

# UFO

## NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

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## Twenty witnesses see UFO "portholes"

Over the past year many local residents and visiting tourists have reported seeing a strange red light hovering in the skies over Gulf Breeze. Truly enough, this red light puts on some spectacular aerial displays, but it never really measured up to the *Sentinel's* First UFO Rule, which is: Did you see the "portholes"?

A great deal of time and equipment has been used in an effort to identify this red light UFO but until a few days ago all that could be said by the witnesses was "I saw a light." On Friday, September 6, 1991, 20 people gathered at the south

end of the Pensacola Bay Bridge. Most were hoping to see anything and the red light was high on their list of possibilities. (It has been seen over 70 times since January 1991.) Witness, Vicki Lyons said, "On this night what we saw was stunning. It has changed my life!"

This is a summary of what a few of the witnesses listed below had to say: In the sky over Gulf Breeze at approximately 60 degrees, a UFO appeared, "portholes" blazing and traveling from south to north. It was so large and close enough that the ring of "portholes" were distinct separate lights.

As it crossed the sky, the main body of the object blocked the stars. At one point, two minutes into the four minute sighting, the UFO slowed to a hover and performed a 360 degree barrel roll. It then proceeded to the north, turned vertical and rapidly accelerated up and out of sight.

Two nights later, Sunday, September 8, 1991, another crowd of residents gathered at the Bay Bridge and were treated to a "porthole" lighted UFO. Many photos were taken along with a video.

## MUFON investigator describes sightings

by Joe Barron  
MUFON Investigator

A large UFO and a smaller one were witnessed by a group of UFO watchers on Sunday night at 8:20 p.m., September 10, 1991 at the south end of the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze bridge. The sighting lasted less than a minute and was described as a small red light and a larger one that faded almost immediately after being sighted. The smaller red light stayed fixed in a permanent position before fading out. The UFO position was approximately 45 degrees on the

horizon in a westerly direction over Old Navy Cove in Gulf Breeze. The watchers consisted mostly of Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) investigators and others who wanted to see a UFO. Photos were taken and will be analyzed for additional information. The size of the smaller UFO was about the same as the light on the water tower; the larger about 10 times bigger. The distance from the sighting area and the size of the UFOs is unknown at this time.

This sighting followed a previous sighting which occurred

on Friday night, September 6, which, as one witness said, filled the entire viewfinder of his camera. It was judged to be very big and fairly close. The energy field, a superstructure of some kind and windows were observed. As is the custom of MUFON investigators, photos were taken and are being analyzed. The sighting area was also the south end of the bridge and the direction of the UFO was over toward East Bay. Your chances of seeing a UFO are very good if you go to the area every night.

## Visitor relates Gulf Breeze sightings

I am here from Birmingham, Alabama visiting with my son and his wife, and have gone with them to skywatch a few times. I have had five sightings since September 1st. The first two sightings with my own eyes, I saw a bright light in the sky and that was not an airplane, star, or helicopter. The light seemed to be pulsing from red to white and got very bright and then dim and then brightened again for about 4 minutes, then would go out just as if a light switch were turned off.

Thursday, September 5th we

had a sighting of a bright thing in the sky that everyone said they could see rows of lights, as if they were portholes. I did not have binoculars and could not see anything but the bright light, the same as the other nights. The next day, Friday the 6th of September I shopped for a pair of binoculars. We skywatched again that night and the most spectacular thing appeared in the sky again and with my inexpensive pair of binoculars I could see everything the others saw. The object floated slowly across the sky and seemed to have rows of

lights all the way around, as it floated slowly it turned on its side and turned all the way over before it turned off its lights.

Again, Sunday, September 8th we went sky watching and the same object or one that looked the same as Friday night's sighting, appeared again with the same rows of bright lights circled around it. This sighting lasted about 45 seconds before it turned off its lights.

Marie Venable



Ring of UFO "portholes" seen by these witnesses: Marsha Athey, Joe Barron, Boots Eckert, Art & Mary Hufford, Vicki Lyons, Anne & Bruce Morrison, Buddy Pollak, Ray & Elise Pollock, Gary Watson, Patti Weatherford, Clayton & Sue Jones, Bland & Carol Pugh, Kathy & Jeff Lawrence.

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL - Sept. 12, 1991 CR: R. Reid

## UFO Copter Flight In Laytonville Area

By Jim Shields

Numerous Laytonville residents phoned the *Observer's* office on Thursday afternoon to report that an unmarked helicopter was operating in residential areas and generally causing disturbances because of low-level flying.

According to one Davidson Lane resident, the navy blue with white trim chopper had come in over her residence at a height "around 25 feet." Other residents reported that the helicopter was "swooping and diving" in the Huntsman Way subdivision.

Another witness said that her children were playing outside when the helicopter hovered over the family home, located near Laytonville just off U.S. 101. The woman said her children told her they saw two men in the helicopter and what looked like guns protruding from the fuselage.

When asked if the helicopter was part of the any Mendocino County Sheriff's marijuana eradication operation, Sheriff's Lieutenant Jay Miller said, "It's not us (CAMP or COMMET). Our helicopter has been on the ground all day and our (marijuana eradication) personnel are in training."

Miller went on to say that he had already received a complaint regarding the mystery chopper from a Laytonville rancher who stated that it had been flying at an extremely low altitude over his property "spooking his cows and calves." Miller described the man as being extremely irate.

Miller said that the Sheriff's Office will continue to investigate the matter and attempt to determine who was flying the helicopter.

## UFOs are alien territory for this author

**S**idney Sheldon admits the UFO angle in his new book, "The Domsday Conspiracy," is a departure from his standard best-selling fare of adventure and romance.

"I just decided to do something about UFOs," says the playwright/screenwriter/television producer and novelist. "It's a fascinating subject and I think it concerns everyone."

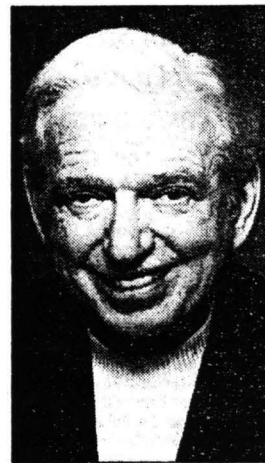
In an addendum to the novel, Sheldon submits snips and snatches of evidence culled from his research supporting the premise that there are aliens, and perhaps they are among us, but he says, as yet he is not entirely convinced that UFOs exist.

On the other hand, he says: "My feeling is that there is something going on out there."

Sheldon says he's curious as to why, though the government says it has no interest in UFOs, "NASA will be spending millions of dollars looking for signs of intelligence. There's a new project, you know, called the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence. Why are they doing that when the government says there ain't no such animal?"

Sheldon, though, will write no more on UFOs. The man who has, worldwide, more than a 100 million books in print, is ready to move on. Which is to say, he is not a man obsessed with aliens.

"My interest lies in making the next book more interesting than the last one," says Sheldon, in his 70s now. "And I already know what the next four books are going to be about." — Sherry Connelly



Sidney Sheldon

# S · P · O · O · K · Y T · A · L · E · S

## The Crop Circle Mystery

Two Local Women Explore Natural Puzzle



Local crop circle investigators Kit McCray (left) and Tere Kristovich. Photo of crop circle formed this summer in England. Entire image was over 400 feet long.

By Stephen Foehr

Tere Kristovich of Louisville and Kit McCray of Boulder went to England for a vacation one summer and became enmeshed in a mystery. They rented a cottage near Glastonbury, not far from the Salisbury Plains, the lovely rolling countryside renowned for ancient earthworks, Stonehenge and the Long Man of Wilmington—a huge prehistoric figure etched into a chalky hillside. Unbeknownst to them, the cottage also was near the Wessex Triangle, where mysterious circles in fields of crops frequently appear.

These unexplained circles and patterns etched in fields of corn, wheat, tall grass and Japanese rice paddies, resemble Anasazi pictographs, early Sumerian writing and pre-Columbian figurines. The patterns are intricate and precise. They never spill out of the fields onto roads, although a few come within inches of a field's boundary. They vary in size from 3-foot circles to 600 feet long. Shapes range from solid circles, concentric circles, triangles, interconnected circles, circles with outer rings, rings with parallel bars and concisely delineated figures.

"We went just to take a vacation," recalled Kristovich, a single mother of five and a practicing psychotherapist. One day she and McCray, mother of three and a registered nurse, walked over to a farmer's wheat field to see the strange patterns that mysteriously appeared overnight.

"The grain was bent at a 90-degree angle and pressed into the ground, but the stems were not broken. The grain kernels were not crushed. The knee-high stalks were braided into spirals and the overall pattern was neat, intricate and precise, as if made by a conscious intelligence," McCray said. "We were fascinated."

The two women began gathering information from area farmers, scientists at the University of Glasgow, British military experts, visiting Japanese physicists and a team from CNES, France's counterpart to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, all of whom have studied the phenomenon for the past 10 years. Everyone had a theory, but no one had a convincing explanation for the patterns.

Kristovich and McCray's vacation became a mission. They delved into the crop circles mystery. After two trips to England, they are now acknowledged as well-versed sources of information for what has become the hot topic of the 1990s, at least in England, surpassing the perennial favorite, UFOs. They've been invited to speak at the First Annual Cereologist Conference (sic) this September in England on the crop circles phenomenon.

When Kristovich and McCray returned to Colorado, they formed Wider Circles, a forum that "addresses topics that push against the edge of our present understanding," according to Kristovich. As part of the forum, they present a slide show on the unexplained patterns and report various findings and theories.

"This mystery makes people think in big ways," Kristovich said. "We don't attempt to provide answers. Collectively we are just beginning to learn how to ask the questions. We don't even know the language yet."

"We want people to expand their frame of reference to accommodate the mystery rather than come up with a premature explanation that limits the possibilities," McCray added. "Curiosity is the key. Definitive answers cut off curiosity. Curiosity creates a wider circle around our commonly held notions of life and the world."

Tennessee, Illinois, Iowa, Canada, Holland, Scotland, Germany, Brazil, the Soviet Union and Japan. In a Sept. 21, 1990 story, the *Kansas City Star* reported 7 such circles within a 50-mile radius of Kansas City, Kan. The largest, near Bates City, was an irregular shape the size of a football field 30 to 50 feet across.

The patterns tend to appear between 3 and 5 a.m., although there have been rare daylight sightings. Eye witnesses report that the plants just lie down, seemingly pushed or pulled by an invisible force. Flickering lights and a trilling, almost electrical sound—like high octave glass bells ringing—sometimes accompany the occurrences.

Though the grain continues to grow for the season, it doesn't grow upward toward the sun as is its natural tendency. However, grain from circles created early in the growing season eventually rises upward again. The stems are braided, but unbroken. Even thick stems, which seem nearly impossible to bend without breaking, remain intact. Tests reveal the stems' cellular structures have been subjected to heat.

The patterns usually develop within 30 seconds to several minutes, but continue to develop over several days, as when a 4-inch ring grew around existing circles. The ring's diameter eventually covered 1,000 feet. Within the circles, radiation levels are lower than those of the adjacent ground and electronic equipment, such as cameras, malfunctions. Some people also experience nausea while standing inside the patterns. The abnormal energy levels inside stop abruptly at the patterns' outer edges.

When a British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) crew attempted to film from inside one circle, the cameras and lights failed, while the sound equipment recorded odd noises from one particular area of the pictograph. Another BBC crew successfully filmed the incident from outside the circle.

Theories regarding the patterns' causes and accompanying effects range from groundwater that creates an electromagnetic current, underground electromagnetic crystalline structures, UFOs and helicopters flying upside down, to hoaxes, crazed animals, fairies, a crop virus that weakens stems and military testing of star wars-type weapons.

There have been hoaxes, but they're easily detected. Humans apparently have not been able to duplicate crop circles without breaking stems or leaving behind other telltale signs. According to Jean-Jacques Velasco of CNES, cited in a December 1990 *Omni* article, the circles may result from military testing of infrared or high-intensity microwave weapons. Top-secret military bases reportedly are located in the area.

The most published scientific explanation is the plasma-vortex theory by Terence Meaden, an atmospheric physicist and founder of the Tornado and Storm Research Organization and the Circles Effect Research Group. In the early morning hours, Meaden theorized, winds start up and ricochet off the hillsides, forming spinning columns of air. When these whirlwinds hit the ground, they weave crops into the tangled patterns of their spiraling winds. Miniature whirlwinds are not uncommon, especially on the lee side of hills, he noted. According to Meaden, a whirlwind's characteristic bulge may look like ball lightning, and its sound may resemble a siren or buzzing.

Kristovich and McCray, however, discount the whirlwind theory. They're more intrigued by the "developing alphabet" theory. "The patterns have become progressively more complex, as if there is an intelligence involved," McCray said. "Perhaps the reason more patterns have appeared in England than elsewhere is because more people are paying attention there. So there is a greater

chance the patterns will be deciphered."

For instance, numerous incidents have been recorded in which investigators spoke aloud a desire to have a circle appear in a particular form or location and their wish manifested a day or two later, according to Kristovich. This apparent interactive ability of the circles tends to support the assumption that intelligent beings are responsible for the formations—perhaps even human thought plays a role in creating the circles.

"There is an extraordinary amount of data leaning heavily toward some form of intelligence," according to Colin Andrews, an electrical engineer and local British government official who has studied the crop circle phenomenon extensively. Andrews and fellow researcher Pat Delgado presented their findings in their book, *Circular Evidence*. However, the scientific community dismissed the book as unscientific, according to *Omni's* December 1990 article.

Yet, suggestions of humor in the way some circles are formed supports the intelligence theory, Kristovich said. "Humor—and only intelligent beings express humor—seems to be an integral part of this mystery." As an example, she cited the case of 19 Japanese scientists who spent 5 weeks in England observing a field with technically sophisticated equipment. No crop circles appeared. However, during the time the scientists were in England, more than 30 pictographs formed in Japan.

It's common for circles to show up on the last day of a circle watch, or in a field directly behind an observation site. "There's friendly, trickster humor at work here," Kristovich noted. "The phenomenon prods us to take ourselves seriously and lightly at the same time. The humor is a key element in enlarging our world view to include expanded possibilities. The circles are like fingers pointing to something, perhaps a deeper truth about life. The question is not just what the circles mean to us, but what they mean about us." ■

If you'd like to learn more about crop circles, Kristovich and McCray will give a presentation on Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 4 of the Coors Events Conference Center (formerly University of Colorado Events Center) at Regent Drive and Colorado Avenue. The cost is \$7. For more information, contact Wider Circles, P.O. Box 485, Louisville, CO 80027, or call 666-7856 or 494-0481.

WORLD-HERALD, Omaha, NE  
Sept. 28, 1991 CR: P. Hicks

### UFO Backers Found Heading for Tel Aviv

Russell, Kan. (AP) — Four UFO believers whose unexplained disappearance worried this small Kansas town for days have turned up at a Washington airport on their way to Israel.

Interviews with the women Thursday confirmed that they left Russell voluntarily, Sheriff Bob Balloun said.

Relatives of the four women had expressed concerns when the women disappeared earlier this month. Balloun said sheriff's deputies spent days chasing leads.

FBI agents interviewed the women as they were preparing to leave for Tel Aviv, Balloun said. They were traveling with Scott Corder, a physician from Ottawa, Kan., who lost his medical license in 1989 for mental unfitness.

One of the women, Donna Butts, 39, has written two books, one with Corder, suggesting that angel-bearing UFOs will rescue chosen survivors from a nuclear holocaust.

TELEGRAM-TRIBUNE, San Luis Obispo, CA  
Sept. 21, 1991 CR: S. Canada

### Crop circles a puzzle

To the editor:

I am glad you ran the AP story about a modern mystery, "Crop Circles ..." (Telegram-Tribune, Sept. 10). Please keep your readers informed about its history and continuing appearances in an objective way.

The decade-old phenomenon in England is a complex one. These strange and irreproducible formations (the British army has tried!), some over one-eighth mile long, and some with "circles" (most are slightly oval) over 400 feet in diameter, have now appeared (some within 3-5 seconds, according to eye-witness testimony) in eight other countries.

Obvious hoaxers claiming credit for these thousands of configurations are not the only newsworthy aspect of this genuine puzzle.

Steve Canada  
Morro Bay

### Cropping Up All Over

Crop circles are not a recent occurrence; sightings were recorded as long ago as 1678. Although concentrated in southwestern England, crop circles have appeared in



## Locals witness more unidentified flying objects

On August 15, 1991 at 8:52 p.m., the south side of the Bay Bridge and the Whisper Bay subdivision were locations where large groups of people witnessed the often seen Gulf Breeze UFO. Five miles apart, these two groups of people photographed and reported the UFO's location, angle of elevation and the exact time of the sighting. With this information, the size of the red glowing object seen on this night was calculated to be approximately 14 feet in diameter.

Unknown to these two groups of witnesses, four retired military officers were also watching the red object from the opposite side of the bridge. Here are a few first person reports of what was seen.

*The following is an account of what I observed on 15 August 1991, 8:53 p.m. at the east end of the Pensacola Bay bridge.*

*At the above time, a light appeared in the sky to the north. When I first picked it up, it was a bright red and appeared to be approaching. Then it stopped and remained in one location for a short time. I was viewing the light with both the naked eye and a pair of binoculars. After remaining stationary for a brief time it then moved slightly to my left, then stopped. After a few moments it then seemed to rise. Then the red light started to fade and became white, then seemed to start to streak to the north and blinked out.*

*Although I did not time it, my guess the duration of the contact was between 45 sec. and 1 1/2 min.*

*The light was not like any aircraft light I have ever seen. That said, after 26 years in the Air Force. It was deep red in color and seemed to pulsate. It was also larger than aircraft lights. The movement from stationary to horizontal, then to rising, then stationary again is not typical of normal air traffic (helicopters not withstanding).*

*The above is my best recollection of the event.*

Gary E. Crowther  
LtCol, USAF (Ret)  
Ft. Walton Beach, FL

*We were sitting on the benches at the end of the 3-mile bridge waiting for some friends to meet us. We saw these people with cameras set up and assumed they were star watching. This guy comes over to us and asks us if we were UFO watching. We say "no, are you?" He tells us that they see it and it's a big white light. Then he started walking away and out of nowhere "bam!" is this white light. It then got small and very, very red. It stayed like that for maybe two minutes. It got very faint, and then it got big and snow white again and was just gone.*

Becky Bailey  
Pensacola, FL

*On this date, Aug. 15, 1991, I was at Wayside Park at about 8:50 p.m. I saw the neatest thing*

*I have ever seen. I looked up and saw a bright white light then it turned red and then white - WILD! It was the*

*greatest thing I have ever seen, a real UFO!*  
Tammy Dawson  
Pensacola, FL

ADVOCATE, Victoria, TX - Aug. 7, 1991

## Nurse claims she spotted UFO

CLAYTON MAXWELL  
Advocate Staff Writer

Cynthia Anderson, a nurse at Citizens Medical Center, is convinced she spotted an unidentified flying object from a window of her home early Tuesday morning.

"I've never seen a UFO and didn't even believe in them until last night," said Anderson. "After seeing that, I definitely believe in them."

She said the object first appeared as a red, green and blue flashing light at 12:35 a.m. in the sky southwest of her residence at 802 Loma Vista.

A policeman who investigated

suggested that the colored lights could be burn-off flares at Du Pont reflecting off a star, she said.

After seeing the lights through the window, Anderson, her fiancé and her daughter went outside to take a better look.

Using binoculars, the three could see a round disc zigzagging through the sky with the colors flashing out like laser beams, she said.

Anderson said they watched the object from 12:35 a.m. to about 2:00 a.m. as it moved to several different locations in the sky.

Officer Ron Van Sooten of the Victoria Police Department

came to the home just after 1 a.m. He filed a report saying only that Anderson had reported a UFO.

His report did not mention that he had seen the object, although Anderson said that he had.

The officer did not look through the binoculars, she said.

"It was something I'd never seen before in my life," said Anderson.

It was not a star, plane, or helicopter, she said.

Anderson said her dog in the back yard was very excited, barking and running around.

"I was stone cold sober," said Anderson.

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL - Aug. 15, 1991 CR: R. Reid

## UFO photographed again by tourists

UFO sightings at the foot of the Bay Bridge continue to draw tourists to Gulf Breeze. As the sun begins to set, the crowd grows at the south end of the three mile bridge. Here are sighting reports from two of the welcome visitors to Gulf Breeze.

*My husband and I have been vacationing in the Pensacola area since August 4. After having read Mr. Walter's book some time ago, we were hoping to get a chance at a "sighting". Well, on our last night, August 7th, we saw it!*

*At approximately 9:08, over what I'm told is Butcher Pin Point, we saw a bright red light*

*that appeared to be heading in our direction. As it hovered over the bay, it's color changed from red to white and back again, two maybe three times. As it was doing this, it appeared to go in a northern direction and, after about four minutes, faded out. As with the UFOs, we will return!*

Leslie and Leo Monteverde  
Arlington, Virginia

*We arrived in Gulf Breeze last Sunday morning. This is our second trip here since last August.*

*Being long time students of the UFO mystery, we wanted to check out the "Gulf Breeze*

*Sightings" and talk to some of the people here. While staked out on a night watch the first of the week, we met the local UFO enthusiasts and MUFON members.*

*On Wednesday last, August 7th, we, along with a large group, witnessed a spectacular sighting over Escambia Bay and it was photographed by all.*

*We wish to thank all the good folks down here that made us welcome.*

Wayne and Sylvia Summerlin  
501 Sterling Ave  
Chattanooga, TN 37405

DAILY NEWS PRESS, Glendale, CA - Aug. 26, 1991

## UFO believers turn to hypnotherapy

### Close encounters in the mind's eye

By Jennifer Burry  
Glendale News-Press

While most people would tell anyone who believes they were abducted by aliens to just forget about it, Yvonne Smith helps people remember.

