

UFO

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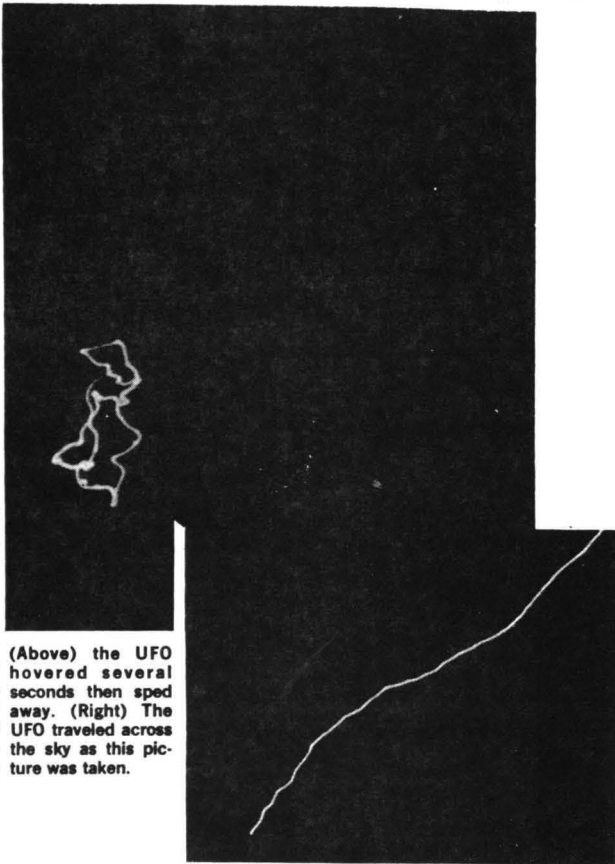
SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL — April 19, 1990 CR: R. Reid

UFO sightings continue . . .

On Saturday night, April 14, about 9:15 p.m., my husband decided to take some furniture to a friend's house to store for a garage sale. I had just put down Ed's book, *Gulf Breeze Sightings*, and said I wanted to go too. I needed some fresh air and I hoped to see a UFO.

We pulled into our friend's driveway on Valencia Street. From the end of the driveway, we saw a bright fluorescent type red/orange light about the distance of an airplane except 3 times the size. It was moving across the sky in a bobbing motion east to west. It moved for about 5 minutes, then stopped dead still and hovered. It looked like it was just above the Delchamps-Rax area in Gulf Breeze, but from our distance, we couldn't tell if it may have been a little more easterly. It remained still for another 5 minutes, then the red/orange light got dimmer, then bright, then dim until it finally faded. We couldn't tell if it was moving away from us or if it blinked out all together. My husband has never been a real believer in UFOs, but after what we saw, it makes him understand and believe me — I believe.

Cherie & Ralph Kline



(Above) the UFO hovered several seconds then sped away. (Right) The UFO traveled across the sky as this picture was taken.

PHOTOS BY BRENDA POLLAK

UFO video-taped and photographed

Starting on April 11, 1990 a string of UFO sightings resulted in 3 video tapes and multiple photographs. The big surprise was that all the sightings happened at about 9 p.m.

At approximately 9:05 p.m. on April 11, 1990, Linda and Lyle Culberson saw a bright red object. Linda said, "My husband and I were bike riding on Hibiscus Ave. Wednesday evening just casually conversing, when all of a sudden over to our left through the trees we could see a red light. It seemed to be rising up as it passed silently over our heads and then to the right of us where it remained stationary. We watched for about five minutes before continuing our ride. For the next few minutes we rode and occasionally looked over our shoulder to see the mysterious red glow in the sky. Turning onto Fairpoint Place we met Ed & Frances Walters in the street looking at the same object. We visited with Ed

and Frances for a few minutes as we watched the red glow, and then it disappeared."

Ed Walters said, "It was about 9:15 p.m. and when I went outside to pull my truck into the garage, clearly visible to the southwest, I saw a very bright red object. It was several hundred feet above the trees (depending on how far away it was) and it hovered and then traveled to the south. Several minutes passed, my wife joined me, and we watched the red glow that now appeared to hover beyond the South Rec. Park. Two people on bicycles approached and I called out to them to look at the object. They answered, 'Yeah, it went over our heads.' They stopped and we watched for about 5 minutes before it suddenly disappeared. I had no film or charged video batteries to take photos."

Two days later, Friday, April 13, 1990, a group of 5 people witnessed a similar red object at

about 9:15 p.m. They filed a report with the investigators at MUFON (436-7600). They reported that the red glowing object blinked out as an airplane approached, then it reappeared, raced off to the left and then shot out of sight.

Because of these frequent sightings at about 9 p.m., a dozen people, including several investigators, decided to meet at Bay Bridge Park and watch for the UFO. With 35 mm and video cameras the group waited and at 9:09 p.m. the red glowing object flew overhead from SE (170 degrees) to NW and curved to the east (60 degrees). The altitude of the UFO was triangulated to be approx. 2400 to 3000 feet. This triangulation was possible because seven other people at South Shoreline park also saw the same object at the same time. Their videos and multiple 35mm photographs were taken of the red glowing object.

berry and Joe Barron, to try to check out all possibilities for identification. This unusual light resembles several other reports occurring in the area in the last couple of weeks. At this time, we

have no idea what the lights are, but our investigation is continuing and we will report to *Sentinel* readers what we find out. If you have any information concerning these unusual lights, please call our local MUFON hotline at 436-2700.

International UFO convention comes to Pensacola

The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), the world's largest and most respected UFO research organization officially announced today that it will hold its 21st Annual International UFO Symposium in Pensacola, Florida, July 6, 7 and 8 at the Pensacola Hilton Hotel.

The Pensacola chapter of MUFON was chosen to host the convention due to the numerous local UFO sightings which have occurred, mainly in the Gulf Breeze area, since Nov. 11, 1987. These sightings have resulted in over fifty UFO photographs, that have withstood rigorous scientific analysis. Those pictures will be displayed at the conference, and the man who took them, Ed Walters, Gulf Breeze, will be one of the 11 featured speakers.

This symposium will address many aspects of the UFO phenomenon. Its theme, "UFOs: The Impact of E.T. Contact Upon Society," will be supported by the following speakers:

— Edward Walters, (Gulf Breeze, FL) - author and recent photographer of many UFOs.
— Rev. Barry H. Downing, Ph.D. (Edwell, NY) author.
— Dr. John E. Brandenburg, Ph.D. (Alexandria, VA) - plasma physicist
— Brian O'Leary, (Phoenix, AZ) - former astronaut
— Carey Baker (Rainesville, AL)

newspaper publisher
— Dr. Robert L. Hall, Ph.D. (St. Michaels, MD) - psychologist
— John L. Spencer (Harpending, England) - author
— Budd Hopkins, (New York, NY) abduction researcher and author of *Missing Time and Intruders*
— Dr. David Gotlib, M.D. (Toronto, ON) - psychiatrist
— Dr. Rima E. Laibow, M.D. (Dobbs Ferry, NY) - clinical psychotherapist.

— Donald R. Schmidt (Hubertus, WI) Director, MUFON special investigations

The convention will draw some 600 visitors from across the nation and overseas. Local residents are also welcome to attend, but advanced reservations are recommended because of limited seating. For further information they should call the MUFON Hotline at 436-2700. Media representatives are invited to a news conference with guest speakers, on Friday, July 6, 1:30 p.m., at the Pensacola Hilton.

Pensacola MUFON is proud to host this major convention which will have a very positive impact on our local economy. We also know that it will help spread the word to other parts of the nation and the world, that West Florida is a great place to live, work, vacation and meet for conventions such as ours!

WORLD, Tulsa, OK — April 8, 1990 CR: MUFON

UFO Enthusiasts Talk Of Close Encounters

By Stephen Steed
World Correspondent

EUREKA SPRINGS, Ark. — For all his trouble with aliens flying in a spaceship above his hometown of Gulf Breeze, Fla., Ed Walters didn't even get a tour of the craft.

"It's not like I got a guided tour or anything," Walters told a questioner Saturday. "I don't mean to be flippant. It's just that you hear about people getting to walk around, but I didn't get to do that."

The aliens also didn't give Walters a message to return to his fellow earthlings.

"I wish I did. That would be something nice to share with you people," he said.

Walters joined about 300 UFO enthusiasts this weekend for the second annual Ozark UFO Conference, during which Walters and his wife, Frances, told of their 20 close encounters with aliens in a 5½ month period in late 1987 and early 1988. The Walters couple told of their experiences in a book called the "Gulf Breeze Story."

In one encounter, Walters said he was taken aboard the aliens' oval craft, where "some kind of device" was clamped to his head.

"I fought and I struggled ... but I think my resistance angered them."

Some hours later, Walters awoke at home, bruised and battered about the head. He was able

to recall his experience only after the help of hypnotists.

Walters is not sure why he was abducted, but ventured a guess. "I think they transferred my emotions to one of the small creatures beside me."

Though the conference opened Friday with a touch of gaiety, all this talk of extra-terrestrials was no laughing matter to the people here.

The conference began Friday with Eureka Springs Mayor Richard Schoeninger saying he would give honorary citizenship and a free trolley pass to the first alien to visit the city.

After that, the participants turned to business, mainly hour-long discussions of other alien abductions, a support group for such victims, talk about cattle mutilations described as being too technical to be done by cults and predators and how the government has tried to cover up evidence of life outside Earth.

Carey Baker, publisher of a weekly newspaper in Rainesville, Ala., told of numerous spaceship sightings and other unexplained phenomena in his area. Among other strange events, Baker said the aliens told his 17-year-old son of millionaire publisher Malcolm Forbes' death — two days before it occurred.

Baker said he himself has never seen a spaceship but he does not doubt those who say they have.

"I've known people in that town for 25 years and they are good, honest, God-fearing people."

. . . and more sightings

BY VICKI LYONS
MUFON Investigator

An unusual light was seen in the skies over Gulf Breeze on Tuesday evening, April 17th at 8:54 p.m. For approximately 3 minutes, fifteen witnesses watched an elliptical, bright red light moving from the direction of East Bay toward Gulf Breeze. The light could be seen at the same time as a plane flying in the same area, so a comparison could be easily made. The unidentified light was completely different from the plane light. There were no other visible colors on the

unidentified light and it did not blink. It seemed to be a soundless light moving in a drifting pattern, coming to a stop, changing to a white color and then continuing east. It was probably 2500 feet high. A helicopter had also been in the area shortly before the light was seen and the light was easily distinguishable and different from both the helicopter and the plane. As a MUFON UFO investigator, I thought it was a highly unusual light with odd characteristics. I am currently working with three other investigators, Carol and Rex Salie-

berry and Joe Barron, to try to check out all possibilities for identification. This unusual light resembles several other reports occurring in the area in the last couple of weeks. At this time, we

have no idea what the lights are, but our investigation is continuing and we will report to *Sentinel* readers what we find out. If you have any information concerning these unusual lights, please call our local MUFON hotline at 436-2700.

Group takes UFOs seriously — and scientifically

John Carpenter believes in UFOs. He investigates sightings. Don't laugh.

He considers himself a serious, rational student taking the scientific approach to a subject many people find irrational.



Carpenter

Carpenter, a psychiatric social worker, heads the Mutual UFO Network of Springfield. The group is a branch of the approximately 4,000-member international Mutual UFO Network — MUFON, if you will. MUFON literature describes the organization as one for people seriously interested in studying and researching UFOs.

"There's enough looks out there," Carpenter pointed out. "We don't need to try to look like them or attract them."

"We try very hard not to promote anything in particular. We greatly discourage people who speak from opinion and belief only, without data to stand behind them."

Don't call Carpenter a Spockjock. Don't confuse him with the folks who believe there's

AL'S PLACE

AL CARLSON



an E.T. behind every tree.

Members of the Springfield group — about 30 people attend the monthly meetings — are skeptical. They demand proof of alien spacecrafts and extraterrestrials.

"You've just about got to have the thing sitting in the back yard, and shaking hands," said engineering technician Tom Strand, a field investigator for the Springfield chapter, whose membership includes nurses, engineers, a police officer and elementary school teacher.

Basically, field investigators interview people who think they have seen a UFO or

believe they have discovered evidence of one. Investigators accumulate any physical evidence that might exist, including soil samples and photographs.

"There are experts we can draw upon," Strand said. "There is one fellow, his main field is the study of landing sites. There are also experts who would analyze photographs these people may have taken."

In the year since the local chapter was formed, 90 percent of the approximately 50 sightings in southwest Missouri and northwest Arkansas have occurred south of Springfield, near the state line.

Carpenter said people who report sightings, and the locations themselves, aren't identified for the same reason most network members insist on anonymity: "They could be the object of ridicule."

Perhaps Carpenter's most interesting — he chooses the adjective "reliable" — report involved two St. Louis women in their 40s. They were driving back from Colorado when the incident occurred.

Even skeptics who consider UFOs hallucinations might find some aspects of the women's tale harrowing:

■ They observed a very bright object in the sky, and described it to each other to make

sure they were seeing the same thing.

■ The object descended to their stopped car. The next thing they remember is the car moving again.

■ At their next scheduled stop, a record being kept by one of the travelers showed that a portion of the trip had taken three hours instead of the expected one. The amount of gas in the tank reflected an hour's drive.

■ Under hypnosis, with no opportunity to discuss what they had seen, both women described being elevated out of the car and pulled up by a bright light to a spacecraft. They remembered the same circulating room, lighting and, in Carpenter's words, "of course the same creatures. They described beings as very white and thin, with real long, bony fingers, a large head and dark eyes."

Still skeptical?

Doubts vanished?

If you're interested in joining a group that seriously studies spacecrafts and anybody who might happen to be in them, call the Mutual UFO Network of Springfield at 882-3363.

Just don't laugh.

□ Features writer Al Carlson's weekly column appears Monday in Accent.

TIMES, El Paso, TX - March 29, 1990 CR: I. Torres

Reports of odd lights in sky continue with Army officer

By Benjamin Keck
El Paso Times

The thing was 10,000 feet in the air when Al Landry first saw it.

"I thought it was a weather balloon at first."

The Army lieutenant colonel watched the object come down from the sky last week as he stood at his office window on the top floor of Beaumont Army Medical Center in Northeast El Paso.

He saw the ball of light six days after a number of people in El Paso and southern New Mexico saw what they described as balls of light and explosions in the sky. The explanation for the first sighting: A Soviet rocket had burned as it re-entered the atmosphere southwest of El Paso.

"It takes time and hard work, but most of these things can be

explained," said Philip Klass of Washington, D.C. For 30 years, Klass was a senior editor at Aviation Week and SpaceTechnology magazine; his hobby for 24 years has been investigating UFO sightings.

Klass said most people who report seeing what they consider UFOs are reliable, trustworthy people who simply are not seeing what they think they are seeing.

Landry's object seemed to get smaller as it got nearer the earth, the lieutenant colonel said.

"Have you ever seen a parachute that's just partially open?" he asked. "It sort of spirals downward. That's what this looked like."

Landry went into a nearby office where Kathy Taylor was working. They and about six other co-workers watched the

object.

It was about 10:15 a.m., and the skies were clear.

"We saw it come down on our side of the mountain, about a third to a fourth of the way from the top. It seemed to hover two or three feet off the ground, then moved to the right, stayed there a few minutes and shot straight up. After it reached what I would guess was between 30,000 and 50,000 feet, it disappeared."

Landry said that when the object appeared to be hovering, it looked like a 2-foot ball of light of "indiscernable shape. Like a mirror reflecting the sun," he said.

"I checked and I was told there were some helicopter operations going on, but this was not a helicopter. I'm a pilot, one who does not believe in UFOs. But I've never seen anything like this before."

People who saw the explosions from the re-entry of the Soviet rocket March 14 said they saw a very large object, just above some high, thin clouds. They said it that seemed to hover briefly over the Franklin Mountains.

Grace Breaux of Las Cruces wrote that she and her husband apparently saw the rocket March 14.

"We saw it come down on our side of the mountain, about a third to a fourth of the way from the top. It seemed to hover two or three feet off the ground, then moved to the right, stayed there a few minutes and shot straight up. After it reached what I would guess was between 30,000 and 50,000 feet, it disappeared."

Lt. Col. Al Landry
Beaumont Army Medical Center

"We have never witnessed such a thing before," she wrote. "The explosion was not like a big fiery ball, but triangular in shape, very orange and red, and after the blast we saw at least 15 objects fly off in a formation-like direction, heading north-east."

Klass, interviewed by telephone March 15, said he couldn't reach any conclusions unless he was in El Paso to investigate what people saw.

But speaking generally, he said the appearance that the ball was hovering over the mountains could have been an optical illusion created by light of the burning rocket playing on the thin clouds.

Klass also said there is a "me, too" syndrome that comes into play after reports of UFO sightings.

"People hear the reports, and they get to thinking they might have seen something, too."

He said a psychologist in Idaho several years ago enlisted the help of two teen-agers in an experiment to gauge how people react to UFO reports.

The two teens made a deal with a woman who lived on a farm to use kerosene to burn round patches in one of her pastures. The patches looked like something had landed there.

The next day, the teens asked their friends if they had seen a strange object flying in the sky. They said it looked as if it were going to land at the woman's farm.

"They all went to the farm and saw where the pasture had been burned," Klass said.

"Soon, the whole talk was about a UFO that had landed. A story was printed in the local paper. One man even said he'd been watching an object flying around the farm for two weeks."

Reproduces accounts of UFO sightings

Artist paints 'close encounter' experiences

By KAY B. HALL
Times Staff Writer

Joan Laurino, of San Francisco, is a watercolor artist who researches her work meticulously, has studied art for years, but doesn't sell it. Instead she exhibits it at UFO conferences and wherever and whenever asked.

She exhibited her work at the recent UFO Conference held in Eureka Springs. She sketches and paints for MUFON (Mutual UFO Network, Inc.), reproducing eye-witness accounts of spacecraft, aliens, or other related "close encounter" experiences, sometimes from the eyewitness account, other times from journals and papers.

Joan is a computer operator and secretary at a San Francisco Brokerage, a brokerage that is quite generous in giving her time off to attend UFO conferences throughout the country.

A California native, Joan was born



Joan Laurino

outside Los Angeles, and said her interest in extraterrestrials stemmed from a movie (now a classic) "The

Day the Earth Stood Still," with Michael Rennie, a movie she saw at age 13.

"It seemed so real," she said, "It was mind-boggling at the time, and then I had my own sighting about six months later," she said.

The sighting occurred in San Francisco after she and her family moved there. She was 14, is now 49, and said her "encounter" was in November.

"Just dark, maybe 7:30 or so. I've always had an interest in the heavens, a curiosity. I was always looking up at the sky. Lo and behold, I saw two bright circular lighted objects. I don't know how far up they were, I had no judgement about distance but they were the size of between a nickel and a quarter in the sky at that distance. I knew they weren't birds or planes. They were moving extremely slowly and silent-

ly," she said, "Both stopped; one circled the other and then just blinked out, as if someone turned off the light switch."

She's never seen a UFO since that time but remembers the circular glowing discs and has continued her studies of art and astronomy reproducing what she and others claim to see. She subscribes to science manuals and magazines and attends as many UFO conferences as her vacation time allows her.

She attended a Hartford, Conn.; conference and met Betty Hill, of the famous Betty and Barney Hill abduction case from the 60s.

"The UFO thing has become more credible, of late," she said, "Journalists everywhere have covered it. Look Magazine did a big layout. It's coming into its own. Soon the government is going to have to admit their existence," she said.

TRIBUNE-REVIEW, Greensburg, PA - Feb. 19, 1990

UFO

On the evening of Jan 24, 1990, just after dark while attending a trash fire in my garden, a big jet liner passed over going west.

Sighting the plane, focused my eyes on an unidentified flying object higher up going south at a rather fast clip, with a circle of lights underneath. They were not yellow, electric lights, but a circle of reddish-orange lights. I took that to be a circle of propulsion jets, assuming that the occupant could tip his vehicle forward and left or right for directional flight as one does with a helicopter. Hope I'm right about that.

I saw my first UFO in 1962 about 200 feet in diameter, about 2,000 feet away, rather low over a hilltop. I drew a picture of that one.

Col. M.R. Zimmerman
Youngwood

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS TIMES, Fayetteville, AR - April 12, 1990

CR: S. Gordon



Do you know what this is?

This 14' flattened spiral of grass is the second such unexplained circle to be found in South Shoreline Park. Possibilities range from beavers and alligators gone mad to tornadoes, UFOs and trampolines. The spiral pattern is clockwise and seems to rule out tornadoes. But, an interesting observation is that these spirals were first recorded in the same week that the "atmospheric tremors" (sky quakes) rocked the area. Coincidence? nah... it must be the crazed beavers.



AUTHOR — Surprise resident Charles Gruver has penned a tale about aliens. It will be published this summer.

UFOs fascinate local author; 'Planet 4' due out in summer

By P. ATWOOD WILLIAMS
Daily News-Sun staff

HE said he could barely read his diploma when he graduated from high school in Allentown, Pa., in 1948.

But more than 40 years later, Charles T. Gruver has turned his life around to become an author.

His book, "The Repopulation of Planet 4" will be published this summer by Carlton Press Inc. of New York. The publisher describes the novel as a "taut and thrilling tale... an arresting, original work that has the rare quality of being utterly believable."

The author, a resident of Happy Trails Resort in Surprise, has followed a twisting trail of occupations, which helps add color to his book.

During a stint in the Air Force, in 1950, Gruver was on a flight over St. Louis, Mo., when he and the other members of the crew were sent to check reports of an unidentified flying object making 90 degree turns and traveling

'I hope to be selected to see what evidence of UFOs and aliens the government really has. I want to find the real experts and get some answers.'

Charles Gruver
author

extremely fast.

"That was sort of like sending a fly after a jet fighter," he said. "We got within 2 or 3 miles of them, going from 6,000 to 12,000 feet during the chase. But we never got a good clear outline nor close enough to shine our lights on it."

Ever since that incident he has been interested in UFOs.

Last year, Gruver said he announced to his wife that he wanted to buy a word processor. "I want to write a book!"

