHEAST STANDARD, Essex, England - Nov. 4, 1988 CR: T. Good

Giant blond men visit Get ready for UFO landing

A UFO MAY soon land in South East Essex.

That's the prediction of one of the county's most experienced researchers.

His claim follows what has been the most amazing few weeks for spacecraft spotters and comes in the wake of a barrage of new sightings of a mysterious blazing light last week off Southend.

In September, according to Ron West of the East Anglian UFO Research Association, there were 270 reported sightings in the Basildon and Southend areas.

These figures were way up on previous months.

What does it mean?

Ron, 57, said: "I know you will think I am crank but I believe we are going to get a landing. They will not harm us."

What will these intergalactic travellers look like?

Ron, a former infantryman who works for an oil company, believes they could be similar to a three-metre tall blond male.

Sightings

This is the rundown for daily sightings in the Basildon and Southend areas in September: Mondays 15, Tuesdays 10, Wednesdays 48, Thursdays 13, Fridays 54, Saturdays 36 and Sundays 25.

The Friday figures are bumped up by the coloured lights spotted over Southend on September 23.

The British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association, of which Ron is an Essex accredited investigator, had 25 calls about these mysterious sightings.

He received a call from a Southend man and was able to watch them for an hour from where he lives in Clacton.

Ron said: "I have been interested in UFOs for 20 years but these are the first I have seen."

"The official line was

by SR Reporter

that the lights were stacking aircraft but you don't see stacking aircraft moving around like this and you don't get blue lights on aircraft."

Ron, who said he was very excited by his first sight of UFOs, believes Southend along the Thames is a window in the sky through which spacecraft enter the earth's atmosphere.

Ufologists believe there are specific windows on earth through which spacecraft enter.

Two are the North and South Poles. Apart from the Southend window the next is at Lowestoft in Suffolk.

The lights over Southend were seen in the Basildon area and surrounding districts.

They were triangular in red, green, yellow, white and blue.

The only reported abduction in Essex was on October 27, 1974.

John and Sue Day from Aveley were driving home after seeing relatives. It was 10.20 pm and their three children were asleep in the back of the car.

They saw a blue light in the sky and rounding a bend went through some green mist. As they did this their radio sparked.

They then drove out of

the mist but were amazed to discover it was then 1pm.

For the next three years they had psychic experiences including objects moving around and seeing lights in the sky.

They also had recurring dreams of being in a room with small ugly creatures.

Family

The family approached UFO Research and hypnosis was carried out.

Their story was that they were drawn out of their car and had hazy memories of entering a UFO where they saw tall, human-like figures in silver suits with helmets.

Smaller creatures carried out medical examinations on them.

Mr West says 90 per cent of reported UFO sightings are fakes but this still leaves 10 per cent.

The East Anglia UFO hotline is 0728 830757.

BUCKS ADVERTISER, Aylesbury, England - Oct. 28, 1988 CR: T. Good

= 'I believe some sightings are alien intelligence' =

More UFO sightings



● Nora Howell — saw strange light in the sky.

**'It was very bright —
like a shining crystal'**

UFO experts say recent sightings of strange flying objects in the Aylesbury Vale area are being taken very seriously by a secret government department because they fear they may be aliens.....

In last week's paper an Aylesbury postman saw a huge bright light hovering near Princes Risborough, not far from the Strike Command HQ.

Since then stories of other sightings have reached our offices.

One was by grandmother Nora Howell from Weston Turville who spotted a huge crystal-like ball hovering in the sky near her home.

Mrs Howell said: "It was about 4am last Wednesday. It was very bright and looked like a shining crystal — it just hung in the sky. I checked it wasn't the evening star. Anyway it was much bigger. It could have disappeared in the direction of RAF Halton. It moved very quickly."

She added she was reluctant to talk about it because she thought people would laugh.

"But after the report in the paper I felt I ought to say what I saw to back up the postman's story," she said.

This is not the first time Mrs Howell has seen an unidentified flying object in the area.

"This is my second sighting. I knew this time I'd not imagined it. It was a clear night and it wasn't a

by VICTORIA
HOPKIRK

plane. There was no noise at all."

And last Tuesday night in Birtton June Ballantyne spotted a bright light which she thought was a U.F.O.

A man who has spent the last 20 years studying UFOs, the Rev Donald Thomas, who lives in Oxfordshire, said for some reason UFO sightings were more common in October and they were usually seen near "unusual developments."

"October would appear to be a time when the number of reports can be seen to be increased."

"Sightings are usually near to where you find something unusual is being developed."

Rev Thomas added: "The government is taking these sightings desperately seriously. But they are putting out as much smoke as they can to make people think their sightings are nothing serious. It is all a cover-up. I believe some of the sightings they look into are of alien intelligence."

He would like anyone who spots an unusual sighting to get in touch with us. We will then forward your letters to him.

"People are afraid to say what they have seen. There have been tales of people being abducted by aliens in other countries," he said.

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Peterborough, England

Nov. 2, 1988 CR: T. Good

UFO 'like a Polo mint'

HOUSEWIFE Lucy Kennedy was stunned when she saw what she believes was a UFO hovering above Peterborough.

She described how a circle of glimmering white light as big as a house rose above roof tops in Arundel Road "like a giant polo mint."

Mrs Kennedy (20) said she craned out of her bedroom window with her van driver husband David as the shape sped silently away into the clouds.

She added: "I do not know whether it was a flying saucer but it was definitely something weird."

The Kennedys' two-year-old daughter Kimberley watched wide-eyed during the sighting around 7pm on Monday.

There was a Guy Fawkes party going on nearby and at first she thought she was watching a ring of smoke from one of the fireworks "but it did not dissolve and must have been at least 50 feet across."

FREE PRESS, Bury, England - Nov. 4, 1988 CR: T. Good

No let up in number of strange sightings

TWO more UFO spotters have contacted the Free Press after recent stories in the paper from people who claimed they saw strange objects in the sky.

And one is backing up the tale of a strange umbrella-shaped craft seen over Bury St Edmunds by a brother and sister who recounted their experience in last week's Free Press.