A hypnotherapist by trade, the La Crescenta resident heads a UFO abductee support group and specializes in helping people who believe they were abducted by aliens.

Smith said she gets calls every week from new clients, who say about the same thing in their opening remarks, "I know this sounds crazy . . ."

Her clients run the gamut from blue collar workers to professionals and even include an airline pilot who fears going public about a UFO sighting because he might lose his job.

After an initial meeting with clients, Smith sets up hypnotherapy sessions at her La Canada office, where she hypnotizes her clients and takes them back mentally to the point when they believe the abduction took place.



K. Rene Barnett, left, and Yvonne R. Smith use hypnotherapy to help people remember their encounters with aliens

### Local UFO expert gets TV access

Dr. Franklin Ruehl, Glendale's UFO expert, recently taped his 128th show of "Mysteries Beyond the Other Dimension" with special guest and former "Real People" host Fred Willard.

The show, taped last week, kicks off Ruehl's eighth season on United Cable's public access channel.

Ruehl said segments of the recent show will be aired on Willard's new network show titled "Access America," which will also feature Ruehl as a special guest.

### UFO walks in the Foothills See Back Page

Ruehl added that has also been contacted by several other talk show hosts to appear as a guest.

Last week, Ruehl was in Chicago taping a segment as a guest on the new "Jenny Jones" network talk show, which will air Sept. 16 locally on channel 4.

A segment he recently taped for Comedy Central Network is also expected to air in September.

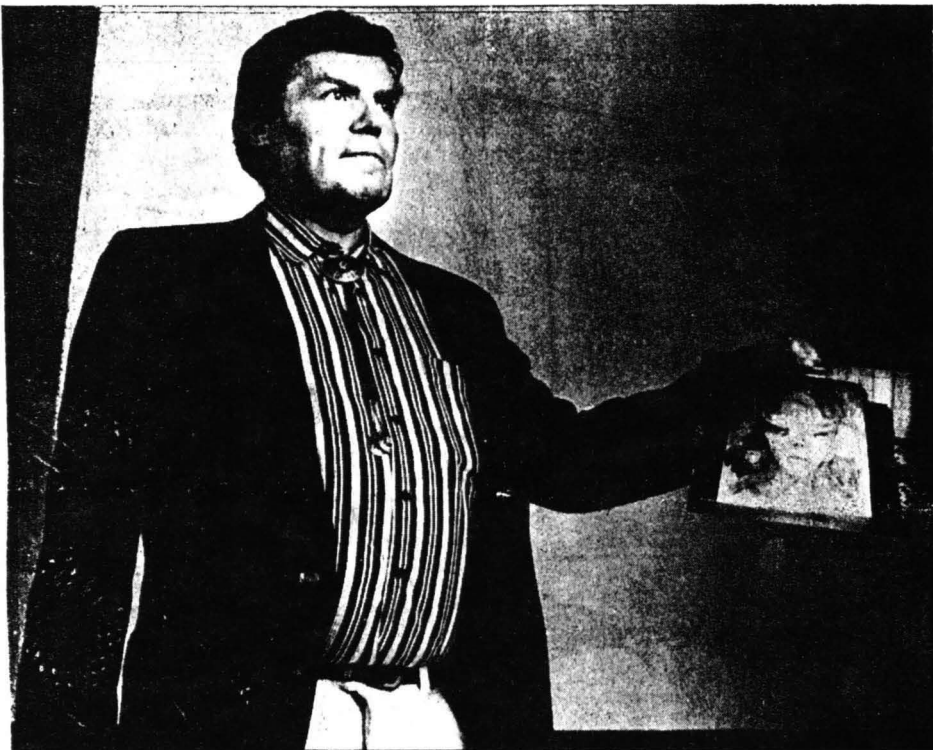


Photo by Dan Koeck of The News

**UFO MAN** — University of North Dakota professor John Salter holds a picture of a humanoid that Salter says resembles one he and his son encountered March 20, 1988, in southwestern Wisconsin.

## 'Close encounter' brings fame to UND professor

By **FRANK RZECZKOWSKI**  
Daily News Staff Writer

John Salter may be the best known professor at the University of North Dakota — thanks to a 1988 "close encounter" with a UFO.

"If someone told me 3½ years ago I'd be talking on this topic I wouldn't have believed them," Salter, chairman of the Indian Studies department at the Grand Forks school, said in a speech at the Minot Kiwanis Club Tuesday.

His encounter has been recreated as part in a CBS special on UFOs which aired in May and will be rebroadcast in the fall. His experience has also been described in articles in newspapers ranging from the National Enquirer to the student newspaper at UND.

"If I got worried about what other people thought, I wouldn't have done the things in life I did," said Salter, who was active in the civil rights movement in Mississippi in the early 1960s.

Salter's encounter occurred on March 20, 1988, in an isolated region of southwestern Wisconsin while he and his son, John III, were en route from Grand Forks to Mississippi and Louisiana.

For roughly 85 minutes on that

spring evening the Salters experienced a form of double amnesia, during which, Salter said, he and his son were examined by extraterrestrials.

Memories of the event have since returned to Salter and his son in flashbacks, with complete agreement on details of the encounter.

The Salters' descriptions of the humanoids — usually short, with large round faces and large eyes — also mesh well with descriptions of humanoids obtained from other close encounter participants.

Since the event, Salter said he has documented over 20 physical changes he has experienced, including accelerated fingernail growth and improved immunity and circulation.

Salter's experiences have brought him a degree of fame — or notoriety — which he said he has neither sought nor attempted to avoid.

But Salter says interest in UFOs is growing — and going mainstream.

The August issue of the staid Atlantic Monthly magazine will carry an article about UFOs, and former President Jimmy Carter was one of 12 people to sign an affidavit concerning a UFO sighting.

But perhaps the best evidence is the success of Salter's class "UFOs, ETs, and Close Encounters" at UND.

Salter said he expected perhaps 30 students to sign up for the class when it was introduced, but Salter had to place limits on the size of the class.

The course uses film, videotape and books to study the UFO phenomenon, and place the Salters' and other people's encounters with UFOs in perspective.

Some 165 students are signed up for the fall edition of the course, Salter said.

"As a rule of thumb, 90 percent (of UFO sightings) can be attributed to conventional explanations," Salter said, but the remaining 10 percent reveals a large number of genuine sightings.

And there is one other feature that Salter's experience shares with other close encounters — the contacts are all friendly in nature.

"There's no question about the extraterrestrial nature of many UFOs and their friendly nature," he said.

"It's real — it happened to me, and it's happening to a lot of other people."

VALLEY TIMES, Pleasanton, CA

Aug. 16, 1991

## As weird objects light up the sky, police phones buzz

By **Geralyn McBride**  
Staff writer

PLEASANTON — Imagine if you will the denizens of the sleepy town of Pleasanton looking to the night sky and noticing something completely different. Red, glowing, objects. White lights. They rise, only to see the objects hover and disappear.

On Wednesday night, more than 50 people thought they had entered ... The Twilight Zone.

Police officers were among the throng of people who called police Wednesday with tales of their close encounters with the unidentified flying objects, which many described as red, glowing balloon-like objects with white flarelike lights attached.

Pleasanton police Lt. Steve McCollum said one witness saw the two balloonlike objects, which were about the size of weather balloons, rising up into the sky from the Upper Longview area along the Pleasanton Ridge at about 11:30 p.m. He added that other sightings, mostly in the southern part of town, occurred at about 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

"We think there were at least four of these balloonlike objects. It wasn't a case of different sightings of the same thing," McCollum said. "A lot of the officers saw it and said it looked like a red light in the sky and in some cases it appeared to be almost still. It appeared to come from the ridge area and blew east with the wind and then disappeared."

But what Pleasanton residents and others reported around the Bay Area as UFOs were likely part of a meteor shower, which astronomers said was expected but not with the intensity that apparently occurred.

Helen Hatfield, who lives on Kottinger Drive, said her son-in-law called her about 9 p.m. and told her to go outside.

"It looked like a big, red ball of fire, and it was floating across the sky and then it hovered," Hatfield said. "When I looked at it through field glasses, it looked oblong and larger in front, and it looked like little lights going around the whole thing. It wasn't in any hurry because it stayed around for 10 or 15 minutes and then went straight into sky."

Hatfield added that she heard the object give off a popping sound, which was followed by white sparks coming from it.

Dana Mesa said she viewed the object at about 8:30 p.m. from her home on Foothill Road.

"It was weird. It was bright red and flew super slow and then stopped and dropped, but still stayed in the air. It made a popping sound, but it didn't explode. I called the radio station KSAN last night, and they said I was crazy. But it came from over the ridge so I thought someone else might have seen over on the other side," Mesa said.

Casey Hunt, who lives on Paseo Del Cajon, said he viewed the objects through his telescope at about 11:30 p.m.

"I saw two red glowing objects way up in the sky, higher than a plane would fly. One disappeared, so I got the telescope, and it looked like one red dot was circling around the other object real fast. It didn't make any noise. It was as high as the stars and then they just disappeared after awhile."

ADVOCATE, Victoria, TX - Aug. 8, 1991

## More UFO sightings reported

By **CLAYTON MAXWELL**  
Advocate Staff Writer

Two more people have reported seeing the same unidentified flying object that was described by Cynthia Anderson in an article Wednesday in The Victoria Advocate.

Mitch Walters of Victoria said he saw a UFO matching Anderson's description, an object of red, green, and blue lights flashing in sequence. He said that there were a couple of seconds between each flash.

He and a friend spotted the strange object flashing in the distant northeastern sky last Saturday night sometime between 11 p.m. and 1 a.m. At the time, the two observers were in Copano Bay at Bayside, a town located about 60 miles southwest of Victoria.

Walters said that the UFO moved erratically through the sky, zigzagging just as Anderson had described.

"It didn't move in any pattern as an aircraft would," said Walters. "I have no idea what it was. I don't try to analyze it, really. I thought it was interesting."

Walters pointed out that it is a UFO, however, simply because it is an object that has yet to be identified.

The second caller reported seeing this odd flashing light in Victoria on Tuesday around midnight the same night that Anderson spotted it. This observer wished to remain anonymous, but she confirmed the previous description.

She, like Anderson, claimed total sobriety.



# Famous UFO episode recalled

Woman who detailed 1961 alien encounter disparages 'flakes'

By David Tirrell-Wysocki

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (AP) — After nearly three decades of being the nation's number one UFO victim, Betty Hill is retiring from public appearances and interviews about her "Interrupted Journey," partly because she says too many flakes are making UFO reports.

It doesn't faze her that many people think she is one of them.

"I'm not affected one way or another whether a person believes or doesn't believe," she said. "Sometimes I wish there weren't so many who believed. I wouldn't get so many phone calls."

She gets calls and letters and has spoken around the world about what she and her husband, Barney, reported happened to them on the night of Sept. 19, 1961, on a deserted road in New Hampshire's White Mountains.

After arriving home in Portsmouth on a drive from Montreal, the Hills were puzzled by Betty's torn and stained dress, Barney's scuffed shoes, shiny spots on their car, stopped watches, a broken binocular strap and no memory of two hours of the drive.

Under hypnosis three years later, they recounted being kidnapped and examined by beings from another solar system.

The episode was kept quiet until the following year, when a Boston newspaper obtained transcripts of the hypnosis sessions and ran front-page stories. The Hills became celebrities. The book "Interrupted Journey" and a television movie later told their story.

Barney died in 1969. Betty continued working for the state welfare department until 1975. But she has spent much of her time lecturing about the incident, researching UFOs and watching lights in the skies.

She plans to back out of the limelight after a UFO conference in Portsmouth this month marking the 30th anniversary of the encounter.

"I'm retiring because of my age, my disappointment in the way the UFO field is headed, and I want a little more leisure time for myself," said Hill, 72. "I'm tired of traveling."

Too many people with "flaky ideas, fantasies and imaginations" are making UFO reports, she said.

"If you don't know the answers to something, you can always dream them up, whether they are true or not," she said. "A lot of the UFO field certainly is not sticking to facts."

Hill isn't perturbed by skeptics such as Philip Klass, a long-time writer and editor for Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine. Klass said that in 25 years, he has never heard of or investigated a UFO report that didn't have an earthly explanation.

"You simply cannot take everything she says as gospel," he said of Hill.

In his writings about the Hills, Klass said he and the Hills' psychiatrist, Dr. Benjamin Simon, concluded the Hills were frightened by a bright light, probably Jupiter, that seemed to follow them. Simon has since died.

"But when it came to the story about the alleged abduction, Betty had many, many more details and Barney had only a few, which suggested it was not a shared experience," Klass said in a telephone interview from Washington.

He said Simon suggested Barney learned his account after hearing Betty describe vivid dreams she had of a UFO abduction.

According to Klass, Simon noted that the



BETTY HILL holds a plaster bust, "Junior," depicting the aliens she reported kidnapped her and her husband on the night of Sept. 19,

1961, in New Hampshire's White Mountains. Hill says she is planning to retire from speaking about the episode. (AP Photo)

account contains inconsistencies found in dreams, such as a kidnapper telling Betty he had no concept of time, but later saying "Wait a minute," as the Hills were being released.

The two hours the Hills lost doesn't surprise Klass, especially because they drove onto side roads in their fright.

A crude star map, drawn, Betty said, from a map she saw in the spaceship, is "nonsense," and would be like giving someone a paper with dots representing Boston and Albany and asking them to glance at a map, then mark dots to represent the rest of the capitals in the East, Klass said.

As for Barney's scuffed shoes, Klass asks, "Do you know where you got every scuff mark?"

He said it would have been difficult for Hill to accept that her experience was a dream after telling people about it. Then came the book and movie.

"I'm not suggesting they conjured up this story for that purpose," Klass said, but after

then, "there was no turning back for Betty."

"We all live in a country, fortunately, where we are free to believe what we want. If she wants to believe that, bless her. If she is withdrawing from the UFO movement because there are too many flakes ... on that she and I can certainly agree," Klass said.

Klass said the Hills helped set the stage for today's "UFO cult" because their account was the first to gain widespread credibility.

Hill brushed off Klass' criticism, calling him "a nobody who has tried to make himself known by debunking UFOs."

"I have plenty of evidence that it happened," she said. "Philip Klass has no evidence that it did not happen."

She denies telling Barney of her dreams. "He never knew anything about my dreams until we went to hypnosis," she said.

Hill still has the binoculars and torn dress. She also keeps a plaster bust of the kidnapper — she calls him Junior — in her house.

She plans to mark the anniversary by cruising around, looking at the sky, as usual.

## UFO's

DAILY NEWS, Longview, WA - Sept. 19, 1991 CR: M. Dobbs

### Pair reports seeing brightly lit objects dart across sky

By Kathleen Reinholdt  
The Daily News

Two Longview men swear they're not telling pie in the sky stories when they describe their sighting Sunday of unidentified flying objects.

After a day of archery hunting near Mount St. Helens, Darrin Dockstader and Craig Ellenbolt said they saw three or four brightly lit, hovering aircraft silently darting across the night sky, momentarily disappearing and then popping up again.

"I didn't ever really believe in this stuff," Ellenbolt said. "But it was a little too weird."

Certain that the peculiar objects weren't planes or helicopters,

Dockstader said he and his buddy sat in their pickup for about a half-hour watching the strange sight.

"They were moving back and forth like they were hovering in the sky," Dockstader said. "They looked like they were blinking toward us. It looked like the thing was spinning the whole time."

Both men say they've never thought much about UFOs and figure people might consider them hoaxers or wonder what they'd been imbibing out in the woods.

"We were totally sober," Ellenbolt said.

"You could tell it wasn't an airplane. It was obvious," Dockstader said. "It flew clear across the sky 20 times faster than

an airplane could fly."

"And I hate Star Trek myself," Ellenbolt said. "I would never dream this up myself."

The two said there were several other hunters coming out of the woods around 9 p.m., the time of their sighting. Maybe other people also saw the UFOs and could back up their claims, they said.

Although the Federal Aviation Agency and the Air Traffic Control Center, both in the Seattle area, take several reports a year of strange sky sightings, spokesmen at both places Monday said they hadn't taken any reports Sunday.

But, they said, they'd be glad to hear from Dockstader and Ellenbolt and add their reports to the files.

EVENING TRIBUNE, San Diego,  
CA - Sept. 19, 1991

● PUERTO RICAN police complained that UFO buffs, extraterrestrial hunters and the curious are bringing litter and crime to a lagoon near Lajas where UFOs supposedly fly by. The gathering of large groups around the Cartagena lagoon to look for UFOs has produced a rash of vandalism, littering and public drunkenness. For some time, residents of Lajas and Cabo Rojo near the lagoon have reported seeing flying saucers and extraterrestrials during the night.



BY BEN FENWICK

Anyone who can read and has been through a supermarket checkout counter has seen headlines like these while perusing the usual lineup of newsstand tabloids:

SPACE ALIENS VISIT ELVIS' GRAVE!  
*'We Heard His Music on the Space Radio  
 and Just Wanted to Boogie With the King.'*  
*Sad Alien Critter Tells Dumbfounded Bystanders*

Jean Waller, the president of the Oklahoma chapter of the Mutual UFO Network, MUFON, has seen those stories, too. She's heard the jokes and knows the tune.

Yet, despite a lot of skepticism about the kind of work her organization does, Waller and her team of UFO investigators are

methodically and persistently collecting information, accounts and as much evidence as possible of the state's UFO sightings.

And probably none too soon. Just as a new wave of UFO and other-worldly sightings seem to be increasing across the globe, so have such sightings manifested themselves in Oklahoma. Most recently, there have been the "Ghost Lights," crop circles and — hold onto your beanie — alien abductions of Oklahoma residents.

Waller and MUFON claim they've documented and collected in Norman, Oklahoma City and other parts of the state evidence of "crop circles," mysteriously appearing ringed areas in fields thought to be associated with flying saucer landings.

Furthermore, Waller believes we may have on our hands in the Oklahoma City area about a dozen or so alien abductees — people who have been contacted, captured and, yes, probed by the visitors on UFOs.

UFOs, not because she believed in them at the time, but because it seemed like a good topic for the assignment.

Her first extensive investigation was for that speech. Two UFOs were seen that year in Norman. They were described by witnesses as hamburger-shaped, with lights in the middle that went blinking around and around.

The alleged craft were seen flying in the general direction of Tinker Air Force Base. Later, a similar UFO was photographed in Tulsa, Waller said, then even later seen in Illinois and New Hampshire.

After looking into the incident and describing it to the class, Waller said she convinced most of them that UFOs indeed were possible. She also convinced the instructor to give her an A for her speech.

"I ended up convincing myself, too," Waller said.

Waller became president of the Oklahoma MUFON in 1977. At the time, it had only four members. Now, MUFON boasts 43 members statewide. More than half of those have joined in the last year, a testimony to the upsurge in the popularity of UFO studies.

Nowadays, Waller and MUFON have been pursuing a new direction, the latest "fads" in UFO investigation, for the want of a better word — crop circles and alien abductions. Right here in River City, insists Waller, there have been several cases of both.

Crop circles long have been a staple of UFO investigations. Areas in open fields, like wheat fields, have been found and investigated as possible sites where a UFO touched or hovered close to the ground. What is often found by investigators is a circular patch of ground, usually more than 10 feet across, where no vegetation will grow.

While in past years there were only a few dozen such circles that showed up from time to time throughout the world, that number has increased, well, astronomically in the past three years. In England, the number of circles has increased from 112 reported in 1988 to more than 1,200 in 1990. The sightings have gone from nearly zip in the U.S. to at least a score or so, just as they began in England.

Right now, the crop circles in England are large and very complicated patterns, with rings, circles and other designs. A curiosity about them is they appear overnight, according to the reports, and are made in such a way that the crops are not crushed or pressed down, but appear to have suddenly grown sideways.

One such famous pattern, in Alton-Barnes, England, ended up on the cover a recent Led Zeppelin compact disc boxed set. Most recently, according to a recent report on NBC-TV's "Today," some youthful pranksters were caught creating a crop circle using cardboard and a string — but the jury's still out on the subject.

The designs in the U.S. are still crude, like the earlier English circles.

As the reports in Oklahoma first came in, MUFON sent 500 letters to local sheriffs' departments throughout the state requesting information on any reported circles. According to MUFON's newsletter, MUFONEWS, crop circles have been investigated by the group in Edmond, Norman, Foss and Fargo, Okla.

While they seem kind of boring — just circles in the grass, really — MUFON is excited by the advent of crop circles as a new aspect related to the UFO phenomenon.

"The great thing about crop circles is they give us something physical to work with," Waller said.

The ones generated locally are small. In Norman, both cases, according to the file in MUFONEWS, appear to be chemically related.

"Certainly, these spots are not typical of UFO-related circles or pictograms," the account states.

"The cause is undetermined, but we suspect some sort of chemical infestation."

Suspect is a key word there. Soil samples cost \$500 apiece to analyze.

"The problem is, we don't have the money to go out and test these things the way we want to," Waller said.

By far, the most interesting case in Oklahoma, Waller said, is the Fargo crop circles. The three circles, sized 10 feet, 25 feet and 31 feet across, were discovered by a farmer on June 16 while he was planting crops.

# Close Encounters of the Oklahoma Kind

Nothing would grow in those areas. A pH test done on the site by the Oklahoma State University Agronomy Department found no difference between the circles and the surrounding ground that would support life.

The three circles were in a triangular pattern in relation to one another, with two on a direct east-west line, Waller said.

"The really odd part is that the electromagnetic energy fields is equal in each," Waller said.

"The lines cross right smack-dab in the middle of each circle."