"You haven't even written your mother in 35 years," she said.

Last May, Gruver started working on his story. In it, an alien vehicle comes to Earth to find a human "ambassador" help the aliens locate and return bodies from earlier crashes in four parts of the world.

At 9:30 each evening, Gruver, who follows a strict diet because he has diabetes, eats a sandwich on a paper plate. On the back of those paper plates his story began with a few scribbled notes.

Gruver said he went to the library at Luke Air Force Base and did research on UFO materials released under the Freedom of Information Act.

At night, he would search in his mind for answers to the situations he was creating in each chapter.

Gruver writes about topics such as overpopulation of Earth and discusses how the residents of Planet 4 have coped with similar problems.

"It is as if I were being compelled to write. It was an obsession with me," he said.

Because he has a mechanical background and understands

aeronautics, rocketry and trajectory, he was able to use simple language of a layman to describe the space vehicles and activities.

"I have rewritten the book several times. And I asked some former teachers to help me paragraph and punctuate it," Gruver said, as he thumbed through stacks of handwritten pages.

"My object was clarity. The hardest part was translating from the images in my mind to a language that readers could understand."

He raised questions such as why the American government feels compelled to withhold information about the existence of UFOs and aliens.

"Lots of information has been piece-mealed," Gruver said.

He said he has a motive in writing the novel.

"I hope to be selected to see what evidence of UFOs and aliens the government really has. I want to find the real experts and get some answers."

GAZETTE, HOLLYWOOD, CA - March 28, 1990

UFO Forum 1990

According to high level intelligence sources, the U.S. government has a clearly defined covert policy regarding unidentified flying objects, or UFOs. This policy goes far beyond accepting that they are real. Sources emphatically insist, we are in contact.

At UFO Forum 1990, (April 1) two investigative journalists will reveal startling facts uncovered in their 10-year investigation into these covert government operations.

William L. Moore, investigative journalist, researcher, and author of the best-selling book, "The Roswell Incident," (with Charles Berlitz), was contacted by an intelligence "deep throat" almost 10 years ago. This began an undercover investigation that has spanned the continent and given access to hidden files.

Jaime H. Shandera, investigative journalist, producer/director of over 4,000 television news shows and documentaries, was brought into the investigation when Moore realized he needed an objective strategist. Together they have managed to cultivate additional sources and penetrate the secret government infrastructure.

Early in their investigation, Moore and Shandera recruited broadcast journalist from CBS to validate their source. They wanted to have a trail of validation all through this investigation. They found that other journalists were able to confirm that the source was a bona fide operative of an intelligence agency. Also the source agreed to an interview.

Code-named "Falcon," the source explained that the government's policy was wrong, and that the public had a right to know that extraterrestrials are visiting us.

Because of this, a powerful group, some with over 40 years experience in the "know," set about a plan to get this information to the public.

"That's where we enter the picture," Moore stated. "For years our research has been undercover. We needed to determine if the trail of evidence would reveal a house of cards or a solid base of

operations that could deal with something as staggering as this. This is no house of cards."

Moore and Shandera now have a contact base of 12 validated high level intelligence sources. All of these sources confirm that these covert operations are outside-of-normal channels, and ongoing with regard to UFOs and alien communication.

"I have no interest in chasing lights in the sky," Shandera commented, "but tracking down information from a verifiable government source made all the sense in the world. After all, where would Woodward and Bernstein have been in the Watergate investigation without an inside source?"

The inside source in this case, Falcon, did not want public disclosure of his identity. At the April 1 forum, portions of his interview will be made public for the first time, revealing startling information.

Falcon's background and that of two other sources, "Condor" and "Hawk," were also checked and then investigated by a congressional investigator. This confirmed their status in the intelligence community.

Moore and Shandera's investigation into the shadow world of spies, counter-spies, and UFOs has revealed a mind-boggling story of government secrecy and alien visitation.

There have been calls in the middle of the night, clandestine meetings, bizarre recorded phone messages with clues, foreign postcards with tips that led to National Archives and the discovery of classified documents. All of it defies the anatomy of a hoax.

Also at the event, Col. Robert J. Friend, former head of the Air Force UFO Project Blue Book will add his insights into the government's UFO policy and the author of "Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Conspiracy." Timothy Good will participate in an open question and answer session.

CR: T. Good

UFO class filing up

John Salter, a UND professor, says more than 100 students and UND staff members have signed up for a UFO class he will teach in the university's Honors Program this fall.

Salter recently reported to colleagues he anticipates at least 120 for the class. He'll cover international reports of unidentified flying objects and what he describes as his own encounters with extraterrestrial visitors while he and his son were driving through Wisconsin and Illinois in March 1988.

"The size of this class is considered extraordinary," said Salter, chair of UND's Indian studies department and the first to teach a UFO course at the university. The three-credit honors course will be taught Tuesday afternoons

— Steve Schmitt

CR: J. Salter

January 22 UFO sighting in the Midway area classified as 'credible and sound' by experts

By Ray Dean Davis
View Editor

A reported Jan. 22 sighting of an unidentified flying object near Midway has been labeled "credible and sound" by officials of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), a UFO study agency headquartered in Texas.

The sighting was investigated by Lawrence Willett of Mountain Home, a former commercial pilot, now MUFON's State Section Director and field investigator for this region.

At their request, Willett declined to give the names of the persons who reported the sighting, saying they were concerned about public ridicule.

'They're telling the truth'

"But, I'm satisfied they're telling the truth," he said. "The thing was seen by a couple and their two young children."

"Children are usually pretty easy to trip up if they're making up a story, or just saying what they've been told to say."

"After talking to them, there's no doubt in my mind that these people saw what they said they saw."

The witnesses reported sighting a "huge," blimp-

shaped object flying over their farm on that Monday evening in late January.

Willett tells the story:

"It was just past 6 p.m. They're sure of the time, because the wife was cooking supper and a Springfield TV station was beginning its evening news broadcast."

"The husband had just finished feeding his livestock and was about to go into the house when he noticed this object in the sky, not directly over him, but about 70 degrees to the north."

Clusters of lights

"He described it as being shaped like a blimp with a long appendage projecting from the rear."

"The main body was just a dark shape, but there were clusters of eight or nine flashing red, blue, green and white lights on its nose and tail, and the same type of cluster at the end of the appendage."

"The man had been a helicopter crew member at a large base in Vietnam, so he's not a stranger to lots of different aircraft....but, he didn't recognize anything about this shape."

"He estimated its altitude at 3,000 to 5,000 feet. That was about the height the army

helicopters flew at, so he felt like he could judge it pretty well."

"After he watched the object for a few minutes--it was slowly traveling in a northwesterly direction--he called his wife and kids out to see it. It was a clear night, so they had a good view of it."

"The shape passed beyond their farm, almost out of sight on the horizon, then it suddenly began coming back, at the same time dropping in altitude a bit."

Powerful beams of light

"As it retraced its path, the object suddenly turned on two powerful lights, resembling searchlights....shining them toward the ground."

"The point where the lights met the earth was out of the family's sight, so they couldn't tell if they were shining on anything specific."

"The object then moved slowly beyond the horizon, going in the direction from which it first came."

"It was later determined that the witnesses viewed the craft for 15 to 20 minutes. They know this, because the TV weather was just being completed when they went

back in."

"They heard no noise at all from the object during the entire time they watched it."

"Their dogs, however, were acting up and 'climbing the walls' during the episode. Animals wouldn't normally do this with a common aircraft. It's possible that there was some sort of high-pitched noise coming from it."

"When they went inside, the woman called the county airport at Midway to see if they knew anything about what the object could have been."

Called FAA center

"No one there could tell her anything, but they gave her the number of the FAA flight service center at Jonesboro."

"She called the center and told them what she had seen. Again, no one could answer her questions. She was then given the number of the UFO reporting center at Seattle, Wash."

"She called the center, told them the story and they contacted the MUFON headquarters in Texas."

"The director of investigations notified me, and I interviewed the family."

"The woman asked me not to release their names to the media, because she was concerned people might think they were just looking for attention."

"The man said that wouldn't bother him, since he knows he saw what he saw. But, when anyone reports a sighting to me, I respect their wishes for privacy."

Case evaluated

Willett wrote up the report and filed it with MUFON. He later received word from the organization's deputy director of investigations, Dan Wright, that the report was sent to him for evaluation.

"This appears to be a credi-

ble and sound case," Wright wrote Willett. "It will be encoded into our computer records."

Wright also noted that several such "blimp" shapes have been observed elsewhere in the past year.

After the Midway sighting was made public, several other reports came in from this area and southern Missouri about a similar--or possibly the same--object being sighted two nights earlier, on Jan. 20.

And, two weeks ago, the Baxter County Sheriff's Office received a call about some mysterious lights from a woman who said she lived in the area of Circle R Ranch.

The caller--who would not give her name--said she, her husband and a neighbor heard a loud roaring noise and saw bright lights hovering over their house."

She said the lights stood still over the residence for a few minutes, then suddenly flew away."

Some deputies were sent to the general area, but saw nothing unusual. However, the caller didn't give her exact location."

'Red-orange' UFO

Last October, two Harrison women reported that a low-flying unidentified object, described only as "red-orange," stayed above their vehicle for about 30 minutes as they traveled on the highway."

These are just some of the reports of UFOs and unexplained lights that have come from this region in the past few years, Willett says."

He agrees with a statement published in the Arkansas MUFON newsletter: "It certainly appears that this area of the Arkansas and Missouri Ozarks is something of an attraction for whatever is out there."



Photo by Paul Stagner

Scientist studies size and distance of UFO

Multiple sightings and photographs help scientists locate the size and distance of the red glowing object that flew over Gulf Breeze on Wednesday, April 18, 1990. Several of the thirty-plus witnesses who saw the object also video the sighting which further aids the investigation. Using the 35mm photos of the object, the angle of elevation and distance to the object was calculated to be approximately 3.4 miles when first seen to approximately

1.7 miles when the object disappeared.

An optical study is now being conducted by a leading expert from Washington, D.C., Dr. Bruce Maccabee. If, upon further study, the image on the 35mm negatives proves to be .0625mm, then the object was about 15 feet wide. The brilliant red glow of the object was also witnessed by officers John Rhodes and Don Stevens who said, "It was not an airplane or helicopter, it was a very bright red light at

least several miles away. We don't know what it was."

Doug Wilkes witnessed the object and later reported to Police Chief Brown, "I'm ex-military and an expert on helicopter profile; this was no helicopter or flare or anything that I could identify."

From April 11 to April 18, there were five multiple witness sightings involving as many as 60 people, four videotapes and dozens of photos.

Witness describes UFO sighting

Andy O'Daniel came to the Sentinel last week to share his UFO sighting of Wednesday evening, April 11th.

Andy said he was just stepping out of the dugout about 9:00 p.m.

when he saw a bright red/orange light rise from the trees behind left field.

It went straight up, stopped, then came over the ball park and stopped again "as if it was check-

ing things out," said Andy.

Then it moved south out of sight. "I don't know what it was," said Andy. "But I know what it wasn't and it wasn't a plane, helicopter, or balloon."

Ex-NASA expert says Stealth uses parts from UFO

BY LARRY RHODES
Democrat Staff Writer

A robotics expert and former mission specialist for NASA said Sunday the B-2 Stealth bomber is made from UFO parts.

Bob Oechsler, one of the featured speakers Sunday at the Ozark UFO Conference in Eureka Springs, told more than 300 people the technology behind the Stealth was borrowed from aliens.

"The Stealth bomber you see flying around actually had its primary propulsion system removed from a recovered flying saucer," Oechsler said.

"That's where it came from," Oechsler said. "The project utilizes an alien power plant inside and it's disguised by the use of four GE-F118 engines with a modification called the GE-100."

Oechsler's topic was "Alien Technology in Use Today."

"There is new technology today that has been gleaned from recovered craft of non-human intelligence origin," Oechsler commented. "The government has confirmed, high intelligence officers I should say, that these craft were recovered."

Oechsler said a government physicist who works in a secret laboratory in Nevada has

worked on the power source of these downed craft. Oechsler said some crashed UFOs recovered by humans have been repaired and flown. He said some of them were found with large holes in them.

"Many of them are fully operational," Oechsler said. "The holes would suggest that they were probably shot down. One of them that he got to look at inside had very small chairs, which was the first full true indicator to him that these were not some type of top secret government design but were of alien origin."

Ed Mazur of Mena (Polk County) and Lucius Farish of Plumerville (Conway County) coordinated the three-day UFO conference, which began Friday afternoon. Farish said plans will probably be made soon for the third annual conference.

He said attendance at this year's conference was better than expected.

"Many of the people there were invited guest who are involved in UFO research," Farish said. "However, there were a lot of them there who have had a UFO experience and just wanted to learn more. If they attended most of the lectures they went away with a lot of new information."

Author links mutilations to UFOs

By KEVIN FREKING
Of the Gazette Staff

Animal mutilations, human abductions and alien life forms normally are identified with outrageous horror films coming soon to local theaters.

But these topics and more make up the bulk of contents in a book released last summer that devotes some of its pages to incidents that occurred in Little River and Hempstead counties in Southwest Arkansas.

The book, titled "An Alien Harvest," was written by Emmy Award-winning documentary filmmaker Linda Moulton

Howe of Littleton, Colo., and is based on 10 years of research into the sightings of strange objects in the sky and their links with cattle mutilations.

Ms. Howe is convinced, through her research and interviews with witnesses, that an alien life form is responsible for some of the hundreds, if not thousands, of cattle mutilations that have been reported in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

As Bob Taffee, of Ashdown, Ark., said it is the kind of story one might expect to

find on the pages of the *National Examiner* next to the story about the walking catfish that went into a house and killed a woman.

But the material also is taken seriously by many people who have witnessed the strange lights that frequented Southwest Arkansas in early 1988. The cover of "An Alien Harvest" comes from a photograph taken by *Little River News* Editor Jim Williamson.

Williamson and other residents began watching the skies of Little River County with earnest after three women reported being chased by a strange light on Jan. 19, 1988.

Taffee said he was skeptical when his terrified niece knocked on his door that night to tell of the light that had chased them. But a couple days later, he and more than a dozen people saw other strange lights in the sky. Eventually, the group of sky watchers grew, and Williamson began to contact anyone who might be able to account for an object in that area like Air Life, the National Weather Service and NASA. All reports came back negative, Williamson said.

Williamson said he also contacted Ms. Howe and asked about cattle mutilations — something that often follows strange light sightings. The cattle mutilations would come as Ms. Howe had predicted, but not until March of last year.

In that incident, five pregnant cows were found dead and laid out in a straight line in a pasture. Some had been mutilated with large holes cut near their rectums and another had a strip taken from its stomach. Ms. Howe dedicates about 10 pages of that incident to her book and also refers to a mutilation incident near Hope, Ark., in 1987.

Ms. Howe said examination of tissue from one of the Hempstead County cows by Dr. John Altschuler showed cell destruction caused by a rapid increase in heat.

"How do humans bring down five animals in a straight line without showing any tracks, marks or anything, I don't know," Ms. Howe said during a telephone interview last week. "I know we've tried to match the description of 300 degrees (given by Altschuler.) The laser manufacturers I've talked to in California and at Stanford Medical Center ... said that to cut an incision that large with any known laser, industrial, military or medical, that would not leave a gaping, carbonized burn, would take an hour or more.

"So, we can't match up an in-

strument with what appears to be the medical characteristics of those particular wounds."

Hempstead County Sheriff Don Worthey had a different opinion of what caused the deaths of the cattle. He said a local veterinarian found the cows died of toxic poisoning from hay. He said county officials did not have the money to send tissues from the cattle to a lab and the owner of the cattle just wanted to forget about the incident.

Ms. Howe said skeptics blame the cattle deaths she has researched on predators, disease or occult activity.

"Sometimes, they won't even listen to the evidence. They just say it's predator," Ms. Howe said. "I've shown a sheriff a report that said 'cut with a sharp instrument.' And he said, 'aw hell, it's just predator.'"

"I've also talked with people who say, if it is not predator, it's got to be satanic cults," she said. "You can't match up what happens with satanic activity and the particular mutilations I focus on in the book. They are usually sloppy."

"Disease? A disease that makes such clean incisions into the hide?" she said. "There is no such thing. So you are back to humans, government, aliens. I personally believe there are too many eyewitness accounts (of aliens and UFOs)."

"You cannot ignore something like the daylight sighting by a rancher I described in my book," she said. "He's out rounding up the cows when he comes around a bunch of mesquite trees and sees these two four-foot tall sort of light-greenish creatures, not human, with very large egg-shaped heads and very big black, slanted eyes, carrying a calf between them. He runs in sheer terror and sees the calf mutilated at the spot where they were a couple days earlier."

In her book, Ms. Howe interviews people from several walks of life, including ranchers, law enforcement officers and veterinarians.

Ms. Howe said she gets plenty of responses from skeptics, but most responses since the May release of the book have been positive. She is working on updating her book for a magazine article to be published in Japan.

Taffee also said he knows his beliefs about what he has seen leave him open to ridicule, but he said many credible and upstanding people in the Little River County area have shared similar stories with him of strange lights in the sky.

NEWS-JOURNAL, Pensacola, FL - March 11, 1990

Observers: Seeing is believing

By Bill DiPaolo and Craig Myers
News Journal

Florida Highway Patrol Trooper S.R. Bevis is convinced he saw a UFO — an unidentified flying object — on Feb. 4, 1976. So convinced that he would be willing to testify to the fact.

"It was making some pretty unorthodox moves that an ordinary aircraft couldn't do. I'm not trying to say it was an alien craft. I thought it may be something the military was fooling around with," he said.

Bevis was on patrol near Navarre Beach when he made the sighting.

"... I had the station call that night to see if the Navy or Air Force was testing anything. They said nothing was being tested," he said.

The Navy's and Air Force's silence that night is characteristic of actions by government investigations into reports of UFO sightings and contacts.

But it's not enough to silence those who claim to have seen, or even had contact with, unidentified flying objects in and around Gulf Breeze.

The term UFO was coined in 1953 after some radar detections coincided with visual sightings near Washington, D.C.

In 1948, the Air Force began keeping records of unidentified sightings and reports that it called "Project Bluebook." By 1969 it had collected reports of 12,618 sightings or events. These ultimately were classified as "identified" with a known astronomical, atmospheric or artificial phenomenon or as "unidentified," including cases where information was lacking.

The investigation cost \$350,000 and at its conclusion, scientists reported that only 701 of 12,618 UFO related reports could not be explained.

Project Bluebook was discontinued after the release of the "Condon Report," based upon a study at the University of Colorado.

In the study, headed by E.U. Condon, a respected physicist, he and 36 other scientists reviewed in detail 59 UFO sightings. The reports included studies of weather reports, radar, photography and public opinion polls.

The report rejected the idea that the sightings and reports were of visits by extraterrestrials.

As a rule, sightings have been classified into three categories: Visual sightings, radar sightings and close encounters or physical evidence.

In explaining away many of the sightings, Bluebook and other similar studies found that a variety of factors can affect the validity of sightings, ranging from weather conditions to tricks played by light.

In daytime visual sightings, lighting, reflections, optical illusions and atmospheric conditions can cause errors, officials say. Nighttime mistakes can be made when a bright light appears to be moving.

Even radar can be fooled, officials say, because it fails to discriminate between physical objects and meteor trails, tracks of ionized gas, rain or thermal abnormalities.

Despite government and military reluctance by to step back into the issue since the end of Project Bluebook, events keep pulling them back in.

Eglin Air Force Base was forced temporarily back into the debate when on Oct. 17, 1973, Eglin radar operators reported tracking a UFO north of the base.

On Jan. 31, 1976, Eglin personnel claimed to have shot about 40 frames of high quality film of a round and brightly lighted UFO over the Duke Field airstrip.

When the film was developed the next day, nothing showed up except the background, reports said.

Today, Eglin officials no longer log or investigate calls from people reporting UFOs, said a base spokeswoman, Air Force Capt. Susan Brown.

"If someone makes a sighting and wants to know if we had something in the area, we will respond to that. That's the extent of it."

On Jan. 8 of this year, some area residents reported that eight helicopters from Pensacola Naval Air Station trailed a UFO as it hovered and flew over Gulf Breeze. The Navy said no helicopters were flying.

Gulf Breeze Police Chief Jerry Brown says he believes Northwest Florida's military installations — including Eglin, Hurlburt Field, Duke Field and the Navy's facilities at Pensacola NAS, Whiting Field and Cory Station — could explain many of the area's nearly 200 reported sightings since November 1987.

Charles Flanagan, a Pensacola Realtor and member of the Mutual UFO Network — a Texas-based group that claims 2,500 worldwide members — blames the lack of an absolute answer on people's fear of ridicule.

"It's because we don't have any grass roots support. We need scientists and military people, but many of them are afraid of saying anything. We need politicians and religious leaders to support us," he said.

UFO investigator and Navarre Beach resident Rex Salisberry said, "There's no doubt these people (the believers) have made contact. 'I have done investigations on (Northwest Florida) people with marks on their arm and another on their stomach, which they could not explain. 'There's a lot more to this than just, 'Where, there's goes another one — let's get his license plate number!'"

Salisberry's "official" MUFON investigation of UFOs in Gulf Breeze contrasts with one by Michael Wales, a Palm Beach man.

Wales moved to Gulf Breeze in January 1989 after watching "UFO Cover-Up ... Live!" on Oct. 14, 1988. The television broadcast featured live interviews with 30 local eyewitnesses.



Brown west Florida) people with marks on their arm and another on their stomach, which they could not explain.

In a March 1989 advertisement in the Gulf Breeze Sentinel, Wales referred to himself as "Michael of the Free Confederation of Planets in service of the Infinite Creator."

"Certain highly enlightened Starseed Angelic Forces have been simultaneously contacting Gulf Breeze ... and Fayette, Ala., to battle the serpents and awaken the population of the world. It is high time to inform yourselves and demand an end to the governmental cover-up regarding both the angelic and demonic extraterrestrial activities," Wales wrote.

Wales said the UFOs are visiting Gulf Breeze because the U.S. government won't release information on alien visits. He said they are taking their case to the people.