Mrs Ann Self and her eight-year-old daughter Carla also saw the craft as it passed over the town near to their home in Eastgate Street.

Mrs Self said: "Carla just said 'What's that in the sky' and we looked up and there was this strange black thing hovering a long distance away."

"It's hard to say exactly what it was. I wouldn't like to say whether it was a UFO but it didn't look like a plane either. It wasn't really moving very fast — it was just hanging in the air," she added.

Mrs Self saw the object on the same night as Rueben and Esther Eaves

claimed they had spotted an umbrella-shaped craft near their home in Prigg Walk, Bury.

The second spotting took place at Red Lodge in the early hours of last Thursday morning when Jerri Upshaw was returning home with her boyfriend.

As they neared the porch of her home in Gorse Close, she says she saw a green light shining from behind them.

"At first I thought my boyfriend was shining a flash light to show the way but when he looked back as well we saw this orange-red glow across the sky."

"It was very frightening and my stomach started to turn. I was so amazed at what I saw that I ran in to wake up my mum and tell her about it," she added.

A spate of UFO sightings have been reported recently in the Free Press, following an article in September when a Forham All Saints boy reported seeing one in a field at the rear of his home.

STANDARD, Reading, England - Nov. 3, 1988 CR: T. Good

Was it a bird, was it a plane . . . or a UFO?

BAFFLED Reading residents have been seeing more than fireworks lighting up the sky.

Families in Tilehurst and Caversham Park claim to have spotted bright lights speeding through the sky over their homes on Sunday night, just weeks after sightings of other alien objects were reported.

Tilehurst couple Kevin and Donna Wallace were driving from Bradfield to their home in Layton Rise when they first noticed a big bright object lighting up the sky.

Donna said: "We first thought it was a plane but it just stayed at the same position."

When the couple got home, Donna claimed they counted up to eight objects in the sky at one time, all moving backwards and forwards at a great speed.

She said: "There seemed to be one main bright light which the others were coming back to. Some of them were red, green and blue."

She was adamant the lights were not fireworks as they stayed in the sky for several hours.

The mysterious UFOs were also spotted by a woman and her neighbours in Caversham Park.

The woman, who would not give her

name, said: "It was such a strange phenomena."

"The speed that they moved at was absolutely incredible."

She said she had felt "awestruck" watching the objects but had never felt frightened.

"I had a feeling that this was not to attack us in any way but it was certainly very real and something I will never forget."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence confirmed they had received some reports of sightings from members of the public and they would be investigating whether the craft had illegally entered British airspace.



'Scary' ball of brilliant light mystifies observers

By DIANNE STALLINGS
Times Staff Writer

SPRING HILL — The thunderstorm had drenched Spring Hill, flooding some sections of the main road. The rain slackened and the dark clouds pulsating with lightning drifted farther east as Virginia and Joe Parker headed toward their home on Vicksburg Road.

"We were near some model homes between Deltona Boulevard and Waterfall Drive when all of a sudden something seemed to blind us," Mrs. Parker said. "It was bright blue and round with a spiked white halo around it, and it was hanging there (toward the top) of some trees in a vacant lot.

"Joe ran off the pavement he was so shocked. It was a strange thing. Scary."

She estimated their 1982 Ford was about a half-mile away from the ball of light when they first saw it. From that distance, the size looked three to four times larger than the moon in the evening sky the previous night. Before they could reach the lot where the glowing ball hovered in the trees, the object appeared to dip lower and then disappeared, leaving behind only a haze of grayish-brown smoke.

The couple thought about reporting the sighting, but were afraid no one would believe them. Instead, they talked to neighbors and acquaintances over the next three weeks, but could find nobody else who witnessed the same phenomenon.

"We don't believe in (flying saucers)," the 77-year-old Mrs. Parker said. "But we felt it was a phenomenal thing that happened."

Then Wednesday evening, the couple watched a television program called "Unsolved Mysteries" broadcast over NBC affiliate WXFL.

A picture flashed on the screen of a brilliant white ball reportedly seen by several residents of Gulf Breeze, a town in the Florida Panhandle.

"There it was in the middle of the road," Mrs. Parker said. "It looked exactly like what we saw, only white instead of blue. It had the same spikes around it."

She also read an article in the *National*



Times file

Ball lightning has amazed people for centuries, as evidenced in this old woodcut.

Enquirer that claimed President Ronald Reagan had seen a similar blazing ball from an airplane in 1976.

"Joe said not to say anything, but I kept wondering if anybody besides us saw what we did," Mrs. Parker said. "I couldn't keep it in any longer."

Meteorological experts say what the Parkers saw may have been ball lightning. Similar sightings and some even more bizarre incidents than the Parkers' episode have been recorded for centuries.

Don MacGorman with the National Severe Storm Lab in Norman, Okla., said not much is known about ball lightning because it occurs sporadically.

Some experts think that ball lightning is a hot gas, "but what holds it together as a

ball, we don't know," MacGorman said.

Back in August 1963, the late Dick Bothwell, a *St. Petersburg Times* columnist, wrote about ball lightning after an article appeared in the newspaper about an Arizona firm being hired to conduct studies on the phenomenon for the U.S. Navy.

Apparently as a result of that story, the newspaper received plenty of calls from people who had come face-to-face with ball lightning.

In his column that appeared Aug. 15, 1963, Bothwell related the encounters of several Pinellas County residents.

A Mrs. Donald A. McCrimmon reported that in 1931 in Jacksonville during a thunderstorm, a brilliant light lit up her second floor apartment. She described the orb as a

"vivid glowing blue fire," larger than a grapefruit. The fiery ball rolled down a light cord, bounced along the floor like a rubber ball, through an open door and down the stairs, then disappeared at the bottom.

The only evidence left behind was the strong odor of sulfur. Nothing was burned, Bothwell reported.

Another St. Petersburg woman told Bothwell she was reading after a thunderstorm, sitting with her back to a window where suddenly her book was illuminated by a bright light. She turned to see a white ball coming toward her house. It hit the window, flattened out and disappeared.

