

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

JANUARY 1989

NUMBER 234

DAILY NEWS, West Bend, WI - Sept. 14, 1988 CR: R. Heiden

There have been events area residents can't explain

(UFOs, flying saucers, little green men and invasions from outer space. These have long been the fancy of science fiction writers, and lately, even some autobiographers.

But recent sightings of unidentified flying objects north of Washington County brought the phenomenon a little closer to home.

This is the second of a four-part series on UFOs in the area.)

BY JOE SCHOENMANN

News Staff Writer

Washington County residents have seen what they believe are Unidentified Flying Objects.

A recent advertisement in the West Bend Daily News and The Post asked people who thought they had ever seen a UFO to call the paper.

While most of the callers admitted they feared the ridicule that might follow, all who called seemed sincere in their belief that they had seen a UFO.

Many of the callers reported seeing the lights that made news headlines in Sheboygan and Fond du Lac counties a few weeks ago. Most were convinced that the lights they saw were not the flares shot from Air Force jets as had later been reported.

The following are excerpts of these encounters:

● **Joyce Beay and Mary Piesler, West Bend area.**

On a "very quiet, calm, beautiful summer night" last year, Beay and Piesler took State 57 to Cedarburg to play miniature golf. When they got to the golf course, Beay looked in the sky toward Jackson and saw "something strange."

"There were lots of stars and I could see this object. It was white and just racing towards Jackson. It was going, when all of a sudden, it just totally stopped.

"We commented on its speed and what in the world it was. We kind of chuckled to one another and kept watching.

"All of a sudden, it just totally took off and disappeared. It was spooky."

Beay saw the object as bigger than a star, but smaller than the moon.

"It was like a lightbulb in the sky. A jet you wouldn't be able to see like this. It was very noticeable. The stars were so prominent that night."

But it wasn't Beay's first UFO sighting.

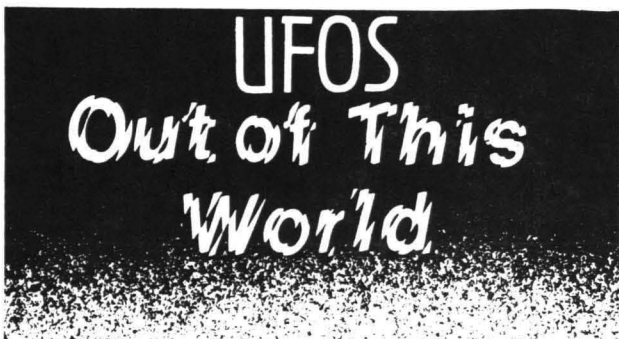
Working at the former Badger Labs, located on State 60, in 1976, Beay, who worked third shift, was sitting in the cafeteria which faces north. Looking out the window, a "glowing orange light" caught her eye.

"It was very brilliant," she described. Although she wasn't sure how far away it was, she watched it in line with a telephone pole across the street.

Others in the cafeteria saw it too, she said.

"One said 'It's got to be an airplane,' but it wasn't moving. After watching a while 'We passed it off,' she said.

But 45 minutes later, at about 12 midnight, she went back to the cafe-



teria and saw that the light had moved in relation to the telephone pole.

But it didn't stay around much longer. Almost as soon as she spotted it this second time, she said, "it shot through the air and disappeared."

"Too much has been shunned and too much hushed up about these things," Beay said, reflecting on the experience. "Nobody is going to tell me I didn't see these things."

● **Carol Kickenlibel, West Bend.**

Carol Kickenlibel and her husband had driven to Madison a few weeks ago to help a daughter who was stranded there with car troubles.

Driving back to West Bend with two cars — one for the two parents and the other with their two daughters — the Kickenlibels saw a row of five lights in the northeastern sky. They were on State 33 between Beaver Dam and Horicon.

"About five huge, yellow orange lights were all in a row in the sky," said Carol Kickenlibel. "And then they were gone. Like someone hit a switch and they all went off.

"They looked more like round street lights in the sky. Big, round lights. Someone (in the newspaper article) said reddish orange, but I thought they were more on the gold side.

That was a Sunday night, the last night of the Dodge County Fair. As they drove past the fairgrounds, Kickenlibel said she thought the lights might have been something from the fair.

She changed her mind when she read newspaper accounts of the same sort of sighting a few days later.

"It didn't frighten us, but I guess I still feel it was something to do with the military."

● **"Debbie" (not her real name), Paradise Drive, West Bend.**

"I believe I saw one. I'm not joking either. I was here with two other ladies — one was my babysitter at the time — who's a Christian and doesn't believe in UFOs or anything. All three of us saw it."

Sometime between Jan. 5 and 9, this year, Debbie and the others witnessed something "hovering right off of Paradise Drive as you go over the railroad tracks."

The object was "boomerang-shaped," she said.

"My kids even saw it. They were

of odd, that bright light there," Becker recalled. He and his friend watched it quietly for several minutes.

Suddenly, he said, "that thing took off. Inside of no more than two to three seconds, it was over the west horizon."

While that one ended quickly, Becker had another experience a few years ago that lasted a bit longer.

On a Sunday morning, driving back from church services in Slinger on County J, Becker noticed a "puff of clouds" that looked darker in the middle. His wife was with him.

After driving a little further, Becker looked at the cloud again and saw "a whole edge of shine, like it was chrome," sticking out of the cloud.

"I thought, what in the world?"

He kept driving, and just before reaching the intersection of County J and County E, Becker said he got a much better look at the cloud and whatever was hidden within it.

"It was like a chrome plate and just a part of the rim outside extended out from the cloud," he said. "It was as if a plate would come out partially out of the cloud and go back in again — as if it didn't coordinate the speed with the cloud or whatever. I thought it was too decided to be just a coincidence."

● **Fred Aicher, Richfield.**

On the way to a show in Menomonee Falls in 1950, Aicher and his girlfriend, who later became his wife, saw something Aicher can't explain

to this day.

At about 11 p.m., Aicher recounted, he and his future wife noticed two "flat-like discs put together, slowly going around — rotating slowly — with a sort of white smoke coming out."

He said the discs looked about 100 feet in diameter.

As it rotated, he said puffs of smoke kept coming from it.

"There were no clouds that night," he said.

After rotating for about a minute, Aicher said "all of a sudden, there was just one cloud of smoke and just like that, it disappeared."

● **Nellie Weaver, West Bend.**

About 23 years ago in the town of Monmouth, Ill., population close to 10,400, Weaver was sitting on the front porch of her home, watching what she thought was an airplane in the sky.

"It got closer and closer, then it stopped dead still, and a large light came on, like a search light, and it arced the sky and fanned around it — like it was looking for something."

Weaver said she was "laughed at" when she told people what she saw. But a few days later, she got the last laugh when someone told her of a news account describing the exact same thing.

"I've never saw anything before and have never seen anything since that remotely resembles anything like it," Weaver said, "and I probably never will."

REDWOOD GAZETTE, Redwood Falls, MN - Nov. 1, 1988

After 10 years, local man ready to reveal UFO story

By Sharon Mace
Staff Writer

Unidentified Flying Objects. Fact or fiction?

UFOs are fact for one rural Redwood Falls man. One early morning in July, 1978, Don Okins watched a huge silver ball rise into the sky south of his farm.

Okins raises his arms full circle as he describes the circular shape and his eyes squint recalling the intense light produced by the UFO. "I can see it as clear in my mind today as I saw it 10 years ago," Okins said.

A syndicated program on KMSP Channel 9 recently encouraged Okins to describe his experience after a 10-year silence. The program, called "UFO Coverup," featured various accounts of UFO sightings and interviews with former government officials that indicated the government is covering up UFO sightings.

The show prompted Okins to write a letter to the TV station recalling, in detail, his UFO experience.

Okins is a man who appears to have both feet on the ground, and he reminisces calmly, very matter of factly, and without variation about that early July morning.

"The neighbor dog was barking. It was almost daybreak and I couldn't sleep. The barking bothered me so I decided to go out and see what the commotion was all about," he says.

Okins left his house about three miles east of the city and walked south along a neighbor's road. "The dog was standing there barking like crazy," he recalls.

There had been recent incidents of vandalism, so Okins parked himself on the road near the beanfield to wait out the culprit.

"All of a sudden a large silver ball started to raise into the air very slowly. The light was like looking at a welding torch. I couldn't hear a thing, but the dog went wild," he says.

"When the large silver ball reached a little higher than the trees of the place south of me, it stopped, then took off like a bullet to the southeast, and all I could see was a silver streak."

Okins later heard reports of similar sightings in Florida. "That's the direction it went," he says.

According to Okins, the whole experience took only a matter of seconds. Then the dog stopped barking, returned to the neighbor's porch and went to sleep.

But sleep was the last thing on Okins' mind. "There I stood, and the only one that I know of that saw it was the dog and he couldn't talk," he says with a laugh.

He returned home, woke his wife and told her what he had just seen. "We had just gotten back from England and I was sick from jet lag, so I didn't really pay much attention to him at the time,"

Evelyn says.

But she has paid attention over the years and believes him. "He saw something and I guess that might just be it," she said.

Some of his children aren't sure. "They didn't think I should tell the story publicly," Okins says.

But he is used to the disbelieving reaction from people. Many times when he tells someone about his experience they will just politely acknowledge that they have heard about such things and then they change the subject.

So now he is telling his story publicly and hopes that someone else that might have seen the same thing or noted indentations in their field will come forward.

"A lot of people are afraid to say something, but I'm not afraid to," Okins says. "You know we are a young country and if we can send men to the moon why couldn't other planets send their people here?"

He hasn't talked to anybody else that has experienced a sighting, but hopes that maybe someday a group will get together in a place like the Twin Cities and discuss their sightings.

Okins has only one regret about the incident: That he didn't quickly run to a friend who owns a helicopter and fly low over the area and look for ground markings that may have been left by the unidentified flying object.

HERALD, Farmville, VA - Oct. 7, 1988

UFO Sighted

Between the hours of 1-2 a.m. on Tuesday, September 20, a Crewe couple observed an unidentified flying object hovering above a nearby field. The couple, who did not wish to have their names disclosed, said that they were awoken by a bright

light appearing through their bedroom window. The UFO made no sound, however, as it would come close to the ground and then hover back up in the air again.

After viewing the object for about thirty minutes, it disappeared without a trace, the couple said. The next morning no physical evidence could be found in the field where it was located.

The sighting occurred about a quarter mile from the Amelia County line (on the Nottoway side) just off route 360 near Holly Farms.

TUCSON—The morning of Aug. 23, 1988 began like any other average day, but it was destined to become one of the most memorable days of my life.

Many will doubt the truth of this story, as I would, if I heard it from another. The individual who related this strange tale has been a close friend since 1969, and his honesty is without question.

Early that morning, this party called and asked me to meet him around 10:30 at a restaurant on Oracle Road. He wishes to remain anonymous at this time, so from now on I'll refer to him as Sam.

I asked why he wanted to see me and Sam replied he didn't want to discuss it over the phone. I also noticed his voice was rather tense. About an hour later, I was sitting opposite him, nursing a cup of coffee.

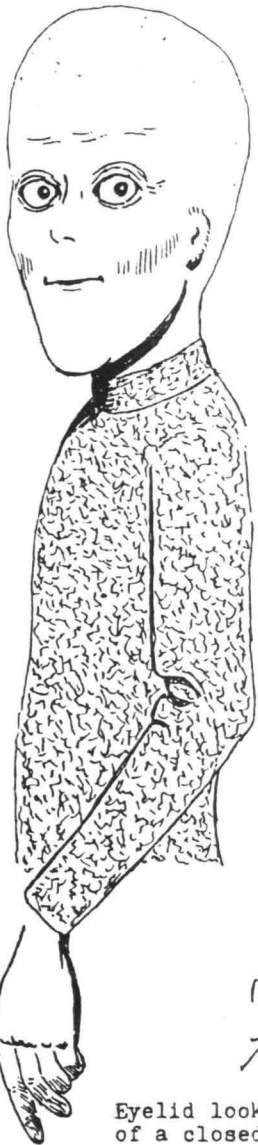
Since his wife passed away in 1979, Sam had taken up photography and had spent a great deal of time traveling around southern Arizona, taking pictures of various ghost towns, old grave sites and abandoned mining camps, etc.

Looking at me with a serious expression, he said, "I had a rather odd and frightening experience a few weeks back, and I'd like to tell you about it. I know you have always been interested in the subject, so I'd like to hear your views regarding it. And I also have a picture."

Reaching into his upper pocket, Sam removed an envelope, pushing it across the table, saying, "Prepare yourself for a big shock."

By now he had my curiosity aroused, so I opened it. Inside was a single 4x6 black-and-white picture. What I saw made my eyes almost pop from their sockets.

My first words were, "Is this for real?" It was a photo of what appeared to be a "space alien," taken from about seven feet away.



Sam is a quiet individual in his late 60s and keeps to himself most of the time. Perpetrating a hoax or seeking publicity is the furthest thing from his mind. I believe entirely the story you are about to read.

On Aug. 14, Sam drove to an isolated area in the vicinity of the old abandoned mining town of Ruby. This site is located just north of the Mexican border and lays some 16 miles west of Nogales, Ariz.

While engaged in taking pictures of some ruins, he heard a loud swishing sound, followed by what resembled a sonic boom. Looking up he saw nothing in the sky.

His first thoughts were, "those damn jets from Davis-Monthan Air Base" were flying low again in the area. Several months earlier, one had crashed north of the small hamlet of Arivaca, located some 13 miles north of his location. Thinking no more about it, he continued with his photography.

About 20 minutes later, he was trekking down a small dry wash. As Sam rounded an outcropping of rock, he froze in his tracks.

Standing a short distance off to his right was a rather small individual. It stood on the edge of the wash about two feet above him.

At first he thought it was a child, until the figure turned and looked directly at him. Seeing what it was, Sam brought his camera up quickly and snapped off one picture. Before he had time to take another, the figure turned and ran quickly up the brush-covered hill directly to its rear.

Sam gave chase, but the slope was too steep, and about half way up he gave out. By this time, the small figure had reached the summit and disappeared over it.

After taking several deep breaths, he continued. As Sam neared the top, he again heard the loud swish. Upon reaching the summit, he saw nothing on the ground or in the sky.

Afterward, he carefully searched the ground for any signs that something had been parked there, but found nothing. The only footprints the little guy had left were near the wash, but these were only scuff marks.

Returning to his truck, Sam was somewhat shaken by the experience. He said his legs felt like two wet noodles and there was a heavy, sick feeling in the pit of his stomach.

The realization of what had occurred finally began to settle in. After regaining his composure, Sam drove out slowly to the main road, and found himself glancing skyward occasionally. The strange encounter happened around 1:30.



Eyelid looked like the surface of a closed accordion.

E.T.—A Summer Visitor at Ruby?

by Ron Quinn

I asked him who had developed his film. Sam said a friend of his with a dark room did most of his work, but he didn't want him to see this film. He had taken it to a local drug store.

Startled by his reply, I said, "You did what?" He agreed it was foolish, as the film could have gotten lost. But he didn't know what else to do under the circumstances.

I went out to my jeep camper and returned with a magnifying glass. With it I examined the picture carefully for almost an hour.

My mind found it difficult to believe what I was viewing, and I said repeatedly to myself, "I can't believe what I'm looking at." What I was gazing upon was no child in makeup, as some I've told the story to later suggested. Its eyes were extremely large and full of life—not glass eyes set into some Halloween mask.

Sam said the figure's face was a light shiny gray and the garment it wore was a darker gray, and had a metallic look to it.

I present here what I saw while examining the photo for almost an hour.

Its skin was light gray and its eyes were quite large and bulged out slightly. Some thin character lines were visible on its forehead and around the corner of the eyes. The area above the eye, where our eyelid is, resembled the surface of a closed accordion.

There was a slight shadow in the cheekbone area, and the mouth was quite thin and small. Another shadow beneath the mouth suggested a small lower lip.

Its head was rather large for its body and was minus hair. The ear was situated much lower than ours, and was no more than a fleshy lump with an opening. The nose was almost nonexistent, but had small nostrils. Its chin was very long and broad.

The alien stood approximately four feet in height, according to Sam, and had a slender build. Only four fingers were visible on its left hand; they appeared slightly longer than ours. No thumb could be seen in the photo.

The garment it wore didn't appear to be smooth. Its texture looked as though it had thousands of minute wrinkles throughout the surface, and no buttons, clasps or zippers could be seen.

The expression on its face was very pleasant and showed no hostility toward Sam. However, it did run off after seeing him.

I asked Sam if I could borrow the picture or negative, as I'd like to make a copy, but he refused to let it out of his sight. He kept saying, "I'm afraid I've taken a picture of something I shouldn't have."

He had the original negatives and told me he was going to place them in his safety deposit box while here in town. He promptly displayed them, and the one showing the alien was number 27 on a roll of 36 exposures. The remainder of the roll was blank.

Afterward Sam asked what I would do if I had taken the picture.

First off, I said, don't contact any government authorities or you'll never see your pictures again. They will also try to convince you there never were any pictures, that the whole thing must have been a dream.

I would contact some reliable

UFO research organization and hand deliver the negative to them, if it was possible. There are several located across the country that are dependable.

They, in turn, would evaluate the authenticity of the picture, and no doubt would want to visit the site and question him more concerning the close encounter.

Sam immediately cut me off there, and said, "Oh, no. I don't want any publicity like that. Besides, I wouldn't want to be the center of public ridicule by those who disbelieve the story. You know me better than that, Ron."

I told Sam he could remain anonymous, but would still have to meet with several members of the group for an in-depth interview, but again he refused.

I went on to say I could act as a go-between and keep him completely anonymous, but this action could hurt his credibility in their eyes. Sam said he would think it over.

I also asked permission to contact several UFO groups concerning the encounter, and I promised not to mention his name, and this he agreed to.

That afternoon, I called Jerome Clark, editor of Fate magazine. I knew the gentleman from previous conversations we had on the phone concerning another story. I also knew he had numerous contacts in the UFO field.

Clark was quite impressed by the story, but he also said Sam would have to submit the negative for analysis and most definitely would have to be interviewed personally.

I informed him of Sam's quiet ways and fear of notoriety. Again I was assured the entire matter could be handled with complete discretion, but again, Sam would have to come forth to be interviewed.

I told Jerome I'd call again, if and when, Sam came to any decision. If the picture was proven genuine, it would indeed become the photo of the century.

I'm an artist, so that evening while the image of the alien was still fresh in my mind, I sat down and drew a detailed picture of what I saw. It took four or five attempts before arriving at one that looked very much like the face peering back from the picture.

Several days later, I called Sam, but there wasn't any answer. After several more unsuccessful tries the following day, I decided to drive on out to his residence. He wasn't home, so I left a note on his door telling him to give me a call.

About a week later he did. He had returned to the site for another look around, but found nothing new. Afterward, he drove to San Diego to see his brother and told him the entire story.

His brother saw nothing but dollar signs and wanted Sam to copyright the picture, then sell the photo and story to various publications throughout the world. He knew they would pay handsomely for such a story, especially when accompanied by such a remarkable picture.

Sam also informed him that I and another close friend knew of the encounter. His brother wasn't pleased at hearing this, and said he should have kept his mouth shut about the incident.

To this day, Sam hasn't yet come to a decision. I'm on one side telling him the correct way to handle it. His brother is on the opposite side, filling his head with nonsense of big bucks. If he decided to go this route, I believe it would cheapen the story and make it appear as though it was entirely false.



PICTURE SIZE 4x6

Poor Sam is caught in the middle, not knowing which way to jump. He also has this built-in fear that something awful might happen if the picture and his name ever became known.

It took several days just to persuade him to let me write this article.

The big question is: What were these aliens (if there were more than one) doing in such a remote area of southern Arizona? Were they studying our old ruins out of curiosity, or was there another purpose to their visit?

If I never see that picture again, I'll never forget those large intelligent eyes. I often wonder where he came from, and what secrets these people might know. Both about the universe and our own little world.

If they have been studying us for any length of time, we must seem quite primitive to them. The sad state of our planet. Wars, killings, pollution, sickness, distrust. The list is almost endless.

I do not know why it's so difficult for most people to believe that other beings might exist on distant planets throughout the universe.

We ourselves have just begun to venture into space. Our own astronauts will explore other planets in the very near future. Is it so difficult to conceive that others are visiting us?

Some scientists believe that if there is intelligent life out there, they could never reach our solar system. Even traveling at the speed of light, it would take a lifetime or two just to travel one way.

These people could have been exploring deep space for countless centuries, and have no doubt perfected a means of travel that we haven't even dreamt of.

I myself believe this earth has been visited down through the centuries by intelligent beings. There are numerous manuscripts that go back hundreds of years that tell of strange flying objects seen in the skies. Plus several landings.

I have no doubt that the sighting witnessed and photographed by Sam did occur exactly as described by him. But it will be up to the reader to draw his own conclusions.

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2 -
SOUTHERN ARIZONA TRAILS,
Tumacacori (?), AZ -
Dec. 13, 1988)

I hope Sam comes to a decision quite soon. The suspense is nerve racking, as I'd like to know how the general public, and the government will react to seeing this remarkable picture.

I saw it, and the alien is REAL.

COLUMBIAN, Vancouver, WA
Oct. 23, 1988

Ridgefield viewers spot mystery lights

By DOUG LEVY
The Columbian

RIDGEFIELD — Some Ridgefield residents saw the light a few days ago.

But exactly what did they see?

Pauline Wolfe, a Pioneer-area resident, said she saw a whitish light in the sky east of her home early Thursday morning. She said her son, Mason, and several of his Ridgefield High School classmates also saw the light, from about 6:15 to 7 a.m.

The Columbian news room received several reports Thursday about strange lights in the sky.

A National Weather Service spokesman first guessed that sun shafts might have been breaking through an overcast sky. But then he realized sunrise was at 7:33 a.m. A meteorologist from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) figured it might have been Portland city lights. But the woman, who works in Maryland, didn't know the light was to the east.

"The oddity of it was the duration," said Wolfe, a Woodland High School English teacher. She likened the bright light to a 45-minute-long flash of sheet lightning. "It was some kind of phenomena that's probably atmospheric — I hope."

Another possible explanation: an "arcing transformer" letting off sparks. Clark PUD spokesman Mick Shutt said the PUD got calls about arcing on a Pacific Power and Light line in the Hazel Dell area, "but I don't think that's what anyone in Ridgefield saw."

Seven-year-old Joe Dudek, a first-grader at Union Ridge Elementary School in Ridgefield, has his own explanation. Dudek, 932 Simons St., said he saw something in the eastern sky about midnight Wednesday.

"I saw flying saucers, five of 'em," the boy said. He drew a picture showing four flying saucers emitting yellow light and one beaming blue light onto a tree.

UFO Expert Skeptical Of Ruby Alien Report

NOGALES—Edward Biebel, resident expert on the world of aliens and UFOs, expressed skepticism concerning the reported sighting of an alien at Ruby.

"Based on the information available to me at this time," Biebel said, "I would say this reported sighting is about as far from a sure thing as is possible in these matters."

Biebel has national credentials in the world of unidentified flying objects and the "aliens" who might man such craft. He is state section director for Santa Cruz County for the Mutual UFO Network. MUFON is a national network, and should that organization determine an investigation is in order, Biebel would direct it.

Biebel said he had discussed the matter with Trails writer Ron Quinn and had seen Quinn's drawing made from a picture.

"At this point we need to authenticate the photo. Until I can see the photo and show it to experts, there is nothing here except an interesting story. It's a great story and I wish it were true."

Based on Quinn's drawing,

Biebel said the subject could be a deformed person, a mannequin or a person in costume. "It has the smell of a UFO alien, but that's easy to imitate."

"I suggested the negative and/or the actual picture be sent to Jerry Clark in Chicago for study. I'm sure Clark and his group would be happy to fly the man who took the picture to Chicago if he should refuse to part company with it."

Clark is the editor of the Journal, magazine of the Center for UFO Studies, a research organization in Chicago.

"They have the equipment which could determine whether the picture is a hoax," Biebel added. "Others could prove whether or not the object of the photo is a real image, but not many have the facilities to determine the difference between reality and a hoax."

The fact the man has refused to show the photo to anyone experienced in such matters and the fact he and a brother in California have discussed the possibility of selling the picture and the story, led to his skepticism, Biebel said.

HERALD & REVIEW, Decatur, IL

Dec. 5, 1988

CR: R. Neeley

Lights in sky remain mystery

Two lights which appeared to collide in the sky west of Decatur about midnight Saturday triggered a search by Illinois State Police and deputies from Macon, Logan and Sangamon counties.