Magnetic lines? Well, these are measured with coathangers. Waller explained. The coathangers are straightened, then bent at right angles, then held like a pistol. When one supposedly walks through a magnetic field, the coathangers line up and point along these, just as a compass points north.

Neither a compass or a watch, however, showed any unusual effect when placed in the circle.

"There was no obvious disturbance to the dirt (a gray-brown, sandy soil), no pod marks or holes, no swirled marks or wind-strewn areas," the report states.

Conclusion: "This is a good case and deserves additional research," the report states.

If the crop circles seem ho-hum, the abduction cases don't.

Jean E. Byrne, a registered nurse and massage therapist, is Oklahoma MUFON's hypnotherapist. Having lived in the area for two years, Byrne has worked with Waller on what the two believe to be eight abduction cases.

"Most of these are people who feel that something has happened to them," Byrne said.

"They either have a gap of missing time they can't account for, or they remember something 'too real to be a dream.'"

Such was the case of an Oklahoma City attorney, Byrne said. The man, whom she and MUFON have kept anonymous, claimed his abduction occurred in the mid-1960s, while he was a surveyor in a national forest of the Pacific Northwest.

For years the man carried the incident as a span of time he couldn't remember, Byrne said. He had been surveying through a largely unpopulated section of forest, camping out at night under the stars.

One night, according to the man's account, a full moon came up, but shined so hot the man had to kick off his covers. After that was a period of several hours the man could not remember.

It was during that period, according to Byrne, that the man later recounted under hypnosis that he was abducted.

"It sometimes takes a good while for it to come out. It's usually very terrifying for someone who has experienced it," Byrne said.

"That's the classic abduction experience. It's not anything anybody would want to go through."

Byrne said it took many sessions before the man could tell them what happened to him. He

(continued on page 7)



Oklahoma City, OK - Sept. 11, 1991)

would be put into a trance by Byrne, then asked to look behind a curtain where he would see what had happened to him. It took a very long time for him to look behind it because "they" had told him he wasn't allowed to tell.

Waller and Byrne finally convinced the attorney to look behind the curtain and describe what he saw by telling him that if someone had done something to him without his consent, it was against the law. The man finally looked.

What the attorney alleged had happened to him was that the large, round light was, in fact, some kind of spacecraft. Out of it came small, gray beings with bulbous heads and large, round eyes.

Somehow, the beings immobilized him completely. He was floated into the spacecraft. Once inside, he was poked, prodded and examined by the creatures, who all the while interrogated him telepathically.

At one point, the beings placed a device of some kind on his genitals and extracted semen.

Afterward, the man was returned to the camp. But the beings apparently "programmed" him, Byrne said, not to tell anyone about the experience.

For years, Byrne said, the man complied, but still suffered from the shock of the incident. He contacted MUFON after seeing the cover of writer Whitley Strieber's book, "Communion," in which Strieber claims to have had a similar experience. He reportedly shook uncontrollably upon seeing the bulbous-eyed creature depicted on the cover.

Byrne said the man's experience has been repeated among a number of forest service workers — after all, they're perfect subjects, alone in the wilderness and away from witnesses.

Strieber's book was compared to "The Amityville Horror," a haunted house book that was purported to be a true-life experience. An investigation by other authorities into the facts of the case later concluded that many aspects of the book were made up by the author. Many now have drawn similar conclusions about "Communion."

Byrne said that while she's not sure if it was actually a flying saucer the man was picked up by, and that there were real space aliens involved (Byrne hasn't ever seen a UFO, either), she's certain that the man has been through some kind of trauma. His symptoms seem to be honest manifestations of Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome, a behavior attributed to the survivors of a trauma such as combat, rape, a failed murder attempt and so on, Byrne said.

"I definitely believe there is something going on," Byrne said.

Such symptoms as missing blocks of time are also attributable to periods of childhood sexual abuse. The adult chooses not to remember something rather than face the intolerable facts of a trauma.

After all, the "aliens" overpowered the person, did something sexual to him (in Strieber's book, the beings inserted a device in his anus), then told him not to tell anyone, the typical elements of a child-abuse scenario. Could it be that the "abduction" is a means of the traumatized person's memory "breaking the news gently" so it won't be so painful?

It's possible, says Byrne, but she claims the facts don't fit.

"It doesn't seem to fit the diagnostic criteria for it," Byrne said.

According to one study published in a New Jersey psychological journal reprinted in the MUFON newsletter, many people claiming to have UFO experiences have, in fact, been victims of

childhood sexual or physical abuse.

But the study also found that they had no problem remembering the details of such abuse.

"...It is perplexing that the victim consciously recalls ... the abuse which is supposed to be intolerable for him or her to recall and raises the interesting question of why the repression of an intolerable trauma is completely unaccomplished and the trauma coexists with its protective screen memory," the journal article states.

Byrne said that maybe there's a similarity to rape trauma with abductees because getting picked up by space aliens, immobilized and being physically probed happens to be a lot like rape.

"If there is one psychological thing they do have in common, it's that they get paranoid," Byrne said.

"Wouldn't you? But the thing is, that wasn't there before."

**K**en Memoli, a sculptor, is also a researcher for MUFON. In his spare time, he pores over reports, books and newspaper accounts of the UFO phenomenon. He's also done some sculpting work for MUFON, re-creating a small statuette of a "Typical Gray." The Typical Gray is the short, big-headed alien described by Strieber and others claiming to be abductees.

Memoli says, sure, nobody believes all these stories about UFOs — up front, that is. When friends of his find out he does work for MUFON, they make jokes. But then, sooner or later, they tell him about a UFO they once saw.

"Everyone knows somebody who has seen a UFO," Memoli said.

"I'd say at least 10 percent of everyone I know has seen one. When that many people tell you they've had that kind of experience, then something is going on."

The fact is, Memoli said, nobody believes that other people would believe them if they said they saw a flying saucer. And they'd be right, he said.

"We could have one land here right now," Memoli said, pointing out Waller's window to the street outside.

"You, me and Jean could all go outside and see it. But nobody would believe it. It might end up on 'Hard Copy.'"

And that's the crux of the problem, Waller said. The solution? The government could cough up the extensive files it has on the subject, he said.

Yes, Waller and Memoli believe there's a government cover-up. The case most pointed to most often is the reported crash of a UFO in Roswell, N.M., in 1948. Newspapers at the time reported the incident, citing government authorities who told them it was a flying saucer.

This is the one in which alien bodies were supposedly found and put on ice, later to be dissected by government researchers. The government later claimed, so the accounts go, that it was all a misunderstanding, that the "crash" was a broken weather balloon.

Waller says too many other witnesses say otherwise, and they are still coming forward.

Yet, Waller said, when MUFON requested copies of the original documents of the incident under the Freedom of Information Act, all they got was blacked-out pieces of paper.

"If it really was a weather balloon, then why won't they declassify it?" Waller asked.

Waller says she and MUFON will continue with their work until they finally get those answers. And if — or when — the day finally comes that she meets space aliens face to face, she knows just what she'll say.

"The first thing I'd ask them is why did they keep it a secret," she said.

Dear Editor:

I live in Foley, Alabama, and am amazed at the apparent apathy in Gulf Breeze toward the UFO phenomenon.

While UFO sightings are being reported worldwide, you seem to be right smack in the middle of the most concentrated activity on earth, and it's causing hardly a yawn locally.

My wife and I learned there was a local MUFON group in March of this year, and went on our first "sky watch" with them at Shoreline Park on April 9th. We had a sighting of the "red light" that first night, which lasted for some six to eight minutes. The time and location was confirmed by a "Non UFO Family" of three who were on the K-Mart parking lot on Highway 98. It was almost directly over them, looked "huge and heavy, was revolving, with portholes and lights." Since then, on our twice or three-times a week visits, we've had 16 more sightings, each one absolutely different from all the others, including last night, September 5th at 8:10 p.m., when there was no red or white light, just a huge silver-colored craft with portholes, clearly visible for two to three minutes to the WNW from 3-mile bridge. Every sighting has been videotaped by 1 to 4 individuals, and photographed by from one to a dozen or more using 35 mm cameras. Never have we heard a sound made by any "light" or craft. Some photographs of these "lights" have been magnified and show a definite, distinct craft.

Just during this year, Ohlmeyer Productions sent their Los Angeles crew to Gulf Breeze, filming for "America's Best Kept Secrets" which was shown as an ABC Network Special, and filmed a good sighting. They were accompanied by a former NASA Systems Specialist for verification. Also this year, Paramount Films (now Henry Winkler Productions) sent a large crew in for several days to film the "lights" and interview locals for a special which was scheduled for FOX Network showing in October. Also, NIPPON TV, Japan's largest network, had quite a crew in for several days. They had a successful sighting with a high-powered telescopic zoom camera from the Gulf Breeze Holiday Inn pool area, which lasted for almost two minutes. "Ahhh, ahhh, ahhh" was all they could say. This will be aired as part of a 2-hour special in Japan in November, and they've promised to send the local MUFON group a film of their entire show after it's shown over there.

Just since April, while sky-watching in Gulf Breeze, we've met and been joined by visitors from England, Germany, Japan, Canada, Hawaii, the Philippine Islands, and Puerto Rico, as well as groups from at least a dozen states, and from all parts of Florida.

What I'm trying to say is that Gulf Breeze is becoming famous worldwide, and your powers that be seem unconcerned, or just won't accept what's happening there. You are probably RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT THAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE WORLD IN THIS CENTURY. Think about that! The rest of the world is.

Clopton Jones

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### UFO ABDUCTION UPDATE

Most persons found my attempted explanation of the abduction enigma thought provoking. I am a recognized expert (we are only a handful) with 26 years experience. I say to you again that this is not a huge mistake or some kind of silly joke by me or the editor who neutrally publishes Letters to the Editor. I do emphatically state that things are going on that your government should have told you about years ago. One day you are in for a monstrous shock.

Only in recent years have we discovered the extent (thousands) of lost time abduction. Currently I have been trying to help 8 abductees understand the riddles in their lives. With those out of state I can only afford mail and tape contact. Here is a brief sketch on some of them;

Cassie, New Mexico — Lost times and has the abduction scars. Things have got so bad that when the lights pace them in the desert, her husband looks the other way and hums religious songs. He is an ex-policeman and now a minister. She is Indian and it is striking how often we find those of even partial Indian heritage prone to such events. Once when they went to picnic at the foot of an inaccessible table-like mountain called Enchanted Mesa, a small Ufonaut was seen walking and a silver disk took off from the top. Near them at the base a cow stood frozen-like for 3 hours.

Fred, Florida — In the service and would not shut his mouth about an overseas abduction experience so now he is on sick leave and must regularly visit a military hospital for tests.

Judy, Illinois — Square patches of skin removed age 2 or 3. Age 7 or 8 arose one morning with "Y" shaped scar under lip. Missing time period in high school. As an adult committed to mental hospital for short period due

to mental radio or mechanical computer-like voice giving her messages. An unknown percentage of abductees encounter this. A few have went off the deep end like the insurance man in Dallas Texas who leaped out his ninth story apartment window. I have had 5 afflicted with this among my 22 abductees.

Louis, Calif — Went from poor French boy to be a famous astrologist in California. In his first lost time abduction he awoke in his attic room to find six 4-foot beings around his bed. Terror stricken, he hid under the covers. When he peeped out he found one of the being's monkey-like face 3 inches from his face. He lost consciousness. He has never slept in a dark room since. In second abduction a disk hovered overhead flashing a red beam that stopped the auto he and his brother were in. In the third incident Louis encountered two strange 7-foot-tall Nordic-like beings in an isolated inn in the French Alps. One being induced terrible pain in the head of Louis, knew his thoughts, and had him pick playing cards from a deck. They then vanished mysteriously.

Al, rural Centerville, Ind. — This is the June case I previously told you about. Believe it or not, this abductee's religious fanatic wife has admitted destroying mail that I sent him. If the primordial intelligence behind all this is indeed what the Christian Bible identifies as "the powers of darkness," then it's utter folly to hide one's head in the sand and pretend it don't exist. Little does she know that when the awesome truth does one day emerge there is sure to be the most colossal religious revival ever imagined.

There is an unseen presence at work in our world. The world's most remarkable book constantly sounds a warning about it.

DON WORLEY  
1051 Beech Street



— Photo by Mark Hancock

Two renditions are presented of the 'Typical Gray' — the short, big-headed alien described in Whitley Strieber's book 'Communion.'

DENNIS  
WAGNER  
THE  
PHOENIX  
GAZETTE

## Alien conference draws one man who's met them

**H**oward Menger met his first space alien in 1932, near his home in High Bridge, N.J.

She was a gorgeous, 500-year-old blonde, just standing in the forest. She said he had been selected for a mission and more of her kind would come to him.

Since that wondrous day, Menger has had close encounters with dozens of these visitors. He has flown in their space ships, communicated with them telepathically and borrowed their technology.

Menger told me all this as he and his wife, Connie, sat in a room at the Phoenix Holiday Inn. They are attending this weekend's New Age & Alien Conference, which has attracted dozens of ufologists plus a 10,000-year-old crystal skull named Max. Menger said he drove all the way from Florida to spread the good news about space visitors, our Infinite Creator, truth and love.

At 69, he is an energetic fellow with a pencil-thin mustache and a large flying saucer in his motel room. It resembles those flown by the Jetsons, with a plastic bubble on top and a little G.I. Joe figure seated in the cockpit.

Menger identified the craft as an anti-gravity space vehicle — a model based on the real flying saucer that he built and flew 40 years ago in New Jersey. During its maiden voyage, the prototype veered 500 miles off course and crashed. The FBI traced wreckage back to Menger and ordered him not to do or say anything more with anti-gravity technology until he was contacted by the Pentagon.

"Do you realize you sound like a crackpot?" I interjected.

Menger said his theories are proven and his story is authenticated. "I am not a kook," he insisted. "This is serious. I don't talk about little green men. You can have an exclusive if you want."

Then he offered me an autographed copy of his book, "The High Bridge Incident," and the deal was sealed. Menger began working on some gizmo that would prove gravity is caused by cosmic particles.

The retired sign maker said he developed this hypothesis in the 12th grade because "I didn't have physics and didn't know I couldn't do it."

He placed an aluminum ring over a cylinder and said it would rise 29 inches. Then he flipped a switch. Poof! The lights went out. "Oh, geez," moaned Menger. "We blew the damned fuse."

The room was dark as a black hole. Menger stumbled around, apologizing. "That never happened before. I'm so embarrassed. But it went up in the air. Did you see it?"

"No," I said. "I couldn't see a thing."

A motel maintenance man arrived.

"Are you an electrician?" Menger inquired. The man was not, but Menger repeated his theory of anti-gravity just the same, and eventually got the washer to jump about 12 inches into the air. "See?"

The Pentagon didn't make contact until 1961. Menger was sent to Colorado where he built a flying saucer and got a Mercedes-Benz plus \$250,000 as payment. He figures the United States now has a whole fleet of space ships. "The way the military is doing it, they're using crystals shaped a certain way. But they won't make it public for the same reason they wouldn't give the formula for the atomic bomb to everyone."

These days, Menger is designing a saucer for commercial use. "I got it off the ground 2 feet," he said. "That's all I can tell you. I don't want to get in trouble. There are nuts out there."

Then he told me about the aliens. "They've been here thousands of years. They're responsible for some of the scriptures — holy books all over the world."

FREE PRESS, Amery, WI - July 30, 1991

## UFO sightings near Deer Park

By JERRY SONDEAL

An old friend, so to speak, made a return visit to Deer Park last week.

Two reports of unidentified flying objects (UFO) occurred. The first at the Tom and LuAnn Sprester home, near the cemetery south of Deer Park.

The second at the Jim and Dolly Hemauer home near CTH H north of Deer Park.

But for Mr. and Mrs. William Stuntz, who live near the Spresters, it's old news.

They had their first experience with a UFO some 25 years ago.

All three families reported that the UFO was oval in shape and ringed in red lights while it hovered. Once it started to move, however, the lights turned white.

The Sprester experience began about 9:30 p.m. Monday, July 22, when Hollie, 13, reported seeing an unusual bright light in the back yard. All six members of the family

saw the oval shaped space craft hovering about 200 feet in the air above the home. LuAnn Sprester said that the UFO appeared to be about 50-60 feet in diameter.

The lights lit up the back yard with about the intensity of automobile lights, she said.

For about six minutes the UFO hovered or slowly circled before vanishing to the east.

Mrs. Sprester said that a faint noise similar to that of the "whoosing" a gas burner might make could be heard.

Tom Sprester tried to photograph the UFO but the camera wouldn't work.

Mrs. Sprester said that when the family went back in the house the camera worked fine.

She added that an automobile pulled into the driveway at Calvary Cemetery apparently to watch the UFO. However, none of the Spresters recognized the car.

Other family members observing

the UFO were Matt, 10, Micaela, 8, and Tommy, 5.

"MY SISTER saw it first," said Tera Hemauer, 16, about her family's UFO sighting on Tuesday, July 23.

"She came in and got my dad. He didn't believe her until he saw it." Her sister Tami is 21.

Tera said that at first she thought the UFO was the moon.

"My mom thought she saw something moving in it."

The family only saw the object for a few seconds before it disappeared. Tera said the lights first appeared to be red and then turned white before disappearing.

"IT WAS IN the Amery Free Press," observed Bill Stuntz about a sighting more than 20 years ago.

He said that the description given by the Spresters was identical to his family's observations.

Several other times, Stuntz believes he has seen the UFO, only he's not 100 percent certain.

CR: M. Anderson/R. Heiden

## UFOs? No, it's copters checking out crop circles

By ALLEN NORWOOD

Staff writer

Eli Springs Jr. was overwhelmed — and befuddled — by all the news media interest in the curious crop circles that appeared in his southeast Charlotte soybean field.

"What did we start?" he asked with a plaintive chuckle.

His phone started ringing early Friday, when a story in The Observer about the circles hit the streets. There were too many calls to count, he said. The messages filled three pages in a legal pad.

Television station helicopters arrived.

All three Charlotte network affiliates sent crews to Springs' house — and a Durham TV station sent a helicopter, too.

He went up in the helicopter from WSOC-TV (channel 9) — where he spotted two spots he hadn't seen before.

"The circles are ruined now, though," he said. "The helicopters hovering over the top of them, everybody tromping around, just ruined them."

The Associated Press sent a reporter — who told Springs the story would be shipped all across the country. "All the way to California," Springs said, as if he

couldn't believe that.

There were calls from radio reporters across the state.

Springs' daughter and son-in-law in Raleigh, Amy and Danny Houston, heard a Fayetteville radio account of the circles.

"They laughed. They told my wife, 'Lord, Mama, it's up here on the radio.'"

Springs discovered a half-dozen spots, ranging from 2 feet in diameter to more than 30 feet, Thursday morning. They dotted an 18-acre soybean and millet field, hidden by a thick stand of trees, near the intersection of Providence Road and N.C. 51.

Inside the spots, the foliage was pressed to the ground. Outside, the greenery was nearly waist-high and seemed untouched.

No tracks — of any sort — led to the spots.

A severe storm had raked the area Wednesday night. Springs believes the spots are weather- or wind-related, but National Weather Service and agricultural experts could offer no ready explanation for what caused them.

The spots were similar to those that appear in the English countryside near Stonehenge, which have prompted all sorts of explanations

from believers in the occult and extraterrestrials.

Springs and his wife, Ricky, got those sorts of calls, too.

"One man said it was magnetic forces underground," Ricky Springs said. "We were on a fault, and it was releasing forces when the bad storms came."

One woman got very "emphatic" when Eli Springs told her he didn't believe in UFOs, which some say are responsible for crop circles.

"People enjoy believing what they believe," he said.

Eli and Ricky Springs said they weren't overwhelmed by crowds of the merely curious. The Observer story didn't contain a precise address — and they kept their gate locked.

They opened the gate for the news crews, which were gone by midafternoon Friday when Springs' field was hit by another severe storm.

"We're going to close the gate again," Ricky Springs said.

"We're having some fun out of it," Eli Springs said. "We'll calm down — but I ain't ever gonna do this again. We won't find anything else for a while."

## UFOs invade Harvard Sq.

By PAUL SHERMAN

**T**here'll be plenty of UFO sightings in Harvard Square this weekend.

"Whenever they approach, it's like love striking you right in the belly. . . I think they're my ancestors. That's the only explanation I have."

The book spells it all out. Complete with blurry pictures, it says Menger took pictures of the aliens, interviewed them, trimmed their hair and flew in their spacecraft at 82,000 mph. Menger even spent four days at an alien moon city.

He was instructed to gather 12 disciples and "bring the spiritual message to the people." He was warned to beware of evil imposters. "They're not us," said one alien. "There are others operating. I'll speak of them simply as The Conspiracy."

Menger is aware of the skeptics. He admits it sounds incredible. But in a voice hushed with importance, he vows to spread the word: "They told me this, and it's their exact words: 'We contact people who were, not are.' I think there is something behind this so big that we can't fathom it."

That's because the Brattle Theater will present the world premiere of "Contact UFO: Alien Abductions," the first in a series of soon-to-be-released home videos on the Unidentified Flying Object phenomenon.

Although finishing touches were still being put on the first "Contact UFO" tape this week, a viewing of a rough cut revealed it to be both an amusing and provocative look at the experiences of those who claim to have been abducted by aliens and the research going on in that field.

Outstanding movies like "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and the more recent "Communion," probed the effect such incidents can have on people. So, too, does "Contact UFO," which starts with an amusing, "Atomic cafe"-like section on the Cold War origins of alien-sighting, when many people claimed to have encounters with "space brothers" who were like idealized humans of superior strength, beauty and intellect.

The video presents these early days of UFO-sighting as a cultural phenomenon, with the

alien-sighters as an amusing subculture. But "Contact UFO" does a skillful turn into more serious matters, when these sightings and encounters took on a more scientific tone — specifically, the 1961 experience of New Hampshire's Betty and Barney Hill, the first widely publicized abductees.