Other stories heard over the years by some of the weather experts depict blue lights dancing on power lines, rolling into barns and exploding, bounding down the aisle of a plane and dropping into a pond, sending sizzling steam skyward.

Dr. Martin Uman of the University of Florida in Gainesville, said there are 50 or more theories about the cause and substance of ball lightning.

"It has never been reproduced in a laboratory," he said. "Some people think it is a glowing soap bubble, a chemical in a soap bubble, because they bounce and sometimes break apart and make little ones. They seldom hurt anyone."

What the Parkers describe does not fit the classic example of ball lightning. It is larger and seems to have lasted longer, Uman said. It's possible they saw a flare, which burns brightly and leaves a trail of smoke.

"Ball lightning generally is not very bright and usually can be seen only within 100 feet or so," often after lightning strikes a tree, he said. "It only lasts a second or two and is about the size of an orange or grapefruit."

But he doesn't rule out the possibility.

"There are intermediate classes of lights called ball lightning. (The Parker report) does fit the description of something identified as ball lightning, a bright light at the bottom of a cloud that drops to earth," he said. "I would say what they have described would be at the upper end of the spectrum of what we call ball lightning."

What was that Walla Walla 'Bigfoot'?

Don Hannula/Times editorial columnist

ONE of the loose conditions of my continued employment is *not* to write about sasquatches or St. Urho's Day more than once a year. But sometimes emerging events Too Monumental to Ignore mandate that I risk my job.

Take those new photos of that 7½-foot, 500-to-700-pounder in Walla Walla.

No, not pictures of St. Urho — alleged patron saint of Finnish vineyard workers — who is believed by some to have been near that size. We're talking live sasquatch/a.k.a. Bigfoot.



Last Friday's front page of the Times-owned Walla Walla Union-Bulletin featured — in living color — photos of what longtime Bigfoot-huckster Paul Freeman, 45, and his son Duane, 22, say is a sasquatch.

Supposedly it was lumbering away about 150 yards from Duane's 70-210-millimeter zoom lens on the northwest side of the Mill Creek watershed 35 miles east of Walla Walla.

The still photographs, taken from a distance, show a dark object between two trees. A blowup gives it somewhat of an apelike form, with what appears to be a huge left arm hanging at its side. The pictures are hardly conclusive.

It could be a strangely shaped burnt stump. Or maybe it was Harrison Bigfoot, the official Washington Centennial Commission man-in-a-monkey-suit mascot, making a promotional appearance.

Or maybe a Whitman College fraternity pledge swinging a six-pack while doing his Hell Week shtick.

Or maybe it was Duane Freeman taking a snap of dad Paul in a fur coat.

Or...

It's the "or" that keeps the sasquatch (a.k.a. Bigfoot) legend in our lore.

"I don't care what people say," Paul

Freeman told me. "Some say I'm nuts in the head. I know what I saw. It was a Bigfoot."

Freeman says he's seen sasquatches before. Three other times. First in June 1982 while working as a Mill Creek watershed patrol rider for the U.S. Forest Service. Then twice in the summer of 1987. He's made plaster casts of purported sasquatch footprints, recorded their screams, found hair samples. He says.

In 1982, the Forest Service labeled his footprints a hoax. Freeman quit his job with the agency, citing "a lot of hassle and pressure over



the Bigfoot thing." Freeman has spent most of the time since then looking for sasquatches.

The 6-4, 265-pound Freeman, who wears a beard and a sinister-looking Snidely Whiplash-type moustache, appears big enough to hunt sasquatch with a stick, but says:

"I get goose bumps when I see them. This one was as close as 100 yards."

And Freeman says he's not seeing the same sasquatch. This one, he says, had dark fur, with grayish patches on the face and stomach. His '82 sasquatch was reddish-brown and "bigger — over 8 feet tall."

You would think Bigfoot searchers would be a close fraternity. They are not. It is common for them to call one another liars.

Another leading Bigfoot expert, Rene Dahinden of Richmond, B.C., said Freeman's '82 footprint-casts were faked. He said that the prints of forestry workers sank deeper into the

soil than those purportedly left by the huge Bigfoot, and that dogs and horses brought to the scene showed no reaction to smell.

"You can fool people, but you can't fool animals," Dahinden said.

When Freeman found more Bigfoot tracks in 1987, Dahinden went to the scene and declared them "100 percent faked — in fact, rather pathetic fakes."

Enter Grover Krantz, associate professor of anthropology at Washington State University — the science man of sasquatchery. He's lent credibility to Freeman's past track casts.

Dahinden — a believer in Bigfoot — says Krantz has misused his professorship to "promote and glorify himself and his wild, unbalanced ideas."

Freeman says he's talked to Krantz about his recent photo of Bigfoot and "he's really excited." Krantz, on his back recovering from surgery, has yet to give an official view on the pictures.

Dahinden contends Freeman told him years ago that he was going to enter into a contract with Krantz to share proceeds from any Bigfoot enterprises.

"He was telling a lie," Freeman says.

So goes the Bigfoot business. Experts calling one another liars adds to the intrigue.

Freeman says he gave the still photos to The Union-Bulletin. He said he was paid \$50 for prints used by Spokane papers.

Not much for what Freeman describes as the only sasquatch photo other than the heralded filming of a purported Bigfoot by the late Roger Patterson of Yakima in 1967.

Not steadily employed, Freeman says he gets by on meager earnings from a side business.

"I haven't made over \$2,000 from my Bigfoot research since 1982," he says. Most of that — about \$2,000 after expenses — was for appearing on one of those Dreyer's ("unbelievable") Ice Cream TV commercials featuring people who do unbelievable things.

Does he expect to make bigger money off his latest photos?

"You betcha," he says. "This is real."

Maybe. But it's probably more like the ice-cream commercials — unbelievable.

Is Long Lake The Home Of ———?

Is there a monster in Long Lake?

Last week Friday a woman reported seeing a huge dark object several hundred feet off shore.

It moved with a violent undulating motion which sent waves rolling over a pier and then crashing into the shore. That would be a large order for a carp or a snapping turtle.

I recently learned that about 5 years ago a Milwaukee newspaper carried an article about a monster sighted in Long Lake by several campers from the Milwaukee area.