"They don't want to force themselves on a planet against its wishes. If enough people on a planet want to know about them they may be able to make contact in a more open way," Wales said.

Wales said he left Gulf Breeze in October 1989 after being ridiculed and ostracized by Gulf Breeze officials and fellow UFO researchers. But Brown and other city officials said Wales alienated himself in his search for aliens.

Gulf Breeze Mayor Ed Gray said he believes that whatever is flying around his city is something from Star Wars. But he was referring to the Strategic Defense Initiative, not the movie.

Brown believes Eglin is testing weapons connected with SDI, a space-based missile defense, at its ranges in mainland Okaloosa County and on Okaloosa Island east of Navarre Beach.

Attention also has been focused on Gulf Breeze because of a new book by resident Ed Walters, "The Gulf Breeze Sightings," published by William Morrow and Co., Inc., New York, hit the bookstores last month and chronicles local UFO sightings.

But after 2½ years of calls from MUFON investigators, UFO skeptics, and reporters, Gray said he is about ready to beam out of the whole controversy.

Walters began to gain notoriety in November 1987 when Gulf Breeze Sentinel publisher Duane Cook printed his UFO photos.

"I'd like to think that our generation will be enlightened to a universe in a way no other generation has," Cook said.



Times Photo by Dan Hostetler

Paul Russell holds a stick with a substance on it he believes was emitted from an unidentified flying object.

Hunting for UFOs? Fulton's the place

By Jeff McCombs
Times staff writer

PEKIN—Paul Russell loves to go hunting, but he never treks into the woods with a bow and arrow or a shotgun, and he seldom wears camouflage clothing.

He is more apt to be found hiking along with binoculars, a camera and possibly a telescope.

His prey—Unidentified Flying Objects.

Russell is a section director of Illinois' chapter of the Mutual UFO Network, Inc., and a member of the Aerial Phenomena Club of Central Illinois.

"I've been involved with the Aerial Phenomena Club of Central

Illinois for the past 12 years," Russell said. "That is one of the oldest independent UFO clubs in the nation. Members range from farmers to physicists. There are people from all walks of life."

The club's parent, Mutual UFO Network is an international scientific organization comprised of people interested in studying and researching UFOs. The organization has about 2,500 members nationwide, and more than 100 members in Illinois.

Sunday, Russell and other space buffs will gather in Downers Grove for a statewide meeting, featuring discussions about spaceships, unexplainable occurrences, flashing nocturnal lights and extraterrestrial

beings.

If ever there was a person who believes without question in the presence of extraterrestrials, it's Russell.

His interest in flying saucers began 35 years ago when he started reading about the space phenomenon at the age of 10.

Then in 1962, everything he had read about suddenly appeared before him during broad daylight.

"I had a daylight sighting and that made a believer out of me," he said. "I had another one, in fact the whole family did, out in our backyard in July 1984."

That saucer was a cigar-shaped object, Russell said, and appeared at about 8:30 p.m.

"My wife saw it first and my 10-year-old saw it and thought Darth Vader was coming," Russell said. "I made a quick decision that I could either get my camera or my binoculars. I got my binoculars because it was starting to move pretty fast."

"It had about five or six port hole windows on the side. There were no rings, running lights, no antennas, no insignias."

Since that time, Russell's life has changed forever.

"People like me, when we go outside we look in the sky to see if we can see something," Russell said. "Normal people I suppose just get in the car and drive away. How many

people really take the time to look up?"

Russell is always interested in hearing from or about anyone who has seen such unidentified objects flying in the day or night sky.

But don't try pulling his leg or tell a tall tale of a false sighting.

"You can usually tell if someone is telling the truth because there it is a traumatic experience," he said. "It completely throws you out of your everyday world. It's just bewildering."

When someone reports a UFO sighting, Russell travels to interview the witness, fills out a report and sends it to MUFON headquarters. Reports of UFO sightings are few and far between, Russell says.

"We do not get as many calls as we like," he said. "We know there are more out there. This involves a lot of detective work. It's usually more difficult to find the person that has seen it than the actual write up of the report. You have to travel down some bad country roads."

One such road led him into Fulton County, where he and fellow Fulton County section director Poe Clark stumbled onto a white, cottony substance apparently blasted down from a flying saucer. The two collected 60 jars of the billowy cobweb-like material and gave it to MUFON officials who have sent it to labs to be analyzed, said Russell.

"Three people saw a substance

come out of a UFO in October," Russell said. "It happened four times. We have taken it to labs and it does not match up with over 200,000 known substances on earth."

"It is a complete unknown."

Neither Russell or Clark would reveal the names of the labs conducting experiments on the substance. They said they're hopeful results of the tests could be revealed during the group's meeting Sunday.

It is no wonder the substance was found in Fulton County. According to Russell, Fulton County has been a hub of flying saucers for the past 25 years.

"There have been sightings up around strip mines, in Victoria, Yates City, Spring Bay, Minier and Fulton County, which is always on," Russell said. "Fulton County has been one of the hottest places. Fulton County would be one of the hottest places (for UFOs) in the country if it weren't for the lack of population."

Russell said UFO's are hiding in the Spoon River Valley.

"We went out last winter, but we couldn't find anything," Russell said.

He adds this advice for the novice UFO-gazer:

"If you see one in the daytime, chances are they are not going to come back to the same spot. If you see one at night, a lot of times they will come back three or four times at night in a row."

TRIBUNE, Tampa, FL - March 22, 1990

Close encounters bringing UFO fans to Gulf Breeze — aliens' second home

By DAVID TORTORANO
of United Press International

GULF BREEZE — Reports of UFO sightings over Gulf Breeze, which began in 1987 and continue to this day, promise to be the hot topic when "ufologists" gather in northwest Florida for a summer symposium.

This suburb of Pensacola has earned a place in UFO circles due to 200 reported sightings of unidentified flying objects. Bizarre tales have emerged, including accounts of diminutive aliens and blue paralyzer beams.

UFO investigators are even looking into reports of people being held captive by aliens for brief periods.

"It's the best case we've worked in 30 years," said Walter Andrus of Seguin, Texas, director of the Mutual UFO Network, or MUFON. "This has been the longest period of time of sustained sightings anywhere."

Theories abound. Some say the UFOs are from outer space while others guess they have to do with military activities at nearby bases. Some chalk it up to mass hysteria.

But the Mutual UFO Network, a private group that investigates sightings, was impressed enough to schedule its 21st annual International UFO Symposium July 6-8 in Pensacola. The theme is the impact of extraterrestrial contact upon society and includes a bus tour of Gulf Breeze.

Andrus said the Pensacola area was chosen for the symposium because of the strong local group. Of the 100 Florida MUFON members, 60 are from the Pensacola area.

"We actually have more members right there in northwest Florida ... than anywhere else in the country," said Andrus. He said the area was a good symposium location because of the ongoing sightings.

The string of UFO sightings in Gulf Breeze began in November 1987, when a weekly newspaper published photographs taken by a local man, Ed Walters, showing glowing objects in the night sky.

Other residents responded by saying they also had seen UFOs. For a time the Gulf Breeze Sentinel was publishing nearly weekly accounts from witnesses ranging from children to senior citizens.

Miami Herald humorist Dave Barry arrived in town and wrote a tongue-in-cheek column. The sightings were discussed on the television shows "Unsolved Mysteries," "A Current Affair" and "UFO Coverup ... Live."

"It hasn't stopped," said Andrus, whose group gets an average of 12 reports of sightings in the Pensacola area each month. Its March newsletter outlined 11 in February alone.

Rex and Carol Salisbury, MUFON section co-directors for the two-county area, said they are investigating 27 cases involving between 50 and 75 people. They are particularly interested in witnesses who lost time during sightings.

"Every now and then we investigate cases where, after talking to people, we highly suspect that they have been abducted and they don't know it," said Charles Flannigan, MUFON's Florida director.

He said witnesses will sometimes remember something strange happening to them, "then through hypnotic regression more will come out."

Flannigan said the supposed abductions occurred over the last 10 months, and the amount of missing time varies between 15 minutes and four hours.

"The last incident was two weeks ago," Flannigan said.

In one case, a Pensacola man in his 50s said he was walking to a store when he turned and saw a 4-foot alien pointing to him. The man said the next thing he remembered was continuing his walk and being thirsty, Salisbury said.

The mile-long walk took 45 minutes. Through hypnotic regression, the man gave information indicating that he had been in a room and was examined, Salisbury said.

In another case, a Gulf Breeze woman who reported seeing a UFO woke up the next morning with three unexplained puncture wounds on her arm. Another man found a quarter-size scar on his stomach after a sighting.

The Salisberrys said some people have reported getting "messages."

Andrus said MUFON's conclusion about the Gulf Breeze sightings is that it appears to be "an intentional display of UFOs and creatures ... leading up to direct contact to civilization."

The topic has remained hot. In MUFON's meeting last week, 57 people showed up to hear a Niceville man who claimed he has communicated through telepathy with "space beings."

STAR, Kansas City, MO - March 31, 1990 CR: D. Wells

Doctor who believes in UFOs sues to recover license

The Associated Press

TOPEKA — An Ottawa, Kan., doctor who claims that his license to practice medicine was suspended because of his religious beliefs concerning UFOs has filed a lawsuit to get the license back.

The suit filed Wednesday in Shawnee County District Court by Dr. Stephan Scott Corder also

seeks more than \$10,000 for loss of income and emotional distress. Defendants in the suit are the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts and its executive director, Richard Gannon.

The suit also asks the court for an injunction preventing the board and Gannon from "curtailing the religious expression of Dr. Corder as a precondition to issu-

ing or reinstating his license ... " and "from requiring him to submit to psychiatric and psychological examinations as a result of his religious expression."

In published articles Corder has stated that he thought the license was suspended because of his personal beliefs concerning UFOs and spiritual beings.

Corder said the state board

warned him not to speak publicly about his beliefs after stories about him were published in a newspaper and a supermarket tabloid.

Corder, who has said he had been in communication with the Apostle Peter, co-wrote a book, *UFO Contact the Four*, published last summer.

BOOKS / J. ANTONIO HUNEEUS

Resident Aliens:
Author Alleges
Worldwide
UFO Cover-Up

Above Top Secret — The Worldwide UFO Cover-Up, by Timothy Good, Quill/William Morrow, \$12.95, 592 pp.

Now that UFOs are back in popular demand, with alien abductions discussed on television talk shows and the Russian landings in Voronezh making front pages, this new book, *Above Top Secret — The Worldwide UFO Cover-Up*, is definitely a timely volume if you want to learn what has really been said about UFOs in official circles during the past 40 years or so. With an appendix containing more than 100 pages of reproductions of declassified memoranda from former presidents and prime ministers, generals and admirals, pilots and policemen, English author Timothy Good has compiled an excellent reference work about the official — not the Hollywood or tabloid version — history of UFOs.

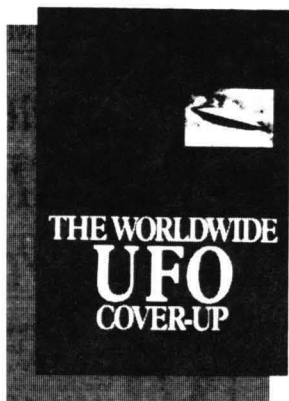
Certainly the book conveys basically an "anglophile" perspective. Great Britain, the United States, Canada and Australia are all covered in great detail, while there are two chapters on the Soviet Union and China, and only one for France, Italy, Spain and Portugal. Latin America, Africa, most of Asia and the rest of Europe just didn't make it in Good's "worldwide cover-up." Nevertheless, the book does offer a comprehensive chronicle of Anglo-American UFOlogy, with plenty of surprises to those who are not familiar with the controversy around flying saucers.

The title is borrowed from a letter by Sen. Barry Goldwater, who has corresponded with several UFO investigators over the years. "The subject of UFOs is one that has interested me for some long time," he wrote in 1975. "About 10 or 12 years ago I made an effort to find out what was in the building at Wright Patterson Air Force Base where the [UFO] information is stored that has been collected by the Air Force, and I was understandably denied this request. It is still classified above Top Secret," stated Goldwater.

You will be surprised by the number of similarly important statesmen, generals and scientists who were involved one way or another during the past four decades. From the British side we have such characters as Lord Mountbatten, Sir Winston Churchill, and Air Marshall Lord Dowding, head of the RAF during the battle of England. The American side includes Presidents Truman, Carter and Reagan, CIA Directors Hillenkoetter, Dulles, and "Beetle" Smith, astronaut Gordon Cooper, and all military ranks from Generals MacArthur and Marshall to Capt. Ruppelt, who was the head of the USAF's Project Blue Book during its golden days in the early 1950s.

One has to wonder that if UFOs don't exist, as the governments of the world continue to state officially, then why have so many prominent figures and competent servicemen shown a keen interest; and furthermore, why have so many documents on the subject been classified under "national security" for so many years? The great majority of the memoranda digested or reproduced in Good's book — issued by a variety of agencies such as the USAF, CIA, DIA and State Dept. in the United States, or various directorates of the British Ministry of Defense (MoD), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), or the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) — was only declassified in recent years under the Freedom of Information Act in the United States; or released after its 30-year limit under the Official Secrets Act in the United Kingdom and commonwealth nations.

Other statements and case histories are drawn from obscure periodicals like England's *Flying Saucer Review*, or private sources, correspondences and interviews made by the author. On Feb. 23, 1955, for instance, a UFO landed in Lord Mountbatten's estate at Broadlands, near Romsey, Hampshire. The object and one humanoid occupant was seen by Frederick Briggs, who was working in the estate as a bricklayer at the time. In a signed statement, Briggs indicated the object had a diameter



between 20 and 30 feet. "Its color was like dull aluminum, rather like a kitchen saucepan" with "portholes all around the middle." Briggs also saw "what appeared to be a man, presumably standing on a small platform on the end. He seemed to be dressed in a dark suit of overalls, and was wearing a close-fitting hat or helmet."

Perhaps you've read about this sort of account in the *National Enquirer* or other even less reputable sources. Yet before dismissing it you should consider that the case was reported to Mountbatten, who checked the location where Briggs had seen the UFO, listened carefully to the story, and finally signed a statement attesting to Briggs' sincerity. Both statements, as well as Briggs' sketch of the saucer and the humanoid, are contained in the appendix.

Also of interest to American readers will be the passing involvement by Prime Minister Churchill in 1952, when he wrote to his secretary of state for air, Lord Cherwell, a short note stating: "What does all this stuff about flying saucers amount to? What can it mean? What is the truth? Let me have a report at your convenience." Lord Cherwell responded to Churchill that all "flying saucers" were either "known astronomical or meteorological phenomena," "mistaken identification of conventional aircraft, balloons, birds, etc.," "optical illusions and psychological delusions," or "deliberate hoaxes."

These explanations, it turns out, were the results given to the American press in 1948 by the Air Force's Project Grudge, in order to debunk the flying saucer nuisance. But these answers are contradicted by the government's own secret files, which tell of incident after incident when pilots and other reliable witnesses could simply not explain the object they had seen. Good also broke the lid off a current RAF UFO tracking station and research center at Rudloe Manor in Wiltshire, which receives UFO reports from the public.

Still more controversial are the so-called "Majestic-12" documents dealing with the famous crash of an unknown object in Roswell, N.M., back in July of 1947. The documents purportedly show an ultra-secret "briefing paper" prepared for President-elect Eisenhower in 1952, which clearly states the U.S. government has in its possession the remains of an alien spacecraft and its dead crew of four, termed "Extraterrestrial Biological Entities" or EBES.

The "MJ-12" papers were allegedly leaked by anonymous intelligence sources to Good in England and Hollywood producer Jaime Shandera in the United States. Good, however, was the first to print the documents completely uncensored in the 1987 British edition of the book. The debate over the authenticity of the documents has divided the UFO community and, as it could be expected, remains a mystery to be solved one way or another.

Written in a rather dull style, the book could and should have used more narrative skill to link the different periods and documents in a more cohesive and entertaining manner. Yet despite these and other flaws, *Above Top Secret* is a good introduction for those who want to read a sober history of the UFO phenomenon, as well as an excellent reference volume to those who are already interested.

J. Antonio Huneeus is a freelance science writer who has written frequently for publications in North and South America.

UFO watchers'
club shuts down
after 29 years

By Christine Maly
Beacon Journal staff writer

The Flying Saucer Investigating Committee will beam up forever after its last meeting Friday.

After 29 years of scanning the skies and investigating local UFO sightings, the Medina-based group's president is moving to the clearer skies of Arizona. And when he goes, the club will fold.

"There are no heirs," said Americo Candusso, 68, sitting amid boxes of UFO books, tapes, pictures and models in his Medina home. "I don't think they think it's as important as it used to be."

Candusso, a retired sixth-grade teacher, will move with his wife to Fountain Hills, Ariz., at the end of April. A field investigator with the national Mutual UFO Network, he has been chairman of the Flying Saucer group since 1961.

There was a time when hundreds attended the group's monthly meetings. Now, he said, only about 30 people, mostly old-timers, attend the meetings, which moved from Summit County to Medina when Candusso did two years ago. Although Candusso

says he doesn't believe interest in flying saucers is fading, he allows that he doesn't get as many calls as he used to. Andy Stich, president of the Goodyear UFO Society in Akron, said it will take another big sighting in the area to revive interest in UFOs.

"It goes up and down. If there's any activity, it sparks again," he said.

The last major sighting was April 17, 1966, when Portage County sheriff's deputies Dale Spaur and W.L. Neff chased what they reported to be a dome-shaped, house-size object from Randolph to Conway, Pa.

Candusso spends hours every day reading about UFOs and preparing his presentations for the group with the same care he used to prepare his lessons as an Akron Public Schools teacher.

Every night, he searches the Medina skies through his telescope, hoping to catch a glimmer of a UFO.

"All through the '60s, I had seen several of them, things I could not explain," he said. "In the '70s, it diminished. The '80s

were worse."

Candusso's first close encounter, on April 6, 1959, with what he said looked like a fluorescent pipe flying along near Twinsburg lasted only 15 minutes, but it captured his interest for life.

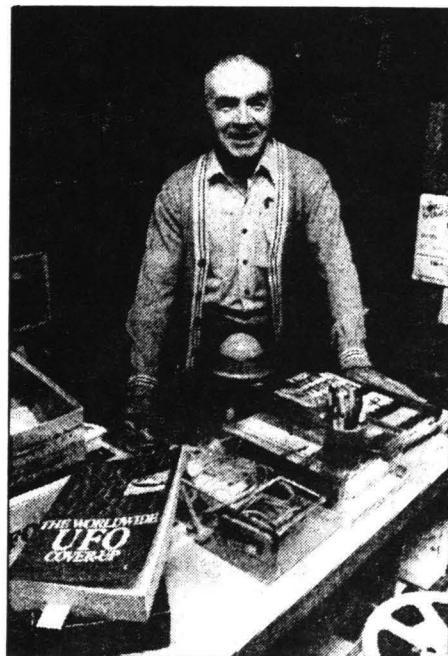
Even though he was on a date, he stopped his car and pulled out binoculars and paper and pen to record the event.

In June 1961, Candusso says, he saw five objects above Steels Corners and Wyoga Lake roads in Stow. "It was two bands of horizontal lights, red, green and white — all sparkles," he said. The bands had a ball of bronze light in the front and a ball of blue in the back.

Four other objects, almost exactly like the first, came out of the same hole in the clouds and appeared to be landing.

"I got into my old Plymouth car and raced down the road toward it," Candusso said. "I had to keep looking at the road. Once I saw a moon-shaped thing the color of mercury, but when I got past the trees it was gone."

The next year, Candusso



Beacon Journal photo/Ott Geng

Americo Candusso with his UFO data

founded the Flying Saucer group, which has been meeting the first Friday of every month in the Medina Vocational Center. The club aimed to let the public know about UFO sightings in the area and around the world, and to investigate local sightings.

He has investigated hundreds of UFO sightings, using his speaking fees to pay expenses, and he has talked to thousands of Akron area residents who have seen something in the sky and wanted his opinion.

"We got 1,500 calls in one period in 1966," he said. "We haven't had that many calls in the past 10 years."

In March, Candusso only got one call, from a North Canton teen-ager who turned out to be too shy to talk about it.

So he is leaving the sky-watching to other groups. Besides the Goodyear group, UFO committees meet in Alliance and Cleveland. In Arizona, Candusso "probably will do the same thing I do here. I've just got too much invested in this."

Bright flash of light
triggers phone calls

By DON NEACE
and UPI Reports

Reports of a possible meteor or satellite crashing in this area caused a number of telephone calls to law enforcement officials Saturday night.

A bright flash of light streaked across the night sky over parts of four Midwest states, leaving stargazers and police still puzzled today over whether they witnessed a meteor, lightning or perhaps a more mysterious phenomenon.

Calls to police and National Weather Service offices were fielded Saturday in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Indiana.

M. L. Skaggs first reported the flash of light to Crawford County officials.

"It looked like lightning at first," Skaggs said, "but then it lasted a little while longer than lightning should last."

Skaggs said he was traveling north toward Trimble near Newlin Cemetery when he saw a "greenish-white, round ball of fire."

"It looked like it was about 500 feet away. When it was about 30 feet off the ground, it burst into flames," he said. "I thought at first it was an airplane going down."

More than a dozen calls were registered at Crawford County Sheriff's department within a 30-minute span after the 10 p.m. phenomenon.

Police responded to at least four locations to check for possible crash sites of the possible meteor or satellite.

A fireworks-like "boom" accompanied the flash of light. One Eaton Street resident told police he thought the object may have hit his garage but no damage was found.

Speculation of a possible radioactive satellite prompted Crawford County Emergency Service and Disaster Agency members to respond to the Newlin Cemetery area with Geiger counters.

Despite satellite theories, The North American Air Defense Command said it did not consider the object to be manmade.

About the same time in Missouri, Marshall Faintich, who holds a doctorate in astronomy, was setting up his telescope in his backyard at Ches-terfield, a suburb of St. Louis, when the light flashed by about 9:36 p.m., Faintich said.

