

# UFO

## NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

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ROUTE 1 — BOX 220

PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U.S.A.

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: LUCIUS FARISH

MARCH 1992

NUMBER 272

UNION LEADER, Manchester, NH - March 5, 1992 CR: D. Bradley

## Did a UFO Buzz Concord Tuesday Night?

### Driver Says He Saw, Heard Large Object With Pulsating Lights Overfly Route 3A

By MAUREEN MILLIKEN  
Union Leader Staff

Roger Cross isn't sure what flew over his car while he was driving on Route 3A in Concord Tuesday night, but he knows it was like nothing he has ever seen before.

Cross thinks it may have been a UFO.

And he isn't the only one in the state who saw the huge, triangular object with pulsating lights.

Radio station WNNH in Henninger reported getting "very serious calls" yesterday morning

about similar sightings.

Starting at about 6 p.m., people in Claremont, Newport, Bradford, Salisbury, Penacook and Concord, saw what Cross saw, although the other sighting were of something at a much higher altitude, according Cheryl A. Powell, an investigator for Mutual UFO Network. She said the witnesses were "pretty shook up, but excited."

Cross, of Concord, was on his way to Manchester on Route 3A, near the Interstate 93 overpass, at about 7:50 p.m. when he heard a

sound he still had trouble describing 24 hours later.

"When I first heard the noise I thought I was going to get hit by an aircraft," he said. He pulled his car over and saw a triangular object which he described as "two or three times the size of Rollins Park" flying about 400 or 500 feet above the road.

"It was awesome in size," he said.

But he said it was the sound of the object that kept him up all night wondering.

"It's one thing to see some-

thing you've never seen before, but hearing a noise you've never heard before is another thing," he said.

The best way he could describe the noise is "sounding like increasing rain on a summer night on a canvas tent."

Last night, Cross, Powell and others planned to go back to the site to see if there's a return visit.

Cross said it's his "big hope" to see it again.

"Last night I wish I'd had a little more time," he said. "I wish I had time to take it in."

Powell said that two years ago there was a similar sighting in almost the same spot. Last night, she wasn't ready to say for sure if Tuesday's sighting was a UFO, but said it merited investigation.

In an interview a year ago, after a possible UFO sighting in Webster, she said cynics should be more open-minded.

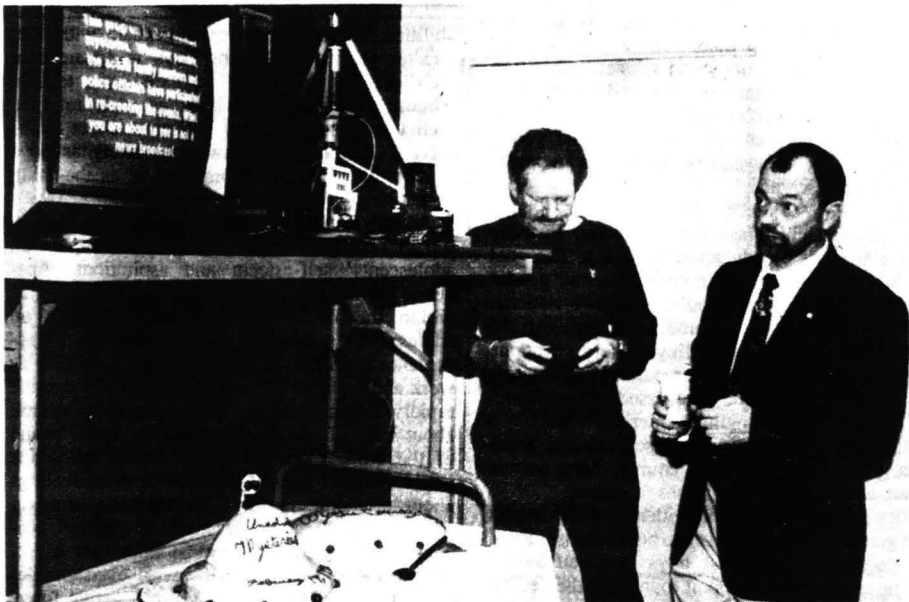
"It seems more probable that there's more than we know, there's no reason to doubt it."

Cross, unemployed since September after working at Grapone Ford, has similar feelings.

"Personally, I hope and believe," he said. "They've been around in all shapes and sizes for many years and maybe something good will come out of all of it, like a cure for cancer. Or maybe there's nothing to it. Everyone's entitled to their opinions."

"But there's things our thoughts can't conceive of."

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA ENTERPRISE, Wytheville, VA - Feb. 22, 1992 CR: D. Gordon



WYVE News Director Danny Gordon stares intently at the television screen as Unsolved Mysteries segment of Wythe County's UFOs begins. Roger Hall also featured in the program stands nearby. (Photo by Bill Byrum)

## Unsolved Mysteries' segment on UFOs brings positive reactions

By BILL BYRUM and  
STEPHANIE PORTER  
Staff Writers

Soft drinks were poured into cups decorated with Martians and spaceships. Nervous laughter carried through the room, as people cast anticipatory looks at three television sets in the room's front. Frequent glances at people's watches indicated a desire to be ready at 8 p.m.

The scene was carried out at Wytheville's Holiday Inn as Danny Gordon and 50 others prepared to watch the premier

of Unsolved Mysteries' 100th episode featuring the UFO drama centered in Wythe County in 1987.

Many of the people in the room were there to see how they looked and sounded on television. Some came to see how the NBC program treated Wytheville and Wythe County. The crowd was peppered with television and newspaper journalists ready to record reactions.

Silence fell quickly as "shh" filled the air at the program's beginning. The segment was the

program's lead feature. The crowd followed every word as the commentator gave a history of UFO sitings and the locally filmed segment began.

At the program's end, several people breathed a sigh of relief that the area was portrayed well in the show. Mayor Trent Crewe stated that he felt the show had treated the issue fairly and well. It was serious and realistic, he added. They didn't try to explain what couldn't be explained, he said.

FOTO NEWS, Merrill, WI - Nov. 20,  
1991 CR: M. Anderson/R. Heiden

### UFO reported in county

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department received reports and queries about an unidentified flying object spotted at about dusk Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Milton Gohdes, whose farm is near the Marathon and Lincoln county line, reported seeing an object falling out of the sky at dusk as he was coming out of a field. He described the object as being yellow-green-blue-orange and leaving a vapor or dust trail behind it. The object fell in a straight line and exploded as it neared the earth, he said. It fell into Lincoln County, east of the river and north of Hwy. 64, according to the sheriff's department report.

The Marathon County Sheriff's Department notified the local sheriff's department here that they had a call from an unidentified person in the Town of Hamburg Nov. 13 about the UFO.

The person reported seeing a light in the sky at about 4:30 to 5 p.m., traveling horizontally from west to east very fast at jet level. It was green/blue in color, turning to a smaller orange ball before disappearing.

The show's central focus was WYVE's News Director Danny Gordon, who was at the heart of Wythe County's exploration of UFOs. Gordon reacted, "I thought the presentation was well done and from all the people I've talked with in the community, they agree. I have found no one who had any complaints about the program. I also think we came across as credible and responsible—not hicks. Without making a move, I feel the 20-minute segment told the story as thoroughly and accurately as possible. I was very pleased."

"One interesting sideline—I had set my video recorder to record the episode but got nothing but snow. I know at least one other individual that the same thing happened to," added Gordon.

Once Gordon got home Wednesday night, he found his answering machine packed with calls from around the country. "One of the more interesting calls was from a lady in the

New England area. She told me not to worry, that the visitations were being made by aliens from Jupiter and added that they weren't here to harm us," said Gordon.

Another of Gordon's calls was from a man stating the UFOs were controlled by a giant computer buried in the far southwest United States.

"I had 16 calls on my answering machine. Some people couldn't get through and kept calling. I had calls until after 11 p.m. I expect more calls as people see and hear the interviews. I'm sure it's not the end of it," said Gordon.

One of Gordon's more memorable calls came from a friend in Texas who he played football with in high school. Gordon hadn't seen or corresponded with him in 20 years and didn't even know where he was.

When asked what advice he had for potential UFO spotters Gordon used his now familiar quote. "Don't look up."

# UFO's of the Kickapoo



Landing by saucer. An engineer photographed an alleged UFO in July 1951 in Italy's Bernina Alps. The saucer-shaped object landed, a figure emerged, reentered, then took off again.



UFO sighting. This object was seen near the hamlet of Areal, in central Brazil.



Photos taken from "Strange Stories, Amazing Facts," a Readers Digest Publication.

By John H. Sime

These are not taped interviews. They are not first hand accounts, the interviewer rephrased the conversations. But the conversations did take place, and the people who say that they saw these objects, do exist. Questions asked by the interviewer are not included in the text, but should be assumed, as the interviewer tries to get the witnesses of the UFO's to provide a consistent pattern of information: place of incident, date (approximately), time of day, activities engaged in prior to incidents, etc.

Each interview subject featured here, after an initial reluctance, seemed eager to describe their encounter with unexplained craft, and often willing to draw pictures.

It was originally the plan of the article not to write the accounts up anonymously. But, it was soon found that some people were only willing to tell a highly interesting story if it was to be printed with no names used. And since these are not libelous, but perhaps only swamp gas, or Venus, or lost weather balloons, leaving out the

names of witnesses does not necessarily compromise the credibility of the article.

## A Young Woman from Viola

This happened in 1972, near Brodhead, Wisconsin. I was ten years old. We lived on a farm, near Brodhead. My aunt and I were riding in a car. She was bringing me home from cheerleading class. It was early evening, it was dark out. Suddenly, there was this object buzzing right along behind the rear bumper of the car. It followed us home. It was in the sky above the car. The camera did not work. We ran into the house, and it zoomed past and hovered over the garage as we watched from the bay window. We watched it from the house for five minutes. It looked like a plate held at hand's length. It was a round object with pulsating lights. When it disappeared it made a big burst of light, no noise. After she returned to her home it was still visible in the distance.

## Middle Aged Couple From Readstown #1

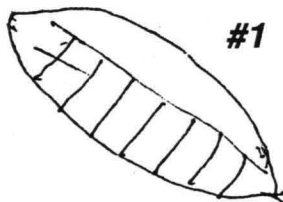
It was winter, early evening about 7:30. There were six to eight inches of snow on the

ground. This occurred in the middle 1970's. We were getting ready to go snowmobiling. We had on our suits. Right behind the hill, from behind our house came this object. It was huge, as big as an airplane. It was round and had windows on the bottom side. It moved real slow through our valley (within four miles of Readstown). It made no noise. We cranked up our snowmobiles and headed up the ridge road when it got out of sight. When we got to the top of the ridge, no more than a minute or so by snowmobile, the object was nowhere in sight. If it had been an airplane, it would have still been visible.

## A Young Woman From Readstown #2

This took place in 1985. I was going with my brother from Readstown to Viola. It was about midnight. As soon as we got around the corner from Readstown, this thing appeared with red and yellow lights. We thought it was a helicopter or an airplane, but it made no noise. It followed us all

the way to Viola. When we slowed down, it slowed down. When we sped up, it sped up. When we got to Kickapoo High School, and all its lights, we headed up to it. When we pulled into the school parking lot, the thing still hovered over us. So we headed into Viola. We went to his house and it stayed over the house for awhile, then it left. I never believed in UFO's before then. Now I do.



## A Woman from LaFarge #3

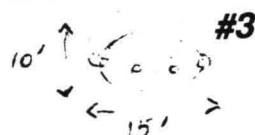
This happened on our farm, near LaFarge. It was in the spring of 1973. I was outside, and my husband and son were pouring concrete inside a structure. So, they were inside a building across the road from our barn. I was in front of the barn, talking with the tax assessor. I saw this round object, which was silver-bluish in color. It was about fifteen feet across, and ten feet high. It had windows, which were porthole-like windows. There was a front window. It moved over and behind the barn. The tax assessor saw it too. We watched it for almost a minute. We were about fifty feet from it at one point. It glided past our house, then in a wink of an eye it was gone. When it took off, I heard a little hum, otherwise no noise at all. When I asked the tax assessor what it was he said he didn't know, and didn't want to know. My husband and son did not see it. We called to them, but by the time they got out of the structure to look, it was gone. I don't know if they quite believed us. Since that day, I have talked with other people around here who have seen similar objects.



## A Man From Readstown

I was sitting next to a north-facing window, drinking coffee, and listening to the radio show "All Things Considered." So, it was late afternoon. It was Spring, 1982. Suddenly, out of the north-

facing window I saw what I at first thought was an airplane move from behind a hill on the edge of Readstown. What drew my attention to it was the way it was moving, slow, too slow for an airplane to stay in the air without crashing. I thought maybe it might be a blimp or helicopter, but it wasn't making any noise. So, I thought it might be a glider. I went outside to get a closer look at it. It was still in the sky when I got to the backyard. It was a lozenge-shaped object, longer than it was wide, smaller than a house because it was right over a house on the hillside. It was silver-colored, no windows were visible. It moved silently. I watched it from the backyard for about a minute. When it got over Highway 14, it started heading east, toward Richland Center, and was out of sight within fifteen seconds.



## A Man From Viroqua

This happened in 1977. It was on the road going down to the Sidie Hollow boat landing. I was going deer hunting, it was November. It was between 6:30 am. to 6:45 a.m. As I came up the road, saw this object in a field. The object looked like a small moon, about two or three windmills high. It looked like the moon had fallen and shrunk. The object was yellow. There were two bright, white lights branching away from the center of the object at the bottom. I saw no windows. I saw this as I drove up the hill toward the object. It made no noise. There was a small plane flying nearby, and I could see that and hear that, but this object made no noise. The object moved slightly, back and forth, left and right, in a jerky motion. I did not leave the car. Finally, I reached down for my hunting binoculars and when I looked up again the object was fading away. It faded away as I watched it. I was fairly close to it. It was higher than the trees, higher than two tobacco sheds, because there was a tobacco shed nearby. An article was put into the Broadcaster-Censor about it. Two people reported seeing it. I've since talked with both of them, and they both saw what I saw, on the same morning. If you plot our three locations that morning on a map, they are in straight line.

## Fact or Flight of Fancy?

# Local UFO Sightings Probed

By L. LEE JANSSEN  
Sun-Gazette Staff

Some people believe what they see...  
Some are quick to debunk...  
And still others keep an open mind.

Seated alone in the restaurant, the investigator was not difficult to pick out, what with the short hairstyle typical of his status as a retired U.S. Air Force Reserve major and the green shirt he said he'd be wearing.

A former aerospace engineer, Sam Grecko was sent yesterday to Lycoming County by MUFON, an international research organization which keeps vigil, waiting for the unexplained, looking for bona fide mysteries.

MUFON, which stands for the Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network Inc., firmly believes a concentrated scientific study by dedicated investigators and researchers will pro-

vide the ultimate answer to the UFO enigma, according to literature Grecko provided during a meeting with the Sun-Gazette.

He agreed to speak in general terms about his organization and its investigations but would not divulge names of people whom he was to contact while in the area, in keeping with the organization's confidentiality policy.

Those people were among the many local residents who, early Wednesday night, witnessed a slow-flying object that traveled low enough over homes in DuBoistown, Nisbet, Cogan Station and other areas of the county to rattle windows and create a rumbling sound reportedly heard for some distance.

The episode drew speculation of a military transport plane, possibly a C-5A Galaxy, but, so far, nobody has been able to say with any amount of certainty what the object was.

Indeed, the Air Force has neither confirmed nor denied the presence of any of its aircraft in

the area that night.

And the Federal Aviation Administration control towers here, in Harrisburg and New York City did not have any information related to military flights in the area.

The lack of confirmation or identification of the object places the flying craft on the unidentified list.

At any rate, a number of people over a large area reported the "close encounter," and it's that large number of witnesses that make the incident a good case to study, Grecko said.

"A one-person sighting is very difficult to stand up against the debunkers," he said.

"There is a UFO cover-up by the government," he alleged, recalling the infamous Aztec crash at Roswell, N.M., in July 1947.

People at that time were told not to talk about the incident. A radio station attempting to report on the story was taken off the air, and the people involved were instructed to say nothing, Grecko said.

A movie called "Hangar 18" was eventually made based on information from that story, which claims debris collected from that crash was taken to a building with that number at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Grecko said.

"Debunkers," as Grecko called them, try to explain away sightings such as the ones here without producing facts to back up those explanations.

Often those explanations involve military aircraft, but they also may include other natural phenomena, such as hallucinations, mistakenly thinking a planet such as Venus was a UFO or, in at least one case, "swampgas," he said.

And sometimes those may be legitimate reasons, but could any of those apply to Wednesday's episode?

Witnesses who have been in contact with the Sun-Gazette have asked that their names not be re-

(continued on page 3) 2



(continued from page 2 - SUN-GAZETTE, Williamsport, PA - Feb. 8, 1992)

vealed because of the nature of what they saw and the reaction their public admission is likely to evoke.

Such is the case with a man from DuBoistown, who described hearing a "deep rumbling sound" and ran outside his home to see the object.

"It was just sitting there and hovering," he said.

The object appeared as long in the sky as the man's 40-foot ranch-style home, he said, and resembled the shape of a banana held sideways with four to eight bright, white lights across it.

"Nobody can tell these people what they saw. They can say it's Venus, Mars, hallucinations, temperature inversion, but the only one that can really tell you is the person who saw the object," Grecko said.

Still, the low level of the object's flight and the number of witnesses would appear to rule out those explanations.

"The explanations don't fit the facts, and that's what we're trying to correlate," Grecko said.

In interviewing witnesses, Grecko and Stan Gordon, state director for MUFON, hope to see a pattern. Important data would include the time of day as well as appearances, Gordon said.

"We need as much information as we can get," Gordon said in a telephone interview.

Witnesses may send narratives of what they saw and sketches depicting the appearance of the object from their perspective to him at 6 Oak Hill Avenue, Greensburg, Pa., 15601.

"What is interesting is the fact that what we have initially is similar to other reported sightings in recent months," Gordon said, referring to sightings in other parts of Pennsylvania.

Last year, reports of alleged UFOs were made in 27 counties in Pennsylvania, according to the state Association for the Study of the Unexplained, another organization of which Gordon is the director.

And, Thursday night, people north of Pittsburgh reported an incident

with descriptions very similar to that which occurred here Wednesday, Gordon said today.

MUFON will attempt to identify the object through its investigation, but probes have been known to last years. The Aztec crash, for instance, still is being studied by MUFON.

MUFON's investigators are all volunteers and attempt to document sightings in a thorough and unbiased manner, Grecko noted.

Most have doctorates or master's degrees and represent 45 areas of science, technology, medicine, psychiatry, psychology, theology, engineering, astronomy, communications, political science, photo analysis and other fields.

They attempt to verify the credibility of witnesses and rule out hoaxes, just as they are careful to avoid the pitfalls of debunkers.

"Since we don't have a UFO to look at, people won't believe they exist," Grecko said. "But then, if you had a UFO to look at, the secret would be over."

## C-N writer wins national honors for story on UFOs.

Cathy Wogan, regional reporter for *The Crescent-News*, is one of three journalists recognized in a recent national award competition.

Wogan, Cindy Horswell, who is metro reporter for the *Houston Chronicle*, and Linda Moulton Howe, who is a television producer in Huntingdon Valley, Pa., were recognized for "outstanding entries" in an annual awards competition sponsored by the Fund for UFO Research, a non-profit scientific organization based in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of the award is to recognize quality journalism and solid investigative reporting into the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects.

The award was established in the memory of Major Donald E. Keyhoe, a retired Marine Corps pilot and former director of the National Investigations Committee on aerial phenomena. Keyhoe was an aide to Charles A. Lindbergh after the aviator made the first solo, non-stop flight from New York to Paris in 1927. During the 1930s, Keyhoe was a freelance writer whose work appeared in such publications as *The Nation*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, and *Reader's Digest*. He died Nov. 29, 1988, at the age of 91.

Wogan's article was on a "UFO Studies" class at Defiance College; and focused on Gail Miller. In the story Miller, claimed to have been abducted and had close encounters with extraterrestrials.

## Unidentified object remains a mystery

BOSTON — An unidentified object that hurtled past Earth before dawn on Thursday remains a mystery, astronomers said Friday, and it apparently slipped by without their getting a good look.

A week ago, astronomers had decided that the tiny object, which passed slightly farther away from Earth than the moon's distance of 240,000 miles, was probably an asteroid.

But observations on Monday by European astronomers working in Chile showed dramatic variations in brightness, which suggest an irregularly shaped, tumbling object with great variations in its surface reflectivity, much more so than expected for a natural object like an asteroid, said Brian Marsden, an astronomer.

— The Boston Globe

DAILY NEWS, Los Angeles, CA  
Dec. 7, 1991 CR: J. Guma

UNION LEADER, Manchester, NH - March 7, 1992 CR: D. Bradley

## ET, Is That You?



Bob Dix/Union Leader



**CONCORD'S UFO** — This artist's recreation of what motorist Roger Cross, left, said he saw along Route 3A/South Main Street in Concord Tuesday night shows a huge triangular object with pulsating bluish-white lights disappearing over the tree line near Broadway. Other reports, starting about 6 p.m., came from people in Claremont, Newport, Bradford, Salisbury, Penacook and Concord and were of a similar object at a higher altitude, according to Cheryl A. Powell, an investigator for Mutual UFO Network. Cross, of Concord, spent about two hours yesterday with Union Leader artist Bob Dix describing what he saw about 7:50 p.m. This view looks west-northwest from where Cross pulled his car over on South Main Street near the Interstate 93 overpass. He described the object as flying just above the treetops, "awesome in size," and making a sound "like increasing rain on a summer night on a canvas tent." There was no turbine or jet whine, he said. Cross concedes there wasn't a lot of time to take in more detail of the object in the dark, but it was like nothing he has ever seen before.

HERALD, Ottawa, KS - Feb. 27, 1992

## Non-patient defends Dr. Scott Corder's rights

I am writing concerning the terrible injustice being done to Scott Corder, M.D., by the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, just because he believes in God and UFOs.

There has never been any complaint that I have heard or read against his ability to practice medicine. He was supported by the doctors in Ottawa and the nurses at Ransom Memorial Hospital and the administration plus his many patients and friends.

I was never a patient of Dr. Corder's and I'm not into UFOs, but I've followed his case from

the start and have thought what an injustice! He spent many years getting a medical education and his license to practice is taken away because he believes in God and UFOs. I thought that was our constitutional right. Are we in Russia or what?

I'm sure some of you watched the program on TV a week or two ago on UFOs. As far as I've read or heard, none of the many people who have seen UFOs were declared mentally ill. Even though I'm not into UFOs, I'm broad minded enough not to think ours is the only planet where there's life!

I've talked to people who were former patients of Dr. Corder's and have never heard anything but good about him.

I read quite often of the shortage of doctors across the United States. He has offered to work in any rural area that is short of doctors. I hope, if he does get his license back, he will decide to stay in Ottawa, as I will feel Ottawa would be losing a good, caring doctor.

I have written a letter to the Board of Healing Arts in Topeka on his behalf and have also enclosed the guest opinion from

*The Garnett Review* which was in *The Ottawa Herald* Feb. 19.

I'm only sorry that I have waited three years to voice my opinion, but I really didn't know where to write to speak up for Dr. Corder.

They have taken away his livelihood for no good reason. He needs your help! And we need his!

If you believe he has a right to his beliefs, please write:

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, 235 S. Topeka Blvd., Topeka, Kans. 66603.

CLIO CHURCH  
Pomona

# Something's out there, but what it is remains a mystery

■ Strange flashing lights in the skies over Scranton in early January led to speculation about UFOs. The jury's still out on that event, but unusual phenomena attract a cross-section of individuals convinced we're not alone in the universe.

By DAWN SHURMAITIS

Times Leader Staff Writer

Unidentified Flying Objects bob and weave in the skies above Scranton. Humans are abducted by big-eyed aliens near Easton. Big Foot is spotted in the deep woods of Indiana County.

What could easily pass for headlines in The National Inquirer are actually points on a Pennsylvania road map of the unexplained. Since 1965, when a fiery trajectory crash-landed in Kecksburg, Pa., pundits of the peculiar have scoured the state on a never-ending quest for the strange and unusual.

Forget Elvis. Think E.T.

Nearly every day someone rings the hotline to the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained (PASU) to report everything from odd lights in the sky to close encounters of the third kind.

Such a report created a real rumble in UFO circles Jan. 8, when more than 200 people outside

Scranton spotted strange flashing lights in the skies above Newton Township. The lights were captured on videotape by a high school science teacher and later broadcast by CBS News.

Six researchers from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland descended on the Northeast the next weekend, armed with videocameras, metal detectors, infrared scopes and magnetometers. They took readings, interviewed witnesses and looked for physical evidence from the one-time visit.

Was it an alien spacecraft? The jury is still out.

One convert to the UFO theory is Linda Moulton Howe, a documentary filmmaker and author who came north from Philadelphia to scan the local skies.

"I've seen hundreds of videotapes from everywhere of oddities in the sky," says Howe, who researches animals who have been strangely mutilated, possibly by aliens.

"That videotape was of truly anomalous moving lights."