The search was called off

about 2 a.m. Sunday after police failed to find any signs or receive any reports of an airplane crash or other accident.

A patrolling Decatur police officer reported seeing the lights meet in the sky west of Interstate 72 and north of U.S. 36. One light fell to the ground with a flash as though an object fell, he reported.

DAILY NEWS, West Bend, WI - Sept. 15, 1988

Area churches accept possibility of space aliens

(UFOs, flying saucers, little green men and invasions from outer space. These have long been the fancy of science fiction writers, and lately, even some autobiographers.)

But recent sightings of unidentified flying objects north of Washington County brought the phenomenon a little closer to home.

This is the third of a four-part series on UFOs in the area.)

BY JOE SCHOENMANN

News Staff Writer

TOWN OF ERIN — Ufologist Don Schmidt said that the study of unidentified flying objects has strengthened his beliefs in religion.

"I would challenge anyone to show me where it says that we are the sole creations of God," he said.

Judging from the responses of area theologians, his challenge might go unanswered.

Father Michael Dodd, 38, a priest of the Discalced Carmelite Order at Holy Hill Monastery doesn't think the idea of extraterrestrials is really that far out of line with contemporary religious views.

"I do think it might be possible," he said, adding, "I think it would be kind of exciting."

Dodd acknowledged that some might believe humans are the highest order of being created by God, but such an idea is never brought forth in the Bible.

Instead, he said: "One thing we are taught is that God created everything — even elsewhere."

He pointed to the accepted belief in "angels" or spirits as evidence that people are willing to accept the notion of other unknown forms of life.

Beyond that, however, Dodd was at a loss for words about the phenomenon, because his order has no official doctrine on the subject.

Other area religious leaders seemed to feel the same way.

Said Pastor Kevin Jones, West

CR: R. Heiden

Bend, of St. John's Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod: "I really can't say that we have, as Lutherans, a doctrinal position that either supports or rejects it. I've tried to think of any scriptural references about a UFO, and I haven't come across one."

James Hollingsworth, a Presiding Overseer for the Jehovah's Witnesses in West Bend, said there are beings of a higher life forms, but not necessarily the kind that fly around in spaceships. "We say those are angels," he said.

With regard to UFOs and extraterrestrials, however, Hollingsworth said, "We don't really say there isn't, but then again, we don't say there is."

Sharon Marth, a reader for the Christian Science Society, West Bend, said her church hasn't addressed the issue, either.

"UFOs and extraterrestrials are part of the scientific community and have nothing to do with our religious beliefs," she said.

And while Gregory Bell, director of communications for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, said the church didn't back an official doctrine one way or the other, those at the Catholic enclave do not rule out the possibility of extraterrestrials.

"There is nothing of an official view, to mean it's spoken about in the canon law of the Catholic Church," he said. "But there is some dogmatic theology that says Jesus' redemption, so that the world might be saved, might mean the same thing to other worlds."

(Bell is not an ordained priest, but a layperson working for the Archdiocese. He said he talked to Archdiocese priests before this interview.)

The view that Earth is the only planet with life created by God may have developed because of the Bible's concentration on man and "the struggle and the pain of trying to come to grips with God's will."

Students talk UFOs, spirits in 'pseudo-science' course

By ELIZABETH GROAT

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

■ JACKSON — Many of the students enroll in James Scarbrough's class at Delta State University for the express purpose of being spaced out.

Scarbrough, 50, teaches the course called "Science and Pseudo-Science" to students interested in learning and sharing information about the unexplainable, the extraterrestrial, and the metaphysical.

The class began about four years ago "to try to use the interest people have in UFOs, spirits, near death, and so on to objectively discuss the situation," Scarbrough said.

Now the immensely popular semester class, which the professor says is "very overcrowded," draws a large waiting list after registration fills up.

"So much is happening in these metaphysical areas that people don't have any format for talking about it on a respectable basis," said Scarbrough, a professor of physics and mathematics. "We don't answer many questions, but we can talk about them."

About half the semester is spent talking about the extraterrestrial and UFOs, he says, and the other half about metaphysical experiences.

"All of it ties into the physics work and all of it ties into religion, and that's where I'm vitally interested, because sometimes when strange things happen to people, it really disturbs their religious faith," Scarbrough said. "All these things are compatible with the Scriptures, but you just have to know where to find them."

Scarbrough stressed that he doesn't let his own experiences or beliefs interfere with the class, but he

... sometimes when strange things happen to people, it really disturbs their religious faith.

Professor James Scarbrough

considers himself a UFO buff of sorts. "If you say buff, yes. Expert, no," he said.

Over the years, he has collected hundreds of reports on suspected sightings of UFOs from various people. He collects the reports, he said, "like a lot of other people do — to make some sense out of it."

Scarbrough said he made about 40 or 50 hours of videotapes this summer of people telling their stories involving the unnatural. Although he's been interested in the extraterrestrial for most of his life, he's only been researching the issue for a few years.

With the advent of national space programs, he said, people's attitudes towards the extraterrestrial have changed, and most people he surveys indicate some sort of belief in life other than on Earth.

Scarbrough said his current research was sparked by "talking to people who were sane, sober and sensible and wanted to tell their stories."

"It really got my curiosity to see what or if they were seeing," he said.

"Farmers, housewives, college professors — there doesn't seem to be any order I find in who sees what."

Through his gathering of reports and his own experiences, Scarbrough is a self-proclaimed believer in the extraterrestrial, but he declined to elaborate. "There are some answers that are probably known about some of these things," he said.

Scarbrough uses two books in his class — one that tries to show that "unexplainable phenomena" are indeed explainable or hoaxes, and another that attempts to show that there's something to the phenomena and how they related to the biblical.

"We have a pretty wide spectrum of information," he said. "But students have to make up their own minds, eventually."

But for UFO hobbyists like Scarbrough, trying to validate sightings and experiences "is like trying to catch quicksilver, like trying to catch a ball of mercury that falls out of a thermometer," he said.

"You only need one definitive case to prove these things exist," he added. "There seem to be a number of definitive cases."

Scarbrough said the class has received a good reception from people at Delta State, although he got some "good-natured kidding" from the staff about the nature of the subject. The reception from the students, though, has been "overwhelming."

Scarbrough, who has taught at Delta State for 20 years, said he may publish a paper on the subject of extraterrestrials in the near future.

"Space and spirit are very closely connected," he said. "There are enough people who have had experiences where it has become respectable for scientists to study it."

METROPOLITAN, Bolingbrook, IL - Nov. 3, 1988

UFO sightings still a mystery

The unidentified objects reported to the Center for UFO Studies remain just that as of Oct. 31 — unidentified.

Mark Remaley of the center said that three phenomena are being considered: ball lightning, which is a rare type of lightning that doesn't explode as lightning during a storm, but rather "sits there or rolls like a ball" (Remaley said there are only six photographs in all the historical data of ball lightning); a bolide, which is a gaseous meteor; and a third, but most unlikely possibility, emissions from a local laboratory.

Following the newspaper and television coverage of the sightings last week, Remaley said the center received some 40 calls on Thursday, Oct. 27, as compared to the usual two or three calls.

UFOs in Iowa

Don't laugh, says expert

By Nancy Stevens
Gazette staff writer

Iowa is no stranger to UFO sightings, according to a state expert, and its history includes six people reporting abductions by UFOs dating back to 1952.

Something is out there, says Donald Curtis, who was in Cedar Rapids Saturday to speak on the subject.

Most of what people think are unidentified flying objects are nothing more than weather phenomena, human crafted objects or outright photo hoaxes.

Curtis, an electronic technician employed by the City of Des Moines, spends his spare time as State Director of Mutual UFO Network Inc. (MUFON), an international organization which investigates disruptions in the electromagnetic field around areas of UFO sightings.

MUFON's board of consultants, most of whom are PhDs or MDs, represent 45 areas of science, technology, medicine, psychiatry, psychology, theology, engineering, astronomy and other fields. It was founded in 1969.

He was in Cedar Rapids to first debunk some myths concerning UFOs, then discuss some cases his organization feels are valid, and to urge the audience to search out facts, not tabloid accounts of encounters of any kind.

In a slide show at the Cedar Rapids Public Library, Curtis showed some of the best UFO hoaxes and how scientific investigation exposed them.

"In most cases, UFO sightings are mistaken. It may be Venus, the Northern Lights, a number of weather phenomena," he said.

Landing lights of aircraft, satellites, and reflections of light sources are other explanations.

He showed how he was able to take a photo of an apparent flying saucer that in fact was the lid off a peanut butter jar.

Then his presentation turned to the 701 cases that neither the U.S. Air Force Blue Book team nor subsequent investigation could explain.

UFO sightings, he said, are divided into several categories, including nocturnal lights, day-light disks and visual sightings confirmed by radar.

In their reports, MUFON uses "close encounters" to include sightings where the witness is within 500 feet of an object.

"First encounters" refer to an object in the sky; "second encounters" are those within 200 feet, and "third encounters" are when a viewer reports seeing life of some sort on a craft.

"Close encounters of the fourth kind" are abductions.

Curtis gives as reference for several sightings Air Force pilots, scientists and astronauts.

Consistent in the unexplained sightings is a craft that can move vertically, with little or no sound and that affects vegetation and soil at the landing sight.

One such landing sight, he said, glowed for years afterward and was left incapable of absorbing water or supporting vegetation.

Curtis told his audience UFO groups want more government classified documents released and Congressional hearings on UFOs held, with witnesses assured that no action could be taken against them by, for instance, employers.

He said that is important because many of the best witnesses of UFO activity are in the military.

Also needed, he said, is a coordinated scientific study of all available information, including physical evidence of UFO crashes his group believes the government has.

"To date, we have found out about approximately 30 UFO crash retrievals, but have skimpy information at best," he said.

Curtis told his audience that interest in UFOs is growing, along with cheap hoaxes played to readers of tabloids.

"Please, please, don't make them rich. That is the worst place to find any kind of information. The Library of Congress lists 2,000 books on UFOs. I would not recommend more than 50 of those. The rest are poorly documented and poorly researched books designed to make the writer money," he said.

And, should anyone see a UFO, Curtis said, MUFON would like to investigate. Reports are accepted by calling 515-265-7959.

Mystery of lights solved

By Jim Stasiowski
The Columbian

RIDGEFIELD — Those lights from the sky came from a hole in the ground.

That sounds like some impossible riddle you have to solve to win a free trip to East Wenatchee, but it apparently answers the question: What were those streaks in the sky east of Ridgefield last Thursday morning?

Donna Gibson of Felida saw the same streaks that were reported by several Ridgefield-area residents. As she was driving to work at the J.L. Stordahl and Sons gravel pit along the Lewis River, Gibson wondered what was going on.

"It looked like after an electric storm in Eastern Washington, that glow in the sky," Gibson said. "But we don't have electrical storms here."

Gibson continued driving to work. She headed north on 16th Avenue, east on 259th Street, then north on 45th Avenue to the gravel pit on the Lewis River.

"When I pulled into the pit, I shook my head. I knew what it was."

Inside the pit, workers were welding the rock crusher. The bright welding light bursts were reflecting into the sky, lighting up the low clouds.

In a more recent sighting, People north of Hazel Dell and residents of Washington County in Oregon reported seeing a low-flying light streaking south across the sky Sunday night. Dick Pugh, a meteorologist in Portland, said today the reports seem to indicate a fireball, or large meteor, but he hadn't spoken directly to anyone who had seen the light.

p.m. Friday when a woman traveling home in the Hyde area saw toward Curwensville what at first she thought was the moon, a bright round, apparently stationary object.

Judy Frank of the Port Matilda Highway reported seeing a bright light that suddenly disappeared in the director of Black Bear Monday night.

Mr. Gordon said everyone who called commented on the brilliance of the light.

The U.S. government does not officially investigate unidentified flying object reports since the University of Colorado 1966 study concluded that because of a lack of concrete evidence, further scientific investigation of UFOs was unnecessary.

Mr. Gordon, whose volunteer group continues to investigate reports, said there are many theories about UFO, and extraterrestrials are just one. Many of the reports are found to be explainable, he said, such as space junk or meteors, but other reports across the state and the world many remain unexplained.

Close to 50 percent of the U.S. public, according to a Gallup poll last year, believe in UFOs. Millions of Americans have said they saw UFOs, including former President Jimmy Carter, who made an official report, Mr. Gordon said.

While skepticism and ridicule are common responses, Mr. Gordon said many prominent people, including military pilots, air traffic controllers, state troopers and teachers, have reported UFOs. Most request their name be withheld. "We get very few reports from crackpots," he said.

Mr. Gordon said the association remains interested in current or past sightings and can be reached at the 24-hour number; 1-412-838-7768.

Another report was around 9

Mysterious Hole Puzzles Community

EDITOR'S NOTE: A Denver-based UFO researcher was invited to give a talk in Cheyenne Wells Mon. night. His comments will be reported next week.

However, the editor was even more curious about why the talk was scheduled in the first place. The story below gives some of the reasons why some Cheyenne County residents are interested in so-called UFOs.

By Dan Cunningham

CHEYENNE WELLS - A mysterious hole suddenly appeared in Tom Ackerman's field Aug. 21.

The hole is a few inches wide and goes straight down at least 21 feet.

How it got there is an "unexplained mystery," says neighboring farmer Ed Spainhower, who's helped Ackerman dig down to determine what caused the hole.

Ackerman and Spainhower have ruled out the possibility that someone - perhaps a seismic testing crew - made an unauthorized probe into the soil.

With natural phenomenon ruled out, Ackerman is wondering if an alien spacecraft - a UFO - might have caused the puncture. But he's not saying a UFO caused the hole, because he didn't see any mysterious lights the night of Aug. 20, and apparently no one around him did either.

But Ackerman is so curious about what might have caused the hole, he invited Denver-based researcher George Green to speak on the subject of UFOs at Cheyenne Wells School Mon. night.

Ackerman's mystery is just the latest chapter of a long chain of mysterious events that have occurred in Cheyenne County over the years.

A farmer in Monday night's audience told Green and other listeners that a strange light landed about two miles north of his home some years ago. He said the county sheriff was called but the lawman was reluctant to check into the happening.

Ackerman - after hearing Green's talk on UFO's and alleged alien visitations - has fewer fears. He told the Press with a laugh:

"I should put a sign on the post saying, 'Come and take me for a ride.'"

During Green's talk, Ackerman was very interested when the UFO investigator described certain types of alleged space ships that appear to be probes that test soil and vegetation. Ackerman speculates whether that is what might have caused the hole on his land.

Ackerman said the hole, which is a few inches wide, was perfectly round and the sides were coated with a white powder that looks similar to powdered sugar.

He has pictures of the hole, but was reluctant to release one to the Press. He said he'd rather wait until he has more copies.

DAILY JEFFERSONIAN,
Cambridge, OH
Nov. 23, 1988

UFO spotted by area man

A Salesville area man believes his car may be the victim of UFO machinations in the early morning hours today.

At 2:05 a.m., the man called deputies of the Guernsey County Sheriff's Department to report an Unidentified Flying Object near the Salesville cemetery.

The man said a huge ball, about the size "of 100 cars," was traveling in a north-south direction.

He said the UFO had "super bright lights" and was blue and silver in color.

The UFO, when it flew over his car at a high rate of speed, "killed his car and made it stop running for 15 minutes," he said.

Using a backhoe, he and neighbors dug down next to the hole, following it down for 17 feet. At that level he decided it was too dangerous to dig any farther because the sides of the larger hole he'd dug might collapse and bury him. A bent wire was pushed into the small hole another four feet and seemed to strike bottom. But Ackerman isn't sure if that is truly the bottom of the hole or just a clod of dirt.

When he first discovered the hole, Ackerman didn't tell anyone other than a few close friends. The discovery came a week before he had to drill his wheat, and he understandably didn't want people swarming over the ground.

The field where the hole mysteriously appeared was in summer fallow, he said, and had been worked only a few weeks earlier. He would have spotted the hole at that time, if it had been there, he indicated.

The observation of strange things in Cheyenne County is apparently not that uncommon.

After the talk, Shirley Pedersen confirmed that she saw a UFO very similar to a slide that Green projected onto a screen.

Thinking back, she said it must have been around 1946. She was carrying chicken feed out when she suddenly saw a circular disk-shaped object with a dome hovering at the corner of the barn. Part of it was obscured by the building.

"It was more flat on the bottom than what he's (Green) shown, with a smooth dome. Between the base and the dome I watched what looked like windows with a bright light shining out of them."

"I screamed and dropped the bucket and ran to the house."

Though the object made no noise as it sped away, it left a trail of flame.

When her parents came out, they did not believe their daughter. Pedersen said a trace of dark smoke hung in the air.

"I had never heard of flying saucers before then," she said.

Another time, just a few years ago, Pedersen and her husband were driving back from Burlington one evening.

She slept for part of the trip, but awakened to see three round clouds in the sky.

"Then there were five, then seven. Then pretty soon they went back down to three."

Her husband said the clouds had kept up with them during the ride from Burlington. He had thought they would eventually drive by the clouds or they would disappear. "But they kept up with us." The clouds did disappear, though, when they arrived at Cheyenne Wells.

"The more you talk to people, some laugh. But then more people tell you they have seen something too," Pedersen said.

Pedersen said one area resident "had one stop his car. I think it was out on the highway." She disclosed the man's name, but he could not be contacted Tues. morning for confirmation.

Spainhower echoed Pedersen's thought, "One guy in the back of the room saw five disks fly over his house. He is a pretty reliable witness."

Like most in the audience, Spainhower has no set opinion on what might have caused the hole in Ackerman's field, what Pedersen might have seen 42 years ago, what might have stopped a county resident's car on the highway.

But he does have an open mind. "We have seen lights that might be helicopters, might be B-1 bombers. But I think in a rural area you are going to see a lot of stuff."

"I was in the Army 20 years. I know the Army does take night training flights," Spainhower said. And he added that people have sometimes seen Army helicopters parked on the prairie while crews wait for high winds to recede.

But every so often something occurs that cannot be readily explained.

Things like the hole in Ackerman's field, the saucer that Pedersen saw, the thing that stopped a man's car.

Several More UFO Sightings Reported In Progressland

By Marian Fahr
Staff Writer

MORRISDALE — The Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained has received a flurry of calls from Clearfield County residents who saw strange lights Friday night and some nighttime hunters in Graham Township reported seeing a strange aircraft 10 minutes after a Lanse man reported an unidentified flying object over Interstate 80 a couple miles away.

Stan Gordon, director of the Greensburg-based association, made up of volunteer scientists, engineers and other professionals, said calls were received all day yesterday from folks who saw something strange in the sky as early as Friday morning.

The calls follow a report by Tom Hynd of Lanse that he saw an extremely large circular-shaped craft with very bright lights just off I-80 at 10:20 p.m. Friday. Mr. Hynd said the craft was perhaps 60 feet long and the brilliant light from it lit up the treetops.

Edward Orwick of Allport last night said he, his son, Chad, 13 and friends, Bill Pusey III of Irvona and his son, Scott, 14, were raccoon hunting in the Pinchy section of Graham Township when they noticed an extremely

bright light in the sky at 10:30 p.m. Friday night.

Mr. Orwick said the light did not appear to be moving. He said it was elongated and very bright. "It just seemed out of place," but at the time he wrote it off as a plane with extremely bright landing lights, although he couldn't make out a shape.

Mr. Gordon said a nurse traveling home from State College between 12:30 and 1 a.m. Friday noticed a bright object, very brilliant and spherical, moving in the sky.

He said there was at least one additional group sighting Friday at Brislin. Kathryn Cotter said she, her husband, Louis, neighbor Ann Susko and her granddaughter and a friend watched a strange aircraft earlier Friday night, about 7:45 p.m.

Mrs. Cotter said Mrs. Susko called her to go outside and look at the western horizon. When they did, Mrs. Cotter said they saw the bright light, which was stationary. She said the light then moved "really fast" above them. She said it seemed to be a circular shape with extremely brilliant light and a lower flashing light. The group heard a low sound as the object passed over them.

Another report was around 9

Observers report strange aerial lights over county

By ALLAN A. SEILER

Numerous Pike County residents have reported seeing strange low-level aerial lights on two different nights within less than a week earlier this month.

Some of the lights were seen Nov. 2. Others were seen Nov. 8.

In all cases the lights were described as "very bright" and arranged in a horizontal line. The sightings were reported from north of Griggsville, near Detroit, and southeast of Pittsfield. All the observers reported that the lights suddenly disappeared. One reported that at one time they faded slowly like a dimmed lamp. Only one observer reported seeing any structural object, but she saw what appeared to be panes of glassed windows. Most reported hearing no sound in connection with what they saw.

Following are the reports the Pike Press was able to check out. Other names submitted could not be reached:

Tom Coulson says that about 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 2 he was bringing his son Tyler home from basketball practice. He drove into his drive at the very northwest corner of Griggsville.

"There, suspended above the field behind my house at a distance of perhaps a quarter mile were five yellow lights in an almost perfect horizontal row. They were not as large as street lights, but quite prominent.

"Neither of us took our eyes off them while we exited the car and started walking toward the backyard. When we had gone about 50 feet, all five lights suddenly went out as though a switch had been thrown. The evening was very dark by then and we could see nothing in the sky after the lights went out.

"A few minutes later we saw a pair of identical lights northwest of us, a trifle higher. These two lights appeared to be at the same interval as the five had been, as though we were seeing just two of five. Then, the northernmost of these two lights went out and a moment later another came on at about the same interval, but to the south of the one still on. Then both went out.

"Whereas the first series of five lights behind our house had gone out suddenly like a switch had been thrown, those two to the northwest went out just a little more slowly, as though a rheostat had been turned down quickly."

Coulson says that after a minute, the light reappeared to the northwest very low, just north of town and appearing to be moving east across 107, moving behind trees — a row of lights moving smoothly and silently across the north edge of town.

Coulson says he learned the next day of a number of other similar sightings around Mays-



ville and a little later near Detroit, leading Coulson to believe it came from the west, went around Griggsville, and then south.

Except for the date being six nights earlier, Coulson's account parallels closely that of Sarah Lipcaman, who was going home the evening of Nov. 8 on the New Salem blacktop and between the Webel Feed corner and Don Welbourne's house she saw several "bright, bright" lights in a

All accounts closely similar: very bright lights, arranged in horizontal line at tree top or higher level.

horizontal line. She saw the lights four different times as she drove toward New Salem.

A standing freight train blocking the highway at the railroad crossing south of New Salem, induced her to turn around and take a different route home. Headed south, she then saw the lights to her left, as did her seven

Colors described as white, yellow, red. No sound detected. No structural shape, except one report of lighted "windows."

year old son, Evan, who was in the car with her. He said it was not an airplane and was bigger than a jet plane. Mrs Lipcaman said the lights would "just shut off," then come back on. She could detect no structural body with the lights.

Tom and Mary Bunting experienced their sightings Nov. 2, the same night as the Coulson sighting.

Bunting said he and his wife were headed into Pittsfield from their farm home southeast of Pittsfield about dusk. As they neared the Ed House home near

Pittsfield they saw four or five horizontal rectangular shaped red lights "somewhere over Pittsfield." The Buntings stopped their car and thought they heard sounds like a helicopter. They rolled down the windows to avoid any reflection and then saw the lights disappear instantly, later seeing two very large red lights in the north sky. One trailed away, leaving a red "tail." The other just disappeared. The Buntings saw no form to any kind of object attached to the lights.

Similar sightings were reported by Jack and Shirley Thomas the same night as the Buntings' experience.

The Thomases had driven to a farm property near Time and were returning to their farm home southeast of Pittsfield around 6 p.m.

They were taking a short cut and crossing a small bridge when they saw "brilliant lights" and the outline of small windows "all lit up" above the tree tops. Mrs Thomas describes the lights as "white and yellow."

They pulled off the bridge, backed up, and still saw the lights. "Then, in the blink of an eye, it was gone," says Mrs Thomas.

When they got home, Mrs Thomas said to her husband, "You draw a picture of what you saw and I'll draw one of what I saw." Mrs Thomas said the drawings were the same. She called her grandson, Jeremy, 13, who lives nearby. She said he had seen what he described as "fireworks."

Mrs Thomas called the state police and they advised her to call Scott Air Force Base, which she did. They encouraged her to call another number, but she apparently got the wrong number from Scott as she could not reach anybody else.

Mrs Thomas said Troy Bauer also reported a similar sighting the same night.

Wayne and Margaret Butler also saw two to six flashing lights in the sky "lower than an airplane" since there were two airplanes at a higher altitude at the same time. The Butlers saw the lights around 6 p.m. but Mrs Butler was not sure whether it was

Nov. 2 or 8 or another date.

