

# UFO

## NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

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ROUTE 1 — BOX 220

PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U.S.A.

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: LUCIUS FARISH

SEPTEMBER 1992

NUMBER 278

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Aug. 21, 1992

## Not A Firefly - Not A Plane - What Is It?

by Patti Weatherford

Well, I was in the right place at the right time, but looking in the wrong direction. Therefore, my friend, Barbara, will tell you what happened.

### LOW-FLYING UFO SURPRISES WATCHERS

The regular "Gulf Breeze UFO" didn't show itself in early August, but another one, unlike any of the Gulf Breeze Research Team (GBRT) has seen before, hopped in for a visit on August 8.

The sighting lasted only a few seconds, and although only a handful of the fifty to sixty people watching the skies from a parking lot by the Gulf in Fort Pickens actually saw the little light, its activity was scientifically measured.

Research scientists from Canada, California, and Maryland had converged on the area with highly sophisticated equipment designed to measure microwave radiation, infrared light, and such.

At about 8:25 p.m., an intense, blinking blue-white light approached the parking lot from the west. It travelled the length of the parking lot in about two seconds at a low elevation, moved erratically over the sea oats at the east end of the lot for a few seconds, then followed the curve of the lot to the highway where it was still visible for several seconds as it travelled east over the road.

Those of us who saw the light were so surprised that we didn't realize what was happening until it was too late to alert the rest of the group.

I was standing, facing west, on the south side of the parking lot, talking with my parents, who are members of the GBRT. The first flash I saw was before the light reached the parking lot, and I thought "airplane." With the second flash, realizing it was nearby, I thought "firefly." By the fourth flash, it was directly overhead, and as I turned around, saying to my mother, "That's not a firefly!" I heard Bruce Morrison, GBRT member and MUFON Field Investigator who was about 20 feet east of me, say, "That's no firefly! It almost hit me!" At that point, I saw the light moving over the sea oats and turned to see who else was watching. Topper Jones, GBRT member and MUFON Field Investigator, who was on the north side of the parking lot, saw the light just before I looked away, and watched it until it was out of sight moving over the highway to the east.

A research physicist from Stanford University not only saw the light, but recorded its microwave emissions from the north side of the parking lot. He came across the lot to ask what angle I estimated the light to be "over the Gulf" from my vantage point, and was surprised when I said it had not been over the Gulf, but was directly over my head. He approximated the light's altitude as twelve to fifteen feet based on its angle above the horizon as it was observed by at least four people on the north side of the lot, and their distance from at least three people who were directly under the light at intervals along the

south side of the lot.

Dr. Bruce Maccabee, optical physicist and researcher from Maryland, was also a witness. Although no one photographed this event, Dr. Maccabee was prepared to record distant sightings and had set up a video recorder powerful enough that

he showed us Saturn's rings on a small monitor screen.

This was my first "UFO" sighting, and the second year my daughter and I have skywatched with the GBRT during our vacation.

Barbara Jones Mullins  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

EAGLE, Butler, PA - Aug. 31, 1992 CR: E. Plaisted

## 'UFO' in Night Sky Keeps 911 Ringing

By MARIA GUZZO  
Eagle Staff Writer

Eleven-year-old Danny McChesney had a more nonchalant attitude than many other Western Pennsylvanians when he spotted what he thought was life from outer space.

The Butler boy pointed and said: "Look Dad, a UFO."

Most others called 911. "He was pretty calm about it," said his father, Rich McChesney, who also saw the object as he was driving with his son across the Lyndora Viaduct Sunday evening.

The Butler County Communications Center received more than 40 calls from residents in all parts of the county who spotted the object between 8:30 and 11 p.m.

John Sarver of Center Township was visiting friends in Lyndora when they spotted it. Neighbors joined them and soon all of Main Street was outside, he said.

"It looked like a moon floating by. It was really big in front of the house then it moved off into the distance," he said.