"We wanted to start off amusing people, to get them to relax to the subject," says associate producer Lou Zucaro, of the Illinois-based WPA Film Library, which is producing the tapes. "What we're hoping is that a lot of people who don't believe in UFOs will at least listen to what the people say."

"The Hill case is a step up from the old contactees," Zucaro adds, and the tape's interview with Betty Hill will make even the most serious doubters think twice about UFOs.

The remaining three tapes of "Contact UFO" will cover such topics as conspiracies and cover-ups, physical evidence of alien landings and crop circles. For more info on the Brattle screenings, phone 876-6837; to find out how to order the home videos, phone (800) 777-2223.

HERALD, Boston, MA - Aug. 30, 1991

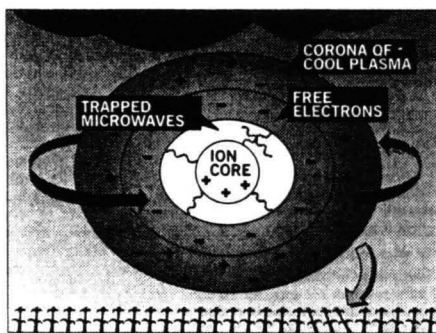




# Against the Grain

Acts of Nature, Spacecraft or Crafty Humans?  
Crop Circles Cultivate Range of Explanations

## OHTSUKI'S SWIRLING PLASMOID

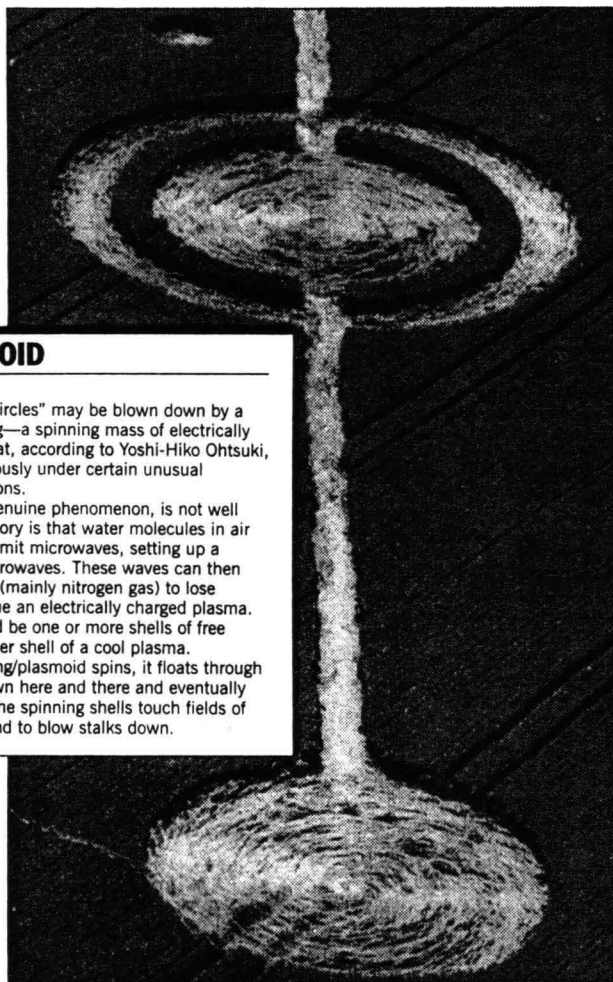


Mysterious "crop circles" may be blown down by a form of ball lightning—a spinning mass of electrically charged particles that, according to Yoshi-Hiko Ohtsuki, may arise spontaneously under certain unusual atmospheric conditions.

Ball lightning, a genuine phenomenon, is not well understood. One theory is that water molecules in air can spontaneously emit microwaves, setting up a standing field of microwaves. These waves can then cause air molecules (mainly nitrogen gas) to lose electrons and become an electrically charged plasma. Surrounding it would be one or more shells of free electrons and an outer shell of a cool plasma.

As the ball lightning/plasmoid spins, it floats through the air, touching down here and there and eventually dissipating. Where the spinning shells touch fields of grain, they might tend to blow stalks down.

THE WASHINGTON POST



BY CALYX PHOTO SERVICES FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

An English crop field features an example of a more elaborate manifestation.

By Jim Schnabel  
Special to The Washington Post

OXFORD, England

Every summer, to the delight of mystics and the chagrin of farmers across the globe, strange circular patterns are swirled into fields as stalks of grain are flattened in patches and swaths. The precision, symmetry and often tantalizing complexity of these "crop circles," as they are called, have convinced many that intelligent beings must be at work—either human hoaxers or saucer-flying aliens.

But both hypotheses are wrong, according to Terence Meaden, a former physics professor who is now a full-time crop-watcher in circles-prone southern England. "Hoaxers are certainly active," says Meaden, "but crop circles are essentially a meteorological phenomenon."

Meaden thinks crop circles are caused by downrushing whirlwinds

of partially ionized air, typically spun to life from the turbulence of weak frontal systems as they pass over low hills. He calls the spinning, glowing air masses "plasma vortices."

While crop circles have been seen in many countries and records go back to ancient times, southern England seems to be a hotbed. Meaden attributes this to its crop-covered hilliness and proximity to front-causing sea breezes.

Coincidental reports of glowing spheres, sometimes called flying saucers, are accounted for in Meaden's theory by the coronal glows, mirage-like glimmers and occasionally saucerish shapes that plasma vortices are thought to possess. Meaden even sees a Neolithic link, arguing that southern England's round barrows and stone circles, such as Stonehenge, represent ancient homage to the same meteorological phenomenon that awes so many today. "Those who believe in an extraterrestrial explanation," he

says, "haven't made any progress in 5,000 years."

Naturally, Meaden's views have drawn fire from those who see circles as the work of extraterrestrial beings. "Plasma vortex" is a technical term invented by Meaden to cover something he doesn't understand," says Pat Delgado, co-author of several books focusing on the otherworldly nature of the phenomenon.

Fear of being relegated to the scientific fringe has tended to keep academics well away from crop circles research, and without strong academic backing, Meaden's theory has been slow to take hold.

But that may soon change, thanks to Yoshi-Hiko Ohtsuki, a professor of plasma physics at Tokyo's Waseda University. "Crop circles are a natural phenomenon," he asserts. "They are caused by the plasma vortex. They are not caused by spaceships."

Already a minor deity in Japan, where his work on the odd but widely reported phenomenon of "ball lightning" has made headlines, Ohtsuki recently raised eyebrows among physicists worldwide with his creation of ball lightning in his laboratory "plasma chamber."

As described in a paper in the journal *Nature*, Ohtsuki's "plasma fireballs" could glow for hours in ordinary air, powered by nothing more than a souped-up microwave oven. More important, Ohtsuki's fireballs exhibited several key talents ascribed to natural ball lightning—and UFOs—such as the ability to hover around metal objects, to move against a flow of air and to pass ghost-like through non-metallic obstacles. A doubting scientist who reviewed the *Nature* paper before publication was convinced only after Ohtsuki sent him the video. Ohtsuki's next submission to *Nature* may well deal with crop circles.

He got hooked on the phenomenon a few years ago, after noting the apparent connection between reports of ball lightning, UFOs and circular damage in fields. Even ancient Japanese folktales suggested the link—he cites one in which ki-mono-clad maidens are said to descend from the night sky to dance in the rice paddies.

Ohtsuki's fireballs seem to do a similar dance. "Good news!" he recently wrote to Meaden. "We succeeded in creating the circles effect on a thin aluminium powder distributed over a metal plate set in our plasma chamber. These circles range from 2 to 10 millimeters with ring! You can see our photographs. So, your idea has been confirmed experimentally!" Ohtsuki also reported finding similar bull's-eye images inscribed on sooty walls near a power station transformer, and near the electric rails of the Tokyo metro system.

The news has shaken the extraterrestrialists, but for the moment they are standing their ground. They note that in recent summers, crop circles have become ever more ornate, with ringed circles linked by broad lanes, or flanked by rectangular swaths, or sprouting claw-like appendages.

## Hoaxes and Sunspots

Meaden and Ohtsuki attribute the rise of the more elaborate formations to two causes. First, there has been a dramatic increase in proven hoaxes. Second, last year was a peak year for circle frequency and complexity and it was also the peak of the 11-year sunspot cycle. Solar windstorms and their still-mysterious effects on weather, says Meaden, might have contributed to the recent odd formations.

Ohtsuki's plasma vortex theory relies on very sophisticated physics involving what are called three-dimensional, nonlinear Schrödinger equations. The model suggests that certain atmospheric conditions can cause the formation of a spinning mass of air molecules from which electrons have been ripped loose, leaving them as ions. The spinning ions would be similar to an ordinary vortex such as a dust devil or, on a larger scale, a tornado. Surrounding the core are layers of free electrons. Enclosing all of this is a corona of glowing ionized air, called plasma. The entire mass may be spherical, discoidal or even cylindrical.

## Computer-Aided Model

The electron and plasma layers confine an intense field of microwave energy, thought to arise under certain rare atmospheric conditions.

When this glowing, spinning, humming "plasmoid" descends on a wheat field, according to Ohtsuki's supercomputer-calculated simulations, several things happen. The forces push down a central circle of stalks, swirled by the ion core, while the surrounding shells of electrons and plasma layers blow down concentric rings of stalks.

Ohtsuki's model is formidable and more quantifiable than Meaden's, and the various plasmoid shapes it allows seem to be in accord with various eyewitness accounts of luminous spheres, disks or tubes descending and swirling out circles of grain stalks.

But as theories go, it is far from complete. For one thing, there is little evidence of a natural source of microwaves powerful enough to work. For another, although it is easy to see how whirling ions could knock down crops, it is hard to see how electrons could do it—an electron having one-fifty-thousandth as much mass as the most common ionized air molecule, nitrogen. And, of course, a plasmoid with a dense ion core could not go through walls. Ohtsuki's theoretical model thus disagrees with his own laboratory creation.

Nevertheless, he remains confident that a solution will eventually be found, perhaps through some as-yet-undiscovered elaboration of his model. To push his model further, Ohtsuki is planning to simulate rural southern England in his plasma chamber, adding miniature hills, miniature sea breezes, and miniature fields of crops. He'll be watching for miniature crop circles.

WEST AUSTRALIAN, Perth, W.A., Australia - April 22, 1991

## Sightings put jail on UFO alert

By CARMELO AMALFI

FREMANTLE Prison officer Jim Brown had been on the lookout for errant inmates.

But what he and other officers claim to have seen from the jail's gun towers about 11.30pm on April 12 were strange, starlike objects racing towards the prison.

"I'm afraid to admit it but I truly believe we actually experienced a UFO sighting," he said.

"We had only just arrived at work and were wide awake."

He described them as "two bright flashes". He said they were travelling towards the jail very fast, in a south-south-east line from Albany but had no navigation lights or background shape.

Mr Brown said he watched the lights for about five minutes before they disappeared over the Indian Ocean.

The Perth Observatory and the airport did not see or receive reports of the objects. The UFO investigation centre in WA said it would investigate.

The officers have asked anyone who saw the strange objects to contact them by leaving a message at the prison.



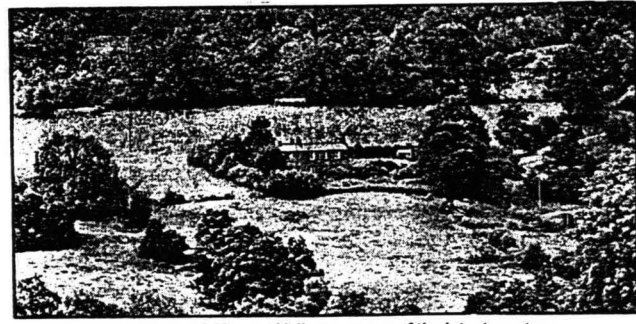
JAIL ALERT: Jim Brown has his binoculars on hand after his experience. Picture: GREGORY HEASLIP

# Alien invaders or a slab of ice..?

● **STRANGE** and mysterious things happen in the skies above North Staffordshire with regular reportings of unidentified flying objects.

● But not everyone who has seen something unusual believes "little green men" are about to invade the earth.

● Here, **PETER HOLMES** investigates some of the strange phenomena and discovers that not all the sightings in the skies can be explained.



● The peaceful Churnet Valley — scene of the latest mystery.

THE LATEST sighting of an unidentified flying object came on Friday night when a Cheadle man saw something falling out of the sky into woodlands in the Churnet Valley.

But Mark Lees does not believe the object he saw crashing into trees

contained beings from another world.

He suspects it had a much more down to earth origin.

Mark, 31, was visiting a friend in the valley when he made the sighting at around 10pm.

He said the object was around 10 feet long, cigar shaped, and very bright.



● Flashback to 1978 and the picture Stephen Colclough drew.

## The 'Martian' chronicles

REPORTS of unidentified flying objects in Staffordshire and Cheshire have been chronicled in the Sentinel over the years but the peak came in the late 1970s.

Reports were printed almost weekly of unusual sightings in the skies, including one in 1978 from a couple travelling on a remote country lane near Dilhorne.

They saw a huge dark object pass overhead which fired off a blinding beam of

light at them before shooting off into a cloudless sky.

Engineering worker Stephen Colclough, of Trent Vale, who was 20 at the time, produced a drawing of the giant UFO which he saw while in a car with a friend.

But reports are to be seen in the Sentinel files of mysterious objects from all over the area.

They mainly seem to come from rural areas such as Cannock Chase, the countryside

between Stafford and Stoke-on-Trent and from the area towards Crewe.

And despite all the reported sightings there has been little explanation of what was seen.

Even if 95 per cent of the supposed sightings of flying saucers can be explained by natural and man-made objects there is still the other five per cent.

saw anything unusual at the time to contact them.

Michael Pace, who runs the Natural Science Centre at Newchapel Observatory, believes 95 per cent of the supposed sightings of flying saucers can be put down to natural or man-made phenomena.

He suggests that the object which fell to the ground in the Churnet Valley could have been a large lump of ice from a high-flying plane.

"I once saw a lump of ice land just a few feet away when I was walking in Kids Grove," he said.

The late 1970s was a very popular time for reporting unusual objects in the skies of North Staffordshire, and Michael, along with his brother Tony, spent hours investigating the sightings.

He said: "We still get many phone calls from people who have seen something unusual in the skies. I think they phone the observatory in the hope that we can help them prove it was something out of the ordinary.

### Effects

"One of the commonest calls comes in the winter when the bright star Sirius is low down in the skies and appears to change colour.

"Another regular is from meteorites and bigger pieces of rock which burn up when they hit the atmosphere. They can often produce some strange effects."

North Staffordshire is on one of the main flight paths for planes into and out of Manchester Airport.

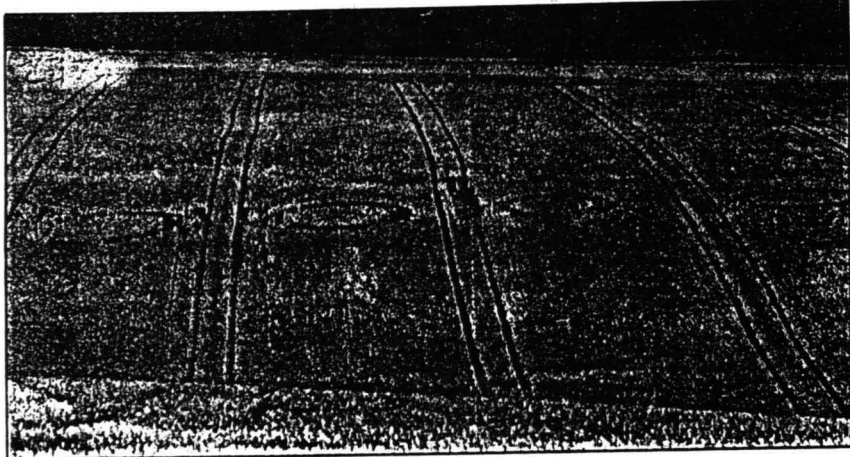
### Ruled out

Mr Pace said: "Quite often when the planes have their powerful landing lights on they can produce weird effects, particularly if they are flying through clouds at the time."

He said he kept an open mind on the possibility of visitors from another world.

"I have never seen a flying saucer myself despite many years of sky-watching, but when the 95 per cent of explainable sightings have been ruled out there is still the other five per cent."

DAILY MAIL, Hull, England - July 30, 1991 CR: T. Good



**MYSTERY MARKS:** Corn circles in a field at Low Gardham, near Market Weighton.

# The unexplained work of aliens?

IS this the work of aliens from outer space?

Or is there a more down to earth explanation for these four corn circles which appeared overnight on a North Humberside farm?

The mystery marks, on land at Low Gardham Farm, near Market Weighton, are among the first of this summer's sightings of a phenomenon which has baffled scientists.

Some people have claimed they are caused by visiting spacemen leaving their mark on the countryside.

Others, like farmer Mr Alan Maskell, who owns the fields, are not convinced. He believes human pranksters, rather than little green men, may be to blame. "There is something phoney about it, it was possibly done by someone playing a prank," he said.

But his father-in-law, Richard Hiles, said: "There is no sign of a hoax and no sign of anyone walking through the field."

The circles, in a field of wheat, seem to spell the letters APBO, but no-one knows what the letters mean.

The field is alongside the main Hull to York trunk road, and Dutch visitors Onno Gorseman and his girlfriend Esther Van were thrilled to have the circles pointed out to them, as they cycled past.

"We have nothing like this in Holland, but I watched a programme about corn circles in England and America and I do

not think it is anything to do with spacemen," said Esther.

Mr Simon Foster, marketing manager of the nearby Bishop Burton College of Agriculture, said latest research had blamed the phenomenon on positive and negative ions in the air, which can set up movement which flattens the corn.

"I am afraid I think there is definitely an environmental cause, but who knows?" he said.

Dr Terry Meaden, of CERES, the Circles Effect Research Unit based in

Wiltshire, said he and other experts believe the corn is flattened by a vortex of air which becomes electrified.

"It has been widely researched by people like me in Britain and by scientists in America and Japan, and we are all agreed that this is the cause," he said.

However, Dr Meaden said the research would continue until the experts have captured the phenomenon on film to solve the mystery once and for all.

"We have cameras running all the time."

## Corn circle cause unknown

SEVERAL explanations have been put forward as possible causes of the corn circles, which have cropped up all over Britain.

● Some people claim they are the marks left behind by space ships landing.

● New-Age mystics — among them former TV sports presenter David Icke — have claimed they are a message from the spirit of the Earth in a last desperate plea for its survival.

● A Japanese professor who is camping out with a battery of scientific equipment in Wiltshire — where there have been a crop of the circles — believes the phenomena is caused by plasma. Dr Yoshi-hiko Ohtsuki says we

think of matter as being in three forms, liquid, solid and gas. But he says it is also found in a fourth state which can enter a room through a window without damaging the glass.

● Some farmers have suggested that the circles are caused by the roots of dead trees which form a circular pattern of fertile land where corn grows faster than the rest and is broken off by the wind.

● Other experts have blamed dust which becomes electrically charged when sucked in by whirlwinds.

● Sceptics are convinced that the whole thing is a hoax and that the corn is trampled down by pranksters.

## UFO flurry expanding in N Yorks

MYSTERY deepened into North Yorkshire's UFO sightings as a new eye-witness has come forward with details of another close encounter.

This latest in a series of reported sightings was by a farmer at Langtoft near Driffield who does not want his name to be published.

He said he was "mesmerised" by the object which passed over the farm like the wind.

He said that his whole family went outside the farmhouse to look at the mystery flying object with coloured lights.

It did not make any sound, he said, but went by "with the rushing of air like a glider".

The farmer was so concerned he noted down the exact time of the sighting, 11.05pm on the same night a Pickering woman said she spotted a UFO in Pickering.

The American and British Air Forces have said they are not responsible for these unidentified flying objects.

The farmer from Langtoft said he had seen the flying object four times.

He could not tell how big it was or how low it was. He said it had between ten and 12 lights of different colours with red ones at the back.

The farmer said: "No-one had the presence of mind to get a camera and I wish I had done."

GREENOCK TELEGRAPH, Renfrewshire, Scotland - Aug. 26, 1991 CR: T. Good

## Farmer has space message for Bush

ABOUT 3,000 Colombians flocked to a village to hear a farmer tell how he was whisked away by a spacecraft and sent to earth with a message from extra-terrestrials for US President George Bush, according to a Colombian news agency.

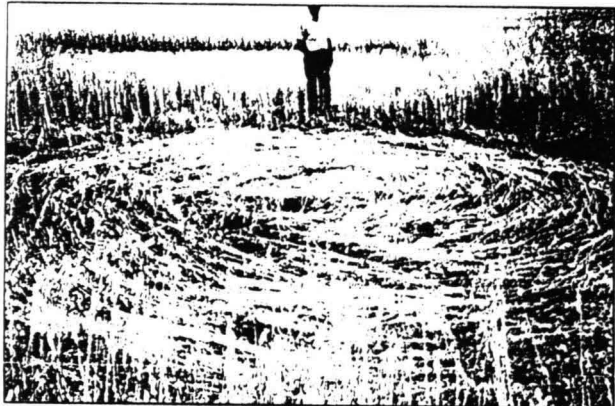
Luis Rodriguez claims he was carried into space by aliens who implanted an object in his shoulder which kept him in permanent contact with them, said the Colprensa news agency.

Thousands of UFO enthusiasts from all over Colombia gathered in the village of Tabio, near Bogota, to hear Rodriguez, 37, who said he would not rest until he had given the urgent message to Bush and to Colombia's Catholic Cardinal Mario Revollo.