Four summers ago a couple who were staying in the Long Lake state park stopped at the Din's Garage, Dundee for some ice.

They told the proprietor that they spotted an eel like monster about 28 foot long swimming along the shore of the state park beach.

It was dark brown with light brown spots. It gradually submerged out of sight.

Also a 3 foot long salamander like creature has been reported crossing Hwy. 67 that runs along Long Lake. A baby monster?

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who has seen a monster-like creature in Long Lake.

Bob Kuehn
Rt. 3, Hwy. 67E
Campbellsport, WI
53010

NEWS, Campbellsport, WI - Sept. 29, 1988 CR: R. Heiden

Clearwater can relax; monster is unmasked

By JAN KIRBY

The year was 1948. Richard Nixon was pushing for a congressional investigation of the Alger Hiss affair, the State of Israel was founded, and Ted Mack's *Original Amateur Hour* was one of the newest shows on television.

In Clearwater, Fla., a town of about 15,000, crazy things were happening. On a morning in February, a resident out for a walk on Clearwater Beach discovered what looked like the footprints of a monster and ran home to call the police.

The tracks were large — 14 inches long, 11 inches wide. They had three long toes with claws. Whatever had made them apparently had come out of the Gulf of Mexico at the south end of the beach and, taking 4-foot to 6-foot strides, had walked for more than two miles in the soft sand before returning to the water.

The police didn't know what had made the tracks, but an official with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department said he had "studied the footprints carefully and was personally assured that, if a prank,



it was one of the most masterful ever perpetrated in Pinellas."

Over the next 10 years, the footprints of the "Clearwater Monster" appeared frequently: on Clearwater Beach, on Indian Rocks Beach, on the Courtney Campbell Parkway, on St. Petersburg Beach, on the beach at Sarasota. The "monster" also left its prints on

prints that he and the late Al Williams stamped into the sand.

Williams was a notorious prankster in Clearwater in the 1940s and 1950s. Just for fun, he once sneaked a horse into the holding area at the Clearwater police station. Another time, because he loved to play tricks on the fire

A number of local people, including the police, believed the whole thing was a hoax. But they had no way to prove it, and no one ever came forward to admit to it. Until now.

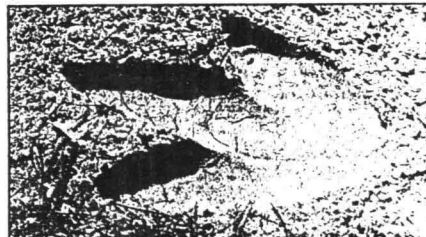
department, he set off flares in his business, Auto Electric. The fire department showed up all right, and the flares provided quite a show, but as a result the building was badly damaged.

Signorini, who was Williams' partner at Auto Electric and, with his son and daughter, still runs the business on Greenwood Avenue in Clearwater, said Williams came up with the idea for the "monster" tracks. It seemed an appropriate prank: The Loch Ness monster was still making news (its photograph was first published in 1934),

Beastly tracks appeared on Clearwater Beach. Zoologist Ivan Sanderson, after studying plaster casts such as the one he holds above left, said the creature was a giant penguin. Now, 40 years after the monster's debut, Tony Signorini, above right, has stepped forward — wearing cast iron feet — to explain.



Times photos — JOE WALLIS



so the molds for the tracks were taken to a foundry in St. Petersburg. The resulting cast iron feet were ideal.

Holes were drilled into the tops of the feet and the sneakers set in place with screws. When the inner soles of the shoes were glued back in place, the "monster" was ready. A rowboat supplied by a friend brought the creature to shore.

"We would go on nights with not too many waves or beach walkers around. Of course, not many people were on the beach then," Signorini said.

The "monster" came out only at night.

"I put the shoes on in the water and then walked a long way, maybe two miles, up the beach and then got back in the boat," Signorini said, grinning. "I had ... to be

All these years, the "monster" was tucked away in its cardboard box under a workbench at Auto Electric.

careful the water wasn't too deep when I had them on.

"Other times, we would take them (the feet) in the car and carry them to where we wanted to make the tracks. Then we'd take a palm frond and brush away all the foot-

prints we'd made while we were doing it."

At the Suwannee River site, "we stayed on property belonging to a friend named A. J. Spears," Signorini said. "After we found some good places along the river, we waded in the water and carried the feet. Then I'd put them on where we wanted to make the tracks."

Clearwater police were skeptical about the existence of the monster from the beginning and suspected that Al Williams might be the culprit, said Frank Daniels, who retired in 1981 after 32 years on the Clearwater police force, the last 13 years as chief of police.

"I don't think any of the Clearwater cops took it seriously," Daniels said. "We suspected Williams because he usually called in the reports of the monster and was such a local prankster, but we could never prove it."

"When a pilot flying over the beaches reported seeing something furry with a head shaped like a hog's in the Gulf, we suspected Williams because he flew his own plane," Daniels said.

"You know, that's a funny thing," Signorini recalled with a smile, "because we never knew who was flying that plane and made the report. It wasn't us."

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England - Oct. 23, 1988 CR: N. Oliver

Garden-shed genius heads for the stars

by MICHAEL SHANAHAN

DAY trips to Australia and weekend jaunts in the Milky Way could become a reality, thanks to the brainpower of a Scottish inventor.

Sandy Kidd's discovery, which is set to revolutionise travel, is already sending shock waves through the scientific establishment.

One of Britain's top physicists described it "mind-boggling."

Mr Kidd's work, researched in his garden shed, will make science fiction writers' dreams come true. Trips to Mars will take 34 hours and the journey from London to Sydney will be reduced to a matter of minutes.

The 51-year-old former apprentice toolmaker's development of Gyroscopic Propulsion has also stunned



Kidd: Breakthrough

academics because it challenges Isaac Newton's Law of Motion.

He was worked out that, by setting gyroscopes at particular angles, a lifting force that defies gravity is produced.

Mr Kidd, who worked for five years on his brainchild at

his Dundee home, is now moving to the heart of the space industry in California where a massive investment programme is already under way.