"About five minutes prior to the bright flash, I did see a fairly bright

meteor going from the south to the northwest at about 30 degrees elevation that was nothing out of the ordinary," he said.

"But about five minutes later, at about 9:36, there was a bright flash in the sky that really went from horizon to horizon. It's not anything I've ever seen before. And as it was fading, a second light flashed brighter than the first one, which seemed to come from the south."

"I've seen meteors blow up in the atmosphere ..., but I've never seen anything like this before," Faintich said. "I really don't think it was a meteor shower."

John Eysse, a forecaster for the National Weather Service in St. Louis, said his office heard calls about the streak in the sky.

"Basically, it was just a flash of a white light, and that was pretty much it," Eysse said. "We did have some initial reports that some people said they may have felt a tremor or an impact, but none of this can be confirmed by us."

In Belleville, St. Clair County Sheriff's Lt. Charles Airhart was home Saturday night and got a look at the light show.

"It was one real bright flash and that's it," Airhart said. "Like a flash of white lightning, real bright."



Noel Szundy, left, and Evelyn Morrison-Degler scan the skies above Szundy's Bern Township home, hoping to spot a UFO.

Eagle/Times: Chad DeShazo

3 Berks women relate their close encounters

By Pamela Rohland
Eagle/Times

One of the first things they will tell you is that they are not crazy, and, indeed, this seems to be the truth.

Although their stories sound incredible, the women who talk about seeing unidentified flying objects and encountering extraterrestrial beings are intelligent, articulate, and professionally successful.

One is a community activist, one is a lecturer and former social worker, another has won national awards for her exceptional performance in a finance field.

It was with some trepidation, and a growing sense of defiance, that they decided to reveal their stories.

"I know I'm not crazy, but if people want to think that, that's fine," said Noel Szundy, a 53-year-old Bern Township resident who claims to have seen and been on board UFOs.

"It's not that I'm special," she said. "This sort of thing apparently happens to a lot of people, but many of them are too afraid to talk about it."

"My guess is that everyone who has looked at the sky has seen a UFO and either didn't register what he was seeing or didn't understand."

Szundy, a Berks County native who holds a master's degree in social work and now lectures on metaphysical phenomena, looks like a well-tended suburban matron. Her graying blonde hair is swept into a ponytail tied with a ribbon. Her lounging attire is perfectly coordinated.

Recently divorced, Szundy lives with her teen-age son, two dogs, a cat, and a fish in a sunny, spacious house called "Skyheim" overlooking the area surrounding the Reading Municipal Airport.

A door mat gives the first clue of Szundy's predilection for the

extraterrestrial: "Welcome UFOs and crews," it reads.

Settled into an ornately carved chair, the tranquility of her house punctuated only by the sound of a chiming clock, Szundy recounted her experiences as matter-of-factly as if she were describing a trip to the supermarket.

Her most memorable encounter with a UFO came several years ago when she and her family lived in Brewster, N.Y., an area immortalized in the book, "Night Siege," by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who recorded 5,000 craft sightings there within five years. Szundy speculated that the crafts, which are often observed around water, may have been attracted by a huge reservoir in the area.

Szundy said several years ago on a cloudless, moonlit night between 10 and 11 p.m., two of her friends gaped at a spaceship about the size of two football fields slowly approached and hovered silently above them in the back yard where they were relaxing.

Szundy, who only saw the craft departing because her friends had been too stunned to call her out of the house immediately, said the domed object appeared to be constructed of a shiny metal, such as stainless steel. Colored lights blinked rhythmically around the outside.

Szundy professes to be skeptical about many of the unidentified objects that have been glimpsed in the sky.

"I'm always dubious," she said. "I assume it is an airplane, unless it behaves in an unusual way. Airplanes can look like UFOs, depending on the angle they're at, especially at night."

But the craft in her back yard definitely was not an airplane, Szundy insisted. She said many others reportedly witnessed a similar object the same night.

Seeing a UFO is termed an encounter of the first kind. But Szundy also admits to encounters of the second kind (when humans make contact with beings from the craft) and the third kind (going on board the craft).

"A lot of people dream about being on board," Szundy said. "I have a feeling many of those impressions aren't dreams, but may be actual visits."

She theorizes that those who are taken on board are given a post-hypnotic suggestion to make them forget the experience until something in their daily life jogs their memory.

Szundy believes she visited a spaceship as a child. Under hypnosis years later, she said, she envisioned herself being escorted by a kindly human-like creature who held her hand as he showed her the interior of the craft.

"He showed me a roomful of instruments, which I didn't understand," she said.

Szundy said extraterrestrials have come to Earth to perform experiments on humans and to help save our civilization.

"I think they're hundreds of thousands of years ahead of us," she said. "I think they're way beyond murder and war and so many of the problems that hold us back."

"Earth is a baby planet, and we are so primitive to them. We are comparable to a white mouse in a laboratory."

"I think they are here to help us grow spiritually and scientifically."

Patricia Swartz (not her real name) made sure the door to her office was tightly closed before she confided her extraordinary experiences.

Her colleagues in the local finance industry, numbers-crunchers who are grounded in the tangible world, would look askance at an intelligent, highly successful woman who believes she has been contacted by beings from other planets.

"A lot of people aren't willing to accept concepts," said Swartz, an attractive 30-something with a forthright manner. "There's a lot of fear there. I think people are afraid of what they don't know."

"I know this will sound crazy, but I felt at times that I could've been from another planet. I've always had the feeling I didn't belong here — it's strange."

"I used to talk to space beings as a child. People say children imagine playmates, but I don't always think they're made up."

Although she has never seen a UFO, Swartz is convinced she has encountered extraterrestrials.

While at home one evening four years ago, she began, for no apparent reason, to write information pertaining to medicine. Swartz studied to become a physician a number of years ago but said she was not familiar with the facts she was recording.

The eerie experience, called channeling, continued for about six months, then stopped abruptly.

"I just got impressions of basic information, prescriptions and things, that could help me in the medical field," Swartz said. "There's no way I could understand that knowledge. I know it couldn't have come from anywhere else."

Swartz said she plans to resume her medical studies one day, and the mysterious information will be put to use.

EAGLE, Reading, PA — March 18, 1990
CR: S. Gordon

Strange sights?

If you've seen something unusual, call the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, a scientific clearinghouse for reports of UFO sightings, at (412) 838-7768. The phone line operates 24 hours a day, and your report will be confidential.

The organization is interested in information on new sightings as well as less recent episodes.

PASU exchanges data worldwide with responsible researchers and organizations in an effort to find answers to the reported incidents.

"I used to think it was crazy," Swartz said shaking her head, "but I don't think it's so crazy anymore. The universe is so big, we shouldn't be pompous enough to think we're the only ones here."

"I used to be concrete-minded, but now I'm open to anything."

Evelyn Morrison-Degler laughed at the suggestion that the public might find her stories a bit, well... preposterous.

"My friends know me to be eccentric," admitted Degler, an extremely energetic 37-year-old mother of five who is active in local theater and politics. "I've never been concerned about how people perceive me."

A slender African-American wearing braids and designer jeans, Degler sat cross-legged on the floor of her Reading home as her youngest daughter and son, Africa and Abel, romped around her.

Munching an orange slice, Degler recalled that she first met space beings as a child living with her parents and 12 brothers and sisters in a house on South 11th Street. The girl had a recurring vision that tiny green creatures were beckoning her to follow them through a lit tunnel in her parents' bedroom wall.

In the morning, her parents often found Evelyn sleeping curled up by the wall or at the foot of their bed.

"I believe I was having interactions with unseen forces," Degler said. "Children are very perceptive about unseen forces because they haven't learned to suppress their extrasensory perceptions."

She said she never mentioned the visions to the grown-ups because to her child's mind it didn't seem like anything out of the ordinary.

"I didn't know it didn't happen to everyone else," she said.

In the following years, Degler had numerous experiences she attributes to extraterrestrials.

While on a picnic with friends at Antietam Lake in the late 1970s, she spotted a UFO.

"We looked up in the sky and saw a shiny metal object hovering above us," Degler said. "It stayed there the longest time, hovering without a sound, then it disappeared."

"We turned to each other and said, 'Whatever we saw, it's not from here.'"

Degler said she has been visited throughout her adult life by shadowy figures seeming to bear a message. The most memorable visitation took place one evening in 1979 at the corner of Sixth and

Oley streets.

Degler, who was converting to Islam, was three weeks into a four week religious fast the day she looked into the sky and saw three dome-shaped crafts whirling above the city block. She said a golden figure, shaped like a man but without discernible features, descended and knelt before her, like an archer taking aim.

"I was in awe," Degler said, her large eyes growing wider. "He shot me in the right arm, and I became woozy, like I was drugged. It must have been anesthesia."

"Then I slept, and I don't remember anything that happened until the next day. When I woke up, it was bright and sunny, and I was standing by my Volkswagen."

Degler said she heard a voice whispering, "Now you are immune." Stunned and confused, she got into the car and, to her amazement, the vehicle started by itself, Degler said.

She believes fasting allowed her to open her senses to extrasensory phenomena. Degler said the experience was meant to show her that she is accepted by higher powers and is protected from "negative energy."

Although she recalls nothing between the time when she blacked out and awakened, Degler said she occasionally has impressions of an experience she can't remember but seems familiar.

"I get glimpses when I read," she said. "It makes me feel that deja vu we all have. Whatever happened to me, it gave me a sense of openness to experiences and a sense of purpose."

"I feel I have a mission to do something more than just live for myself," she said.

Degler acknowledged that UFOs and extraterrestrial beings may not be a tangible reality, but rather are an embodiment of spiritual beliefs.

"UFOs may simply be manifestations of our spiritual selves," she said. "I know religious people are going to read this and say, 'She's gone, she's lost it.'"

All of the women are convinced that their experiences — improbable as they may sound now — foreshadow a new phase in the development of humanity.

"Throughout this decade, I believe we're going to be bombarded with new ideas and visions, and we're going to have to reverse our thinking," Degler said. "Scientists need to make room for the unexplainable. Children need to hold on to their extrasensory perceptions."

"Until we do that, we won't evolve into what we want to be."

"UFOs may simply be manifestations of our spiritual selves."

— Evelyn Morrison-Degler

"I think they're way beyond murder and war and so many of the problems that hold us back."

— Noel Szundy



UFO conference well-attended

By KAY B. HALL
Times Staff Writer

EUREKA SPRINGS — From the opening welcome of Eureka Springs Mayor Richard Schoeninger to the last panelist, the third annual UFO Conference held at Inn of the Ozarks this weekend was a success.

Schoeninger on Friday issued a proclamation stating that all privileges of citizenship would be extended to the first extraterrestrial visitor to Eureka along with a free trolley pass.

Gamut of speakers

The conference ran the gamut of speakers and questions. Professionals (doctors, lawyers, teachers, military personnel, news media) spoke articulately and knowledgeably, showing film clips of interviews conducted with persons telling of their sightings or "close encounters." Photographs, documents and drawings — some quite primitive, others well-done — accompanied many of the interviews and reports.

Antonio Huneeus, a New York based journalist and editor, had collected material from visits to the Soviet Union, from international meetings of ufologists, and showed slides of Russian "encounters" and news reports.

Other views

Huneeus pointed out that in other parts of the globe, reporting of unidentified craft is treated as serious journalism, that government and private agencies collaborate to research data given, and that no one needs to leave town for fear of being ridiculed for what they've seen.

The Soviet press, he said, had "gone crazy" in their printing of thousands of stories about the Bermuda Triangle as well as UFOs.

In addition to the latest reports from Russia, Huneeus introduced photographs and reports of a case that has recently been reopened, one which he said the Russians suppressed for years before their recent "enlightenment" in regard to UFOs. It concerned a 1908 "fireball" that fell from the skies in Siberia, with an explosion compared to an atomic bomb, but equivalent to 2,000 Hiroshima bombs, and which destroyed 770 square miles in Siberian topography.



Huneeus

Comet

First claimed, by the Soviets, to be a comet or meteor and then more or less hushed up, they now believe it to be a "terrestrial space ship" that had exploded. And it was further witnessed that a second craft came after the explosion.

Huneeus' report also covered parts of Finland with similar "UFO activity" occurring there. Some of the drawings by school children in both countries were similar to drawings seen in this country by persons alleging the same kind of experiences. In fact, the similarity of drawings from children in primitive areas who didn't have access to television or other reported sightings gave the reports an added impact of ingenious truth making one believe "out of the mouth of babes."

Wales, England

Norman Oliver, a very amusing British author and editor, reported on Wales and England. One of last year's speakers, Oliver proved again to be quite popular with his beautiful slides of the countryside interspersed among sighting reports and photos.

The second speaker from England was George Wingfield, who spends most of his time photographing the "corn circles" found in grain fields throughout the English countryside as well as a few neighboring countries.

He said these circles, some as large as 105 feet in diameter, have

The conference ran the gamut of speakers and questions. Professionals, doctors, lawyers, teachers, military personnel, news media, spoke articulately and knowledgeably, showing film clips of interviews conducted with persons telling of their sightings or 'close encounters.' Photographs, documents and drawings, some quite primitive, others well-done, accompanied many of the interviews and reports.

no tracks leading to or from them but just appear, usually a day or so after UFO activity in the area has been reported. The circles are geometric and usually have one, two or three rings outside them. The large circle makes a counter-clockwise, or clockwise twisting or whirling of the grain. The outer rings make opposite swirls.

Patterns

The grain is bent but not burnt, seemingly undamaged except for the spiral effect. The grain between circle and rings remain untouched. There seems to be no radiation, he said, just a lot of energy, and animals will usually not go inside the circle but will have to be pulled inside.

Another odd fact, he said, was the large corn circles always appear near an ancient site such as Stonehenge, Silbury Hill, or

Avebury. Many, from the air, show that they have a pattern of sorts. Some have a circle with an arrow-like appendage, such as the planetary sign for Mars. Another kind of circle was that of the Celtic cross, while yet another had a number of circles and formed a Christian cross with an elongated shaft.

"Farmers are going bananas," he said.

Reported "corn circles" in Kentucky were near ancient Indian burial sites.

Wingfield has no explanation for the circles, only that they continue to increase. Meteor activity, helicopters, animals, crop disease and hoaxes have been ruled out, he said, but why they appear is still only hypothesis.

POST-DISPATCH, St. Louis,

MO - Jan. 11, 1990

If Not A Star?

The Dec. 28 letter from Harley Rutledge presented an intriguing alternative to various explanations for the star of Bethlehem as described in a Dec. 19 article. As Rutledge points out, any of these attempts to identify the "star" as an astronomical object or event disregards its reported behavior in the biblical account.

Rutledge's suggestion that this "star" was a UFO is not as far-fetched as it may first appear. Several UFO researchers and writers, notably the Rev. Barry Downing and Raymond Fowler, find probable UFO activity throughout the Bible and, very possibly, that the UFO occupants had a principal role in the development of the Christian religion.

If the star of Bethlehem actually was a UFO, then some major implications would follow. First, extraterrestrial beings may have had some connection with the birth of Jesus Christ and with his later awareness of his earthly mission. Second, these beings appear to have a vital interest in the spiritual growth of the human race. Third, they might be expected to respond in some way to the decidedly anti-spiritual trend of 20th-century society, where self-seeking, greed and materialism increasingly prevail.

Perhaps the remarkable worldwide increase in UFO sightings and encounters since World War II is a sign that this response is already well under way.

Michael C. McGrath
St. Louis

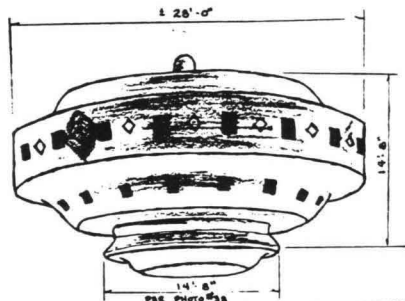
CR: COUD-I

POST, Washington, DC - March 24, 1990 CR: L. Bryant

Hardcovers in Brief

NONFICTION

The Gulf Breeze Sightings: The Most Astonishing Multiple Sightings of UFOs in U.S. History, by Ed and Frances Walters (Morrow, \$21.95). They took lie-detector tests and passed them. They were offered a deal by The National Enquirer and turned it down. They have herewith submitted their findings to skeptical analysts. Clearly Ed and Frances Walters, pillars of Gulf Breeze, Fla., do not want to be lumped with the dunderheads who fill supermarket tabloids with their maundering claims, yet they believe they have seen and photographed UFOs. This book, embellished with photos of what looks like the very Platonic form of a spaceship, stands as their plea for credibility.



Ed Walters' drawing of a UFO he claims to have seen

Encounters have sense of the truth

Kay Hall

Times Staff Writer

Lauren Rose, of Arlington, Va., an articulate and soft-spoken woman of 41, spoke publicly for the first time at the Eureka Springs UFO Conference about her claimed abduction by aliens. It has taken her a long time, she said, to deal with having been abducted and monitored throughout her life.

She wasn't the only abductee to speak out at the conference. Richard Seifried, of Norman, Okla., spoke of his abduction and "lost time" experience as well.

You'd have to hear this woman speak to be convinced of her sincerity.

She said that she has undergone therapy most of her life. No one in her family, or her friends and associates, could understand why she had been

the victim of nightmares, nervous disorders, depression, paranoia. No one could understand that Lauren's potential seemed to be snuffed out by repeated bouts with an inability to concentrate.

She recalled an incident that happened in her home when she and her brother were children. He also recalls the incident. An orange-red ball of fire or light zoomed in the living-room window and whirled around the room and came to rest on Lauren's hand. Both were so shocked, or perhaps terrified that they never spoke of it to anyone else or even to one another until Lauren decided at 37 to undergo hypnosis to rid herself of the fear and "paranoia" that seemed to periodically engulf her. Her constant feeling of being watched was part of that "paranoia." When she asked her brother about the incident, he said, yes, he'd remembered it.

She recalled, over a period of time under hypnosis, other such

strange incidents.

One of her experiences, she said, came to her by way of a vision. She attributes this visit from the archangel, Michael, as a way of communicating with her by the alien craft, using a method she could accept.

She has turned her unusual "close encounters" into a healthy outlet. She writes fiction, and she uses her experiences, some conscious, some she's not sure about, and said it is not only interesting reading but excellent therapy.

Richard Siefried, a retired teacher, and naturalist, said he too had a "lost time" experience that has haunted him in nightmares. He described his Oklahoma close encounter (after hypnosis in 1981) as a typical "rape." He described his abductors as having the classically bulbous shaped heads with small bodies and round eyes, no nose, slit mouth and small ears.

He gave a plausible account of what happened on that summer day, the day from which time was missing. He is still married and has five grown children, but he mentioned that many with similar encounters have lost family, jobs, friends because of the effect it has on their lives.

DAILY PILOT, Contra Costa, CA - March 24, 1990

Look! Up in the sky — one UFO after another

■ **In Orange County:** The first reported sighting of an unidentified flying object was on Dec. 6, 1896. It was described as two bright lights traveling rapidly in a northwesterly direction.

■ **In Fountain Valley:** On July 27, 1965, an unidentified rocket-like object roared through the skies over Fountain Valley at 8:29 a.m. It was described as twice the size of a torpedo with no markings and no wings.

On June 30, 1966, a retired navy aviation officer and his family said a dome shaped object, about 90 feet across traveled 1,500 feet above their home in a northeasterly direction. About a half dozen people reported the sighting to the El Toro Air Station.

■ **In Costa Mesa:** On Aug. 11, 1965, an unidentified flying object described as round and bright with a long orange tail swept across the Orange County night skies, triggering calls to the Costa Mesa police. FAA officials said it could have been a burned out missile or a meteorite.

■ **In Irvine:** Photos taken of a seemingly circular metallic airborne object were taken on Myford Road near El Toro Marine Station by Rex Hefflin. The polaroid photos were later dismissed as a hoax by the Air Force.

■ **In Laguna Beach:** On March 4, 1966, a ball of fire was seen flashing across the ocean off Laguna Beach before dawn. It appeared to explode like a skyrocket over Catalina Island. On Jan. 6, 1987, Residents at Treasure Island Mobile Home Park in South Laguna reported strange moving lights in the western sky.

■ **In Huntington Beach:** A Huntington Beach police helicopter pilot saw two silvery white objects streaking through the sky at an estimated 10,000 mph on March 24, 1977, between 3:15 and 3:30 a.m. Air Force and NORAD officials had no explanation for the sighting which was also reported by other witnesses from Huntington Beach to Sacramento.

DID YOU KNOW



CR: R. Achzeimer

— Compiled by Anne Spinn.

Physicist insists that UFOs exist

By JULIA SOPALSKI
Times Writer

Stanton Friedman's theories that UFOs exist and the government covers up the evidence was not big news for Anchorage on Wednesday afternoon. When Friedman asked how many people had read a 1955 report on UFOs, the raised hands surprised him.

"Wow. I'm in ufology heaven," he exclaimed.

Friedman spoke to three different sessions in Grant Hall at Alaska Pacific University.

The afternoon audience of about 100 listened for two hours while Friedman talked. He packed research and statistics in between slides of government documents and UFOs photographed everywhere from Peru to Yugoslavia.

When he opened the floor to questions, the listeners had plenty to say.

Friedman, a nuclear physicist renowned for challenging the govern-

Friedman is renowned for challenging the government to release documents related to UFO sightings.

ment to release documents related to UFO sightings, said the evidence for alien-powered craft is overwhelming.

Referring to the 3,000 sightings investigated in a 1955 government study published as "Blue Book Project No. 14," Friedman pointed out the similar descriptions of objects ultimately classified as unknown.

The appearance of the objects is no problem, he said. Boeing or Lockheed could design a disc resembling those sighted. But look at the

behavior of those objects described, he continued.

"If any manufacturer on earth could make a ship with that type of maneuverability, we wouldn't still be producing F-15s and Mirages," Friedman said. "So where did they come from?"