Lori Hoover also reports a Nov. 2 sighting of lights north of Detroit around 5:30 p.m. She said at first she thought they were a pair of headlights coming over the hill. She says there was a bright light in the center and three on each side. She described the color as "red and yellow" and a little higher than the tree tops. She observed the lights for perhaps a minute.

Mrs Hoover says the lights were stationary. The center light went off first, then the others within seconds. She too reported no sound in connection with what she saw.

If further unexplained light sightings are observed, the Pike Press would like to know about them, preferably as soon as possible after they are seen.

EAGLE, Cheyenne, WY - Oct. 14, 1988

UFO Said to Be Twinkling Stars

By KURT J. REPANSHEK
Associated Press Writer

Mysterious red, blue and white lights pulsating in the skies northwest of Cheyenne most likely were nothing more than twinkling stars, according to the National UFO Reporting Center.

The lights' appearance early Wednesday morning caught the attention of two Cheyenne police officers, a private pilot, and several people at F.E. Warren Air Force Base.

So far, though, none has been in touch with the Seattle-based reporting center's UFO hotline, said Robert Gribble, the center's director.

"Right now we're just waiting for somebody who has seen something to contact us," said Gribble. "Apparently, at least what they (media) have told us so far is just reports of lights in the sky."

The reports started shortly before 2:35 a.m. Wednesday, when Cheyenne's 911 operator called the Federal Aviation Administration's Casper office with several sightings of an unidentified object in the skies 40-50 miles northwest of the capital.

"At 2:40 we received a report from the Cheyenne police department that there was something in the sky," said Den-

nis Davis, the FAA's state coordinator. "They believed it was not an aircraft. At that time we called our radar center in Denver, ... and they could see nothing on the scope at all."

Davis said his office also alerted two air freighters heading south from Casper to Denver to keep an eye out of anything in the skies. One of the pilots "reported back that he could see a bright light similar to a landing light to the east of his location with little or no movement," he said.

At 4:55 a.m. Cheyenne police again called the FAA to report the lights were still visible, but again radar failed to detect aircraft in the area, said Davis.

"Then after sunrise all the reports ceased," he said.

The two police officers who reported the lights, Marty Luna and Rick Kolkman, worked the midnight shift Thursday and were not immediately available to comment on what they saw.

Most likely, however, the

lights were nothing more than planets, which would explain why the sightings ceased once the sun rose, said Gribble.

"That's the way it is," he said. "And in addition to that, we had two bright planets out there in the evening, and that could add to the problem."

But the planets, Mars followed about two hours later by Jupiter, rose in the east, according to Gribble, while the sightings were to the northwest of Cheyenne.

Still, the ufologist doubts there was anything peculiar in the sky.

"We've had a lot of reports from around the country of bright, scintillating stars, stars that are flashing multiple colors," said Gribble. "Based on the information that we got at this time, I'm sure that what they're looking at is a very bright scintillating star or stars."

"Certainly, if the powers that be wanted us to investigate this kind of thing, we would," he said.

SUN HERALD, Biloxi, MS - Dec. 16, 1988 CR: B. Clendenon

Two UFO sightings reported in Vancleave

JACKSON COUNTY BUREAU

■ VANCELEAVE — Larry Hollingsworth has reported two unidentified flying objects near his home on Plantation Road.

But a sheriff's spokeswoman said the objects were actually a meteor shower.

Hollingsworth said he saw two oblong objects "with strange lights" on two separate occasions

about 10 p.m. Tuesday. He said the objects "did not appear to land, but moved off into the night," according to a report to the Jackson County Sheriff's Department.

"It looked like the bottom side of a blimp," Hollingsworth said.

Hollingsworth spotted three more UFOs about a month ago and called the Sheriff's Department. No report was made in the incident. Hollingsworth said

the sheriff's deputy he made the report to tried to call the office on his radio but was unable to transmit.

Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Mary Cuevas attributed the lights to natural origins. She said the lights Tuesday were a meteor shower. "We had a meteor shower (Tuesday) night," she said. "It was supposed to be the most visible one of the year."

REAGAN: I SAW UFO

TELEVISION documentary UFO Cover Up — which shocked TVNZ viewers last Saturday night — failed to reveal one of the most startling UFO discoveries in America. . . . and ordered pilot to follow!

President Ronald Reagan saw a UFO during an airplane flight while he was governor of California — and ordered his pilot to follow the mysterious object as it streaked and zigzagged across the night sky.

The phenomenal close encounter happened in 1974, and left Reagan so interested in UFOs that he researched the history of UFO sightings going back centuries.

There's a brief mention of Reagan's sighting in the new book *Landslide: The Unmaking of the President* — and now the full fascinating story has been uncovered in interviews with his former personal pilot and others in the know.

Veteran pilot Bill Paynter who's still flying at 72, revealed:

"I was the pilot of the plane when we saw the UFO. Also on board were Gov Reagan and a couple of his security people. We were flying a Cessna Citation. It was maybe 9 or 10 o'clock at night.

"We were near Bakersfield when Gov Reagan and the others called my attention to a big light flying a bit behind my plane.

"It appeared to be several hundred yards away. It was a fairly steady light until it began to accelerate, then it appeared to elongate.

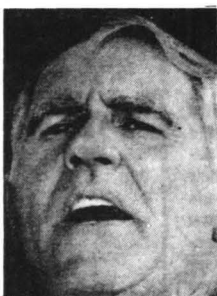
"Then the light took off. It went up at a 45-degree angle — at a high rate of speed. Everyone on the plane was surprised.

"Gov Reagan expressed amazement. I told the others I didn't know what it was."

The mysterious object definitely wasn't just another airplane, said Paynter.

"The UFO went from a normal cruise speed to a fantastic speed instantly. If you give an airplane power it will accelerate — but not like a hot rod, and that's what this was like."

Reagan himself described the sighting one week later to Norman C Miller, then Washington bureau chief for the Wall



PILOT BILL PAYNTER . . . "The light took off".



JOURNALIST NORMAN MILLER . . . "Reagan clammed up".

Street Journal, according to Doyle McManus, co-author of *Landslide*.

McManus says Miller told him that during a flight with Reagan from Los Angeles to Sacramento, Reagan gazed out the window and suddenly said to Miller:

"I was in a plane last week when I looked out the window and saw this white light. It was zigzagging around."

"I went up to the pilot and said, 'Have you ever seen anything like that?'"

He was shocked and he said, 'Nope.'

"And I said to him: 'Let's follow it!'"

"We followed it for several minutes. It was a bright white light. We followed it to Bakersfield, and all of a sudden to our utter amazement it went straight up into the heavens."

"When I got off the plane I told Nancy all about it. And we read up on the long history of UFOs. You know, even the Egyptians referred to UFOs in their hieroglyphics!"

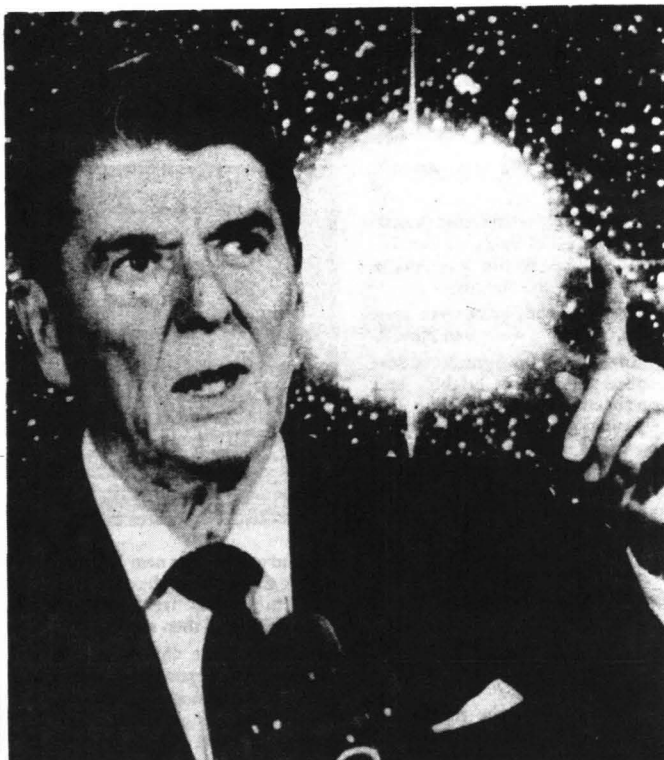
As Reagan was telling Miller about his sighting, "he was constantly pointing out the window and gesticulating about how the object went straight up in the air," author McManus disclosed.

McManus said Miller told him: "I sat there with my mouth wide open at what I was hearing. Then I said to Reagan: 'Are you telling me Governor, that you believe in UFOs?'"

"When I asked him that question a look of horror came over him. It suddenly dawned on him what he was saying, the implications, and that he was talking to a reporter."

"He snapped back to reality and said, 'Let's just say that on the subject of UFOs I'm an agnostic (neither a believer nor a nonbeliever).'"

Miller, now national editor of the Los Angeles Times, confirmed Reagan



RONALD REAGAN . . . describes the sighting a week later to the Wall Street Journal.

had told him about seeing a UFO.

"I didn't report the conversation at the time," he said. "I was writing a column at the Wall Street Journal then, and I could never figure out how to get a whole column out of it."

"Reagan didn't go into detail about the research he and his wife had done, because it was at that point that I asked him if he believed in UFOs and he clammed up."

In fact Reagan had been a believer in UFOs for years before he actually saw one, according to Los Angeles Times reporter Bill Boyarsky.

The newsman said that in 1965, while he was covering Reagan's campaign for governor, they were riding through a California valley one night when the subject of flying saucers came up.

"It was a beautiful night," Boyarsky remembered. "We were looking up at the stars in the sky, and Reagan told me he believed in flying saucers. He said he had a friend who'd actually seen one."

Pilot Paynter, who now owns a freight airline in Sacramento, said he and Reagan talked about their 1974 sighting "from time to time" after the night it happened.

"But we didn't file a report on the object because for a long time they considered you a nut if you saw a UFO."

■ Clarence Rowland had just arrived at the same house when he saw a yellow or white plane with smoke coming out behind it, followed by a blaze as the plane disappeared behind some trees.

"I heard a loud boom, and then I saw a lot of smoke come out of those trees," Rowland said. Though he said he couldn't be sure it was the plane that caused the boom, he was certain that he saw smoke coming out of a plane.

■ Dwayne Deal, operations manager at R.A. Earnhardt Textile Machinery Inc., off Strickland Drive, said he was in a meeting at the office when he saw a flash outside the window around 4:30 p.m. He was not sure it was an airplane.

Deal then saw another flash. The object began a descent. Smoke trailed and there was another flash. Then there was smoke again. He said what he saw was an undetermined number of miles away from the office but estimated it was off S.C. 295.

Deal did not see anything hit the ground but last night, he gave authorities a description of what he saw.

■ Bill Kibler, who was in the office with Deal, said he saw a "large object" that had a black trail of smoke. He said the object "took a dip." Kibler said he told an associate, "That plane is crashing."

Rescue workers set up a command station at South Avenue and Millwood Drive shortly before dark yesterday. Officials from the Sheriff's Department, the Emergency Preparedness Department, the Highway Patrol, Firemen's Ladies Auxiliary and Emergency Medical Services were standing by while eight to 10 firefighters from the Arkwright Fire Department conducted a search on foot.

Arkwright Fire Chief Homer Harrison said he had talked with a man who said he saw the explosion at the city airport. "The last thing he saw was a ball of fire," Harrison said.

Karen Waltrip was guarding the fire truck while her husband and daughter joined other firefighters in scouring the woods near the old city landfill.

"We pretty much covered the area before it got dark," Mrs. Waltrip said. She said she doubted that searchers would find anything last night.

Searchers find nothing after reported plane crash

By MIKE KOZIATEK and PAT BUTLER
Staff Writers

Firefighters searched a densely wooded, swampy area near the Arkwright neighborhood last night after several people reported seeing a plane explode and fall from the sky.

Searchers had found no sign of a downed plane by 11 p.m., but they said they would continue searching until about midnight, then would resume the search today as soon as there is enough light.

Some emergency workers speculated that witnesses may have seen a meteor rather than an airplane. Witnesses had reported flashes of light in the sky early Monday morning, and an astronomer said they probably saw meteors.

About four people called in reports of a downed aircraft or a ball of fire in the sky yesterday about 5 p.m., a supervisor with Spartanburg City/County Communications said. Emergency personnel said six to eight people in the Arkwright area said they saw a plane go down, and five witnesses described the incident to the *Herald-Journal*.

Most of those people said they saw a yellow plane, trailing flames, fall to the ground at about 5 p.m., said Bill Hall, assistant director of emergency preparedness. Others did not see a plane, but did see a ball of fire, he said.

Emergency workers are taking the reports seriously even though nothing has been found because so many people saw basically the same thing, Hall said. "Everyone is pointing the same direction, which is the old city dump" near Jackson and Hilltop roads, he said.

Eight to 10 members of the Arkwright Fire Department were combing that area last night until about 9 p.m. Hall said the area is

hilly, wooded and somewhat swampy.

"If we call it off tonight, we'll have the Sheriff's Department continue an aerial search tomorrow," Hall said last night.

Hall said witnesses may have seen a meteor rather than a plane. He said meteor showers are "very, very common" at this time of year.

Several people had reported seeing a flash of light early Monday morning to the Spartanburg City/County Communications Center. Lt. Larry Dukes of the North Spartanburg Fire Department said Monday that the flash was accompanied by a bright orange glow.

The Henderson County (N.C.) Sheriff's Department also received a call Monday morning on a blaze of light that was reported as a possible plane crash. Astronomer Juanita Trent of Landrum said Monday that those people probably saw a meteor.

Frank Anderson, manager of the Downtown Memorial Airport, said yesterday there were no reports of missing planes from the airport. Officials with neighboring North Carolina airports in Hendersonville, Asheville and Polk County also had no reports of missing aircraft.

"If there is an aircraft down, it most likely is not a Spartanburg airplane," Anderson said.

Anderson said he also received several calls about a single-engine airplane going down. The first caller reported that a burning plane crashed between Canaan Road and S.C. Highway 295, with smoke going up in the air after it hit.

The Sheriff's Department's Helio Courier plane was conducting "touch and go" exercises near the airport at the time the explosion was reported, said Sheriff's Department Lt. Mike Ennis.

Emergency personnel originally

thought the Sheriff's Department plane might have been the one that went down, but communication was quickly established with the plane, and it helped in the search efforts, getting an aerial view of the site until darkness forced it to abandon the search about an hour later.

A helicopter from Greenville was also used in the aerial search, but neither aircraft found anything, Ennis said. About 15 Sheriff's Department officers assisted in the search when the explosion was first reported. The plane may be sent up again today if necessary, Ennis said.

Five witnesses told the *Herald-Journal* what they saw:

■ Pam McAbee was returning to her home on Brighton Street at about 5 p.m. when she saw a plane through the windshield of her car.

"It was lit up, whatever it was," she said. "I could see it was falling. You could tell it didn't have no

control." She said the plane was bright, but she didn't see flames.

Mrs. McAbee said she immediately called 911, and later saw a helicopter and a small plane overhead, searching the area.

■ Darryl Ferguson was at his aunt's house at Sims Chapel and Beaver Dam roads. He said he was standing on the patio about 5 p.m. when he saw a plane heading east with smoke coming out of the rear. He also said he saw a "reddish-orange blaze" before the plane disappeared.

"It got lower and lower," Ferguson said. "We heard a boom, and I guess that's when it hit."

Ferguson said he and his friends could hear sirens while the plane was still up in the air. They were certain that they heard an explosion.

"All of us heard a boom," said Reginald Rice, who was in the house at the time. "Even my mom did."

Regional

Area minerals may attract UFOs

EVENING TELEGRAM, Superior, WI - Oct. 28, 1988

CR: R. Heiden

By HERBERT WAGNER
Telegram Correspondent

UFOs are real in the minds of millions of people — many through haunting personal experience.

Unknown to some, the region around western Lake Superior was known for years as a UFO "hot spot," according to the late Allen Hynek, who was reportedly a leading authority in the field. In the mid-1970s sightings by local citizens, pilots and law enforcement officials were common, with many of these sightings judged authentic by experts including Hynek, but never explained.

Many believe UFO activity is not random in where it appears. Some feel that UFO hot spots are related to certain minerals, water bodies, gravity and magnetic anomalies worldwide. If there is any basis to this theory, it might explain why Lake Superior and the midcontinent have long been host to UFO activity.

Between 1972 and 1978, western Lake Superior was a "hot spot" of UFO activity, according to documentation made by Eugene T. Lundholm of Superior after Dr. Hynek visited the area and judged it worthy of careful study. Hynek asked Lundholm, a member of the Mensa Society and recently retired from the University of Wisconsin-Superior, to chart UFO sightings around western Lake Superior in the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan.

"Dr. Hynek called it a hot spot," Lundholm recalled recently. "He thought our UFO sightings had something to do with Lake Superior but never determined what the link was before he died. It seemed to Hynek that the late attracted UFOs in some way."

During this period Lundholm was made a special deputy sheriff for Douglas County. Many UFO witnesses were extremely reluctant to talk about their experiences, but as special deputy, Lundholm said he was able to find out what they had seen.

"Hundreds of reports I dismissed at once," said Lundholm. "I received calls from people I knew had been drinking. But there remained several sightings that were authentic and could not be explained."

The first reliable sightings documented by Lundholm occurred near the southern part of Douglas County about 30 miles south of Lake Superior. They began with a series of green, red and white triangular-shaped lights that were seen passing over the house of a rural family. These lights reappeared on several occasions, in one instance coming within a few feet of several observers.

"In time they got used to it," Lundholm said. "The lights were seen to follow power lines and sometimes the family car. This went on for some time until a landing was reported. A TV crew came out and found a tree that had exploded. It didn't seem to be a lightning strike."

Other sightings followed. Reports of unexplained lights multiplied. One sighting was of a bright orange, luminous object "as big as a boxcar" following the railroad tracks near Middle River. Another, first seen in the Pattison Park area south of Superior, flew at "fantastic speed" toward Lake Superior, where it disappeared.

"Did it go into the lake?" Lundholm wondered. "That we don't know. But several pilots who were reluctant to speak publicly admitted seeing UFOs going down into the lake, Lundholm said. Some have speculated that there are underwater caverns beneath Lake Superior since they have seen UFOs going down and coming up again. But that's pure speculation," he added.

"However, submarine UFO activity is well known in other parts of the world," Lundholm claimed.

Other UFO reports were equally mysterious. One encounter left a car with a burned — out cruise control. Another — apparently a landing witnessed by a farmer's wife after a circular object passed over their house — left a 30-foot circle burned in a meadow. Another report claimed the abduction of a yearling cow by a rapidly ascending light.

During 1974 and 1975 the UFO activity reached a peak according to Lundholm's files. Unexplained bright lights, unknown objects and other strange phenomena were reported.

As bizarre as any were the "red balls" seen for a time almost everywhere around the head of Lake Superior, Lundholm said.

"I don't know what they could have been," admitted Lundholm. "They were seen glowing at night all over the place.

One was seen skipping over the surface of the river and went under the bridge at Oliver. A slide taken of one red ball was studied by the University's astronomy department. They said it was not a planet or a star. One person got so tired of them bouncing around her house that she moved away."

The most baffling cases came in late 1975. In September an alleged UFO touchdown took place between the Towns of Phillips and Park Falls in Price County. At the time of this sighting both towns suffered a power blackout that has not been explained to this day.

A letter from the local power company in Lundholm's file states: "(We) experienced a severe drop in voltage . . . 120 volts to 108 volts — 20 seconds long . . . to this date the cause is not known nor do we have any way of knowing how much power had been drained from the line at that time."

Perhaps the most widespread sighting of all came in November of that year when law enforcement officials reportedly tracked a brightly lit object from southern Douglas County to Ironwood, Mich., a distance of over 80 miles. When the sheriff's department contacted Air Force officials, no satisfactory explanation could be given.

Traditional explanations of UFO activity have concentrated on visits by extraterrestrial spacecraft. Tom Weber of Chippewa Falls feels this to be the origin of UFOs to the point that he is trying to build a \$25 million UFO landing site near Elmwood in Pierce County, 50 miles east of Minneapolis and 130 miles south of Lake Superior.

"We either ignore UFOs or chase them

with military jets," said Weber. "This is man's grand attempt to contact them."

Recently some "UFOlogists" have considered the possible link between UFOs and planet earth through certain crystals, metallic minerals and gravity or magnetic anomalies.

If such notions have any basis in fact, then the UFO activity around Lake Superior and in the midcontinent region might be explained by the unique geology found there. Only since 1950, according to scientific data, has it been known that some of the highest gravity and magnetic anomalies on earth exist in a narrow belt from Kansas through Lake Superior and into lower Michigan.

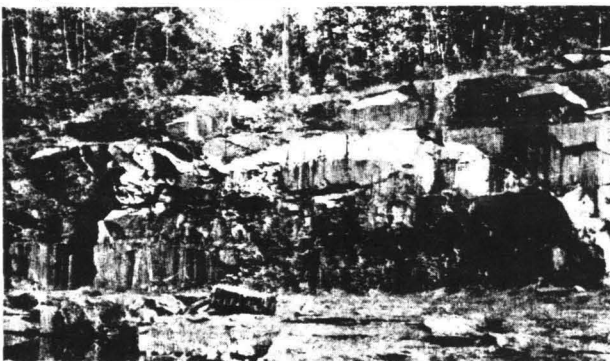
Copper and iron are also in the Lake Su-

perior region. In nature, native copper — metal in its pure state and containing a small amount of silver — is known at very few places on this planet. It is found in greatest abundance around Lake Superior.

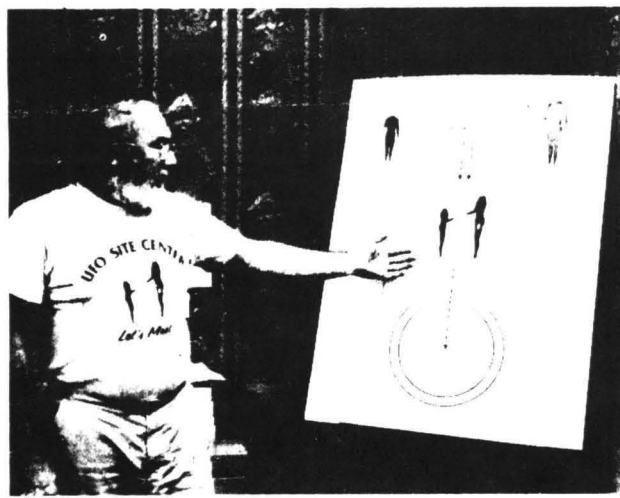
From earliest times lake copper was believed to hold "power" by the original people of this region. In prehistoric times some unknown race mined the metal in large amounts.

Amythest and quartz crystals are also abundant on the lake's north shore and beneath its waters.

Until contact is made or a natural explanation proven, one can only wonder at the cause and when the UFOs will return. But to those who have seen them, UFOs seen real.



CRYSTAL VEINS — A six-foot-wide crystal vein is visible on this quarry face south of Lake Superior. "UFOlogists" now believe crystals may play a role in UFO activity.



UFO CENTER — Tom Weber of the Elmwood UFO Site Center believes that intelligent visitors from outer space can be contacted. Others think UFOs can be explained through natural phenomena.

PALO VERDE VALLEY TIMES,
Blythe, CA — Nov. 25, 1988

UFOs sighted in desert sky

A report of unidentified flying objects was brought to the *Times* Tuesday by Blythe resident Ward Cambridge.

Cambridge said he and his wife, driving east on Interstate 10, saw amber spherical lights along the horizon south of the highway.

Cambridge said the lights appeared spherical and were about 10 times the size of a star. He said sometimes they appeared in groups above the horizon and would go on and off. They did not move, he said.

The lights would disappear and come back again in a different location, Cambridge said.

He said he and his wife saw the lights above mountains from about Desert Center to Wiley's Well. They last saw them over the Mule Mountains at the west end of the Palo Verde Valley.

Cambridge said at one point two to eight lights were visible, and they went light and dark. At times it appeared mist surrounded them.

Although the lights may have been near the Chocolate Mountains Naval Reservation Aerial Gunning Range, the *Times* was unable to contact Navy officials to see if they had information on the sightings.

Officials of the Blythe office of the California Highway Patrol said they received no UFO reports.