Dr Harold Aspdren, senior visiting research fellow at Southampton University, has seen the results of early tests. "Scientifically speaking it is a bombshell," he says. "I would not have believed this if I had not seen it with my own eyes."

"It will totally revolutionise the travel industry. Taken to the ultimate, we will have planes without jet engines and helicopters without rotor blades."

Mr Kidd is being financed by an Australian research company. A spokesman said: "We are on to something really big. The next stage is to power up Sandy's device in California with the prospect of building a full-scale vehicle at the end of the day."

"Money is no object, but we are determined that his work will not get out."

At Imperial College, London, Professor Eric Laithwaite, who has followed Mr Kidd's experiments, said:

"I have always been convinced it could be done ... and I like to see someone defeat the system. He may be a long time perfecting it but I am sure he will succeed."

Mr Kidd made the final breakthrough in his work, highlighted in the Sunday Express last year, about four weeks ago in a laboratory in Melbourne.

"There was just one thing I couldn't understand," said the former RAF radar technician. "I had worked round the problem until that day when it dawned on me. If I could figure it out why hasn't somebody else?"

UNION BULLETIN, Walla Walla, WA Oct. 11, 1988

Watershed is off-limits for hunters of Bigfoot

If you are considering slipping into the Mill Creek Watershed to look for the Bigfoot a local man said he sighted last week, the Forest Service has a message for you: Don't.

The watershed is a protected area, said Ralph H. Perkins, the district ranger. Those who illegally enter the watershed can receive a fine of not more than \$500 or six months in jail or both. The area is posted and patrolled to keep people out.

On Oct. 5 Duane Freeman of Walla Walla took pictures of what his father Paul Freeman said was Bigfoot crossing into the northwest side of the watershed. The Freemans were at the

border of the watershed at the time.

"Whenever something like this (Bigfoot sighting) takes place, if there is an increase of activity, we increase the patrols," Perkins said.

Only people with permits can enter the area. Permits usually are granted only in special circumstances such as firefighters needing access to a fire.

At present, special circumstances do not include a Bigfoot sighting, but the Forest Service will not rule out the possibility completely.

"We don't wish to judge someone's belief. We're not in the position we can spend a lot of money to evaluate (the existence of Bigfoot)," Perkins said. "If someone would come to us with a scientific proposal to study it, we would entertain granting a permit."

Stalking Bigfoot

Ape-Man May Call Maryland Home

By JOHN BARNES
Journal Staff Writer

HAGERSTOWN — If you're looking for Bigfoot, you don't have to go to California and you don't have to cross the border into Canada. You may find one of the legendary creatures in Western Maryland.

Mark Opsasnick, a resident of Greenbelt, Md., in Prince George's County, says there have been a surprising number of Bigfoot sightings in Maryland. Now he's asking people with any information on such sightings to contact him.

"Bigfoot has been commonly known to inhabit the Pacific Northwest," Opsasnick said. "But few people know there have been sightings in Maryland. I decided to create a network to gather this information."

"I'm trying to reach out to other parts in Maryland where there may have been sightings, find newspaper clips that I may not have seen before."

So far Opsasnick's Bigfoot Information Project (B.I.P.) doesn't have much of a membership after starting this past January. There is himself and one other person.

He's hoping for people to become "correspondents" for the organization, whether it be reporting actual sightings or going to local libraries and researching old newspapers in an effort to find clippings on the Sasquatch.

Opsasnick said because of Western Maryland's wooded setting, it seems that part of the state would be a natural place for the Bigfoot creature. But of the 250 sightings in Maryland, only one has come from Washington County.

Baltimore, Carroll and Harford counties lead the state with 49, 48 and 47 sightings, respectively.

"I would think Western Maryland would be a part of the state where Bigfoot could have been seen," Opsasnick said. "I haven't had a chance to go to the local libraries there yet."

Opsasnick, who is an interviewer for the Prince George's County Energy Office, says he must pay for trips from his own pocket — he has no outside funding. Because of that, it's important to create the state network.

The best sighting in Maryland Opsasnick has on record, although he hasn't personally interviewed the person yet, comes from Peter Hronek in Rocks, Md.

"He was driving his Triumph car in Rocks State Park at about 3 a.m. when he claims to have run into a huge ape-like creature," Opsasnick said.

"The car was totaled and the state troopers who investigated pulled flesh, hair and blood samples from the car."

Opsasnick said the state police had the samples analyzed and reported they came from the bovine, or cow, family but refused to release the results.

Bob Chance of Bel Air, Md., who previously worked on Bigfoot sightings, sent the samples he received to a lab at the University of Wyoming, and those results claim they came from an animal similar to a primate.

According to reports, the area was searched for a carcass of the animal, assuming that it should have been killed by the accident. None was found. Farmers from a 5-mile radius reported no missing livestock.

The most recent account of a Bigfoot sighting was Jan. 15 in Scaggsville, Md., in Howard County.

"What's significant about this sighting is that there have been a number of sightings in this area since the mid-1970s," Opsasnick said. "And I find that hard to believe since it's so close to Washington, D.C., and they've been tearing up a lot of land in that area."

Champy is topic of myth and history

By KATHY M. BROWNING

PLATTSBURGH — The man who discovered Lake Champlain, Samuel de Champlain, was the first person to see "a serpent-like creature about 20 feet long, as thick through as a barrel and with a head shaped like a horse" in July, 1609.

A large lake sturgeon, gar pike or perhaps a piece of driftwood?

No one knows. And now, 380 years and about 300 sightings later, the question still remains — what did Samuel de Champlain see that day in 1609?

Joseph W. Zarzynski thinks that he has the answer. He has been compiling data on the mysterious creature he calls "Champ" for the past 15 years — two books' worth. In his recently published book, "Champ, Beyond the Legend (Updated Edition)," he pores over every scrap of evidence he has collected, but he is still puzzled.

After accepting sightings by hundreds of people on faith, Zarzynski desperately wants some concrete proof that Champ is in Lake Champlain.

Photographs taken aren't clear or the film didn't advance in the camera. Some people report seeing a 187-foot-long creature and others say what they saw was 12 feet long.