Penn Township Police Chief Earl Hahn didn't hear anything about a UFO until he came to work this morning and read the log of calls that Officer Pam Guerre responded to last night.

She received a call from Butler

Control at 8:40 p.m. about a UFO heading east from Beaver County. Turning onto Airport Road she saw a glow in the sky and drove toward it. Sighting it through binoculars she identified it in her report — a blimp.

The Glidden Paint Co. blimp was heading east after flying over a golf tournament in Ohio, according to Stan Gordon, director of The Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained in Greensburg.

Gordon said they received reports from west to east through the evening from Lawrence, Beaver, Butler, Armstrong, Indiana and Cambria counties.

"Hundreds of people saw this thing and gave the same general description," said Stan Gordon, director of the association.

Others, he said, had a different description.

"There's no doubt there was a blimp in the area, but there was more than one thing seen in time frame," he said.

Even with the plausibility of the blimp explanation, Gordon would like anyone who saw the reported blimp to write to him with a description and sketch at Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, Pa., 15601.

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Aug. 28, 1992

## UFO Update

Dear Editor,

Thanks for sending the special issue of *The Islander* that we ordered during our recent visit to see one of the world's intriguing wonders: the Gulf Breeze UFOs.

Here's what we saw at the Three Mile Bridge during July 29 - August 3:

- At 10:15 p.m., July 29, at a point high in the southern sky over Gulf Breeze, an extremely bright blast of white light novae'd instantaneously, and immediately disappeared.

- The next evening, July 30 around 9:46 p.m., at a point a bit lower and to the east of the previous night's burst, a white light again suddenly appeared. Though not nearly as bright as its predecessor, it was significantly brighter than any star/planet would be. Also, this time it moved upward(?) and toward the southwest for about two seconds. A trail of light followed behind as if it were a rocket, though we had been looking directly at the sky where the object/trail first appeared and there was no ground-to-sky trail. Perhaps it was a meteor, though its apparent upward movement does not typify a meteor explanation.

More certain, is that we met the charming and dedicated members of the Gulf Breeze Research Team who contributed to this special issue. No one who has spent a skywatch evening with them can deny the commitment, sincerity and openness they devote to documenting and understanding this phenomenon. As Bruce Morrison said, "I'm here to see this through to the end." That takes resolve... as it requires courage to give a forum for a story that many prefer to quickly (unconsciously) dismiss rather than investigate.

During our visit, we heard about UFOs seen underwater in the Gulf and in Pensacola Bay; boaters being burned by bright, overhead lights at night; and a case of SHC (spontaneous human combustion) that occurred about 20 years ago in the Escambia County area. We are eager to hear from anyone who can tell us more about any of these incidents.

Cordially,  
Larry E. Arnold

INQUIRER, Philadelphia,  
PA - July 20, 1992

### Phone home

■ Had any close encounters of the third kind? A Mount Laurel company called Strategic Media is looking for people who believe they have seen a UFO. Select testimonials from such people will be used in a national television commercial, to be taped locally during the week of Aug. 3, for a group called UFO Registry International, which seeks to document UFO sightings. Call Ruth at 609-234-3757.

## Did their eyes play tricks on them...

RECORD, Coatesville, PA - June 13, 1992

## ...or was that a UFO that landed at Lukens Steel Co. Wednesday?

### Record Staff Report

COATESVILLE — A small group of workers at Lukens Steel Co. are wondering if their eyes were playing tricks on them this week.

According to anonymous caller to The Daily Record on Friday, two Lukens security guards and another worker saw an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) land on Lukens property Wednesday afternoon.

The caller said a worker in the main storeroom sought a security guard when she saw the apparent UFO. Not believing her, the guard apparently called an-

other guard and the three witnessed the object fly away.

The woman said she learned of the story from her husband, who works at Lukens. She did not believe it, she said, and "was waiting for him to finish the joke."

Later, she told her family and friends about the incident, she said, and learned that others had heard the same accounting of the saucer.