# On the lookout for a close encounter

TRIBUNE, Great Falls, MT - Sept. 10, 1991



Shannon Kelley of Great Falls provided this photo of a "crop circle" of flattened grain outside Lethbridge.

## Local enthusiast predicts increase in UFO activity

By T.J. GILLES  
Tribune Staff Writer

Despite two Englishmen's claim that they are responsible for more than a hundred circles previously said to be caused by unidentified flying objects, a Great Falls man says the emergence of a series of circles in the Lethbridge area portends increased activity in Montana.

Shannon Kelly, 28, returned from inspecting a series of such circles near Lethbridge and called the Tribune Monday to show photographs and diagrams of the site.

He also wanted to alert area residents to be on the lookout for possible UFOs or their markings left in fields. Midway through an interview, Kelly was presented with copies of two breaking wire-service stories about the Englishmen claiming to have nocturnally created circles there. He hadn't heard of the hoax claim.

An aerial wire-service photo of an English circle cluster now said to be a hoax was recognized by Kelly from a recent edition of "20-20," an illustration in "Omni" Magazine and UFO publications he reads regularly.

Lethbridge-area residents re-

CR: P. Hicks

ported seeing lights in an area west of the city before two areas of circles and symbols were discovered, according to the Lethbridge Herald. A first group of circles was encountered in a residential area next to a Lethbridge broadcasting station.

Kelly and members of the Alberta UFO Study Group inspected the sites but could discover no human or other footprints among the circles and linking lines, although they were among the first to arrive at most of the sites.

Soil inside the circles was drier than in surrounding fields, he said, and there were some incidences of pod marks.

He said he's attempting to match formations of the circles and connecting lines of knocked-down wheat with pictographs, hieroglyphs and Tibetan symbols to try to interpret any possible messages from extraterrestrials.

Kelly, a Great Falls native and employee of an auto parts warehouse, said he's been interested in UFOs since 1974, when he says he and a brother saw a UFO near the Ananconda Co. smelter at Black Eagle and Air Force "planes came off the base and chased it."

## 'A UFO literally came down over our heads'

FLYING saucer spotters are this weekend gathering in Sheffield for their international congress. Mike Buckingham spoke to Gwent's representative.

GWENT'S first accredited investigator for BUFORA — the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association has an oddly detached view of flying saucers.

"I honestly don't know if they exist or not," says Mrs Kerry Blower, of Cwmbran.

"I have never had an extra terrestrial experience, but I have an open mind about it all. I think it's very narrow-minded to think we are the only ones in the universe".

BUFORA sees this sort of agnosticism as commendable.

"We don't want cranks or people who get excited about nothing", said Mrs Margaret Fry from Clwyd, North Wales, who is the association's regional co-ordinator and visiting Kerry.

Mrs Fry is a landscape painter who sometimes allows flying saucers to appear in her work and is much more sanguine.

"A UFO literally came down over our heads in Bexley in Kent." She has total recall of the sighting.

"It was at midday on a Sunday. I was in a car with my doctor on the way to the surgery to get tablets for one of my children who was ill."

"The UFO stalled the car and of course we got out to look."

## More report UFO sighting

THE mystery of the red and green lights in the sky has deepened with two more sightings of the strange UFOs.

Puzzled residents at Market Weighton rushed out with their binoculars to catch a glimpse of the two unusual lights in the sky.

Rose and John Deeth were mesmerised as they watched the mystery object suddenly appear then vanish from their view.

The sighting follows reports of a multi-coloured UFO buzzing a farmhouse at Sancton, near Market Weighton, and terrifying housewife Liz Ibbotson as she went to bed.

Baffled air traffic controllers were unable to account for the red, green and white cross-shaped object.

Now Mr and Mrs Deeth pair, who live in a farm in Riverview, Market Weighton, say they spotted a mystery object while out in their yard along with their two-year-old granddaughter, Benice.

Mrs Deeth (48) said: "I looked across and we saw these two lights in the sky, one on top of the other. They were really bright."

"My husband went in for his binoculars and when he came out, it just faded away."

"We watched them for a few minutes trying to work out what they were. They weren't moving, they were just stuck there."

She said at the time both her and her husband were interested to find out what the lights were. After reading in the Mail on Saturday about another UFO sighting in the same area, Mrs Deeth's curiosity grew even more.



Kerry and her mum watch for alien activity.

"It came down close to the ground and we all stood around. It was about 45 feet in diameter, bell-shaped and came within five or six feet of the ground."

"This was right at a crossroads in the middle of the day in a built-up area with houses all round. It made no sound and after a time it just flew away."

Since then Mrs Fry has seen Umpteen. They appear to favour a certain part of Kent in which several ley-lines cross.

For the uninitiated, ley-lines are invisible lines of energy linking mystic sites like Stonehenge and Glastonbury Tor and probably best described as celestial tram-lines.

Kerry, of Glaslyn Court, Croesycelllog, got interested in flying saucers after she saw a couple of strange lights dancing in the sky over Warmminster.

Her first assignment after getting her BUFORA wings' was investigating eight objects seen over West Wales.

"When I heard about it, my husband Tom and I went to interview a woman and her husband who had seen these things."

What were her initial impressions?

"I think it was a mistaken identify of satellites," Mrs Fry concurred.

"The case will have to be sent to Margaret for the assessment of the BUFORA committee and if they don't think there was a possibility of these lights being UFOs, it will remain on the file."

"This is my first case as an official observer. I would have liked it to be a bit more dramatic, but there it is."

Mrs Fry is pleased with her protégée's progress and believes her ready to take over saucer-spotting in this corner of Wales.

"When people ask if they can be an investigator I try and put them off at first. You have to be willing to do a lot of paperwork and travel. There's a lot of spade-work. We want sensible people, not people who are going to see little green men all the time."

I put it to her that if flying saucers are prepared to fly to Earth from the other side of the universe they might go for something a bit more adventurous than Bexley.

"Ah, Bexley's common to us, but it might not be so common to them. I don't know why they don't communicate with us, though. Perhaps they have a galactic law of non-interference."

An altogether more suitable place for extra-terrestrials might be Sheffield this weekend when UFOlogists gather for the Sixth International UFO Congress.

## UFO mystery 'not a hoax'

MYSTERY continues to surround the bizarre findings in a Branscombe garden which sparked a UFO scare. But Honiton UFO expert Doug Cooper has warned it is not the work of practical jokers.

The strange occurrence revealed exclusively in Pulmans frightened Bovey House Hotel employees after they realised the deep imprints left in their garden were not the work of pranksters.

Mr Cooper — an accredited investigator for the Devon UFO Research Organisation — says it is too early to draw any conclusions but it is certainly a puzzle.

"I have examined the marks and taken soil samples from the area but no radiation was indicated by the compass," said Mr Cooper. "But one of the employees is complaining of flashbacks and a soreness in the eyes."

Mr Cooper said at least 50 tonnes would have been needed to make those kind of indentations in the ground.

But he said he would work until he got to the bottom of the mystery.

"There have been cases similar to this one but I am hoping the soil samples will shed some light on the mystery."

NEW ZEALAND HERALD, Auckland, New Zealand  
March 10, 1991 CR: R. Collyns

## Mystery sighting

AFP

Moscow

A group of students from a military academy in Soviet Azerbaijan have become the latest people to spot a "cyclops," a one-eyed giant popularised in Greek mythology. The sighting was reported by Ali Ahverdiyev, chairman of the Baku Anomalous Phenomena Club.

EVENING ECHO, Bournemouth, England - July 31, 1991

CR: T. Good

## UFO hits lake

FINLAND — Finnish nuclear safety experts checked for traces of radiation after two people reported seeing an unidentified flying object crash into Saukonniemi lake west of Helsinki.

**STRANGE PHENOMENA**

**CORN circles or con circles? ALAN THOMPSON dips a wary toe into the mysterious waters of the great controversy being aired in Leeds tomorrow.**



▲ IS IT a bird...is it a plane...no, it's the mothership. A scene from *Close Encounters*.

▼ **ALIEN CORN**...Circles in the crops, hoax or something much more significant.

# Watch the skies...

**U**NDER the influence of extra-terrestrial forces, it was Richard Dreyfuss in the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* who constructed a model mountain in mashed potato in deference to little green creatures from Out There.

Green? They might have been blue or even pink. It is not really relevant. Take your choice of colour.

But the mashed potato mountain was a clue as to where the aliens might land.

In the Dreyfuss Case it was nothing to do with soft lights and sweet music. More a flurry of flashing lights in the dark sky and a curious five-tone musical theme that reverberated over the countryside and eventually around the world.

Or eventually over the top, you might think.

Culmination of the film was a giant carousel full of coloured lights but with a message of hope. It might have induced some suspension of disbelief at the time but did not stand a lot of consideration afterwards.

## CRIES OF AGONY

Former TV presenter and latter-day guru David Icke has described corn circles as cries of agony from the earth's core.

Rumour had it in Yorkshire at one time that Ingleborough's flat top was just waiting its turn as a space-ship landing area on the Dreyfuss pattern.

Tricky little *ET*, the bug-eyed wonder from the back of beyond — a game little chap whom everyone in the cinema wanted to take home and give a reassuring cuddle, did a great PR job for aliens everywhere.

For years everyone had imagined aliens as shifty, perhaps even slimy little creatures full of evil intentions and with no real idea how to behave in polite society.

But *ET* was something else. He had spaniel eyes, only bigger. He had a warm heart and even a sense of fun. He was about as full of menace as Mickey Mouse.

So much for fiction. But what about the facts?

In the week that sees the advent tomorrow of a lecture session at Leeds Civic Theatre on the phenomenon of corn circles and UFOs, there may have been gritted teeth at first hearing of the "corn circle hoaxers" but then things literally took off.

"We have been mowed out with applications to attend the conference — we had sold over 200 of the 500 tickets in advance, but it has increased since then," says organiser Graham Birdsall of Leeds.

It could well be a sell-out.

Mr Birdsall is editor of *Quest Publications International Ltd*, published from an address in Grassington. It's a magazine devoted to UFOs and allied subjects. When not editing he drives a milk lorry.

Believers in the UFO cult sustained something of a culture shock over the breakfast table earlier in the week when two ageing jokers announced that the mysterious corn circles were really con circles.

They were reported in a national newspaper, which emphasised it had paid no cash for the story, to have thought up the various corn circles — some of them in complicated geometric patterns — "for a bit of a laugh" while talking in a public house.

Doug Bower and David Chorley from Southampton said they had painstakingly planned and executed each design since the Seventies, carrying out the job with 4ft planks with rope reins to flatten the corn and a

simple wire "gunsight" on a baseball cap to keep in line.

Corn circles had been taken seriously in some quarters as evidence of the handiwork of extra-terrestrials. Patrick Delgado, who has written several international best-sellers on the phenomenon, was one who took them seriously.

"I have goose pimples stepping into this circle. This must without doubt be one of the greatest modern mysteries," was his reported comment before he met the jokers at a field in Sevenoaks, Kent.

There would be no point for him in dismissing a subject that provides the stuff of best-sellers. He will be one of the lecturers in Leeds tomorrow, along with fellow expert Colin Andrews.

## GREAT MYSTERIES

"They will be giving their official considered response to events earlier in the week," says Graham Birdsall. There is still a great deal of interest in UFOs and crop circles, he added. They were two of the great mysteries of our time.

There has been plenty of interest from the national Press, and so far the experts were said to have considered the hoaxers' latest effort "an absolute mess."

Mr Delgado's reported comment was that this confession and demo did not dispose of the subject. How about the new corn circles reported in Canada during the previous 24 hours. Had the jokers made a quick trip?

He and his fellow experts believe the question is still open to investigation as a serious phenomenon, whatever tricks jokers may play. No doubt it will be fully debated tomorrow.

It was reported recently that other people had been duped by German students using a similar method of operation. Crop circles have also been reported in Australia, with farm lads under suspicion.

Other theories have ranged from the near-feasible to the near-exotic. Space ships manoeuvring as they are about to land might be worthy of consideration.

The cavortings of rutting deer sound less than likely.

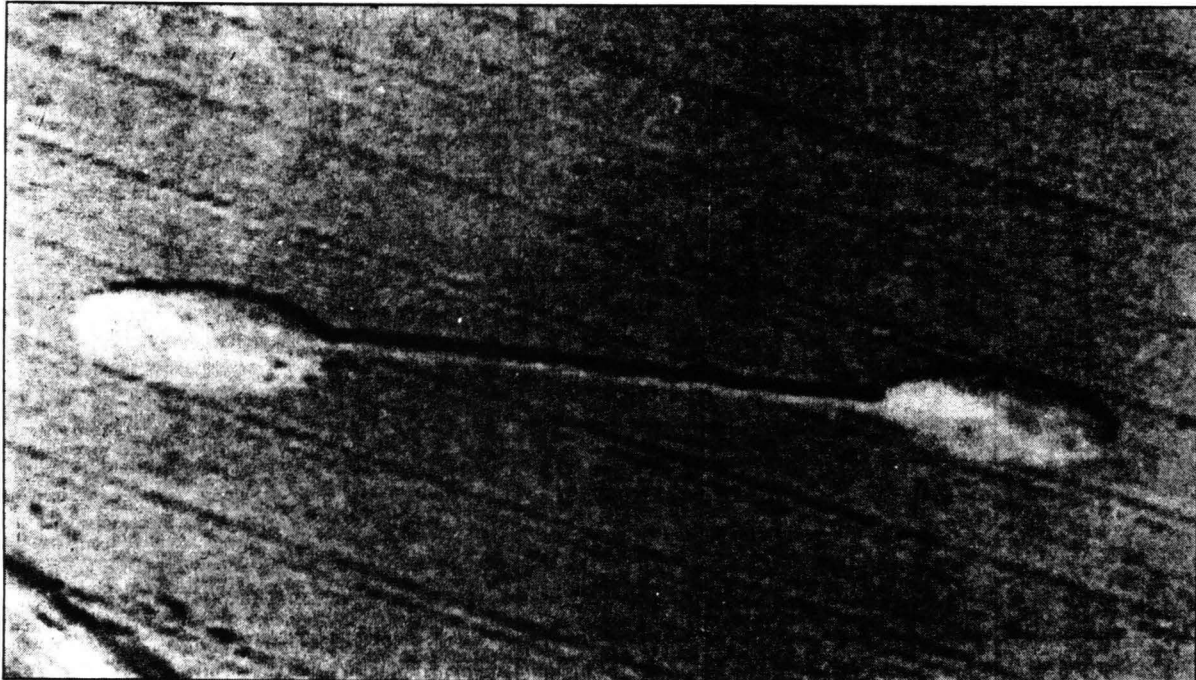
Hedgehogs performing elaborate courtship dances have an appealing quality that you almost hope might be the true explanation.

A Japanese professor says he has used electric currents in his laboratory to produce the kind of effects under discussion.

In Yorkshire we have had reports of crop circles, with occasional reported sightings of strange objects and UFO pictures with all the clarity of a nightlight sinking into a bowl of cold custard.

Earlier this summer a book was published giving the opinions of 16 British, American and Japanese researchers on crop circles.

*Circles from the Sky* by Terence Meaden (Souvenir Press, £14.99) even goes back into history for one chapter about "The Mowing Devil or strange news out of Hartfordshire, 1678."



# UFO experts inundated with calls

EXPERTS investigating the mysterious UFO spotted in the skies above Market Weighton say they have been inundated with calls.

Housewife Liz Ibbotson and her daughter Fiona claimed they saw a multi-coloured object darting across the sky before heading towards their home at Sancton, last month.

The red, green and white cross-shaped object hovered above farmland for about four minutes before disappearing in the direction of Hull.

Now leading UFO investigation organisation *Quest International* — which took up the case — says it has received nearly 20 sightings of the same object from the East Yorkshire area.

These have included a group of women who were returning to Sancton after a darts match, and a Pocklington woman who noticed the object while walking her dog.

Director of *Quest* Mr Tony Dodd said it was unusual to receive so many calls. He added: "There are other people who might have seen the object

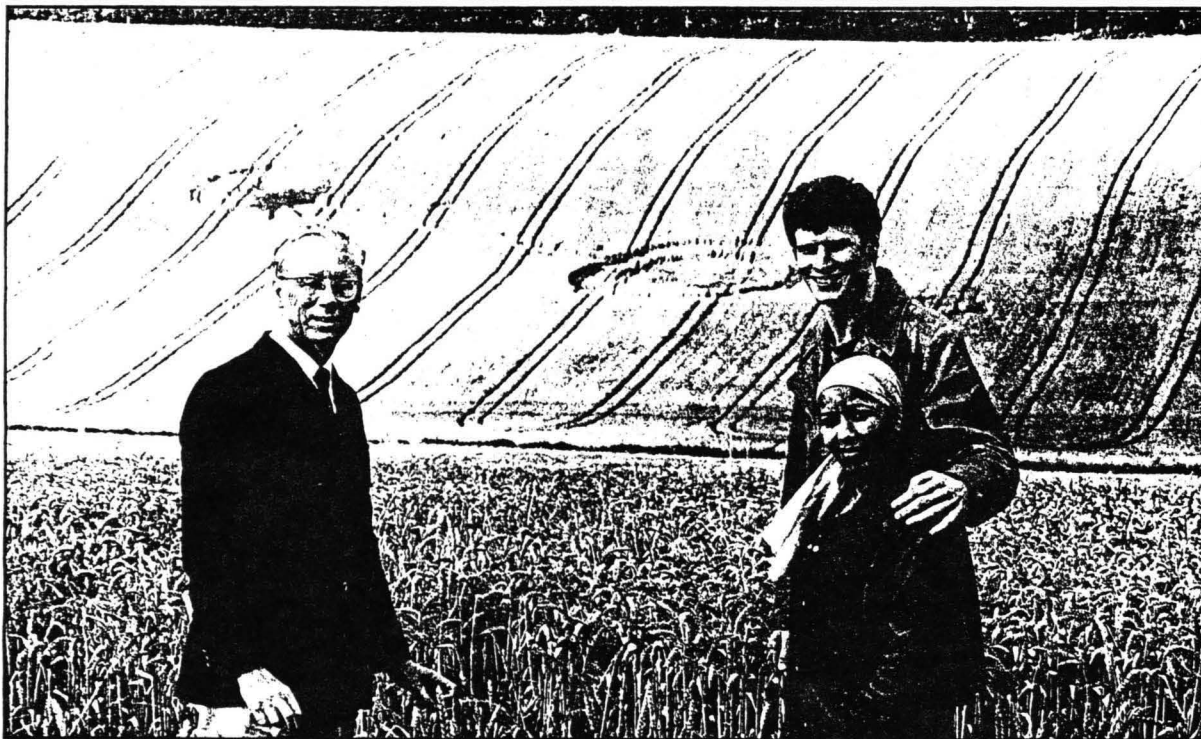
who wouldn't telephone. The sightings are consistent with other UFO reports from other parts of the country.

"We will continue to look into this, but I think eventually it will go into the files as a UFO."

Anyone who has spotted a UFO can contact *Quest International* on 0756 752216.



WITNESSES FINALLY UNRAVEL RIDDLE THAT'S BAFFLED THE WORLD



RING REVELATION: Dr Meaden with Vivienne and Gary who discovered the secret

Picture: IAN McILGORM

# Shock encounter as a corn circle is born

By REBECCA TYRREL

CONDITIONS were perfect. The air was still and humid when Gary and Vivienne Tomlinson went for an evening stroll.

But what happened next was music to the ears of Professor Terence Meaden — for the Tomlinsons suddenly found themselves at the birth of a corn circle.

In a rush of whirling air and stunned by a high-pitched whine, the couple discovered the secret of the rings which have baffled the world.

## Hovering

'We were standing on a narrow footpath at the edge of a cornfield,' explains Vivienne, 'when we saw the corn on our right was moving.'

'There was a mist hovering above and we heard a high-pitched sound. Then we felt a strong wind pushing us from the side and above.'

'It was forcing down on our heads so that we could hardly stay upright yet my husband's hair was standing on end. It was incredible. Then the whirling air seemed to branch into two

## Hair-raising experience for couple out walking

and zig-zagged off into the distance. We could still see it like a light mist or fog, shimmering as it moved.

'As it disappeared we were left standing in the circle with the corn flattened all around us.'

'Everything became very still again and we were left with a tingly feeling.'

'It all happened so quickly it seemed like a split second.'

The Tomlinsons were so stunned by the event they could not talk afterwards.

'We didn't speak for ages,' says Gary. 'We told no one until three days later.'

Vivienne, a 36-year-old housewife from Guildford, still suffers earache from the amazing event at Hambledon.

'The noise was tremendous,' she says. 'We looked for a helicopter above us, but there was nothing.'

Gary still shivers at the memory and how his hair stood on end while the vortex twisted around.

The Tomlinsons are the first people to come up with a believable eyewitness account of the formation of a crop circle. And it finally shoots down

the popular theories that rampaging hedgehogs or UFOs are to blame.

Dr Meaden, a professor of physics and founder of the Tornado Storm Research Organisation at Oxford Polytechnic, has been researching this mystery for years.

He is convinced that the circles are formed by a vortex — a miniature whirlwind created in specific atmospheric conditions.

'The Tomlinsons' story is magnificent,' he says. 'There is no way they could have made it up.'

## Forced

The professor is not alone in his theory.