Zarzynski is optimistic that a creature or creatures exist.

"Piecemeal, the evidence is weak, but after it is assembled in jigsaw fashion, the possibility that Lake Champlain harbors a colony of Champ creatures is indeed a strong possibility," he said.

What he does have is over a dozen photographs, a strong local folklore related to Champ and about 300 Champ sightings.

His most important piece of evidence is the famous "Mansi photo" taken by Sandra Mansi in 1977. The photograph of a goose-necked creature off the

Most Champ enthusiasts offer this marine reptile, the plesiosaur, as one of the most likely candidates for the Lake Champlain Monster, known as Champ. The plesiosaur is believed to have become extinct 60-70 million years ago.

shore of Lake Champlain has since run in newspapers and magazines throughout the country.

The picture was examined by a professor of optical sciences at the University of Arizona to see if it was fake or real.

It was pronounced see-worthy, but there's a catch.

"Unfortunately, we have never been able to relocate the exact spot that the Mansi family took their famous Champ photo," Zarzynski admits.

He explained, "The photo was taken in 1977. For two years, the family sat on the photo waiting for that spark to persuade them to get the photo analyzed. The photo analysis took another two years."

The time-consuming processes, plus the fact that the Mansi family was from out-of-state and not familiar with the area, adds to the confusion over where the photo was taken.

"Much can happen to the shoreline real estate of a very popular lake," Zarzynski said. "Fields turned into cottage and house sites, dirt roads were paved..."

Still hopeful that evidence will surface, Zarzynski spends 15-20 hours a week looking for the elusive creature while school is in session. In the summer, when his job as a ninth-grade social studies teacher in Saratoga City Schools is over, he devotes 40-50 hours a week to the project.

"Over the past couple of years, I have developed part of my fieldwork toward trying to discover a carcass of Champ for retrieval and identification," Zarzynski said.

Using a Remotely Operated

Vehicle (ROV), which is a "tethered underwater robot with a video camera," Zarzynski scanned the bottom of Lake Champlain for his much-needed proof.

"We spent six days in 1987 attempting to sonar-search a select area of Lake Champlain to note deep-water targets that might be in the range of 15-25 feet long," he explained.

If a target was found, divers would investigate. Several targets were found that correspond to the size dimensions attributed to Champ, but Zarzynski explained that they might be geological features or sunken trees. Further investigation is

needed.

Zarzynski plans to continue his search.

"By securing a Champ carcass, a major step would be taken leading to Champ's formal recognition, which would ensure protection for the species," he said.

Zarzynski asks that anyone who wishes to report a Champ sighting should contact him at Lake Champlain Phenomena Investigation (LCPI), P.O. Box 2134, Wilton, N.Y., 12866.

Copies of Zarzynski's book are available in local bookstores or by writing directly to him at the above address.



Drawing/Bob Huntoon

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - Dec. 7, 1988

Cow killing seen as act of satanism

BY SANDY DAVIS
Democrat Jacksonville Bureau

Pete Benham and his wife, Lois, of Bethlehem (Lonoke County) said Tuesday they were afraid a satanic worship group slaughtered one of their cows two weeks ago.

The cow, a longhorn, was found mutilated by the couple about 200 yards from their home.

Larry Jones, chief deputy of the Lonoke Sheriff's Department, agrees with the Benhams. "Whoever did this knew what they were doing," he said. "It was a professional job and we definitely think that it's related to devil worship."

Jones said that both of the cow's eyes, one ear, sex organs, udder bag and heart had been removed. "They didn't just cut

off the ear," Jones said. "They cut down in the head and got all of the ear."

"You could tell where each stroke of the knife was made and the meat was never touched by the blade. I've skinned a lot of deer and I don't consider myself a slouch, but that (not touching the meat) would be really hard to do."

But perhaps more unusual was the fact that there was no blood found. "We couldn't find any blood where the cow was killed and there was no blood in the cow," Jones said.

This is the second cow the Benhams have lost from their 40-cow herd in recent weeks. On Halloween, another was shot about 100 yards from their house. Jones said he did not think the two incidents were related.

Ironically, about two months before the Benham's cow was killed, deputies discovered an abandoned house with words and drawings on the walls that they believe are related to satanic worship, Jones said.

The house is about two miles from the Benham's farm.

"We had some experts on devil worship come up here and look at the drawings," Jones said. "They said the drawings and words were done by someone who knew what they were doing. They think it's really serious."

Authorities have no suspects in the killing of the Benham's cow. "You have to understand that these people are really secretive," Jones said. "We're treating it like any other case. We keep our ears open, but so far, we haven't heard a thing. That tells you something right there."

Mrs. Benham is also concerned about the financial losses she and her husband are suffering. "My husband is 75. He can't work. We're out there trying to make a living off our cows," Mrs. Benham said.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - Aug. 7, 1988

Latest theory sees comets bringing barren Earth life's building blocks

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — There is a growing consensus among scientists supporting the theory that evolution may have started when comets bearing organic chemicals came sailing in from outer space and crashed on a primitive and barren Earth.

Mayo Greenberg, an astronomer with the University of Leiden in the Netherlands and chairman of a section of the International Astronomical Union dealing with cosmic dust, said Thursday that recent studies continue to support strongly the theory that "comets may have been the prime source of organic molecules to form the first building blocks of life" on Earth.

"The conditions for the origin of life are pretty easy in terms of basic original organic molecules," Greenberg said in an interview at the 20th assembly of the IAU.

He said the organic chemicals in the comets came originally from cosmic dust particles that were processed through billions of years in space.

Greenberg said cosmic dust particles — so small that 100 billion would make but a pea-sized pebble — are spewed out of cooling stars.

The particles cool rapidly and help form the nebulae, or interstellar clouds, seen in views of the universe.

While in the clouds, he said, the particles pick up a coating of ice, methane and ammonia. Over billions of years, heat and radiation from stars change the molecules in the coating into complex organic chemicals, he said.

Greenberg said it is believed these particles clump together, then join with other clumps and eventually form comets and asteroids.