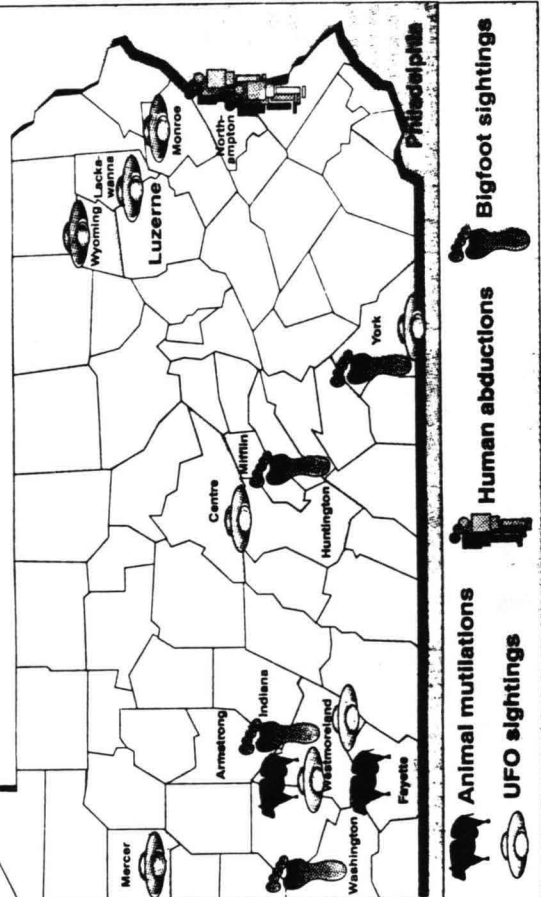
Jerry Gaughan, director of emergency services in Lackawanna County, says while he refuses to call it a UFO, two of his dispatchers viewed the video and concluded "it definitely wasn't ultralights, or airplanes or anything else."

But Stan Gordon, director of the Greensburg-based PASU, pooch-pooches the hoopla.

"My feeling is they're just misidentified," says

## Unusual Phenomena in Pennsylvania

Here is a geographical look at unexplained reports of unusual phenomena throughout Pennsylvania.



Gordon, who's been studying the unexplained since age 10. "They're explainable." Aircraft, or an odd configuration of stars and planets, are the usual explanations for such phenomena.

Usual, but not usually accepted.

"People don't always want to accept a logical explanation," says Gordon.



Immediately, people jump to the conclusion we're talking about alien visitors from outer space. We're usually not.

"But, every year in this area we do see things we can't explain."

Even those who don't obsess on the unexplained are intrigued by the possibilities.

"There's an incredible number of galaxies, and each one has hundreds of billions of stars," says Tom Winter, physics professor and amateur astronomer at Penn State/Wilkes-Barre.

"Given the sheer numbers, the odds seem to be that at least one

may have communicated with us or found a way to get here. We're one planet out of nine and there's life here.

"That's pretty high odds."

## Unusual sightings

The unexplained isn't confined to strange lights or space ships. Over the years, Pennsylvania has been home to a regular "Who's Who" of documented phenomena.

Some were truly bizarre. Others merely odd.

In 1991, PASU members investigated unusual sightings in 27 counties, as well as in bordering states. While the majority were UFOs, the group also probed strange footprints, odd sounds, ice falling from the sky and a bizarre tremor.

In July 1986, PASU researchers joined legions of armed police and reporters on a futile look-out for a 300-pound white tiger spotted outside Nicholson. Considered unusual because the species isn't indigenous to the Northeast, the tiger never was found.

Flashback to December 1965.

From Canada south across the Great Lakes, witnesses reported a brilliant ball of fire with a long tail sailing across the sky. It — whatever it was — finally crashed in a wooded area outside Kecksburg.

According to news accounts from the time, hundreds flocked to the rural town in southwest Pennsylvania, clogging highways for miles. The U.S. Army immediately sealed off the area. Rumor had it the UFO was later secretly taken to Ohio for testing.

"The way it came down was very unusual," says Gordon, who thinks it was either an alien ship or a top-secret military craft. "It descended in a very slow, controlled manner and was half-buried in the ground."

But no matter what the phenomena, everyone agrees 1974 was the banner year for the Keystone State.

"It was the single hottest ground for UFOs, Big Foot sightings and animal mutilations," says Howe.

"Everything seemed concentrated in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania was a huge focus for this odd activity. Why, I don't know."

Wait a minute. Big Foot? How did Big Foot gain a spot in a category usually reserved for aliens?

Enter Chip Decker, a professional photographer from Stroudsburg who believes Big Foot may be a time traveler who moves through a window in space.

The 7-foot-5, 800-pound hairy, rank creature has been spotted several times in Pennsylvania over the years, most recently on Aug. 9 near the Westmoreland and Indiana counties' border.

"Very highly evolved individuals from this galaxy or another can leap through the window that knows no time, no dimension," says Decker.

"And that's freaky."

## Believers converge

Bufs of the unexplained form groups, exchange newsletters and host conventions, just like doctors, lawyers and even Shriners.

There's the Texas-based Mutual UFO Network Inc., believed to be the largest such organization with 3,300 members. There's Contactee of N.J. — "Find out where the UFO hot spots are!" — and PASU, which has about 150 by-invitation-only members.

The inquiring minds include scientists, engineers and college professors, electronics repairmen and retired military officers. These buffs spend thousands of hours, and often thousands of dollars, on their obsession.

And then there are the experts who feed the public's persistent curiosity with a carefully developed cottage industry. They write books, make movies, appear on talk shows like Geraldo! and Joan Rivers.

The return address on mail sent by UFO researcher Ellen Crystall teases "The silent invasion has begun."

Her book, "Silent Invasion," — one of hundreds on the subject lining bookstore shelves — is coming out next month. The colorful dust jacket depicts a big-eyed alien with a huge head and tiny body.

Crystall says she saw just such a creature maneuvering a spacecraft through her California neighborhood in 1971. It was the first of many close encounters.

"I was looking through very large glass panes and could see the whole inside," she says of the craft. "I could see two people steering it, and wall-to-wall computers."

The aliens, says Crystall, were wearing stretch-knit metallic jumpsuits.

Crystall, director and publisher of the New Jersey-based Contactee, often vacations in Pennsylvania. Her most recent sighting here occurred on Halloween, when she witnessed "huge glowing orbs of lights inside monster-sized clouds" while traveling Interstate 80 through the central part of the state.

## Animal mutilations

Howe, the TV producer, has never seen an actual alien. Instead, she's devoted more than 10 years to researching animals apparently mutilated by creatures from outer space. Her first film on the subject, "A Strange Harvest," won a regional Emmy award.

While most frequent in the West, the mysteriously mutilated animals have turned up in Pennsylvania.

In 1985 in Westmoreland County, 17 cows had their tail, ears and teats removed and a hole eight inches in diameter cleanly sliced into their chest.

Typically, cows, horses or deer have their sex organs removed, as well as an ear, eye or tongue. Often, the flesh is carefully stripped from the lower jaw, and the blood drained from the bodies.

The carcasses are found on rain-soaked or muddy ground, but no tracks lead into or away from the area.

Howe thinks the evidence suggests the beasts are picked up by curious aliens, who make the incisions using a very rapid, high-heat laser, which leaves a slight burn pattern around the wound. The dissections, she says, are precise, pristine and bloodless. They could not be made by predators or satanists.

"It's a huge question mark, a world-wide phenomena," she says. "For a decade it's been the loneliest road you could imagine traveling. That alien life forms are connected to the mutilations is one of the most difficult concepts for people to accept."

"What does it mean to mankind — especially since the life form chooses secrecy and silence?"

## Abductions

Prepare for a leap of faith.

David M. Jacobs, associate professor of history at Temple University in Philadelphia, also studies abductions — human abductions.

What began as a hobby has evolved into a vocation. Jacobs teaches a course on UFOs, the only such course offered at an American university. He recently authored a book titled "Secret Life: Accounts of UFO Abductions."

Yet he's cautious when the conversation turns to other experts, other fields of research.

"The problem with UFO research is that anybody can be an expert. They say they are, and they are," says Jacobs.

Once the U.S. Air Force officially abandoned UFO research in the 1960s, numerous lay people stepped in to fill the void. Each expert, Jacobs included, became convinced his or her work was the most important, the key.

Says Jacobs: "The abduction phenomenon is of enormous importance. All UFO research will eventually swing our way."

(continued on page 5)



"With abduction phenomena, we can open a window, we can look inside and see what the UFO phenomena is all about."

Meet Barney and Betty Hill, who were snatched in 1961 while driving from Montreal to New Haven, Conn., and who went on to tell the most widely publicized abduction story.

Since then, certain patterns have emerged.

Calling it "a rapid descent into the bizarre," Jacobs, who's interviewed about 70 subjects in the last six years, including one from Easton and another from Pen Argyl, relates this common account:

The man or woman is forced into the craft, usually against their will. They are ordered to strip and lay on a table. An incision is made, probably to gather tissue. The cut always leaves a scar.

Those abducted believe the aliens also collect sperm and eggs, possibly to use later to develop children through in vitro fertilization.

"Every single person who was ever abducted has said that, regardless of where they live or what language they speak," says Jacobs.

Further, the men and women are given a creature — human, yet not human — to cuddle, possibly to form a bond between the human and the alien.

"It's fairly ghastly," says Jacobs.

The visits last up to two hours. In that time, no actual words are exchanged, but thoughts are transmitted, possibly through telepathy. The humans have the urge to run, but can't.

The abductions are not pleasant.

"Everybody that's had it doesn't want it," Jacobs says. "They get down on their knees at night and pray it doesn't happen again. It's just a dead loss."

But Jacobs says the abductions do happen again, often to the same people in the same family, generation after generation.

He theorizes a million people may have been hijacked over the years, from every part of the world, from every walk of life. He's interviewed high school teachers, musicians, athletes and even the unemployed — "a completely random selection."

A true believer, Jacobs nonetheless admits: "It's pretty bizarre stuff."



#### Here are the varying levels of alien encounters:

- Close Encounters of the First Kind: sighting an object within 500 feet
- Of the Second Kind: seeing clear-cut metal craft with interaction between craft, witnesses and environment (radiation, ground traces, animal reactions)
- Of the Third Kind: seeing a being who is not human; who is alien
- Of the Fourth Kind: communications with aliens
- Of the Fifth Kind: taken on board the craft: either forcibly or voluntarily

TIMES LEADER/TOM RASKI

## Debunkers couldn't silence UFO believers

■ *Since the inception of the term 'flying saucer,' many jumped on the bandwagon into the unknown*

By TOM MOONEY  
Times Leader Staff Writer

Although writers on unidentified flying objects sometimes point to accounts of strange aerial phenomena going as far back as Biblical times (Ezekiel's wheels), the term "flying saucer" is only a little more than 40 years old.

The modern era of saucer observations began only in the post-World War II period, when a West Coast businessman named Kenneth Arnold, flying his plane near Mount Rainier in Washington, reported that he had seen some strange craft moving across the sky with a saucerlike motion. It didn't take long for newspapers to begin referring to "flying saucers," and so a virtual industry was born.

Within the next few years a retired U.S. Air Force officer, Donald Keyhoe, had published a book — complete with garish science-fiction cover — listing a host of saucer sightings and recounting dramatic conversations with "witnesses."

The bandwagon was soon in fine tune and rolling fast. A writer named Frank Scully proclaimed that a saucer, from another planet, had crashed, and its remains had been spirited away by nervous government officials. Others began to tell of personal meetings with saucer people — such as the beautiful women from the hidden planet Clarion or the saucerman who liked peanut butter on whole wheat sandwiches. Possibly a fear of the German scientists the Soviets had spirited away had something to do with it, but even radio commentators Frank Edwards and Walter Winchell began reporting saucer "news." There

were even saucer magazines, complete with fuzzy photos of dark blobs or balls of light.

Debunkers, such as Harvard University astronomer Donald Menzel and the analysts at the Air Force's Project Bluebook didn't get much attention. It was a lot more fun to watch a movie like "The Thing," in which a small group of scientists and military men at an Arctic station were menaced by a horrible two-legged beast from a crashed saucer.

Two ideas emerged:

■ Saucers had been around for a long time, but they seemed to be stepping up their probes of Earth — probably because their advanced civilizations feared we would soon be lugging atomic weapons to other parts of the galaxy.

■ The U.S. government knew the truth (and even had a crashed saucer from the Southwest locked up at an Ohio military base), but was covering it up to prevent panic.

By the 1960s, interest was lagging. So new ideas emerged. John Keel, in a series of books, tried to link saucer sightings with all sorts of other odd phenomena, such as the Bigfoot monster and the collapse of a West Virginia bridge. Others, such as Jacques Vallee, portrayed saucers as being projections of our minds or visitors from another dimension, appearing near magnetic faults as "windows."

Movies, through the 1970s, became more sophisticated. Arthur C. Clarke's "2001" described otherworldly beings luring humans onward and upward to higher knowledge. Another, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," portrayed an emotional meeting between humanity and saucer people for everyone's benefit.

As usual, the debunkers got few headlines. Groups such as the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of the Paranormal,

headed by university professor Paul Kurtz, did reasoned investigations of saucers as well as other strange claims, but ended up being the villain in the pages of UFO journals.

The most intriguing development in saucerology in recent decades has been the publication of contactee stories — sometimes by major presses. A New England

couple, Barney and Betty Hill, reported that under hypnosis they were regressed to a time when they were picked up and studied by curious saucer people. Betty Andreasson told a hair-raising story of being poked and probed by funny-looking creatures on board a craft.

Saucers had become mainstream.

DAILY TRIBUNE, Wisconsin Rapids, WI - Nov. 19, 1991  
CR: M. Anderson/R. Heiden

### UFO is reported in Portage County

STEVENS POINT — Four people apparently saw a UFO early Sunday morning, according to the Portage County Sheriff's Department.

According to a sheriff's department dispatcher, one of the four witnesses phoned the sheriff's department at about 3 p.m. Sunday to report the incident.

She said the witness reported seeing a "moon-shaped, sort of oval, large fireball," while traveling on County Trunk C, about 3½ miles west of Stevens Point in the town of Linwood. The witnesses, who were all in the same vehicle, apparently saw the object at about 2 a.m. Sunday.

## UFOs Skim Skies Noiselessly

By Bland Pugh

In November of 1990, a Team of UFO researchers, working under the International MUFON guide lines, began a quest to solve the local UFO mystery. After sixteen months of investigation, over two hours of video (taken during one hundred and thirty UFO sightings), and scores of photographs, the solution continued to evade the seventeen member scientific team who describe themselves as "skeptical yet open minded."

A spokesman for the Research Team, Ms. Weatherford said, "The first question we ask is, 'Can what we are witnessing be explained as conventional air traffic?' Consistently, we have ruled out airplanes and helicopters because airplanes cannot hover without making a sound as the UFO does. Also, helicopters (and airplanes) cannot suddenly radiate brilliant flashes of light and then simply disappear without a trace. Often the 'flare theory' is considered but our multiple tests with diffraction spectral analysis prove that the UFO light source and that of a flare do not match.

"Seeing the UFO in the distance is fascinating but what happened on February 10 was truly amazing. Some of our investigators and other local residents were 'on watch' at South Shoreline Park when the UFO appeared over the Bob Sikes Bridge, flew into the wind and directly toward the group. At a rapid pace the UFO reached the group and hovered over them before turning bright white and disappearing. There was no sound coming from the brilliant red ring of 'energy' radiating from the bottom of the UFO."

What was witnessed, soundless powered flight, is impossible using known technology. So what is the answer to the local UFO mystery? Are we being visited by beings from outer space? Maybe so says the MUFON Research Team, who shake their heads and say, "The impossible seems to be possible in the skies over Gulf Breeze and Pensacola Beach. The mystery is there for the witnessing. All you have to do is spend a few nights at Shoreline Park and look up."

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Feb. 21, 1992 CR: E. Walters

#### REPORTS OF COMPASS & DETECTOR EFFECTS WANTED

I will pay \$25 each, to a total of \$1000 per person, for photocopies of all published UFO reports I do not have which mention that a magnetic compass or a magnetic detector was affected. Because I already have a collection of such cases, those who are interested in this offer should first request my list of known reports. Eric Herr, P.O. Box 15044, San Diego, CA 92175 U.S.A.

# Close Encounters

*Want to change your life completely?  
Try contact with beings from outer space.*

BY SALLIE TISDALE

Once upon a time, shepherds watching their flocks by night were startled by the sudden appearance of a light in the sky. There was nothing new about such a thing. People have been seeing lights, color sprays, spinning wheels and lecturing angels in the air as long as they've been recording what they see. But now, in these latter days, the inchoate, distant gleams of light have taken on solid form. In 1947 a pilot flying near Mount Rainier saw nine gleaming disks rush past his plane, and the UFO as an object of technology was born. In 1950 a farmer in Oregon took what is widely considered to be the first photograph of a UFO, a silver saucer tilted against the clouds. Eleven years later, the abductions began.

Since World War II, there have been about 60,000 unexplained sightings of UFOs in the United States. These are the ones that remain after the 80% to 90% of mistaken cases are understood.

## ORDINARY PEOPLE

When I first began calling UFO groups and asking to speak to contactees, I expected reticence. But while many are unwilling to give last names, they spoke to me readily, eagerly, and passed word to others, who asked to tell their stories also. Many contactees feel a compulsion to speak publicly about what happened, a compulsion they believe is implanted by the aliens. They feel a compulsion to study as well.

"I developed a great thirst for knowledge," one woman told me. "I started studying everything I could get my hands on, all the Far Eastern religions, metaphysics, spiritualism." A young man was compelled to spend three weeks in a library studying horticulture. A few contactees say the aliens have shown them a book of great wisdom, a book that reveals the past and the future, written in a strange language.

Contactees, for the most part, are ordinary people who believe they have had an experience that cannot be dismissed or explained, an experience that demands unshakable belief. It is undeniably religious, irrational, absolute.

The UFO Contact Center International is a loose association of 60 different groups in the United States and Canada. Virtually all of its members—an informal designation at best—believe that they have been taken aboard alien ships. Every time a UFO-CCI volunteer gives a lecture on the topic, people in the audience confess that they, too, have had such an experience. Most of the auxiliary groups have been started by someone who attended a lecture and realized that he or she was also a contactee.

In these 12-step times, UFO-CCI is a kind of self-help organization for contactees. It is largely supported by subscriptions to its magazine, the Missing Link, which publishes accounts of contact experiences, analyses of

What is sometimes called the "strangeness spread" of such cases is remarkably small. UFOs are not disparate or unique, like hallucinations. They are in fact remarkably limited in appearance. Witnesses, independent of each other, tend to see the same kind of thing again and again, at different times, in different places.

The study of UFOs is a big and sprawling field—from the physicists who listen for radio pulses, through the witnesses of lights and disks and radar shadows, to the "contactees"—people who claim they've been visited or kidnapped by alien beings.

Many contactees describe a chronic pattern that has shaped their entire lives. They report childhoods colored by odd experiences, like waking dreams and frequent sensations of déjà vu. Eventually the strange experiences accelerate: rapid weight loss, puncture wounds appearing in the night, voices speaking in their minds. Very common is the amnesia called "missing time": blank periods of a few minutes to several hours during which an alien contact is believed to occur.

Contactees also describe a sense of being different or isolated, of having been adopted, or of being drawn to a particular place or a field of study. It's the feeling, reads one brochure about contactees, "that earth is not your real home."

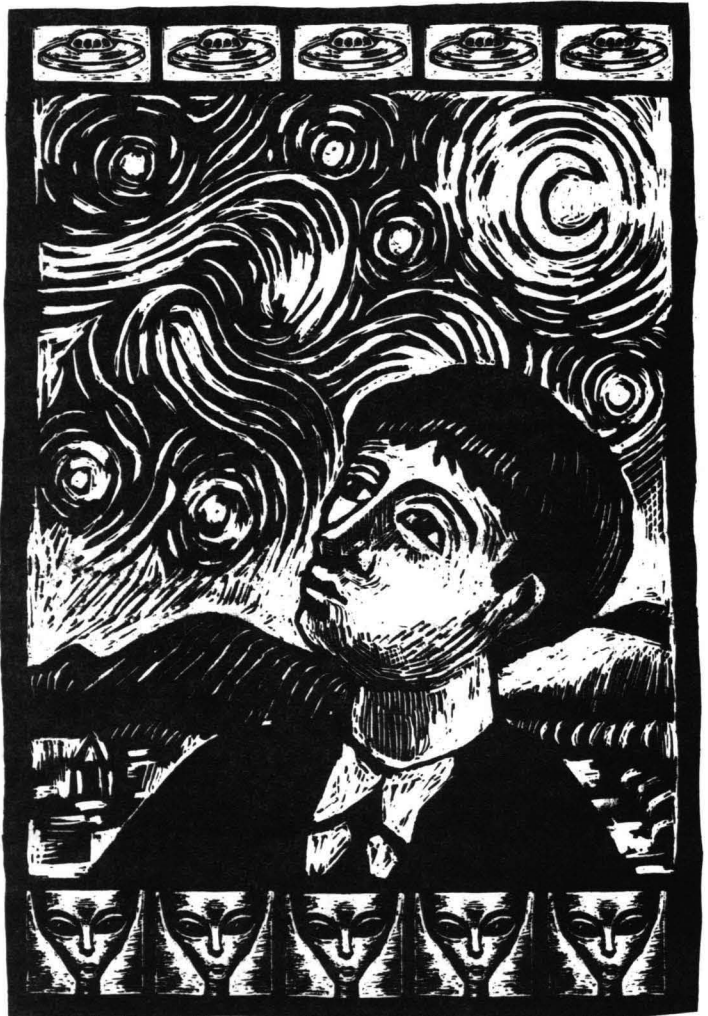
historical mysteries, poems and cartoons and classified ads. A typed pink brochure says the organization's mission is to help people "examine and assimilate their traumatic abduction experiences into their daily lives." This is accomplished mostly through group therapy and hypnosis—the last used extensively to unblock the suppressed memory of alien contact.

UFO-CCI has its headquarters near Seattle, in the faceless suburb called Federal Way, under the flight path of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. The main office and bookstore is the living room of its founder and director, in a trailer home in the Camelot Square Trailer Park.

I am welcomed here on a cool June Saturday by the founder, Aileen, a man named Clay, and Clay's small daughter, Annie, a laughing girl with curly red hair. Aileen (who asked that her last name not be used) is a pretty, ample woman of 55 with shaggy black hair and a breathy, girlish voice. Aileen works in computer design at Boeing, runs UFO-CCI and also belongs to three different organizations devoted to the belief that Elvis is still alive, a fact she confesses with a self-deprecating smile.

Aileen has had only one contact experience—in 1953, on a nighttime drive through eastern Oregon. She remembers shimmering green light, the car stopping, and waking from a trance a few hours later with only the inevitable memory of "missing time." Many years later she went to work for a UFO research group, collecting evidence. She left feeling that the witnesses themselves, the contactees, needed help, and started UFO-CCI. Now she offers regression hypnosis to newcomers.

"A lot of people are scared to start with because they don't know what's happened, but once they get through that, and see they came out okay, then they start to grow," says Aileen. "And that's really what it's all about. We don't want to suggest anything to them, but we find that hypnosis really, really helps."



PAUL STROEDE

**Contactees' belief in their experience is undeniably religious, irrational, absolute.**

## WILL TO BELIEVE

The literature on UFO contacts divides into what might be called happy and harmful experiences. Quite a few people have reported meeting the MIB: Men in Black. The Men in Black arrive at the door of a person who has just had a contact experience, but before he or she has made a report of it to anyone. They wear black suits, travel in trios, and often drive dark-colored luxury automobiles.

Sometimes the MIB issue threats against making reports; other times, they explain the truth about UFOs in exchange for secrecy. The MIB supposedly know what happens during "missing time," and they know about the Ultimate Secret: that the government has a secret facility holding a crashed alien ship and, perhaps, its pilot's corpse.

Aileen tells me that, for some reason, it seems to be only in the United States that contactees are abducted. But in her many sessions with contactees, she has found no truly negative contact experiences: "I believe it has to do with the people who are dealing with the witness. They don't know how to handle them, or how to bring out what really happened, and help the person get through that fear." Her work, she says, is for "mental health."

The entire UFO contact movement has a therapeutic quality, a kind of touchy-feely kindness. I see it in the way Aileen greets the newcomers when they arrive, with a hug and kiss on the cheek, the way they attend to each other's stories. Contactees listen carefully to each other, no matter how familiar the anecdote, and nod and murmur assent, touching each other's arms or shoulders in support.

Each has come in real trepidation before, and each has found complete credibility. Contactees can tell you not only the date of their first remembered experience, but the exact time, the place, the weather, and what they were wearing. Their lives divide permanently into two parts: before contact, and after.

There are times, listening to a person's story, reading yet another interview transcript, that I want to shout "Enough!" I want to shake the speaker and say, Stop, give me less of it, and I can believe you. I feel the potential for utter credulity, the slippery slope of that will to believe.

When Mike and Mary arrive, in the early evening, Aileen jumps up from her chair to greet them. Mike, like Clay, gives lectures for UFO-CCI. We sit around Aileen's small dining table, Mike and Mary holding hands, and I can see onto Camelot Drive and into the orange sunset. Now and then a jet rumbles overhead, and I catch a brief glimpse of a long cylinder disappearing into the west.

Mike is tall, almost painfully thin. He wears glasses and a goatee and folds himself languidly into a small chair. Mike is a physicist. "I was always a fairly unusual person," he says. "I've always been extremely, exceptionally intelligent, and I've always felt out of place socially. I never felt like I really quite belonged."

Out of curiosity, Mike attended a UFO lecture, and then decided to go through regression hypnosis. In several sessions, Mike discovered that he shared his body with a disembodied alien, a choice he made at age 2. The alien, he explains, is a marooned pilot from the constellation Orion who had acted as a spy against the dark forces in the caverns of Alamogordo in New Mexico, where Mike was raised.