Steelworkers contacted Friday portrayed similar stories, although none actually saw the vehicle and admit their information is second-hand.

Lukens' Spokesperson Evelyn

Walker said the corporation's official statement is that "a security guard did see an unusual object, and Lukens is investigating."

When reached at work by telephone, the woman who apparently first saw the UFO said she is "not allowed to talk" about the sighting.

The Daily Record is withholding her identity.

The witness referred all calls to Tom Jones, head of security. Jones did not return repeated calls Friday.

Steelworkers Union 1165 President Harry Haines said Friday

that he had heard rumors of the sighting, yet has not spoken to any of the witnesses himself.

Various reports state that the landing was to have happened at either 2:15 p.m. or 4:45 p.m., near the scale pits and maintenance building in Valley Township.

Meteorologist Ken Hagy of the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Philadelphia said UFO sightings are called to his department in groups during certain nights, especially when the clouds are at a low altitude.

He said when clouds hang lower than 500 feet, they can re-

flect lights from shopping centers, red aircraft beacons and search strobes back to the ground, giving the illusion that the lights are moving objects.

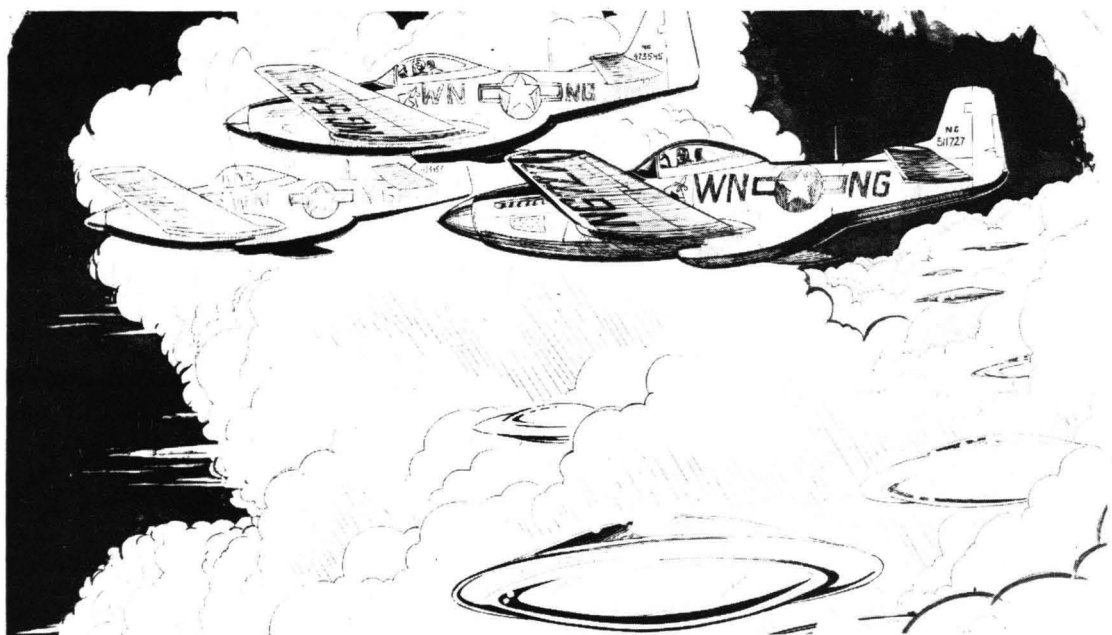
Most sightings are during the night, he said.

However, according to Weather Service reports, Wednesday was clear and cloudless. When clouds fly low it is usually humid weather and appears foggy, he said.

"I would think you have to have clouds to have something weather-related," he said Friday.

# The Great Pie-Plate Missile Fiasco of 1947

Story and illustration by Staff Sgt. Bob Rosenburgh SPECIAL TO THE RANGER



The saucer-seeking Mustangs of the 116th FIS never did spot their quarry; who can say the opposite wasn't true?