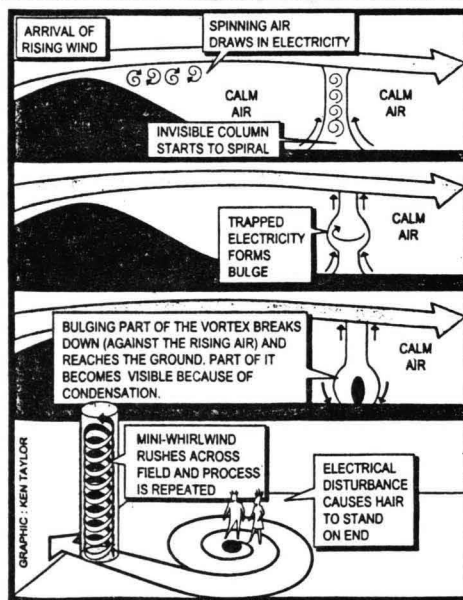
A Japanese team at Tokyo's Waseda University has created a corn circle in the laboratory using vortices.

So what caused the Tomlinsons' crop circle to form?

First, a hill must obstruct a gust of wind. This forms a vortex as the air is forced around and over the hill.

When the spinning air meets still air on the lee side it creates a spiralling

## The crop rings cycle



column which sucks in more air and the electricity present in the atmosphere.

This charge causes the high-pitched noise, the force which pushes down and the static which

makes hair stand on end. As the vortex hits the ground, it spirals, flattens the corn and forms the circle.

So now we know: those tales of UFOs landing are simply corny stories.

SALISBURY JOURNAL, Wiltshire, England Sept. 5, 1991

## Cut out the hype and see the facts

IN reply to A. Keenan (Postbag, August 22), I certainly do not hold to a messianic cosmic theory on crop circles.

To suggest so is pie in the sky and would indicate to me that A. Keenan's head is in the clouds instead of studying the crop circles at ground level.

Genuine crop circles, with bent and undamaged stems, distinct patterns and energy fields, have certainly appeared during the last 30 years, but satisfactory records cannot be traced back further.

To try and make a point against me using obscure accounts from 300 years ago, probably wind damage or such like confused in folklore, indicates to me that A. Keenan has more faith in old eye witness writings than in the present evidence.

I dislike the generic term UFO, it is too often used to mean a flying spacecraft or little green men. Lights in the sky, the five per cent not rationally explainable, certainly exist and occur, though of course, the eye-witness is the only evidence usually available, unlike the tangible crop circles.

I agree that there is far too much of the wrong sort of hype and publicity. For many of the prominent researchers it is purely a bandwagon of book sales, lectures and money-making opportunities, while others spread mistruths in order to promote their own ideologies.

Let me assure you that I am not a writer or a seeker of the fast buck. I am a truth seeker, I have been bitten by the bug of a true and unfolding mystery.

May I suggest to everyone reading this that they delve deeper than the media hype, which seems to spawn an endless supply of sceptical correspondence, showing only limited knowledge of the subject.

Read the books, look at the pictures, visit and study very closely the real crop circles, and you will find a genuine phenomenon which cannot be explained as either the result of natural or human means.

DAVID DOEL, Neville Close, Salisbury.

CR: T. Good

SUN, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada - Aug. 25, 1991 CR: M. Strainic

# Crop circles appear in Lethbridge

LETHBRIDGE, Alta. (CP) — Early tests suggest four circles discovered in a southern Alberta wheat field weren't created by pranksters, says a member of an Alberta UFO group.

'Well, it's interesting and it's a mystery,' Gordon Kijek said Friday after investigating the site in an industrial area in the southern Alberta city of Lethbridge. Kijek is the director of the Alber-

ta's UFO Study Group, which was founded last year.

'I can't tell you exactly what they are, because there are factors which help us differentiate between something man-made and something which isn't, but let me say they passed the test we gave them.'

The grain is bent counter-clockwise in three circles and clockwise in the fourth. The pat-

terns consist of two large circles about three metres across, with a pair of smaller circles — each about one metre across — radiating from one of them.

'Also, the grain is pushed down, but not broken,' said Kijek. 'However, when we walked through the field the grain broke quite easily under our feet; it was quite dry.'

Kijek said the soil within the

circles was considerably drier than the soil outside the circles.

Researchers are still puzzled by crop circles discovered in fields near Stonehenge in England. Circles, squares and bars have appeared in grain fields southwest of London in recent months. And last year, there were reports the crop circles materialized in at least a dozen fields across Saskatchewan, Manitoba,

and the midwestern United States.

The UFO Study Group is awaiting written reports from two groups of people who reported strange lights in the sky northeast of Lethbridge five or six days ago.

'It's not often we see odd lights in the sky and then crop circles show up, but what the lights were has not yet been established,' he said.

# UFOs - still buzzing around!

The Geelong CWA rooms in Aberdeen St., Geelong West, would not seem the usual place for talk of extra-terrestrial beings, electro-magnetic fields or UFOs.

Last Wednesday evening however the rooms were full of such discussions when the Victorian UFO Research Society, Geelong branch, held its general meeting.

About 25 people attended the meeting to discuss both their own experiences with UFOs and the various theories purported to validate sightings.

Geelong chairman and sightings investigation officer, Peter Close, said that the branch had been operating for the past 18 months and had 63 members. About 10 sightings are reported in Geelong each year, many can be explained, but some are recorded as unidentified flying objects.

## proof

Mr Close said the aim of the society was to "prove itself out of existence". His electronics training had taught him that the possibility of UFOs existing could not be discounted.

Others at the meeting were more

forthright in their beliefs - they had seen them.

Geoff Kavanagh, from Bannockburn, had his experience on the Anakie-Ballan road about four years ago. He was driving his car in the early hours of the morning when he noticed lights in a paddock "following" him and keeping in line with his car.

Upon pulling over a "disk" 100 metres in diameter and with multi-colored lights flashing around the circumference landed in an adjoining paddock. It stayed for about 90 seconds.

"I could hear an engine building up and then it was gone in a blink of an eye," Mr Kavanagh said. "I saw it so I believe it was a spaceship - it had to be."

"Greg" from Newtown can recall a number of incidents which he has not been able to explain. Recently he was gazing at the night

sky and witnessed a brilliantly white long, thin object with six little objects flashing around it.

What was it? He doesn't know, which is why he attended the meeting, to see if others had explanations for similar experiences.

## stigma

It is significant that "Greg" did not want to use his surname.

There is definitely a stigma attached to believing in UFOs. Many at the meeting expressed a wish that the unbelieving majority would not be so dismissive and denigratory in their rejection of the concept of visitations from other worlds. As one person said: "We want to be able to discuss our experiences without people calling Dax House."

Many at the meeting put the majority view down to arrogance - thinking that Earth is the only planet which could sustain life - and an inability to cope with concepts as challenging as life on other planets.

Two people at the meeting who provided a contrary viewpoint to most were Reiner Klose and Frank Baker, members of the Astronomy Society of Geelong.

## evidence?

Mr Baker said he had an open mind on the matter. He would not discount the possibility of UFOs but simply asked: "Where is the irrefutable evidence?"

"So much evidence can be manufactured," Mr Klose said. "It is all a matter of interpretation."

Mr Close agreed that there could be no proof until undeniable evidence was produced. But he says he has seen too many things which his scientific mind could not explain to discount the possibility.

So he and his fellow non-discounters (and the rabid believers) will continue the elusive search for proof.

Information about VUFORS can be obtained from Mr Close on 43-6280.



Chairman of the Geelong branch of the Victorian UFO Research Society, Mr Peter Close, right, and society member, Mr Peter Edwards, try to explain the inexplicable at their branch meeting held last week.

Mr Close's fascination with UFOs stems from an encounter with one while a Grade 5 student at Grovedale State School.

Subsequent electronics studies have reinforced his belief that UFOs are not necessarily the product of fertile imaginations.

SOMERSET COUNTY GAZETTE, Taunton, England, Sept. 6, 1991 CR: T. Good

## Corn circle is no hoax says expert

THE 40ft corn circle which mysteriously appeared in former Henry Besley's field at Bathpool was a natural phenomenon and not a hoax, a ufologist has concluded after a close examination.

Doug Cooper, a member of the Devon Ufological Research Organisation and an accredited investigator of the British Ufological Research Association, said he was sure it was a "genuine" circle.

Mr Cooper, who lives at Honiton and is manager of County Walk in Taunton, said there were a number of identifying factors in corn circles caused by natural phenomena. These had been present at Bathpool.

## CARLOS FINALLY LOSES THE PLOT

BRAZILIAN UFOlogist Carlos Reis claims up to two million extra-terrestrials inhabit the earth - but their mission here is not one of destruction.

They're here, he says, to save the earth - a subject about which ETs seem most interested lately (New Age: Saratoga, June 12).

Rio-based Carlos says

the spacemen (and women) are scattered over five continents and - here's the curious part - "have total control of deposits of detonators cancelling out atomic and neutron bombs".

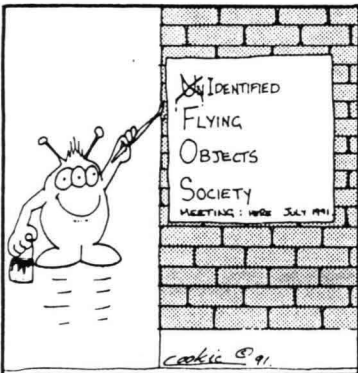
Whatever that means.

Despite this supposed control over our penchant for self-destruction, Reis reckons the ETs have expressed the attitude that: "If the earthlings wish to destroy their planet, that's their problem." So what the hell are they really doing here?

And in another startling revelation, Reis claims that a farmer near Sao Paulo - an area famous for ET-UFO reports - shot an alien in the head. Before the ET died, he zapped the hapless farmer with a leukemia-inducing dose of radiation.

He died, too. Irritatingly, Carlos fails to provide any further information on either yarn. Mr Reis has come up with some interesting stories in the past, but methinks this time he's lost the plot.

PEOPLE, Sydney, Australia July 3, 1991



## Astonishing claims of wartime UFO landing

# Did you share my close encounter?

A DECKHAM man has spoken publicly for the first time about his 'close encounters of a third kind'.

Following a TV chat show on which a man called Rael claimed he had met extra terrestrials, Mr Bob Hall has challenged experts to investigate an alien visit to Gateshead.



BOB as a child, when he says he encountered aliens.

This, he claims, was hushed up by officials.

"I was so annoyed after watching Rael on 'Clive Anderson Talks Back', said 56-year-old Mr Hall.

"His accounts just don't seem accurate, and I should know."

Mr Hall says his bizarre encounter took place 50 years ago in war-time Gateshead.

He recalls watching soldiers marching along Saltwell Road when his attention was captured by what looked like a large egg-shaped balloon falling from the sky.

## FEAR

Mr Hall says he still remembers experiencing an intense fear when, on walking home, he and a dozen other children were approached and surrounded by what he can only describe as alien-looking men.

And he explained how afterwards they were confronted by war-time officials about the



OFFICIALS covered up the truth, says Bob, now 56. (Ref: N2991/7).

incident.

"We were interrogated about what had happened to us by men dressed in uniform and I was interviewed by psychoanalysts for weeks."

Mr Hall claims he was warned against talking to anyone about his sighting which, though he says must have been witnessed by others in Gateshead, was never publicly investigated.

"I was only five-years-old and some people may think that I made the whole thing up. But there must be some people who like myself

witnessed the encounter and who are perhaps still living in Gateshead."

"The other children will now be in their mid-50's to early 60's. I believe they will have kept their word and remained quiet about the aliens' wartime visit."

Mr Hall is still haunted by memories of the aliens' eerie faces: "They all looked very different. Some were horrific, others not so terrifying but I'll always maintain that the beings I saw on Saltwell Road as a child were not from this planet."

BRADFORD TELEGRAPH & ARGUS, Yorkshire, England - Aug. 22, 1991

## Flying saucer scare in village

VILLAGERS have bombarded police with reports of a flying saucer moving through the midnight sky.

Shipley Police received several calls giving details of a brightly shining disc-shaped object gliding above Cottingley.

PC Mick Wilson, of Shipley Police, said they were not taking the UFO sightings seriously.

One observer said: "It was really frightening. I was walking along Stoney Ridge Lane when I saw it in front of me. It was eerie, because it was a very bright light, moving along without a sound."

"It seemed to get really low, and very close to me, so I actually jumped behind a wall to hide from it."

The man refused to be identified for fear his friends would ridicule him.

"I don't usually believe in this kind of thing. But I know I saw it," he added.

He said the UFO looked like the flying saucers in space movies.

Clare Hudson, 18, of Matchcoat Lane, Cottingley, said she saw a disc-shaped, bright light moving through the sky just before midnight.

CR: T. Good



## Of interest

# GOOD GUIDE TO GALAXY

The exhibition "UFO. Visitors from Space and We" was staged in Kiev. This fall it will go to Austria to be displayed there.

According to director of the exhibition Semeon Mendelenko, he and his colleagues tried to systematize the collected material furnishing analytical evidence. "This time a documentary film is the major draw of our exposition", boasted the director. "Scientists from Houston University presented us with it during our exhibition in Luxembourg".

The exhibition piqued intense interest of Kievites and guests to the city and more so, as the director said, succeeded in projecting a certain image of sensationalism. "Probably, that's why we have habitual visitors among the city folk", said Mendelenko. "Currently, we have dreams to turn the exhibition into a spectacular show with mock-ups, light and laser effects so that Ukrainian citizens could forget about shortages, sausages, butter and coupons".

Asked about her personal impression of the exhibition, Svitlana Bilohub, secretary at Kiev University, replied: "Basically, I enjoyed it. I found press clippings to be interesting and educational to read. Referring to pictures exhibited here, I would say that 18-year-old Kiev artist Oleh Stepanov impressed me with his perception of the subject and great ability for painting. I think that we should get more information about UFOs and take things as they are, without sensation. People must be ready for a close encounter with visitors from other planets".

When asked what he thought of the UFO mania here, 46-year-old Norman

V. Elfstrom, lawyer in San Diego, CA, said: "We are now hearing of the landing (alleged) of aliens in the USSR as reported by TASS. Americans went through all that in the 1940s and 1950s. I was alive then and many books and authors would come out telling of their experiences with flying saucers. Perhaps a Soviet man interviewed by TASS, had it right when he commented that the persons who saw these things were having too much vodka. I do not know whether UFOs exist or not, but keep an open mind on the subject. However, one would think that if they do exist, well, then all of us would see them, right?"

## TRUE OR FALSE?

Like a reappearing comet, the old controversy between those who believe and those who scoff at reports of little creatures coming to earth in spaceships is here again. Few scientists think such reports of visitations by extraterrestrial aliens are convincing. Many doubtless think that a belief in UFO abductions by extraterrestrial beings is indicative of a reversion to primitive ways of thinking, a manifestation of superstition. A public opinion poll conducted last March by the Soviet National Public Opinion Studies Center asked Soviet citizens if they believed in UFOs. 33.9 percent answered in the affirmative, 26.7 percent gave the negative answer and 39.4 percent hardly knew what to say.

The modern era of UFO-mania began in 1947, when veteran pilot Kenneth Arnold reported seeing disc-like objects near Mount Rainier in the state of Washington. Press accounts of that incident first used the term "flying saucer". Since then, there have been an estimated 70,000 reports worldwide of

such sightings, and many more that have gone unrecorded. Reports described flying objects that moved at amazing speeds, made right-angle turns, stopped instantaneously.

One well-documented UFO sighting occurred in 1978 just east of New Zealand's South Island. It involved three light sources that were filmed by an Australian TV crew from a plane and intensively analyzed, as were tape recordings made at an air-traffic-control center. The conclusion was that they were true unidentified flying objects — not planets, stars, meteors, weather balloons, aircraft, satellites or atmospheric phenomena.

Semeon Mendelenko believes that people should get some knowledge on the matter because they must be ready for more evidence which could shock them. "When an international agreement on security of relations with phenomena from other planets is to be concluded next year, mankind will be facing greater openness in facts of UFOs", he revealed.

## WHAT'S BEHIND OUR UFO MANIA

Interested in the study of UFOs, Semeon Mendelenko and his like-minded associates displayed enough enthusiasm to collect photos of what purport to be flying saucers, and press clippings on ufology. In 1989 they got an idea to exhibit the collected material to the public. "In the beginning our exhibition presented documentary photographs and clippings", said Mendelenko. "Also, we commissioned artists-contractors to paint pictures for the public display".

In 1990 Semeon Mendelenko and his team went abroad to stage the exhibition in West Berlin and Munich. "The journey allowed us to make acquaintance with German scientists, establish international contacts ranging from American to Brazilian ufology centers and thus add new material to our exhibition", said the director.

Afterward, the Kiev enthusiasts put on the exhibition in Luxembourg, Switzerland

and Poland. This September they plan to go to Australia. "Besides, we have been invited to Belgium and Holland", he added cheerfully.

Sadly, the big headache for Mendelenko and his colleagues is that they still fail to seek out a sponsor for the exhibition. They made an abortive attempt to appeal to Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev ufology associations for help. "Absurdly, ufologists of the Kiev association refused point-blank to cooperate with us", lamented the director, "though we proposed to barter the material collected by foreign ufologists for evidence gathered by Kiev's specialists".

Ironically, said Mendelenko, it is easier to obtain an American photo of a dead humanoid than procure a photo of any suchlike phenomenon in the Soviet Union. "I think that one does not find great pleasure in keeping a photo of the kind under a pillow", observed the director. "Maybe I can explain from the point of view of Soviet psychology why our ufologists are so secretive — we are too tired of common property".

Reaping marginal profits on the exhibition, Mendelenko has to sink a lot of money into purchase of exhibits, advertisement and rent for a showroom. "Profits are really small because among other things, we spend money on correspondence and hire of a computer. So a clear profit allows me to eat my daily bread and butter but I can't yet afford to buy caviar", smiled the director.

On the face of it, our mania continues, four decades after it began. One need only to look up at the firmament on a clear night to feel the lure of the unknown. Walk out on a balmy August night, when shooting stars leave streaking tracks overhead, and the belief will come unbidden that all of that splendor must reflect a reigning intelligence. Maybe such intelligence will give hints to its existence, that visitors from this velvet-dark dome might sojourn among us. Still, the desire to believe the unbelievable continues to burn like a perpetual flame.

VOLODYMYR SYTIN (NFU)

# New witness adds clues in UFO mystery!

THE mystery of strange UFO sightings in North Yorkshire has taken a new twist with another eye-witness stepping forward.

The latest in a series of sightings was reported to the Ryedale STAR by a farmer in Langtoft near Driffield.

The farmer identified himself to the STAR but did not want his name to be published.

He said he was "mesmerised" by the object which passed over the farm like the wind.

He said that his whole family had gone outside the farmhouse to look at the mystery flying object with coloured lights.

He said it did not make any mechanical sound but went by "with the rushing of air like a glider".

The farmer was so concerned he noted down the exact time of the sighting. 11.05pm on the same night a UFO was spotted in Pickering, August 8.

The American and British Air Forces have said they are not responsible for these unidentified flying objects.

A spokesman for the Royal Air Force said British military aircraft did not operate at that time of night.

He added that the RAF was only called out when foreign military aircraft were involved.

He said incidents of unidentified flying objects were more likely to be of interest to

police and customs.

A United States Air Force spokesman said there were no silent stealth bombers operating in Britain to his knowledge.

And he added that the bombers flew so high they would look like stars in the sky.

The farmer from Langtoft said he had seen the flying object four times.

He could not tell how big it was or how low it was. He said: "I know that if I held my hand out at arm's length I could block out the lights but it could have been near or far."

He said it had between ten and 12 lights of different colours with red ones at the back.

The UFO apparently was heading East to West when the farmer was coming home and he saw it again when he got back.

His whole family witnessed the extraordinary event and they are eager to contact anybody else who saw it that night.

The farmer said: "No-one had the presence of mind to get a camera and I wish I had done."

"It was so silent that night you could hear the bats so the thing was making no noise."

On the same date in August a similar sighting was reported near Pickering.

The woman who saw it said: "There was no noise from it at all."

She added that it was coloured with red, green and white light.

The Civil Aviation Authority said the object was too low to have been registered on their radar.



● Aliens, atmosphere or another cause? Reg Poucher stands in the middle of one of the mystery circles which appeared at a Norton Disney farm (3491-4)

# Magic circle?

ANYTHING from atmospheric conditions to aliens may have left their now-familiar mark on a Norton Disney farm.

Two perfectly formed circles have just been discovered in a 30-acre field at Tongues Farm by combine harvester driver Reg Poucher.

Farmer Martin Meredith said they were

first he had seen among has 500 acres of crops.

## Force

"Reg had just started harvesting when he spotted the circles, each about 20 feet across and 60 feet apart. I have no idea how they were formed but I doubt they were a hoax because they were perfect circles," he

said. "The wheat was packed down with such force and there was no path leading to the circles. It must be very difficult for a person to create something like that."

Last year a series of crop circles and strange formations appeared in fields, mainly in the south west of England.

EVENING ECHO, Bournemouth, England - July 23, 1991

# Harry's UFO makes its return over Poole

A BRIGHT, white UFO is said to have re-surfaced over the skies of Poole - nearly a year after it was first spotted.

Amateur astronomer Harry Deemer, who saw the fast, glowing object last September, says he has seen it again three times over the last few weeks.

Harry, a retired factory cleaner, from Green Road, said: "It's exactly the same as last year."

"It's a ball of brilliant, white light. It then disappears and re-emerges as a white speck."

"It moves very fast across the sky, usually heading from Poole towards Wimbome. I see it after 10pm from my garden."

"It is not a falling star and it is not a plane. There is no noise. I know what should be in the skies at night and this thing definitely shouldn't be there. I can't explain it."

Harry's unusual sightings could not be explained by the experts last year.

Sixty-five-year-old Harry added: "Other people may have seen it but don't like to report it, in case it makes them look foolish."

YELLOW ADVERTISER, Colchester, England - Sept. 13, 1991

# UFO spotters come out of closet

SHY UFO spotters in Essex have come forward with tales of eerie sightings, thanks to a *Yellow Advertiser* article, according to Mike Perryman, director of UFO investigations for the London UFO studies group.