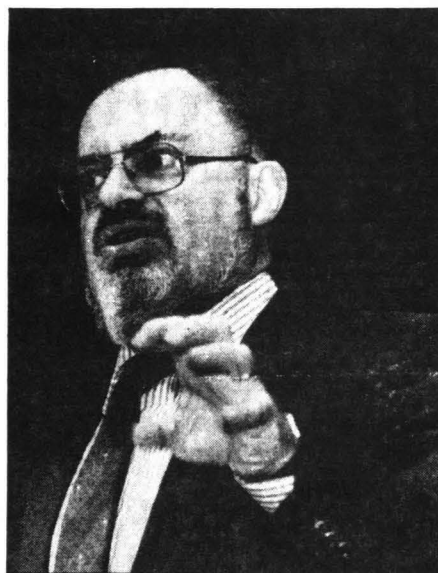
The ideas Friedman presented on aliens traveling from galaxies 36 light years away were no problem for the audience.

"We know there are aliens and they are trying to make contact," one woman said. "The question is not their existence but what they want."

Friedman offered a hypothetical possibility.

Put yourself in the shoes of the aliens, said Friedman. Every place that the human race has gone has turned into a battleground.

"If you were aliens, you'd be concerned about us too," Friedman



Times photo by ROB LAYMAN

Stanton Friedman
... 'in ufology heaven' at APU

said, shaking his head.

Elizabeth Wells raised her hand and told Friedman that she grew up near Roswell, N.M., the site of a supposed UFO crash which has become the topic of research, books and a recent segment of the television series "Unsolved Mysteries."

"I remember sitting around the dinner table and in school talking about the crash and the transport of the craft and the dead aliens by the government," Wells said. It was just normal "table talk." It was the beginning of the space age, she said.

When Friedman asked how many in the audience had had a UFO sighting experience, 18 people raised their hands.

MUFON-NC To Meet Here Sunday

George Fawcett will give a worldwide UFO update Sunday when the Mutual UFO Network of North Carolina, Inc. (MUFON-NC) holds its quarterly meeting Sunday from 1-6 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church parish house on Cedar Street.

Fawcett, founder and MUFON-NC state director, will discuss UFO activity in England, Russia, China, Africa and Australia in recent years. He will also announce upcoming symposiums, new books and publications on the subject.

Jim Ingle of Lincolnton will describe his close encounter with a UFO and its occupants at

Georges Air Force Base in Victorville, Calif. in 1957, while Johnny Sands of Stoneville will tell of his experience outside Las Vegas, Nev. in 1976.

Danny Barger of Lincolnton will discuss the use of computers in UFO investigations and Robert H. Hair of Eden will speak on the work and achievements of the fund for UFO research organization in Maryland.

A video entitled Beyond The Line featuring Mr. and Mrs. Brad Steiger, Stan Friedman and Bud Hopkins will be shown. The meeting will also include a talk by George Lund III of Charlotte who will report on the March 31

field investigator training sessions held there.

The agenda will allow time for eyewitness reports and discussions on recent UFO information will be included. Membership and subscription information will be provided for visitors.

More UFO sightings reported

By LORI SCHOFFSTALL
Staff Writer

In response to last week's article concerning an unidentified flying object seen by Tom and Donna Rode in Halifax, two people called the Sentinel office and said they saw the same object.

Mark Dietrich of Pike Town, originally of Elizabethtown, said he saw an object flying in the sky with three lights. He said it looked like three jets flying in a V, but he only could hear one engine. Dietrich, who was in the Air Force, said he thought it was either a large plane or maybe the Stealth Bomber flying north. Two days later, he saw from his house, which is on top of Blue Mountain, the same object flying south.

Dietrich said he saw the object about five minutes

before the Rodes did in Halifax Jan. 31.

"It was something different," he said.

The same night, Germaine and David Bowman of Halifax were driving their newly-purchased car home from Lewisberry and saw an unusual object "hovering" in the sky between Millersburg and Dalmatia.

Germaine said at first they didn't pay much attention to it, but they noticed it was very bright and that it didn't resemble a plane.

Her first thought was "That's the biggest star I ever saw," she said.

After looking more closely, they realized it wasn't a star, but rather some kind of flying object.

When they read Rode's description in the newspaper, she said it described exactly what they saw.

Red lights in the sky! real or hoax??

By REX SALISBERRY

Unusual red lights seen in the skies over Gulf Breeze/Pensacola in recent weeks, have prompted a minor controversy as to whether they can be explained by natural phenomena, such as balloons or flares, or are unexplainable, hence UFO-related. Pensacola MUFON has been interviewing witnesses and investigating the phenomena since the onset and has not yet arrived at a probable conclusion. At this time, we deem it prudent to share information with the public.

We have received more than one call from area residents who related that similar lights have been observed in the Pensacola area for decades. Ship captains and crews have witnessed the phenomena for as far back as the turn of the century. Some find it humorous that we get so excited over the events which many believe started on the evening of 11 April, 1990. Investigators for Pensacola MUFON have received reports of other red, orange, white, and even blue lights being seen in the Pensacola area and elsewhere over the past few years. Most of these reports have not been explainable by natural phenomena.

The current excitement seems to have begun on the evening of 11 April when several Gulf Breeze residents observed a red light which traveled from NNE to SSW over Gulf Breeze and out into the Gulf of Mexico before winking out.

The saga continued on Thursday, 12 April, when at least 2 witnesses saw a very bright red light hovering to the south of Gulf Breeze over Little Sabine Island. The light hovered in one position for several minutes, and then "blinked out." Some of the same witnesses saw another light the following evening to the west of Gulf Breeze. It again hovered in one position for a few minutes before blinking out. These witnesses who have had lengthy experience with flares are convinced that what they observed cannot be explained as man-made.

At least five other witnesses

reported seeing another red light on Friday, 13 April to the north of Gulf Breeze. It hovered in one spot for a few minutes, then shot up out of sight when an aircraft approached from the west. When the airplane passed the location, the red light re-appeared and then shot straight up and vanished. This would seem to indicate that at least two of the red lights were in the area Friday night.

On Saturday night, 14 April, at least seven witnesses reported seeing a red light to the north of Gulf Breeze. It approached from the east on a westerly path at a very high speed, nearly the speed of sound. It suddenly stopped with almost instantaneous deceleration. It hovered in one spot for a brief time, moved back and forth a few times with the light pulsating, and then moved up out of sight. Another group of witnesses observed a second red light to the north of Gulf Breeze which hovered on one location for a few minutes and then disappeared. A third red light was observed by a group of witnesses at the south end of Three Mile Bridge. This one approached from the SSE, passed nearly over the bridge for a distance, and then moved away to the northeast over East Bay where it blinked out. These accounts seemed to indicate that there were at least three red lights in the area at about the same time.

Witnesses have also reported sightings of red lights in the area on April 17 and 18.

It cannot be ignored that some of the above events may be hoaxes or pranks perpetrated by man, but most of us find it difficult to explain all of them that way. The multiple sightings in different positions at the same time and moving in different directions would have posed tough problems for a hoaxer. Attaining the very high speed in the one event would also have been difficult. If anyone has additional information to report on these events, please contact MUFON, 436-2700 or the Gulf Breeze Sentinel.

Unidentified feline objectionable

To the Editor:

As a resident of Eureka Springs and a member of MUFON I found your editorial, "Are cats the contact?" (April 14), not only offensive but also completely off the mark in coverage of the Ozark UFO Conference.

The comment about cats was made by the first speaker of the conference, a 40-year-old woman who was relating her personal experience. She was not a UFO researcher and had not even heard of abductions until a couple of years

ago. It was her first time to speak in front of an audience and she was extremely nervous.

The cat subject was only brought out when she was trying to respond to a question from the back of the audience which she and most of the crowd did not hear clearly. It was her attempt to bring a little humor to an emotional 50-minute talk she had just given. I can't recall the word cat being mentioned again for the rest of the conference.

Richard Schrum.
Eureka Springs.



FOREIGN NEWS

TIMES, London, England - April 19, 1990 CR: T. Good

Baffling rise in close encounters of the Hungarian kind

By Gabriel Ronay

IN THIS spring of hope and democratic renewal, the thoughts of Hungarians appear to be turning to UFOs. The number and variety of sightings of unidentified flying objects has forced the state-run Urania Observatory to set up a special unit for the logging of reports, among them one fairly close encounter of the third kind.

According to the Centre for the Gathering of UFO Phenomena, opened in January in the northern town of Eger, some of the hundreds of reported UFO sightings follow well-known patterns. These include high-flying planes, Earth satellites,

meteorites, meteorological balloons, and bright stars mistaken for UFOs. But others do not fit these well-explored sources of UFO mania. Several of the baffling sightings, some involving Hungarian Army personnel, have been found by the Centre to be more than optical illusions and worthy of scientific investigation.

Mrs Judit Vass, of the Centre, singled out a series of inexplicable events, involving UFO sightings and an apparent encounter with giant extra-terrestrial creatures, at Tamaszentmaria army barracks. These continued for about a month and were duly logged by the Army.

According to the testimony of the

entire unit, the UFO intrusion began on the night of October 20 last year with an eerie noise which increased in volume every 20 seconds or so. Then one of the guards noticed three shiny round objects preceded by a beam of light. After a while these disappeared over the forest behind the barracks.

On November 20, soldiers on guard duty noticed a cloud of red mist in the sky with curious flashing lights inside it, followed by a UFO, shaped like the planet Saturn, which floated over the barracks and disappeared over the forest. Two of the guards reported that they were illuminated briefly with a powerful beam of light which made them sick.

Later that night Private Lajos Dioszegi spotted 10ft tall figures in the forest clearing facing the barracks. "They were moving as if they were chess pieces," he stated. "All the animals in the barracks - pigs, sheep and dogs - became frantic."

Mrs Vass said that among the many sightings awaiting evaluation was the report of a driver from the village of Lajosmizse who suddenly became aware of a "flying light phenomenon" going parallel with his car, then above it. It was so powerful it illuminated a 50-yard stretch either side of the road. When he came to a bend he braked, but his car continued on the road at the same speed and cornered at a 90-

degree angle without skidding. The driver felt that "some external power" kept his car on the road as he had lost control. It lasted for another 200 yards then ceased.

Mrs Vass said that, while there may well be perfectly rational explanations for some of the reports, "we cannot ignore the inexplicable phenomena reported to us".

It is a curious coincidence that the number of UFO sightings in the Soviet Union in recent years appeared to increase as the country's economic and political problems mounted. But most Hungarians seem to be looking to the International Monetary Fund for salvation, not to extra-terrestrial beings.

Have you had a close encounter?

STAR-GAZING students at Sandwell College have got their heads in the clouds producing a television documentary on visitors from outer-space.

And they want to hear from people in the borough who have had a close encounter, or a UFO sighting of their own.

Although the students have letters from a number of eye-witnesses, they are keen to interview people who have had more recent sightings.

Anyone claiming to have had such cosmic experiences should write to: UFO encounters, C/O Television Unit, Sandwell College, Woden Road South, Wednesbury, WS10 0PE.

HERTFORDSHIRE MERCURY, Hertford, England

March 30, 1990 CR: T. Good

Corny riddle has 'em going round in circles



FLYING SAUCERS may seem an unlikely cause of the flattened circles of wheat that baffle farmers and scientists.

But Much Hadham brothers Rodney and Richard Munday are even less convinced that the mystery markings, which appeared overnight on their land last summer, are due to underground fungi.

Rodney and Richard found two circles 10 yards across in a field on their 180-acre Camwell Hall Farm.

Rodney said: "Somebody told me there was talk about a fungus. I think it is highly improbable."

But biologists Michael Hall and Andrew Macara propose the theory after carrying out a study.

They believe the circles are not due to UFOs or anything supernatural at all. They say fungi attack the roots of the growing corn, which are then

weakened enough for them to be blown down at night when they are laden with dew.

Why in a circle? The boffins reckon its because the cultivated soil is of a constant density, allowing the fungus to spread evenly.

Rodney is sceptical. He believes the circles are more likely to be caused by a sudden change in the atmosphere, causing a strong vacuum effect.

Another doubting Thomas of the fungi theory is Professor Archibald Roy, honorary research fellow at Glasgow University, who has been studying the strange circles for four years. He believes "another intelligence" has to be taken into account!

THE ANSWER lies in the soil - Rodney and Richard investigate the mysterious wheat circles that have the boffins in a spin

UFO 'captured on video tape'

Summer vigil wasn't in vain

DESIGN engineer Pat Delgado once worked for NASA, tracking spacecraft to the Moon and Venus.

Now he's wondering if he's chasing alien spacecraft - for he has captured a UFO on video-tape.

Pat is one of the two experts reported last summer investigating mysterious flattened circles appearing in growing crops.

A group of scientists kept watch for seven days and nights over a special Hampshire field but the circles - or what makes them - refused to co-operate.

Said Pat: "It's as if some intelligence was saying: 'You're not going to trap me like a rabbit!'"

But now, many months on, it seems that the vigil was not in vain after all.

by David Haith

Pat, who lives in Hampshire, revealed: "We were working our way through a great pile of videos made at that time and on an infrared tape suddenly saw a large orange ball hovering over the ground."

"We now remember that somebody did report seeing an orange, misty light at the time."

"A crop circle was found nearby so we may for the



first time have visual evidence of the energy, or whatever it is, that creates the circles."

Because last year a record 270 circles were reported from an ever wider area of Britain and around the world, Pat and his research colleague Colin Andrews are recruiting public

support to monitor the mystery.

●If you want to get involved send an SAE to Crop Watch, BBC Pebble Mill, Daytime Live, Birmingham B5 7QQ. And if you find a crop circle - tell the New Forest Post too!

UFO sighting over village

Two Oakworth men watched amazed on Monday night as a UFO hovered over local moorland.

John Langford and Paul Cowling were out walking a dog when they spotted the object above clouds.

They watched for about an hour as the large round pale-coloured object darted around the sky.

John, 34, of Lane Ends, told the Keighley News: "It moved around very quickly and kept

disappearing behind clouds, but it was very visible."

"I have always been open-minded about UFOs but this has convinced me of their existence. The object certainly wasn't a plane and I cannot think what else it could have been."

John, an administration officer at Keighley Town Hall, is contacting the Batley-based UFO Network which compiles records of such incidents.

KEIGHLEY NEWS, Yorks., England
Nov. 3, 1989 CR: T. Good

Flying triangle has Belgians going round in circles

THE BELGIAN air force has been on alert for three nights running, writes Lucy Kellaway. Two Hawker Siddeley aircraft equipped with infra-red cameras and sophisticated electronic sensors have been patrolling the skies. Down below, the Belgian police force has kept a constant watch, helped by more than 1,000 concerned civilians. Along the border with Germany, 20 lookout posts have been set up. Their target: an Unidentified Flying Object.

Since December, there have been 800 reported sightings, and even though some resemble a lamp-post more closely than a UFO, many of the others are being earnestly examined by

SOBEPS, the Belgian Society for Studying Spacial Phenomena.

More surprising is how seriously the army is taking the whole thing. For the time being it says it is viewing the matter as a "technical curiosity" as the intruder has shown no aggressive signs. Should it turn nasty, it will be a different matter altogether.

The Easter operation was meant to be a world first, a confrontation between earth-bound defence forces and a UFO. The world's television crews camped out on a chilly Ardennes airfield to get the first pictures.

But the event made rather poor viewing. Several times the UFO was "seen"

from the ground, but each time the aircraft got there too late, in one case missing the mystery intruder by just three minutes. To make matters worse, the cloud was low, the weather changeable, and the UFO tended to hover just above the rooftops, too low to be confronted by an aircraft.

The pilots, sworn to secrecy until the Defence Ministry has had time to watch the video evidence, seemed to have little to report, and could not confirm rumours of all kinds of irregular blips on their radars.

Far from declaring the operation a failure, the UFO-obsessed Belgian media appear more convinced than

ever that there is something odd hovering over the peaceful countryside of Wallonia. Scientists on the ground appear in the past few days to have produced a clear image of the object, which is said to correspond to the reports of eyewitnesses. It is a triangle 30m-50m in diameter, with red, green and white lights at the corners, 10 times brighter than any star. It has a convex underbelly and makes a sharp whistling noise.

Belgium may not quite yet have found its UFO. But it has found a nice new use for its air force now that its services are needed less and less by earthlings.

FINANCIAL TIMES, London, England
April 18, 1990 CR: T. Good

NEW FOREST POST, Hants., England - March 29, 1990 CR: T. Good

CHRONICLE, Sandwell, England
April 6, 1990 CR: T. Good

Beyond belief

The road was dark and deserted as the small saloon car swung round the corner, stereo blaring, headlights lancing through the blackness.

Wilfred Gomez, and his passenger, Simon Millington, thought it looked an unexceptional night. They were travelling through the Kent countryside along the route they'd taken on previous evenings. Behind them shimmered the neon glow of Margate. In the houses they passed, people were already retiring to bed.

Wilfred and Simon, both 19 and students, were looking forward to reaching their separate homes. 'We hadn't been drinking and we were wide awake,' says Wilfred emphatically.

Everything seemed so completely normal.

That normality, that secure sense of ordinariness, changed in the fraction of a second it took for their eyes to leave the road and be drawn upwards to the sky, with its faint sprinkling of stars. Wilfred describes seeing 'a spiralling vortex of flashing light'.

'It was making a strange noise,' he says. 'We saw what looked like an up-turned TV satellite dish with lots of flashing lights. It appeared to brush the ground — then the lights blinked out. It was absolutely unbelievable.'

Just another UFO story without any positive proof?

That's what it might have become if the two students had lost their nerve and raced off. But, realising the uniqueness of their experience, they put aside their fear and pulled over. Then they clambered into the field, determined to find the landing spot of the UFO.

Together they searched in the darkness, eventually concluding that there was

Below: Wilfred Gomez and his amazing corn circle discovery



Charles says: 'Keep me in touch'

Prince Charles has asked to be kept up to date about the mystery of the corn circles. He has read much of the literature on them, including the book *Circular Evidence* by Pat Delgado and Colin Andrews (Bloomsbury, £13.95).

As a result he has instructed one of his equestrians to advise him fully about all new developments.

As a landowner and farmer, the Prince is naturally cu-

rious about anything which affects crops. But he is even more interested in solving a mystery which may contain an element of the paranormal. Although he now hides it for fear of scorn, he remains intrigued by phenomena which can't be explained by conventional science.

Pat Delgado hopes the Prince may even offer to take part in the crop watch to be mounted in the summer.

Photos: Rex/Malcolm Gardenton

What causes the mysterious corn circles? Speculation is mounting at the growing number of cases of this new phenomenon

POWER that stalks the corn

no alien craft or extraterrestrials waiting to greet them. Instead they discovered another puzzle, one equally challenging to modern science: a corn circle.

It consisted of a circle of flattened corn 60ft across. Wilfred and Simon stared at it, wondering what it meant.

Unable to do much in the darkness, they went home. But, the next morning, an excited Wilfred returned with other witnesses to make sure he had not been dreaming. The circle was still there, clearly marked out against the rest of the

crop. The flattened corn stalks were unbroken and swirled in an anti-clockwise direction. Nearby was a second, smaller circle.

To anyone who scoffed at his story, Wilfred pointed and said: 'These circles provide concrete proof something was there.'

One person who certainly didn't scoff was retired engineer Pat Delgado, of Alresford in Hampshire. The world's leading authority on corn circles, he had been waiting for exactly this kind of report, something that would confirm

his suspicion of a paranormal connection.

'It was one of the best cases,' he said, after examining the details. 'These witnesses saw something come down from the sky, then found a corn circle. The two things are closely related.'

The Margate incident was the best of the 1989 examples of corn circles, which occurred at an unprecedented rate last summer. Ten years ago, there were fewer than 20 a year. By 1988 that had increased to 96. Last year the figure hit a staggering 270.

The first real suspicions that the circles might be paranormal came in 1987. One night teacher Mary Freeman, of Marlborough, in Wiltshire, was driving through the village of Avebury — famous for its mysterious stone circle — when she spotted a glowing light in the sky. It was a pale gold, large, silent and motionless. Then she saw it shine a dazzling beam at the ground — something

Left: Colin Andrews studies the sites of corn circles



she thought resembled 'an energy beam'. At the same moment her cigarette packet and a booklet flew off the dashboard and into her lap.

The sighting disturbed her, and she told friends about it. But she was even more alarmed to learn that corn circles had been discovered in the field where the beam had focused.

Mary, now 31, says: 'As I was being told about the corn circles, even before the sentence was finished, I just knew what I was going to hear, that it was something connected with the paranormal.'

'I believe in the paranormal and I'm glad I had this experience. I just accept what happened as being perfectly normal. Now I hope my experience will help scientific research.'

Sceptics say the circles are produced by hoaxers — a view strongly challenged by researcher Ralph Noyes, a retired Ministry of Defence official.

'There have been 800 circles discovered in 10 years,' he says. 'The largest was 100ft wide. The corn is laid

flat without being damaged. And it is braided and spun in complex patterns. Who are these hoaxers — so numerous, so hard-working, yet never spotted?'

'The truth is no hoaxer could do all this.'

Other evidence which adds to the mystery includes the strange noises Pat Delgado has recorded coming from the circles. 'The sound is floating over the top. It consists of knocks, ticks, bangs — but you can't pin down exactly where they come from.'

The earliest circles were



Above: Pat Delgado, the authority on mystery circles

confined to southern England, within 50 miles of Winchester. But, last year, they extended to Kent, Nottinghamshire and Dundee, Scotland. In the latter case, a man saw the corn being laid flat in about 12 seconds. 'I was walking home by the edge of the field, just around dawn, when I saw the corn in a part of the field starting to sway violently, as though a storm was coming. I crouched down, thinking it might be foxes playing, but there were no animals there. Then suddenly the corn collapsed — in a perfect circle. I've never seen anything like it before or since.'

It's an authentic mystery, one which leaves Pat Delgado shaking his head.

'The patterns are mind-boggling,' he says. 'Known science has no explanation. That leaves the paranormal and the spiritual.'

'I suspect the cause may be an inexplicable energy, possibly manipulated by a higher form of intelligence. That's why we are particularly interested when the circles are linked with a UFO sighting.'

John Dale

STAR, Hertfordshire, England
March 28, 1990 CR: T. Good

UFO seen

A STANDON family claim to have seen a UFO last Tuesday evening and hope to have captured it on film.