"We decided we were going to share this body. So we delicately and intricately interwove our energies into this physical body, and we've been living on this earth ever since." Mike gives me a small, wry smile. "It turns out on the alien's part that it was quite a commitment to do that; it sort of stranded him here."

Mary, a plump, pretty blond woman of 40, was married and living with her husband and children a little more than a year ago. Now she is divorced, and lives with Mike. She has only recently begun talking about what she describes

(continued on page 7)





PAUL STROEDE

**What a poor soul is the late-20th-century citizen. Perhaps we see flying saucers and aliens now because we can't see angels anymore.**

as a "very traumatic experience." Her voice is very feminine and soft.

"Once I had the hypnosis, things started falling into place—activities that happened when I was very small, really strange events that I remember, conversations, a lot of imparting of knowledge when I was small," Mary tells the group. "We had really strange things happen in our house, like poltergeists."

"But the abduction, I felt, was separate from these other things. And it generated a real deep anger, and ultimately it changed my life. I took my power back."

#### PSYCHIC PROJECTIONS

UFOs are rarely just a hobby, and the zeal of believers can be positively startling. Some people spend their evenings drawing charts of the varying sphericity of sighted craft. Others make maps, marking sites of contact by

frequency and season. It takes all one's waking hours to sort through the emerging memories, to pursue and make sense of the growing mountains of stories. What, after all, could be more important? What could matter more?

The psychologist Carl Jung thought UFOs a phenomenon of "essential weirdness"—a serious, potent phenomenon. In his book on "flying saucers," Jung warned against the reflexive urge to dismiss them as merely imaginary. "It boils down to nothing less than this: that either psychic projections throw back a radar echo, or else the appearance of real objects affords an opportunity for mythological projections."

We had magic not long ago, and alchemy, and angels. And now, when more is possible than ever before, we dislike the inexplicable, the unseen. The hash of esoterica called "new age" has not even begun to reclaim the mystical for daily life. Perhaps we are simply paying more attention to the skies, a different kind of attention, than in the recent past.

Since World War II, we look to the sky less with wonder than fear. We are battered by technology; our horizons become broader as our analysis grows more shallow. We are starved for meaning, and trust no one. What a poor soul is the late-20th-century citizen, only dimly aware of his poverty. Perhaps we see flying saucers and aliens now because we can't see angels anymore.

The anecdotes of contactees are almost like a chant. Often they begin, "I had an experience"—as though no other experience would ever compare. The details are similar, the phrasings of language repetitive and familiar. Some stories are baroque, picaresque; others are tantalizing, peculiarly vague and unfinished, like dreams. But they're not dreams.

Kay, who arrived at Aileen's table late that evening, sits through the recitations of the group without a word. Only when everyone is finished does

she speak. A thin, energetic woman in her 40s, she underwent hypnosis with Aileen only the week before. Now she is in a honeymoon of relief.

"I thought I was going crazy!" Kay exclaims. "I'm a logical person, and a logical person says that's crazy! People are not getting beamed up in ships! I just finally decided I had to know. I had to find out if I'm nuts or not."

Kay is a practicing Catholic, the mother of seven, and a lawyer. She first began having contact experiences when she and her husband were both in the Air Force and living on a base. Shortly after the experiences began, Kay felt a compulsion to quit the military and go to law school, a drive she now believes was implanted by the aliens to help lend credibility to the contact movement.

"People who are being abducted are not all wacked-out weirdos," she says. "We do have a brain, we're educated, we have professions. And I know that I am not supposed to keep my mouth shut."

Kay talks for a long time, disarming in her humor, full of excitement, telling a story suddenly new. She says the aliens have implanted sensors in her body that respond to stress, so that they can find her when she is in difficulty. As the sky outside turns black, Kay tells me how she loved to dance, how her husband would not dance with her, and how finally, not long ago, the aliens had come back to dance. "They want to dance with me," she says with wonder. "I could hear this music. I'm singing it, and this music is Wagnerian-sounding. And they say to me on the ship, 'Well, of course it's Wagnerian, because Wagner is one of us!' And so, of course, he is."

When Kay finishes speaking, Aileen, in tears, turns to her and says, "Kay, you made me so happy."

#### WISH FULFILLMENT

Try to explain to a child that we stand on the skin of a planet. Try to explain that the sun doesn't really set, but that we slowly turn away from it, and back again, every day, held tight by

something unfelt, unseen. Do any of us ever believe such a thing? Can we, until we meet a being from another planet?

Perhaps it takes the knowledge of beings from another world to embed, truly, in ourselves the belief that we exist on this world. With such an experience, earth becomes a planet, in a planetary place, and humans become a species with a future. Many contactees have an ecological awakening, and become involved in environmental issues. All this apparent chaos means something.

A lot of people who believe in UFOs, and contactees especially, feel a sense of hope and order that stretches across eons of time and light-years of space. They feel an urgency, but they also believe that things are unfolding as they should, as things must, here and elsewhere, for the best.

If UFOs are hallucinations, they are enormous and archetypal and shared by the masses. If they are wishes, they are the biggest wishes we have ever had.

At the end of the evening I have one more question: "If a UFO landed outside right now, and you were invited in, would you go?"

A chorus of assent. "We'd all walk in," declares Aileen. "No doubt," adds Mike. "I'd carry my daughter on board," says Clay, holding smiling Annie on his lap. "Me, too," says Kay. "I'd take all my kids. I'd be running out there as fast as I could."

I left Aileen's in darkness. There was no moon. I drove out of the trailer park and through a corridor of tall, black fir trees set against a soot-colored sky. A fat jet descended, its engine roaring, and as it passed I could see lights on its tail, lights in the sky, blinking red. I have never seen a UFO. Sometimes in the middle of the night I will hear a sound, something vaguely mechanical, and before I'm fully awake I feel a tiny, fearful excitement. I think: This is it. This is it, and nothing will ever be the same again. ■

*A version of this article originally appeared in the Seattle Weekly.*

## They're Here! Contactees from Wisconsin

BY DAVID MEDARIS

**B**etween 1985 and 1987, Dane County experienced a rash of UFO sightings—including reports by police officers who saw lights they couldn't explain streak across the sky. But witnesses shrugged off suggestions that aliens were the cause. Not so with Wisconsin's budding crop of contactees.

The UFO Contact Center International (see main story) has associate directors in two Wisconsin cities: Appleton and Marshfield.

Goldie King, a 41-year-old divorced mother of two college-age kids, moved to Appleton a year ago from Texas—where, driving home one night in 1984, she missed her turn in a sudden fog. King recalls rolling toward a beacon and stopping on an airport runway in front of what she

thought was a plane, its shape obscured by landing lights that made her squint. The ensuing four hours were fogged-in "missing time." The next morning, the only clue King had to what happened were three letters she'd apparently jotted down on a notepad before falling into bed: "UFO."

"I was scared," says King, who spent the next year "pacing the floor," trying to dredge up details from the missing four hours. Her quest led her to get in touch with UFO-CCI and finally to undergo regressive hypnosis, which helped her reconstruct her account: She was escorted aboard a craft and underwent a physical examination at the hands of aliens "of all shapes and sizes."

The experience left no bruises or scars, but it did instill an urge to

know more, and to help other contactees find the resources they need to puzzle together their own missing time.

A similar yearning drives Robert and Karen Moore of Marshfield, both of whom are also associate directors of UFO-CCI. "We're basically available to talk to people who've had different experiences with aliens, or whatever," says Robert Moore. "We definitely don't try to press people for proof or accuracy of their report."

Unlike King, Moore is skittish about talking with a reporter. Asked his profession, he'll volunteer only that he has a Ph.D. in one of the sciences. Which one? "I'll pass on that." Why? "I'll pass on that, too." He also won't discuss his and Karen's own contact experience, other than to characterize it as "something like

a cross between meeting the mailman and having a dream." Before answering other questions, he covers his phone's mouthpiece to consult with his wife.

Moore's reticence seems to reflect the ostracism often felt by contactees—a feeling that drives them to seek each other's company. Since moving to Marshfield from Seattle 3½ years ago, Moore estimates he has heard from 40 mostly Wisconsin contactees. He remains willing to meet with contactees over coffee, and steer them toward other resources.

Robert and Karen Moore can be contacted at the UFO Contact Center International, P.O. Box 825, Marshfield, WI 54449. King can be reached by writing 1315 Monroe, Appleton, WI 54915, or calling 414-749-2918. ■

ENQUIRER-JOURNAL, Monroe, NC - Dec. 10, 1992 CR: G. Fawcett

## UFO sighting scares Marshville 10-year-old

By Luanne Williams  
City Editor

**MARSHVILLE** — A Union Elementary fifth-grader may have nothing to show, but he'll have plenty to tell his classmates today following what he believes was a close look at a UFO.

John Wood was outside at his parents' Sleepy Hollow Road home last night when he says he heard a strange noise and looked up to see an oblong shaped object with green lights hovering above him.

"Whatever he saw, it scared him to death," said his mother, Patricia Wood, who describes her son as "not the type to fib."

John Wood, 10, said the object he saw around 7 p.m. was about the size of a sofa and was shaped "like a hot dog."

"It had lights on both sides and

some black signs between the lights," he said.

"It kept spinning around, like it was rolling on its side."

The child said he watched the object for about a minute and a half.

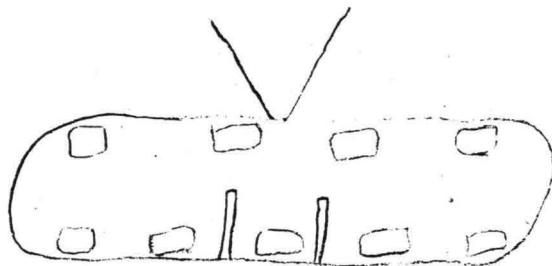
"I was at the side of the house. I saw it right above my head and then it started to go over the house and when it was over the house, it went like a flash and just disappeared," he said.

Patricia Wood checked the area in an effort to calm her son, but found nothing.

However, she and her husband Doug don't doubt John's story.

"He is on the honor roll, he's an intelligent child and I've never known him to fib," she said. "He was so upset when he came in. I know he saw something."

John Wood, a fifth-grader, said



This drawing, by 10-year-old John Wood, shows what he says he saw above his Sleepy Hollow Road home last night.

the UFO was greenish-brown and was smooth on the bottom, but had two antenna-like structures sticking out of the middle of it.

He also described a "real little door on the side shaped like a skinny rectangle."

George Fawcett, public relations director for Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) of North Carolina Inc., said his organization has

received reports of UFOs from 11 cities in North Carolina this year, including Winston-Salem, Salisbury, Cherryville, Kings Mountain, Shelby, Ellenboro, Lincolnton, Belmont, Huntersville, Lexington and Chocowinity.

Fawcett said most of the objects were reported as large, "between the size of a car and a house."

# Space aliens communicate with cafeteria employee

BY ALISHA FOSSETT

Paula Watson works in the kitchen of the high school cafeteria and has been visited by aliens for the past nine years.

Watson resides in Mt. Vernon with her husband, Ron, and their two children. They used to live in Greenfield where they first encountered the alien life forms.

"The first thing I saw were two little grey beings," said Watson. "They were standing by a cow in our field and they had their hands placed above the cow. All of a sudden, the cow and the little grey beings started floating toward the hillside where they finally disappeared."

The next day her husband saw strange lights in the sky and a cone-shaped object which he believed to be a UFO, but the cow was never to be seen again.

As might be imagined, Watson was terrified by the creatures.

"I was scared to death because I knew they weren't human," she said. "I always thought there was

other life in the universe, but I never thought I would see it."

Watson describes the creatures as being a kind of grey or silver color, with very skinny bodies, about three and one-half feet tall. She said they had big heads, long fingers, and were wearing tiny back packs.

Coincidentally, this description matches the description given by others who have witnessed alien beings.

"Our sighting is almost common," she said. "We have contacts from Pennsylvania and Texas and other places, as well, where other people have seen the same things we have."

Besides just seeing the creatures, Watson said she was abducted by them, however she does not remember the actual occasions. She has recurring dreams and has been professionally hypnotized three times, during which she has described in the detail, the events of her abductions.

Watson has encountered aliens around twenty different times

and seen other species besides the grey beings. She has seen lizard-like, or reptilian creatures, and she says there are at least 12 different types. Some of them are good and some are bad.

"The evil ones will not harm you as long as you believe in God," she said.

Watson said she has also spoken with the aliens.

"Their voices are like nothing I've ever heard before," she said. "Sometimes they have communicated with me telepathically, but the first time they spoke to me they said, 'We are your neighbors.'"

The Watsons have spoken at international conferences in Arizona and Las Vegas, where people from all over the world gather to talk of their alien life experiences.

"I like going to the conferences," Watson said. "It makes me feel better to know that I am not alone, and talking to others helps me deal with the situation."

Their case has been docu-

mented in the film *Earth Mysteries*, *Alien Life Forms*, and the couple is now working on their own book, due out in about six months.

Although Watson is willing to share her experiences, she does not advocate searching for your own alien encounters.

"Don't go looking for the aliens unless you know what you are doing," she said. "Be cautious. There are a lot of things out there."

Certain aspects of the whole ordeal tend to puzzle her.

"I just wonder why they picked me out of everyone else," she said. "I guess I was just there at the time."

Watson said she realizes some people may disbelieve her, but she doesn't seem to let it bother her.

"Sometimes I wish it wouldn't have happened because people can be so judgemental," she said. "If they don't believe me then that is fine. They have the right to their own opinions, but all I know is what I have seen with my own two eyes."

SUN-GAZETTE, Williamsport, PA - Feb. 15, 1992

## UFO Mystery Continuing; Conflicting Evidence Grows

By L. LEE JANSSEN  
Sun-Gazette Staff

Was it a plane? Was it a strange being from a distant planet? Or perhaps two or more beings from other worldly places? Who knows?

The past week yielded no solid answers in the search for specifics involving the slow-moving, low-level unidentified flying object that passed over the region the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 5, rattling windows in area houses from Cogan Station to Sunbury.

But lots of people have come forward with their stories. Those who said they saw an airplane are in the minority.

The majority of those who claim to have seen the object used words such as "banana turned sideways" and "boomerang" to describe their sightings, while a set of sisters reported simultaneous, similar sightings — miles apart — and believe more than one craft was in the area.

As of yesterday's mail call, Stan Gordon, director of the state chapter of the Mutual UFO Network, reported receiving a stack of letters 8 inches thick from area witnesses.

Meanwhile, at least a dozen others contacted the Sun-Gazette to describe what they saw.

James Anonie, owner of Grandview Motel in Linden, says he got a real good look at the "UFO" as it flew no more than 3,500 feet overhead.

"And it was no UFO," he said, claiming it was "definitely" some sort of propeller-type military plane that flew south toward the Bald Eagle Mountain and over Bastress.

"I got a real good look. I thought it was an earthquake at first," Anonie said.

**"It looked like an airplane's wings, but it didn't have a nose and it didn't have a tail."**

— SUSAN READ,  
JERSEY SHORE RD 1

**"It was positively an airplane."**

— JAMES ANONIE,  
LINDEN MOTEL OWNER

**"It doesn't make sense."**

— CHARLES MARTEL,  
AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT COLONEL

**"It sounds strange."**

— NAVAL AIR STATION SPOKESMAN

When he went outside to look, Anonie, who characterized the speed as "way too slow" to be a jet, said he became concerned the plane was going to crash because it was flying so low.

He saw only one light blinking on the right side and noted the absence of commercial-style plane lights.

"It was positively an airplane," Anonie concluded.

Ed Snyder, control tower manager at the Williamsport-Lycoming County Airport, who had no record that would indicate the type of craft reported by observers, said the tower would have information on flight plans only for instrumental flights and those landing and taking off from the local airport.

Other planes could pass through the airspace without communicating with the tower, as long as they remained outside

of the airport traffic area, he said.

That area extends in a five-mile radius from the tower and up to an altitude of 3,500 feet, he said.

FAA rules call for planes to travel 1,000 feet or higher above residential areas, he said.

Duncan Pardoe, FAA spokesman at the Kennedy Airport regional center, said he, too, received a number of telephone calls about the incident, but since there were no violations, infractions or mishaps reported within the regional system, he has no way to follow-up on the incident.

"There is nothing we can identify in our system. There's always the possibility that somebody does something that they shouldn't do and it doesn't get reported."

At the local Lycoming Air Services, Kevin Taylor said he was a "positive" local people witnessed a P-3 travel overhead.

"Either a P-3 or C-130," he said. "We saw it here."

Those types of planes perform "touch-and-gos" most Wednesday nights at the local airport, Taylor said.

"They just show up and do them," he claimed.

Meanwhile, contacts with the Navy and the Air Force have yielded no confirmation or denial of the presence of military planes in the area that night.

Air Force Lt. Col. Charles Martel said he received no "citizen complaints."

"Citizen complaints, traditionally, they see it and look at it from a distance," he said, noting angles combined with visual acuity could make an aircraft appear to be hovering above the trees when, in fact, it may be 1,000 feet above the trees.

Lycoming County is not a "transition field" for the mili-

tary, even though the capacity for military use exists locally, he said.

All military flights, regardless of weather they are flying by instrument or visual conditions are required to file flight plans with the Federal Aviation Administration, which gives the military clearance to operate, Martel explained.

He said he had no record of any flights over the area that night.

When asked about the practice of flying as low as the craft reportedly traveled over residential neighborhoods, Martel said that generally is not legal.

And if an aircraft was flying low because it was in distress, the Williamsport-Lycoming County Airport is close enough that it should have landed there, he said.

"It doesn't make sense."

Likewise, a spokesman at the Willow Grove Naval Air Station commented, "It sounds strange," when told of the main characteristics involved in the episode.

"It doesn't sound like — and I'm not trying to brush it off — but it doesn't sound like a military plane. A P-3 is an operational plane and it's propeller driven," he said.

"I won't say it wasn't a military plane," he added.

The spokesman referred the Sun-Gazette's call to a lieutenant commander who was not expected back in the office until after the President's Day holiday.

One woman who asked not to be identified said she saw a banana-shaped object over homes in the 2300 block of West Fourth Street, where she waited inside her automobile for her son to complete a music lesson.

The object flew toward Du-

Boistown, she said.

Her mother-in-law in Linden also heard it rumble over her house about 6 p.m. It made so much noise that it vibrated rocks off of a landscaped wall. The rocks rolled down a hill, she said.

"It sounded like a tornado coming," she said, claiming it was "no more than 10 feet" above the rooftops on West Fourth Street.

"It could not have been an airplane," she said, describing it as "this great big thing with these goofy lights on it."

Gordon said his mail turned up similar descriptions.

"Everybody said it was very slow, very low, and so far nobody has seen a fuselage," Gordon said yesterday afternoon.

The absence of a fuselage was noted in a mid-week conversation with Susan Read, of Jersey Shore RD 1, who said she saw the object while visiting her sister, Beth Foresman, of Montgomery.

"It looked like an airplane's wings, but it didn't have a nose and it didn't have a tail," Read said.

In describing the speed, Read said, "I could have run faster than this thing when it was above the house."

Likewise, Foresman said, "It looked like a giant wing."

Foresman attempted to photograph the object, but the negatives turned out blank. That, she said, was "kind of strange."

Another strange twist on the story was provided in one of the letters Gordon received.

In that communication, a Loyalsock Township woman reported seeing the craft flying south over her home about 6:25 p.m. that night.

About 20 minutes later, her sister called her and described a similar incident at the same time as the original woman noted her sighting.

"My sister and I believe we were seeing two different, strange objects," the woman wrote.

Gordon, whose organization maintains a confidentiality policy and will not release the names of people providing him with information, said the Feb. 5 sightings were not the first ones to occur in the Lycoming County area.

Others were reported in November, he said.

About a week ago, MUFON sent an investigator to the area to interview witnesses in the Feb. 5 incident. MUFON is continuing its investigation.



# Special Report: UFO's in Newton

## What happened that night in January? Witnesses detail sightings

By PAM ZIKOSKI  
Journal Staff

It would be hard to find someone around the Abingtons who hasn't heard the reports of strange lights in the sky over Newton Township in January. But only a few people know what really happened that night, and many nights before it.

The Abington Journal has obtained an audio tape of several people explaining what happened as they watched the lights on the night of January 16 from George Wolkind, of the Delaware/Maryland Northeast Mutual UFO Network. Wolkind and a companion traveled to Newton to view the lights after hearing reports of them.

The tape begins with an interview with a clerk at Airline Texaco on State Street in Clarks Summit, who reported that she had heard local police officers talking about the sightings and directed Wolkind and his companion to Newton.

Once in Newton, Wolkind met Sgt. Anthony Cali, who had reported seeing four or five lights "flying in a strange manner and acting in a strange manner" on January 8. Wolkind, his companion and Cali then traveled to a house located on Terra Drive to view the lights which seemed to be concentrated in the valley at the base of Bald Mountain.

One of the first lights reported on the tape was dubbed "the mother ship," which a voice on the tape said had appeared weeks before Christmas and had been in the sky every night since then. The people watching the lights were viewing the mother ship through binoculars and somebody claimed it had been hovering in the sky for over two hours that night.

While they were watching the lights, one person was capturing all the activity in the sky on videotape.

"The more people who see this, the better," one person said.

According to the tape, the people could see the lights zig-zag and come very close to the ground.

While you listen to the tape, you can hear the rushes of excitement in each person's voice as they watched the lights and cried out each time they saw another one. One person on the tape described how several, smaller, star-shaped lights interacted with the mother ship, which was the larger light near the tower on Bald Mountain.

"The little ships, or whatever the hell they are, go up to it," the voice said.

Many times everybody would stop and listen for an airplane engine, but could not hear any noise.

"Out here, you can hear planes, that's not a plane," one observed.

Several lights were reported hovering just over the tree line and

some of the UFO's had green, red, amber or white blinking lights.

"Sometimes we see 50 to 100 lights in one night," a voice on the tape said. "We see some coming off the ground. The one night we were over at the reservoir watching and we saw this bright white spotlight and all of a sudden, it went off the mountain and flew away."

When a plane actually did fly over the area that night, the group identified it and said it was easily distinguished from the other lights in the sky.

There were several shapes of UFO's identified that night. One was shaped like an arrowhead or boomerang that would turn in a circle and other ones were called "triangles," many of which had three white lights at each corner with two or three green flashing lights in the middle of two white lights in the center. The UFO's would hover, flash and sometimes descend in a spiral pattern.

One person's voice on the tape reported that the lights on the three towers located on a nearby mountain were knocked out on a previous night, and on another night, he had seen a flash behind the mountain that lit up the outline of the wires and the tower on Bald Mountain.

A large triangular UFO with three bright white lights reportedly descended close to the mountain but then made an about face and went away from it.

Another triangular one with a red light came towards the group and blinked out.

"That was huge!" someone exclaimed.

Several people discussed why the craft seemed to be collected in the area and speculated about whether there was a downed craft in or near the reservoir located off Coxton Road in Ransom. As they talked, other people would point out other triangular shaped crafts that were hovering in the sky.

Also on the tape was an interview with a woman from Ransom who saw a strange, unexplained light near Montage Mountain on January 17.

She said that she and her children were riding in their car when she spotted the light which appeared in the sky for about 10 minutes.

"When I saw it, the light was no bigger than a street light, and then all of a sudden it got huge - bigger and bigger and bigger - and went closer to Montage Mountain," she said. "It looked like someone had turned the sun on at night."

She described the light as one large light with other lights turning within the bigger one.

As the UFO left Montage Mountain, the light became dimmer, according to the woman who was interviewed.

## Documentary filmmaker impressed by extraterrestrial sightings in area

By PAM ZIKOSKI  
Journal Staff

While the UFO's over Newton Township were hovering, blinking and spiraling downward to the astonishment of onlookers below last month, other UFO activity was happening all over the nation, according to one authority on extraterrestrial sightings.

One of the most prominent people involved in the study of alien phenomena is documentary filmmaker Linda Moulton Howe. After leaving her home located outside Philadelphia, Moulton Howe visited the Abing-

tons in January after receiving reports of UFO's in Newton Township. She viewed a videotape taken on January 8 that supposedly showed craft moving in unusual directions.

After studying the videotape of the UFO's sighted in Newton Township, Moulton Howe concluded that the tape showed "distinct anomalous movement by a light that is not consistent with normal aircraft. It drops down rapidly at an angle and then rises immediately upward."

During a conversation with The Abington Journal, Moulton Howe said she was impressed with the amount of activity that

occurred around the country during the Newton sightings.

According to Moulton Howe's research, John Carpenter, a psychiatric hypnotist in Springfield, MI, along with two others, spotted a pumpkin-orange light that seemed to float silently in the night sky, moving left, then right, then up then down, stopping, but then moving erratically again.

"They don't know what they watched, but the description is similar to the Scranton light description," Moulton Howe said.

A light dubbed "the pump-

carcasses," Moulton Howe said.

On February 2, an investigator with the Mutual UFO Network in Oklahoma investigated a fresh mutilation in Kansas. Tissue samples from the carcass have been sent to Dr. John Altschuler, a pathologist and hematologist in Denver, CO. In previous cases, he has reported that the tissue was cut with high heat, above 300 degrees Fahrenheit.

"But a simple laser is not the answer because the excisions were done rapidly, in three minutes or less, yet these excisions can be as large as 22 inches in diameter where an udder is removed," Moulton Howe explained.