Mike, 50, of Chafford Way, Grays, believed people were witnessing phenomena such as UFO sightings and the forming of corn circles around the county but weren't telling for fear of ridicule.

But since he urged readers to speak out, he has received a flood of calls.

"One very important sighting at Southend involved a very large silver cigar shaped UFO releasing three domed top smaller UFOs which quickly sped in the direction of London," he said.

"Several other reports from Basildon, Canvey Island and Tilbury included descriptions of UFOs approximately 100ft above the ground with the classic domed top. This description is similar to those received from all over the world."

Anyone wishing to report similar sightings can contact Mike Perryman on 0375 377280.

# UFOs landing 'in middle of town'

A UFO which landed in the heart of Dunedin crumpled a light stanchion just before impact.

That's the amazing theory of scientist Dr Jan Pajak, who was formerly a lecturer at Otago University.

And he has recorded the voice of a woman who witnessed the landing at about 2 am in mid January 1989.

Dr Pajak is recognised round the globe for his research into Unidentified Flying Objects and the magnetically propelled Magnocraft spaceship.

He resigned from his engineering lecturer's post at Otago University during the Christmas break.

He has kept silent about the reasons for his resignation, but campus rumour has it the university wasn't happy about Dr Pajak's continuing UFO research.

However Dr Pajak won't be silenced about UFOs.

He has video-recorded plenty of 'evidence' that space ships have landed in the bottom half of the South Island.

And he claims Dunedin isn't the only spot they have visited recently.

Queenstown, he claims, has been visited on several occasions and "there too, they landed smack in the middle of town."

He believes the UFO controllers dropped into Dunedin's football ground at 2 am and he taped a woman who said she saw the space ship "shaped like a meteorite" drop over the top of a hill on to the football ground.

By the time the scientist had got on the trail all that was left was a busted light stanchion.

"They obviously misjudged their landing, but I doubt the craft would have been damaged."

"Another bungled landing was in the heart of Queenstown when the visitors from outer space landed in a park area and snapped the top off a rare

By LES WILSON

Chinese Willow tree

"Obviously they were interested in what a rare willow was doing outside China."

Dr Pajak is not the only one who believes UFOs make a habit of landing in the South Island.

His lectures to the general public are in demand particularly when he can pinpoint landing spots and debris.

Dr Pajak, an engineering and computer specialist, was born in Poland and came here in 1982.

He took up a post-doctoral fellowship at the Uni-

versity of Christchurch before moving on to tutor computer programming at Invercargill's Southland Community College.

At 45 he has a swag of degrees and qualifications.

Three years ago he became a senior lecturer at Otago University and has been a New Zealand citizen since 1985.

Dr Pajak raised eyebrows when he said a fleet of war damaged spacecraft exploded over Otago hundreds of years ago, causing the mysterious 'Tapanui' flu.

Huge bush fires followed, probably wiping out the Moa.

The scientist then came up with designs for a revo-

lutionary spacecraft which might be powered by energy from our hydro dams.

He calls it the Magnocraft and his drawings show that it would work via a powerful arrangement of electro magnets drawing electricity from New Zealand's hydro-electric grid.

Dr Pajak says the idea has been round for years and is probably how most flying saucers are powered.

The possibilities of the Magnocraft sparked so much interest in Southland Dr Pajak conducted packed lectures about it.

While continuing his research, Dr Pajak is also planning a trip to his birthplace

## UFO fright

WEST WILTSHIRE ADVERTISER, England  
Aug. 1, 1991 CR: T. Good

A SHOCKED mum told the Advertiser this week how her family gazed astonished as a brightly lit UFO hovered near their Melksham home.

The fish and chip shop owner - who wishes to remain anonymous - spotted the craft on her way home from work with her daughter last Tuesday.

And they were so dazzled by the unexplained object they woke their sleeping family to have a look.

"We saw something sparkling in the sky at 12.10 am it was very big and when we stepped out of the car we could see clearly it was a space ship," she said from her home at Linc Avenue, Melksham.

"My daughter and I were really scared - we decided to wake up my son and mother-in-law to have a look."

By Morag Massey

The businesswoman insists the object was a genuine UFO and claims she wasn't mistaking it for objects such as the moon or a plane.

She tried phoning the Advertiser and Melksham police - but the object disappeared.

"It vanished and left behind incredible circles of smoke in the sky," said the 38-year-old.

Patterns

"I have not seen a crop circle in a field but they sound similar to patterns left in the sky from the UFO."

Richard Tarr, of UFO spotters Quest International, claims there have been reports of similar sightings in the Wiltshire area.

"We have received numerous reports of white, large balls rotating in figures of eight," said Richard.

## STAN GEBLER DAVIES



### UFO spotted in West Cork

Either I have finally gone off my trolley or this is the biggest scoop of my career; possibly both. On Tuesday night, having negotiated the boreen successfully, I found myself outside the front door, bereft, unfortunately, of keys. Nor was I able to rouse the household, not so much as a cat.

I was pondering, therefore, which window to break when I noticed that the moon was behaving oddly. It was in two places at once, and one of its manifestations was bright orange, and oscillating in the most disturbing manner, right behind the pollarded chestnut tree which is one of the glories of our garden.

I was pondering this strange occurrence and wondering maybe had my friend Winky inadvertently put gin in my whiskey when I perceived this orange, oscillating object begin to rise into the sky.

Now I know as well as the next man that the Moon, whatever else it gets up to, does not rise vertically, but on the contrary takes itself gracefully from east to west in a predictable arc.

I came to the conclusion that this was not the Moon. It rose up, slowly at first, in the manner of rockets, then accelerated into the heavens for a full minute or so until, at an altitude of several miles, it was obscured by cloud moving in from the Atlantic.

I had the perfect conviction that it was a space-craft, though years of reviewing science fiction, a job wasted on me by a well-meaning friend, have not convinced me of the existence of extraterrestrial folk, quite the opposite. Nor had I spotted any alien beings in Nolan's pub earlier that evening, or hanging around the quays at Union Hall or Glandore.

So what's up? If Ireland has invested in a crash programme of space exploration, should we not be told? It would do wonders for our morale.

It this was, on the other hand, a mission from outer space why did the creatures not land on Innisvickillaun instead of Union Hall? Possibly they had landed elsewhere in order to seek advice and, having been misdirected, like so many tourists, gave up in despair and went home.

Whatever, I wish they had dropped in on me, for I could do with a bit of distraction and the only aliens I have seen recently are Germans who have come here to buy property.

You may ask what proof I have of this visitation. Unfortunately I had not the wit to break into the house instantly in order to gain access to my camera but evidence that I did not imagine the whole thing is the broken glass on the floor where eventually I gained entry to the house.

So there you are, irrefutable proof that Ireland has been host to beings from the cosmos. And I told you so.

YORKSHIRE GAZETTE, York, England - Aug. 22, 1991 CR: T. Good

## Woman watched as 'silent UFO' hovered over Dalby

AN unidentified flying object has been spotted near Pickering.

The mysterious light was seen twice by two women searching the night sky for shooting stars.

It was watched for about ten minutes as it hovered above Dalby Valley before it set off across the Wolds.

Later that night, there were reports of a UFO sighting over Market Weighton.

A few days earlier, corn circles had appeared in a field near the Wolds town.

One of the women who spotted the UFO over Dalby was certain the object

could not have been a man-made aircraft.

"There was no noise from it at all," said the woman, who did not want to be named.

The RAF confirmed no jets were flying in the area at the time.

And the Civil Aviation Authority said the object was too low to have been registered on their radar.

Meanwhile, unexplained orange lights have been seen darting in and out of clouds near Scarborough.

The woman witness of the Dalby UFO said: "We were out with the dogs looking for shooting stars and I saw

this strange light coming across the sky."

"It was a very still night and we listened but there was no sound coming after it."

The woman said the object was pear-shaped and as big as a car. It was coloured with red, green and white light.

"It went slowly across the village and we could see it going backwards and forwards behind the trees. It was only about 100 to 120ft off the ground."

"Then it turned bright white and just seemed to hang there, then it went off towards Pickering. We'd been watching it for five or six minutes."

A few minutes later, as the woman was locking her door, the UFO returned.

"It hovered over the valley again. We watched it for a while and it started to come a little bit towards us, then it went into the sky and away over the Wolds."

"It can't have been an aeroplane or a balloon because they can't go backwards and forwards, and it wasn't a helicopter because there was no sound at all."

The woman's sightings happened between 11pm and 11.20pm. The sighting over Market Weighton was

reported at 11.30pm.

"There's a UFO convention in Sheffield at the moment so maybe they're coming to have a look," she said.

"It was something very strange; I can't give an answer for it."

"I'm not a Star Trek watcher - I've never understood it. I don't know what it was, but I don't believe we are the only people in the universe. There must be something out there."

Now the woman, who apparently made a similar sighting in the same place three years ago, is to contact a UFO society in Batley to log her experience.

SOUTH WALES ECHO, Cardiff,

Wales - Sept. 20, 1991

CR: T. Good

Don't joke with Welsh comedian Mike Doyle about UFO's. Because he believes he saw one, late one night as he paused at some traffic lights.

"Suddenly this huge orange ball appeared in front of the car and then flew off at great speed. I dashed excitedly out of the car and confirmed with the fellow behind me that he had also seen it. Trouble is, he drove off and no one will believe me!" explains the cabaret star, pictured above.



YORKSHIRE EVENING POST,

Leeds, England - Aug. 13,

1991 CR: T. Good

### 'UFO' spotted

POLICE and RAF chiefs are investigating reports of a UFO spotted in the early hours of today at Elvington Airfield near York.

The mysterious object - around 6ft tall by 20ft wide - was seen falling to the ground by a security guard who was on patrol at the nearby Elvington industrial estate. The guard said the object appeared as an aircraft overhead. He reported the incident to military police at RAF Church Fenton. They in turn alerted police at Selby who despatched two officers to the area but despite an intensive search around the control tower where the object was seen, nothing was found.

GUARDIAN, London, England - Aug. 7, 1991 CR: T. Ruffles/COUD-I

### Battle of the corn circles

HAVE some good news for Dr Terence Meaden, who in John Vidal's article on crop circles (Environment, August 2) says he doesn't care if his meteorological "plasma vortex" theory is wrong, "I just want to know". He is wrong, and here's as good proof of that fact as any.

In the past six years, by Dr Meaden's own count, there have been thousands of crop circles in Britain. If any meteorological theory for their creation is true, then during the six years of the second world war, there must also have been thousands of these crop circles in Britain; especially as a lot of crops were grown then. Therefore, hundreds of them would have been seen by the many thousands of highly trained observers up in the sky throughout those years: the vast num-



bers of aircrew of the RAF and other Allied air forces, including me.

So last year, as a member of the 13,000-strong AirCrew Association, I asked fellow-members through our quarterly journal if any had seen a crop circle - not to be confused with bomb craters and dew ponds - during or even before the war. Answer: it seems none had, despite their attention-getting nature.

Therefore, if the meteorological theory for crop circles is correct, during the war there wasn't any weather. Since there obviously was, Dr Meaden is wrong. Sorry, but I'm glad that, as a true scientist - even though he seems to have missed this vital piece of practical evidence - at least he's said he doesn't care.

Len Clarke.  
Uxbridge, Middlesex.





MOSCOW NEWS, Moscow, USSR - May 26-June 2, 1991 CR: Y. Matsumura

SMALL SENSATIONS

## More on the 'abominable snowman'

Three decades ago news about a monster very much resembling a human being seen in the Pamir Mountains set the public abuzz. One scientific expedition after another set out in the mountains in search of the "abominable snowman". Attracted by the mystery, thousands of volunteers spent their vacations in the hills. Some claimed they saw someone in the dark. Others said they discovered huge footprints. But that was all there was.

Years passed by, and the sensational news lost much of its appeal to the public. Enthusiasts obsessed with the idea of resolving the enigma around the unknown creature were looked upon as if they had a screw loose.

But they were not. Many of them were from the worst of stock. One example is historian Igor Burtsev. Some ten years ago he anticipated that catching the elusive "yeti" was just a matter of time. Today that historian has developed a more realistic and well-balanced approach to the problem, with romanticism dispelled. An authority on the "snowman study", he is still actively involved in research and has amassed a wealth of information. Here is his story.

Some sensational news came from the Saratov Region (in the Volga area) in June 1989, as around forty local residents claimed to have seen several hominoid species - in groups and alone. On September 21 the same year, one hominoid was caught and was kept in an automobile boot for three hours after which the man escaped. This event was examined by the local group of hominologists and reported by the research press. More information arrived last summer confirming the presence of hominoids in the Saratov area.

Some shocking news came from the Leningrad Region where the species was observed on one of the military bases.

The latest findings of Leningrad researchers testify that the "abominable snowman" is a specific biological species - which is dying out at that.

With three decades of research behind, no one so far has succeeded in catching a hominoid. Some hotheads insist on using firearms for that purpose. But most serious-minded researchers believe that only non-violent methods are suitable for studying the snowman.

Apart from the ethical aspect about catching the creature, there is substantial evidence that hominoids possess strong extrasensory abilities, at least a greater part of them. It is not ruled out that they use such abilities to influence the catcher's mind which may ultimately cause the man's death. This probably explains, in part, the meagre results of years of search. For example, the only film about hominoids was made by an American named R. Patterson who, soon after meeting with the creature died from a brain tumour.

In a short novel, "A Fight for Trogodytes", Professor Porshnev wrote: "In the first place we shouldn't try to catch them. Instead, we should photograph them, sort of tame them and set up preserves where they can be kept safely. This kind of work requires lots of patience."

So, the mystery of the "abominable snowman" remains and calls for further research.

Sovetskaya Rossiya



"Can I help you?"

The creature in question is commonly referred to as an "abominable snowman", or "yeti", or "almasty". These creatures, apparently of terrestrial origin, usually inhabit remote and seldom visited mountain valleys. The data available suggests that they only outwardly resemble human beings. Their habits reveal that they belong to the animal family. They have no articulate speech, nor do they use tools or fire, nor are they aware of clothing. They are mostly active in darkness. Their body is covered with thick hair which is often mistaken for fur. Strictly speaking, they are neither human beings nor anthropoid apes.

Researchers in the Soviet Union have adopted the term "hominoid" to describe the creatures, and to emphasize their old age, add an epithet "relict". Till now the existence of relict hominoids remains a scientific hypothesis. But there are many convincing arguments in its favour: about three thousand accounts of meetings with hominoids, several hundred foot- and fingerprints, as well as some other evidence.

For example, in the Caucasus information about "almasty", as it is called there, has been collected since the late 1950s. A whole track of footprints was discovered in 1978. As many as 16 seasons have been spent by expeditions in the Pamir Mountains. In 1979, I was a member of one such expedition and had the luck of making a plaster-cast of 35-cm-long footprints. The same expedition boasts two meetings with hominoids, both extensively documented. I talked to the eyewitness immediately after his encounter with the two-metre-high creature at midnight. Footprints found next morning confirmed his story.

Rich material about hominoids has been collected in the Komi Republic, the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous District, and Yakutia (in the north of the Soviet Union). Widely known are eyewitness accounts of the "marked one" in Western Siberia. The "marked one" is a local nickname for a species found there, which has a large white spot on its forehead. There is one other hominoid in the Kola Peninsula whom the local population calls "Afonya".

THE EUROPEAN, London, England - May 31, 1991

## Loch Ness monster pops up in Lapland

HAD NESSIE migrated north? Could it be that the notoriously-elusive Loch Ness monster had tired of her native Scotland and sought out the more sedate waters of the Baltic? Or could it be that Scandinavia had spawned its own version of the famous underwater creature.

These are the questions that police in the Finnish port, Hanko, inundated by reports of strange sea monsters, were asking themselves this week. Had the Finns succeeded in finally solving the Hibernian enigma?

Sadly, no. The explanation for the mysterious sightings turned out to be more mundane. The Finnish Nessie was nothing more than St Nicolas II, a 44-tonne, 12-passenger tourist submarine plying its trade off Finland's south-west coast.

"You must realise that most Lapps are real nomads and reindeer herders. To them seeing a submarine moving across a lake is akin to Londoners sighting a space-ship in Hyde Park," the submarine boss, Matti Malmeri, explained. He added: "There are all kinds

of legends about this lake concerning ghostly figures - sad stories of lovers drowning themselves and whose restless spirits haunt the lake by night."

The Hanko incident echoed similar sightings of Nessie in Lake Simojarvi in Lapland. Exactly a year ago, police had also been flooded with calls -



A monster? A sub? Or neither?

that time from bewildered Lapps stopped dead in their deer tracks by bizarre movements in the water.

Detectives, more used to filing lost reindeer reports than searching

for strange monsters, tracked that Nessie to a lake-side tourist submarine terminal.

That time, the culprit was rather larger - it was the sister submarine of the St Nicolas II, the 46-seater St Nicolas I.

The Scandinavians seem particularly prone to such delusions.

Across the North Sea, in Iceland, a recent survey revealed that 55 per cent of the islanders believe in the possibility of the existence of elves.

Gerard O'Dwyer

CR: H. Bauer/COUD-I

SUN, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada - Aug. 2, 1991 CR: M. Strainic

## Aliens or ... pop goes weasel

### Mutilations questioned

EDMONTON (CP) — When Hank Skarliski found one of his pregnant cows dead in a feedlot, its tongue cut out and the fetus ripped from its body, he was frightened and worried.

But police and veterinarians are skeptical of such fear. They say the damage was likely the work of Mother Nature herself.

A farmer for 40 years, Skarliski says he had never seen anything like it. He discovered the carcass of the six-year-old cow last February behind his house near St. Paul, about 130 kilometres northeast of Edmonton.

The top half of the cow's udder was removed. One eye was pulled from its socket. The cow's cheek was peeled back.

"My theory is occultists," Skarliski says. "It could even be space people; I don't know, but I lean towards occultists."

Skarliski is one of several Prairie farmers who believe that unexplained deaths and mutilations in their herds are the work of cults.

"There's always a possibility these could be cult-related," says RCMP Cpl. Owen Arthur of Saskatoon, who specializes in cult activities.

"But it has never been proven one way or another."

Eugene Janzen, a herd medicine specialist at the University of Saskatchewan, examined the carcass of a four-year-old Charolais-cross found in early July by Ron Watson on his ranch east of Saskatoon.

Watson believes the cow was cut up for some form of ritual. But Janzen has no doubt it was simply scavenged by a variety

of birds and small animals that feast on soft, high-protein internal organs and genitalia.

The cow's udder was "pretty chewed up," says Janzen. Scavengers had "pecked out the eyes and eaten out the bum."

"It looked like someone had taken a spade to the rectum ... it was pretty rough."

But Watson insists the cuts made to remove the udder and anus from his cow were almost surgically precise.

"I could see knife cuts," says Watson, suggesting the veterinarian may not want to cause a panic by admitting the cow was ritually carved.

### Scavenging patterns

"There was no question it had to be done with a knife," says Watson.

"Whoever did it was careful. They took what they wanted. It wasn't hacked off."

Janzen believes a metabolic disorder brought on by recent wet weather may have caused the cow to collapse.

He says the rancher admitted he has rarely seen a cow die in pasture and may not recognize scavenging patterns.

Watson and Skarliski both say their cows appeared healthy and were left unattended overnight before they died.

Skarliski called police to investigate but didn't request a post-mortem to discover what killed his cow. Like Watson, he insists the wounds on the cow's body were clean and precise.

"It had to be done by a sharp

instrument — it was definitely no scavenger."

Arthur says only a few cases of cattle mutilation have been reported to the RCMP this year, including one near Lloydminster on the Saskatchewan-Alberta boundary.

Although he knows of no pattern to ritualistic slayings in cattle, Arthur says Satanic cults typically take the eyes and blood from small animals for use in ceremonies.

Spates of cattle mutilation in the early and mid-1980s raised fears that animals were being slain for cult activities.

But Nick Nation, a veterinarian with the Alberta government, examined several of those cases and found many to be the work of scavengers.

He says some scavengers can baffle ranchers who try to figure out what happened to their dead livestock.

For example, weasels have been known to tunnel into a dead cow through the anus or other openings, gorge on internal organs and then exit, leaving no visible external damage.

In a research paper for a Canadian veterinary journal, Nation dismissed the "wild speculation" of ranchers who blame cults, aliens or deranged people for the deaths of their cattle.

He says scavengers routinely target the soft parts of a carcass, including the eyes, nose, tongue, anus and udder — the parts routinely missing in reports of cattle mutilation.



Staff photo □ Vaughn Youtz

Sasquatch hunters Terry Albright, left, and Peter Guttilla with casts of footprints made by Bigfoot.

## Bigfoot quest is more than a hobby

By CRAIG VAN ROOYEN  
Of the Independent

The quest started when someone — or something — started banging on Peter Guttilla's house in the middle of a cold Wisconsin night.

Two-years old at the time, Guttilla remembers his mother calling the police who discovered "snowshoe" tracks in the soft snow out-

□ *Ever hopeful, a local Corona man continues his quest for Bigfoot. The joy, he says, is in the search.*

side the small clap-board home.

The funny thing about those tracks, Guttilla said — they had toes.

It was the beginning of a 40-

year quest that has cost the Corona man thousands of dollars, shot down his reputation as a reasonable human being and pushed him into the wilderness over and over in

search of giant furry creatures.

After 40 years and only one sighting, Guttilla is still consumed with finding the legendary creature known as Bigfoot, Sasquatch, Yeti, Skunk Ape and the Abominable Snowman.

"I want to stand 10 feet away from one, look up into its nostrils and say, 'Hah! See

researcher. I don't care what people think. It's there, we're interested in it and we'll keep researching until we're satisfied."