Mrs Sandra Frostick said it had two really bright, greenish lights, with a red light on the top.

'It was hovering slightly — there was no noise and I must say it frightened me. It stayed in the same place for about two hours.'

She first saw it from the garden of her Aston Road home, and later from her mother's home at Braughing.

Her sons Chris and Adam, and Chris's girlfriend Diane also saw it.

It disappeared at about 10pm.

The Ministry of Defence said it had lots of reports about laser lights giving "peculiar effects."

Was the hovering white ball a UFO?

UFO experts have been flooded with calls after the sighting of a white rotating light in the skies over Southend.

The large white ball, ringed by blue, red and green lights was spotted on Saturday and Sunday nights by families in Rochford, Shoebury and Hadleigh.

UFO boffin Ron West said 18 witnesses had called the East Anglian UFO Watch to report the sightings of what he claims can only be an unidentified flying object.

Mr West said: 'What makes these

sightings all the more exciting is that the accounts from the witnesses are virtually the same.

'They all claim to have seen a large white ball rotating but making no noise whatsoever.'

'Three people in Rochford saw it on Saturday, a white or yellowish object which hovered for 20 minutes before shooting out to sea.'

'On Sunday, there were 15 reports from Southend, Shoebury, Leigh, Thorpe Bay, and Rochford, all reporting similar objects.'

'All calls were made between 9.50pm and 10.10pm

'It hovered over in the east of the town, for eight or 10 minutes before moving quickly towards Westcliff where it hovered again before flying off towards Kent at very low altitude.'

'To my knowledge there is nothing in the RAF or the US Air Force which could do this sort of thing, and until there is proof otherwise, it has to be a UFO.'

One of the witnesses phoned Southend Airport at the time to ask if they had any explanation, but they said there was nothing showing up on their radar screens.

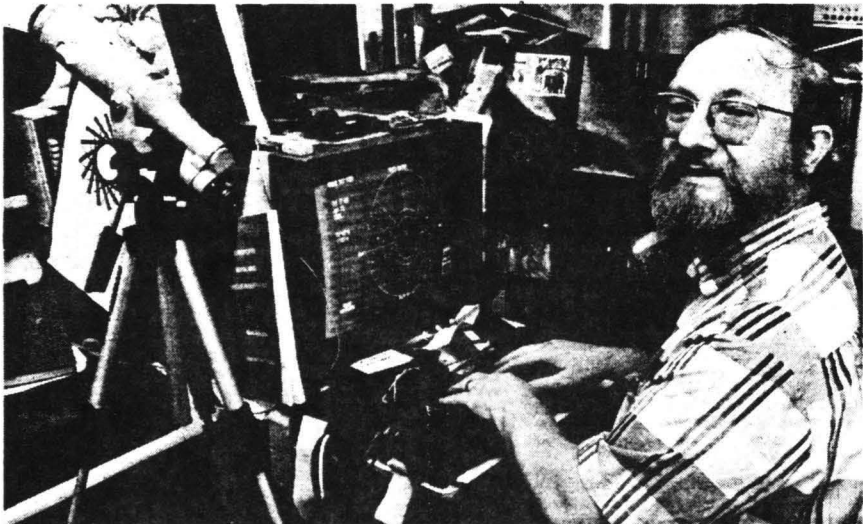
Witness Marion Morgan of Common Hall Lane, Hadleigh, said: 'I could not believe my eyes. I woke the children up and called my husband. It was just hovering in the sky.'

'My husband said it must be a bright star, then it just seemed to take off.'

'The only thing I could compare its movements with would be a Harrier jet or a very fast helicopter, but I am certain it is not one of those.'

Anyone who saw the object is asked to contact the UFO hotline on 0268 289079.

MARSTON IS HQ OF NATIONAL UFO SOCIETY



Monitoring alien activity: Michael Soper at his home, HQ of Contact International

Keeping tabs on the visitors from space

By CHRISTOPHER KOENIG

THERE may be more in heaven and earth than in most of our philosophies — but in a semi-detached house in Ousley Close, Marston, the existence of UFOs on this planet is an unquestioned fact.

The house is the UK headquarters of Contact International, an organisation that monitors the comings and goings of spaceships, flying saucers and the like.

It is home to Michael Soper, a freelance maths tutor and chairman of the 250-strong organisation.

"I don't see it as my job to convince others of the existence of UFOs anymore," he says. "I now consider there is easily enough proof."

"Since American military papers have become declassified under a new open information law, too many well documented and professionally researched accounts of sightings have come to light to allow for doubt," he goes on. "For us it's not a matter of believing but of investigating."

Serious

Mr Soper is puzzled about the scepticism of the British.

He points out that a recent poll shows that two out of every three people in USA believe that craft piloted by intelligent aliens exist.

"We don't get a good press, but we're really very serious," he said.

"We receive and analyse about 80 reports of sightings every month from all over the world."

"We also try and awaken public interest in the subject, and of course we speculate as to what UFOs are."

At a symposium held recently by Contact International at Oxford Town Hall, some 120 people were shown slides of "genuine" flying saucers.

They were also told of a mysterious "proven" UFO incident in New Mexico which, the group claims, was formerly hushed up but has now come to light through the release of official papers.

Closer to home — and

Mr Soper says that Oxfordshire is a good place for spotting UFOs — the group is currently investigating a report from a Kidlington woman who saw a bright blue light shining down on her, and an Otmoor girl who, while out with her boyfriend, came across a flying saucer hovering over a haystack.

Then there is the Cumnor couple who saw something that looked like Concorde standing on its tail and gleaming with magnesium lights.

Mr Soper became interested in the study of unexplained flying objects during 1959

when he saw something oscillating above a Valiant bomber before zooming off to the north-east.

Since then he has looked at hundreds of reported cases. About nine out of ten reports turn out to be false, he says.

Cover-up

For example there was the man who saw lights that turned out to be caused by a switching operation at Didcot power station.

Since the international organisation was set up in 1967 it has recorded over 80,000 reports. More than 3,500 were of alleged landings.

"My own view is that there are intelligent beings surveying us."

"They seem to be particularly interested in our plants and hedgerows and they seem to be able to alter the usual space-time continuum."

"I think these beings are able to communicate with people and then make them forget the experience."

"I also think that the Government is covering up a lot of evidence of UFOs because they want to keep secret any research they are doing into the extraordinary powers of locomotion these machines have."

Anyone wanting to join Contact UK should ring Oxford 726908.

Strange lights over Colchester bring UFO claim

YELLOW ADVERTISER, Colchester, England
Jan. 19, 1990 CR: T. Good

THE skies over Colchester and Clacton are being watched closely this week after two separate UFO sightings.

The sightings, reported by the East Anglian UFO and Paranormal Research Association, are said to be genuine sightings but still under investigation.

The first happened as a man took a late night walk in the south of Colchester on Thursday evening last week at about 11.30pm.

Sheridan Lane of the Research Association would not reveal the identity of the man but said he was a middle-aged professional man.

The man described

what he saw as being an object with three searchlights fitted to the underneath, one at the front and two at the rear in a triangular shape, he said there was no noise and the lights did not flash.

The man watched the object for two or three minutes and estimated it was 2,000 feet high. It then headed off towards Chelmsford.

The second UFO was seen by two sets of people at the same time in Clacton and Colchester on Saturday at 4.15pm.

The people report seeing a civil aircraft, probably a jet, followed closely behind by two large balls of light at a height of about 5,000 feet.

One of the people who saw them described them as being like "foo fighters" often reported by air force pilots during World War II.

The Research Association would like anyone who thinks they have spotted a UFO to phone them on their Hotline on 0268.286079.

NEWS, South Waikato, New Zealand - Feb. 22, 1990 CR: M. Bott

UFO seen?

Are aliens visiting our universe? One Putaruru couple are wondering after they witnessed "a big orange sort of disc with a quarter of a moon sized shape on the bottom" hover then disappear towards the east.

"It was all very strange. My wife got up at 4.20 am on Sunday morning and came rushing back to get me and we both witnessed the ... thing."

Jenny Perwick of the Auckland Astronomical Society said there are a lot of similar sightings recorded each week but "unfortunately" they are always natural phenomena.

"These sightings can be put down to many things

including planets, stars and meteorological balloons," Mrs Perwick said.

"I would think that this sighting was a satellite because they flash on and off and they can disappear very quickly if they are going through the atmosphere."

Mrs Perwick said there were more than 7500 satellites in the solar system and atmospheric disturbance can make them look unusual.

"It would be impractical for a UFO to visit our planet as the nearest star from us is thousands of years away."

"All bright stars flash orange, yellow, green or red and they may change position according to the atmosphere so there are a lot of things out there."

"I do not think this was a UFO but that does not mean there is not life in other galaxies...."

Boffins try to unravel mystery of crop circles

FARMERS in Britain may be surprised to find scientists wandering around their fields this winter looking for circles in the snow.

Mysterious circles up to 30 yards across, have been appearing in increasing numbers in cornfields in southern England for several summers — and some researchers are continuing their quest for the causes during the winter.

The government takes the view that the circles are a natural phenomenon and the editor of meteorological journal says they are caused by vortices.

But two engineers studying them have ruled out whirlwinds, UFOs, hooligans on motorcycles, fighting deer or helicopters as possible causes.

They are convinced that the circles of corn, flattened and swirled into precise, symmetrical patterns, are neither man-made nor within the realm of conventional science.

"There is something there for which we cannot account," said Colin Andrews, an electrical engineer.

Powerful

"And it's gathering momentum," said Pat Delgado, a retired electro-mechanical engineer.

This year the two, who have written a book on the subject, expect to find crop circles in greater numbers and probably larger and more intricate ones.

Some 270 circles appeared during the summer of 1989, 50 of them in new sites. The 98 circles reported in 1988, and about 50 in 1987, were confined to a narrow band across the southern counties of Hampshire and Wiltshire.

But in 1989 they spread to seven other counties and in many cases people whose families had farmed the land for generations said they had never seen them before.

The Government is aware that circles have been appearing, a spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture said. But it took the view that "this is much more likely to result from a combination of wind and local soil-fertility conditions."

Physicist and meteorologist Terence Meaden, editor of the

Sightings continue to grow

Journal of Meteorology and head of its subsidiary, Ceres, the Circles Effect Research Unit, said that circles were caused by vortices.

"Hills interrupt wind flow ... there is turbulence on the downward side and a vortex forms in that turbulence," he said.

Crops are flattened by the death throes of a whirling mass of wind, said Mr. Meaden. Electric charges set up by the main vortex were powerful enough to induce more charges which formed rings around the circles. They could also charge the surrounding air to form glowing balls of light.

Asked why vortices and circles were not more widespread, he said: "The rolling downs of Hampshire and Wiltshire are just big enough." The Welsh mountains, for example, would be too big.

Andrews and Delgado have been collecting data in Britain and abroad for more than five years and have amassed photographs and measurements, interviewed farmers and eye-witnesses and sent numerous plant and soil samples for analysis.

They now believe that the circles are created by some sort of energy force, but are at a loss to pin it down.

"It is something completely unexplored and unexplained," Mr. Delgado said.

Pilots spot UFO over lower NI

[Paper & City Unknown], New Zealand - March 15, 1990 CR: M. Bott

WELLINGTON (PA) — An unidentified flying object was spotted by crews of two aircraft over lower North Island and top half of South Island early on Thursday morning.

Safe Air pilot Grant Jolley of Blenheim said he was flying an Argosy aircraft at 13,000ft from Auckland to Christchurch when his crew was contacted about 3am by a light aircraft just climbing out of Palmerston North.

The crew of the light aircraft reported a strange light and asked the Argosy crew if they could see it. At first the Argosy crew did not see the light and Wellington radar when contacted said they had nothing on screen.

Shortly after, the Argosy crew did see the light to the east. Mr Jolley described it as about six to ten times brighter than the other observable stars and changing in colour from white, to red, to green.

The Argosy crew then contacted Wellington radar, but once again the object did not register.

"The interesting thing was it was between the two aeroplanes," Mr Jolley said. "It was to the west of him (the light plane) and the east of us." There were about 60 miles between the two aircraft.

Mr Jolley said another interesting feature of the sighting was that the light appeared to be below the level of the tops of the Kaimata Ranges. He said he was familiar with Venus in the sky and the light definitely was not the often bright planet.

At one stage, the Argosy crew turned their plane towards the object to see if it registered on the plane's radar, but no reading was obtained.

Mr Jolley said the object seemed to move on a parallel course to the Argosy and light aircraft and the two plane crews talked about it all the way down.

Once on the ground in Christchurch, Mr Jolley said the object just looked like an ordinary star or rising planet.

Safe Air pilots were at the centre of a series of UFO sightings over Kaikoura in 1978.



CONVINCED: Linda

ALIENS TOOK ME TO THEIR UFO

By Jonathan Calvert

LINDA JONES cannot prove anything, but says she will stick to her story until her dying day.

She claims she was taken aboard an Unidentified Flying Object and medically examined by tall creatures in dark suits.

Today, she insists that along with her two children, she watched in amazement as an oval ball of glaring light came hurtling to the ground only a few yards away from them.

They scrambled to the top of a canal embankment and looked down on a 60ft-long crescent-shaped craft bathed in light.

Linda later underwent hypnotic regression and "remembered" going on board the ship where she was medically examined.

Her children say it really did happen and their amazing story will come as no surprise to delegates at this weekend's world UFO conference being held at Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Conference organiser Walter Andrus, from the Mutual UFO Network, Seguin, Texas, says Linda's experience, near Manchester, fits in with hundreds of

other close encounters he has recorded from Britain and the US over the past 40 years.

"It appears that they are making the tests on the humans because they are attempting some genetic engineering," he says.

"Their species is getting smaller and smaller so they wish to cross breed with humans to make them stronger.

"We've had hundreds of people, who have reported very similar experiences of being examined by entities.

Sceptics say such claims are made by people, who are either lying, mistaken or deluded.

There is no photographic evidence that aliens have visited earth apart from a few blurred pictures of unidentified objects on the skyline.

But the problem that perplexes the experts in Linda's case is that she really does seem to believe she saw something and so do her children.

"It was a fine summer night and we were walking along the canal bank picking flowers," said 46-year-old Linda, who is a beauty consultant and lives in Manchester.

"My daughter noticed it first. I looked up to see a very bright rugby ball-shaped object coming down.

"We thought it must be a plane on a fire-crash landing and we dived down in the grass. It came over our heads and landed over the top of the embankment.

"When we got to the top of the embankment, it was there hovering above the ground about 30 yards away.

"It was lopsided like a crescent moon or a boat and seemed to cut all the background noise out.

"It had no doors and no windows. I could not see its top because of this bright light all around it."

Linda felt drawn to the object but remembers little of what happened after that.

Several years later Linda was contacted by Manchester solicitor Harry Harris, who was collecting evidence of alien encounters as a hobby.

Mr Harris paid for Linda to have a thorough medical examination and the hypnotic regression.

She was able to recall going on board the ship and meeting people 6ft 6ins tall with yellowy skin and dark suits.

Since the encounter, Linda and her children have become ill with previously unknown viruses and had a number of odd experiences.

SOUTHEND EVENING ECHO, Essex, England

April 2, 1990 CR: T. Good

New one for UFO list

UFO FANS have been skywatching with renewed vigour after a Thorpe Bay man reported flashing lights hovering over the estuary.

He said he watched a circle of blue, orange and white lights for more than 15 minutes at around 10pm on Wednesday.

He said: "It couldn't have been plane lights because

these were clustered and pulsating fast.

"I have never seen anything like it."

Mr Bob Easton, investigator with Technical Phenomena Research, said the number of sightings in South East Essex had risen in a few months.

He was not aware of Wednesday's sighting but would look into it.

regularly. And the first publication is filled with stories about sightings in the Bradford area as well as the rest of the world.

He said he intended the magazine to be an open forum for UFOlogical speculation.

"I hope people will submit articles. It is a very interesting subject and there is a question to be answered," he said.

Mr Barclay, who has been studying UFOlogy for 40 years, is working with his daughter, Therese, to produce the magazine.

Mystery of UFOs tackled in 'mag'

SHIPLEY author and UFOlogist David Barclay has brought out a new magazine which explores the mystery of the 'saucers' in the sky which no-one seems able to solve.

Mr Barclay, 53, of Stubbing Way, Shipley, is editor of the UFO Debate which he intends to bring out

YELLOW ADVERTISER, Colchester, England - Feb. 9, 1990 CR: T. Good

Flying saucery or pie in the sky?

Report by Gavin Hinks

IN January this year the skies over Essex were alive with UFOs.

Of the 51 reports of UFO sightings in the skies over Essex, 26 sightings were in Colchester and involved a total of 84 people. Can 84 people really be imagining things?

Sheridan Lane, an investigator with the East Anglian and Paranormal Research Association, is working overtime investigating these reports and says that the figures for January are the highest in such a short space of time for years.

But though she is surprised by the number of reports coming in, they follow last year's trend when more than 2,000 reports of UFO sightings in the region were made.

She said: "We are moving towards a time when it becomes unavoidable but to accept the idea of extra-terrestrials, and this will have many implications."

Mrs Lane, of Straight Road, Boxted, has been a UFO investigator for just over a year. Before that she was a political journalist and was writing a book about the conflict between Israel and Palestine, when she got involved with the association.

My personal belief is that people, through the mass media are becoming more comfortable with the concept.

"Television programmes, books and films all have a role to play, even if they are fictitious.

"Most of what is imagined is possible and we don't use our imaginations enough."

The East Anglian association is a breakaway group from the national British UFO Research Organisation and was founded in July 1988 by just two members. It now has over 100 members and more people are joining all the time.

But they do not just see their role as documenting UFO reports, they also play an active part in investigation, rigorously questioning any report.

The association trains its own investigators and will not allow just anyone to play space detective.

As soon as a report comes in the association arranges to meet the witness and asks him or her

to make another statement about the sighting so it can be cross-checked with the original report.

The witness is then asked to fill out a questionnaire in which they might be asked if they have developed any unexplained rashes, or if there was any feeling of nausea at the time of the incident.

"After this," said Mrs Lane, "we check out other details. We phone the civil and military aviation authorities to check if planes were in the area at the time of the incident. Then we call meteorological authorities to check the weather conditions."

"Last year we threw out a quarter of the reports after investigation, but this does in no way mean that the rest of the sightings were flying saucers or extra-terrestrial space-men. It just means we have been unable to explain the sightings."

Sightings in this area include people in Harwich, Colchester, Frinton and Clacton who simultaneously saw a cigar shaped object hovering in the sky, and people in



OVERTIME... Sheridan Lane

West Mersea and Clacton who saw a column of three lights hovering in the sky and then flying away vertically at great speed.

However, Mrs Lane is convinced that in some way or another beings from another planet are visiting and may even be communicating with us.

And just like star gazing she says people can take practical steps to spot their own UFO.

"I would encourage people who are interested to get a good pair of binoculars, they're often better than telescopes, and just be patient."

Good hunting.

UFO sighting is noted in Matlock

MATLOCK MERCURY, Derbyshire, England

Feb. 9, 1990 CR: T. Good

Sir, I HAVE noted your article regarding a UFO sighting as reported in this week's Matlock Mercury.

I also saw a strange sight in the sky on the same evening at approximately the same time.

At around 6.15 on Monday, January 8th, I opened the back door of my house to put some rubbish in the back yard dustbin.

I noticed a strange object in the sky which appeared to be above Maeson Hill although I would not like to have a guess at its distance from Wensley.

Its elevation was around 40-45° from the horizontal and took the form of two overlapping circular lights, being bright white in colour.

I immediately thought of the object being unusual as its size was far greater than any star in the sky on that evening.

I asked my wife to witness this unusual sight but she was too busy in the kitchen.

When I turned to look at it again, the object had disappeared. There was however an approaching aircraft at the same position but significantly

lower in the sky relative to the horizon.

This aircraft was emitting the usual red and green flashing lights from its wings as well as other ancillary white lights.

The aircraft lights were much smaller than the lights that I had initially seen.

I thought nothing of the sighting until the next day at work when a member of the canteen staff related a similar sighting at around the same time in approximately the same location.

She was driving her car towards Matlock when

she noticed the strange sight in the sky.

Her description of the event was similar to your's in that she stated that she had seen red and blue colours emanating from the object.

I hope that you will find the above comments of some interest.

NICK FRANK

2 Eagle Terrace, Wensley, Nr Matlock.

Brewer's UFO predictions

Group to be set up for study

BREWER Mr Derek Longman is seeking some sharp-eyed recruits to help hunt down UFOs.

Mr Longman, who single-handedly runs Oulton Broad Brewery, Harbour Road, Oulton Broad, believes he is able to forecast where flying saucers will appear.

Predict

"I can predict where they will be seen, but not when," says Mr Longman.

He believes the flying objects appear on ley lines, which are thought to run across ancient monuments; and he is setting up the Lowestoft UFO Group to compile details of sightings.

"I am very surprised that a number of people, instead of

ridiculing me, have said they have seen things," says Mr Longman, who has been interested in UFOs for many years.

Library

He hopes the group will compile a UFO library, record sightings and interview people who say they have seen UFOs.

He does not accept the eccentric image of the flying saucer enthusiasts. "There is more evidence to support UFOs than other phenomena," he says.

The group will also set up a "crop-watch" for farmers to report any strange markings in their wheat.

"UFO phenomena are on the increase. We want to make people aware of these," says Mr Longman.



Mr Derek Longman, seeking fellow enthusiasts.

Cynics lose in close encounter with UFOphiles



Eyewitness

Erlend Clouston

WEST Yorkshire has been a popular fly-past area for alien craft recently, and Sybil Harrison and Annie Lund were anxious to get to the bottom of the matter. They had had a close encounter a few years back: a mysterious light zooming past their church and up the Keighley valley, only to vanish suddenly over Ilkley

Moor. Miss Lund suspected the aliens were lured by ancient fertility stones buried on the moor.

The pair were among 20 at Britain's first weekend course in UFOlogy at Ossett, West Yorkshire.