She questions what technology is involved and reports that in cases in Montana and Oregon, the excisions have had a serrated edge as if pinking shears were used to make them, and the cuts are made in a very regular, consistent, pattern of triangular-shaped notches. The Oregon State University found

evidence that high heat was applied to the notched edge by an unknown instrument during a mutilation in that state.

A graduate of Stanford University with a master's degree in communications, Moulton Howe has devoted her film and television career to documentary and studio productions concerning science, medicine and the environment.

Moulton Howe has received local, national and international recognition for her documentary, "A Strange Harvest," which explores animal mutilations around the world reportedly linked to alien appearances, and continues to work as a producer, writer, director and editor. In 1989, she authored a book entitled "An Alien Harvest - Further Evidence Linking Animal Mutilations and Human Abductions to Alien Life Forms." This winter, her documentary, "UFO Reports: Sightings" captured the Fox Network's largest viewing audience ever, according to USA Today. The show was broadcast locally on WOLF-TV Channel 38.

## Experts and enthusiasts drawn to the Abingtons

By PAM ZIKOSKI  
Journal Staff

The skies over Newton Township seem to have quieted down after reports of UFO's last month, but activity of a different sort has been continuing on the ground.

Over the past month, the events in Newton have set off a flurry of television reports, investigations, and round table discussions throughout the country. People who study UFO's are keeping a close eye on the area and are visiting the community almost every day.

One of a small group of people who regularly investigate UFO sightings, George Wolkind of the Delaware Mutual UFO Network, (MUFON) agreed to retell what he saw in Newton and explain his official report on the sightings.

Wolkind left Delaware and came to the Abingtons January 16 with a companion after hearing reports of strange lights over Dunmore.

Once they got to this area, Wolkind asked around and was directed to Newton Township. As they rode down Newton-Ransom Boulevard, Wolkind said he got his first glimpse of what was happening in the sky.

"As we were going through Clarks Summit, I noticed this configuration of lights," Wolkind explained. "My eyes were telling me it was a plane, but my guts - it was hovering. I could have hit it

with a baseball."

He added that a week later, he talked to a family who sighted a UFO over their car and one of the kids described exactly what Wolkind had seen, a light that turned into a plane, or gave the illusion of a plane.

As they rode through Newton, Wolkind saw another UFO, which he described in his MUFON report as "the mother ship," a very bright light that appeared above the power lines on Bald Mountain.

"I saw a big light over the mountain," Wolkind explained. "As we drove, this thing comes across the valley."

Once they reached a location on Terra Drive in Newton, Wolkind explained that the light was there, hovering over a house. According to his report, the light was not there a week later.

During that night, he reported seeing dozens of lights, some which were balls of yellow light, that came across the mountain.

"It was like that little airport was JFK," he explained. "Only these weren't planes coming in."

He described a craft with a triangular shape that he said was as big as a house. "I did see a triangular-shaped UFO with rows of bright amber lights take off from the side of a large hill-type mass located across the valley," Wolkind wrote in his report.

A craft called "the pumpkin,"

took off from the same place not long after, the report said. Wolkind described it as having two rows of bright amber lights.

"There was another one, 'the pumpkin,' it looked just like a big jack-o-lantern," he said, adding that the lights all seemed to be concentrated in the area around the Pennsylvania Gas and Water reservoir located off Coxton Road in Ransom Township.

The report mentions that several members of the Newton Township Police Department and state troopers also witnessed the event.

Wolkind's report said that when he and his companion left the area, the "mother ship" stayed in the sky and other lights would approach it and would maneuver toward it and away from it.

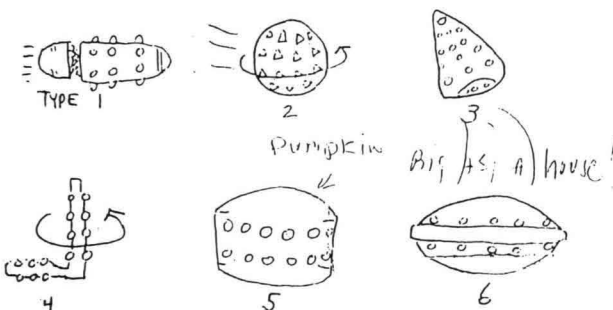
When asked if he thought the lights could possibly have been from a plane, Wolkind disputed the idea. "If you look at planes, they have blinking lights," he said. "Planes, jets, they all make noises. These were silent."

In his report, Wolkind wrote, "There are no words that can adequately describe what we saw. I can assure you that we did not see ball lightning, plasma, planes or the moon."

Besides commenting on the strange names of places around Newton, such as Bald Mountain and Dark Regions Road, Wolkind explained that if the lights were extraterrestrial visitors, Newton just might be an ideal spot to check out.

"These things are not going to come into the Bronx," he said.

(continued on page 10) 9



Drawings by an eye witness. (Courtesy of George Wolkind)

"They're looking for a small American town like Newton."

Wolkind said he thought the new activity in this area might be a test, but not necessarily of how we treat the potential aliens, but of how we treat each other.

"If someone sees something, you don't tell them what they saw, you just listen," he explained. "I think it's real important that people don't start throwing stones at others. They let themselves be seen up there, and they have the capability not to be seen. This is a human problem, not an alien problem. It's also a test of how we treat each other, not the aliens."

Wolkind speculated about why the UFO's would let themselves be seen, and suggested that maybe we were the aliens, and the crafts were ready to return home.

"We may be the aliens, they may

(continued from page 9 - ABINGDON JOURNAL, Clarks Summit, PA - Feb. 12, 1992)

be the guys that were here first, who knows?" he said. "This whole thing makes you look at the world differently. We're getting a lesson here. We're being introduced to a new language. The thing to do is not to look at this with fear, but with learning and compassion."

When asked what he thought all the sightings could mean, Wolkind offered his opinion. "It means that we're being introduced to our potential cousins, to the rest of the universe," he said. "For some reason, the people who saw them have been chosen."

At the end of the conversation, Wolkind asked where *The Journal* was located, and when told Clarks Summit, he commented again about the tie-in with the names of local areas and UFO's.

"What a perfect name to draw them here," he said. "The Summit."

## Woman reports UFO in county

By PAIGE OLIVER  
Times Staff Writer

It's been nearly three years since residents in nearby Fayette first reported sightings of "flashing lights" in their northeast Alabama town, making it a landmark UFO center for tourists and scientists alike.

Skeptics had their laughs while believers flocked to the tiny town to catch a glimpse and purchase a T-shirt or two.

But Friday morning, strange phenomena took to the streets of northwest Madison County, where a local woman said she spotted an unidentified flying object hovering over Blake Bottom Road, the normally dark, quiet route she takes to work each day at dawn.

It first appeared to be an unusually bright airplane arriving from the east over King Mountain. But as she turned east on Blake Bottom Road from Indian Creek Road, the woman viewed "the brightest lights I've ever seen" just above the power lines and trees that hang over the street.

"At first I thought, 'ooh, what a bright airplane. And all of a sudden, it's in my face,'" she said.

### Health professional

A health care professional on her way to work at 5:45 that morning, the woman, who asked not to be identified, said her family life and career have kept her too busy to consider the idea of visitors from outer space. But now the wheels are in motion.

"Why would God put people on just this planet?" she said.

She described the sight as a round craft surrounded by multiple lights at the base with a diameter of a long-bed pickup truck. It was joined to a top portion impressed with three square windows with dim lights inside them, she said.

Once on Blake Bottom Road, "it was almost the same distance from me at all times," backing up as she drove toward it and stopping as she slowed, she said.

"The lights went off when I slowed down, and I said, 'Lord, what shall I do?'" she said. "I didn't get afraid until I couldn't get under it. I sped up at a tremendous speed, and I thought, 'This thing is going to fall in front of me.'"

Another car was oncoming before she drove beneath the object, but the woman said she didn't notice if the car had stopped or seen the lights. "I don't know if they saw it or not, but they couldn't miss it," she said.

"I was waiting to hear a sound — an explosion. I thought, 'These people are going to get killed because there's houses all along that road,'" she said.

Approaching Highway 53, the woman didn't look back. She was on time to work at 6 a.m., when she called her husband and asked

him to check Blake Bottom Road to see if anything had touched down.

"I said, 'I'm not going down there,'" her husband recalled. "I told her to call the police."

She called the Huntsville Police Department, but "there was disbelief, and I can't blame anybody," she said.

Still, something was gnawing at her about what she had seen.

After talking to her supervisor, the woman returned to Blake Bottom Road to look for debris she believed would have fallen into the road from the trees if an aircraft had hovered that close to the limbs.

"Then I remembered. There was no sound," she said.

Air Traffic Control officials at Huntsville International Airport told *The Huntsville Times* that radar picked up nothing unusual at the time of the reported sighting.

Contacted Friday at the Army Missile Command, spokesman Dave Harris said "nothing like that has taken off or landed at Redstone Arsenal." He did say, however, that the area through which the woman was traveling is in the approach and departure path of both Redstone Arsenal and the airport.

"I have not had a report of this in a long, long time," he said. "The normal reports we get these days are of low-flying aircraft."

Several decades ago the Air Force headed Project Blue Book, a concerted effort of the armed forces that collected reports of sightings and investigated them, Harris said. But the project yielded little in the way of explaining such phenomena.

"They went out of the UFO business," he said. "There are several private organizations that continue to collect information about sightings."

One such group is the Mutual UFO Network, an international organization that investigates reports of sightings and encounters with UFOs. That group has begun an investigation into the Blake Bottom Road sighting.

"We have to rule out all of the common explanations," said Jeff Ballard, state director for MUFON and a Huntsville engineer.

Ballard said he has heard of no reported UFO sightings in the Huntsville area for several years. This sighting, however, is unusual because "it was up close," he said.

"You have a lot of problems with distant sightings. Those are difficult to work with," he said. "We'll check the prosaic possibilities first, but it all comes back to the witness' viewpoint. It all comes back to there was no sound."

Single sightings are the most common reported, Ballard said, but that doesn't assure the woman whose normal routine has been uprooted by a sight she cannot explain.

"If I don't know what it is, I'm going to change roads," she said.

Anyone with information about the Blake Bottom Road sighting or any other UFO sightings can call MUFON at 586-6568 or 830-2804, Ballard said.

## TV host recalls Carbondale incident

By PAM ZIKOSKI  
Journal Staff

Other events in our area have been tied to Newton UFO sightings one researcher. During E.T. Network, an internationally broadcast television show, which is hosted by Robert and Lucy Barry, Newton's lights were tied to a 20-year-old event in Carbondale, events in Florida and in other parts of Pennsylvania.

During the February 1 broadcast, Robert Barry, who has been researching UFO's since 1957 and has also spoken to the National Academy of Science regarding UFO's, reported on what he found out during an investigation into the "Great UFO Cover-up in Carbondale, PA."

On November 8, 1974, something fell from the sky and into a pond near Russell Park in Carbondale, according to Barry. He and his wife traveled from York County to investigate after receiving clearance from the Center for UFO Studies in Chicago.

"A UFO was seen by teenagers and adults approaching Carbondale and it plunged into a pond near Russell Park in Carbondale. The end result of that was a statement by the Carbondale Police Department calling it a hoax and they said that somebody tossed a railroad lantern into a pond. There was the beginning of 'The Great Carbondale UFO Cover-up.' If so, then it was the first railroad lantern that flew through the sky and plunged into the water," Barry said.

There was a glow of some kind coming from the pond, according to Barry, who reported that one Carbondale police officer took his revolver out of his holster, aimed at the pond where that light was, and fired.

Barry said that during the early morning hours of November 10, 1974, an object was removed from the pond, covered and taken away on a flatbed truck, according to eye witnesses.

"The unusual thing about all of this is that Carbondale isn't too far from Scranton, so maybe now,

they're getting ready to do the whole thing over again," Barry said. "But I hope not, because this thing impacted, whatever it was. People who live in that area did see them take it out, put it on a flatbed truck, and haul it away - all in the wee hours of the morning."

Barry speculated that the incidents in Newton may be connected to a series of sightings that have occurred for three or four years in Gulf Breeze, FL.

Barry continued to say that UFO activity was reported in Middletown, York County, and that fishermen along the Susquehanna River had seen UFO's during the daytime.

"This activity occurred at the same time as that in the Scranton area around Clarks Summit," Barry explained.

During a conversation with Barry on February 10, Barry said that he is continuing to update viewers on the Newton activity and is urging them to visit Clarks Summit with their cameras.

BLUE RIDGE SUN, Sparta, NC - March 4, 1992 CR: G. Fawcett

## A Dozen UFO Sightings Reported In The Area!

Our UFO sighting report last week prompted a galaxy of responses from other residents who saw the lights on February 20th, or at other times. Veteran UFO researcher, George Fawcett said the description was, "A typical one I've heard many times over the past 40 years." Mr. Fawcett, contacted on Thursday at his Lincoln home, also stated, "We get a lot of reports from your area."

After last week's report, that two county residents saw mysterious lights moving from the Northwest across Allegheny, seven other people called to report similar sightings. On Thursday night, February 20th, the lights were seen by a man on Bledsoe Creek Road, a woman returning from choir practice in Chestnut Grove, a dairy farmer and his son in Stratford, a lady staying with her mother in the Vox Community and a woman who lives on Hwy. 18 North. Two other ladies called saying they saw lights on Thursday and Friday nights. The dairymen and the lady in Vox said they have seen the lights on numerous occasions. Each time the lights were moving slowly, with no sound. The dairymen's son focused a rifle scope on the lights and saw the vague outline of a craft, but not a typical aircraft.

George Fawcett, who heads the North Carolina Chapter of the International UFO Network (MUFON) said the sightings were typical of those researchers have documented over the years. Mr. Fawcett, a native of Mt. Airy, has researched UFO sightings for over 40 years. The MUFON organization is 24 years old, with affiliates around the world. Headquartered in Sequin, Tex., MUFON publishes a monthly jour-

nal and has quarterly meetings in North Carolina. The February meeting was held in Salisbury and the May meeting will be in Greensboro. MUFON has 600 members from 65 N.C. cities and towns.

"I would like to talk with the people who saw the lights," noted Mr. Fawcett, "and urge those interested to join MUFON. Our quarterly meetings are held on the first Sunday of February, May, August and November. We usually have 2 or 3 speakers, slides, videos, and eyewitness reports. It's a rather long meeting, but very interesting."

Mr. Fawcett, who has written two books on UFO sightings and started six MUFON chapters, is one of the foremost experts in the field. As noted, he said what Allegheny folks saw, was a typical "nocturnal flight". When I described the lights as looking like car lights moving across the sky he said that too was typical. "People usually try to relate what they see to something common like a phone," noted Mr. Fawcett. "It's difficult to distinguish a craft at night, like when you see approaching car headlights, you can't see the outline of the car."

Mr. Fawcett, who not only grew up in Mt. Airy, but attended college at Lees McRae, has lectured at Appalachian State University. He said he'd been through Sparta. He also mentioned the sightings in Wytheville, Va., which were featured on "Unsolved Mysteries" recently.

"North Carolina ranks fourth in the nation for confirmed UFO sightings," noted Mr. Fawcett who prepares an annual MUFON report for the state. "There are 150 sightings reported daily world-wide. If only ten percent of the sightings are reported, we're just seeing the tip of

the iceberg."

Mr. Fawcett went on to note that 1200 books on UFO sightings have been published over the years. "I've just read my 710th book, so I'm still in kindergarten," noted Mr. Fawcett. He also said he'd collected 1500 items over his 48 years of research and would like to develop a UFO museum and research center in North Carolina. "This would be a tourist draw, as well as a research center," explained Mr. Fawcett. "There are small museums in Las Vegas, California and Japan."

Mr. Fawcett encouraged all those interested in this fascinating phenomena to join the MUFON. He's mailing information on the network and sighting report forms to *The Blue Ridge Sun*. We'll share that information with you next week. He'd like to hear from anyone who has seen lights or other unexplained things. You may call him at 704-735-5725 or write 602 Battleground Rd., Lincoln, N.C. 28092. "I'm interested in old and new sightings and all information will be kept strictly confidential," explained Mr. Fawcett.

Until next week, please call *The Sun* at 372-5490 if you have seen anything unusual. We're keeping a log, and like Mr. Fawcett, keeping all information confidential.

Mr. Fawcett agreed when I noted the existence of other life forms in the universe was not contrary to Christian beliefs in Creation. After all, God made the heavens and the earth. There's nothing that says God didn't make other beings out in the universe. It's fascinating to think about, and contrary to the Hollywood scare movies, nothing to be alarmed about. It's more like they used to say on *Star Trek* - the last frontier.

## Was It A UFO? Mt Judea Man Sees Object

David Criner of Mt. Judea reports he sighted a strange object in the sky Tuesday evening, January 28, and would like to know if anyone else saw it.

Criner said a red glow with no form appeared for a second or two about 7 p.m. He was outside unloading wood and looking east from his house towards Horn Mountain when he first noticed it.

Criner said the lights looked like electrical sparks.

The third time the light appeared it seemed to be a rectangular object as long as a city block, flat on top and bottom but with rounded sides.

Criner said the object was not on the horizon but in the sky near the constellation Orion.

Criner's wife caught a glimpse of whatever appeared in the sky that night but no other sightings have been reported.

NEWTON CO. TIMES, Jasper, AR - Feb. 6, 1992





# An ordinary man with a passion for the extraordinary

RETIRED diplomat Gordon Creighton does not believe in unidentified flying objects.

He knows they exist.

Deep in the heart of passionately suburban Rickmansworth, Mr Creighton is the unlikely editor of *Flying Saucer Review*, a quarterly magazine devoted to sightings and reports of visitations that are quite literally out of this world.

Established in 1955, *Flying Saucer Review* boasts a circulation of more than 3,000 and is reported to have readers in very high places.

The Late Earl Mountbatten was a keen "ufologist" and there are suggestions that other members of his family have kept up his subscription.

The magazine was launched into orbit by a group of professionals who felt there was strong, indeed over-powering, evidence for the existence of... extra-terrestrials.

"I think UFO is a very silly word, introduced by the American authorities to take the public's mind off the subject. It deflates concern," said Mr Creighton.

Now, after several editors and 37 years, the magazine is still flying high, produced on the living room floor of Mr Creighton's home in Cedars Avenue, Rickmansworth.

Before going any further, it is important to list a number of things that Mr Creighton is most definitely not.

He is not an anorak-wearing, boggle-eyed weirdo, desperate to pin unfortunate members of the public to the wall while expounding some deeply peculiar theory.

*'His manner is that courteous, old-world British style that characterised an Englishman abroad'*

He does not claim to be in contact with Delta Forces from the Federation of Planet Mungo, and he does not have a powerful, patented, home-built intergalactic telescope housed in the potting shed at the end of his garden.

Mr Creighton is a retired diplomat, with a fluent knowledge of ten languages.

Born on a farm between Harfield and Rickmansworth, he studied at Cambridge and went on to gain further language qualifications in Paris.

During his distinguished career he served in Her Majesty's Consulates all over the world including China, Brazil and America, and also worked for the Ministry of Defence in London.

His manner is still infused by that courteous, old-world British style that popularly characterised an Englishman abroad at a time when substantial chunks of the earthly map were Empire-pink.

Small, dignified, sincere and acutely alert, Mr Creighton is a composite of both Badger and Mole from Kenneth Grahame's *Wind in the Willows*, combining the enthusiasm of a schoolboy with the wisdom of the very well-read.

His comfortable living room is lined with books and reminders of his diplomatic career.

On close inspection, the bright, writhing pottery figures standing guard at the fire place are revealed as Chinese temple dragons — not the little green men you might have expected.

In his conservative, flying objects of a feathered nature are causing a commotion.

"I'm afraid one of the birds is a bit off colour today," he explained, gesturing towards the noise.

Meanwhile, two, large, ancient Collie dogs orbit the living room with an amiable shuffle, intrigued by the arrival of a stranger.

A head pops round the door.

"Would you like coffee?" enquires Mrs

**CATHERINE CAIN meets Gordon Creighton, a former diplomat who's in the know when it comes to ginger nut biscuits, small caged birds and flying saucers**

Creighton, apologising that there appears to be only one ginger nut left.

This is a very normal house.

Mr Creighton's interest in the subject stems from an incident in 1941, when he, along with several other people, witnessed a strange flying object on the borders of Tibet.

Attached to the British Embassy in Peking, he had accompanied the Chinese Government inland when the Japanese invaded.

*'I'm afraid one of the birds is a bit off colour today'*

The group had almost reached the borders of Tibet when the sighting occurred.

"I saw this white, disc-like thing, moving very fast in the sky. It seemed to have a very brilliant blue light — the colour of a gas flame — flashing on and off intermittently."

"I've seen others since, most of us have, but often people aren't aware of it."

It was not until Mr Creighton was in charge of the British Consulate in New Orleans that he actively began to collect information and material.

He believes that extra-terrestrial activity literally took off after the Second World War and the use of the bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

"There's a great deal of evidence that they started coming here in a really big way just after the atomic testings," he said.

He pointed out that the development of both the American and Russian space programmes began after the war, and said that the projects owe more to top-level concern at the increasing incidence of flying saucers than to the arms race.

"I ask you. A devastating world war comes to an end. Half the planet is in ruins. Surely man is not going to spend a fortune on exploring outer-space without good reason."

Going further, he claims that aliens have actually crash-landed on the earth, but says that world governments are so worried at the possible effects on the human psyche of actually admitting this that the truth cannot be told.

"I know what I'm talking about. I worked for the Ministry of Defence. Governments have got to deny the existence of these things because it's too terrifying."

In America, the Rand Corporation and Brookings Institute — bodies of very intelligent analysts — were asked to put their thinking caps on and say what the impact would be on mankind if it came into contact with beings from elsewhere.

"They both said it would shake the very foundations of society. In such conditions, men would lose faith in their institutions, their Gods and their way of life."

*'Something very serious will occur in the near future'*

"Actually, it is not a scientific problem at all, but a religious and philosophical issue."

Apparently even the Vatican has a mysterious "department" devoted to UFO investigations.

Both the Rand Corporation and the Brookings Institute drew attention to the influence of civilisation on primitive tribes.

Ancient societies have been undermined and destroyed by exposure to the sophistication of the West.

It was felt that man's exposure to a higher, more advanced culture might have a

similar damaging effect, both psychologically and physically.

"When I was in Brazil, there was a tribe in the jungle being wiped out by measles," said Mr Creighton, by way of illustration.

He claims we inhabit a universe that is "literally teeming with life".

From the evidence he has collated, he says there are at least nine different species of alien visiting the earth at present, ranging from very small troll-like creatures, to supernaturally beautiful beings about ten feet tall.

He said: "They are all remarkably human-like. The small ones have large heads and spindly limbs. If you look at our fairy stories, it's all there. Our ancestors have always known about visitors."

Defending himself from suggestions of gullibility and an eagerness to think that we earthlings are being watched over by some benign, protective force, he added: "Critics always say we want to believe in all this."

"They assume that chaps like me want aliens to be lovely angelic beings. But I don't think that's true. Actually, I think some of them are the devils mentioned in religious texts."

"I don't attend any church, and I don't have a label hanging round my neck, but I am extremely religious. I definitely believe in the immortality of the soul — something that comes to man in time and space."

Equally, he believes that some aliens could be "angels" too.

As a linguist, he pointed out that the word angel comes from the Greek "angelos", meaning messenger.

But what message are these heavenly visitors bringing?

Mr Creighton said: "I don't think man is in control here. In fact, I think that pawns are currently being moved about on the celestial board which asks the question — who is moving them?"

*'Patrick Moore says Gordon is as nutty as a fruitcake'*

"A lot of extraordinary things are happening in the world at the moment which are not explicable."

"I think that something very serious will occur in the near future. I don't think it's the end of the book for mankind, but it might be the end of the chapter."

In the meantime, Mr Creighton and his colleagues on FSR will continue to fly in the face of the establishment.

The magazine has a network of around 70 regular contributors in all parts of the world. Many of them very eminent, well-respected men.

"There is a fearful lunatic fringe, but we are not writing for them," he said.

Some people regard Mr Creighton as part of that "lunatic fringe".

"Patrick Moore says Gordon is as nutty as a fruitcake," said Mrs Creighton as she brought in the coffee.

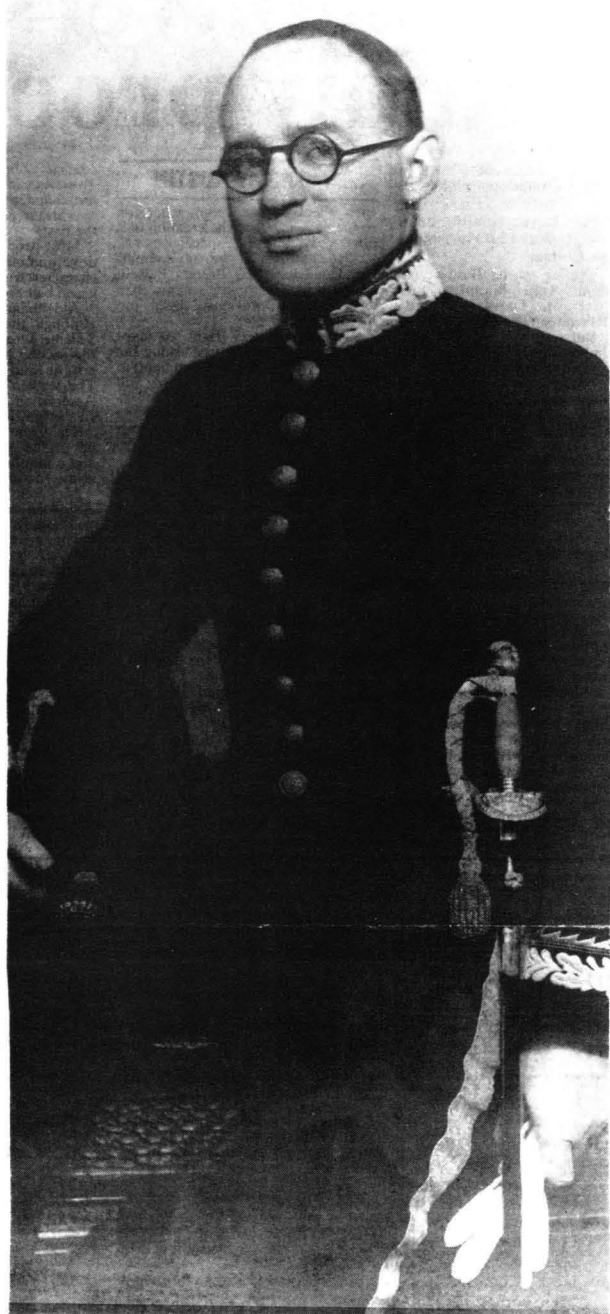
Old sparring partners, both Mr Moore and Mr Creighton have appeared together on television and radio to hotly debate the issue.