McGinn . . again from the Editor's desk

By Barbro McGinn

A couple of notes. The woman who reported the UFO last week may have some comfort in knowing that another woman saw a similar sight out near Red Cedar Lake. However, the Red Cedar sighting was approximately six weeks ago.

This woman said her dog started howling at about 2:00 a.m. so she took him outside and she saw "a very, very large bright object hovering over the trees" for a good five minutes.

She said she didn't bother to wake her husband, or call the police. Who would have believed her???

Finally, I was delighted to hear that they have apparently ironed out the Homecoming Court kinks, and there will be a traditional five couple court once again.

NEWS, Cambridge, WI — Sept. 8, 1988

CR: R. Heiden

Area UFO descriptions match Wisconsin's

By BDR and AP Writers

Blame the heat wave if you want to, but descriptions of unidentified flying objects in Wisconsin this week are remarkably similar to two earlier UFO sightings in the Belvidere area.

Several residents in northeastern Wisconsin reported sightings of UFOs Tuesday night, but authorities Wednesday said they had no explanation.

Earlier, Anna Leonard of Cherry Valley said she saw strange, acetylene-blue lights hovering to the east of her home at 2324 Mill Road at about 11:30 p.m. Aug. 1 and 2.

She said at the time she notified Greater Rockford Airport officials who "just laughed it off."

"It was like a neon light bulb," she said today. "I was just flabbergasted."

She said she was "so relieved to hear of other sightings" that she would telephone her sister in Dixon this evening to "let her know."

One of those other sightings was by a Belvidere woman who asked not to be identified. She said she returned home from work at 12:30 a.m. Tuesday and saw something similar to the object described in Wisconsin the next night.

"It had blinking lights, red and white, lining a triangular-shaped craft," the woman said. "It was slowly making its way from the west to the east."

"It was not a plane, it was not a helicopter and it was not a satellite. You can't see blinking lights on a satellite."

"It was really strange. I didn't know what to think," she said. "And I was in my right mind."

Warren Hopkins, a controller at the Rockford Airport, said nothing unusual has crossed the tower's radar scopes. "The official word from Rockford is that there have been no sightings," Hopkins said.

According to Hopkins, there has been increased crop duster activity

in the area along with night flights of large C-130 Air Force planes based in Chicago. He said people could be mistaking these planes for unidentified objects.

"We've had no news here," said Mark Rodeghier, director of the Center of UFO Studies in Evanston this morning. "But we'll be keeping our ears open."

Sightings at 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Tuesday over Lake Michigan near Sheboygan, Wis. spurred several phone calls to The Sheboygan Press.

In Fond du Lac, Wis., police reported receiving several calls from residents about lighted objects in the sky about 9 p.m. Tuesday.

Kate Ludwig, of Sheboygan, said she was walking with her son Matthew, 12, and a friend, Mary Belleau, when they saw a series of bright red lights over Lake Michigan about 11 p.m.

"There were seven or eight of them, 50 to 75 times the size of lights

you would see on a plane. They were huge," Ludwig said. "They were in a precise line but curved on the end."

Belleau said she observed a yellow band of light between the red lights. "The lights stretched out, expanding outward, and then appeared to fall in toward the center," she explained. "One of them disappeared. It all happened within seconds."

Earlier, strange lights were observed by four people gathered in a yard at a different location in Sheboygan.

John Dins said he was working on his dairy farm south of Fond du Lac about 11:15 p.m. Tuesday when he saw a huge oval object with bright orange lights to the southeast. He said it disappeared a short time later.

Authorities in Fond du Lac and Sheboygan County said they had no information on what the objects may have been.

REPUBLICAN, Belvidere, IL — Aug. 18, 1988

Believers seek UFOs at Hudson Valley

Linda Doern waits calmly. Linda and her husband, Peter, both real estate appraisers, admit to being fascinated by psychic and other unexplained phenomena. An evening in Pine Bush, she jokes, "beats watching television."

EDITOR'S NOTE — The government years ago gave up its search for unidentified flying objects, but not to worry. There are still believers who spend nightly vigils on the lookout for aliens from other planets. One of the favorite UFO hunting grounds is in the Hudson Valley north of New York City. Here's what happened there on a recent autumn night.

The Associated Press

PINE BUSH, N.Y. — Clouds quickly fill the night sky, obscuring a nearly full moon. It's not a good night to find *Whatever's Out There*.

Still, a half-dozen people who've parked their cars on the shoulder of a country road in New York's Hudson Valley crane their necks to scan the sky. This is supposedly a prime area for spotting UFO activity, but the only things visible on this cool autumn evening are airplanes banking into nearby airports.

Peter Gersten waits suspiciously. The silver-bearded lawyer believes 99 percent of supposed UFO sightings are easily explainable, despite the vanity license plates on his Porsche that read *UFOSREAL*. He's devoted hundreds of hours to wrestling UFO documents from the government in court.

Most UFO watchers are more patient than the federal government. The U.S. Air Force canceled its surveillance program, Project Bluebook, on Dec. 17, 1969, almost five months after the Apollo 11 astronauts landed on the moon. Dr. Edward U. Condon of the University of Colorado recommended that the program come to an end after years of unconvincing research. But UFO searchers persist. Victoria Lacas waits expectantly. She's mad because most people abducted by aliens are unwilling victims, and she'd be more than happy to submit herself to experiments.

Linda Doern waits calmly. Linda and her husband, Peter, both real estate appraisers, admit to being fascinated by psychic and other unexplained phenomena. An evening in Pine Bush, she jokes, "beats watching television."

Ellen Crystall waits excitedly. The self-described UFO photographer is the guardian of the field, where she claims to have seen aliens and dozens of unexplained lights. She's driven to this field from her New Jersey home hundreds of times since 1981 in the hope of making contact again.

"You missed it, Ellen," Gersten tells Crystall when her car pulls up a half-hour later than expected. "The mother ship was here. There used to be several more of us waiting."

Crystall dismisses the joke and checks the sky. It doesn't bode well. The aliens, whom she suspects are building an underground base in the Hudson Valley, don't seem to like clouds or rain, she says.

Whatever the reason, strange sightings seem commonplace in the Hudson Valley. Hundreds of people — not just those who go out looking for them — have seen things in the sky that can't be explained, says Philip Imbrogno, author of "Night Siege: The Hudson Valley UFO Sightings."

These sightings caused a sensation in 1983 and 1984 in this area of New York City suburbs and farmland, stretching into western Connecticut. Reports have been less frequent since then, but still steady, Imbrogno says.

Most, if not all, can be easily explained, says Jeff Lehman, spokesman for the nearby Stewart International Airport. He says a group of pilots, whose identities are

not known, enjoy fooling UFO fanatics by flying in close formation many evenings. It's not illegal, but it's annoying, he says.

"I don't see scaring people with aircraft as a game," he says.

Crystall believes. She says she saw something unusual at the cornfield off Searsville Road, 20 miles from Middletown, soon after she was first taken there by a magazine writer.

Gazing over a distant treeline while alone at the field one night, she spotted what appeared to be a craft drifting slowly to the ground. After seeing something flutter, almost like a moth, she shined a spotlight into a wooded area. She says she saw a 3½-foot creature with a beige body and huge yellow eyes staring back at her.

"This thing had a worried look on its face and it totally threw me off," Crystall says. "I was panic-stricken. I could not utter a sound."

The blonde music student claims to have taken 800 photographs of UFOs. She says she holds no grudges against people who don't share her beliefs but confides, "I try to avoid them."

At a restaurant 20 minutes from Searsville Road, Crystall's friends passed the time waiting for dusk to turn to darkness. Ignoring quizzical looks from a waitress, they discussed landmarks in UFO history with the sort of insider's lingo that renders the conversation meaningless to anyone else.

Gersten, who has set up a hot line telephone number for UFO fanatics to keep up on the gossip, says he enjoys the mystery and glamour of UFOs.

"It seems like we're prisoners on this planet and we've lost the ability to explore," says Gersten, who fixes companions with a penetrating stare. Most people accept that UFOs exist, he says, "because we simply can't be the only people in the universe."

But he dismisses most reports of unexplained lights in the Hudson Valley. Most sightings are probably conventional airplanes, he says, adding that he has offered a reward for the mysterious group of pilots to come forward and identify themselves.

Gersten belongs in the "government conspiracy" camp of UFO followers, believing that secret military technology is being tested in the skies.

"Imagine a civilization 10,000 years more advanced than us," says the New York City lawyer. "Do you think they'd come here in spaceships?"

Yes, opines Lacas, because they want to investigate the inhabitants of Earth. The legal assistant and flower-child holdover is fascinated by the current UFO furor over abductions, during which people are supposedly "beamed up" by aliens for a quick examination.

Lacas calls herself an "abduction volunteer."

"I want to bring trinkets to trade," she says, fingering some jewelry, "because I want to make friends when I go on board."

For the Doerns, all aspects of the paranormal are fascinating. There's a lot more going on in the world than meets the naked eye, Linda says, but she understands why most people look at UFOs and psychic phenomena with abundant skepticism.

"There are a lot of strange people involved in it," she says. "I think it discredits it for a lot of people. It turns a lot of people off. I think you have to look beyond them and not let it deter you."

After the drive to Searsville Road, some participants note the "eerie strangeness" they feel while gazing at the sky. But when it's apparent most of the lights in the sky are either stars or airplanes, conversations drift to baseball and photography.

A car roars by the parked vehicles about every five minutes. From a nearby house a woman, partially hidden by curtains, peers out at the visitors to her neighborhood.

'Flying saucers are real' Canadian claims 'overwhelming evidence' of UFOs

By TIM TORRES
Bee staff writer

Flying saucers.

You don't have to go to your nearest movie theater to see them.

Just ask the Denair couple who can't explain what they saw the night of Nov. 11 as they drove down Hickman Road.

They claim that an object with triangular white lights sat mysteriously off the road in a deserted field. Whatever it was, they didn't stop to investigate.

Fourteen people at a Modesto Junior College lecture last week reluctantly indicated they had seen UFOs in the past.

Canadian physicist Stanley Friedman kept about 60 people's attention riveted for three hours in the MJC student center as he reviewed the history of unidentified flying objects.

"How many people in here have seen a UFO," he asked. Fourteen raised their hands. "How many of you reported it?"

Only two indicated they had. Friedman, an author, lecturer and researcher living in New Brunswick, Canada, said he is not an "apologist UFOlogist."

"Flying saucers are real," Friedman declared. But little green men in spaceships don't exist, he said. "They're usually gray." Friedman's show included slides of government documents, personal anecdotes and various pictures and sketches of flying saucers and their inhabitants.

He lambasted "fossilized physicists, noisy negativists and ancient academics" who refute the existence of alien spacecraft flying around the Earth.

"I may be 50 years old, but I certainly don't think of myself as ancient," said MJC philosophy professor Ben Starr. He said he could only sit through an hour of the presentation before he became disgusted and walked out.

Starr described Friedman's lecture as "fuzzy thinking, waffling answers and incredibly boring."

"I was really disappointed," said Starr. He said Friedman used old examples and did not present any hard evidence that UFOs exist.

Crystall and her followers are well-known by Chief Daniel McCann and the rest of the Town of Crawford police department, which has jurisdiction over Pine Bush. He says he occasionally gets trespassing complaints, and Crystall has been chased off people's property once or twice, but she's usually good about telling authorities where she's going to be.

With the airport and a unit of the Air National Guard nearby, Crawford police are used to getting calls about strange things in the sky. Police have never seen any hard evidence of UFOs, but they don't always have an easy explanation for what people insist they see, McCann says.

The area's becoming somewhat of a tourist spot among the supernatural fans, McCann says.

"Ellen does say that she sees these things," he says. "I'm not going to dispute her. She probably has seen something. Who knows what they are?"

One of Crystall's companions points the flash of her camera at some shrubbery, hoping others notice the particles in the air she sees during the brief burst of light. What she claims is "angel dust" looks suspiciously like pollen.

It was the only unusual sighting of the night. As the hour grew late, the search for warmth became paramount and the evening ended in disappointment.

"It was a crummy night," Crystall concludes.

After studying UFOs for 30 years, Friedman said, he's concluded that there is "overwhelming evidence" that Earth is being visited by aliens from another planet and that there's a "cosmic Watergate" going on.

Friedman said the U.S. military is hiding the fact that it recovered a crashed spaceship and four alien bodies outside of Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

Starr said that's an unlikely notion. "It's hard to fathom that our government could hide something for even 30 seconds, let alone all those years."

But Friedman said nations are disputing and hiding the presence of flying saucers, and it's the "biggest story of the millennium."

It doesn't bother Friedman that he's never seen a UFO. "I've never seen Australia, but I know it's there."

The people in the audience who claimed to have seen UFOs were not MJC students. For the most part, they were Stanislaus County residents who are certain of two things: They don't want their names in the newspaper, and they saw something that can't be explained.

A Modesto man said he had an experience in 1956 that he has never forgotten. While he was in a Patterson orchard one night, a huge light arose about 40 feet away and chased the group of people he was with.

"It followed us quite a while," he said. "We were running across the field and then it disappeared." The object made no noise, he said, and he couldn't see behind the bright light.

As he related that story, a Columbia College student in the next row leaned over and said his tale sounded like something that happened to her in 1980.

One 60-year-old woman told of a 1959 occurrence that she and her son still talk about. They were awakened in the middle of the night by a strange object about to land on her home.

"It made a terrible beeping noise," she said. They lived out in the country south of Modesto. She estimated the size from its sound and guessed it about covered the house. It continued to beep until it changed its tone right before disappearing. When her son told her to see what it was, "something told me not to look."

Local UFO authority Marvin Taylor said there can be as many as six sightings per month in the northern Central Valley. He said a UFO was reported in San Joaquin County in October.

Friedman gives about 50 lectures annually on UFOs. His presentation at MJC was sponsored by the Associated Students and the Friends of a New Age, a student group. He charged \$500 for the lecture.

TIMES & WORLD-NEWS, Roanoke, VA
Dec. 13, 1988 CR: M. Blankenship

And now, the *real* UFO story

By CHRIS GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER

It has been a year and two months since Danny Gordon reported the first in a barrage of UFO sightings over rural Wythe County. Since then, the news director for WYVE Radio in Wytheville says his marriage, his job and his health have suffered.

"My life has been engulfed," says Gordon. "I've lost weight and hair. I can afford to lose the weight but not the hair."

At the same time, Paul Dellinger, the one-man Southwest bureau for this newspaper, covered the UFO stories as they unfolded and observed Gordon's growing obsession with the phenomenon.

The two newsmen, who have offices in the same building, finally decided to collaborate on a book detailing what they observed and experienced since the first strange lights were seen floating in the Wythe County sky in October of 1987.

"Don't Look Up! The Real Story Behind the Virginia UFO Sightings" has just been published by Empire Press of North Carolina. It comes in a trade paperback and costs \$12. So far, it's available at Blue Ridge Books, Deva Gallery and Words and Music in Wytheville and by mail from Empire Press.

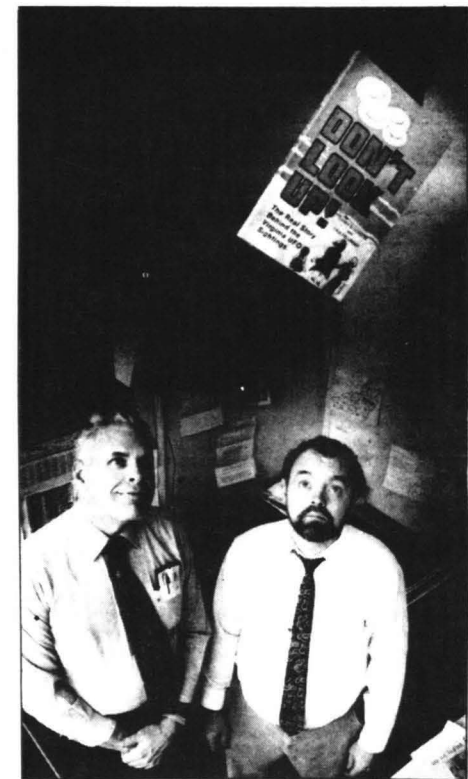
The title refers to Gordon's experiences after he reported the first sightings and then found himself at the center of the whole Southwest Virginia UFO hullabaloo. He says he wishes none of it had ever happened.

"This has cost me money and almost my marriage and my job," Gordon says. "A newsman's life is hectic enough without this. If I had it to do over again, I wouldn't do it. It has caused me so much trauma. I haven't slept well since last October."

A lot of other people in the county with a population of 26,000 have spent some restless evenings as well. Over the last year, Gordon says he has received thousands of reports from people who claim to have seen unidentified flying objects.

(continued on page 9)

On top of that, Wytheville became somewhat of a mecca for the UFO subculture. Gordon, who says he has seen 35 UFOs himself, has organized four UFO conferences, has had his stories picked up on the national wire and has been interviewed on radio stations around the country. The people who have trekked to Wythe County range from a National Inquirer reporter to two beauticians with video cameras who wanted to document the sightings out of personal interest. One man told Gordon that he could call down UFOs with a guitar tuner;



GENE DALTON/Staff

Paul Dellinger (left) and Danny Gordon defy their book's warning — "Don't Look Up!"

another told him that he would be poisoned with a skin-contact virus if he persisted in his investigation.

Gordon claims that his house has been broken into and that his life has been threatened. And adding to the circus atmosphere in the area was an entrepreneur who printed T-shirts proclaiming Wythe County as the "UFO Capital of Virginia."

"One of the reasons Danny hasn't been called crazy is because so many people have seen them. Even the mayor's wife," Dellinger says.

□ □

It all started for Gordon on Oct. 7, 1987, when he was making his routine morning call to Wythe County Sheriff Wayne Pike. After filling Gordon in on some incidents of vandalism the night before, Pike mentioned that he had something unusual: Five law officers had spotted several silent aircraft in the sky. The officers said they were neither planes nor helicopters.

Gordon thought he would report the story on the radio and it would end there. But callers reported similar sightings, and the state news media became interested.

Then there was a report from an Ohio family traveling in the Graham Forge part of the county. The family said its car had been run off the road by a strange craft.

Gordon decided to do some UFO hunting himself. He and Roger Hall, a friend, were heading home on U.S. 21 south of Wytheville one night when both saw some strange lights, Gordon says. The lights turned into a large, silent craft flying at about 1,500 to 2,000 feet, according to Gordon. It was about 600 to 700 feet in length with no visible wings or rotors. More surprising was the fact that a red, glowing sphere joined the craft, Gordon says. That started a whole flurry of sightings on Gordon's part, along with an unsuccessful attempt to explain them.

Gordon says he has contacted the U.S. military at both the Pentagon and Langley Air Force Base but has received no explanation that satisfies him. The Tennessee Air National Guard reported that in-flight refueling rendezvous occur over Wythe County. And at the re-

quest of Rep. Rick Boucher, D-Abingdon, the Navy acknowledged that low-level tactical maneuvers do occur along a long-established route over Wythe County because of its rural nature and separation from well-traveled air routes.

But Gordon contends that some of the sightings defy 1980s technology.

"I'm not a debunker or a promoter," he says.

"Until I put a hand on a craft, I'm not sure about anything. I've been in the news business 10 years and I'm not going to put my credibility on the line. My life has been interrupted by a craft that isn't a conventional aircraft. A lot of times I'll slap myself in the face and hope it will go away but it doesn't."

Some of the reports can be easily explained. Venus, which shimmers in the night sky, has a tendency to trick people. And small planes with landing lights have buzzed cars. Other reports — from huge "Star Wars"-type craft to traditionally domed saucers — are harder to explain, Gordon says.

"What we're seeing in Wythe County is what is being seen in other parts of the country. The greatest mystery is not the cure for cancer. The biggest mystery is UFOs," Gordon says.

Dellinger was a skeptic longer than Gordon, but he, too, finally saw something he couldn't explain.

"It came down over my driveway. It had a huge bright light in front with three windows like the craft Danny saw. I heard a low motor. I don't think it's anything extraterrestrial," Dellinger says. "I believe a lot of people saw some unusual aircraft. These people aren't excited. They're down to earth. They just say 'I saw a UFO.'"

"This book isn't going to change anyone's mind," Gordon says.

Dellinger agrees.

"If they believe that people got caught up in and said they saw things other people said they saw, they'll believe that. If they believe there are flying saucers from Mars, they'll still believe that," Dellinger says.

Believer of UFOs Says Space Being Met With Group

By Donna Jones

JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

BERNALILLO — Ray Keller believes in extraterrestrials because he met one.

In the summer of 1987 Keller and a group from the Utah chapter of Outer Space International Research and Investigations Society were on a UFO pilgrimage to Mount Shasta in Northern California.

He said the group chose the site because many reported sightings of unidentified flying objects in the area. One legend says that the mountain is hollow, a super-garage for spaceships or a temple for outer space visitors.

While he and the others were hiking beyond the tree line, a woman appeared as the hikers rounded a boulder near the peak of Mount Shasta.

"She was a lady with red hair about 5 foot, 6 inches and she was wearing a white jumpsuit for want of a better word," Keller said.

"It's bare up there. There were no trees that she could have been hiding behind," he said.

He said the other pilgrims identified themselves as part of a UFO group and the woman said, "I know why you're here."

Although he didn't want to elaborate on what the woman said, she talked to them for about two hours and let them take her picture.

The photographic evidence of the outer space visitor is in Utah with one of the group members, he said.

As the group was leaving and turned to wave good-bye, the woman had disappeared.

Keller, 34, who works for a gov't. program in Bernalillo,

said he sighted his first UFO at 13 while he and other Boy Scouts were on a camping trip at Tinkers Park in Ohio.

"It was a disc-shaped object," Keller said. "Since then I've been hunting down saucers."

Keller said he believes that his experience is not unique. On Sunday at 2 p.m. at Bernalillo Town Hall he will talk about reported sightings in New Mexico with believers and non-believers alike.

Jane Fuller, the host of cable channel 27's "Magical Library," will be videotaping the meeting and will answer questions about UFOs and metaphysical phenomena.

Among those reports Keller will discuss are a Roswell incident in 1947, a reported sighting of more than 150 UFOs flying in formation over Farmington in 1959 and a report by a Socorro man in 1964.

Among less well-known sightings, Keller said a friend reported that he saw two glowing disc-shaped objects hovering over each other near Placitas in October.

He said he believes that extraterrestrials are friendly and only visit earth to observe.

His theory is that extraterrestrials are actual humans who colonized Mars and Venus in a future time and have time traveled back to observe their history.

That would explain why they don't interfere with life here, he said. It could jeopardize their own existence.

They don't appear to more people because our society is barbaric compared to their lifestyle, he said.

"They are waiting to see if the Americans and Russians can communicate, before they talk to us," he said. "They don't want us to befuddle their neighborhood."

BEE, Modesto, CA - Oct. 2, 1988 CR: M. Throne/J. Laurino

If you ever wondered about UFOs, check out this collection

By FRED SCHWARTZ

Bee staff writer

They're here!

Unidentified Flying Objects, better known as UFOs, that is.

Any doubters just have to listen to Marvin Taylor, a 52-year-old Modesto real estate salesman to be convinced.

Taylor, who once operated a UFO museum and library in Sonora, is a believer and is convinced aliens have been visiting the earth since biblical times. He has been researching the subject for more than 40 years, ever since seeing a "flying saucer" hovering above his childhood home in Oakland.

For the next 12 days, Taylor will be displaying some of his UFO collection at Leonard's Art-space, a gallery at 307 H St., Modesto. Among the items on loan will be replicas of aliens from other planets, paintings and photographs of UFOs and some reading material.

Also on exhibit will be many drawings submitted by students at Fremont School as well as artwork mailed in from all over the country, according to Jack Doolley, a member of the gallery's board of directors.

The gallery, located in a former shoe store, consists of a large window suitable for drive-by or walk-by viewing. It is open to the public by arrangement only but the gallery will be lit from 4 p.m. to midnight each day through Oct. 31.

Taylor, known nationwide for his investigation work and library, is the Northern California director of MUFON — the Mutual UFO Network. The group served as technical advisers to Steven Spielberg in the making of the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

UFO sightings are a common occurrence. "There are thousands each year all over the world," says Taylor. "Some of our presidents (Carter and Reagan) saw them before taking office," he adds.

The UFO expert, who frequently lectures before civic groups, says about 85 percent of the reported sightings can be explained as natural phenomenon such as satellites, missiles from Vandenberg Air Force base, bright stars or even swamp gas.

It's the other 15 percent that he's particularly interested in. "Those are the ones — including abductions — that we're investigating."

One abduction case, involving an elderly couple, reportedly took place near Knights Ferry in the late 1970s. The pair could only recall the incident while under hypnosis but claim to have been levitated before losing consciousness.