The organisers, Andy Roberts and Philip Mantle, treated talk of mysterious lights and the like with cautious respect. Both are attached to the sceptical wing of UFOlogy, although part of their mission is to persuade scientists to objectively examine the extraordinary claims they have persuaded UFO victims to spill.

Much of the morning was given over to the scrutiny of these "contacts". Bob Taylor, a Scottish forestry

worker, had his trousers shredded by a machine which looked like a grapefruit studded with golf tees. PC Alan Godfrey had sketched and been temporarily consumed by a colossal globe outside a Todmorden woollen mill.

On video, Jean from Batley recounted how she had been spirited aboard a spaceship where black-eyed spacemen had royally entertained her. This episode seemed to reveal less about spacemen than it did about Yorkshiremen.

"Her husband didn't appear the least bothered about what had happened to her," said Mr Mantle. "He just got his billiard cue ready for the pub."

Mr Roberts's lecture attempted to put all this in a historical context. People had been reporting otherworldly rendezvous for centuries.

"Clearly, this is a core experience that is being reinterpreted culturally," he said, gravely. In Catholic countries, people saw the Virgin Mary rather than astral time-travellers. But the dedicated UFOphile is not routed that easily.

"And what," asked one, "about blind people?" No blind person had reported being dragged into a flying saucer, something that might have been expected if the phenomenon was all in the mind. Mr Roberts conceded that perhaps he had a point.

Over lunch, it was clear that scepticism had made few converts. Someone had seen a humanoid in Huddersfield, someone else a "lemon-shaped machine" over Dewsbury. Paul Westwood had spotted a glowing red ball in the skies over Pontefract — "one and a half times the size of a full moon." Linda nodded: she'd seen one too.

"I bet it were same object," cried Paul, triumphantly. But Linda had made her sighting in Canada some years later.

Reservations about milleniumism (similar tales surfaced at the end of the ninth century) were trampled underfoot, as was a Sheffield University man's thesis that UFOs were possibly hallucina-

tions set up by overhead powerlines.

Helplessly, the sceptical lecturers watched as the debate began to centre not on the possible reality of aliens, but on whether they were the kind of creature straight-talking Yorkshirefolk could do business with.

David Barclay from Shipley, president of the British Earth Mysteries Society, had been pestered by "macro-cosmic amoeba" off and on since the age of 11, when a red-haired female UFO-naut had leapt at him from a "blimp" in a Leeds park.

"If aliens are so keen to save us," he asked in a sudden flash of scepticism, "why come to such nondescript individuals as myself?"

BULLETIN, Norwich, CT

April 12, 1990

Canadians report 141 UFOs in 1989

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) — Unexplained flashing lights and strange circles in the ground are spotted in Quebec, a saucer zooms over houses in Newfoundland and a diamond-shaped object zips through the Manitoba sky.

Throughout the country, people said they saw at least 141 unidentified flying objects last year, according to what's being touted as Canada's first national survey of UFO sightings.

"It tells us that UFOs haven't gone away, it tells us that UFOs are being seen right across Canada," said Chris Rutkowski, a Winnipeg researcher who compiled the study.

Rutkowski put together the survey from reports submitted to private investigators, police and the Ottawa-based National Research Council, which supplied two-thirds of the material for the study.

Such information was always available but never marshalled into a form that painted a picture of UFO sightings across the country, he said.

More than half the reports didn't have enough information to evaluate properly and one third had probable explanations, said Rutkowski, who has a degree in astronomy and is president of the Winnipeg branch of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

Of the rest, seven sightings were stamped as solidly unknown, meaning they were seen by several people and investigated by the police and National Research Council, without any explanation being found, he said.

He related three such incidents. Startled residents of the rural Quebec community of Ste-Marie-de-Monnoir saw flashing lights glide over a field and out of sight. The next morning, they found strange circles swirled into the ground.

At Wesleyville, Newfoundland, eight or nine people noticed a classic saucer-shaped object swoop low over rooftops and along the shoreline.

And near Beaver Creek, Manitoba, people reported seeing a diamond shape with red lights zip over their car and out across Lake Winnipeg.

Rutkowski stresses that he wants to take a rational, scientific approach to the reports and will not offer any theories about unexplained sightings.

But he hopes publicity from the survey will spark more people to come forward with their observations, providing a larger body of evidence that could be investigated by scientists.

WESTMORELAND GAZETTE, Kendal, England - March 9, 1990 CR: T. Good



● UFO enthusiast Mike Oram of Windermere, studying part of his extensive library on the subject.

Looking up for UFOs

The recent freak weather conditions are the result, say some scientists, of the greenhouse effect - global warming caused by heat from the sun trapped within the earth's atmosphere.

But the general worsening of the condition of our environment may help to explain something that has baffled scientists and inspired the imagination of film makers for decades - UFO's (Unidentified Flying Objects).

Windermere UFO investigator Mike Oram says the growing number of occurrences of sightings of UFO's in our skies may be linked to the changes in the environment.

He doesn't believe any of these changes are actually being caused by UFO's, only that visitors from other planets in the universe, concerned about the state we are letting our planet get into, are watching what is happening.

Mike says the deterioration of the environment has been going on for decades - it is only in recent times that people have begun to take notice. And, he added, it was only after we started exploding nuclear bombs that the modern age of UFO sightings began. "UFO's have always been around, perhaps even since man came into being, but certainly more so in the second half of this century. The modern age started in 1947, around the time we split the atom," he said.

Mike, a landscape photographer, has been studying the science of ufology for the past 20 years and has a collection of nearly 400 books on the subject. He also investigates reported sightings and has appeared on television and radio programmes.

He is a member of North Lancashire UFO Investigation Group which has 12 members and meets every two weeks. Before moving to Cumbria, 38-year-old Mike lived in Essex

where he used to run various UFO groups and print monthly magazines. Now, though, he is not so heavily involved. "There doesn't seem to be too much going on here," he said - the last reported UFO sighting in the Gazette was in September 1983.

The most recent case Mike investigated was in Carlisle in 1987, when a woman and her son saw a UFO, but Mike has seen something in South Lakeland himself.

In 1983 he was working at an alternative healing establishment on the banks of Coniston, near Torver. One evening he saw a huge golden orb hovering above the lake. "I had this strange feeling of being watched, I can't put it into words," he said.

"The orb swung round and hovered over the trees, I thought it might land there. I made a few steps and it just moved off. It came right round in a semi-circle and then turned off towards the Old Man of Coniston."

"It was a clear night and I could see the orb reflected in the lake. It was perhaps 100 feet in diameter."

Some UFO books note one sighting that happened near Coniston in 1954 as one of the most important ever. The drawing of the UFO by the young boy who saw it was identical to that drawn by the American George Adamski, who made some of the most famous sightings ever and claimed to have been in contact with the UFO's occupants.

Now, though, as Mike said, Cumbria seems to be fairly quiet when it comes to UFO sightings. But if you do see anything then you can phone Mike, on Windermere 88098, and he may be able to help clarify whether it was just a natural phenomenon like a weather balloon, a satellite - or perhaps something more unusual.

EVENING NEWS, Scarborough, England - March 8, 1990 CR: T. Good

Film-makers hope for close encounter

Students launch video probe!

Scarborough stargazers have launched an extraterrestrial investigation into the mysteries of the universe.

Technical College students Rob Whittleton (25) and Shaun Stephenson (28) are making a video on UFOs as part of their studies.

They are looking for local people who think they have experienced a close encounter with another world.

Witnesses will have their statements recorded on tape for the programme, which is part of a BTEC National diploma course.

"We are particularly anxious to get hold of doctors, teachers, policemen - reliable witnesses who think they might have seen something out of the ordinary," said Robert.



Looking for information on UFOs are Shaun Stephenson (left) and Rob Whittleton.

"If they don't want their identity revealed we can black their faces out."

The investigators are also looking for flying-saucer photographs and scouring back issues of the Evening News for sighting reports.

"We have both been interested in UFOs for years and this video presents us with an ideal opportunity to look at the subject," added Shaun.

They will be using an editing suite at the North Riding

College to give their finished film the professional touch.

Scarborough people have reported several sightings of mysterious objects over the years.

One of the most baffling

mysteries was the so-called Silpho Saucer, which fell to earth in December 1967.

The mysterious object, found on Silpho Moor, contained copper scrolls inscribed with strange symbols that could have been an alien language.



● Roy Lake ... "aliens may be getting worried about pollution"

SPACESHIP SURPRISE!

MORE and more unidentified flying objects are invading East London's airspace.

And the number is likely to keep going up as pollution destroys the planet, a watchdog group have warned.

May Flitton, of Central Park Road, East Ham, is one of more than a dozen people who say they have spotted a UFO in the past month.

Mrs Flitton, 68, a retired bank typist, said she saw a blueish white light above the rooftops as she peeped out of her bedroom window.

She drew back the curtains to watch the unexpected sight.

"I just stood there absolutely just fascinated," she said.

"It had a triangular shape with rounded angles, and lights all round its sides. I could not see the centre. It was moving very slowly from east to west towards Barking. There was no sound. The whole episode lasted about two minutes, then the thing just

ETs are 'little Green men' after all...

seemed to drop out of sight."

The incident happened on Thursday, March 22, around 12.30 am when she was going to bed.

Mrs Flitton did not wake up her husband, though she told him the next morning.

"He believed me, but my son-in-law thought I had been on the bottle," she recalled indignantly.

She phoned the East Anglian UFO Society — which investigate sightings in London and surrounding counties.

Barking-based researcher Roy Lake said he'd had a dozen cases to look at

in and around East Ham last month.

He collects statements from witnesses and checks with local airports and radar stations for details of flights.

"More than 80 per cent of the cases I have worked on in the last 30 years remain unexplained," Mr Lake claimed.

He dismisses tales of little green men zapping humans to cinders — though he has investigated claims of abduction by aliens — and his message is unequivocally Green: "Beings from other planets may be getting worried about the damage done to the Earth by excessive pollution. The whole universe could be affected."

After her experience Mrs Flitton — who did not previously believe in UFOs — admitted she would like to find out more about extra-terrestrials.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said the unit dealing with UFOs had been disbanded years ago.

● If you have seen a flying saucer phone Roy Lake on 594 4797.

DANIEL SINGLETON

EAST ANGLIAN TIMES, Ipswich, England
March 9, 1990 CR: T. Good

RAF unable to explain separate UFO sightings

A PENSIONER and a family-of-four from neighbouring Suffolk villages claim to have seen UFOs which looked like "lemons falling out of the sky".

"Seeing is believing," said pensioner Mr. Victor Byford, of Bury Road, Stanningfield. "On Monday I got up at 8.30 and looked out the window across the woods towards Long Melford and thought an orange or lemon had fallen out of the sky."

"Then, about 5.25 in the evening I was having my tea when I saw another lemon falling out of the sky in the wood. My wife didn't see it either time because it vanished in a few seconds. I suppose it looked about the size of a pint mug but I couldn't tell how far away it was."

"Then I heard on the radio about this family who had seen the same thing down the road in Cockfield so I looked them up in the phone book and spoke to the lady who said it was the same."

Mrs. Linda Shotbolt, of Bury Road, Cockfield, said, "On Friday night I was busy getting the dinner ready. My son was standing at the kitchen window when he zoomed outside and came rushing back in to get us. John, my husband, went to have a look and called me so I went as well. We had to hold my youngest son up so he could see it."

"We stood there for about half an hour and watched it. There were three yellow lights. One was larger and the other two were hovering above ground level. It was a bit like a triangle. The left one took off to the left and then the right one went off to the left. The third started hovering and then took off."

Flt. Lieut. Rusty Russell, an RAF Honington spokesman, said nothing had been detected. "We have a 24-hour air traffic watch, which includes radar, and a 24-hour meteorological watch. If it was in visual or radar range then we would have seen it."

"We occasionally get people coming in with stories we can't explain. It could have been many things. I'm not knocking what they say, I believe they saw something but we have to explain all the other things first. I remember one instance in the Falklands when someone reported a UFO sighting which turned out to be a balloon with the sun shining on it."

TODAY, London, England

March 12, 1990 CR: T. Good

UFO fungus theory is rot

SCIENTISTS probing the mystery of flattened circles in cornfields yesterday rejected claims that they are caused by fungus.

Colin Andrews, author of a book on the circles, which have been linked to UFOs, said the fungus theory is "a load of bunkum." He added: "Whatever is causing circles is a moving, rotating force. Fungus cannot do that."

Nearly 300 circles were reported last summer, and a witness reported a ball of amber light above one.

BBC staff recorded a blast of unexplained noise in the middle of another.

Biologist Michael Hall and artist Andrew Macara claim the circles are caused by fungi eating crop roots.

Mr Hall said: "It's only a theory, but a better one than little green men from Mars."

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver,
CO - April 30, 1990
CR: C. Carpenter

UFOs



Hundreds of people, including some pilots, reported spotting an unidentified flying object over Rome. Police in the Italian capital received numerous calls, describing a "kind of luminous ball that left smoke in its trail." There have been several reports of UFO sightings over Belgium in recent weeks.

He has enclosed a rough sketch of his sighting and would like any other reader who may have seen a similar sighting to send their report to the Mercury (names and addresses will be held if required).

Send your details to: Flying Object, c/o Matlock Mercury, 24 Bakewell Road, Matlock DE4 3AY.

● NB. Don't accept any lift from little green men.

MATLOCK MERCURY, Derbyshire, England - Jan. 26, 1990 CR: T. Good

Flying object is seen in Matlock

AN Asker Lane resident of Matlock has reported an unidentified flying object allegedly seen over the town on Monday January 8.

He wishes to remain anonymous and claims the object was clearly visible after dark for a period of three minutes from 1816 hours to 1819 hours, and immediately made a full report on the incident.

"The evening was fine, clear and dry with good visibility and the resident claims the object was a very bright light of yellow and red colours roughly

on normal aircraft.

The object approached the Matlock area from above Darley, NNW, flying in an approximate southerly direction, then swung in an easterly direction, eventually disappearing over Riber Hill.

There was no dark shape of an aircraft against a lighter sky and the light appeared to be the whole of the object.

The height was about 1500 feet at level flight and the resident estimated that the object covered

about 15 miles in the three minutes observed - giving an airspeed of about 300mph.

He also stated the object was larger than any aircraft and appeared to be completely transparent and suspected the light produced inside was white but appeared yellow/red as the transparent material was tinted, and believed the blue light flashing downwards was probably ultra-violet light.

Two UFO sightings puzzling to military

A FAMILY of four and an elderly man from neighbouring Suffolk villages claim to have seen UFOs that looked like "lemons falling out of the sky."

"Seeing is believing," said pensioner Victor Byford of Bury Road, Stanningfield.

"On Monday morning I got up at 8.30 and looked out the window across the woods towards Long Melford and thought an orange or lemon had fallen out of the sky."

"Then, about 5.25 in the evening, I was having my tea when I saw another lemon

falling out of the sky in the wood."

"Then I heard on the radio about this family who had seen the same thing down the road in Cockfield, so I looked them up in the phone book and spoke to the lady, who said it was the same."

Linda Shotbolt of Bury Road, Cockfield, said, "On Friday night I was busy getting the dinner ready. My son was standing at the kitchen window when he zoomed outside and came rushing back in to get us. John, my husband, went to have a look and called me so I went as well. We had to hold my youngest son up so he could see it."

"We stood there for about half an hour and watched it. There were three yellow lights. One was larger and the other two were hovering above ground level. It was a bit like a triangle. The left one took off to the left and then the right one went off to the left. The third started hovering and then took off."

"It was either a big light a long way away or a little light close by. We were looking towards Cockfield Green, in the same direction as Mr Byford had seen it, which is about a mile away, and it seemed about as far away as that—maybe a bit closer."

"The way Mr Byford described it was exactly the same," she said.

Her older son, Benjamin, 14, had a normal interest in UFOs "like any boy his age" and the family had no particular interest until they saw a programme about unexplained circles in American corn fields before Christmas, she said.

Flt. Lieut. Rusty Russell, a spokesman from RAF Honington, said, "We have a 24-hour air traffic watch, which includes radar, and a 24-hour meteorological watch. If it was in visual or radar range then we would have seen it."

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver,
CO - April 16, 1990

Soviet UFO sightings



Soviet pilots, air-traffic controllers and hundreds of residents in the Volga city of Ulyanovsk saw an unidentified flying object hovering above the city between 8.30 and 9 p.m. April 6. Witnesses say it looked like a blue-green ball, and seemed to be larger than the apparent size of the moon.

CR: C. Carpenter

IPSWICH MERCURY, Suffolk, England - March 8, 1990

CR: T. Good

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO - April 23, 1990

UFO fever



The appearance of unidentified flying objects in the U.S.S.R. has become so commonplace that the Soviet press says it is getting tired of such reports. Still, Tass was intrigued by tales of a UFO that is said to have hovered while creating a cylindrical hole 15 feet deep, 4 inches wide and tilted at a 70-degree angle. Many residents in the village of Voronezh reported seeing a huge fireball above the ground the night before the hole was discovered. The official Soviet news agency also said that regular flights by UFOs were detected by air defense units stationed around Pereslavl-Zalesski. Lookout teams at 20 vantage points in Belgium spent the Easter weekend scanning the skies for UFOs. Ten scientists and observers flew in a plane to look for a silent, luminous, low-flying triangle sighted regularly over the hills in the south of the country. They found nothing.

CR: C. Carpenter 16



Scott Terrell/Skagit Valley Herald

John Andrews has traversed the hills and forests of the Northwest searching for definitive proof that the animal called Bigfoot exists. He has made plaster of Paris

casts of the creature's footprint, such as the one shown here, and compiled evidence to produce a scale model of the sasquatch.

Creatures of the forest

Camano Island man searches for proof that sasquatch lives

By PAUL SWORTZ
Staff Writer

Some people are content to believe in myths. John Andrews has spent more than 20 years looking for one.

For the last two decades, Andrews has spent his vacations in the woods looking for tracks and other evidence that the sasquatch — Bigfoot — exists.

When not actually tracking, Andrews has spent numerous hours with people who claim to have seen the tall, upright-walking cousin of man that some believe lives in dense forest, almost undetected by man.

Almost undetected. For 25 years, footprints, hair samples, hundreds of eyewitness reports and film footage have teased amateur and professional sasquatch hunters alike.

Today, the scientific community is divided over the beast, with anthropologists willing to consider the reality of Bigfoot treated with derision by colleagues and members of the public.

One scientist who accepts that sasquatches exist is Washington State University professor Grover Krantz, whose willingness to make his work public has exposed him to such criticism.

And while Andrews praises the detail of Krantz's work, the two disagree over how to prove such animals exist.



AP LaserPhoto

This black and white photograph of a color movie taken by Frank White in a forest near Bellingham in 1977 has been added to the evidence that is being studied by the scientific community.

During Andrews' expeditions in the woods, he arms himself only with a tape recorder, an 8mm movie camera, plaster of Paris and a bag to collect suspected sasquatch feces or "scat."

However, Krantz, on sabbatical at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Ore., said none of the evidence Andrews could collect with those tools would make convincing evidence for a skeptical public.

"What's necessary to prove it is a body," Krantz said in an interview last month. "Anybody trying to prove it by any other means is just wasting their time."

"I think the animals are real, I have no question of that, but I'm hoping that someday someone will find some definitive evidence," Krantz said.

Krantz said he is worried continued disbelief in the sasquatch will lead to the eventual destruction of the animals' habitat. "If we kill one, then the authorities will have to pay attention to it, and then we can pass laws to protect the rest of them."

Organized, skilled hunters armed with extremely powerful weapons and with bear or elk hunting experience need to search the woods with only one quarry in mind — a sasquatch, Krantz said.

With hundreds of reported sightings in the U.S. and Canada over the last hundred years, Krantz believes someone may have already shot and killed a sasquatch

(continued on page 18)

(continued from page 17 - VOICE OF THE VALLEY,
Maple Valley, WA - March 29, 1990)

but did not report it, fearing he had killed a man or broken some law.

In a collection of studies about the sasquatch, Krantz urges hunters who have the chance to shoot and kill one of the animals and if possible, bring back a piece.

Understanding that a whole animal would be too large for a single person or pair of people to carry out, Krantz suggests that a successful hunter bring out the head, jawbone or foot of the animal.

"In reaction to the above recommendation, I have already been asked, 'Isn't it possible to get such proof without committing murder?' To this I can only respond, 'Isn't it possible to eat a hamburger without being a cannibal?'"

Killing a sasquatch would not be murder, Krantz said in a 1979 paper, since the sasquatch is not human in any sense of the word. Upright walking, he said, is not a sign of being human "unless one wishes to include penguins, tyrannosaurs and kangaroos in this category."

But Andrews plans to continue his search for Bigfoot, and he wants to shoot the animal only with his camera, to prove to himself that the animals exist.

"I could bring in tons of tracks and piles of poop - it should be enough, but they (scientific researchers) won't be satisfied until they bring in a dead one," he said.

"I try to keep objective as well as interested," he said, recalling that the seed of his interest was planted by an article in *Boys Life* magazine.

From the time he read that article in the late 1950s or early '60s, the seed sprouted and grew into an intense interest in the animal. That was when he started talking to people who had seen Bigfoot.

Andrews now works as an environmental planner for the Swinomish Tribe. But in the 1970s he was working near Helena, Mont., where he met and started working with a sheriff's deputy who shared a keen interest in the unexplained.

The deputy, Andrews said, was the man sent out to investigate reports of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) and other strange phenomena. Together, Andrews and his partner formed a non-profit corporation to collect information about Bigfoot sightings.

And there were a lot of them there, Andrews said, between 30 and 40 reports per year, with many of the people who saw the animal refusing to acknowledge what it was.

But Andrews' interest led him to do more than just talk about the animal with people. When numerous tracks were discovered in the Blue Mountains in Eastern Washington, he went there and found what he believes are authentic tracks.

He unwrapped a white plastic grocery sack and pulled out a piece of plaster some 16 inches long and 8 inches wide, one result of his trip to the Blue Mountains.

He also has collected some hair samples and some feces found on the eastern side of the North Cascades. And while camping one night on a Bigfoot expedition in the Siskiyou range of southern Oregon, someone - or something - hurled a rock at a nearby tree where the men were camping.