Off the platform, they are perfectly amicable.

"The point is that people always want to think that aliens are here to socialise with us, and that's just not true."

"It's likely that some are friendly, but the majority probably think of us as an interesting species of flora or fauna... like kangaroos," mused Mr Creighton as he patted his dog's head.

"Remember, the universe is a very large place."



Gordon Creighton as he was in the early days of his career as a dashing young diplomat



And as he is now, at his home and workplace in Rickmansworth

## One controversy that is still going round in circles

THIS part of the world seems to be a focus for crop circle activity which has caught the attention of millions over the last few years.

It's a bit early in the season to be looking for the 1992 varieties, but in the meantime, you can look at Crop Circle Communique, a 75-minute video which looks at the phenomenon and the possible explanations for how they come to be here.

First of all we get a lot of aerial footage of the crop circles — or rather formations, since the designs have become increasingly elaborate and ornate. This alone is worth the price of the video.

I've only ever seen photographs in newspapers, and the aerial shots are spec-

tacular and beautiful.

Then there is the question of how they got there, and what, if anything, they mean. There are three possible explanations. 1. Peculiar weather activity; 2. Human activity; 3. Supernatural activity.

The first option is soon ruled out because the patterns are too complicated for any freak weather conditions to have created them. The second category is certainly applicable for some of the circles.

During the video we are introduced to Doug and Dave, the self-proclaimed hoaxers who claim to have done hundreds of crop circles.

The evidence for and against their claim is not fully investigated, but on balance, I don't think they were responsible

for all the circles. Which leaves us with non-human intervention, and that's a whole different ballgame.

It reminds me a bit of the Kennedy business. Everybody dismisses Oliver Stone and Jim Garrison's claims about the conspiracy to kill Kennedy, but the implications of what it means if it were true are so staggering that it's almost impossible to grasp.

In the case of crop circles this is true a hundred times over. Are we looking for little spacecraft, or is this, as the Hopis have apparently stated us when shown the pictures, simply Mother Earth informing us that she is in a state of crisis and needs urgent help?

There is one intriguing piece of film

taken by two young Germans, of a hovering white ball which shoots around a field with no obvious source of energy. Is this a UFO or a hoax? We never find out.

So many so-called Special Interest videos are of very limited appeal, relevant strictly to those who want flatter tummies, taller petunias or lessons in Albanian. Crop circles have a wider appeal, potentially, since the implications are potentially enormous.

I still can't decide if I'm a naive cynic or a jaundiced believer, but I enjoyed looking at the available evidence, and particularly seeing the circles themselves in such detail.

Phil Raby

## UFO investigations

**Close encounters with Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) are not as far from home as one might think.**

In fact a member of the International Committee for UFO Research, Mr Paul Norman, arrived in Broken Hill last weekend to investigate the phenomenon.

On Saturday Mr Norman heard from a local person that large earth circles had been seen about 100km from the city almost a year ago.

The man's friend had not come forward with the information as he was afraid of being "laughed at". Mr Norman said this was the case with many UFO witnesses.

He said the circles would now be too old to show any magnetic activity, but he has asked the person who saw these circles to come forward with any photographs which he or she may have taken.

But this is not the only record of UFO presence in the Broken Hill region.

According to Keith Basterfield's book, "Close Encounters of an Australian Kind," four UFO sightings were reported in the last 50 years.

In 1953 two men out driving in Wilcannia took photographs of a "saucer-shaped object" hovering above an electricity pole less than 30 metres away.

Then, three years later, also in Wilcannia, a man photographed a "typical" disc with a dome hovering in the sky.

In 1966 Peter Nielson and his friend Tom Murkins

were walking to their home in Wilcannia when they saw a "brilliantly lit object in the sky. After moving around the base of the clouds in an eccentric manner it became motionless and hovered overhead for a while".

The last confirmed sighting of an unidentified flying object in the region was reported in Broken Hill in 1966. A light stopped in mid-air, hovering some four metres from the ground for three to four minutes, then took off, leaving a rainbow colored trail, it was claimed.

Mr Norman has been an investigator of unidentified phenomena for 39 years and has travelled as an honorary member of the committee to sightings in all parts of the world.

He spends most of his time in the Northern Hemisphere, but regularly visits Australia.

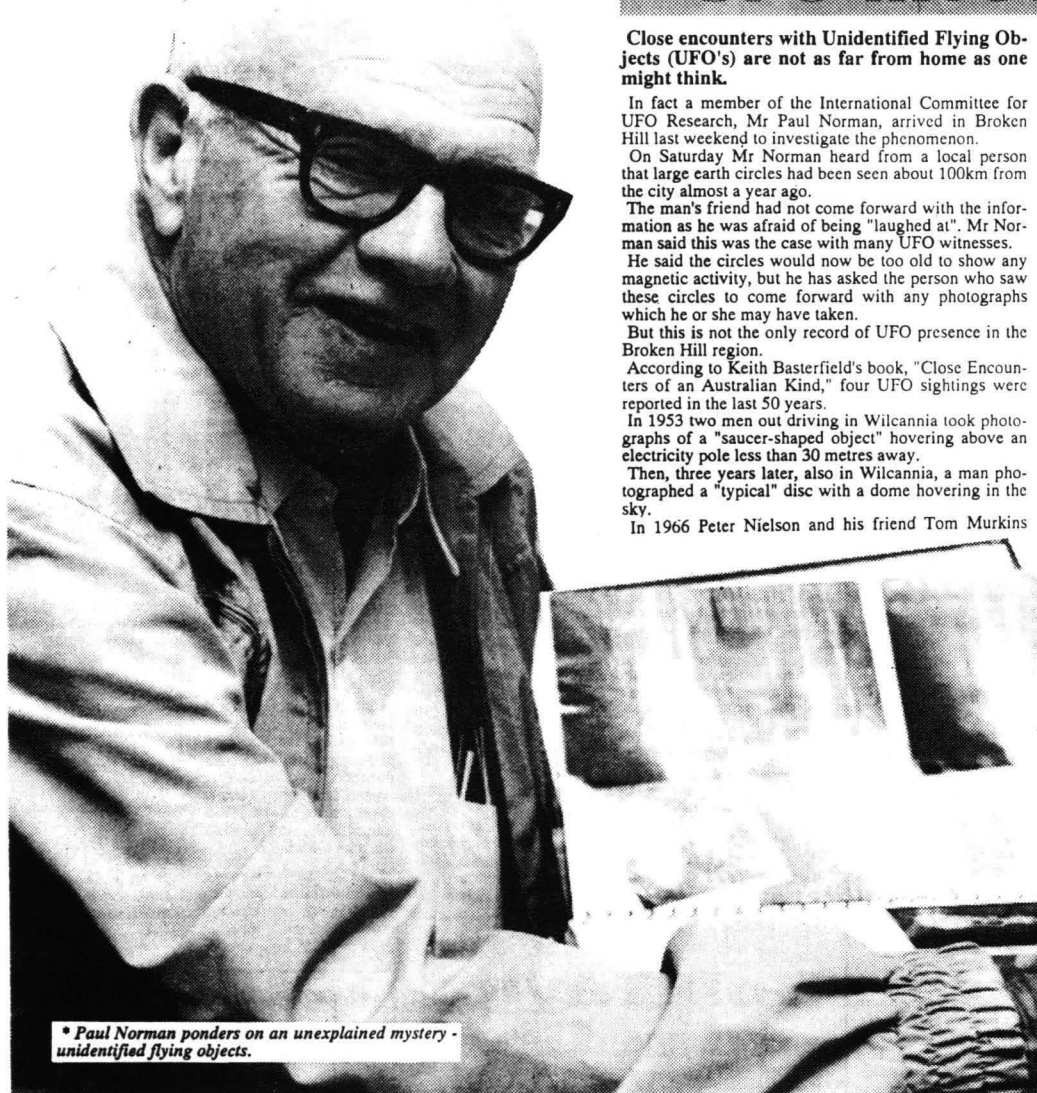
His quest to solve the mystery of UFO's began in 1953 when he was the superintendent of a fire station.

One day at work a whitish/blue circular figure hovered over his station. He has been interested in the phenomena ever since.

Mr Norman has closely studied the widely publicised incident concerning the Knowles family in 1988 when the mother, Faye Knowles, and her three sons came in contact with a UFO on the Nullarbor Plain.

Mr Norman said the last sighting of UFO activity was reported just four days ago in Melbourne but was yet to be confirmed as "the real thing".

He will leave Broken Hill on Thursday and has asked any local resident with a genuine sighting of an unidentified flying object to contact him on 88 2086 or write to him at PO Box 43, Moorabbin, Victoria, 3189.



\* Paul Norman ponders on an unexplained mystery - unidentified flying objects.

NEW STATESMAN, London, England - Feb. 14, 1992 CR: T. Good

### FORTEANA

*A hand-picked review of the weird and wonderful, by "Fortean Times" editor Paul Sieveking*

For more 40 years, Brazil has seen numerous and often bizarre UFO incidents, quite different in their nature from the typical UFO event in North America. Close encounters are typically aggressive, but at the same time inept. A number of people have been burned or injured, and at least six deaths have been connected with alien encounters. This curious divergence in the nature of encounters in North and South America is very hard for "nuts and bolts" ufologists to come to terms with; however, it makes a lot more sense from the psychosocial point of view. Every culture has a shadow world of entities/angels/aliens, moulded by the expectations, fears and dreams of its people.

The notorious decade for alien aggro in Brazil was 1975 to 1985, but sightings continue at a prodigious rate. Last September, veteran UFO investigators Cynthia Newby Luce and Bob Pratt made a 26-day tour of north and central Brazil, gathering accounts of 42 sightings, many quite recent. One man said he had seen a "fogo" or ball of fire, a typical description of a UFO in much of Brazil, moving slowly above the sand dunes near the coast only the night before. Every witness believed the UFOs would abduct him or her if they got

the chance. A common nickname for them is "the Chupa-Chupa" (from the verb *chupar*, to suck): they believe UFOs suck the blood from abducted people. (This offers a curious parallel to the mysterious cattle mutilations in the US over the past 20 years, where the carcasses are typically drained of blood).

What impressed the investigators most was the extent of UFO activity in Brazil, a country of 150 million people and no more than 400 active UFO investigators. In 1977, UFOs were seen virtually every night for four months in and near the city of Pinheiro in the state of Maranhao, and the mayor estimated that 50,000 people in his region had seen them. Many fishermen and farmers had been chased and sometimes hurt or burned by the UFOs. Yet Brazilian investigators learned of this by chance only 18 months later.

To give an impression of the sort of close encounter frequently described by Brazilian witnesses, I summarise two cases here from the report by Luce and Pratt in the

Journal of the Mutual UFO Network (103 Oldtowne Rd, Seguin, Texas 78155), an informative and well-produced monthly.

In early 1979, cotton rancher Januncio, 78, visited neighbours near Santa Cruz in the state of Rio Grande do Norte. He was walking the five kilometres home in the

**On 9 March 1991, an enormous UFO with a transparent dome appeared. Down the road, it dropped a ball of fire in front of them**

dark at about 8pm, when a brightly lit upright cylinder appeared several metres above him. A door opened on the bottom and he could see two "people" inside. Hot light flooded out and he was pulled upwards by some invisible force. He wrapped his arms and legs tightly round a small palm tree. Three

times he was pulled up and slid back, scraping his arms and chest. Then the "people" dropped something like melted wax or hot oil on his upper arms, burning them. The UFO shot off. Januncio was sick for two days with headaches and unable to eat. His arms and chest were almost raw and he had blisters on his arms. He refused to go out at night anymore.

At 1.30am on 9 March 1991, an enormous UFO with a transparent dome appeared above a Brazilian couple on their motorcycle and shone a bright light on them. The couple, in their 30s, felt paralysed and the motorcycle sputtered to a stop. Two minutes later it went away, and they got the motorcycle going again. They drove down the highway for a kilometre or two and the UFO returned, hovered over them, and again disappeared. Further down the road, it came back a third time and dropped a ball of fire a metre or two in front of them. The husband braked just as the ball of fire "exploded" in silence. The next day the wife had blisters on her face, but she believed they came from the initial exposure to the UFO and not from the explosion.

"Fortean Times" is published bi-monthly by John Brown, and is stocked by all good newsagents

## French sect plans greeting for space aliens

Reuters

ALBI, France — Extraterrestrials visiting Earth will be greeted with hot baths, fresh food and comfortable beds at an embassy commissioned by members of an eccentric French sect.

The Raelian sect, set up in southeastern France by a former journalist, has commissioned Swiss architects to design the embassy, which the sect hopes to build near Jerusalem. The Raelians are discussing the embassy project with the Israeli government. No figures on the cost of the embassy were available.

A sect spokesman who identified himself only as Jean-Pierre said part of the embassy will be built in the shape of a flying saucer, with a roof that will open.

The Raelians, who say they have won 31,500 supporters across the world since the sect was founded in 1973, claim they are already in touch with the extraterrestrials.

In January, a 250-member Swiss sect announced that it would seek a referendum to build an embassy for extraterrestrials after Swiss authorities ignored the sect's requests.

BUCKS FREE PRESS, High Wycombe, England - Feb. 4, 1992 CR: T. Good

## UFO may be big fireball

**DID anyone see a UFO above Adams Park, home of Wycombe Wanderers, at 9pm on January 27?**

James Mead, of Bowerdean Road, High Wycombe, has written in to tell us that four Wanderers fans had a close encounter while they were watching the Blues play Farnborough.

The object appeared as an aircraft moving east to west. It then took on a rounder appearance with an increasing number of lights and a reddish vapour trail.

Next, it dispersed suddenly and turned into a reddish ball some distance away.

Mr Mead says it was not an aeroplane and the three others are also convinced.

Grahame Twitchen, air traffic manager at the air park, said: "I've no idea at all. I haven't heard of this and we close at about 5.30 on Mondays anyway. There was nothing happening here."

Trevor Searle, chairman of Wycombe Astronomical Society, tried to shed some scientific light on the incident. He said: "The only thing to spring to mind is something we call a fireball which is, basically, a fairly large meteor that comes in at a very shallow angle and occasionally flashes when the friction burns it up. But that would have been a matter of seconds."

He also added that it could have been a high altitude aircraft.

NEW ZEALAND HERALD, Auckland, New Zealand - Feb. 8, 1992 CR: R. Collins

## Another crop circle appears

NZPA

Ashburton  
A second mystery crop circle has appeared in mid-Canterbury.

The circle, with a diameter of about 20m and with two, 2m-wide outer circles, is in a wheat paddock just outside Ashburton.

It was discovered earlier this week by a farmer, Mr David Sim, and is about 200m from a busy road.

There were no tracks leading to the circle but Mr Sim believes

pranksters may have walked down irrigation and spray tracks to get to the area.

It is the second crop circle to be discovered in mid-Canterbury in less than a week.

The first was found on a farm near Methven.

The only difference between the two is that the first had one outer circle.

In both cases, the wheat was flat-

tened in an anti-clockwise direction leading some people to believe that whirlwinds were to blame.

In Britain, similar circles were believed to have been associated with extra-terrestrial activity, but last year two men claimed they had been responsible.

Mr Sims said he was "neutral" on whether UFOs existed but he was positive that the circle on his land was a hoax.



# GREAT BALLS OF LIGHT!

BY Jupiter/ We're having a close encounter.

Our phonelines have been jammed with calls from people who have seen a strange ball of light, circling in the sky, resembling a space ship.

On woman, who even talked about her strange experience on LBC radio, said: "I was looking out of my flat window at about 5.30pm and saw a sparkly light with a glowing sausage

shape round it.

The woman, who lives in Stepney, saw the space ship last Tuesday. She said: "I know it sounds ridiculous but I'm sure it was a UFO. I'm not mad, I just have an open mind. Lots of other people have seen it. It hovered for quite a long time."

She also told us of a deafening noise as the ship hovered above her flat.

A man from Bow who saw the object on the SAME night just min-

utes after described the light as "the brightest light I have ever seen."

He said: "First I saw a glow, then this object that could only have been a UFO came closer and there were lights flashing. I looked again and it had disappeared out of sight."

"There was no way it could have been a plane or helicopter. It was the wrong shape and too big. It was like a giant moon had fallen out of the sky."

The man, who is a builder, said he did not want to be named because his workmates would think he was from another planet.

He said: "I've never believed in all that rubbish about aliens before but this has changed my mind. It's something like I've never seen before. I was overcome by it all."

"I think maybe martians want to communicate with us and that I might be one of the chosen people."

But UFO experts said this week that the strange object spotted by people all over London bore an uncanny resemblance to the Daily Star balloon.

One said: "A promotion balloon was up but people are still convinced what they have seen is the real thing."

RECORDED, Newham, England - Feb. 20, 1992

## RIDDLE OF UFOs STILL UP IN AIR!

THE mystery of UFOs came to Newham last week after our newsdesk received calls from residents in Beckton and East Ham.

A widowed pensioner told us: "I don't want to seem silly but I thought I saw from my back window a flying saucer landing in East Ham and then taking off again towards Beckton."

East Ham police confirmed they had received about half-a-dozen calls about bright lights.

Possible theories included a light show from the giant Canary Wharf complex, or a police helicopter.

But the light show has already ended, and police said they had no record of an incident involving a helicopter.

CR: T. Good

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Feb. 20, 1992

## Flying fireball dazzles dozens

By Gordon Clark  
Staff Reporter

Goodness gracious, a great ball of fire.

That's what dozens of Kamloops residents thought when a flaming UFO zoomed over town.

Most people saw a ball of flame with a long tail high in the sky.

But dental assistant Monika MacKenzie, 32, is convinced the fireball nearly hit her. "I thought someone had shot a flare," she said.

She was walking to work at 6:30 a.m. Tuesday when the flaming, blue-and-red, metre-wide object zipped toward the ground 30 metres (about 100 feet) in front of her.

"It disappeared about three of four feet from the ground," she said.

Airport worker Al Hepworth, 45, spotted the fireball about 1,000 metres overhead while driving to work.

"It was a bright, bright blue and I looked in front of it and there was this shiny blue ball," he said. "The tail was a couple of thousand feet long and I gave myself a little shake."

The Kamloops weather office took about 10 calls from people who saw the fireball, said spokesman George Blakey.

He thought it was likely the fireball was a small meteor that got "a little close to the Earth's surface."

BRAINTREE & WITHAM TIMES, Essex, England - Feb. 27, 1992 CR: T. Good

# Probing corn circle mystery

A GROWING new phenomena is baffling thousands of people up and down the country every summer and it looks like being repeated this year.

Are corn circles just one big hoax, as claimed by Winchester men Doug Bower and Dave Chorley who say they have created 200 since 1978, or do they really exist?

Neil Durant is the co-ordinator of a Rayne-based centre set up to research the mystery.

CORINNE MITCHELL talked to him about his work and views.

A CAR salesman is probably one of the last people you would expect to find tied up in the corn circle controversy.

But 26-year-old Mr Durant, of The Gore, Rayne, founder member and co-ordinator of the Rayne-based Essex Centre for Crop Circle Studies, is strongly committed to his work.

The centre, an international organisation funded by members' donations, was set up in April 1990 to co-ordinate research into crop circles.

It visits sites up and down the country to carry

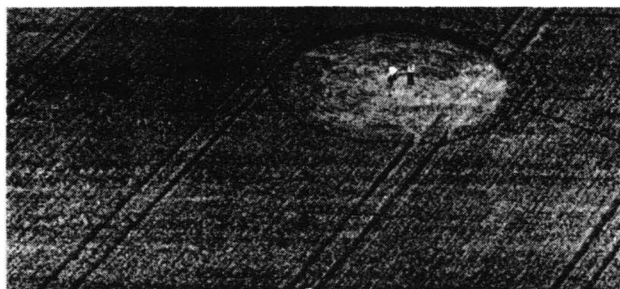
out tests and checks to find out more about the mystery.

Although the centre can give no explanation for the circles, it believes they really do exist and strongly dismisses claims they are the work of hoaxers.

Says Mr Durant: "The simple way to explain them is to say there are all just a hoax."

"But I just can't believe that somebody would want to create them for a laugh. Some of them are far too complex."

"I know hoaxing was widespread last year and I expect there will be more this year, but I do feel there is a genuine phenomenon. Doug and



Circles poser — bird's eye view of the field at Great Holland which Neil Durant helped investigate in July.

Dave haven't got any proof that they hoaxed them."

Theories about how the crop circles, which range from plain circles to pictures almost, are created range from the "ridiculous to the sensible," says Mr Durant, who works for Lancaster garage in Colchester.

"We have had stories about rampaging hedgehogs running round in circles, helicopter downdrafts, UFOs and earth energies."

"One possible theory I feel is that they are

caused by whirlwinds but it is being controlled by some force like a UFO. But I don't believe UFOs are nuts and bolts. I think they are more complex."

The reason he believes not all are hoaxed is that some are just too perfect and undamaged.

"These fields would be wet at night and people's feet would be caked in mud but sometimes there is no damage and no footprints. If a circle was not genuine corn would be broken or bent," claims Mr Durant.

Research carried out by American scientists has revealed that corn is flattened when put in a microwave and subjected to a few moments of heat.

This would back up Mr Durant's belief that a strange force is the cause.

But he admits it is difficult to tell whether some sites are real or hoaxes because other people, landowners or interested residents, would have got to them first and damaged the crop.

The closest sites around the Baintree area the centre has visited include one at Fordham and Great Holland last year.

Mr Durant says there is a strong possibility the one at Great Holland was genuine, but says when he arrived at the one in Fordham it was damaged so there was no way of knowing if it was real or not.



Neil Durant — looking at the corn circle mystery.

His interest in corn circles was fuelled after he visited a site at Lichfield.

"I have always been interested in stone circles and ancient sites and a lot of these circles appear at prehistoric sites," says Mr Durant.

"I wanted to find out more about them so I joined the Centre for Crop Circle Studies. It seemed to be approaching them in a scientific way."

He was one of the key figures involved in setting up the Essex branch, which meets monthly in Rayne.

Mr Durant says the normal reaction when he tells people how he is involved is one of surprise and not ridicule.

• The centre holds its meeting every month at the Swan in Rayne. Anyone interested in joining can telephone Mr Durant on (0376) 25479.

NEW ZEALAND HERALD, Auckland, New Zealand

Feb. 3, 1992 CR: R. Collins

## Wheat circle man rules out UFOs

NZPA Christchurch

A 20m circle discovered in a Mid-Canterbury farmer's wheat crop is unlikely to have been caused by a freak wind, says a Christchurch meteorologist.

A Methven farmer, Mr Graham Robertson, found the circle on Saturday while checking for frost damage. At first he thought it had been caused by a whirlwind, but now believes it to be an elaborate and well-executed hoax.

The wheat heads were flattened anti-clockwise

as if hit by nature and the circle, 20m across with an outside circle the width of a tractor tyre, could have been achieved by using a small roller, Mr Robertson said yesterday.

Because westerly conditions prevailed in the area last Thursday, he initially suspected a whirlwind or some other localised force of nature.

A Christchurch meteorologist, Dr Neil Cherry, said it was unlikely that tornadoes had caused the crop circles because they did not just touch

down in one place and leave a round, clear, isolated circle.

Tornadoes tended to follow a path across the countryside.

Meteorologically speaking, said Dr Cherry, there was no known phenomenon that would produce such a clear pattern.

Similar circles have been found in Britain, raising speculation of the presence of extra-terrestrial beings. In several cases, however, the circles turned out to be the work of pranksters.

AUSTRALASIAN POST, Melbourne, Australia - Feb. 15, 1992

## Aliens holiday in Queensland!

A HOUSEWIFE, feeding her hens, was startled when a huge golden UFO suddenly bathed her in its shadow.

"I got a bigger shock than the chooks, which seemed quite calm about it all," Mrs Ruth Tyrell, 67, of Ravenshoe (Q) told me.

"It was about 6.15pm. I'd come out into the yard with a basin of veggie peelings for my fowls."

"They were squabbling over the food as usual, when I suddenly saw a big golden object moving from between two clumps of trees at the edge of the golf course."

"It was shaped like a baking dish, with portholes and a belching

red exhaust.

"The craft hovered straight above me for several seconds, then took off toward the schoolground. I was so excited, I rushed to tell the neighbors — but they'd been cooking tea and saw nothing."