The whole thing started near Mt. Rainier. Kenneth Arnold, a US Forest Service pilot from Boise, reported seeing nine shiny saucer-shaped disks zipping through Northwest skies at speeds exceeding 1,200 miles an hour. It was June 25, 1947.

"They were flat like a pie pan and as big as a DC-4 airliner," he explained to skeptical military authorities. "It seems impossible, but there it is!"

Next day the *Tacoma News Tribune* ran a small story titled "Experts skeptical on Huge Pie-Plate Missile." The *Spokesman Review* in Spokane buried a short piece inside the paper about "saucers flitting in air." Little was mentioned for a couple days until others began reporting "disks."

Elma Shingler, Bremerton housewife, was doing the dishes when she spotted a flight of ten "platterlike" objects flying out to sea at tremendous speed. Twice. Private pilots from nearby states reported them, too, flying formations at 10,000 feet faster than a rocket. Sightings came from as near as Astoria and Portland and as far as Texas and Oklahoma when newswire services picked up the story. By the 4th of July weekend, hundreds of stories from 38 states, Canada and Mexico prompted the Air Material Command to launch an investigation and limited air searches in areas with the most "disk" activities.

From the Washington National Guard,

the 116th Fighter Interceptor Squadron was dispatched to Saint Maries, Idaho, a hotbed of supposed saucer sightings. A group of ten people at a picnic swore they all saw a batch of eight "flying saucers" land on a mountainside. The Washington Guard had the nearest available search planes, so away they went to scan the Idaho skies.

The 116th, stationed at Felts Field in Spokane and commanded by Lt. Col. Frank W. Frost, had just converted from an observation unit to a fighter squadron in February that year. Jet fighters were still rare back then, but the pilots of the 116th now had the P-51 Mustang, one of the highest performance piston-engine aircraft ever built. They were sure they could get close enough to the strange disks to take a picture. Or something.

Meanwhile, the nation became increasingly baffled by the flying disks. So-called experts began offering various explanations for the phenomenon. Some sober-minded officials attributed the visions to reflections from weather balloons or a glint of sunlight off far away aircraft. Optical illusions, mirages, hallucinations caused by staring too long into the skies were claimed. A professor at the California Institute of Technology insisted that these saucers must be the result of experiments in transmutation of atomic energy. Dr. Harold Urey, Nuclear Physicist at the University of Chicago, insisted that theory was "gibberish."

By July 7, a weird "saucer-mania" had

gripped the country. "Mystery at Fever Pitch" shouted page one of the *Tacoma News Tribune*, while the *Spokesman Review* headlined "Saucer Reports Increase as Sky is Searched in Vain." Air units like the 116th FIS had scrambled to check every report in their vicinity, spending long days searching the empty skies. The search aircraft stayed in constant radio contact and each carried photo equipment. Without result.

Capt. E. J. Smith of United Airlines seemed to have better luck, as did Seattle Coast Guard Yeoman Frank Ryman. Smith and his entire crew spotted disks flying overhead just after takeoff from Boise. Ryman took a picture of one that appeared as a white dot in his photo.

Finally, as time went by without hard evidence turning up, sarcasm and cynicism set in. The media, through a process of repetition, had locked on "flying saucers" as the standard buzzword for the disks. Taking the moniker as his cue for deadpan humor, Ralph Dinsmore of Port Costa, California soberly reported a formation of flying saucers near Mt. Diablo.

"The middle object seemed to have a shape on it like a cup of coffee," he quipped glibly to reporters. "Behind it was another with a sign that said five cents cup. As I watched the five turned into a ten and the amount of coffee, cream and sugar grew smaller as the price grew larger."

It went downhill from there. Authorities distanced themselves from ridicule by taking the "Missouri" posi-

tion. Show me, Professor F. S. Cotton, physiologist at the University of Sydney, Australia was widely quoted when he explained how red corpuscles floating through the retina of the eye often appear as "disks." Other explanations were just plain bizarre. Charles Odom, who was a B-17 navigator in WW II, said the Nazis had sent magnetic crystal balls into bomber formations to report speed, altitude and position. These were them, he claimed.