Taylor also believes the United States government has been less than honest with the public in releasing information about UFOs.

"Back in the 1940s after World

War II, they were called flying saucers," he adds. "The government didn't want alarm us, I guess. Their official position is that they don't say it exists or doesn't exist."

"I believe they are buying time to get a handle on it," he says. "Maybe someday, the government will let us know what they find out."

Taylor says he does not want to be considered an alarmist but based on his information, UFOs are here now and have been here for thousands of years.

He believes the earliest Egyptian pyramid and the sphinx were constructed by ancient astronauts to guide their space-ships. The Mayans, Aztecs and the Egyptians, in fact, show symbols of aliens in their artwork.

In Taylor's opinion, Ezekiel, a Hebrew prophet, described a spaceship's wheel in the fifth century B.C. He believes the destruction of the biblical villages of Sodom and Gomorrah was caused by a nuclear blast waged by warring invaders.

"We may never know for sure in our lifetime . . . but maybe someday the truth will come out," he says.

Persons wanting more information about UFOs may contact Taylor at 524-0199; for personal viewing of the Leonard's Art-space exhibit, call 578-2723.

UFO Stories Dominate Year's Highlights

BY KIMBERLY STEVENSON

One year ago on November 11, 1987 *The Sentinel* newspaper published photographs of unidentified flying objects submitted by a man who wished to remain anonymous.

The photographs were taken with a polaroid camera from the front yard of a Gulf Breeze residence. It showed a round glowing craft with visible portholes.

The photographer, known in *The Sentinel* as Ed said, "It did not spin or rotate but did seem to bob up and down while weaving slightly."

Over the year, Ed has been privy to quite a few photo sessions of the UFOs.

Throughout the year, Ed has maintained his anonymity, due to the controversy this incident has sparked.

After the Nov. 11 photographs were published, the *Sentinel* received numerous phone calls inquiring about the UFO and to report similar sightings.

"Once we printed the pictures it opened the door. People called to say they had seen these objects five or ten years ago," said Allison Brown of *The Sentinel*. These people were very sincere. They definitely saw something, it affected them, their children and pets. They saw something that startled them."

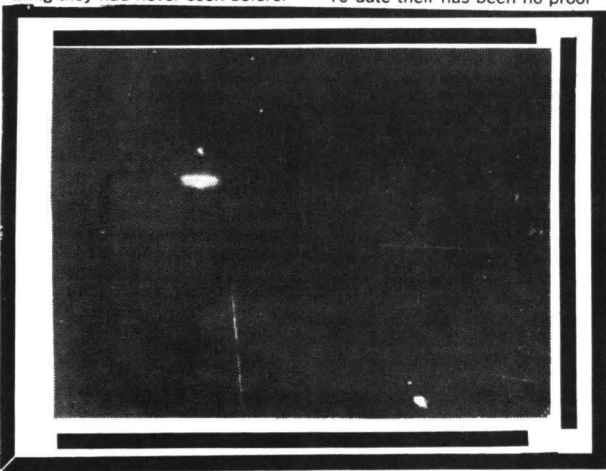
Many sightings were reported after people heard their dogs barking, went to investigate and saw an object hovering over their house.

To this date, hundreds of sightings have been reported to the *Sentinel* by credible witnesses from Gulf Breeze and the surrounding areas. In fact, reports of UFOs have come from as far away as Mobile, Alabama, Perdido Key, Pensacola and Fort Walton.

The Gulf Breeze incident has been labeled by UFO investigative organizations as the best documented account in history.

The Sentinel has reported exactly what has been reported to us, by people who have witnessed something they have never seen before.

Since Gulf Breeze is surrounded by military airbases, the skies are full of aircraft of all types. However, many of the witnesses are prior military or have lived in the area many years and are very familiar with the activity of aircraft in the area. They all said what they saw was something different, something they had never seen before.



One Year Later From The Witnesses Point

BY CHARLIE SOMERBY

Was it preordained that Dori and I should happen to be walking along Hickory Shores Boulevard on the evening of Veterans Day 1987?

Was it just happenstance that she would be looking out over East Bay admiring cloud formations just after sunset when a strange object came into sight through an opening in the sand pines?

She gasped, yelled at me to look, and for several seconds we watched as an unidentified flying object slide across the sky at a steady speed, unchanging course and maintaining a constant elevation heading in a southwesterly course toward downtown Gulf Breeze.

Not a sound as it passed several hundred yards away.

We listened to the news that night, scanned the morning paper, and when it appeared that no one else had had our experience decided to keep silent.

A week later on the way back to our "other home" in Milton swung by the *Sentinel* office where Duane was making up the front page of the week's paper featuring pictures of what we had seen.

We simultaneously confessed that we had viewed the object exactly as pictured. That was all the substantiation the editor needed to go ahead with the explosive page.

There have been many major events in our lives, but never any quite like the last 12 months have been in telling our story to media in all shapes and sizes.

Has the experience had any effect on us in any way? I think not except there's now no doubt in our minds that there are strange aircraft out there that can't be explained.

According to Donald Ware, Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), there are different types of encounters with UFO. The first category is distant encounters:

- 1st. Sighting night flights.
- 2nd Sighting daylight disk
- The second category is close encounters which consist of:
 - Close encounters of the 1st kind - object seen within 500 feet.
 - CE of the 2nd kind - affects the environment such as: leaves ground traces, animal reactions or electromagnetizes automobiles.
 - CE of the 3rd kind - seeing occupants
 - CE of the 4th kind - being taken on board a UFO.

There have been accounts of all these categories in Gulf Breeze. Several people claim to have been abducted, taken aboard the craft, examined and returned.

Interest in these unexplained objects has generated national and international interest as well as controversy.

In one day the *Sentinel* received calls from over 11 states from people inquiring about the UFOs or telling about encounters they have had.

People have journeyed to Gulf Breeze from as far away as Canada, California, Texas and Iowa in hopes of getting a glimpse of this phenomenon. Hundreds of UFO data packets have been mailed out all over the world. The packets which are updated weekly contain most of the articles and photos published in the *Sentinel*.

Hollywood sent film crews, cameras and Robert Stack, host of *Unsolved Mysteries*, to Gulf Breeze, September 11th to film a segment about the UFO mystery for the docu-drama.

Newspapers all over the country have reported on the sightings. The Miami *Herald*, Chicago *Tribune*, Havelock News, Orlando *Sentinel*, Tampa *Tribune*, A Washington D.C. paper, *Omni* magazine, and MUFON Journal, to name a few who have reported on Gulf Breeze newest tourist.

UFO investigative groups such as MUFON and VISIT (Vehicles Internal Systems Investigative Team) have investigated these sightings at depth.

To date there has been no proof

the photographs submitted to the *Sentinel* are fake

Mark Curtis, of WEAR Channel 3 television in Pensacola reported extensively on the Gulf Breeze sightings through a series of news specials. He and his crew spent hundreds of hours researching the subject. His broadcasts generated television interest nationwide. Curtis has been on radio talk shows and was interviewed on the *Unsolved Mysteries* episode.

More recently, Gulf Breeze was focused on during a two hour national live broadcast called *UFO - Cover-Up Live*. An audience of local witnesses were part of the feature which was linked live to Washington D.C., and Russia.

After this broadcast, Gulf Breeze gained even more notoriety.

Ms. Brown called Midwest Office Supply in Chicago, Ill., to place an order for supplies for the paper. When the woman on the phone found out she was calling from Gulf Breeze, she said "That's the place where the UFO's are."

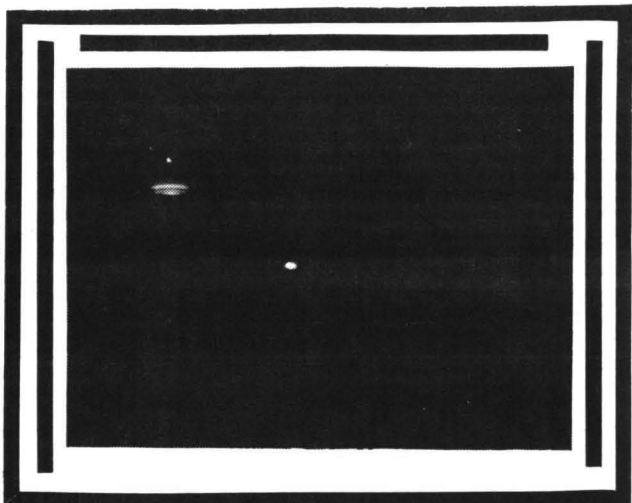
After the *Unsolved Mysteries* episode, a man from South Florida called the *Islander* newspaper on Pensacola Beach and asked Shelly Waters-Adams, "What kind of people are in Gulf Breeze. Are those people cultist?" Waters-Adams explained that Gulf Breeze was a very conservative 'Leave it to Beaver' type of town. "What about the people at the paper?" he asked. Her reply was, "They are our friends; they are very fine people."

Gulf Breeze does seem an unlikely place for visitors from another planet to visit. But one thing is certain, the 'Leave it to Beaver' citizens of Santa Rosa County are seeing something that at this point is unidentifiable. And the list of witnesses includes doctors, city officials, school teachers, business men, law enforcement officers, children, mothers, fathers and grandparents. The *Sentinel* is fulfilling it's role on reporting the "news" that is happening in our community. As the sightings continue, we will keep you updated.

Gulf Breeze is not just that little town you drive through on the way to the beach, anymore.

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL

Nov. 10, 1988 CR: R. Reid



Gulf Breeze UFO from The Investigative Perspective

BY DONALD M. WARE

During the past year, many residents in and around Gulf Breeze, FL have been part of a unique experience in this country. Over a hundred people reported objects that we could not identify as planes, planets, flares, etc.. Some reported seeing alien beings, and six reported blue beams coming from the UFO. One respected Gulf Breeze family had 22 encounters with UFOs, including 18 separate photographic sessions. These sessions produced 41 photographs of at least five different types of flying objects. Five different cameras were used providing sufficient data to determine the size of some objects. For example, one object photographed on 1 May 1988 was 14.8 feet high and had a light on the bottom that was 14.8 feet in diameter. I have seen over 60 photos of UFOs from this area.

Investigations by Newspapers, TV and the Mutual UFO Network were generally accomplished without ridicule. This encouraged 12 people to tell of their UFO experiences that involved "missing time" or extremely strange dreams. Some of these people are having trouble coping with their experiences. MUFON established a support group including abductees, investigators, and a clinical psychologist to help reduce fear of the unknown. I think the support efforts, including time-regression hypnosis, have helped several who seen to have been inside a UFO understand their strange experiences.

I suspect that the increasing national media coverage of the UFO phenomenon, spurred by the Gulf Breeze photos and sightings will cause many more abductees to gain the courage to talk about their experiences. Perhaps some will seek help in understanding what happened to them. I hope investigators and psychologists across the country will work together to provide this help.

Some people have been unable to fully accept the reality of alien visitors, including some "armchair investigators." Perhaps the Gulf Breeze photos will help people across the country accept the reality described in the MJ-12 document and other government disclosures.



To Celebrate or Not To Celebrate

BY DUANE COOK

How do you celebrate the anniversary of an event you are not yet sure was good?

Well, maybe celebrate is not the appropriate term.

Perhaps reminisce is a better word to apply to our thoughts and activities on this 1st anniversary of the now famous UFO sightings by "Ed" and others in and around Gulf Breeze.

Initially we had no idea that printing Ed's UFO photos would cause such a worldwide interest in our fair community.

First, there were the wire services that broke the news worldwide with a brief account of the first sightings.

Then came the *National Enquirer* with their offer to pay for the right to print the photos if NASA Scientists found them genuine.

M.U.F.O.N. (Mutual UFO Network) got involved in the investigation early and became the

authority to which the explosion of local sightings were referred.

Dr Bruce Maccabee, an optical physicist under contract with the Navy, did the most extensive research on the Gulf Breeze sightings and photographs and has pronounced them real for lack of any evidence to the contrary.

And now we find ourselves contemplating why Gulf Breeze?

Is it because they (the UFOs) knew Ed would share his photos with the whole town via the *Sentinel* and subsequently the local TV stations.

And, is it because they knew Gulf Breeze was an educated and respected community that the rest of the world would listen to and take seriously?

Or is it because Ed lives here and they (the UFOs) just followed him here to continue their interaction with him as they have done at eight year intervals since he was a child.

And what about the many other

sightings we've had? Is it just coincidence that Charlie and Doris saw the same craft on the same night that Ed photographed it, thus assuring the *Sentinel's* unflinching support while maintaining its unquestioned credibility?

Then there are the ministers, the teachers, the law enforcement officers, the district medical examiners and his wife, and even a city council member.

Were these people just randomly in the right place at the right time, or is there an intelligent plan guiding the selection of who sees it and who doesn't?

Whether we call it a celebration, a reminiscence, or a review, we all found it amazing that it's already been a whole year since it all started.

And we wanted to share with you our thoughts and reflections on this most interesting year.

Japanese to film UFO incident

A six-member production crew from Nippon-TV in Tokyo, Japan will be in Roswell on Dec. 2 to conduct interviews and tape background for a documentary which will discuss the mysterious UFO which crashed in July 1947, near Corona, author Bill Moore told the Daily Record Thursday.

Moore, co-author of "The Roswell Incident," will accompany the crew during their stay in Roswell and when they tour the crash site (about 75 miles northwest of here). He will serve as a paid consultant to Nip-

pon, Moore said from his office in Los Angeles.

He said Nippon, considered the NBC of Japan, told him that it will spare no expense or effort to discover the truth about what Moore and other UFO researchers feel is one of the most well-documented UFO cases.

Moore, who spent Wednesday and Thursday discussing the Roswell incident with Japanese television producers in Los Angeles, said the crew that will be in Roswell is well-known in Japan.

Jun Ichi Yaoi, who will host the program, is per-

haps the most popular television personality in Japan, as familiar to the Japanese as Johnny Carson. Walter Cronkite or Tom Brokaw is to American audiences, Moore said.

Moore said he realized how popular Ichi Yaoi is on Wednesday evening when the two were eating in a Japanese restaurant in Los Angeles while they discussed the documentary.

When the Japanese-American proprietor of the restaurant saw Ichi Yaoi, he dashed over to greet the television celebrity and remained in a state of awe,

Moore said.

Moore, who is planning the itinerary for the production crew, said the crew will visit the Roswell Industrial Air Center, the home of the U.S. Army Air Field in 1947.

The Nippon crew will also be looking for area buildings which fit the 1940's era.

"The people of Roswell are no doubt going to see them as they look for location shots," Moore said.

Moore will also arrange an interview between the Nippon crew and Roswellite

Walter Haut, a retired art dealer. Haut was the public information officer at the Roswell Army Air Field when the crash was reported to the Army counter-intelligence corps stationed here.

Then Lt. Haut issued a press release, which did not set well with his superiors, stating that a flying disc which had crashed in the Corona area had been recovered by rancher W.W. "Mac" Brazel.

The Associated Press received a copy of the press release and newspapers worldwide carried the story.

Moore has maintained since 1980, when The Roswell Incident was first published, that the U.S. government has covered up the details of the crash for the past 41 years.

The recently-released paperback version of the book is selling well, Moore said.

Nippon will also interview Dr. J.A. Marcel, after flying him from Montana to Albuquerque, Moore said.

Marcel's father, Maj. Jesse Marcel, was the staff intelligence officer at the Roswell Air Field when the incident took place. He died in the early 1980's.

Maj. Marcel said in interviews before his death that he was ordered to fly the wreckage of the UFO to 8th Air Force headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas, soon after recovering it.

His son, Dr. Marcel, said his father took the remnants of the wreckage to their house in Roswell before taking them to Fort Worth. He said he vividly remembers examining the remnants and trying to help his father piece them together.

After spending the day in Roswell, the Japanese crew will travel to Carrizozo and Corona, Moore said.

Brazel discovered the wreckage as he worked his ranchland near Corona. A few days after discovering the disc, he came to Roswell and reported finding it to then Chaves County Sheriff George Wilcox.

Ed Shares Past Year's Experiences on UFO Sighting Anniversary

On Nov. 11, 1987, as opened the front door and stared at the glowing object partly obscured by several pine trees, I stepped into a phenomena that jolted me to the reality of UFOs: A phenomena that is being witnessed all over the world and here at home by dozens of our fellow residents. This reality may be hard to accept for those who have not had a sighting so, I do not try to convince or persuade. I have only reported my personal sightings and incidents as they happened.

The resulting photographs and video tape I took of the UFO have been validated by computer imaging (Dr. MacCabbie, physicist with the U.S. Navy) And, of course, there are others who feel differently and offer little other than opinions.

When I was asked to use a 4 lens Nimslo 3-D sealed camera - I did. When I was asked to use the SRS (Self Referencing Stereo) camera - I did. The technical analysis of these photographs produced page after page of data with the end result detailing an object 14 foot in diameter at the bottom ring and 475 feet distant.

The accusation of hoax came fast from those unable to say "maybe" and I was asked to take a lie detector test. Again the ridicule was hurled toward me and yet another lie detector test.

As the controversy swirled, I began to hear preposterous tales being spread by the debunkers about devil parties and "ultimate pranks," etc. Those of you who know me will certainly laugh at such claims but the object was to discredit me in the eyes of those who don't know me. There was a very serious attempt to destroy my reputation by twisting spooky party games into ritual seances. Having failed to discredit the photographic evidence, the out of town critics have mounted a slander campaign hoping to brand me. Thank you Gulf Breeze for ignoring these outrageous rumors.

Some of you may remember the front page headline "Expert says Photos a Hoax." The next day the "expert" publicly retracted his claim and apologized. A Counterintelligence Agency in Maryland was given an audio tape of me being interviewed. The resulting examination of the tape on a PSE (Psychological Stress Evaluator) vindicated my word once more when the examiner said the result "does not show any reaction to cause this examiner to doubt his (Eds) answers."

Soon I began to understand that no matter how many tests I was subjected to and how many times the photographs were analyzed, I was still open game for the out of town media and clearly a target to be ridiculed by the out of town debunkers. Many distant newspapers and TV crews consistently played "hide and seek" with reporting the accurate details, and several times I have been blackmailed in their quest for a scoop to expose my name.

The official MUFON investigation was even infiltrated early by a debunker who took a liquid sample (suspected to have fallen from the UFO) for analysis only to issue a false report. Later the sample was analyzed by an independent lab with startling results. The debunker was exposed and fired in discredit. Another debunker from Central Florida has recently been exposed and is now being ignored by serious researchers.

From Nov. 11 to May 1, 1988 (my last sighting), I have been steadfast to the truth as the storm of controversy, both positive and negative, continued to build in the media. The most troublesome question of the controversy is, "Why have I had so many sightings?" I can not explain the "why" questions, the most disturbing one being, "Why Me?"

In an effort to understand, I have undergone a battery of psychological profile tests followed by six hours of regressive hypnosis. The details of the hypnosis indicate previous encounters as far back as 11 years of age. I was the first to shake my head in confusion but have come to the adjustment that life goes on - even life we may not understand.

Thanks to all those who have stood up and reported what they saw. Thank you, Gulf Breeze for being a good neighbor.

HERALD-JOURNAL, Spartanburg, SC - Dec. 31, 1988

AIRPLANE

Witnesses baffled by search results

By LORI D. ROBERTS
Staff Writer

Although the search for what appeared to be an exploded plane has ceased, some of the people who reported it to emergency officials are convinced that what they saw was not their imaginations gone berserk.

"By the way it looked, I still think it was a plane. It was very unusual," said Jeanette Burgess. "Maybe they haven't searched far enough in the direction it went. You could tell it

was far off."

Civil Air Patrol teams and county emergency officials searched for three days for what several people thought was a small-engine, yellow and white airplane that swooped down behind trees on Tuesday. Some people reported seeing a ball of fire fall from the sky. Still others reported hearing a boom.

"My mother said she heard a big boom, and she was here in the house," Ms. Burgess said. "For a lot of people to see the same thing, I know it wasn't my imagination. Something went down."

But air and ground searches turned up nothing more than frustrated crews and baffled eyewitnesses.

"I really don't understand it. I just don't understand why a plane was not found. I know what I saw. That's all I can say," said Clarence Rowland.

Anthony Miller also said he knows what he saw, but can't fathom nothing being found.

"It's kind of hard to (realize) that something wasn't found. My wife saw it, I saw it and my kids saw it. . . . We all saw it. I don't know what to make of it."

CR: G. Fawcett

COURIER-HERALD, Enumclaw, WA - Dec. 7, 1988

UFO sighted on Plateau

An large, circular object reportedly beaming bright light down from the sky east of Enumclaw was spotted by local people late in November, according to a private UFO investigator.

Laurence Childs, an employee of the Mutual UFO Network who investigates unidentified flying object sightings in the King County area, said several people called his office after the weekend of Nov. 26 claiming they had seen an unidentified flying object in the Greenwater area near Grass Mountain.

"My job is to investigate sightings or calls," Childs said. "It could have been Venus, the moon, an airplane or a helicopter. It's our job to determine if the sightings are legitimate."

The Mutual UFO Network is a national organization headquartered in Seguin, Texas, with a base in

Seattle.

Childs, a firm believer in extraterrestrial life, said most people won't report a UFO to his agency, friends, media or the government because they're either scared or afraid people will ridicule them.

Childs said a young man from Black Diamond reported he was driving on Highway 410 Nov. 26 between 1:30 and 2 a.m. and saw an unknown object floating in the sky toward Grass Mountain. Reportedly, others joined the man alongside the road to watch the airborne object about a mile away.

Childs said the man described the sky as overcast and said the object was rather large with a circular top like a dome. It was shining extremely bright lights on the mountainside. The man said it made no noise and remained stationary for about 45 minutes and then flew

away.

Childs said people from Crystal Mountain reported seeing something similar lately and others have reported sightings in the area, too. Childs was conducting interviews with people who claimed to see the UFO in the area last week.

Childs, who was the head of the Mutual UFO agency in Colorado for 12 years, said people see all kinds of things, but it is rare that the agency receives a lot of calls within a few days of each other.

"We gather information and then it goes into our files," he said.

Childs was to check with the Federal Aviation Administration on Tuesday. His investigation will also include interviews with the armed services and search and rescue organizations to see if any aircraft were in the area at the time.



Author alleges big-scale coverup clouds evidence of UFOs existing

By Paul Grondahl
Hearst News Service

Timothy Good has gone to the ends of the earth to try to prove UFOs exist.

The British UFOologist's just-published book is "Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Cover-Up" (William Morrow, \$19.95).

an exhaustive, 500-plus page tome jam packed with dozens of declassified U.S. government military and intelligence documents that show the faint outline of an official suppression of alien evidence.

"The UFO cover-up," Good says in his precise British manner, "makes the Iran-contra scandal look like a school-boy prank."

The linchpin upon which Good's carefully crafted government conspiracy theory hinges is a top-secret, "eyes only" briefing document dated Nov. 18, 1952, prepared for president-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower. The briefing updates Eisenhower on the top-secret UFO research group formed in 1947 by President Harry Truman and code-named "Operation Majestic 12."

The gist of the Eisenhower briefing — which Good says was leaked to him and a few other UFO researchers by a high-level government official — is that "four small human-like beings" were recovered after a UFO crashed in a remote region of New Mexico on July 7, 1947. Government intelligence officials, Good contends, still have those alien bodies and other evidence of UFOs under heavy security.

The Eisenhower briefing says, "Civilian and military witnesses in the area were debriefed, and news reporters were given the effective cover story that the object had been a misguided weather research balloon."

And so begins — in Good's mind, at

"The UFO cover-up makes the Iran-contra scandal look like a school-boy prank."

— Timothy Good

least — the cover-up of what he calls "the most sensitive matter in the U.S. intelligence community today."

Not surprisingly, government officials have denied the accuracy of the Eisenhower briefing and, just as predictably, Good has lined up his own experts who authenticate it.

"What has been released so far is just the tip of the iceberg," Good says.

Good's worldwide travels have been in pursuit of an unlikely professional partnership. He is a concert violinist who toured with the London Symphony Orchestra for 14 years and with other orchestras. While he was on the tour circuit all those years, traveling from continent to continent, Good spent his free time researching UFOs — his passionate avocation since boyhood.

These days, Good, 45, stays closer to home (London) and plays "the fiddle," as he calls it, in studio sessions for recording artists who include Paul McCartney, Sade and Wet Wet Wet.

At this point, Good's UFO work is more time-consuming than his fiddle playing. He became a popular lecturer on the topic after "Above Top Secret" climbed to the No. 2 spot on Britain's best-seller list and No. 1 in Australia.