Studies of Halley's comet,

he said, showed it is made up of ice and dust particles, and that it is very rich in organic chemicals.

"Comets are low-density, almost fluffy," Greenberg said. When they struck the atmosphere of a primitive Earth, he said, they broke apart and "a significant fraction would reach the Earth's surface unchanged" in chemistry.

He said there now also is strong evidence that "very probably all of the water in the oceans was supplied by comets. A very large budget of complex organic molecules came in with that water."

The result?

"A primordial soup from which life could develop," Greenberg said.

The astronomer said the process in this theory could be at work throughout the universe, strengthening the concept that life also may have developed on other planets.

Bigfoot is said to lurk in wait of Halloween hikers

By Jay Apperson

Staff writer

Bigfoot stalks the woods as the hulking, hairy, star attraction of the annual Halloween hike at Patapsco Valley State Park. The fabled beast is a natural for the mile-long spook trail, says park ranger Susan Rose, because rumors of its presence have become park folklore.

Reports of eerie nocturnal cries continue to make their way to Carl Livesay, manager of the McKeldin area of the park and a ranger there since 1961. He said no one has uncovered evidence of Bigfoot in the park, but as recently as a couple of weeks ago a camper told him of hearing a mysterious screech.

"He said he heard a strange noise, a high-pitched scream, higher than any person's voice, higher even than any woman's voice," Mr. Livesay said last week. That description is similar to one given by Dennis Volkman, who frequently camps in the area in his search for Bigfoot.

"They'll whistle. They'll scream like a woman," Mr. Volkman claimed last week. He claims to have recorded the shrieks of the Bigfoot and says, "I can take you out any night and play that tape

and I'll have one down there in five minutes."

He knows you probably won't believe him, and others dismiss his claims, but Mr. Volkman insists that at least six Bigfoot monsters live in the park.

His claims make the skeptical laugh, but they may send a chill down your spine the next time you're alone in the park after dark. Mr. Volkman, a 41-year-old clerk from Brooklyn Park, claims the creatures he's seen in the park usually resemble cave men or gorillas. But they also take the form of wolves and other wildlife, and they can disappear and float in the air.

These Bigfoot monsters are, Mr. Volkman claims, actually aliens dropped from a UFO into Liberty Reservoir in the early 1970s. These creatures have glowing red eyes and are capable of reading minds and scaring the hell out of you, Mr. Volkman says.

"They can do whatever they want. They have psychic powers," Mr. Volkman maintains. "They can be in the form of a creature, and they can be a light floating around."

Mr. Volkman claims to have seen red lights floating through the air in the park at least 200

times.

The aliens' psychic powers are such that he can't bring himself to think about them every day, Mr. Volkman maintained.

"Believe me, brother, they can destroy your mind," Mr. Volkman claimed. "I've been spooked many times when they didn't want me there."

Mr. Volkman claims the animals emit a powerful, oily odor. "It will make you sick to your stomach," he said. He also claims to have captured on videotape a female Bigfoot starting to materialize.

Mark Opsasnick is director of the Bigfoot Information Project, a clearing house for Bigfoot-related information. Of Mr. Volkman's claims, Mr. Opsasnick said, "I feel Dennis Volkman believes what he is saying is true but I've never seen any evidence that Bigfoot is any more than a physical, biological animal. There is no evidence that it is of extraterrestrial or supernatural origin."

Mr. Opsasnick said a more convincing account of a possible Bigfoot sighting comes from Sykesville resident Anthony Dorsey. Mr. Dorsey, a 35-year-old firefighter, has said he was responding to his dogs barking one night in May

1973 when he shined his flashlight into the woods near his Norris Avenue home. The beams picked up two glowing eyes in the woods.

"It was a long time ago, but it's nothing I can ever forget," Mr. Dorsey said last week. "The eyes were kind of spread far apart across the front of a face." He said he never saw the figure of a body, but he believes the eyes were at least 7 feet off the ground.

Mr. Dorsey's account is relatively credible, Mr. Opsasnick said, because "he doesn't elaborate. He's a fireman, he's been in the community all his life and it ties in with the other sightings in that area."

The Bigfoot Information Project claims that more than 20 sightings of a "Bigfoot-type creature" occurred in and near Sykesville between May 1973 and June 1973. The reports included an 8-foot-tall grayish-white, hair-covered ape walking through a backyard on Schoolhouse Road and an 8-foot-tall ape-like best, caked with mud, running from side of Route 32 and into the woods near the Patapsco River.

Reports of more recent sightings in Howard County, as published by Mr. Opsasnick's organi-

zation, include a 30-year-old man's claim that a 9-foot-tall Bigfoot ran through his backyard near Harding Road and Old Scaggsville Road in Scaggsville last Jan. 15. In 1987 a woman living near Columbia reported finding 20-inch footprints in the snow near her home, the organization reports.

But Mr. Opsasnick said last week that the chances that a Bigfoot is living in Howard County are "pretty much slim and none." He said he believes much of Maryland may have once been a migratory route for the creature. The Sykesville sighting may have been of a Bigfoot passing through the area, he claimed.

Still, what about those mysterious cries in the park?

"When you're out in the woods at night even small sounds tend to be magnified," Mr. Livesay says.

"We cover all of this area at all hours, and if there was any strange animal out here we would have seen it. We're not just riding on the paved roads. We're in the brush and along the service roads."

Mr. Volkman says, "I don't expect you to believe anything until you experience it yourself."

DAILY NEWS, Los Angeles, CA - Nov. 27, 1988

College professor's search for Bigfoot is about to heat up

By ANNE DUDLEY

McClatchy News Service

FRESNO — If he can get his homemade helicopter flying, Bigfoot expert Grover Krantz will take to the air this spring with an infrared heat detector to search for an elusive man-ape creature in the forests of Washington.

Krantz, an associate professor at Washington State University, revealed his plan last week while in Fresno to lecture on "An Anthropological Approach to Bigfoot" at California State University, Fresno.

His idea is that as the snow melts, the decaying remains of any Bigfoot that died during the winter will be detected by the infrared mechanism.