• The saucer was also spotted by Jocelyn Wessels, who was walking her dog on the adjoining golf course.

"The object was completely silent and as I stood watching, it seemed to grow smaller," she said.

Local UFO investigator Claire Noble told me: "This area is a window for UFOs. I've logged hundreds of sightings in the past 20

years and we've found numerous landing rings."

"For some reason, aliens seem particularly interested in this part of Queensland."

CR: P. Norman

# TRANSLATIONS

City and country of incident: Valle de las Leñas, Mendoza, Argentina  
Date of incident: August 19, 1990  
Name of paper and date of clip: Los Andes, September 15, 1990  
City and country of paper: Mendoza, Argentina

## PHOTOGRAPHIC CURIOSITY

An interesting photographic curiosity showed up in one of the snapshots taken in the Valle de las Leñas by a teacher from San Martín city. When the photos were processed she noticed that one of them, besides showing a mountain scene, also showed very clearly a UFO.  
The roll was processed and copied by a well known lab in San Martín, and according to Abel Negri, an expert, "there was no hoax."  
The professional said that "there is no technical explanation" for the phenomenon.

## The photograph

The snapshot was taken on August 19 by Felisa Elena Martínez, when she was touring Las Leñas with a friend. According to her, that day at around 10 am, she took some panoramic photos of the mountains but at no time did she see the image that showed up later in the negative. "I only saw a flash which I attributed to the sun."  
This photographic curiosity was discovered in the lab, possibly produced by some superimposed images. In the right side what seems to be a UFO can be clearly seen, flanked by two luminous flashes and another figure is suggested to the left, all amidst a come of shadows in the mountains.

Credit: A. Agostinelli, Buenos Aires, Argentina, via Richard Heiden

City and country of incident: Mexico, Mexico  
Date of incident: February 10, 1991  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Prensa, February 12, 1991  
City and country of paper: Mexico, Mexico

## UFOS

### THE ECLIPSE WAS WATCHED

- \* One was videotaped hovering over the Periferico Sur Avenue
  - \* By E. Hernández and Guillermo Arreguin
  - \* It looked metallic with black rings
- By professor JOSE LUIS MARTINEZ JIMENEZ

A strange sighting took place during last Thursday's eclipse in Mexico city; Messrs. Eduardo Hernández Galicia and Guillermo Arreguin were at work in a private office in the southern part of the city, and were allowed a break to watch the eclipse. They went up on the roof with an amateur video camera, a VHS Signatur 2000 with normal lenses. Due to the city being overcast, at first they watched with the naked eye; their main goal was to tape the eclipse and Mars, Jupiter and Mercury; they located the area of the eclipse in the sky and then Eduardo Hernández started to search for the planets, but at that time he saw a solid object, seemingly metallic, hovering overhead at a rather low altitude. The time was 1:38 pm, Eduardo alerted Guillermo and he focused the object with his camera. It was round and remained hovering for some ten seconds. They told us that it was silvery and had small black rings on the underside; at times it resembled a reflector, but was completely motionless. Guillermo wanted to zoom it in with the camera, but it was so bright that the only thing that could be seen was that the object became larger and was noisier even though the area was very noisy because they were in the Avenida Periferico Sur 367, to one side of which there was a lot of traffic and some clouds, but there was visibility.

The object was never seen to climb, lose altitude or move to the sides, and what was extraordinary was that it suddenly disappeared, they searched everywhere for it but could not find it. It should be pointed out that this object was near the area of the eclipse and watching it from there, and the above mentioned planets were in another part of the sky which had already been determined by both gentlemen, the videocassette clearly shows the strange object, and the description given agrees with what is seen on tape.

We went to places near to where Guillermo and Eduardo were that day, and started to ask the neighbors. Most of them had not been there, others had not come outside because they saw it on TV; however, our investigation was very short but we learned of two witnesses from their family members, but they were unavailable at the time of the interview. This is a very important case and the object seen is similar to the one that a family photographed on November 3, 1973, in the Cocoyoc highway in Morelos, and also to the one photographed on July 3, 1967 in Calgary, Canada, which were defined as UFOs by the experts.

We asked all the investigators about their experiments but not one can inform us of a sonde balloon in the area, nor of any other object that could confuse us, and besides, no object can hover motionless for several seconds, even less be round, metallic, and disappear instantly without a trace. I estimate its altitude in approximately five kilometers, and the airport radar has no reports of helicopter flights at that time.

Credit: Lic. Carlos Guzmán Rojas, Mexico, via Richard Heiden

City and country of incident: Corrientes province, Argentina  
Date of incident: ?  
Name of paper and date of clip: El Diario, March 15, 1991  
City and country of paper: Paraná, Entre Rios province, Argentina

## UFO SIGHTED IN CORRIENTES

Corrientes, 14 - Two young motorcyclists claimed having seen a UFO on provincial highway five, which gave off an intense light and moved very swiftly. They identified themselves as Luis Silva and Basilio Gómez, and said they saw the flying object when they were going to San Luis del Palmar.

In an article published today by the paper "El Litoral", they said that at first they noticed strong lights at a distance of some one thousand meters. Later, and without their hearing any noise, they saw how the lights came down very quickly.

"While we waited for a car to pass, we saw that the object turned off its strong lights and moved to the other side of the road at incredible speed. We then could see it gave off colored lights and was quite big."

Credit: Alejandro Agostinelli, Buenos Aires, via Richard Heiden, US

City and country of incident: Tenjo, Colombia  
Date of incident: April 2, 1991  
Name of paper and date of clip: El Tiempo, April 5, 1991  
City and country of paper: Bogotá, Colombia

## A farmer claims to have been "abducted" FROM TENJO TO PITILITO... BY UFO

### Heiva.-

Some saw apparitions of the Virgin. But Luis Heberto Rodríguez, a peasant from Tenjo (Cundinamarca), had a UFO appear to him and take him to Pitalito. The 37 year old countryman said that "last Tuesday when he was riding to work, he was intercepted by a mysterious and strange craft".

He recalls that a very intense light came from the craft and when it hit the horse, it began to lose strength until it knelt on the ground. Then "I was introduced into a crystal cabin where there were three beings wearing silvery suits who made me lower my pants and put a glass on my back."

"Whenever the light came on I fainted and saw a tunnel with many entrances, as if I were flying on board a plane."

Suddenly, shortly after 8 pm on Wednesday night the peasant found himself alone in a field near Pitalito, "where the craft left me."

After walking for an hour, Luis Heberto showed up at the Pitalito police station. Many thought he was out of his mind. Others were sure he was under the effects of scopolamine. But his candid expression and the specter of a terrible experience reflected in his face dispelled the others' doubts.

Luis Heberto, married and the father of two 7 and 5 year old children, is now waiting to go back to Tenjo and be reunited with his family and his boss Raúl Gutiérrez.

Credit: D. Liska, via Richard Heiden

City and country of incident: San Luis province, Perú  
Date of incident: April 13, 1991  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, April 15, 1991  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

## THE LAST THING PERU NEEDED IS UFOS

Lima, 14 (DPA). - The last thing Perú - a country affected by multiple and different problems- needed was the arrival of extraterrestrials, but these have now appeared and are touring around Ancash.

At least that is what can be inferred from the accounts of several countrymen from San Luis province, located some 420 kilometers to the north of Lima, who claimed having seen a fleet of UFOs flying overhead last night.

One of the witnesses, Julio Mendoza, said this is not the first time they saw UFOs over San Luis or over the neighboring province of Antonio Raimondi, but the last appearance lasted such a long time and was so visible that it caused fear among the locals.

The accounts from the shepherds all agree that the objects were very bright and rhombic, and appeared last night over the Tincush hill, flew towards the center and remained motionless for a long time before slowly disappearing over the Huachucocha lagoon.

Credit: Alejandro Agostinelli, Buenos Aires, Argentina, via R. Heiden, US

City and country of incident: San Baltazar Puebla, Mexico  
Date of incident: July 3, 1991  
Investigated by Mrs. Zitha Rodríguez Montiel, Mexico, as per report sent to Mr. Richard Heiden, US

## UFOS ARE SEEN EVERY DAY IN THE TOWN OF SAN BALTAZAR PUEBLA IN MEXICO

The news that a long, semi-concave UFO, with two lights on the edges and a small dome on top crosses the sky every day, has caused a lot of commotion nationally.

Mr. Oscar Zapién, originally from Chiapas, Mexico, claims he saw the object the night of July 3, 1991, together with more than twenty people who had spent the night there especially to witness such a sighting.

People, even in their RVs, travel to a place which is famous for its UFO sightings, called "the little white house", especially to see the show.

In fact, the place has lately been considered as a tourist resort and a lot of people go there especially on weekends to see the UFO fly overhead.

Even though tens of people witness to the event claim that the craft looks like a banana, Mr. Zapién says that its lights, which go on and off, makes it resemble a feathered serpent, an archaeological symbol of pre-hispanic Mexico.

Credit: Richard Heiden

Transl: Jane Thomas Guma  
Simi Valley, CA - February 1992

City and country of incident: Atlitxco, Puebla, Mexico  
Date of incident: July 31, 1991  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Prensa, September 8, 1991  
City and country of paper: Mexico, Mexico

## UFO THAT CROSSED THE ATLIICO SKY

The UFO that was seen by many people in the sky of Atlitxco, Puebla on July 31 at 10 10 pm, can be seen perfectly, as taken by the camera of university professor Federico García Núñez, showing the incredible motions or maneuvers made by the strange craft.

## NEW CASES IN ATLIICO

Apparently the one seen during the eclipse came from there  
By professor José Luis Martínez Jiménez

*If you remember, the day following the eclipse we reported on the strange object seen in Mexico city which hovered motionless for several seconds, was silvery and circular; we then reported on several photographs taken of it and on more videotapes of the same UFO. Well, the day after the eclipse some peasants saw the strange object come from Atlitxco, near the Tetlipolli hill which flew away (before the eclipse). Even the nephew of one of our readers showed us and told us that when he processed the photos he took from Atlitxco, he found an object in them; let us remember that it was first seen in Mexico city, near the Metro Matritas, at an altitude I estimate in about two to two and a half kilometers; it could later be photographed from Puebla.*

*We have more reports of videos and photographs which when we receive them might help to give us a clue, not to make conjectures but to secure this hypothesis and we thank our kind readers who sometimes provide us with information that lets us continue to put together this puzzle that becomes more difficult each time.*

- \* A couple of lovers was surprised
- \* The craft gave off an intense light
- \* F. García photographed it three times

New events and cases complement previous reports during the last months about the fantastic Atlitxco UFO.

Juan López, who owns a store, drove with his fiancée near the area where the UFO appears, and entered a street near San Baltazar; there in the darkness all of a sudden an intense light illuminated the car and surroundings, they got scared and thought there were hunters but at the same time doubted this because of the intensity of the light; however, it did not hurt them and was like one meter above the car, after some minutes it went away at incredible speed and got lost in the sky; they went back to their homes; the next day Mr. López returned to the place because he had doubts as to what had happened and it was then when he found a circle of grass cut out in the same fashion as the famous English circles; Mr. López told us this.

Federico García Núñez is another eyewitness of the phenomenon, he saw it and photographed it three times and what most impressed him is seeing the UFO hover motionless; he described it at one time as being white and that suddenly a smaller, red one, came out, went away, came back and got into the bigger one, remained two minutes motionless and then fell to the ground at incredible speed.

Federico loves nature and that is why he went into the sierra to get to the hill where the UFO is based, climbed and waited at the peak for a whole night; there he could see how the UFO hovered over several farmers' houses in a village that is very difficult to reach because of the terracing roads; this agrees precisely with previous reports when four young men inside a house noticed that a UFO landed there.

Federico, who has experienced this very closely, is asking the people to take this phenomenon as something real, not as a spectacle, and to those who go there, to please respect nature.

Credit: Carlos Guzmán, Mexico, via Richard Heiden, US

City and country of incident: Lajas, Puerto Rico  
Date of incident: July 1989  
Name of paper and date of clip: Diario Popular, October 1, 1991  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

## EXTRATERRESTRIALS SELECT THEIR CONTACTS

Hornigueros, Puerto Rico (EFE). - A member of the National Guard of Puerto Rico who claims having met extraterrestrials urged the thousands of curious people that go to the "meeting" place to stop trying to contact them because it is the aliens who select their contacts.

"I could see some six short extraterrestrials," a little more than one meter tall, "with three-fingered hands and an oval-shaped head," one of which signaled me to enter the craft, where I was examined," the military man and TV technician told EFE.

The national guard, who demanded to remain anonymous, described how he entered a craft that landed in the Shooting Club of Lajas on July 1989, at a time when he and his two sons, 8 and 10 years old, were playing war games.

The "contactee" said that even though the extraterrestrials made noises for more than twenty minutes, the communication between them was achieved through telepathy.

Credit: Alejandro Agostinelli, Buenos Aires, via Richard Heiden, US  
Transl.: Jane Thomas Guma  
Simi Valley, CA - February 1992

City and country of incident: Montevideo, Uruguay  
Date of incident: -  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, October 12, 1991  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

## UFOS OVER URUGUAY CAUSE COMMOTION

Two alleged UFOs might have tried to communicate "through echoes on the radar screens" of the Carrasco airport in Uruguay, while Col. Rubén Gómez from the neighboring country's Air Force said that the echoes "did not conform to the existing clouds." At the same time disturbing news on the subject were disclosed.

However, the Uruguayan colonel stated that "it cannot be said that UFOs were sighted," until "the corresponding commission carries out an investigation," in spite of which he

(continued on page 15)



(continued from page 14)

insisted that "the echoes did not conform to the existing clouds." Reporter Freddy Cabrera from CWI Radio Colonia admitted the reality of the event and said that "it happened some time ago and the two strange silhouettes were detected over the international airport of Carrasco some two miles from what in airport slang is 1200 hours."

On the other hand the control tower operator made statements to Argentine radio stations claiming that "the motions of both were intelligent," and claimed to have the video taping of the radar screen where the motions of the alleged craft can be seen. Freddy Cabrera claimed that "in fact 'something' appeared on the radar screens the source of which could not be clearly determined."

Meanwhile, a TV program in Channel 12 of Uruguay showed the alleged motions of "the signals." Jorge Elissalde, a radar supervisor in Carrasco, made statements to the Uruguayan newspapers saying that "the control tower and radar room log books show no new sightings."

A fantastic previous event regarding these "bogeys" is remembered. On June 1, 1978, while the inauguration of the world soccer championship was being celebrated in Buenos Aires, "a terrible ball of fire" appeared over the Rio de la Plata and caused the temporary blackout of all the electronic instruments in the Carrasco airport.

This was revealed by Omar Vera, traffic controller from Carrasco, after confirming that another sighting occurred last Christmas.

Vera said that "the famous day of the inauguration of the world soccer championship of 1978 we had an impressive sighting which the operators keep among their anecdotes." "That day we saw a terrible ball of fire in the Rio de la Plata, it seemed like an atomic explosion," he recalled.

He pointed out that when the event took place, "all the instruments went blank at the airport, all the alarms went off and all the lights went out."

He said that the abnormalities lasted "for some seconds" and after that "everything returned to normal."

The Uruguayan operator did not hesitate in linking that "terrible ball of fire" with unidentified flying objects.

Credit: Alejandro Agostinelli, Buenos Aires, via Richard Heiden, USA  
Translation: Jane Thomas Guma  
Simi Valley, CA. - February 1992

City and country of incident: Montevideo, Uruguay  
Date of incident: October 19, 1991  
Name of paper and date of clip: Diario Popular, October 21, 1991  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### SECOND INCIDENT IN 10 DAYS URUGUAYAN AIRPORT AGAIN STARTLED BY UFO

Control tower operators in Carrasco turned on the lights of the landing strip assuming it was a commercial flight. Great mystery.

Montevideo.- A control tower operator in Carrasco, the main airport of Uruguay, informed yesterday on the appearance the night before of a luminous aerial phenomenon which had no apparent cause, and the experts claimed it was a UFO. This is the second alert in 10 days made by a "qualified observer," as the experts call him, of a UFO appearance in the same airport, a fact that caused commotion among the population which is usually skeptical of these reports.

Control tower operator Luis Otegui said on Sunday that Saturday night he saw an intense light in the sky at an altitude of 250 meters (820 ft.) and a distance of one mile, and that he mistook it for a plane requesting permission to land, but the object did not show up on radar, did not land and quickly disappeared.

Ten days ago, the chief of the control tower, Omar Vera, took to a TV station a tape made last Christmas of two UFOs that appeared on radar, which apparently tried to communicate with the tower with luminous signals.

Both times the observers were highly qualified and these were "credible stories told by credible people," according to Jorge Monsalve, an Argentine UFO expert.

When Monsalve interviewed the control tower chief on TV and showed the tape, he said that "if he should have to choose someone qualified to observe an anomalous incident who would not mistake it for a natural and easily explainable phenomenon, he would certainly choose a control tower operator."

This time, and in spite of the object not showing up on radar, the tower operators, upon seeing the usual evolutions and such a clear descending luminous signal, turned on the lights of the landing strip as is customary during landing operations.

Otegui rejected the possibility of a shooting star or some reflection: "We have been doing this type of work for a long time and know very well what the light of a landing plane looks like, and this one was identical to those," he added.

In the previous case, according to what the radar screens showed, two UFOs avoided colliding with a local plane en route to Buenos Aires and responded with luminous signals to the messages sent from the tower.

Credit: Mrs. Ruth Gerstel, Buenos Aires, Argentina

City and country of incident: Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires province, Argentina  
Date of incident: November 2, 1991  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Nacion, November 30, 1991  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### UFO WAS VIDEOTAPED

MAR DEL PLATA.- The Comisión Investigadora Ovnis Marplatense (CIOM) (UFO Investigating Committee of Mar del Plata), determined that the object that appeared in a family video taped on November 2, was in fact a UFO.

That day at 11:30 am, Marta Julia Cassioccia was videotaping several sights of the city to mail them to her son who lives in Mendoza. When the recording was reproduced showing the city as taken from the coast near Cardiel street, the image of a circular object appeared which, after hovering, moved quickly away leaving a long trail.

The taping was analyzed by experts on the subject, who concluded that there was no fraud or superposition, nor was there any mechanical or chemical defect in the camera. It was also stated that there were no balloons or objects launched into the atmosphere. Finally, the conclusion states that the images are authentic and do not fit the known characteristics of a meteorological phenomenon or a sonde balloon.

Credit: Mrs. Ruth Gerstel, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Transl: Jane Thomas Guma  
Simi Valley, CA. - February 1992

[The following Puerto Rican items courtesy of John Carpenter]

EL VOCERO, San Juan--Tuesday, September 17th 1991

DAMAGES \$30 THOUSAND;  
THEY INVESTIGATE

VANDALISM IN CARTAGENA LAGOON

By Julio Victor Ramirez  
Editor--EL VOCERO

LAJAS--In consequence of many people attending the Cartagena Lagoon, the local police will take immediate measures in preventing unscrupulous persons from continuing to destroy property. A fence of non-rusting wire that had been installed by the federal Fish and Wildlife Agency to prevent the access to the lagoon, was destroyed by unknown persons who used steel scissors.

The lieutenant Rafael Rodriguez, commandant of Police District of Lajas, explained that they have received three complaints about damages to the property and illegal entry into the lagoon land. The officer could not set a monetary amount to the damages, but locally, people comment that it could be more than \$30,000.

Rodriguez declared that last monday they initiated a preventive vigilance near Cartagena Lagoon to stop more vandalism acts. "We are going to interfere with the street vendors who do not have permits, with those drivers who park in the wrong manner and people who throw garbage on the streets," claimed the lieutenant. He also said that they will coordinate a plan with the federal authorities in order to give notice to those caught destroying fences or on Cartagena Lagoon lands. "The Martians told me not to give opportunity to anybody," joked the officer.

Since people started reporting UFO sightings in Cartagena Lagoon, hundreds of citizens from all around the island have been visiting the place. Some of them go there to know details about the extraterrestrial phenomenon and others go there to commit vandalism and drink alcohol. "This has been converted into a standard party," pointed out a resident of Porcelos Maguayo, who affirmed seeing strange lights in the lagoon. At present, people argue whether or not the lagoon is a center of science experimentation of the federal government or a base of strange ships coming from unknown worlds.

HE DENIES UFO'S IN CARTAGENA LAGOON

By Jose Fernandez Colon  
EFE Agency

On the other hand, an official of the Fish and Wildlife Service declared that it is a "fraud" that people are sighting Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) during night hours. Fred Schaffner, ornithologist who is in charge of the biology studies and wildlife in the lagoon, said that the light effects in the sky are produced by high power flashlights used by marine ships.

He said that the Police Department of Lajas, Civil Defense and the Department of Natural Resources are the ones who should identify the "fraud" authors. Schaffner said, during an interview with the WEUC broadcasting station in Ponce, that the visiting of hundreds of people to the Cartagena Lagoon has promoted negative impacts beginning with destroyed flora, species in danger of extinction and a big accumulation of garbage.

"There are no UFO's, sometimes people can see light tricks that are produced with high power flashlights that a person can buy in any boat store," declared the official, who has under his charge the Cartagena Lagoon by virtue of a contract of 50 years he signed with the government of Puerto Rico.

EL VOCERO, San Juan--Thursday, September 26 1991

#### "BEING" TOOK HIM INTO UFO

A GUARD  
FOR EXAMINATION

By Rafael Suarez  
EFE Agency

HORMIGUEROS--A member of the National Guard, who asserts to have sustained a close encounter with extraterrestrial beings around Lajas, warned thousands of curious who visit Cartagena Lagoon to stop propitiating encounters with Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's).

The official of the military organization emphasized that the beings are the ones who select in front of whom they want to appear. The National Guardsman, who demanded to keep himself anonymous, described the way he could go into a ship that descended onto the grounds of the Tiro Club (shooting club) of Lajas in July 1989, where he and his two sons, 8 and 10 years old at the time, were playing war games.

"I could observe six extraterrestrials of short height maybe three feet and a half, with only three fingers in their hands and oval head, one of them signaled me to go inside the ship, where I was examined," declared this man, who is also a television technician. This contact explained that, although the extraterrestrials emitted noises during more than 20 minutes that he was near them, the communication was made through telepathic means. "We come in peace, but to conquest, because we want to avoid a catastrophe," explained the contact.

One of his sons explained that he had a brief vision of the ship on a second encounter, in which his younger brother could better see the details of it. "But he does not want to talk because he is afraid they will call him crazy in the school," the youngster said, also admitting that he could not see the beings his father describes.

The National Guardsman affirms that the encounter has caused a radical change in his life. "I lost my job and since then I have been without any money other than my salary from the National Guard. I have been submitted for two operations on my hands because of lesions received, but my character has fortified hoping to have another encounter that could help me to avoid the catastrophe that they told me about," declared the contact.

The National Guardsman insisted that the Puerto Ricans who defy the authorities when they go to Cartagena Lagoon and cause destruction there are losing time and he asked them to stop looking for encounters. "They (the extraterrestrials) are the ones who look for us and select us and we can do nothing," asserted the contact who waits for a second close encounter.

EL VOCERO, San Juan--Friday, September 27th

#### "UFO'S WAS ABOUT TO HIT OUR CAR

By Julio Victor Ramirez  
Editor-- EL VOCERO

LAJAS--In spite of both Police Department and federal officials insisting on denying that something strange is happening in the suburbs of Cartagena Lagoon, located in the municipal limits, a family that resides in Boqueron lived a strange experience with an unidentified flying object (UFO) last week. Although the informants asked not to be identified, they accepted to be interviewed by this editor. We must make clear that the head of the family is a citizen with great moral reliability and a member of the Armed Forces. According to his testimony, the strange sighting occurred in recent nights, when he traveled on a public road in Maguayo district in Lajas with the intention of arriving as far as the proximity of Cartagena Lagoon. Like hundreds of visitors to this island, our informant wanted to know what is happening in the mysterious body of water.

"We went on a Maguayo road near the place where there are agricultural machines, when we noticed a big light approaching in a great speed. First, we thought it was a plane, but as it was getting closer we understood that it was something never seen before," the informant explained. Also, he emphasized that for some moments he thought that the object was going to crash against his car, because it started to descend dangerously. "That thing was like rounded and it emitted an intense red light," indicated the Cabo Rojo resident. According to his version, this frightened his family so much that all of them laid down in the car seats, thinking that the UFO was about to hit them.

"However, when that light passed above us it did not make any noise and then it disappeared in a mysterious manner," said the informant. Once they got over the shock, the military man, his wife and children got out of the car to talk about what happened. To their surprise, next to the car they found 3 cats that moments before they had not seen anywhere. The military man refuses to believe that those 3 felines had come from the UFO that passed above them. "Or perhaps, could they be extraterrestrials with the capacity to take animal or human shapes?" inquired the frightened Boqueron resident.

EL VOCERO, San Juan--Monday, September 30th 1991

AGAINST UFO's

LAJAS CIVIL DEFENSE  
WILL PROMOTE A BLACKOUT

By Julio Victor Ramirez  
Editor--EL VOCERO

LAJAS--In an apparent attempt to impede people from talking about supposed experiences with UFO's and "visitors" from other planets, the local Police Department is not paying attention to calls from citizens that ask them to investigate the subject. This editor knew that a sergeant, whose last name is Toro, made fun of a resident's call that reported a strange flying object near the Aerostat.