The *Tacoma News Tribune*, by July 8, reflected the public mood with a staged photo on the front page of a swim-suited beauty tossing a handful of paper plates frisbee-style. On the 9th, the paper began a series by columnist Hal Boyle, describing in detail his abduction by the crew of a Mars flying saucer.

A trickle of reports were sprinkled through the papers by the 10th as interest waned, then fell off all together. The last news story was on the 14th, about a teenage flying saucer hoax done as a gag. By then, the 116th fighter Interceptor Squadron was back home in Spokane, having seen no flying saucers. The adventure wasn't a total waste of time, though. They'd had a real problem finding people to join the unit before the "saucer season" began. By the end of July, twenty-five volunteers signed up with them.

The Air Force would later open its top secret "Project Blue Book" to study "Unidentified Flying Objects," making UFOs and flying saucers a permanent part of Americana. It all began in 1947. Near Mt. Rainier.

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Aug. 28, 1992

## Strange Lights Hover Near Skywatchers On Beach

Many days have passed since the "Gulf Breeze UFO" has been seen in its usual configuration, however there seems to be another phenomenon in the works that is highly unusual, Bruce Morrison MUFON Field Investigator, reports the unusual occurrence. It was written up in the *Islander* last issue by Patti Weatherford, however MUFON feels that the significance of this sighting makes this story worth repeating.

### ACCOUNT OF AUGUST 15TH SIGHTING

By Bruce Morrison MFI

Has our UFO gone back for its thirty light year check-up? Maybe, but most of the GBRT think differently. I know you're going to say that's wishful thinking, but that's not the case. We have good solid evidence against wishful thinking, and many witnesses to prove it.

On Saturday, August 15 at about 9:30 p.m. CST I was sitting in a parking lot on Fort Pickens Road. My chair was facing north and as I looked to the west I noticed a white strobe light up in the sky. At first, I thought it was a plane, but as I watched, it just didn't look right. A plane moves slowly across the sky strobing at a regular pace. This light

didn't do that. The first strobe was up at about 15 degrees, the second was much closer, down low at the western end of the parking lot, the third was halfway across the lot and the fourth was right up in front of me about ten feet off the ground in the middle of the lot. By this time several other people had picked up on what was going on and were standing up following its path through the parking lot. It exited the lot and curved in an S type pattern through the sea oats strobing 4 or 5 more times and then disappeared in a northerly direction.

### Chart Goes Crazy

That evening we had a private group of scientists from several universities who had set up some very sensitive monitoring devices. At the moment the strobe went through, one of them jumped up and said something had set off a device that records microwave radiation. I went over to the van to see what he was talking about. The chart on the graph had really gone crazy. We haven't heard back from this gentleman yet, so all I can say at this point is he was very excited and when we find out we'll let you know.

The event in the parking lot is

not the only happening that has occurred. We have had reports of other type strobes at Shoreline Park and several anomalous light reports from the Pace area, so we feel certain the UFO activity is still ongoing, but for now it's a wait and see game.

(Footnote by Bland Pugh)

Bruce Morrison is a MUFON Field Investigator with over 4 hours of Video of the Gulf Breeze UFO to his credit. Bruce and Anne Morrison were the catalyst for the Gulf Breeze Research Team, in that they began the nightly vigils that are still ongoing every evening.

If you were wondering where I was during all of this, you'll have to remember what I told you about the 4th of July, being in the wrong place at the right time, or looking in the wrong direction at the right time. You guessed it I was at the Three Mile Bridge with another group of researchers, this is not unusual for the GBRT, we split up very often and are located in several locations at one time for obvious reasons. On the evening of the "Strobe" sighting we were in 3 separate locations. One observation point afforded a panoramic view of not only Gulf Breeze

but the beach and all of the sound as well. So as you can see GBRT members haven't given up the quest.