In this country, however, despite the phenomenal success of Whitley Strieber's account of his encounter with

an alien ("Communion"), Good's book has not made the anticipated splash. A month after it was released, no reviews have appeared in major American newspapers.

"I'm very surprised by that," Good says. "I don't know what's going on." An advance review by Booklist in this country called Good's book "one of the best-documented UFO books ever written — highly recommended."

Good has a theory on why respected scientists and investigative journalists have thus far largely ignored the topic of UFOs and aliens.

"It's a very controversial subject with so much ridicule attached to it that the serious media are afraid to touch it," Good says. "There is also an official government campaign of disinformation still going on in an attempt to discredit us and to keep the fear of ridicule strong."

Good says he has had four sightings of UFOs, adding, "But they were from a long distance, very fleeting and ultimately frustrating."

Good plans a follow-up to "Above Top Secret." Already, he says, sensational information has begun leaking from his sources.

"I believe there is more than one species of aliens involved," he says. "And there are rumors the government has a liaison alien with at least two species. One theory has it that in return for the government giving them bases on our planet we are given some of their technology, which is some sort of artificial gravity field."

Good concedes that over the course of years in his UFO research he has suffered bouts of doubt himself as to the validity of aliens.

"There is more work to be done," he says. "But nothing the skeptics have produced so far shows me that UFOs are anything but real."

Search for airplane unsuccessful, called off

By LOUI ROBERTS
Staff Writer

The three-day search for an airplane that reportedly was seen falling from the sky in the Arkwright area Tuesday ended yesterday without any evidence of an explosion or crash.

The Civil Air Patrol and Spartanburg County Emergency Preparedness officials continued their search yesterday as aircraft flew over the more than 100 acres of swamp and woodland. "They came up with nothing. They have concluded their investigation, and we have concluded ours," said Bill Hall, assistant director of the Emergency Preparedness office. "We're at a standstill right now."

Several people reported seeing an object fall from the sky in a ball of fire and smoke, and others reported hearing what sounded like an airplane engine turning on and off. These reports came to Spartanburg County Communications, emergency personnel and to the Spartanburg Herald-Journal.

Most of the eyewitnesses said they saw a glowing fireball drift from the sky at about 5 p.m. Tuesday, but others could not determine whether it was an airplane, a parachute or meteor shower. Emergency officials are equally baffled as to what these people actually saw fall from the sky three days ago.

"I sure wish I knew. I have no idea (what they saw)," Hall said. "It would tickle me to death to find out."

No signs of a downed aircraft or an explosion of any kind turned up during the first two days of the search, but officials believed the story witnesses told. Also, the fact that so many people reported the same thing though they live miles apart kept the search alive until 1 p.m. yesterday.

Officials do not expect to re-open the search. It won't start again "unless some other kind of information comes up, and I don't really look for that to happen," Hall said.

"We feel like we covered the area as well as we could cover it," he added. Airports in Spartanburg and surrounding counties reported no missing aircraft.

And to places like a mountaintop outside Austin, Texas, where folks devoted all their spare time to signaling to UFOs. They showed me lots of pictures. (Unidentified flying objects in the sky.)

UFO-believing has achieved respectability now. At least one book on the subject has made the New York Times non-fiction best-seller list recently. (The author is frequently accosted and/or examined by little blue men, and everybody from Larry King to Johnny Carson seems to believe something has gone on with this respected writer.)

Obviously, I was ahead of my time. Forty years ago, I believed in UFOs. I still do, and I get strange calls from other addicts all the time, and now, Gallup reported, a majority of Americans believe in UFOs. So there.

My own belief not only bordered on prophecy, it now has mass acceptance. Ha ha. Only one thing, as I said at the beginning, tends to mar the belief so many of us now have. That one thing, in the absence of a single verifiable fact or proof, is this:

When we "believe in" UFOs, what is it we are believing in?

John Keasler

UFOs = Unverified Foolhardy Opinions

UFOs are getting more ink and air time again. The flares of publicity seem to come and go, decade after decade.

I have been a student of UFOs for 40 years, at least in the sense of writing and reading about them a lot.

It's a great hobby. It lacks only one thing, even though, in the Big Picture, I believe in UFOs.

And I have believed in UFOs for years. They are part of my philosophy. I believe in everything. This is far more fun than believing in little or nothing, and, in the long run, it works out the same way except you don't have to remember all the time to be cynical.

The one thing UFOs lack, to make my hobby perfect, started back in 1948 when I was night police reporter on the Tampa Tribune.

Two well-dressed men ran into the city room near midnight. (Newspapers didn't have guards then. In my opinion, newspapers shouldn't have guards now. They should have keepers, in white uniforms. The people to watch out for are newspaper inmates, not the general public.)

"We saw them, we saw them!" they shouted. "Saw what?" said the city editor, Bill Abbott. "Flying saucers, three of them," one of the men said, pointing to the ceiling.

"Yep, flying saucers," shouted the other man. Without even looking up from his copy editing, Mr. Abbott jerked his thumb over his shoulder and said, "Talk to him."

His thumb was pointing at me. I had, however vaguely, heard of "flying saucers." I talked to the excited men. They had been walking down Platt Street, they said, and looked up and these three strange lights were hanging in the sky over the University of Tampa. Different colored lights flashed on them.

Then, zippppppp, they took off faster than imaginable.

This struck me as a splendid story. We had nothing in the morgue at the time on



Keasler

"flying saucers" except for one AP story about a whole passel of people seeing them somewhere in Arizona. However, there were about three paragraphs of fairly good flying saucer background. (Since biblical times, etc.)

I wrote the story and put it on the city desk.

Mr. Abbott glanced idly at my masterpiece. "My, my, isn't that fascinating?" Then he picked up the story gingerly with his copy shears and dropped it into the wastebasket, and told me to do the late check on the cop shop.

In the next couple of years, Tampa had other sightings. I talked to a number of people. They had seen something. I was sure of that. The editors said they didn't doubt it, and if I ever found out what it was, please give them at least three paragraphs on it.

On the Atlanta Journal, later, I seemed to catch the Flying Saucer duty whenever it came up. One day that city editor, Robert H. Collins, brought a tall and imposing-looking man over to my desk and introduced me as the space editor.

The tall, highly dignified and, somehow, rather strange man said, "Would you like to see a space ship, or, as you might term it, a flying saucer?"

"Sure," I said. "Where is it?"

"Out in the woods past Buckhead," he said. He went on to explain that he was part of the crew. Collins and the rest of the staff were snickering at me.

He explained that the space ship operated on a gravity-reversal turbine, that it came from a civilization elsewhere in which the number 9 was the basis of mathematics, that the vista was exploratory and friendly, and that I had to go right then if I wanted to see it, as they were leaving that night.

Unfortunately, I told him, my agenda was so jammed I couldn't possibly make it until Thursday or perhaps Friday. He took the news calmly, nodded to me and departed. That night there were so many sightings of strange lights in the sky from the Atlanta area that the Journal reluctantly ran a brief story. STRANGE LIGHTS REPORTED IN SKY.

I am still kicking myself. It might have cleared up the one point that disturbs my hobby of believing in UFOs.

You were automatically a bit nuts in the 1950s if

you "believed in flying saucers." Even the Hearst paper I worked on in San Francisco, a circus named the Call-Bulletin, wouldn't buy the UFO reports. To finally get a story in the paper, I had to invent IFOs (Identified Flying Objects) in order to write the report of a couple of experienced commercial airline pilots who not only had seen something, but had the moxie to risk being called ridiculous, which of course was the final result of their being in the Call-Bulletin.

The Midwest was jammed with UFOs when I was on the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. But the Post-Dispatch, the old-school version, ran nothing it couldn't check out twice. The Miami News has been somewhat more flexible, starting a number of years ago when the country got so jammed with UFO buffs that practically all newspapers had to give in a bit.

It sent me to cover various UFO stories — the one where a couple of shipyard workers, Charley Hickson and Calvin Parker, reported being picked up while fishing off a dock in Pascagoula and being examined by aliens, rather painfully, in a space ship. And I got to go out west to the mysterious livestock mutilations.

And to places like a mountaintop outside Austin, Texas, where folks devoted all their spare time to signaling to UFOs. They showed me lots of pictures. (Unidentified flying objects in the sky.)

UFO-believing has achieved respectability now. At least one book on the subject has made the New York Times non-fiction best-seller list recently. (The author is frequently accosted and/or examined by little blue men, and everybody from Larry King to Johnny Carson seems to believe something has gone on with this respected writer.)

Obviously, I was ahead of my time. Forty years ago, I believed in UFOs. I still do, and I get strange calls from other addicts all the time, and now, Gallup reported, a majority of Americans believe in UFOs. So there.

My own belief not only bordered on prophecy, it now has mass acceptance. Ha ha. Only one thing, as I said at the beginning, tends to mar the belief so many of us now have. That one thing, in the absence of a single verifiable fact or proof, is this:

When we "believe in" UFOs, what is it we are believing in?



Question of Cause



Garnett Fielder of Spalding points to the small centre circle of the unexplained phenomenon found in his son's field.

By Lori M. Fielder

Garnett Fielder is a retired farmer who presently lives in Spalding. Come harvesting time he generously helps his sons, Rodney and Edward Fielder, get the crops off and into the bins. But never in Garnett's seventy years has he run across this questionable phenomenon.

The photo was taken in one of Rodney's fields south east of Spalding. The pictures show a ten foot perfectly shaped circle. In the centre of this is yet another circle measuring 1½ feet.

What appears to have occurred, is the standing barley had been blown to the sides of the circle, flattening down the barley, the same in the centre circle. All the barley in this ten foot mysterious circle had been totally shelled. The rest of the field remained untouched. After a three day rain we received, a re-growth is occurring and clearly suggests an unusual occurrence.

The barley is swathed and combined now, yet you can still see how the barley straw had been created to halo these two circles, leaving curiosity in any man's mind!

Many things are questionable as to what could have caused such a remarkable formation. Deer nesting and feeding? But there are no tracks and no animal could be so creative as to leave such a perfect job. The barley lay on the ground - shelled - not eaten! This was evidently ruled out!

We called weather stations and inquired as to what land markings of whirlwinds, twisters and tornadoes would leave if they were to touch down.

Most of these winds do not just kiss the ground, they usually travel, some great distances and others shorter paths. Although they never ruled out the possibility of this occurring.

Most winds will leave a lot of damage, uprooting, scattering, leaving a trail of its presence. It's not so much as flattening down in one particular area.

In a tornado case, again things would be more disrupted and there was really no ex-

planation for the centre circle. In the centre of a tornado it is believed to have calmer winds than that of the raging outer shell of a tornado which is the cause for all the devastating destruction it leaves behind. Although anything is possible these days.

Many photos have been taken of this interesting find and will be forwarded to the Space and Ast./Physics & Science Department in Saskatoon where the photos will be examined and may be forwarded to Ottawa where there is a place that contends with unidentified phenomena.

Apparently this is the same sightings or description that fits one that was reported near Maple Creek over a year ago, found in a farmer's summer-fallow field.

Things like this do happen and we never realize the curiosity they bring until you discover something questionable yourself.

Many friends, relatives and local media as well as Murray Koskie MLA and Watson local ag. rep. have been out to witness such a remarkable formation. Many people have taken photos and voiced their opinions on this occurrence, as well as this past week CBC radio conducted an interview. It's quite interesting to see how news travels.

So as soon as all the dust settles, Rodney will eventually be able to get cultivating that field before all the snow flies; and all the media and curiosity it brought will be gone, but not forgotten.

Although whirlwinds, twisters or lightning may be the only earthly explanations given, one still wonders who or what exactly was the creator?

Note: A special gratitude goes to Donald McEwen from Saskatchewan University for his dedicated time and interest given in this matter.

EXPRESS & STAR, Wolverhampton, England
Oct. 29, 1988 CR: T. Good

Pilots 'saw UFO'

Brazilian pilots in three aircraft have reported seeing a circular unidentified flying object near Brasilia on October 3.

NEW THEORY OVER STRANGE SIGHTINGS

Were the UFOs on a dark rendezvous?

EXPERTS probing mystery UFO sightings in the skies above Stafford have hit upon a new theory.

The British UFO Research Association has always claimed that the flashing triangular shapes witnessed on many occasions during the summer months were top secret American Stealth fighter planes.

Now it believes that several jets are now rendezvousing in the night sky on mid air refuelling exercises - and that is the real reason why so many people are seeing what they believe are UFOs.

BUFORA, which has dealt with 1,000 sightings in the last 15 months, reveals that there are remarkable similarities between what happened in Stafford and what took place in the sky above Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire last December.

"There is every reason to wonder if the lights were on several aircraft that were fly-

ing much higher than believed and only seemed low because the entire retinue was enormous and misinterpreted as belonging to just one aircraft," said Jenny Randles, director of investigations at BUFORA.

"In that case this would be several jets and at least one rumbling tanker in a mid air refuelling exercise, probably from the US Air Force at a base in southern England. I suspect this might well have been the case," she added.

BUFORA works on the premise that nine out of ten UFO sightings have a conventional explanation and since the first sightings has always claimed that the unusual lights and shapes were in fact secret flights of military aircraft over Britain.

The first sightings came in May and June but the height of activity in the skies came in July when there were three separate reports and David Myatt from Church Eaton

stood underneath an object for 15 minutes.

Flashing orange, red and blue lights and silent movement were common to most sightings which continued until September when a further sighting was reported at Cannock Chase which according to BUFORA is 'notorious' for them.

Stafford MP Bill Cash collated all the information and put the strange sightings to

Defence Minister Roger Freeman for official investigation. All he came up with was that they were probably due to an increase in activity of aircraft waiting to land at Birmingham Airport.

Mr Cash described that explanation as 'laughable' but is not going to be put off and is still keen to hear of any other sightings.

"It is like any other inquiry, you have to take it in steps," said the MP.

STAR, Auckland, New Zealand
Oct. 31, 1988 CR: R. Collins

Author tries US

Author and investigator Bruce Cathie has had enough of New Zealand's sceptical reading public. So the one-time airline pilot is selling his next story to the Americans. Captain Cathie hit the country's headlines in the late 60s and early 70s with three books triggered by the unidentifiable objects he saw while working as a pilot for NAC.

U.F.O. expert called in

BY ALAN JERVIS

A SPATE of sightings over Crewe and Nantwich during the past few days is being investigated by one of the country's top Unidentified Flying Objects researchers.

Following 'red ball' sightings throughout this month Mr Eric Morris, regional co-ordinator with the British UFO Research Association, is busy collating the evidence.

He said: "There has been a huge increase in sightings this year, particularly since May when we had the famous report of a landing near Audlem."

"And on September 13 there were coinciding sightings in Nantwich, Crewe, Winsford and Northwich."

"I have spoken to one of two men who saw objects they could not identify over Alton Street, Crewe."

Top-level

Mr Morris (pictured) conducts his top-level inquiries in the strictest confidence.

"He said: 'We treat all reports to us with the utmost respect and

seriousness and to be honest, we eventually are able to identify about 95 per cent of the sightings.'

But that still leaves Mr Morris with a staggering 500 sightings he has not been able to explain.

Flashing

Commenting on the September 13 sightings over the area Mr Morris, who works at the Barony Hospital in Nantwich and lives in Earle Street, Crewe, said: "The men reported seeing two

bright white lights with a flashing red light at the rear."

"Some time later they saw the same object which this time flew over a red ball in the sky. It appeared to chase the other object for some seconds before turning away and going out of sight."

Mr Morris, who checks the flight paths of aircraft leaving Manchester Airport, added: "The interesting thing is that this is what has apparently been seen on many occasions in this area over recent months."

Interest

The May 21 landing near Audlem triggered off unprecedented interest from the Ministry of Defence.

Mr Morris explains: "The landing was reported separately by a Hankelow man and a group of four other people who stopped their car because of what they saw."

"They described it as a very bright red spherical object which came down rapidly out of the sky and landed in a field. It remained on the ground for about five minutes, dimmed and then took off."

"I have investigated the site of the landing and can confirm that the grass was burned over a 40ft diameter and that trees were also scorched at the base. There were also two dead cats and a dead badger in the vicinity."

Space

Does he believe they came from outer space?

He said: "I am completely unemotional and open-minded on the subject. But I have seen tapes of people who have claimed to have had contact with unknown craft, and indeed beings, reliving their experiences under strict medical hypnosis."

"And I am in no doubt at all that they were telling the absolute truth."



UFO buzzes mum's car

MUM Margaret Wilson yesterday revealed her close encounter with a UFO which followed her car for 30 miles before zooming off at "supersonic speed."

Margaret, 48, was travelling home to Eastleigh, Hants, from Bournemouth with RAF man Geoff Reeves. Both were baffled by the bright ball of light. The Defence Ministry said: "There are things out there we don't know about."

CR: D. Speed

NEWSLETTER, Stafford, England - Dec. 16, 1988 CR: T. Good

SUN, London, England
Aug. 13, 1988

WITNESS, Watson, Saskatchewan, Canada - Sept. 21, 1988 CR: G. Conway

UFO IS NO

FAKE

Pete's 'saucer' amazes boffin

THIS astonishing picture of a flying saucer is NOT a fake.

That is the verdict of top experts who have spent A YEAR studying the sensational snap.

The picture—and three like it—was subjected to incredibly detailed scientific examination in America.

Confessed

Now, after months of painstaking analysis, the U.S. eggheads have declared: "We cannot prove they are fakes."

The amazing photos—exclusively revealed in the Daily Star in January—were taken in Barnsley, by amateur cameraman Peter Beard.

By ALWYN THOMAS

They clearly show an object shaped like a bowler hat zooming over the town's rooftops early one morning.

British boffins confessed they were baffled so the pictures were sent to a team led by Star Wars scientist Dr Bruce Maccabee.

In a fact-packed, 29 page report, the world-renowned optical physicist says:

"I have spent hours trying to find evidence that this was a hoax—and I have failed."

"My gut feeling is that the case is good."

It seems believable."

The news has thrilled 37-year-old Peter, who said last night: "I am delighted the experts have backed me up. I never believed in flying saucers until I actually saw one."

He and his common-law wife, Angie, 35, BOTH saw the fantastic object just after 5 a.m. on August 5, 1987.

Peter, a trainee computer worker, woke at their home in Barnsley's Sheffield Road convinced a fly was buzzing on the window.

He angrily got up to swat the pest—and saw the strange object approaching over the top of the terraced houses opposite.

"It was an incredible sight—an aluminium-coloured disc spinning through the sky with lights flashing everywhere," he recalled.

Peter had been on a fishing trip the previous weekend and borrowed a camera a camera which was still loaded and lying nearby.

He grabbed it and quickly took four shots of the saucer through the window before the camera jammed.

Impressed

Angie also woke and saw the object. But it vanished from sight while the couple desperately tried to get it working again.

"It was definitely a flying saucer—it couldn't have been anything else," said Angie.

She added: "It was a silvery colour and was making a buzzing noise."

"It hovered over the rooftops opposite for several seconds and it seemed as if it didn't know where to go."

At first, sceptical British scientists thought the 'saucer' might have been posted on Peter's bedroom window.

But expert cameraman dismissed that theory—and also knocked suggestions that the object was an aircraft or even a flock of geese.

Dr Macabee, a civilian employee of the US Navy, is regarded as the world's foremost analyst of UFO material.

Last night Philip Mantle of the Independent UFO Network said:

"The photos have been thoroughly checked out and they are NOT a hoax."



Schoolgirl sees alien craft buzz houses

TWO UFOS have been seen in Weedon by a young schoolgirl — they were hovering above houses, only 100 feet in the air.

The sightings are now being investigated by the Northamptonshire UFO Research Association.

And the association is hoping that other people in the village also spotted the craft from outer space.

Ten-year-old Terri Oakensen, who lives in Weedon, had her close encounters after she had walked her friend home early in the evening, exactly one month ago.

But details have only just come to light.

Of the two sightings, the second one was the clearest. This is Terri's account of what she saw.

"I saw something strange over my next-door neighbour's house. It was eye-shaped, and it had coloured lights around it. They were red, blue, green and yellow. On the top there was a light which flashed blue and then red. When all the lights went off a black thing came on at the bottom, and when it moved away the whole thing went white. There was no noise."

The first sighting was a few minutes earlier, when Terri saw an eye-shaped



I saw a spaceship... Terri Oakensen.

white object, but no detail.

These encounters came nearly 10 years to the day that Terri's grandmother, Mrs Elsie Oakensen, saw a huge UFO above the A5 at Weedon.

Elsie, whose story is well known to many Daventry Express readers, is the Daventry representative for the

UFO Research Association.

She said that on the same night as Terri's sightings (October 24) there were further reports of similar encounters in Northampton and Corby.

"At 6.05 pm there were three separate sightings of a group of six objects, and 6.25 pm there were another three reports of a group of three objects."

Elsie added that it would be very interesting and helpful to find out if anyone else in the area saw something that night.

If you did then contact Mr Ernest Still, 46 Occupation Road, Corby, Northants, who is the county representative of the association and who is investigating Terri's sightings.

SPALDING GUARDIAN, Lincs., England - Sept. 23, 1988 CR: T. Good

UFO: DOGS HOWL

PINCHBECK UFO spotter Mr Andrew Cochrane has confirmed there were two unusual sightings over the village this week.

He was first alerted when a lady from the village called to say something was hovering high over her home at about 10 pm on Sunday.

"It certainly looked rather odd. Its colours were very bright — white, green and brilliant red," said Mr Cochrane.

Dogs were howling, but stopped when the object moved off.

Mr Cochrane, an investigator for the British UFO Society which specialises in explaining UFO phenomena, said on Monday he and his wife had seen a similar object, but this time without the red light, moving north-west.

Mr Cochrane is conducting a campaign to persuade the Ministry of Defence to co-operate with UFO investigators.

At one time, he says, RAF bases would offer information on aircraft movements which often went a long way to explaining sightings.

'We're not mad' say men who followed a UFO

UFO spotters reckon they have seen what could be an alien spacecraft over Southend.

"But no-one will believe us," said Ron Murrill, of Crown Avenue, Pitsea.

He said: "I was with my mate, Frank Devenue from the Craylands estate at Basildon. We spotted it on the way to work on the early shift at Ekco."

"We saw a series of lights in the sky along the Arterial Road and followed them all the way from Rayleigh to Sutton Road."

"It was quite uncanny. We travelled eight miles, watching the light zig-zag across the sky. The funny thing was that it kept stopping. When we stopped at the lights, it stopped."

People say we are mad. But it could not have been a plane, because it was stopping and starting."

"The only thing that come and go like that would be a Harrier jet, but you would hear the noise. This was quite silent."

"It happened around 5.25am, and there was little traffic. It could have been following us. Everybody at work keeps laughing about it, but we did see it."

The sighting comes against a background of regular activity in the night sky over Southend.

There were suggestions this week that an American Stealth plane may be the mysterious triangular object some people have seen. It is a slow-flying bomber currently under test.

The biggest reported sighting came three weeks ago when hundreds of people saw blue lights in the sky in the early hours of the morning.

Mr Murrill's sighting has been reported to the UFO Action Line.

YELLOW ADVERTISER, Colchester, England - Nov. 25, 1988 CR: T. Good

THE BEMUSING TRIANGLE

DID A MASSIVE SPACESHIP CRASH CARVE OUT NZ'S TAPANUI CRATER?

By John Pinkney

FOUR gigantic UFOs exploded over New Zealand's South Island 810 years ago, a respected scientist claims.

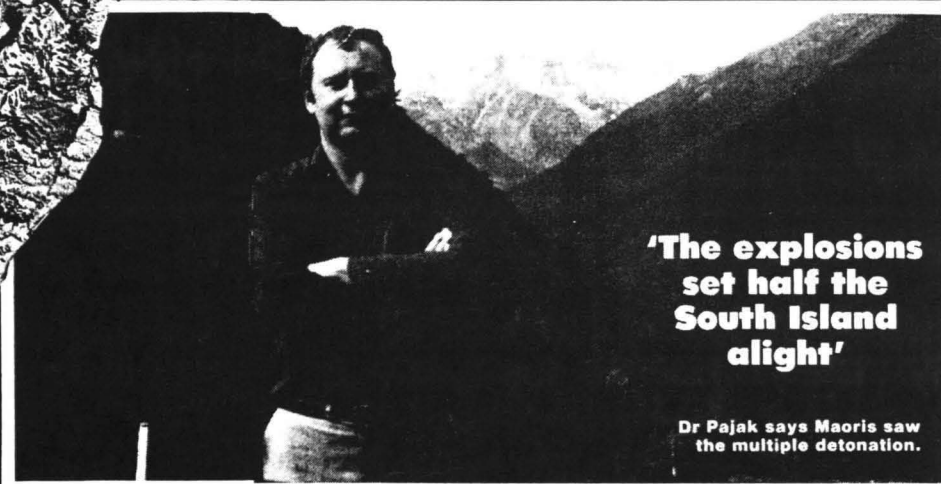
The blast, more powerful than 20 Hiroshima atomic bombs, carved out the vast triangular area known as the Tapanui Crater, says Dr Jan Pajak, Otago University's senior lecturer in computer studies.