Also, Anibal Roman Morales, Regional Director of the Civil Defense, convened a meeting of the Press tonight at 10:30 pm where they want to prove that the colored lights seen by some citizens are the reflection of the lighting system of Candelaria district. The official will promote a blackout to establish his theory.

It has become known that Roman Morales has united himself with a group of representatives from State and Federal governments who cast ridicule on those who believe in the UFO phenomenon.

However, hundreds of people continue calling radio dials of the West area and the local editorial staff of EL VOCERO, to tell about their experiences. The most recent case is about a sighting made by Mrs. Joselyne Irizarry, resident of this population.

She alleges that she and her husband were returning to their house when they saw a big UFO above a mountain in Lajas. The lady told Jorge Martin that the object was much bigger than the Aerostat located in Olivares district, and that it stayed there for 5 minutes. "It seemed like a plate above the mountain," the lady explained to Martin. She also said that the UFO had different colored lights.

In this case, the lady communicated with the Police Department, but they made fun of her. The informant pointed out that Sergeant Toro told her not to tell anybody about what she saw, and he tried to make her believe that what she saw was the Aerostat of Lajas.

EL VOCERO, San Juan--Friday, October 4th 1991

EX COLONEL INVESTIGATES UFO's

By Julio Victor Ramirez  
Editor--EL VOCERO

ADJUNTAS--It has become known here that Congressmen will pay attention to a letter that the New Progressist mayor Heriberto Ramos has sent, asking for investigations about UFO sightings in Adjuntas. The incumbent, who alleges to have observed strange lights displacing in the skies here, sent the letter to president Bush.

Public officials, related to the Mayor's office, refused to tell if the Mayor received an answer to his letter, but this editor knew that this subject will be the object of serious investigation. Wendelle Stevens, a retired colonel of the Air Force of the United States, is visiting the island in order to carry out investigations about the supposed UFO sightings in Cartagena de Lajas Lagoon, the town of Adjuntas and Yunque area. Also, Stevens investigates everything related with the supposed capture of two F-14 planes by an UFO seen on December 28th 1988 in the sector of Betances de Cabo Rojo.

Meanwhile, residents of this town continue reporting sighting of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) displacing to the Guilarte district. Noel Gonzalez, civil leader and domicile sales representative in the city planning of Adjuntas gardens, explained that in recent nights he has seen a strange object of a big size.

Agreeing in what he saw, the UFO projected a brilliant light and moved slowly without making any noise. The civil leader, who presides over the connection committee between the Police and the Ponce citizens, indicated that sightings of UFO's in this town occur frequently. That data was confirmed last wednesday by Edwin Plaza, radial radio announcer, who explained that many of the observations of the phenomenon...

El VOCERO, San Juan--Monday, October 7th 1991

WOUNDED BY  
A SHARK

THINKS UFO'S CURED  
HIS LEG

By Julio Victor Ramirez  
Editor-El VOCERO

PONCE- To coincide with the manifestations of the merchant Amador Piazza Velez, who alleged to have seen an enormous flying object perched on a mountain of Las Cucharas sector, fisherman Jose Maria Fernandez Martinez said, both he and his wife Gloria Santiago had the same experience friday of last week. Also, Fernandez Martinez showed to this editor the video tape where something similar to an UFO appears that emits different colored lights.

The fisherman, resident of the mentioned sector, explained that the strange object was suspended above the mountain for more than 10 minutes which gave him the opportunity to record the movie. He clarified, however, that the camera had defects at the moment of recording the UFO. The result of this case is that Fernandez Martinez affirms that since the night when he saw the UFO, his left leg was unexplainably cured from a serious lesion.

The fisherman pointed out in front of several witnesses that he had been bitten by a shark and the wound he suffered would take a long time to heal. Fernandez Martinez, who is the father of 7 children, showed his left leg completely cured and a scar big enough on the heel of the mentioned leg.

"I can not tell that the beings who came in the ship cured me, but something strange happened to me because my wound closed since that night," the fisherman argued. On the other hand, Fernandez Martinez told that his wife, Gloria Santiago, saw strange lights leaving the sea in the area of El Tuque. "The sea was in complete calm and there was no breeze while those lights left the water," Fernandez Martinez claimed.

The sighting of Unidentified Flying Objects does not have limits just in Cartagena de Lajas Lagoon and the population of Adjuntas. Residents of Las Cucharas de Ponce sector, alleged seeing strange lights, but held that they prefer to keep quiet to avoid people saying they are looking for notoriety.

EL VERCERO, San Juan--Monday, November 18th 1991

UFO's 6 PONCEANS AFFIRM TWO "CREATURES"  
INSPECTED PAN DURING PASSING

By Julio Victor Ramirez  
Editor--EL VOCERO

ADJUNTAS--Six residents of Ponce who encamped last October 27th on land nearby the new deviation of 10 street, had a tremendous scare when about 4:00 am, they were visited by 2 extraterrestrials who even examined the contents of a pan where there was a rabbit in fricassee. John John Leon explained that one of the beings had an oval face, small nose, 3 feet height and big leaping eyes.

This species of extraterrestrials is which investigators of UFO phenomenon describe as "Rigelians," because they come from the planetary system Rigel. The strange visitors made noises in the small camping house while they took the pan lid off where the fricassee was kept. Leon, a factory supervisor in Ponce, does not know if the beings ate the food, although, he said that they left the pan lid turned upside down.

"We were camping in the land near the spring when those things appeared," the young Leon commented. He rebuffed that the visitors were common rogues, because he could see one of them almost from the front. He said besides that he saw a small hand taking the pan lid off, then seconds latter, it fell to the ground making noise.

John John declined to identify other people who were with him the morning of the incident, but he asserted that all of them know about the affair. "First I thought that the noise was made by a mouse that entered the hut, but then I realized that they were those creatures," emphasized Leon.

The Poncean was interviewed through mediation of the radial radio announcer Edwin Plaza, who has been witness of unidentified flying object sightings in this town. As for Mr. Leon, he made clear that he did not see any UFO, but he reassured that the aliens were about the take the pan with the tasty rabbit fricassee.

EL VOCERO, San Juan--Friday, November 29th 1991

UFO's MAYOR WHO WAS A WITNESS  
TO A SIGHTING IS WAITING  
BUSH'S RESPONSE TO HIS LETTER

By Julio Victor Ramirez  
Editor-EL VOCERO

ADJUNTAS--While the State Civil Defense has issued orders to investigate all related with the supposed sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects(UFO's) in different sectors of the Island, the mayor of this town, Rigoberto (Pucho) Ramos, continues waiting for the federal authorities to answer a letter he sent to president Bush. The incumbent wrote to Bush, after being witness along with other people, of the presence of strange lights that moved in the Adjuntas sky.

Relatives of the New Progressist mayor indicated that Ramos has the genuine concern to know if, in effect, there are UFO's furrowing the local air space or if the federal authorities are making any experiment.

"This is a subject that we are treating with the seriousness it deserves," reiterated the radical reporter Edwin Plaza, who expressed he knew nothing about president Bush's answer to mayor Ramos or if he has referred the subject to any government agency. The civil leader did not discard that the investigation initiated by the State Civil Defense, would be a result of the steps made on this level.

APPEARANCES CONTINUE

Meanwhile, residents of this mountain town continue reporting sightings of strange flying objects that move at great speed.

Some allege that UFO's, some with oval and luminous shapes, have converted Las Minas sector into an "UFOport." This area is rich in copper, iron, silver and other valuable minerals.

At another region, from the neighborhood of Palo Hincado in Barranquitas people reported about a sighting of a strange ship with a triangular shape that kept suspended near a mountain in that place. An informant explained that the object, bigger than a truck, was in the Palo Hincado sky for some minutes and then it displaced to an unknown course. This informant asserted that it was not a plane or helicopter, because the supposed ship did not emit strong noises, except a sound similar to a radio out of frequency.

EL VOCERO, San Juan--Wednesday, December 2nd 1991

THEY OBJECT PROOF TO LESSEN  
STRENGTH OF UFO's

By Julio Victor Ramirez  
Editor--EL VOCERO

LAJAS--About 200 people met last monday night in the suburbs of Cartagena Lagoon to observe the blackout induced by several government agencies with the purpose of establishing that there is no presence of UFO's in this body of water.

Personnel of the Electrical Energy Authority suspended the electric service for some minutes affecting Candelaria and Palmarejo precincts. After that, they focused a reflector on the center of Cartagena Lagoon intending to prove that the strange lights observed in that place are produced by reflections. However, during this experiment, the yellow, red, green and blue lights observed by this editor and other western residents did not appear.

Both federals of the Civil Defense and Police Department are trying to discourage people who continue frequenting the mysterious lagoon located in the municipal limits of this town.

The experiment made last monday night was initiated by Anibal Roman Morales, Regional Director of Civil Defense in Mayaguez. In spite of Roman Morales insisting that the strange lights in the lagoon are reflections of the lighting system in Candelaria precinct, believers in the UFO phenomenon rejected that version.

Wilson Sosa, resident investigator in Cabo Rojo, alleged that Roman Morales is lending himself to the people who intend to subtract credibility from this subject. According to Sosa, the mysterious colored lights seen in Cartagena Lagoon come forth from the water to the outside and not upwards to downwards.

"They are not going to hide a truth even by using hundreds of these experiments," he emphasized. Visitors from New York and Dominican Republic went to observe the spectacle set up by Roman Morales and the lieutenant Rafael Rodriguez, Police Commissioner of Lajas district. West area residents summoned the Regional Director of Civil Defense last monday for him to show the same interest in clearing up the gases problem by making experiments to those effects that since many years ago affects the complex of the Free Zone of Mayaguez.





## The Legend of the Abominable Snowman

By JOHN SEMENIUK

**E**ach age, it has been said, creates its own myths, symbols, and legends. One of the most popular and enduring legends of modern times was born in 1920 amid the barren frozen wastes of the Himalayan Mountains. It is the legend of the Abominable Snowman.

As an expedition under the leadership of Lt. Col. C.K. Howard-Bury was slowly laboring towards the northern face of Mount Everest, some strange figures were sighted up ahead, in the far distance, moving at a fairly rapid pace. When the expedition reached the area, footprints were found in the snow.

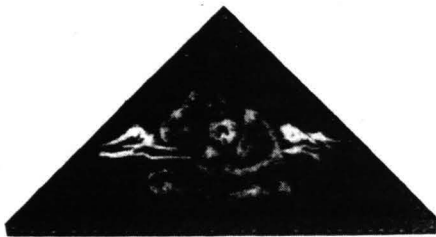
Col. Howard-Bury cabled back to civilization that, according to the native porters, the tracks belonged to the "Metoh-Kangi," a term that was loosely rendered into English as "abominable snowman."

The translation was not altogether correct, but no matter. The term was the perfect marriage between mystery and mistake, especially for the news-hungry media of the western world.

"The result," as Ivan T. Sanderson noted in *Abominable Snowman: Legend Come to Life* (Pyramid Books, 1968, p. 52), "was like the explosion of an atom bomb."

The possibility of a hitherto unknown species of huge manlike ape electrified the popular imagination of the contemporary western world. After nearly five long years of brutal warfare, the public pined for adventure, entertainment, and escapism.

Interest in the abominable snowman was further



**HARMLESS SNOWMAN** — A rather harmless snowman appears on this 3-chetrum stamp from Bhutan, issued in 1966.

generated by the discovery that earlier sightings of the creature were recorded in little-known tomes, journals, and articles from years gone by.

More so, sightings of similar creatures, known by a variety of local names, soon started to surface from practically every nook, corner, and hole, of the world, including Africa and North America. Names such as the "Yeti" (from Nepal), "Bigfoot" (from the U.S.), and "Sasquatch" (from Canada), eventually went onto join the lexicon of everyday words and expressions.

Though the physical descriptions of the widely diffused creatures diverged on some details; all in all, the basic points of similarity were remarkably consis-



**SINISTER SNOWMAN** — Issued in 1970, this 30-chetrum 3D stamp from Bhutan pictures a rather sinister-looking snowman.

tent. Yes, it seemed that the whole planet was a giant stomping ground for these huge, hairy, human-like creatures. In particular, the rugged, mountainous, barely accessible regions of the world seemed to constitute favorite haunts for the creatures.

The legend of the abominable snowman continued to grow by leaps and bounds. Some investigators linked the creatures to the giants of ancient Greek, Celtic, Germanic and Slavic mythologies and folklore. Others identified the creatures with the popular and seemingly ubiquitous "Wild Man" of medieval central and east European folklore. Iconographically, the "Wild Man" started out life as a big, hairy brute and evolved eventually into a loin-clouted human giant.

Over the years, a host of explanations have been proffered to account for the alleged sightings and/or footprints of the abominable snowman. Depending on the theory, the creatures were (among other things) either: bears, direct descendants of Neanderthal man, remnants of an unknown species of hominids (apemen), space creatures from UFOs, creatures from other dimensions, or Tibetan monks (honest!) walking barefoot in the snow.

For those who preferred a more cerebral explanation of the phenomenon, the sightings were interpreted as a psychological projection of mankind's collective unconscious, an archetypal ancestral memory and fear of the hairy simian adversaries that our first human ancestors must have battled countless millennia ago.

Surprisingly, it took Hollywood some three decades to exploit the popularity of the abominable snowman legend. This oversight can perhaps be primarily attributed to cinema's fascination in the '30s and '40s with the gorilla as the simian villain par excellence, a trend undoubtedly started by the "King Kong" epic of 1933.

It was not until the 1950s that Hollywood started to crank out B horror movies about the abominable snowman of the Himalayas. In the late '60s and '70s, the trend was to shift away from the Yeti creature of Asia, to the Bigfoot/Sasquatch creature of North America.

The celluloid image of the Abominable Snowman underwent a number of changes through the years, mirroring perhaps the changes in our society. He started out as a savage killer and villain, metamorphosed into a misunderstood victim of man's cruelty and profligacy, and finally ended up as a huge lovable comedian, a la *Harry and the Hendersons*.

Considering the incredibly wide sweep of topics that philately has embraced over the years, it is hardly surprising that the abominable snowman has found his way onto a number of stamps.

The "Wild Man" of European folklore and legend was the first to put in an appearance, turning up in 1930 on a souvenir sheet from Belgium (Scott 221), where he is depicted with a "Wild Woman." In 1943, the "Wild Man" appeared on the semi-postal from Finland (Scott B54), and more recently he has appeared on a 1986 stamp from Sweden (Scott 1595).

A number of very interesting snowman thematic stamps have emanated from Asia. In 1966-67, the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan issued a 15-value set (Minkus 87-99B) to the abominable snowman, portraying different likenesses of the creature. The representations ranged from the relatively innocuous and almost human-headed critter on the 3-chetrum stamp to mean-looking brutes that truly are abominable.

Some of the denominations of this set were overprinted with new values and reissued in June 1970 (Minkus 353F-353K).



**WILDMAN** — The "Wildman" of medieval European lore appears on these stamps from Finland (left) and Sweden (right).

In Sept. - Oct. 1970, Bhutan issued an impressive 3D set depicting various animals. The 30-chetrum value (Minkus 361) of this set depicts the Snowman in a rather sinister pose.

The snowman legend received a strong philatelic shot in the arm when Canada issued, on Oct. 1, 1990, a set of four 39¢ stamps to four different "Creatures of the Legend." One of the quartet of legendary creatures was the "Sasquatch." Shown in squatting pose, against a backdrop of snow-frosted peaks, the humanoid creature appears ready to pick some ripe berries.

To accompany the four stamps, the Canada Post Corporation offered a special publication, entitled *Legendary Creatures*, citing various sightings and presenting scientific documentation.

The passage of seven decades since the Howard-Bury incident of 1920 has done little to dull interest in the abominable snowman. Of course, the paramount question still remains unanswered — does such a creature really exist?

The answer to that question is certainly debatable. But one thing does seem like a sure bet. If a specimen of the abominable snowman is ever found, be it dead or alive, some country will undoubtedly note the event with the issuance of one or more stamps. It's very possible that such a stamp or stamps may even be issued by the United Nations.

death from cancer. "He can't come himself because he hurts too much," Robles said. "It's too far along, and he can't walk. ... We'll see if God will grant him relief."

To speed access, Chahin has set up a triage system, with personnel who say they are doctors assigning people with serious illnesses such as cancer to one line and those with less serious problems such as migraine headaches to another, longer line.

As the number of pilgrims grew, Chahin also reduced to 2½ gallons the amount automatically accorded. With special entreaties or powerful friends, however, some seriously ill people have been able to get 10 gallons.

More than 50 charter buses a day have been showing up from cities as distant as Mexicali on the U.S.-Mexican border, more than 1,000 miles to the north, and as close as Irapuato, a few miles away.

CHRONICLE, San Francisco, CA - Jan. 28, 1992 CR: J. Laurino

## 'Miracle' Water Attracts Thousands

Mexicans say it's 'light' and cures ailments

By Edward Cody  
Washington Post

Tlacote, Mexico

By the thousands they waited: men, women and children, equipped with plastic containers, patience and the tranquil faith in miracles that has shaped Mexican history since pre-Hispanic times.

Their line stretched along a dusty road for more than a quarter mile one day last week. On other days it has strung out for more than a mile as hundreds of thousands of sick and lame people line up for the "light water" in Jesus Chahin's well — the miracle water that is said to cure everything from AIDS and cancer to obesity or a high cholesterol count.

"For me, all of these things are God's miracles," said Maria Guadalupe Aguilar, a Dominican nun who drove 175 miles from Puebla along with another nun and a priest, the Rev. Juan Crespo, who has prostate cancer.

Chahin, a wealthy man whose passion used to be golf, has been giving the water away since May, when, he said, he accidentally discovered its healing properties by observing the swift recovery of a farm dog that had lapped up some.

"This water weighs less than regular water," he said. "It is a mystery for science, why it weighs less," he added.

### Pilgrims From Far Away

Word of the water has spread swiftly throughout Mexico and even into the United States. Sergio Velazquez, who runs a Spanish-language newspaper in Santa Ana, Calif., traveled to Tlacote, after a number of Santa Ana residents of Mexican origin returned from the well claiming that they had been helped by the water.

As the news has spread by word of mouth and radio, Chahin's hacienda in this little village 10

miles west of Queretaro has turned into a crowded place of pilgrimage rivaling the Virgin of Guadalupe's basilica in Mexico City — even though Chahin makes no claim that his water enjoys divine power.

"The water is scientific," declared Chahin, who described himself as a Roman Catholic, "but man is a creation of God."

The Queretaro state health director, Rene Martinez Gutierrez, told local reporters his tests show that the water is normal for wells in this region, safe to drink and without particular characteristics. But because the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims to Chahin's hacienda break no law, he said, state authorities have not intervened except to regulate traffic and sanitary conditions.

By August, people were showing up for a canful of water at a rate of more than 10,000 a day, according to conservative estimates. They have slept on the ground or in cars and vans, sometimes for two nights in a row, while they moved slowly toward the gate for a chance to fill their containers at faucets behind the hacienda walls.

### Two-Day Wait

Serapio Robles, a cowhand who lives near Zacatecas, 200 miles north of Tlacote, said he endured a two-day wait to get water for his 75-year-old father who lies near

**DAILY BRIEFING**

# A 'Bigfoot' Tracker Is Hot on the Trail In the Buckeye State

The Shy, Hairy Beasts Live  
Not Far From Cleveland,  
Many Eyewitnesses Say

By DANA MILBANK

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL  
ALLIANCE, Ohio—Robert W. Morgan  
crunches across a frozen cornfield on the  
outskirts of town after midnight, hooting  
like an owl, sniffing like a dog and pausing  
here and there to listen.

"Come on, you big hairy beast—  
scream," he shouts into the darkness. But  
there is not a peep from anything big and  
hairy, only train horns, highway noise and  
protests from a farmer's dogs.

Disappointed, Mr. Morgan hikes back to  
his car and tries to excuse another unsuccess-  
ful search in Ohio for the mythical  
beast, Bigfoot. Only he doesn't think the  
human-like, ape-like being is a myth.  
"Anybody who thinks Bigfoot isn't in Ohio  
hasn't lived here," he says.

Since arriving in October to visit fam-  
ily, Mr. Morgan has clearly boosted Big-  
foot awareness in the Buckeye state. As  
sort of a professional Bigfoot tracker and  
promoter, he has been giving speeches to  
high schools, sitting in on talk shows, and  
setting up an 800-number to report Bigfoot  
encounters. He also sells copies of a "Big-  
foot Pocket Manual" containing a "Bigfoot  
Encounter Report" form asking readers to  
mail in even third-hand details of sight-  
ings. The response has been (what else?)  
monstrous.

He says he has received Bigfoot sight-  
ings reports from all over the state—50 in  
all—some near Cleveland. Mr. Morgan,  
who says he has spied Bigfoots three times  
in Washington state, estimates there are  
18 living in Ohio, the seventh most popu-

WALL STREET JOURNAL, Princeton, NJ - Feb. 25, 1992 CR: V. White

lous state. "Bigfoot is very urbanized and  
intelligent around here," he says.

Ron Brunner, an Alliance farmer, saw a  
9-foot-tall creature in a field across from  
his house in December—just 50-odd miles  
from Cleveland. "My friends tell me I was  
in the silo drinking too much corn juice,"  
he says. "But what I saw definitely was  
Bigfoot." He says his 50 cows were scared,  
too.

Barbara Bilinovich, in nearby Barberton,  
says three "humongous" creatures  
chased her from the woods one night.

"It's just going nuts around here" with  
all the Bigfoot sightings, says Steve Jones,  
host of a hunting and fishing radio show in  
Akron. While Mr. Morgan was a guest on  
his program, several sightings were called  
in to the station.

The Bigfoot fuss is nothing new in Ohio.  
A few years back a Columbus TV station  
reported that a band of Bigfoot hunters  
were taking women into the woods to lure  
the animal. But no Bigfoot took the bait. A  
decade earlier in Minerva, a 7-foot Bigfoot  
peeked in on Mary Ackerman's family  
through their dining-room window.

Paul Rozich, a leader of Canton's Tri-  
County UFO Study Group, says Bigfoot has  
become the main topic at its monthly  
meetings since several of its 85 members  
spied the animals in recent years.

Mr. Morgan, 56 years old, is strictly an  
amateur anthropologist. On the evolution-  
ary scale, he is about as distant from Big-  
foot as one can get. He is short and pudgy  
with a shaved head and blue eyes.

Nevertheless he feels for the Bigfoot, or  
Sasquatch, as the beast is sometimes  
called. He fears their population, which he  
puts at 2,500 in North America, is shrink-  
ing fast. His reasoning: Bigfoot is so good  
at keeping out of sight that he rarely runs  
across potential mates.

Mr. Morgan says the creatures—"gentle  
people," he calls them—are nocturnal,  
semi-nomadic and highly intelligent. They  
use a written language, scratched on  
rocks, which he claims to have seen in Ar-  
izona and the Northwest. He is using a com-  
puter to decipher the symbols.

The scientific community finds Mr.  
Morgan's claims a bit Neanderthal. While

bones of a Bigfoot-type creature, *Giganto-  
pithecus*, have been discovered in China,  
and some scientists believe the beast may  
even live today in the Pacific Northwest,  
Mr. Morgan is practically alone in believ-  
ing the creatures are smarter than apes—  
and live in Ohio.

"There's no scientific reason under the  
sun to expect such a creature would ever  
have been in Ohio," says Frank Poirier,  
professor of anthropology at Ohio State  
University. "The existence of Bigfoot in  
Ohio is more in these people's minds than  
in reality."

Jim Shannon, a police captain in Stark  
County, which includes Canton, rejects  
Bigfoot on more empirical grounds.  
"We're a pretty urban county, so there's  
not too many places for this guy to hide,"  
he says. "When Bigfoot walks into one of  
our liquor stores and pulls a hold up, then  
I'll believe it."

Mr. Morgan compares himself to Gali-  
leo and Columbus, a "lone ranger"  
shunned by an ignorant, arrogant society  
that fears the truth. His goal is to have the  
species protected, but he's in a bind. The  
government requires proof that the thing  
exists, and Mr. Morgan is reluctant to  
catch one because he considers Bigfoot hu-  
man. Capturing a Bigfoot, he says, would  
bring the American Civil Liberties Union  
on his back.

Instead, he plans to get close enough to  
rip off a hunk of Bigfoot's hair and flesh,  
though he hasn't yet decided what he'll do  
if this angers the creature—which, he ad-  
mits, it well might.

He says he first spied a Bigfoot on a  
bear hunting trip in Washington in 1957. Af-  
ter seeing a Bigfoot article in a 1969  
Reader's Digest, he says he quit his job as  
a computer specialist to track Bigfoots full  
time. He lives in Montana but has pursued  
his quarry in Florida, New Mexico and the  
Northwest.

Mr. Morgan says he supports himself  
with money from various business ven-  
tures in marketing and films, many of  
which have failed. But he is optimistic  
about his next project: filming a detective  
movie in Romania. While there, of course,



Robert W. Morgan

he'll hunt for Bigfoot. (Mr. Morgan did ap-  
pear in the 1975 docudrama, "In Search of  
Bigfoot," which aired on network TV.)

Some have tried to take Mr. Morgan for  
a fool. In Washington, he recalls, someone  
offered him, for \$1 million, film of a man  
in an oversized jacket shaking a tree. In  
Oregon, he says, a man tried to throw him  
off the track by running nude through the  
woods at night, covered in fish oil.

In Ohio, he persuaded Canton's Daring  
Publishing Group, specialists in military  
and spiritual healing books, to print his  
handbook and provide an office. He has re-  
cruited the publisher and a local para-  
medic to help him track Bigfoot.