He said in an interview that there are 2,000 of the 800-pound animals in the Pacific Northwest and Canada alone. None of the legendary creatures has ever been captured, nor do most people even believe they exist.

Despite this, Krantz has devoted much of his spare time since 1969 looking for Bigfoot, examining evidence others have found of its existence and trying to convince skeptics that Bigfoot is real. He has a map marked with more than 500 sightings, mostly in Washington.

His 20-year obsession has been bittersweet, the anthropologist said.

"My reputation has suffered terribly. I've got the label of a lunatic fringe," he said. "The thing is, I knew this would happen."

"It's too bad, but I asked for it," Krantz, 57, began "poking around" for Bigfoot in 1963 in Northern California, and began "seriously investigating" the legend six years later at Washington State. "Basically, the big tipover was when I had the opportunity to see some actual footprints," he said. "I made a cast of it and it was quite intriguing."

"At that point, it meant I had to study it seriously. Not just poking about at it."

He believes the creature to be probably closer to man than gorilla, but "clearly not human."

He estimated that he has spent \$70,000 of his own money and lost

about \$70,000 in promotions and pay raises because his credibility as a scholar was tainted by his belief in Bigfoot.

"Years ago, (Washington State) said, 'You'd be better off if you don't do this,'" he said. "Now, gradually, (my Bigfoot assertions) have gotten more respect (on campus)."

It helps, he said, that the university's new president, Sam Smith, is "fascinated" by the subject.

Bigfoot has held the fascination of many the world over. Krantz said he gets a letter on the creature about once a week. One of the skeptical variety arrived from a Diane Horton in Denver seven years ago, questioning Krantz about some of his assertions, which she had read about in a newspaper article.

The two began corresponding, and a year later, Horton and Krantz were married.

There are even about a dozen serious Bigfoot hunters who hope to bring the first carcass of one out of the woods. Surprisingly, Krantz said the hunters have his blessing.

"Yes, I'm in full support of them because if one of them does not succeed, then the Sasquatch (another name for Bigfoot) might become extinct," he said, adding that only a dead Bigfoot body will prove to skeptics that the creature exists.

Until non-believers are convinced, the search lacks official blessing and manpower, reducing the probability of finding the nocturnal creatures, he said.

"They could be an endangered species. If there is something they need, maybe we can help them," Krantz said.

The capture of a Bigfoot also would convince skeptics, he said, but would be much more difficult to accomplish.

Krantz himself has never seen Bigfoot.

"I think I smelled one once," he said. "It's a rather foul smell."

He said it was a scent described many times by others on the trail of Sasquatch — the overpowering stench of body wastes and sweat.

"I don't really care whether I see one or not," he said. "I'm sufficiently convinced that they're real."

DAILY NEWS, Norfolk, NE - Sept. 30, 1988 CR: C. Werkmeister

Ranchers shaking their heads over mysterious cow deaths

By GREG WEES

News Regional Editor

The Holt County Sheriff's Department has investigated the death of a cow that a Chambers rancher says was mutilated with surgical precision.

Another mutilation was reported about the same time in a pasture more than 50 miles away near Spalding in Greeley County.

Deputy Sheriff Alan Rowse of O'Neill said he considered the death of the cow near Chambers as suspicious in nature.

"It was the way the skin was cut around the mouth and jaw. That was the main thing," Rowse said Thursday. "All four of the teats were removed and the female organs."

The animal had been dead for several days, Rowse said, and "it's hard to tell if animals did that."

The rancher, who asked that his name not be used, said he didn't think predators were responsible.

"If you had seen the surgery — it's fantastic," the rancher said Thursday by telephone. "It's so smooth that it would make a doctor envious."

He said the 8-year-old cow's lips, muzzle and tongue were cut away.

Asked if there was a possibility that predators were responsible, he said, "Absolutely no chance. It was done so smooth."

The rancher said he has talked with a dozen ranchers who have lost cattle under similar circumstances in the last eight years.

He said the lack of tracks leads him to believe that a helicopter was used to fly in. Why someone would want to mutilate a cow, however, is a mystery, he said.

The rancher said he found the

animal Sept. 16 in a pasture east of Chambers and estimated it had been killed the night of Sept. 13.

A rancher west of Spalding also said he found a dead cow Sept. 16 that appeared to be mutilated.

The Spalding rancher, who asked that his name not be used, said an almost perfectly round 13-inch hole was cut through the front of the animal's chest and the rear end of the animal was removed.

The cow's heart was gone, he said. "I don't see how a predator can cut a 13-inch hole and the hide is completely gone," the rancher said.

He said he did not report the death to county authorities but had a veterinarian look at the remains.

Both cows, which lay where they were found, lacked any traces of blood around them, the two ranchers said.

NORTHWEST LIVING, Edmonds, WA - Nov. 1988



Does OGOPOGO, THE SERPENT monster of British Columbia's Okanagan Lake, exist? According to local records more than 200 sightings have been reported, the most recent on July 31 by William Allsup and his 18-year-old daughter Sheila of Kelowna. They were boating on the giant southern B.C. lake when

they sighted a blackish green object with two large humps, about 40 feet long and 18 inches wide.

Cryptozoologists believe that Ogo-pogo is one of 36 giant, aquatic creatures existing in the world, mainly around the area of the 50th parallel and in very deep water. Okanagan Lake is approximately 90 miles long and 1,000 feet deep.

USA TODAY, Arlington, VA - Nov. 2, 1988

COLORADO

GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS — "Monster hunters" are investigating March sightings of 2 hairy, Bigfoot-like creatures. Mysterious footprints, cries, smells also were reported in area, thought to be stop on creatures' migration path.

According to Okanagan Indian legend, Ogo-pogo was dubbed "Na'h-a-itk" and lived in a cave near Squally Point, south of Kelowna. Indians believed it was foolish to approach N'ha-a-itk's watery lair without carrying a small animal aboard their canoes as a sacrifice in case the feared serpent required appeasement. A Kelowna resident, Arlene Gaal, considered to be an expert on Ogo-pogo for the past 16 years, reports that Ogo-pogo has been consistently spotted at specific times and places on the lake, usually during very warm weather and mirror-flat water.