"Splinters of wreckage from the

doomed, magnetically-powered spaceships still lie scattered across hundreds of kilometres," Dr Pajak told me. "The crater is so powerfully magnetised that it plays havoc with pilots' compasses."

"This magnetisation could also be responsible for the mysterious local illness known as Tapanui flu, which leaves its victims listless for months."

"The same inexplicable disease has affected people living in Tunguska, Siberia where Soviet scientists believe



'The explosions set half the South Island alight'

Dr Pajak says Maoris saw the multiple detonation.

Experts support UFO claim

EXPERTS are giving their backing to a young boy's claim that he saw an unidentified flying object land in a field at the rear of his home.

Two ufologists have visited ten-year-old Peter Topham at his Fornham All Saints home and have confirmed they believe his story of seeing a strange craft.

Radiation

They carried out radiation tests on the site of scorched sugar beet where Peter says the UFO

Report by Andy Cooper

landed and took photographs and notes at the scene.

And this week they said the results of their findings backed up Peter's claim and they asked for other witnesses to come forward.

Mr Ron West, founder member of the East Anglian UFO Research Association, said: "We have been to investigate the incident in Fornham All Saints on the night of September 11 and we believe Peter's story."

Mr West, who was one of the ufologists to visit the field at the rear of Peter's home at Tut Hill, said the description sounded like a flying saucer.

Saucer-like

"Certainly from the configuration of the lights which were described to us by Peter. I can only presume we are talking about a saucer-like craft," he added.

The strange tale of the mysterious craft was told by Peter in the Free Press on September 30. He says he saw an object with bright flashing lights hovering at the end of a field near his home.

an alien craft exploded in June 1908." Polish-born Dr Pajak, 42, holds a Master of Engineering degree and a PhD in Technical Sciences.

He believes he has assembled "compelling historical and physical evidence" that in 1178 AD, four clustered UFOs detonated within seconds of each other creating a triangular 350km blast area, containing a quartet of inner craters.

"I believe the explosions set half the South Island alight and possibly helped wipe out the ancient bird, the moa," Dr Pajak said.

"The multiple detonation was witnessed by Maoris living in the area."

"They vividly describe it in many of their legends."

"The witnesses recalled seeing a horn-shaped object which glowed like the moon."

"It rapidly descended toward Stewart Island, then flew horizontally at a very low altitude, before bursting into flames."

"The names of towns in the blast area commemorate the event."

- "The Maori words 'Ta-pa-nui' translate as 'the big explosion'."
- "The name of the town Waipahi is Maori for 'place of the exploding fire'."
- "Stewart Island's Maori name, Rakiura, means 'the glowing sky'."
- "And Matura is a descriptive name for 'the glowing ship in the sky'."

Dr Pajak says there is twofold evidence that 1178 AD was the year in which the alien spacecrafts crashed. "Carbon dating of fallen trees, whose trunks point toward the crater, indicates they're roughly 810 years old," he told me.

UFO 'hovered over park'

By JAMES MURTY

CONGESTED flightpaths and mid-air near misses may have prepared us for anything in the sky — anything, that is, except flying saucers.

But a Reading couple have claim to have seen a UFO when they looked out of the window at their home in Parkhill Drive, Tilehurst, in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Sandra Milano, aged

MoD 'told of two sightings of craft'

41, and her boyfriend Nigel Haywood, aged 34, were getting ready for bed when they say they saw a long oblong-shaped craft over the Arthur Newbury Park.

Sandra said: "It was hanging quite still above the trees about two or three miles away from

the house for about three minutes and then it dipped down to one side and was gone."

Sighting

"It was long and oblong like a cigar with a dome on it and bright white lights going round and round."

"I went to get my son Marcus who was in bed so that he could take some pictures but by the time he got ready it was gone."

Sandra phoned the Ministry of Defence who said there had been another reported sighting of the craft.

She said she did not expect anybody to believe her but that she was assured she was not going silly because her boyfriend saw it with her and because of the other sighting.

Strange sighting

AN unidentified flying object was spotted hovering over Wearside skies this week.

The large object with red and orange flashing lights appeared to spin as it hung over Rodney Close, Tunstall, at about 9.35 p.m. on Monday.

According to eye witnesses the UFO then shot off into the night sky towards Tunstall without making a sound.

(continued on page 16) 15

The explosion also caused atmospheric disturbances around the world. On June 24, 1178, a group of monks at Canterbury Cathedral, England, described unusual events in the heavens. A chronicler, Brother Jeverze, wrote that they saw the moon shaking, swinging and changing colour.

These distortions could have been caused by shockwaves and dust hurled into the upper atmosphere by the New Zealand explosion.

This was much the same as the phenomena created by the Siberian blast in 1908.

Dr Pajak cites other "remarkable similarities" between the Tunguska and Tapanui blasts.

- Before both explosions, eyewitnesses reported seeing strangely-shaped skyships.

At Tunguska, scientists collected scores of testimonies from people who'd watched a bluish-white cylindrical tube, with a streaming exhaust, moving through cloudless skies above the central Siberian plateau.

- Both blasts created a triangular devastation area pointing magnetic north. No meteor could have produced this kind of pattern.



The Tapanui crater is plainly the result of a technological explosion, according to Dr Pajak.

edly appeared above the crater.

"Tornadoes are completely unknown in other parts of Otago. It's possible they are created in that particular spot by magnetisation of the environment."

But particularly dramatic "proofs" that a spaceship exploded are the tens of thousands of china-stones scattered around the Tapanui triangle, Dr Pajak believes.

"These stones are formed from molten lumps of local soil and rock," he told me.

"The explosion hurled them into the air, where they were baked and glazed by the heat and aerodynamically shaped into a glossy, china-type material."

The china-stones have three major features which indicate they were formed by the explosion of magnetically-powered craft.

- The stones are magnetised — deflecting a compass needle from the right.

- They lie in small impact craters, which indicate that they hit the ground red-hot and at high speed.

- Embedded in the china are imprints of local leaves, twigs and grass, torn up by the explosion.

Our planet is still under surveillance by spaceships of the type that exploded over Tapanui, Dr Pajak believes.



At both sites, the trunks of felled trees point toward the focus of the explosion.

Trees at the exact centre of the Tunguska detonation were left standing, although all other trees were flattened for kilometres around.

This is characteristic of a Hiroshima-style mid-air nuclear blast.

- Both triangles are littered with trinitite — dust converted to glass by a nuclear explosion.

- And both Tapanui and Tunguska are powerfully magnetised, a condition blamed for compass failures and out breaks of mysterious illnesses.

"Quite a few prominent Soviet scientists now believe the Tunguska incident was caused by the explosion of a malfunctioning spaceship," Dr Pajak



A leaf imprinted into china-stone: a legacy of the blast?

told me. "Typical is Dr Aleksander Kazantsev, who has concluded that the devastation area could not possibly have been created by any natural event."

"Another investigator, the Soviet geophysicist Dr A.V. Zolotov, points out that a meteor strike would leave an oval-shaped scar on the earth."

"The Tunguska and Tapanui sites are triangular and plainly the result of technological explosion."

New Zealanders are still experiencing shockwaves from the ancient UFO crash, Dr Pajak claims.

"A local farmer, Mrs Diana Chittock, photographed a tornado that unexpected-

EXPRESS, Burnley, England - Nov. 18, 1988 CR: T. Good

EILEEN SEES MYSTERIOUS LIGHTS

REPORTS of mysterious bright lights in the sky had recently ceased — until Eileen Riley looked out of her lounge window.

Eileen, of Carholme Avenue, Burnley, was watching television when she happened to glance out of the window. What she saw then held her transfixed to the spot.

"I could see one very dazzling bright light, with a smaller one behind it and another smaller one behind that. They were in formation and were really very bright."

"They were beautiful lights. I was more excited than anything else, to have seen something like that."

"I just could not believe it. I stood staring at it, then after a while it disappeared, as if it had been covered by a dark screen. My daughter came into the room because when I saw it I shouted out, but it had gone."

Eileen had not really thought about UFO's before, but she said that there was no other explanation for what she had seen.

"I know what I have seen, and I hope that other people who have seen them will get in touch with me, because it may be that we have seen the same thing," said Eileen. "It is a sight I will never forget."

Eileen said that it had taken much persuasion by friends and family to tell the Express about what she had seen. "I was very reluctant to tell anybody at first, but friends persuaded me to."

BOURNEMOUTH EVENING ECHO, Dorset, England - Aug. 25, 1988 CR: T. Good

Romance takes a dive when a couple spot a UFO!

IS IT A BIRD? Is it a plane? There have been close encounters of a strange kind in Southbourne!

Romance went out of the window when Frances Searle and her boyfriend, Paul Rudd, gazed upwards — and spotted a UFO.

Said Frances (17): "I was at Paul's, in Parkwood Road, when we suddenly saw this thing hovering in the sky."

"It was about 10.30 pm and the sky was cloudy — we couldn't see any stars. At first we thought it was a plane or helicopter but it just didn't move."

The couple grabbed a pair of binoculars and had a good look, followed by Paul's grandma, dad and mum.

Said Frances: "It was circular and had orange, green and red lights flashing around it."

"It just hovered for about 20 minutes

and then retreated towards Christchurch."

Frances was sceptical about UFOs but admitted: "I tried to think of a normal explanation, but didn't get very far — now I've got an open mind!"

Boyfriend Paul (16) is no stranger to

such encounters. He had a similar experience in London a few years ago.

The Southampton weather office confirmed that they did not have any equipment in the area. And officials at Bournemouth International Airport at Hurn said that the only lights they knew of were on the runway...

TELEGRAPH & ARGUS, Bradford, England - Sept. 17, 1988 CR: T. Good



UFO SPOTTERS... Amanda Clay, left, Dawn Wilson, centre, and Lesley Goggs

Pub trip brings a UFO 'visit'

A QUIET night out turned into an out-of-this-world experience for three Bradford women.

Lesley Goggs, Dawn Wilson and Amanda Lay are still reeling after their drive to a local pub brought them face to face with what they believe was a UFO.

The extra-terrestrial apparition allegedly appeared in the sky as they drove along Moorside Road, off Harrogate Road, Bradford.

Now they are hoping to hear from anybody else who may have witnessed what they claim to have seen.

Lesley, 21, of Wibsey, Bradford,

was first to see the 'spaceship' as she drove along.

"At first I thought it was a star but it was round with really big lights all the way round it," she said.

"I stopped the car and reversed back and we all watched it moving over the houses."

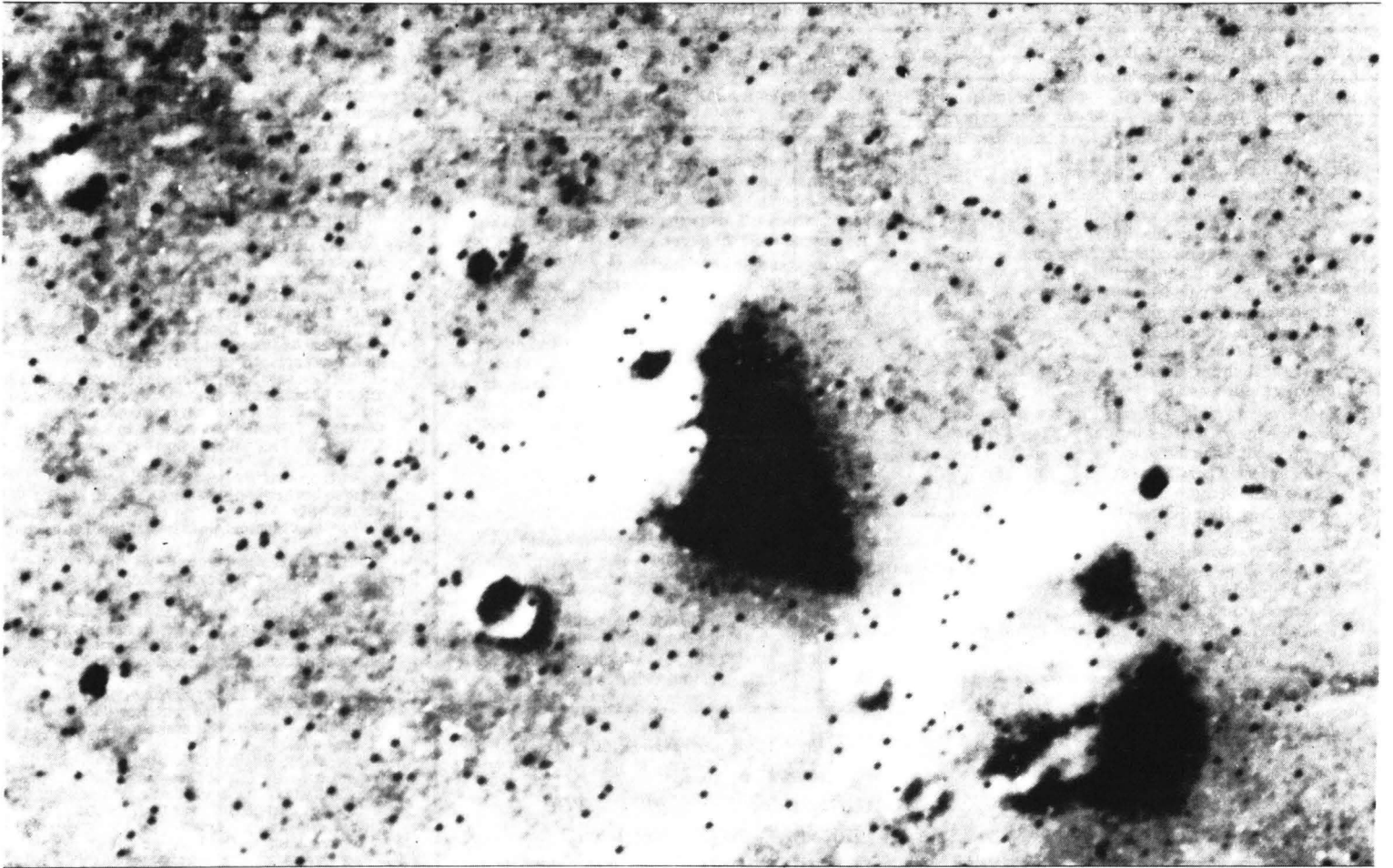
"We just couldn't believe it. It wasn't miles away — it was like a low-flying aircraft — but it definitely wasn't an aeroplane."

Lesley and Dawn, of Wibsey, and Amanda, of Balldon, have reported their sighting to UFO enthusiasts Philip and Elaine Mantle, of Batley.

The UFO hotline can be contacted on Batley 444049.



The man on Mars



FACE-LIKE OBJECT on the Martian surface, as seen from the Viking 1 orbiter in July 1976. Mark Carlotto, a Reading scientist, has analyzed the object and believes it may have been left behind by intelligent life. Other unusual, geometrically shaped objects, known as "The City," are southwest of the face and are not visible in this photograph. Black spots are computer errors. (NASA photo)

Local scientist says aliens may have carved face-like object

By Dan Kennedy

The face stares out from the surface of Mars, regarding us unblinkingly across tens of millions of miles of black, empty space.

Is it a coincidence? A chance juxtaposition of light and shadows?

Or is this forbidding little planet trying to tell us something?

A local scientist who has studied the mile-long, face-like object believes it may indeed have been left behind by intelligent life.

Mark J. Carlotto, who works for The Analytic Sciences Corp. (TASC), located in Reading, has used photographs taken by Viking spacecraft to develop a three-dimensional computer model of the humanoid face.

Earlier this year, in the scientific journal *Applied Optics*, Carlotto presented his findings and wrote this tantalizing conclusion:

"It is the author's belief that, although the Viking data are not of sufficient resolution to permit the identification of possible mechanisms of origin for these objects, the results to date suggest that they may not be natural. At the very

'At the very least, these enigmatic objects deserve further scrutiny by future Mars probes ...'

— Mark Carlotto,
Reading scientist

least, these enigmatic objects deserve further scrutiny by future Mars probes ..."

Carlotto, evidently sensitive about his reputation in the scientific community, refused to be interviewed by the *Daily Times Chronicle*, saying he had been burned by a reporter from another publication.

Asked where he resides, Carlotto replied somewhat cryptically that he lives in "a western suburb."

Nevertheless, the scientist's theories have not escaped the attention of the media, both responsible and irresponsible.

Newsweek, for example, summarized Carlotto's findings in a brief article with the headline "The Man on the Planet Mars: Who Dunnit?" The piece sensibly concluded, "Resolving the mystery may require another trip to Mars."

But the *Weekly World News*, that chronicle of the bizarre and the sensational, screamed on a recent front page, "THE FACE ON MARS — A NEW SHOCKER!"

Inside, the paper alleged that radio signals emanating from the face are beaming a "doomsday warning" to Earth about "an extraterrestrial civilization in a deep decline."

Of course, if the face on the Red Planet were something that could be lumped in with the Elvis sightings, the three-headed babies and the aliens dissected by Soviet scientists that are the typical fare of the tabloid press, the phenomenon could be easily dismissed.

Carlotto's findings are more significant because he is careful not to draw any wild conclusions.

His article in *Applied Optics* consists mainly of a technical explanation of his techniques, replete with obtuse prose and numerous mathematical equations.

But the direction in which his work points provides a glimpse at the answer to the question we have asked since Galileo proved we are not at the center of the universe:

Are we alone?

Mars has always fascinated us Earthlings. When telescopes first revealed the planet's network of green canals and polar ice caps about 100 years ago, the human imagination ran rampant.

Surely, many thought, here is another world within our solar system that harbors life — even if it is no more than primitive vegetation.

But those hopes were dashed in the 1960s and '70s, when American space probes revealed that the planet, comprised mainly of reddish-colored deserts, was devoid of any oxygen or liquid water, both of which are needed to sustain life as we know it.

The thin, wispy atmosphere that surrounds Mars is only one or two percent the density of Earth's atmosphere and is comprised mainly of carbon dioxide. The mean temperature is probably about minus 10 degrees Fahrenheit (compared to 72 degrees on Earth). And the Martian surface is bombarded with deadly cosmic rays.

But the space program provided hope at the same time that it took it away. Because, on July 25, 1976, the Viking 1 orbiter beamed back to Earth a photo of an object that appeared to be a face. The object was located in the Cydonia region, in Mars's northern hemisphere.

During a subsequent investigation, according to Carlotto's article, scientists acquired a second

(continued on page 18)

(continued from page 17 - DAILY TIMES CHRONICLE, Reading, MA - Dec. 9, 1988)

image of the face taken under different lighting conditions.

"Digital image enhancements of this second image revealed a bisymmetrical object having features suggestive of eyes, a ridgelike nose, and a mouth," Carlotto wrote.

That led to yet another study in which nearby objects that seemed to be related to the face were found. The face appeared to be part of a complex that included several geometrically shaped objects to the southwest, dubbed "The City."

One researcher speculated that the face and some objects in "The City" were designed to align with the sun every million years. Others said the entire complex may have been near the shoreline of an ancient sea.

Critics, of course, retorted that life in the harsh Martian environment was impossible.

In any event, the existence of two photographs of the face taken under different lighting conditions enabled Carlotto to construct a computerized three-dimensional model.

Applying "shape-from-shading techniques," Carlotto developed a model that he believed to be an accurate representation of the object. He discovered that it looked like a face no matter what the lighting conditions were or what the viewing angle was.

"(T)he facial features evident in the downlooking view of the orbiter photography are also present when the object is viewed from radically different perspectives," he wrote. "Such is not the case in more familiar terrestrial analogs such as New Hampshire's Old Man of the Mountains, for example."

Carlotto also discovered that a second eye socket may be present on the right side of the face, which is hidden by shadow; and that enhanced images of the photograph indicate teeth in the mouth and "crossed symmetrical lines on the forehead."

'It is hard to say from that distance whether it is an artistic sculpturing or something natural. The possibility that it is artificial is there.'

— Michael Papagiannis, bioastronomer at BU

An intriguing aspect of "The City," Carlotto wrote, is "an extremely unusual trapezoidal object measuring (about two kilometers) across which resembles a fortress.... Two of the walls appear to contain regularly spaced markings or indentations.... The close proximity of unusual objects such as these to the face increases the likelihood that this collection of objects is not natural."

The scientific community is split over speculation that the face and "The City" may have been left behind by intelligent life.

NASA, the agency that launched Viking 1, has taken no official position, according to a spokeswoman.

But Michael Hart, an astronomer at Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, Md., a nationally regarded skeptic on the possibility of extraterrestrial life, had no trouble rejecting Carlotto's hypothesis.

"This face-like thing on Mars, I think it's just one jump ahead of UFOs. Or maybe not. Maybe it's one jump behind them," Hart said in an interview with the *Times Chronicle*. "I think it's completely natural."

According to an article in *The Atlantic Monthly*, Hart has produced studies that show the odds against a planet harboring life are overwhelming.

A living planet may be so rare, says Hart, that there may be as few as one per galaxy — even though each galaxy contains tens of billions of stars, most of which could, at least in theory, have planets revolving around them.

Hart told the *Times Chronicle* that the face on Mars has done nothing to shake his belief. He added he welcomes a space mission to investigate the object further.

"I'm perfectly willing to let my theory stand or fall on what is found," he said. If intelligent living beings had sculpted the face and the nearby objects, he added with a chuckle, "I think they would have left more than just that."

Yet Michael D. Papagiannis, a professor of

astronomy at Boston University, is open to other, more exotic, hypotheses about the origin of the face and "The City."

"I have not seen his (Carlotto's) article, but I know that famous face on Mars," Papagiannis told the *Times Chronicle*. "It is hard to say from that distance whether it is an artistic sculpturing or something natural. The possibility that it is artificial is there."

Papagiannis is a bioastronomer — that is, a scientist involved in the search for extraterrestrial life and intelligence.

He believes that, if the face and the other objects were left by intelligent beings, those beings were not Martians.

The reason is that, several billion years ago, Mars may have had an atmosphere that could have supported life — but only for a few million years, which is barely the blink of an eye in the development of living creatures.

"You wouldn't have had creepy crawlers going around Mars," Papagiannis said, explaining that, at most, life would have consisted of simple one- or several-celled organisms.

Therefore, he concluded, if the face and other objects were left behind by intelligent beings, those beings were astronauts from a planet in another solar system who wanted "to remind others of their visit. One cannot totally exclude that."

Papagiannis's musings boggle the mind.

Astronauts from another solar system? The nearest star, Proxima Centauri, is four and a half light-years away.

That means it would take astronauts four and a half years to travel that distance if they were going at the speed of light — which, according to Einstein's theories, is impossible.

'This face-like thing on Mars, I think it's just one jump ahead of UFOs. Or maybe not. Maybe it's one jump behind them.'

— Michael Hart, Maryland astronomer

And yet, it is hard not to embrace the belief that there are civilizations far more advanced than ours — people-like beings who mastered space travel about the same time that we were evolving out of slime mold, and who today zip around the universe unencumbered by anything so mundane as Einsteinian physics.

The universe is a cold, lonely place. The idea that humanoids, not unlike us, carved a face on the surface of Mars as a beacon to other living creatures makes it seem a little less lonely.

SPOKESMAN REVIEW, Spokane, WA
Dec. 6, 1988

Bigfoot hunter empty-handed after 32 years

Rene Dahinden leans forward in his chair and tries to describe what 32 years of tracking smoke has cost him.

"In 1967," says the self-proclaimed first modern Bigfoot hunter, "I told my wife: 'The sasquatch has been around a lot longer than you, so either you fit in or the hell with it; down the road you go.'"

He chuckles. "All of a sudden," he says, "I look around. I'm not married anymore. But I'm a free man. I do what I want. If there's a sasquatch report and it interests me, I pack up and I'm off."

Today, the 58-year-old Dahinden is in Spokane on another hunt. This time, however, it is a college professor, not Bigfoot, who looms in Dahinden's cross hairs.

The Bigfoot trail apparently isn't broad enough for the likes of Dahinden and Grover Krantz. Krantz teaches anthropology at Washington State University. He also has established himself



DOUG CLARK
Columnist

as something of an expert in regards to those hairy, 7-foot ape-creatures who either roam our backwoods or some well-fertilized imaginations.