Daily, they pore over encounter reports  
at the office: A 38-year-old electrician in  
Mantua spied the beast walking in the mid-  
dle of the Cuyahoga river; another man  
found Bigfoot crying one morning at a  
campsite off Route 87; another found the  
beast covered with berries and walking  
down a dirt road in Sharon.

They plot the sightings on a map, and  
head out to investigate. It isn't long before  
he pulls the car off the road and darts into  
the woods. "Hmmm," he says, pointing to  
a broken sapling. Yards later, some bark  
is scraped off a tree, and a patch of moss  
is missing from a log. "Hmmm." Nearby,  
there's a smell of urine, or perhaps fertil-  
izer. "Hmmm." He finds a cluster of dried  
leaves draped over a branch. A signpost  
left by Bigfoot? "Hmmm."

He admits the find is not "conclusive."  
Even so, Mr. Morgan believes, he's getting  
warm. "We're on the verge," he says, "of  
a serious contact."

N.W. FLORIDA DAILY NEWS, Fort Walton Beach, FL - Dec. 27, 1991 CR: R. Reid

# Professor believes Egyptians sailed Mississippi, left culture

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) —  
Before the United States bought  
the Louisiana territory from Napo-  
leon, title to the region passed  
back and forth between the  
French, the British and the Span-  
ish.

And before the Europeans got  
here, it's generally agreed that  
various tribes of Indians — like  
the Chitimachas, Atakapas and  
Tunicas — ruled little portions of  
the area.

That's the generally accepted  
view. The conventional view.

But a retired Harvard professor  
of marine biology says there's a  
little more to it than that.

Barry Fell, who now devotes his  
time to the study of ancient in-  
scriptions and arcane languages,  
says there's reason to believe that  
Egyptians sailed to the lower Mis-  
sissippi delta, set up outposts and  
married with local Indians.

In the process, the Egyptians  
imparted little bits of their culture  
and their language, Fell says.

And all that happened a millen-  
nium and a half before Columbus  
ever got his feet wet.

In the most recent edition of  
The Epigraphic Society Occasional  
Papers — a publication that deals  
with matters such as these — Fell  
wrote that most scholars believe  
the languages of the Atakapa, Tu-  
nica and Chitimacha tribes "have  
no known relationship to any  
other language and they have  
been classified therefore as a  
unique category."

But according to Fell, some-  
where about the time of Jesus'  
birth, an expedition of Egyptians

sailed to the new world, paddled  
up the Mississippi and set up  
shop.

"The speech that I found in the  
Atakapa and the other two tribes  
of the lower Mississippi seemed to  
me to be just what might be ex-  
pected if an Egyptian expedition  
had established a trading outpost  
in the lower Mississippi in ancient  
times, and if the members of it, or  
some of them, had either been  
abandoned or had of their own  
volition remained behind in Amer-  
ica," Fell wrote.

Such a colony "could have sur-  
vived only by merging with local  
Indians to produce a mestizo popu-  
lation, speaking a tongue derived  
from the several different con-  
tributory dialects."

Fell and his theory have not  
been openly embraced by aca-  
demia.

Louisiana State University pro-  
fessor of anthropology and geog-  
raphy Lyle Campbell said Fell's  
scholarship "leaves much to be  
desired."

"You can always find accidental  
similarities" between dissimilar  
languages, Campbell said. "You  
see these accidental similarities  
all the time — like between Aztec  
and ancient Greek. Some people  
see these accidental similarities  
and just go ape over them. They  
look for specific things and say  
specific things about them and it's  
very entertaining, but they don't  
use any professional criteria at  
all."

Fell said he used very exacting  
standards in proving his theory,  
and he criticized the scholarly es-

tablishment for clinging to a nar-  
row, provincial view of history.

"Stupid archaeologists don't be-  
lieve anybody came before Colum-  
bus," Fell said. "They ignore ships  
and Roman coins lying on the bot-  
tom of the sea" off the eastern  
seaboard.

However, there are no such  
Egyptian artifacts lying around  
southern Louisiana to prove Fell's  
point. There are no chariot parts.  
No sphinxes. No pyramids. No  
mummies.

ESOP editor Bill Rudersdorf  
said the lack of physical evidence  
is not uncommon.

"Artifacts are wonderful, but  
they're a little harder to find,"  
Rudersdorf said. "There are no  
artifacts from Coronado's expedi-  
tion. Thousands of Spaniards  
marching across the south and  
southwest and nobody's uncov-  
ered any evidence of even where  
they were camped — and we're  
only talking 400 years ago. Lewis  
and Clark took tons of trade goods  
with them to pass out and swap  
for things. Only a half dozen au-  
thenticated pieces of that sur-  
vived. Yet we know where they  
went and who they talked to and  
it all happened less than 200 years  
ago."

In the ESOP article, Fell com-  
pared Egyptian-Atakapa words for  
such ideas as to cure, to flow, to  
fear, to be first, to barter, to sink,  
to float, to journey.

Campbell said there is no evi-  
dence of a connection between  
any native American language and  
languages from other continents.

NEW ZEALAND HERALD, Auckland, New Zealand  
Dec. 28, 1991 CR: R. Collyns

# Mummies too hot to handle

Reuter

London

An Egyptian scientist has come up with a new theory  
to explain the mysterious curse of the pharaohs: death  
by radioactivity.

Professor Sayeed Mohammed Thebat, of the Cairo  
University medical school, said the deaths of many  
people entering unopened tombs were caused by ra-  
dioactivity released by an unidentified substance intro-  
duced as part of the mummification process more than  
3000 years ago.

The Times newspaper reported that Professor  
Thebat made his discovery when he visited a passage of  
mummies in an Egyptian museum and noticed that a  
Geiger counter he was carrying registered the presence  
of high radiation levels.

"My theory is that radioactivity had built up inside  
these tombs over the centuries to levels that were a  
hazard to health but not understood by archaeologists at  
the time," he said.

Among those said to have been struck by the curse  
was Lord Carnarvon, diagnosed as having fatal blood  
poisoning five months after the opening of Tutankha-  
men's tomb in the Valley of the Kings.

USA TODAY, Arlington, VA - Dec. 24, 1991

**SPOOKY SPECIAL:** On the heels of last October's  
highly rated *The UFO Report: Sightings*, Fox has ordered  
another supernatural special from producer Henry  
Winkler. *Sightings: Ghosts* will air Feb. 28, featuring two  
parapsychologists as field investigators. The producers  
would like people who are currently experiencing ghosts or  
poltergeist phenomena in their home or business to call the  
Office of Paranormal Investigations at 415-553-2588. Legiti-  
mate cases will be considered for use in the special. If  
*Sightings* scores for Fox, it could become a series.





Ball-glove size Bigfoot handprint found at Blue Creek.

## Bigfoot trackers get big hand

By VANCE ORCHARD

Bigfoot's back!

The week ending Feb. 1 proved a most rewarding and exciting seven days for local Bigfoot trackers.

They found more than hundreds of tracks of over-sized feet.

They found the imprint of a hand the size of a baseball mitt.

It all started with the discovery of tracks in a fall-plowed wheat field a mile north of the Mill Creek Road, or some nine miles from Walla Walla.

This was on Jan. 25 when veteran Bigfoot seeker Paul Freeman (who saw one up close in 1982) came onto tracks. Actually, it was his dog, a Boxer he calls "Baby," who discovered the tracks.

As old as were the tracks, Baby caught the scent of whatever had made them and began circling about, barking and "putting up quite a fuss," Freeman recalls.

Walking over to the area in which the dog seemed most agitated, Freeman soon picked up the first of many tracks going across the field.

While they seemed quite old, the 14 1/2-inch tracks (measuring 6 1/2 inches wide) were fairly plain to see.

The following day, I accompanied Freeman and we joined Wes and Natalie Sumerlin and two granddaughters, Danielle and Tommie, and Dave and Cathy Been. The Roger Thorntons (of Waitsburg) were to join later to scour the field to look at the tracks.

A couple of days later, Sumerlin, accompanied by his brother, Swede, and a former Game Department employee, Bill Laughery, went back to the scene and put in a day really running out the tracks of the Bigfoot. Wes said they learned after several hours that the creature had come out of a brushy draw, climbed over a barbed-wire fence, crossed the road and headed out over the field. The Bigfoot, apparently coursing about in search of small rodents or other food, made its way down to the draw in which is the old Coyote School, then came back and eventually made its way back to the brushy draw from which it had come.

All agreed that the tracks were fairly old, maybe as much as two weeks old, although admittedly this was difficult to assess since rains had been plentiful the past week or 10 days.

Tracks checked out on the 29th by Freeman and Thornton six to eight miles east were not so old, and possibly were made a day before they located them in snow at the head of Blue Creek. Freeman said a couple of muzzle-loader elk hunters had found them and reported same to him.

These tracks were in a logged off area and much activity of tracks was seen in, around and on top of piles of logging slash (limbs of downed trees, piled to be burned later). Again, the tracks were practically identical to those near Coyote School, 6 1/2 inches wide at the widest and 14 1/2 inches long.

Thornton got photographs of

the prints and Freeman got some more video recorded shots to go with the footage he has been compiling all week. The cam-corder is a tool he uses on every foray to find Bigfoot or its tracks or other signs.

Dave Been and I made a sashay back to the Coyote School site on the 30th to investigate an oddity Been had

found earlier that week. Here, in the brushy draw from which the Bigfoot had emerged a week or so before, he led me to the place where the ground under one big pine tree was littered with the ends of pine boughs. It seemed like something had bitten the ends off and cast them about the area. Other pines in the grove did not have the pine shoots beneath them.

Coming back to the hillside, Been and I picked up the Bigfoot tracks and followed them to the draw which holds the shell of the tumbled-down school. Been is an excellent tracker and while we kept losing the sometimes faint tracks, he usually could pick them up again.

One track had a smoothed area right alongside it, almost like someone had pressed a watermelon down in the damp earth. We conjectured that the Bigfoot had gone down on one knee at that point, possibly to get down out of sight of a car passing on the roadway a few hundred yards away, or else it had spotted a small animal.

Been accompanied Freeman the next day to the head of Blue Creek, to spend some time covering the area first gone over by Freeman and Thornton. Here, they were able to make an excellent plaster cast of a huge handprint, found at the base of a pile of slash.

Freeman said there was ample evidence of the slash pile's having been torn apart and tree limbs and logs thrown about as well as the tracks being found on top of the pile.

NEW ZEALAND HERALD, Auckland, New Zealand - Nov. 4, 1991 CR: R. Collins

# Guardian spirit of Nazca lines

MARIA REICHE is old now and ailing, but remains the invincible guardian spirit of the Nazca lines, a mysterious network of enormous drawings on the desert outside the dusty Peruvian town of Nazca.

"This precious thing should be treated like a very fragile manuscript that is guarded in a special room in a library," she says.

The drawings, second only to Machu Picchu in attracting foreign tourists, cover a 56km stretch of high desert plain 450km south of Lima.

Some theories of their origin are wildly imaginative. One is that they were a landing strip for flying saucers.

To Reiche, a German-born mathematician of 88, such speculations are fantasy.

She has toiled in the desert for 45 years to unravel the mystery of the lines. Her hair has gone white, her pale eyes nearly sightless. Lines criss-cross her face like the drawings she knows so well.

The designs, she has concluded, represent a giant calendar keyed to the movements of the sun, moon and constellations, which told ancient desert-dwellers when to plant and irrigate their crops.

They were made well over 1000 years ago, hun-

dreds of years before the Inca empire, by clearing the stony surface to expose the whitish soil underneath.

Thousands of shallow lines, some more than 8km long, cross the plain as straight as arrows and climb distant hills. Others zigzag or spiral. The bewildering maze contains hundreds of huge clearings in the shapes of rectangles, trapezoids and triangles.

Scattered among the lines are dozens of figures, including a hummingbird, monkey, heron, whale, cat with fish's tail, spider and flower, ranging in length from 4m to 300m.

Most can be seen only from the air. They give the impression of having been traced by a gigantic hand on an immense drawing board.

"They were made for the gods," Reiche says. "That would be the most reasonable explanation for the big size of the figures and the perfection of their execution."

Thousands of tourists come each year to fly over the desert in small planes and, with luck, meet the Lady of the Lines, as Maria Reiche has come to be known.

After decades alone in the desert, enveloped by its vastness and solitude, she is amused by the idea that tourists are as eager to see her as they are the drawings.

"It was never in my plans to become the

world's biggest tourist attraction," she says, laughing. "Some of them say it's the highest point of their lives to have seen me. It's the strangest thing."

For a decade or so, she has lived at the Hotel de Turistas, in a room spilling over with astronomical charts and drawings of the Nazca lines.

She is revered by the townspeople, who realise she has put Nazca on the tourist map, bringing in badly needed money.

Her birthday is an annual event celebrated with street dances and ceremonies of homage by the 10,000 residents. In the past 10 years, she has received many awards and honours from the Government and Peruvian universities for her efforts to protect the lines from destruction.

It was not always that way.

She came to Nazca in 1946 and would spend weeks at a time in the desert, a fragile figure in the searing sun, subsisting on a meagre diet of fruits and nuts, sleeping under the stars.

In those days, she says, the local people "had three explanations for my existence. One was that I was crazy, another one that I was looking for a man, and some said I was looking for treasure."

Threats to the lines have included vandalism, a Government project to "reconstruct" the drawings, acid rain from

mining in the mountains and even a plan to flood the plains for agriculture.

The Lady of the Lines fought them all, fiercely and without help.

Although she developed Parkinson's disease several years ago and her legs are too weak for the desert, she continues to defend the lines.

Her younger sister, Renata, a retired doctor who moved from Germany to Nazca in the early 1980s, has become Maria Reiche's eyes and legs.

Townspeople and local pilots are quick to inform the guardian of any threats to the lines. Like a queen, she hears reports and dispatches orders.

Maria Reiche knows time is running out for her. She began looking for a successor several years ago and found Phyllis Pitulaga, an astronomer at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago.

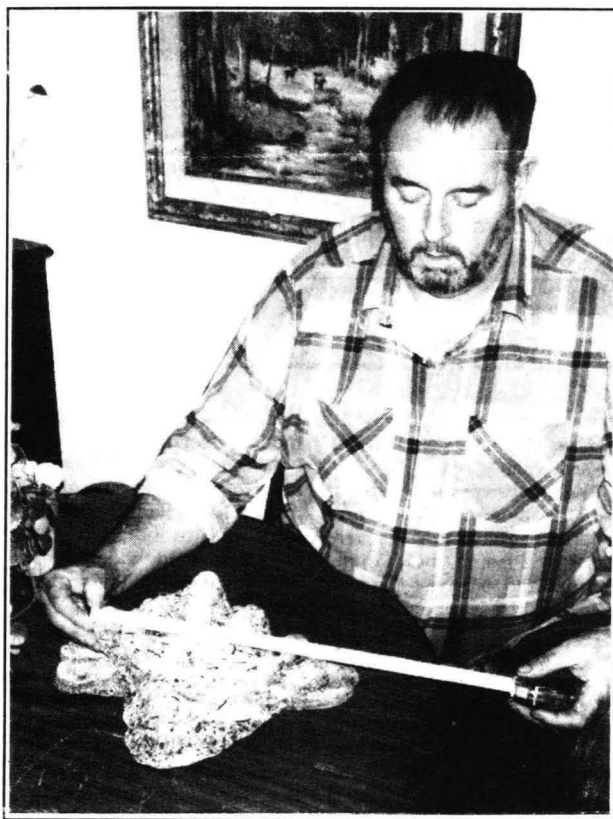
Pitulaga has spent several months of each year in Nazca and has agreed to go there to live and carry on the work.

"It was the happiest moment in all my life," says Reiche.

Once more, her thoughts pass beyond the room to the mysterious lines that were her only companion for so many years.

"I have achieved what I wanted," she says, "that this delicate thing, this great legacy of the ancient Peruvians, be preserved."

— AP



Paul Freeman measuring cast of handprint.

What makes this January evidence in this area adjacent to the Mill Creek Road unique is the fact that just a year ago, several miles of Bigfoot tracks were found in the same area. The difference this year lay in their not coming all the way down to Mill Creek as they did in mid-January of 1991.

For Bigfoot seekers it was a really great week!

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TRACKERS JOIN FORCES — Ex-Daytonite Bill Laughery admitted after spending a day with Wes and Swede Sumerlin

(continued on page 20) 19

that he had been treated to quite an exhibition of expert tracking this week.

While he had spent some time with the Game Department and knew his way around the Blue Mountains, Laughery hadn't acquired the knowledge he saw these two brothers demonstrate with their tracking ability that day.

Wes and Swede have probably put in more time than anyone else around these parts, at this business of tracking both animals and mankind.

Dave Been came here in recent years and has built a fine home on a point at the junction of Blue Creek and Mill Creek. He comes with a great background of tracking animals from the time in his youth in Arkansas. And, back then it often really mattered a lot whether they located the quarry he and his brother sought. Even if it was only a squirrel.

Roger Thornton is another recent resident, having a home in Waitsburg but favoring a place "way up in the boonies," on Coppel Creek. Roger is no stranger to the Bigfoot thing, having been on more than one expedition hunting for same in other parts of the Northwest.

Freeman, of course, hardly needs an introduction, having gained much newspaper and TV attention when he reported his encounter in June, 1982. He and a huge Bigfoot nearly ran into each other when he was patrolling the Mill Creek watershed for the forest service. He left here and for a time lived in Camas, but came back to Walla Walla and has lived here since. Freeman probably averages at least two to three trips a week into the Blues, covering various sections in which he has found a lot of evidence (including two other sightings) of the creature he has sought so diligently since the 1982 affair.

For Paul Freeman, Swede and Wes Sumerlin, Roger Thornton, Dave Been, Bill Laughery and yours truly ... it has been a great week for sure!

## Church to probe apparition claim

### Alleged sighting of Virgin spurs Catholic archdiocese to 'look at all of the facts'

By Gary Massaro

Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Denver has ordered its first investigation of a reported holy apparition.

The archdiocese broke its silence Monday when it announced it would begin gathering information on claims by a Highlands Ranch housewife that she has seen and heard visions of the Virgin Mary. Her latest vision was Sunday at Mother Cabrini Shrine, she said.

"To the best of our knowledge this is the first time we have begun the process of gathering information regarding alleged apparitions in Denver," said

spokeswoman Colleen Smith Mason.

The Rev. Raymond Jones, vicar general, has been monitoring Theresa Lopez and claims that she has seen the Virgin Mary for "a couple of months."

"The archbishop has an obligation to intervene in circumstances that might cause confusion among the faithful," Jones said. "He certainly has an obligation of being informed because we're dealing with a supernatural event."

Archdiocese officials don't know how much time the investigation will take, but they say it will be long.

"We're all going to learn about it in the next months. It's totally new for me," said Jones, a priest in Denver for 32 years. "We take our time. We look at all of the facts. We look at what is presented to us. We look to God for guidance to help us determine if we're dealing — not with just an alleged apparition — but a real

apparition."

On Sunday, Jones and the Rev. Edward Buelt monitored Lopez and the crowd of about 6,000 at the shrine. Jones also was at the shrine in November when Lopez said she had seen an apparition. Lopez said she has seen the Virgin Mary 11 times, including three times at the shrine.

"We haven't even sat down to plan the process," Jones said. "Because of the large number of people and publicity involved, the archbishop ought to make an inquiry as to what is happening and begin a process for that inquiry."

Jones said church officials will question theologians, experts in church law and witnesses, including Lopez.

"We have no deadlines whatsoever," Jones said. "I presume that eventually we would talk to Rome, depending on what we find out."

## 36th 'reserve head' deepens puzzle in Egypt

BY MIMI MANN  
The Associated Press

GIZA PLATEAU, Egypt — The beautifully crafted limestone heads honor high officials of the Pharaohs' courts. Egyptologists have given them a name, "reserve heads," but have not learned their purpose.

No. 36 was found in December in an ancient cemetery south of the Great Sphinx.

The heads are precursors of the bust portraits of ancient Rome. They became popular as an art form, and vanished, in the 70 years it took for the three Giza Pyramids to rise from the desert sands.

Almost all the heads were found in burial shafts or in tombs alongside the pyramids. They are divided among museums in Cairo, Boston and Berkeley, Calif.

That No. 36 was exactly where it shouldn't have been, carelessly tossed into a burial ground for middle-class artisans and foremen, adds another twist to the puzzle.

It is 5 inches high, with a 3-inch neck and ears that measure 1½ inches, and it is of particular interest to Egyptologists because the ears are intact. Only one other, in Boston's Museum of Fine Arts, still has both ears.

"Usually, the left ear is missing or cut," Mansour Baurak, an inspector for the Egyptian Antiquities Organization, said. "One theory is that the left ears were cut off to prevent the deceased from hearing bad things said by the gods. We don't know."

The heads have a hauntingly similar look, but the carving is so detailed they seem to be actual portraits. They bear no inscriptions and few have been linked with certainty to a particular person.

Most are thought to represent important personalities in the courts of Pharaohs Cheops and Chephren, the father and son who built the two grandest Giza pyramids. Their reigns ended in 2494 B.C.

Baurak, who is in charge of

excavating ancient Egypt's first middle-class cemetery, said he had no doubt reserve head 36 was mislaid.

"Obviously, it wasn't a part of any burials here," he said.

Zahi Hawass, antiquities director of the pyramids area, believes the nature of the cemetery may explain the mystery.

"These people were artisans, craftsmen who decorated tombs and carved statues for the king," he said. "Maybe one of them took the head home from the royal workshop and just forgot about it. Or it was a model the artist just threw away when he didn't need it anymore."

Reserve heads bear a strong resemblance to portraits on tomb walls at Giza. They have straight noses with delicately worked eyes and mouths.

The figures are cut off at the base of the neck, allowing them to stand unaided, and may have stood atop the sarcophagus.

Some Egyptologists argue that the heads were simply

models for grander statues. This theory holds that ears often fell off because of rough handling by grave-robbars or because they were weaker than the facial area.

Others, like Hawass, hold that reserve heads were just that, kept in reserve in case the natural head decayed over the centuries. By that reasoning, the heads would have had major religious significance for officials seeking eternal life.

Hawass believes they were carved as a way to bypass Cheops' dictum that only gods, and Pharaohs who appointed themselves as the sun god Re, qualified for statues.

He feels reserve heads became substitutes for statues, a way for the soul to recognize the deceased even if his own head didn't survive in the early days of mummification.

"When the soul came out to receive offerings in the tomb," he said, "it could find the right body."

## Deputy Says Cows Mutilated in Satanic Rite

The recent mutilation of a cow in rural Okfuskee County has led the deputy sheriff who investigated the incident to believe the butchery was the work of Satan worshipers.

On Jan. 25, H.T. Grace, who lives a couple of miles east of the community of Bearden, reported that one of his cows had been butchered in a most unusual way. The investigation was carried out by Deputy Tom Huckleby who says the work is that of Satan worshipers.

According to Huckleby's report the cow had its heart cut out and the udder removed. In the space on the report form which is headed "Motive," Huckleby wrote "Satanic ritual."

In the space for information, on the back of the report, Huckleby wrote that the heart is eaten and "they say it gives power". He also noted, "When they skin the cow, they usually wear the skin to symbolize the rebirth of the person wearing the skin".

Huckleby also reported the ud-

der, which was removed from the Grace cow, "is used to feed new members of the cult. Another notation said the knife, probably used in the mutilation, is known as "the sword of power". Huckleby described the weapon as "a very sharp, two edged knife".

Huckleby also said many Satanic rituals take place between Dec. 23 and the end of Jan.. He also said they continue throughout the year.

Deputy Huckleby then showed the press a book titled "Occult Issues", from the Adolescent Chemical Dependency Services of Wetumka General Hospital, which list many different Satanic rituals and the dates and types of those rituals.

The book listed two major Satanic holidays in Jan. and two more in Feb. The next scheduled ritual is to be on Feb. 2 and is called the "Satanic Revels," according to the publication. The book also says that holiday is sexually oriented with females from the age of seven to 17 being the focal point of the revels. It

is listed as being a major Satanic holiday.

The other Satanic holiday in Feb. is listed as being St. Walpurgis Day, on Feb. 25. The book lists that as being a blood ritual in which the Satanists have a "communion of blood and dismemberment," using animals for the sacrifices.

Mr. Grace told the deputy this was not the first time he has had cows killed under strange circumstances. He said the other animals had been skinned, gutted, or otherwise mutilated.

No other information was immediately available and Deputy Huckleby said he is continuing to work on the case.

The mutilation is similar to ones which have recently occurred in other counties in the state. Three yearling heifers were recently mutilated in Kingfisher County and the Sheriff there is was investigating the possibility the killings were associated with satanic cult activity. There have also been newspa-

per stories of other, similar mutilations in Grant and Garfield Counties. In Kingfisher County, though, the heifers slaughter there had the lips, eyes, ears and portions of the udder removed. On one the liver was also taken, where in the slaughter in this county, the heart was taken.

The sheriff of Kingfisher County also told the press the animals were all three pointing toward the west-northwest, which was also indicative of cult activity.

A later report, in an Oklahoma City newspaper said one of the dead cattle in Kingfisher County was tested and the cow died of natural causes, with the external organ removal being done by predators. It does not explain how the liver was removed from the one cow or why the cattle were all facing in the same direction.

The report on the mutilation in this county does not even hint that the organ removal could have been done by a predator. Instead it points out the type of weapon probably used to remove the heart of the slain cow.