They collect evidence by trekking through the woods, listening for Bigfoot's high-pitched screams, ever on the lookout for a track in the soft earth that will yield a plaster cast.

"We get our knees dirty," Albright said. "And we go where fools fear to tread. You learn to do that as a bigfooter."

Guttilla tells the story of sitting in a lonely mountain cabin in Washington, listening to the unearthly screaming of some unidentified wild creature that a horrified elderly lady had captured on tape by sticking her recorder out of the cabin window one night.

Witnesses range from doctors and lawyers to farmers, Guttilla said. Most are reluctant to recount their sightings and are relieved to find somebody who won't laugh at them. "We're trying to overcome the ridicule barrier," he said.

Both have had only one nocturnal encounter with Bigfoot during the years of searching, Albright said. One night in 1975 the headlights of

his truck flashed onto a hairy creature that jumped over the road in one bound, Albright said.

"It was either Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in a fur suit or Bigfoot," he said.

There have been many sightings in Riverside and San Bernardino counties, Guttilla said, especially along unpopulated stretches of the Santa Ana river. Sasquatch has even been seen in Corona and Norco, he said. "There is something there," Guttilla said. "These creatures are roaming around in the wilderness."

Scientists and others, however, scoff at Sasquatch. The lack of physical evidence and unexplored territory on the globe make Bigfoot a hard concept to swallow.

"All the evidence I've seen is highly circumstantial and photographic," said R. Ervin Taylor, Jr., professor of anthropology at the University of California, Riverside. "The easiest way to prove Bigfoot is to come up with a skeleton."

In addition, a species must maintain a minimum population to remain viable, Taylor said. There are few areas of the world where a population of this size could exist without

detection he said.

"Large, giant-sized beings have been in the mythology of many cultures," Taylor said. "But the reality that they actually exist has never been proved. It is not unusual for individuals to see things and misinterpret them."

But Guttilla and Albright have grown skin as thick as the plaster casts they tout as Bigfoot's prints. They aren't looking for acceptance from the scientific world or from cognitive skeptics who laugh at their naivete. Their quest is one of singleminded intensity.

And in a sense the search is an end in itself. "We don't believe we're wasting our time," Guttilla said. "The joy is in the search. I'd much rather be out in the wilderness under the stars, looking for this wonderful creature than on a vacation in Bermuda."

"Somehow a vacation loses its appeal when I could be somewhere else having the experience of a lifetime," he said.

But during weekdays, the Bigfoot quest is put on hold while the two researchers earn a living. "Our families don't go hungry so Daddy can look for Sasquatch," Guttilla said.

folks, there really is a Bigfoot," Guttilla said.

For Guttilla, 45, and his research partner Terry Albright, 40, of La Verne, there is no doubt. Sasquatch is a living, breathing creature that interacts with the physical world.

The conviction has prompted them to recently form a nationwide network to exchange information and investigate sighting reports.

The research follows no prescribed scientific model. Albright and Guttilla spend much of their time fielding phone calls from Sasquatch sighters on their Bigfoot hot line, 1-800-800-1950.

The reports describe the creatures as hairy bi-peds that average eight to nine feet in height, are covered with coarse hair that varies from black to white, stink like dead meat and leave human-like tracks with large bare feet, Guttilla said.

The two also work with the Bigfoot Co-Op, a bi-monthly newsletter that chronicles Bigfoot sightings and is sent to 100 people on an international mailing list.

Anthropologist Constance Cameron, curator of Cal State Fullerton's anthropology museum, edits the newsletter and oversees lab analysis of hair and other materials collected by researchers.

"We're enthusiasts not fanatics," Guttilla said. That does not mean they don't take the search seriously.

Sometimes it involves packing into an isolated section of Southern California wilderness to investigate a sighting. Sometimes it means staying up two or three nights straight compiling and comparing witnesses' stories.

Always it means facing the ridicule associated with the quest for Sasquatch.

"My reputation was shot down in clumps years ago," Guttilla said. "But I'm a

however, is more than a hobby. It will prove important to the entire human race, he said.

"I'm not Don Quixote out there going after windmills," he said. "We're doing this because we think it is going to have an impact on human kind. We're expanding people's horizons. If we all took a little more time to wonder, it would be good for everybody's soul."

He and his wife, Luzita, run a Corona cleaning service and Guttilla supplements the income by writing for magazines on the paranormal like "Saga" and "Probe the Unknown."

Albright does special effects work in the film industry and some free-lance writing. Both of the Bigfoot searchers are currently working on a book they call "Creatures."

The Sasquatch search,

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Aug. 8, 1991

## Monstrous Ogopogo tale surfaces

Canadian Press

VERNON — Ogopogo, the legendary monster of Okanagan Lake, has surfaced again.

"We couldn't believe what we were seeing," waitress Sue Court said Wednesday.

"We could see this black thing sticking out of the water. It was only there for a minute, and then it was gone."

Carman Zieinan, who operates a jet-ski rental operation on an adjacent lot, was among the first to notice the disturbance.

"I looked out and saw these huge white wakes moving up the lake," he said. "They were moving against the rest of the waves, and in the opposite direction the wind was going."

Unlike a boat wake, which gets smaller, he said, "it kept coming up and up and up, and then it would die down, and then get stronger again."

Zieinan said the area of churning water was about 600 metres offshore, at a point where a steep drop-off causes the water depth to plunge more than 200 metres.

CR: M. Strainic



By Bechetta Jackson  
OF THE TIMES HERALD STAFF

## Six cats found dissected in Plano

PLANO — Police are warning cat owners to keep their pets inside after the remains of at least six felines, which appear to have been killed in a ritualistic manner, have been found.

In addition to the slain cats, some 30 to 35 cats have been reported missing from four areas of the suburban city since July, said Sgt. Steve Nagy of the department's crime prevention unit. On Thursday, police received just more than 100 calls from concerned residents inquiring about the animals, he said.

Each of the deceased animals was dissected with a sharp object, Nagy said. In most cases, only parts of the cats were left, and in one instance the internal organs had been removed. The carcasses were dumped near residential areas and along park paths.

"I suppose that was done to make sure everyone got a good look at them," Nagy said.

"Everyone wants to know what's going on, but we can't tell them," Nagy added. "We know some-

thing is happening. Something's definitely going on here, but at this point we're not exactly sure what."

The missing cats are from the Pioneer Park and Willow Bend areas, the vicinities of Coit Road and Denham Way, and West Parker Road and Clark Parkway, Nagy said.

In the Denham Way neighborhood, Nancy Struthers knows of five cats that have disappeared, among them her roommate's cat Frisco, who has been gone since July 17.

"I think we were probably the first ones to get suspicious," she said. "There's something very fishy going on around here."

Struthers said she believes the people stealing the cats belong to some cult. "These cats are disappearing at night. They're well-fed, neutered ... there's no reason for them to leave home."

Police are uncertain if the deaths are satanic or cult-related. "It could just be some kids just having their fun in an odd way. We're still very new into our investigation at this point."

Anyone with information on the missing cats is asked to call Detective Mike Box at 516-2448.

## Cherokee sculptor's creation tells story of the 'Little People'



John Parris

### ROAMING THE MOUNTAINS

nobody ever sees them there any more. The carving tells the story.

"But the Little People of Cherokee legend are still here in the mountains, inhabiting small caves in the rocks. They are generally 'good fairies.'"

Lloyd Carl Owle said he had never seen any of the Little People.

"But my father, Lloyd Solomon Owle, who was 81 years old when he died in 1981, saw them," he said. "He and a whole group of people chased a little man around the old Cherokee boarding school when he was a little boy of 11 or 12 years old. They saw him several times."

"Dad said the little man would appear on a stump, and when they approached him he would disappear and then reappear on a rock. He said they never could catch up with the little man. The old men of the tribe told him that the little man he saw was one of the Little People."

During the Kituwah exhibition, Owle will be showing his work and demonstrating his art.

He is recognized at home and abroad as a master hand at sculpting in pipestone.

And through his unique carvings he is preserving

them how to make traps and things like that.

"But evidently all that didn't work. The sea gulls and the other birds finally destroyed the Little People of the coast."

That's the reason

the history and legends of his Cherokee ancestors who were carving effigies out of stone centuries before Michelangelo ever chiseled a masterpiece.

As a boy he grew up here on the Qualla Boundary of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians with a pocketknife and the feel for creating things with it out of wood.

When he was barely hoe-handle-high, he helped his father make bows and arrows for sale. He made whistles out of willow and fashioned rabbit traps and miniature watermills.

By the time he entered high school, he was carving animals and birds.

And then, with a dream of telling the story of his people in sculpture, he began studying under Amanda Crowe, the celebrated Cherokee carver and sculpture teacher.

It was then that he began the creation of unique sculptural carvings depicting the history and legends of his Cherokee ancestors.

He began working in pipestone, as well as wood, and turned out his first masterpiece in stone: The Great Buzzard, which according to Cherokee legend created the mountains and the valleys in a flight looking for land after the Great Flood.

Following the Big Buzzard, he turned out one of his most ambitious pieces — a group study of "The Trail of Tears: The Family," which depicts the removal of the Cherokee to lands in the West in 1838 when all but a handful of Cherokee were forced into exile.

Later he created a piece called "Legend of Tsali," the Cherokee who gave his life before a firing squad so that a remnant of his people might remain in the land of their birth.

The carving told the story of Tsali from the time

his mother held him in her arms until his death. It showed masks and beliefs of Tsali, his children, and how he lived in the hills close to nature.

Near the bottom he depicted the cave under Clingman's Dome in which Tsali hid. From there the story unfolded around feathers streaming from the mother's head. And he showed the dreams Tsali had while hiding, of the cruelty of the white man and what Tsali really wanted in life.

The carving was made from native pipestone, weighing approximately 145 pounds, 48 inches high, and 15 inches wide and approximately 8 inches through.

Owle's unique carvings have gone into private collections all over America, Great Britain, Western Europe and the Middle East. King Hussain of Jordan wears one of his pendants.

Unlike many a Cherokee boy today, he grew up at the knees of the wise old ones of the tribe: The medicine men, the storytellers, the keepers of the myths and legends.

His grandfather taught him how to chip stone into arrowheads and how to translate the signs of nature.

Mose Owl, the last of the great Cherokee storytellers and the keeper of the tribe's history and lore, filled his young head with the myths and legends of an ancient people.

His great-great-grandfather was Drowning Bear, one of the the great Cherokee chiefs who was a reformer and a dreamer and created and enacted the first prohibition law in America.

Another of his famous kinsmen was Suyeta, the Chosen One, who was a great storyteller and a preacher.

## Mysterious structures on bottom of lake

*Divers believe items manmade, 3,500 years old*

By Margaret Krueger  
Watertown Daily Times

LAKE MILLS, Wis. (AP) — Divers say a recent expedition to the bottom of Rock Lake revealed more details about two underwater structures that appear to be manmade and are described by some as pyramids.

Lloyd Hornbostel of Roscoe, Ill., a summer resident of Lake Mills, and two divers from Illinois spent the day taking underwater photos of two areas of the lake where they believe structures are located.

"The first site we studied is where the traditional pyramids are supposed to be located," Hornbostel said.

"It looks like a mounded cigar, cut in half. It is 50-feet long and eight-to-10-feet wide, and comes off the bottom about five feet or more," he said.

"It is made very neatly with piles of stones all about the same size, very geometric. It is man-made, but we don't know what it is. It also has the east-west orientation, but we don't know what that means."

He said the other site, off Bartel's Beach, further north, "looks like a foundation and has a rim of rock."

"It is close to 200 feet long and 60 feet wide. It almost looks like a frame or fencing. It was very definitely put there by somebody," he said.

He added that the depth where the structures were studied coincides with dates previously pinpointed which are believed to be about 1500 to 3000 B.C.

"Unfortunately, the water quality was not all that good. With the rain and cool weather, we only had eight feet of visibility so it was difficult to take pictures," Hornbostel explained.

Most of the diving to study the unusual structures is done in spring, fall and winter when water clarity is best.

The divers are members of a small group of people from Wisconsin and Illinois who are attempting to identify mysterious structures built prior to glaciers which changed the configuration of the land and lake.

The group believes the structures were used between 1500 and 3000 B.C. by ancient residents of the area. The Rock Lake area may have been a portaging place for traders transporting copper from Upper Michigan.

Legends have persisted for years about underwater rock structures in Rock Lake. The structures were first reported by hunters and fishermen in the early 1900s when water in the lake was low because of drought. Some of the structures appeared to look like temple mounds and they began to be referred to as pyramids.

# Legends live in Tulalip elders' stories

By SANDY CRIDER  
Herald Writer

**TULALIP** — The stories that Tulalip elders Raymond Moses and Frank F. Madison tell can transport a listener back to long ago campfire nights of bear robes and snuffling animal noises in nearby bushes.

Or were the noises from the legendary "Stee-Tathi," mysterious, nocturnal Indians who wielded hypnotic and ventriloquistic powers to baffle and overcome their prey? Or was Sasquatch nearby?

Both elders are proud of their heritage and share legends, traditional wood carvings and the anatomy of today's tribes through community and school presentations. They also participate in noontime activities with Tulalip senior services that concentrate on heritage preservation.

Madison has for many years spoken to area groups, emphasizing more modern aspects of Native American culture. He also tries to dispel myths and stereotypes to promote cross-cultural understanding.

"Children have a tendency to think natives are primitive, running around in feathers," he said. "Many don't realize how much natives contributed to America's beginnings."

Moses speaks to local students also, but emphasizes more traditional themes. His visits concentrate on legends that promote family unions and reflect ancient ways. A photograph of Moses accompanied a July 1990 National Geographic article describing Native Americans efforts to preserve traditional ways, based on fish-oriented lifestyles.

The dying art of legend telling is how each generation's wisdom was preserved. "This is how I learned," Moses said recently, using measured, low tones.

"My grandmother said this is how to pass our history to your children's children's children's children. This is how we preserved our history. We were to repeat the legends exactly, not changing anything."

"We had to listen, listen, listen. Not listening showed you had no respect. We were always taught to respect our elders. It was a slap in the face of your people if you did not respect and listen to your elders. To interrupt or ask questions showed you were not listening and was the sign of a low-class person."

"While we fixed traps or wove baskets, nighttime story telling entertained and taught at the same time."

"I was taught that how I treated my elders is how I would be treated. We were taught never to make fun of crippled or unfortunate people, because we would never know if it might happen to us."

Most legends have a purpose. They either teach a moral or a lesson or explain how an animal came by its behavior or appearance.

"Last winter, there was a boy acting up," Moses said. "An elder sat him down and told him about Rock Cod."

"Rock Cod was bossy. He would tell the fish, 'Flounder, go over there. Octopus go over to those rocks.' The fish people got tired of Rock Cod. They thought he was stuck up. They told Rock Cod they were going to throw a party for him."

"They all got there and Rock Cod sat on his rock, expecting much praise. 'I'll get the praise I deserve,' he thought. Then, one by one, the fish got up, nose to nose with him and angrily chewed him out. That's why, when you



The Herald/JOHN KETCHAM

Raymond Moses and Frank Madison, Tulalip elders, reflect their proud heritage in the stories they tell.

see Rock Cod today, he's still in the rocks."

The lesson was not lost on the youngster, as he did not want to experience such a confrontation with his parents.

Legends also teach how animals obtained certain characteristics.

"Beaver, he wanted to marry Fieldmouse," Moses said. "He thought she was cute. He asked her to marry him. She said, 'No. You are too fat.' He was lovesick. He thought, 'I'll climb up a cedar tree so I can make a cedar bark girdle. Fieldmouse saw Beaver in his girdle and thought, he doesn't look so bad. But the girdle broke and knocked Fieldmouse far away. That is why the mouse never walks in a straight line, like they are dizzy.'"

Moses also shared a more recent happening involving the elusive Sasquatch or Bigfoot.

"There are some people who have seen Bigfoot," he said. "But they are dead and gone. In the 1850s, three people from here were up on the Snohomish River to dry salmon. They found a big, hairy body, big like Sasquatch. It took all three to move the body into the long 16-foot river canoe and it's fast hung over the end of the canoe. It took three people to bury him."

Frank Madison recalls two Bigfoot sightings. He was deep in the woods working with his cousin.

"My cousin decided to go home early. I stayed to cut shingles bolts. It was dusky, getting dark. My little terrier, Spottie, opened his mouth, but nothing came out. His hair stood straight up. 'What's the matter,' I asked him.

"I turned around to see a tall figure. I couldn't see a face

or see any eyes. It was in the shape of a huge person. I grabbed Spottie, ran down the road and headed for home."

"When we went back the next day, there were large indentations in the grass and steps that were very far apart. There were no stumps or trees to mistake for a person, so he must have been there."

Madison also recalls when his entire family saw Bigfoot through the big dining room window of his grandmother's house.

"My grandfather had run, got his ax and my cousin ran to get his gun. We saw the figure running across the edge of the field, but he disappeared into the woods. Again, we saw large footprints and wide steps in the grass," he said.

Madison also told about the legend of the "Stee-Tathi" or wild Indians.

"The stories are conflicting," he said. "It depends on the historian or people telling of it."

The Stee-Tathi had no villages or camps. They always traveled at night and have mystical powers.

"My cousin Joe swears up and down that footprints around his house are Stee-Tathi," Madison said. "No one ever sees them, though. They are said to be very strong, not friendly but not unfriendly. They like to play tricks, like tie a horse by his hooves up to a tree. They are a mystery to all."

The elders would make sure the young ones sat and listened so they would behave, both elders emphasized. If they did not listen well, the Stee-Tathi would get them.

## The Magazine Reader

# August & the Outer Limits Of Science

By William Booth  
Washington Post Staff Writer

It is a strange world out there, and August is the time to ponder it. Grasshoppers from outer space are playing doctor with housewives from Wyoming. Little girls in the Soviet Union are acting like human magnets. Ancient tribes are doodling on the desert floor. And, perhaps most disturbing of all, a fog of cholesterol gas hangs over Los Angeles.

## Alien Nation

In the *Atlantic*, we learn the folks who say they were abducted by aliens are not crazy after all. Instead, they really might have had their sexual organs probed by little men with cat eyes who circled over Omaha in saucer-shaped hovercraft. Imagine that! In the *Atlantic*. Written by "a noted psychiatrist." It must be true.

James S. Gordon, a professor of psychiatry at Georgetown University School of Medicine, always thought of UFO abductees as curious but harmless souls, victims of an interesting delusion, yes, but ordinary, no. Then Gordon visits Leo Sprinkle's annual Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation. A kind of group grope for abductees, the conference participants undergo hypnosis and relate tales of their close encounters. "Hi, I'm Mary and I had my genita-

lia closely investigated by a giant grasshopper wearing skin-tight black coveralls." Gordon is impressed at how ordinary they appear. How sane. How reasonable. How...

Is Gordon a sap? He sure seems like a real Gomer Pyle to me. He cites one study on how normal the abductees are. Above-average intelligence. Assertive. Self-sufficient. "A willingness to think experimentally." The study was done by a woman who was abducted. Hmmm. And the data? Collected by conference organizer Leo Sprinkle himself, who has experienced at least three close encounters.

Funny, most of the abductees report the aliens were extremely interested in their private parts. It seems those space creatures can't wait to get their probes in us. Gordon raises the possibility that contactees were sexually abused, perhaps as children, and that they transferred the experience into a UFO delusion. Sounds plausible to me. But not to Gordon.

Perhaps even now, grasshoppers in clingy

coveralls are circling over Georgetown. A pod is lowered. A probe is prepared. . . .

## Occidental Occult

In the Soviet Union, there is a surge in interest in the occult. It seems the first "scientifically designed" society is cracking up and gripped by all manner of weirdness, according to Soviet academician Sergei Kapitza in the August *Scientific American*. Mystics, seances, UFOs, folk healers, ESP, and best of all, a 10-year-old girl from Soviet Georgia who attracts metal objects. There's a Tass photo of her with spoons stuck to one hand and an iron stuck to the other. Amazing!

Kapitza attributes Soviet society's rejection of things scientific to the current upheavals, which are sending panicky comrades into the arms of charlatans. During periods of social turmoil, the populace seeks answers in cults and mysticism. Chernobyl didn't help matters either. Kapitza believes the nuclear disaster

sparked a belated anti-technology backlash.

## The Bottom Line

In the July-August issue of the *Sciences*, Anthony F. Aveni and Helaine Silverman offer a new interpretation of the famous Nazca lines on the pampas of Peru. The lines stretch hundreds of yards, even miles, across the desert floor. Seen from an airplane, these curlicues, spindly animals, plants, giant birds and long lines have mystified and amazed us since they were discovered in the 1940s.

Who etched the lines and why? Sensational explanations, as they say, have abounded. "Prominent among them are proposals that the lines served as runways for spaceships carrying extraterrestrial visitors or that they marked the courses of prehistoric food races," write Aveni and Silverman. "Another explanation, inspired by the striking sight the markings present from the air, holds that the people of ancient Nazca made the outsize patterns to be admired by the gods—or by pre-Columbian aeronauts floating over the pampas in hot-air balloons."

As tempting as the spaceship runway explanation is, most scholars have opted for a more somber theory. The lines are part of a great astronomical textbook. They are star maps. A celestial calendar. A sort of Stonehenge of the pampas.

Well, maybe not. "Seen from the air, the pampa of Nazca looks more like an unerased blackboard at the end of a busy day of class," the authors write. A star map doesn't make sense, they argue, because the constellations the lines appear to track are more important in the Northern Hemisphere than the Southern.

Aveni and Silverman believe the lines were crucial in elaborate rituals to bring water to the desert. The giant lines do not take that long to make (it took a group of volunteers an hour to make a spiral 30 feet across), and the authors suggest that ancient dancers might have laid out their tracks, and then danced along them, a devotional doodling to call for water and rain runoff from the Andes.