Krantz has hunted Bigfoot only half as long as Dahinden. But because of his scientific credentials, Krantz has gotten a lot more ink lately, which depresses Dahinden no end.

Dahinden, a Swiss immigrant who lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, calls Krantz a few choice obscenities and then says the professor is an example of someone who uses sasquatch to get a name for himself at any price.

"The danger," warns Dahinden, "is that Krantz has already infected some of his students with his unbalanced ideas."

To combat this, Dahinden popped up uninvited at Krantz's WSU classroom the other day in an attempt to give him some general hell and solicit students to aid the Dahinden Bigfoot research effort and not their teacher's.

"All he wants is to try to give me trouble," replies a miffed Krantz. "He wants to get my students to turn against me. Rene knows full well that once the scientists start taking over, he's nobody. So his only chance is to be the one to find it first."

"If somebody else does, he's nothing."

If only the Bigfoot hunters could keep as quiet as their prey.

Of course, things were fairly peaceful back in the '50s, when Dahinden began his lonely search for the improbable beast.

"I started it all," Dahinden says of the Bigfoot mania that has since evolved. "Not by intent or plan, I just got intrigued by it and got sucked in."

Dahinden says he first heard of Bigfoot in 1953, after a London newspaper sponsored a Himalayan search for Bigfoot's cousin, the abominable snowman. Dahinden was working in Alberta when a friend noted his enthusiasm and made a casual comment to the effect that why should anyone go to Nepal when there were perfectly good sasquatches lumbering about the Pacific Northwest?

From that moment, says Dahinden, "I was hooked."

In 1956, he devoted himself full time to the effort. It cost him a marriage, a steady job and his credibility, but he kept on anyway.

All the infighting didn't really start until 1967, when two Yakima men (Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin) shot 24 feet of film that supposedly records an actual sasquatch encounter in northern California.

After that, the rush to catch the critter was really on. More joined the hunt. Accusations of whose sightings were real and whose were not reached a frenzy.

Essentially, that is what is behind the current Dahinden-Krantz Bigfoot brouhaha. Namely, the authenticity of some casts of alleged sasquatch footprints taken in 1982 near Walla Walla.

Grover says they're real.

Rene says they're not.

Over the years, Dahinden became semi-famous among Bigfoot aficionados. He wrote a book, bought into the Patterson film rights and has been a regular on talk shows and news stories dealing with the subject. When he's not hunting or talking about Bigfoot, he earns a modest living mucking lead shot out of a skeet and trap-shooting range.

Krantz, in fact, claims Dahinden was the inspiration for the grubby French Canadian Bigfoot hunter in the popular movie "Harry and the Hendersons." The movie is about a Seattle family who inadvertently captures and befriends one of the things.

Dahinden admits he had dealings with the moviemakers, but denies he inspired any roles.

His search, he emphasizes, is serious business.

After listening to him a while, a question comes to mind.

Which is more unbelievable: Bigfoot, or a guy who has eaten up 32 years of his life inching his way out on such a limb?

Dahinden, too, seems somewhat aware of how silly he must look. "Over the years," he admits, "I took a tremendous beating. You keep thinking, 'This time we're gonna succeed, then the next time and the next...'"

Dahinden does some more mental addition, trying to compute what all this has cost him.

"Emotionally, I wouldn't want to go through it all again," he finally says. "Thirty years later, I'm wondering where the hell it is it all gonna end?"

MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, Tokyo, Japan
Oct. 17, 1988 CR: Y. Matsumura

'Abominable Snowman' Sighting Reported

MOSCOW (AFP-Jiji) — A hairy "Abominable Snowman" nearly 2.5 meters (eight feet) tall was sighted recently in northern Siberia by a Moscow University research worker, according to Soviet television.

Maria Buikova said she was in an isba — traditional log cabin — north of the Arctic Circle when through the window she saw a gigantic man covered in white hair, even on his face. She said the creature emitted "horrible" cries which she declined to imitate.

USA TODAY, Arlington, VA - Oct. 17, 1988

THE STRANGEST OF THEM ALL: By an eyeball, the Lizard Man sighted in Lee County, S.C., so deemed by Halloween issue of *Strange* magazine. Others: No. 2, the Reagan astrology flap; No. 3, allegations that transcripts of ancient scrolls state that Jesus Christ lived to age 106 in Japan. And suspicious minds note: No. 10 is the ELVIS is alive rumor. For a top-10 list, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: *Strange* magazine, P.O. Box 2246, Rockville, Md. 20852.

Mystery light show

By MIKE HANNAH
Democrat Staff Writer

After almost exactly one year of calm, the skies near Blowing Rock again erupted in what a Blowing Rock couple described as a shimmering light show of mysterious origin.

On Aug. 23, 1987, three couples at Linville Ridge near Grandfather Mountain reported a strangely compelling light show which spread across the night sky behind the mountain, lasting until nearly dawn the next day.

The lights sometimes resembled lightning, but the six witnesses described something that looked more like fireworks than any natural lightning they had ever seen.

Last week, at about 8:45 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24, almost one year later, Dr. Donald Anderson and his wife, Hermine, looked out a window of their home in the Saddle Hills development off U.S. 221 south of Blowing Rock and saw what seemed to be a repeat of that light show in the sky above Rocky Knob.

"We just happened to both look out our window and saw what we thought was lightning," Anderson said, but they soon decided that what they were seeing was not lightning.

They said they witnessed both lateral flashes of a "orange-pinkish" light and "some of them had an almost puffy look," Anderson said.

They watched the display for a few minutes, and after trying unsuccessfully to contact neighbors, they stopped watching. When they looked again at about 10:45 p.m., the show was still in progress.

"They would linger for, oh, a second or two ... rose up and shimmered almost like fireworks," he said, adding that the lights varied in duration, sometimes with three or four flashes appearing every 30-60 seconds.

One of the first possible explanations offered for the phenomenon is that the lights were the well-known Brown Mountain lights, but Anderson said the lights he and his wife saw were well up in the sky.

"These were not close to the mountains," he said, but were "over quite a distance of the horizon."

There was no sound accompanying the display, he said.

The entire episode closely echoes the August 1987 report, but Rosalie Vincz, one of the witnesses of that display, said she and the other witnesses have not seen any unusual light shows since then.

They did locate another couple living on Beech Mountain who said they saw the same display that year, but they could not understand why the event was not seen by more people.

"It was something we couldn't believe that no one else saw," Mrs. Vincz said.

Neither set of witnesses said the show was frightening.

Dr. Tom Rokoske, a professor of physics at Appalachian State University, offered the same explanation for last week's phenomenon as he did one year ago.

"It has all the markings ... of a situation where there is a temperature inversion," he said.

The inversion causes cloud layers of varying temperatures to reflect lights from ground level in what he described as a mirror effect, visible only at certain angles.

The altitude of the witness would also have a drastic effect on whether he could see such a

HERALD-NEWS, Passaic, NJ - Aug. 30, 1988



ROBERT A. PHILLIPS

Jerseyans stay in step with Bigfoot

We are not alone.

In my continuing effort to offer you stories with no redeeming social value, beyond entertainment, I bring you Bigfoot in New Jersey.

That's right. Bigfoot. Sasquatch. The Yeti. The Abominable Snowman. The Dreaded Hairy One.

There have been more than 100 sightings of the legendary nine-foot tall, hairy beastie in Jersey during the last decade. One of the best Bigfoot sightings occurred in 1977, when a Sussex County farmer claimed one of the creatures broke into his shed and slaughtered seven rabbits.

Lock up the womenfolk! Grab the guns, men!

Two state troopers also claim to have seen Bigfoot in Sussex County. Motorists have claimed they spotted Bigfoot. Several residents have claimed they saw Bigfoot when they took a stroll in their backyard.

Some sighting reports 'silly'

Robert Jones, president of Vestigia, a Jersey group which tries to find rational explanations for phenomena, says he has compiled a stack of reports of sightings of the creature, some of which are silly.

"We got one guy who said he saw five Abominable Snowmen 'floating' across a field," Jones said. "Another wacko claimed he saw one walking in his backyard with a glowing globe in its

paw. Then you get the people who claim that they saw a flying saucer land and Bigfoot step out."

But, Jones said he has four or five reports of plausible Bigfoot sightings given by the non-deranged.

"These are people who say they were driving down the road and saw something run across the road. Or, they'll say they went into their backyard, saw the creature and it ran away."

Wayne King, the director of the Michigan/Canadian Bigfoot Information Center in Michigan, a clearing-house for Bigfoot information, said in a telephone interview that he doesn't place much value in the Jersey sightings.

However, King said he is convinced that Bigfoot exists. King said he has been stalking Bigfoot for years, with the idea of shooting and killing one. The beasts have been spotted over the world, including California, Michigan, Canada and the Soviet Union.

Strangest was in Wantage

The strangest sighting in Jersey occurred in Wantage, located in Sussex County. A farmer claimed his rabbits were slaughtered by the beast.

"Whatever it was, it apparently broke into their shed on May 11, 1977," Jones explained. "Whatever it was busted through an inch thick oak door. The rabbits were killed in an unusual manner. The head of one rabbit was missing. It was hard to tell how the other rabbits were killed, because there was no blood. We took the bodies to a veterinarian for autopsies.

"The vet reported the rabbits were killed in different ways," Jones went on. "There were three large and four 'teenaged' rabbits killed. Whatever killed the large rabbits took them by the head and hind paws and pulled and twisted them ... The smaller rabbits were crushed in center. All their lungs and stomachs had burst. Their ribs were broken. The vet found internal puncture marks ... fang-like marks of nine centimeters ... Human canine teeth are about five centimeters."

Jones said the night after the rabbit slaughter, the farmer heard a noise by the shed, looked out and saw the creature. The farmer took a shot at it, but missed.

But, Jones said the farmer had a history of drinking and mental problems. State Police Sgt. Leroy Vandermark

said that several years ago in Montague, two of his men claimed to have seen a Bigfoot-like creature on County Route 521.

"They were riding midnight patrol," Vandermark said. "They went around a bend in the road and the headlights went into the woods. One of the troopers swore he saw a Bigfoot in the woods. The other trooper in the car didn't see it. One of the troopers came back to the spot the next day and he swears he saw footprints."

Vandermark said many of the sightings might be, in actuality, black bears, which are common in the area.

But, no bear left the footprint that Jones said was found in a swamp in Green Township, west of Andover. The print, found by a trapper, was 13 inches long. Usually, a Bigfoot wears a size 16 to 19, Jones said.

In 1975, numerous sightings of Bigfoot were reported in Lake Owassa. The locals swore they caught glimpses of a "nine-foot-tall, upright walking creature with gangling arms and long gray or brown hair covering its entire body," the Bigfoot Center's King reported.

Jones says he doesn't know whether Bigfoot exists or not. He said scientists routinely discover new species of animals, so who knows.

But how does one know if he or she has spotted a Bigfoot? A good question. Many people have mistaken sparrows, Men from Space, professional basketball players and residents of Greenwich Village for the dreaded creature. These people were subjected to great ridicule and embarrassment.

So, it is best to leave interpretations of what is or isn't a Bigfoot to trained professionals.

But the general rule of thumb is that if something is nine feet tall with hair all over its body and weighs about 600 pounds, it could be a Bigfoot, or, worse yet, Capt. Lou Albano.

If you do spot such a creature, please call the Bigfoot Police immediately. Do not attempt to pet it — especially if it's Albano! You can reach Wayne King at 516-673-2715.

DISPATCH, Columbus, OH

Oct. 23, 1988

CR: J. Fry/COUD-I

Abominable Sighting

A hairy eight-foot-tall "abominable snowman" was reported sighted in northern Siberia by a Moscow University research worker. Soviet state television reported that Maria Bulkova sighted the beast from the window of a log cabin. She said the creature was covered in white hair and emitted a "horrible" cry, but did not repeat it. Similar sightings have been made for decades throughout Siberia, the most recent by a group of teen-agers who said a gibbering humanoid threw stones into a fire they had lit.

display, he added.

"What you're getting is the reflection of lights from another area or varying layers," Rokoske said. Such lights could have been the lights of Lenoir or automobile lights from the nearby highways, he said.

Anderson said he could understand the temperature inversion explanation since the weather early in the week had turned cooler, but Mrs. Vincz said Rokoske's theory could not adequately explain the fireworks-like bursts they witnessed.

Will mountain residents have to wait another year for a similar display? Whether we will or not, Mrs. Vincz said she still looks out her window every night with anticipation.

Thought for food: Questions but no answers

Angel's Hair is a silky material that mysteriously falls from the sky, sometimes in large quantities, and dissolves when it touches the ground. Some people think that Angel's Hair is cobwebs from airborne spiders. However, this explanation doesn't account for the fact that it can range in length from a few inches to over a hundred feet. The possibility has been raised that it could be a UFO phenomenon.

Devil's Jelly is another substance of unknown origin that falls from the sky. It looks like solidified droplets of slime that have been stuck together and, like Angel's Hair, dissolves upon contact with the ground. Also a UFO phenomenon? For additional reading on these subjects, see Charles Fort.

Springheeled Jack established a reign of terror in London and surrounding counties between 1837 and 1877. His description has been confirmed by hundreds of witnesses of all social standings. He was a large man in a black cloak "and when the cloak was thrown aside, blue and white flames shot from his mouth and his eyes appeared like balls of fire. His hands appeared to be clad in metallic claws, with which he slashed at people or tore their clothing."

During one of the sightings, people saw a man jumping from the street to the top of a three-story building and back down. When they questioned him, Springheeled Jack spat fire, burning a victim, and then sped away. Other Jack sightings occurred at private homes where the owner would answer a knock at his/her door only to be attacked. Victims were never robbed, only burned/slashed.

Because of his speed and ability to leap buildings, Springheeled Jack managed to evade not only the police, but also the British Army.



ERIK VAN ROSSUM

In 1880, he was reported in Louisville, Kentucky, but by 1904 he was back in England. However, in 1944 he terrorized the town of Mattoon, Illinois, for a month, and was later sighted in Houston, Texas, in June of 1953.

The two theories of his origin are: (a) that he belongs to an unknown race of this planet, or (b) that he is a UFO phenomenon. No other serious theories have been proposed.

A book detailing his exploits is *The Legend and Bizarre Crimes of Springheeled Jack*, by Peter Haining.

Mothman terrorized the motorists of West Virginia between November 1966 and December 1967, during a period of strange activity which also included mysterious lights and the mysterious Men in Black. Witnesses said he was a winged humanoid without feathers, gray in color, and had eyes red with fire. Possibly Springheeled Jack.

The Loch Ness Monster has been repeatedly sighted since ancient times and today it is supposed that there is a colony of these monsters. The monster(s) have been photographed and filmed repeatedly, including the underwater sonar photographs that made the front page of the *New York Times* on April 8, 1976.

"Nessie" is approximately 45 feet long, and has a 10-foot head, a 20-foot body and a 15-foot tail.

This monster is not a single creature, for similar types have been reported in Donegal and in Patagonia.

Bigfoot (or Yeti) have been reported in isolated, mountainous regions in Asia and North America. Interestingly, Bigfoot/Yeti encounters occur along a trail that leads from Asia, across Alaska and into North America (note: this is the same path as the American Natives took to reach this continent).

Thought for Food provides a different viewpoint to help promote brain stimulation. Questions/comments/suggestions are welcome. P.O. Box 95155, Seattle, WA 98145. If you want a reply, make sure you send a stamp because I'm broke!



TIMES, Washington, DC - Oct. 18, 1988 CR: M. Opsasnick

Reports of Bigfoot vanish in sands of time

By Tom Kelly
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Is Bigfoot extinct or has he just stopped commuting through Maryland?

If you have had a recent personal experience that leads you to believe he is still around, get in touch with Mark Opsasnick at once. Mr. Opsasnick, of Greenbelt, Md., is the state's leading authority on Bigfoot. Bigfoot is usually described as about 7 feet tall, covered with grayish-green hair, and is occasionally unfriendly to dogs.

Mr. Opsasnick believes there is a slight basis for believing that Bigfoot is still around.

A 30-year-old man, who lives in Scaggsville, Md., and prefers to remain anonymous, says he saw a 9-foot-tall creature running through his back yard last January. However, that is the only Maryland sighting reported in the past six years.

Ten years ago, during the Bigfoot boom, Bigfoots were popping up in Maryland back yards like dandelions. Mr.

Opsasnick says he believes that a family of Bigfoots migrated regularly between Pennsylvania and Florida, using Maryland as a stop-off point.

An employee of the Prince George's County Department of Energy Services, Mr. Opsasnick has interviewed some 150 people concerning Bigfoot, and compiled a record of 250 alleged local sightings.

Sightings in the '70s came in bunches. In late May and June 1973, there were 20 sightings of what became known as the "Sykesville Monster" in the Sykesville area of Carroll County, and 15 in Baltimore County in 1975.

Over the years, 32 sightings have occurred in Prince George's County. Francine Abell, of Silver Spring, got a good long look at the ape-like creature one morning in the fall of 1976. She was driving to work about 7:30 a.m. on a foggy, rainy Saturday morning down Route 198. She was about to turn onto the ramp for Interstate 95 South, toward Silver Spring.

"I saw something step over the guard rail about 100 yards ahead and I thought maybe it was a man in Army fatigues because he was the same grayish-green color from head to foot, but the closer I got the more I realized it wasn't a real person. It came out in the middle of the road and stopped and looked at me like it didn't fathom what I was. Then it turned suddenly and hopped over the guard rail and as I went by I turned to look."

When she got to work at her AT&T office, she had two quick cups of coffee, called her husband and then the Laurel police and asked them cautiously if they'd had any reports of large ape-like creatures.

They hadn't on that day, but the police weren't surprised.

Anthony Dorsey, of Sykesville, heard his dogs barking on the night of May 29, 1973, so he followed them

250 MARYLAND SIGHTINGS

By county

Baltimore	49
Carroll	48
Harford	47
Prince George's	32
Frederick	22
Anne Arundel	9
Montgomery	6
Somerset	6
Unknown	6
Calvert	5
Howard	5
Garrett	4
Dorchester	3
Charles	2
Worcester	2
Cecil	2
Washington	1
Wicomico	1

The Washington Times

into the woods. His flashlight beam picked out two huge red eyes about seven feet above the ground. Five nights later Bessie and Elston Gasaway and Diane Coleman saw an 8-foot-tall creature with grayish-white hair walking through their back yard on Schoolhouse Road in Sykesville.

In 1975 there were a rash of sightings reported around Chase, Md., in Baltimore County.

Officer Gordon Clark, of the County Police, says one man reported finding Bigfoot in his backyard and squirting him with his hose. Officer Clark was on patrol in his squad car about 2 a.m. one morning when his headlights picked up what looked like two hairy tree stumps running across the road.

"I called for a canine car and when it arrived the dog picked up the scent and we trailed it for some three miles through the woods before losing it on another highway," he recalled.

In March 1977, a NASA engineer reported seeing a Bigfoot toss a large dog across the road where I-95 runs under Powder Mill Road in Beltsville. In August 1978, Ronald L. Jones, of Tracy's Landing in Anne Arundel County, spotted an 8-foot-tall Bigfoot at the intersection of Brooks Woods Road and Route 258. Mr. Jones said he hit the creature with a tire iron and the creature then chased Mr. Jones and his truck down the road.

In August 1978, huge footprints were found near Leonardtown, Md. In September, Martha Kelley, of Spencerville, reported that her son had seen a large hairy creature with long arms and no neck not far from the Patuxent River at the landfill of Route 198 near the intersection of Route 197. The creature also was seen by landfill workers as it rummaged through garbage.

In October 1978, several truck drivers reported seeing Bigfoot at the same landfill, and a local man, Willard McIntire, reported finding a print of a huge, three-toed foot.

In the summer of 1981 a Bigfoot was sighted near Huntingtown, in Calvert County, and blamed for killing livestock. In 1982 Prince George's County police received an anonymous call that it had been seen in a corn field adjacent to Beaver Dam Creek, off Edmonston Road in Beltsville.

From then until last January no one reported seeing a Bigfoot anywhere in Maryland.

Mr. Opsasnick is hopeful that Bigfoot may still turn up, though he fears the worst.

If you see one, get in touch.

GLOBE AND MAIL, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - Dec. 2, 1988 CR: G. Duplantier



Chamber of Commerce promotes a legend: one theory is of a leftover from an inland sea that vanished 12,000 years ago.

What's that lurking in Muskrat Lake?

BY ROGER BURFORD MASON

Mr. Burford Mason is a Toronto freelance writer.

COBDEN, Ont.

COBDEN SITS comfortably among rolling hills and steely blue lakes on the Ontario-Quebec border about an hour from Ottawa and 20 minutes from Pembroke. It is a sturdy, even handsome little town approached through well-kept farmland and hills and valleys; in the fall, the leaf-blaze is breathtakingly lovely.

The town commands the head of Muskrat Lake. People come from as far south as Pennsylvania and Ohio for the whitewater rafting, for the exceptional fishing, to sail, loaf and to shake off the dust of the city — for this is an easy, tranquil place, ideal for recharging the batteries and getting back to nature and the simple life.

Hardly the kind of place to look for a monstrous throwback to other, darker times. Yet at Cobden there are persistent stories of sightings of a creature lurking in the depths of Muskrat Lake, surfacing occasionally to give tantalizing glimpses of coils writhing on the surface, like the Loch Ness Monster of ancient fame.

It's an old saw that in business you make the most of what you've got, and the Cobden Chamber of Commerce has put the monster story to good use. The chamber's welcoming billboards are decorated with a creature that is a hybrid of Puff the Magic Dragon and the Bleriot brothers' flying machine. But to author and historian Michael Bradley, the stories are not fanciful.

No stranger to controversy, Mr. Bradley has written a succession of books challenging accepted theories of history, confronting inconsistencies and obfuscation by

proposing possible alternatives; he supports these with imaginative reconstructions based on detailed reading and analysis of currently available evidence.

For the book he is writing about the lake creature called "Mussie" (by analogy with "Nessie"), Mr. Bradley has researched the Cobden phenomenon thoroughly, tapping hours of interviews with eyewitnesses, scouring libraries, back issues of newspapers and scientific data and compiling a jigsaw puzzle of information that can be fitted together speculatively to throw some light on the legend.

The patent sincerity of his eyewitnesses, together with plausible supporting "evidence" about the history and geology of the lake, were persuasive enough that he spent a week this October with two colleagues making his own investigations, painstakingly quartering the lake and taking sonar soundings and photographs in an effort to discover what, if anything, is there.

The return on the investigators' labors to date, though inconclusive, is not entirely negative. Some interesting sonar "pictures" and a brief but clear sighting suggest further research would be worthwhile.

Twelve thousand years ago, the area was part of the Champlain Sea. Mr. Bradley's investigation pursues the theory that both geologically and zoologically, it is not fanciful to imagine that the lake might contain a creature something like a walrus, a population of which could have been stranded when the waters of the Champlain Sea receded and left Muskrat Lake behind.

In the teeth of the kind of mythology promoted by the Chamber of Commerce's billboards, Mr. Bradley argues that "there isn't enough lake to hide a breeding population of 70-foot monsters like Nessie,"

but it is quite feasible that the lake — 22 kilometres long and two wide — could support something more like a walrus, or perhaps a kind of dolphin or turtle.

Mr. Bradley has tape-recorded 20 eyewitnesses whose evidence will be given in detail in his book, and researched sightings dating back to the turn of the century, including a multiple-witness sighting in May, 1986. Most reports speak of grey to chocolate-brown coloring, smooth skin, large eyes and a prominent snout, all consistent with the walrus proposition.

Estimations of size are also consistent in suggesting a creature between eight and 12 feet long. Most sightings have been made in the remoter, less visited northern end of the lake, where the water is shallower and warmer, and in the autumn when the tourists have left and boat traffic is minimal.

Among the snippets of information Mr. Bradley has gleaned are reports of the creature swimming with the characteristically mammalian up-and-down undulation of its body, of something taking a fisherman's bait and towing his boat "a considerable distance" before the 20-pound test line was cut, and of a "large fish . . . many feet long" jumping out of the water and "walking on its tail." It is also commonly held that Indians told Samuel de Champlain about the monster in the early seventeenth century when Champlain surveyed the area.

Mr. Bradley readily acknowledges the possibility of interpretations that conflict with his own — a residual population of huge sturgeon is the favorite "scientific" explanation of the phenomenon. However, he believes there is something more than folk myth and imaginative fancy behind the legend of the Muskrat Lake monster, and he intends to find out what.