Andrews said he suspects the rock-thrower may have been a sasquatch, as some people who have seen the animal report that it does throw rocks sometimes.

"Twenty years, and all I've got to report is a rock, a bunch of scat and maybe a footprint," Andrews said.

The scat - feces - he found has been given to John Almack, a biologist for the state Department of Wildlife who has spent the last four years searching the North Cascades for grizzly bears.

Almack said he has not yet had the chance to analyze the feces - one of more than 350 samples he and others have collected.

And while Almack said he is skeptical about the existence of Bigfoot, he is keeping an open mind. "I question it scientifically, but it would be neat if there were something out there like that," he said. "If someone walked in with a carcass tomorrow, I'd say 'sonofagun,' because as scientists, we're also trained not to be close-minded about something like that."

Krantz said people generally take three stands about sasquatch. "There are the people who say they're absolutely real, the people who say absolutely not and the people who say 'I don't have enough information.' The first two are almost all fools - people who've made up their minds with almost no information."

"My best guess is it's man's closest living relative that goes back to a common ancestor more recent than man and apes," Krantz said.

As for Andrews, he will continue his search here, in British Columbia and other parts of North America. He encouraged people who think they have seen a sasquatch to call him at his Camano Island home at 387-9692.

"If it weren't this, I'd probably be chasing some other myth," Andrews said, holding a clay model he built to scale, detailing many of the sasquatch's reported physical features.

"Even after all my psychological preparation, I'll probably be freaked out when I finally see one."

NEW TRUTH, Auckland, New Zealand - Dec. 8, 1989

UNEXPLAINED MYSTERIES

DO huge apemen inhabit the thick forests of the Pacific Northwest?

An anthropologist at Washington State University is betting his reputation as a scientist that Bigfoot exists.

Professor Grover Krantz says he has seen enough proof to make him a believer. The anthropologist has collected 65 casts of footprints that he claims were made by 20 individual apemen.

The casts which have brought the most attention were made in 1982 near Walla Walla, Washington, by Forest Service patrolman Paul Freeman.

Krantz says the 15-inch footprints reveal whorls and ridges so complex, they could not have been faked even by a master craftsman.

Freeman said he was patrolling in his pickup truck when he spotted some elk. He got out of the truck and went closer to see if they had any newborn calves with them. He followed the elk over a ridge and smelled a very foul odour, like strong urine.

Freeman came out onto an old logging road and was walking around a sharp bend when he saw an enormous creature coming down a bank out of the bush.

The creature stopped about ten feet away and faced Freeman.

Freeman recalled: "He was huge - about nine feet tall and 450 pounds with reddish-brown hair all over his body. He has powerful arms and shoulders and wore a dumb animal look."

Suddenly the creature raised the hair on the back of his neck and shoulders in a threatening gesture. Freeman stood frozen for a few seconds and slowly turned and

Footprints prove that Bigfoot exists says scientist!

walked away. After about three steps he looked over his shoulder and saw the creature running up the road at a fast pace, taking long strides.

Freeman watched Bigfoot for about three minutes until it vanished into the woods. He got into the pickup and immediately reported the incident to his superiors.

"We went back up there a couple of hours later and found 21 very clear footprints," he recalled. "We tried to follow them, but they stopped when the road got rocky. The dogs were no use - they either couldn't or wouldn't follow the trail."

Krantz believes the Bigfoot is a relic of the population of *Gigantopithecus blacki*, enormous 800-pound apemen that were thought to be wiped out half a million years ago.

Harvard biologist Stephen Jay Gould said he

would like Bigfoot to exist, but does not believe he does.

Gould said: "If it exists, why is it that all we have for evidence are a few fuzzy photographs and footprints?"

Gould believes that if such a large creature existed, then scientists would have captured one by now, or at least have found some skeletal remains.

California wildlife photographer Ivan Marx claims he recorded on film Bigfoot bathing in a swamp at the foot of Mount Shasta in 1985.

The footage and other Bigfoot film clips taken by Marx can be seen in an intriguing movie documentary produced by Amazing Horizons, of Sunnyvale, California.

Dr Warren Cook, a professor of anthropology has examined Marx's footage of the Mount Shasta Bigfoot encounter and says they are authentic.

CR: R. Collins

Visiting professor believes in Bigfoot

By DAVID KURLE
of the Daily Barometer

The sasquatch, also commonly known as "Bigfoot," is a legendary creature, which some say roams the forests of the Pacific Northwest. The creature also looms in the minds of people trying to prove its existence.

One of these people is Grover Krantz, a visiting professor of anthropology from Washington State University, who has studied the creature for more than 20 years.

"Do I think that the animals are there? Yes," Krantz said. "I have no question about that anymore."

Krantz has collected evidence in three categories that he feels supports the creature's existence.

The first category is eyewitnesses, people who have stories to tell about encounters with the creature. According to Krantz, he has talked to more than 40 people he believes to have had some sort of encounter with a sasquatch.

"I can't find anything wrong with their stories," Krantz said.

The second category of evidence Krantz has collected is footprints. Krantz has 85 plaster casts of footprints, which he said were made by the creature. Krantz has also been shown tracks of the creature six times.

"You can read a good deal of anatomy in a foot print," Krantz said.

The third piece of evidence is a film made in 1967 by bigfoot hunter Roger Patterson. The

film, shot in 16 mm, shows a large, dark-haired creature walking on two legs across a clearing.

Krantz has talked to Patterson and Bob Gimlin, who was with Patterson the day he shot his famous footage.

Krantz believes that Patterson's film is real footage of a sasquatch.

Gimlin was skeptical about the existence of the creatures before he and Patterson saw the one, and both of the men described the same event, Krantz said. He believes their story and the film footage.

The best proof that could be found to establish the existence of the sasquatch would be the recovery of a body or the remains of one.

"I'd like to see the remains of one," Krantz said. A few bones would be ample proof of the creature's existence, he added.

Krantz estimates that there are 2,000 or 3,000 creatures in existence in North America.

"That's assuming they live in the Pacific Northwest and parts of Canada," he said.

There have been reports of similar creatures in every province in Canada and every state in the United States except Hawaii and Rhode Island, according to Krantz.

"There can't be less than 200 and I can't imagine there are more than 20,000 (creatures)," he said. The creature is definitely a higher primate, because of the creature's wide shoulders and arm structure, and the way it walks on two legs, according to Krantz. Humans are the only primates with the type of bipedal locomotion exhibited by the sasquatch.

"It is a primate, a higher primate. It's in the ape-human group," Krantz said. "It is more human in some characteristics than an ape is." Even though the creature walks with the same bipedal locomotion as a human, it cannot be

assumed to be intelligent, according to Krantz. When our ancestors first learned to walk, they were still stupid, he said.

"In relation to humans they're shy," Krantz said. They are mildly curious, but tend to leave the area when there are humans around, he said.

He said that most of his colleagues don't believe in the sasquatch and think that Krantz is being fooled. However, a minority take him seriously.

Krantz got interested in the sasquatch when he was 17 years old, then took a serious interest in the creature in 1958. Krantz started studying the creature in-depth in 1969.

"I'm always curious about things that are weird or unusual," he said. "Just ignoring it seemed intellectually dishonest."

Krantz said that he has never seen a sasquatch, but if he did he would want to shoot it.

The sasquatch may be an endangered species, Krantz said. Shooting one would prove its existence and in the long run would help the animal. If it was known to exist and known to be endangered by humans then the creature could be protected.

"It would be desirable to protect them," he said.

Krantz hopes that someone has shot one of the creatures and thought that they had done something illegal, either shot a human or a laboratory animal. Krantz is looking for such an individual to come forward and tell him about it.

"I just can't believe that someone hasn't brought one down," he said. "I could promise such a person fame or anonymity."

Krantz said he believes half of the stories he has heard and read by people about their encounters with the creature, and that when hunting for a sasquatch one place is as good as another as long as it is in a forest in the Pacific Northwest.

Photo turns into big seller

By Will Macdonald
Gazette Staff Reporter

GASTONIA — Fake or not, a curious photograph is drawing flocks of the faithful who are making a pilgrimage to Gastonia photo stores.

Believers say the photo's robed image with arms outstretched is Jesus keeping watch over the area during Hurricane Hugo last fall.

The photo has surfaced as Christians get ready to observe the most holy day of their religion.

Whether the claim is true or not, the photo has turned the nation's attention to Gastonia.

Skeptical? Consider the following:

- A man from Maine said he will fly to Charlotte-Douglas International Airport today and then drive to Gastonia to buy a copy of the photograph.
- A woman from Orlando, Fla., called

Photographers: Don't believe it

By Will Macdonald
Gazette Staff Reporter

GASTONIA — Customers at Jack Rabbit One-Hour Photo store set the photograph down on the counter and, hunching over, intensely examine it.

Some take their glasses off and hold the print close to their face. Some turn it from side to side, while others use a magnifying glass.

The trained and untrained eye

both agree that the picture shows a white robed figure arms outstretched, standing in what appears to be a swirl of light and dark clouds.

Believers say the figure is Jesus watching over the area when Hurricane Hugo hit last fall.

But two photography experts Friday said it is a fake.

the Wal-Mart in Gastonia on Friday afternoon and ordered 200 copies of the photograph. She said she would arrive in Gastonia today to pick them up.

- Since Tuesday, reporters from radio

and television stations and newspapers from Hawaii, Florida, New Jersey, New York and Arkansas have called.

While Wal-Mart store manager Truman Elliott and assistant photo lab

manager Paul Greene were busy giving interviews Friday, a long line of customers waited patiently to buy copies.

One woman watched as her daughter bought 14. They'll give them to family members, including a daughter in Mississippi and a son in Tennessee.

"Jesus was watching us during that storm," the woman said. "It has to be him. The storm could have been much worse than it was."

One of the customers waiting in line was Greene's father, Carl.

He bought four copies and plans to give one of them to his brother-in-law, who is a preacher.

"I think it's real," said Greene.

His son tells his customers over and over again: "I tell them it's an image on a piece of paper, take it or leave it," said the younger Greene.

That's what Elliott told reporters from the Fox network, Charlotte television stations and radio stations in Kansas, Mo., and Dallas, Texas, who called Friday morning.

"The thing you have to say is it is all in the eyes of the beholder," said Elliott.

Workers at Jack Rabbit One-Hour Photo in Eastridge Mall are offering the same advice.

"Everybody is asking me what my opinion is," said manager Orville Edwards. "I look at the picture and it makes me feel good. I believe it."

But everyone has to make up their own mind, he said.

Even the identity of the photographer is shrouded in mystery.

The photograph showed up on a roll of film that was brought into Jack Rabbit shortly after Hurricane Hugo hit Gaston last Sept. 22, Edwards said.

"Sometime during that first week one of the employees noticed the photograph," he said.

There are no records of the customer's name, but a few days after picking up the film, the customer returned and ordered a dozen prints.

Each week since then, Edwards said at least two to four customers come in to buy prints.

He said his boss has discovered copies of the print in Charleston and West Virginia.

Wal-Mart got the print from a Gaston County woman who gave store officials permission to make copies.

Elliott said the store is not making any money from the prints.

Since the beginning of the week, Wal-Mart has sold more than 1,000 copies. The price is the same a customer would pay for any other print: \$1.47 for a 5-by-7-inch and 28 cents for a wallet size.

The demand has left workers weary.

"This has gotten totally blown out of proportion," said Elliott. "I wish we'd never gotten into this mess."

Even the chain's division manager asked for a copy.

Rather than charge customers, Jack Rabbit's Edwards is giving copies of the prints to customers who make a contribution to the Gaston Literacy Council.

"I wasn't going to sell it," Edwards said. "If it is really him, I don't think it would be right to make money off it."



Some see Christ in photo.

DAILY NEWS, Anchorage, AK - April 8, 1990

1 man's monster is another's art

Taxidermist shapes Bigfoot as hobby

By DON HUNTER
Daily News reporter

While thousands of people milled through Sullivan Arena past booths hawking hunting and fishing trips Saturday, Mark Baehm fashioned a torso for a critter he's never seen and, to tell the truth, doesn't believe in.

Ten feet tall with a pointed head. Shoulders that would have trouble getting through a garage door. A face only a gorilla could love.



BILL ROTH / Anchorage Daily News

Robert Goosen works on a mold of Bigfoot at the Sportsman Show at Sullivan Arena.

We're still kind of feeling our way here."

Baehm, a sculptor and taxidermist, spends most of his time working on bears, birds and other standard taxidermy subjects in his Palmer studio. But the sasquatch is a pet project; the grizzly-sized male Baehm is putting together during the Great Alaskan Sportsman Show is part of a three-member family destined for a museum in the Pacific Northwest.

Baehm's interest in sasquatch has carried through more than a decade of research in Oregon and Washington. He says he has interviewed dozens of people who claim to have seen the elusive man-like creature, and designs his Bigfoot family on an amalgam of their descriptions.

Baehm said he doubts the creature actually exists, but believes many of the people who claim to have seen the creature are sincere.

"I tried to talk to as many people as I could. I'm interested in what they saw, what they felt when they saw it, if they thought it was real.

"Most of the people are for real. Their eyeballs get like this when they talk about it," Baehm said, his hands forming baseball-sized circles.

"I'm a non-believer. But if I ever do meet this fellow, I'll

Meet sasquatch. Bigfoot. Yeti. The North American cousin of the Abominable Snowman. Next to the Loch Ness Monster, the most popular creature never known to exist.

"The short neck, the pot belly, the muscular legs, very thick around the ankles, you notice," Baehm said, stirring a bucket of clay and pointing out the features of the world's shyest anthropoid.

"And the usual big feet.

shake his hand or run like hell, I'll tell you that," he said.

Baehm thinks most Bigfoot-sighters probably spotted bears from a distance or at an odd angle. Standing erect, a brown bear or a big black bear would be close to the 8- to 12-foot-tall range most often reported, he said.

Escaped gorillas wandering territory where people don't expect to see apes may have provided the grist for some early sightings, he speculated.

"That's a possibility. There is a similarity, ape to sasquatch."

Real or not, the people wandering past Baehm's booth at the sportsman's show had no trouble identifying his subject. It may have been just wads of shredded wood and clay slapped on a plywood-and-wire frame, but there was no doubt what Baehm was putting together.

That kind of instant recognition, and the massive size of the animal, suggest to Baehm that a real Bigfoot couldn't have eluded hikers, hunters and evidence-seeking sasquatch trackers this long.

"Today, with all the dog hunting, the helicopters and everything, our country has become very small. I just don't feel like it could be that evasive. It would have to be much more intelligent than we are to avoid being captured or shot."

URBAN LEGENDS

BATMAN, HAH! WAIT UNTIL YOU GET A LOAD OF MOTHMAN!

by Jan Harold Brunvand

What human-shaped creature has huge red eyes, a 10-foot wingspan, stands 7 feet tall, is gray and scratches car roofs? Give up? It's Mothman, a West Virginia flying monster.

Normally, I bypass supernatural lore, but scratching on a car roof sounds like it belongs in an urban legend. Besides, recently a caller to a radio talk show, where I was a guest, wondered what I knew about Mothman.

According to the caller, the monster was sup-

posed to have been created by an accident in a chemical plant, and he thought the Mothman scares had occurred about 20 years ago.

Supposedly, numerous West Virginia teen-agers saw Mothman when they were out parking. The creature usually was perched near highways, flying overhead or sitting on car roofs, and even was said to have killed somebody.

I found no death claims in my notes, only reports of Mothman scares occurring in 1966-67 near Point Pleasant, W.Va. Reports of Mothman usually state that at least 100 people saw the monster, and perhaps twice as many others were afraid to report their sightings.

Unfortunately, the only written sources are books for children or sensationalized and undocumented accounts of "mysteries in the mountains" that fail to quote identifiable persons.

Something triggered the Mothman scares, but the stories also incorporated existing folklore.

Scratching on car roofs is a familiar detail from a legend called "The Boyfriend's Death." In this story, a madman hangs the murdered boyfriend's body upside down from a tree limb overhanging his car. The girl inside the car hears the scratching of the corpse's fingernails on the roof.

In "Living Monsters," a children's paperback book, we read how "Lou and Carla" heard a scratching on their car roof as they drove past an old power plant late one night.

They reported the incident to "Officer Mac" of the Point Pleasant Police, who — despite the actual scratches in their car's paint — pooh-poohed their account.

Later, the book continues, many others in town saw Mothman, and eventually Mac's police car was found near the power plant with its top torn open. The book concludes, "No one ever saw Mac again."

Similar children's books with titles such as "Weird and Mysterious" repeat this tale as well as one about "a girl named Connie" who supposedly saw the creature unfold its wings and raise itself "straight up, like a helicopter."

A California schoolteacher sent me a copy of the response her class got when they wrote to the Point Pleasant Chamber of Commerce asking for Mothman details.

One claimed the Mothman sightings were connected with UFOs; another said a nearby military storage site was Mothman's home.

The chamber's secretary replied she knew nothing about "Officer Mac," but enclosed photocopies of other Mothman articles. One claimed the Mothman sightings were connected with UFOs; another said a nearby military storage site was Mothman's home. The letter also mentioned books titled "The Mothman Prophecies" and "They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers."

Sightings of huge birdlike figures have occurred repeatedly in many locations, leading some investigators to believe there must be SOMETHING out there.

Other local monster figures — such as "The Green Man" of central Pennsylvania and "Hyrum the Ax Murderer" of Utah's Uinta Mountains — also are said to have been created by accidents involving chemicals, explosives or electricity.

For variety, you sometimes hear about a wandering swamp creature, such as the "Lizard Man" that supposedly was sighted several times during summer 1988 near Brownstown, S.C.

"Lizard Man," according to press reports, was 7 feet tall, had red eyes and "chewed up" car roofs.

Why should creatures from space, or monsters spawned by industrial accidents, be so attracted to the tops of our cars?

Jan Harold Brunvand is a folklorist and professor of English at the University of Utah. Send your questions and urban legends for Brunvand in care of Sunday Magazine, P.O. Box 2171, San Antonio, Texas 78297-2171.

Inventors flock to exposition

DAILY NEWS, Ft. Walton Beach, FL - May 4, 1990 CR: R. Reid

MONROEVILLE, Pa. (AP) — If necessity is the mother of invention, is silliness the father?

One might think that, based on some of the gizmos and gadgets on display Thursday when a convention to market inventions got under way.

Among the items: a portable fire escape that can be anchored inside a window in a burning high-rise, a trap designed to lure fleas off the carpet and a device to repel mosquitoes with sound waves.

Also displayed: a plastic gun that clears clogged drains with a blast of compressed air, a sand-laden trash can that won't tip over, and golf shoes with playing tips stitched across the toes. Would you believe a zipper tie?

Promoters and inventors from around the world showed off their creations at the Monroeville Expo Mart in suburban Pittsburgh, seeking investors and marketers.

The start of the three-day exhibition marked the unveiling of the engine created by Yoshiro Nakamatsu, who became known as the "Edison of Japan" after inventing the computer floppy disk and the digital watch.

Nakamatsu said his pollution-free engine, called Enerex, runs on tap water alone and can create three times as much power as a standard gasoline engine.

"It will generate electricity for any purpose," he said. "Petroleum will exhaust in 100



Yoshiro Nakamatsu holds his Enerex, a device he claims will enable automobiles to run on plain tap water instead of gasoline, in Monroeville, Pa., on Thursday.

years."

He said he plans to modify the engine and build a special vehicle powered by it.

Nakamatsu displayed some of his other inventions, including packages of "brain food," which he said contains "good elements" to encourage clear thinking. The snack food, which tastes like seaweed, is sold in

Japan.

Nakamatsu, 62, said listening to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and swimming have helped him maintain the creativity that has enabled him to obtain more than 2,000 patents in the United States and Japan.

"My best place to create inventions is under the water," he said. "So I swim every day."

He gets three or four calls a month. Two weeks a month, he wears camouflage and walks through forests to look for signs of Bigfoot.

Kapa says the last time he saw signs was more than a year ago in Michigan's Hillsdale County.

King, director of the Michigan/Canadian Bigfoot Information Center based in his home in Caro, is a General Motors Corp. press operator. He said he doesn't believe there has been legitimate evidence of a Bigfoot in Michigan since he saw one in 1983 while driving to work.

He said he learned secrets about Bigfoots from Salish Indians who claim to communicate with them. "I'm intelligent enough to know if I know the animal is there, it knows I'm there," he said.

King has an unlisted telephone number because everyone important in Bigfoot research knows how to reach him, he said. Kapa wants as many people as possible to know his hot line number, (517) 843-6302.

Kapa has not seen a Bigfoot, and King said he saw two in 1978 in Kingston, and the one in 1983 south of Caro.

The arguments go back and forth, and they both know it won't end unless someone proves Bigfoots exist and what kind of animals they are.

Bigfoot trackers hit fork in investigation

By GREG LOPEZ
Gannett News Service

Back when Art Kapa and Wayne King were friends, they used to go into the woods to wait all night for Bigfoot.

King would shout something like "Uga-booga-booga," which he learned from Salish Indians who claim to communicate with Bigfoot. Kapa would tell him that if Bigfoot had any sense, it would run the other way. King would open a can of sardines and throw it to bait Bigfoot, and Kapa would say he might as well throw crackers, too.

They would sit on lawn chairs and wait. But each time they ended up in arguments over Bigfoot so loud they would have scared it away.

Kapa and King — two nationally known Bigfoot investigators who live 9 miles apart in Tuscola Coun-

ty in Michigan's Thumb — haven't worked together in almost 10 years.

King, 53, said he believes Bigfoots are an American ape, and Kapa, 57, said he thinks they probably have human characteristics. King said he will shoot to kill it if he sees it, and a group in Dallas offered him millions for its body. Kapa said he will only photograph and videotape it, and if King shoots it, he should be charged with premeditated murder.

Other Bigfoot experts don't agree on who is right.

Kapa, director of the Bigfoot Investigation Center based in his home outside Mayville, has a farm and is retired from the construction business. He keeps his car packed with jugs of water, plaster of Paris and cameras in case he gets a call on his Bigfoot hot line.