Remember, if you have a sighting or have seen anything unusual, call our hotline at 438-3261. Strict confidentiality will be observed.

ARIZONA DAILY STAR, Tucson, AZ - Sept. 3, 1992

### United pilots report UFO, aviation magazine says

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- A United Airlines jumbo jet headed for London reported a close encounter with an unidentified aircraft that passed at supersonic speed beneath the 747, an aviation industry magazine said.

The Air Line Pilots Association is investigating the report filed by the pilot and co-pilot of United Flight 934 of Aug. 5 from Los Angeles International Airport, *Aviation Week & Space Technology* magazine said.

Los Angeles air traffic controllers said they did not spot the craft on radar, the magazine said. The United Airlines crew reported it passed less than 1,000 feet below the 747.

The pilots told the magazine they sighted the craft at 23,000 feet near George Air Force Base, about 50 miles northeast of Los Angeles.

Nearby Edwards AFB radar data and flight activity showed no military craft in the area at the time, *Aviation Week* said.

United's pilots said the dark-colored craft was about the size of a jet fighter, with a fuselage similar to an SR-71 spy plane, except the edges of the fuselage were rounded instead of sharp. They said it lacked wings but had a tail of sorts.

CR: W. Stevens



## Soldier says Ouija Board spirits told him, friends to leave Army

■ *The ex-intelligence analyst says the six were told they would lead the world through a cataclysm.*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — When Vance Davis and five of his friends went AWOL, it was reported that they had gone to a Florida beach to await the second coming of Jesus Christ in a UFO.

No way, says Davis. "How ridiculous can you get?" he says. "Jesus Christ is Jesus Christ. Why would he come in a flying saucer?"

Davis says the reason they left their Army intelligence posts was: Ouija Board spirits told them they were needed to help lead the world through an impending cataclysm.

For two years, since the six turned up in Gulf Breeze, Fla., they have remained silent.

But Davis now says he wants to tell his story to set the record straight and because, according to the Ouija Board, race riots in Los Angeles were to be a signal the group should go public.

The six former intelligence analysts, all with top-secret security clearances, were reported missing from their Augsburg, West Germany, base July 9, 1990.

They were arrested five days later after one was stopped for a broken tail light in Gulf Breeze, which is known for reported UFO

sightings.

Two weeks later, they were honorably discharged from Fort Knox, Ky., after an Army investigation found no evidence the soldiers from the 701st Military Intelligence Brigade had been involved in espionage.

As punishment, they were reduced to the lowest rank and forfeited half a month's pay. Military officials refused to discuss the case.

Davis, originally from Valley Center, Kan., had the rank of specialist. Others in the group, with ranks and ages at their arrests, are: Pfc. Michael Hueckstaedt, 19, of Farson, Wyo.; Pfc. Kris Perlock, 20, of Osceola, Wis.; Pfc. William Setterberg, 20, of Pittsburgh; Spec. Kenneth Beason, 26, of Jefferson City, Tenn.; and Sgt. Annette Eccleston, 22, of Hartford, Conn.

It all began innocently in November 1989, Davis says.

"We decided to do some experimentation into things," he says. "We wanted to see if there was something actually to it — ESP, parapsychology, ghosts, Tarot cards."

Davis says the members of the group "hit brick walls" until finally they tried a Ouija Board.

"Someone showed up," he says. "I'm talking spiritually."

In the months that followed, Davis says, several spirits talked to the group, predicting the Gulf War and the 1990 Iran earthquake.

What they were destined to do, he says, is teach and prepare people for the coming world chaos.

"This will be the changing of the Earth, and Jesus is involved," Davis

says. "He will come back, and Rapture" — the fundamentalist Christian belief that believers will be swept to heaven before the world ends — "is real."

Davis says that when the group couldn't find a legal way out of the Army, the Ouija Board told them, "Leave, just leave."

On July 3, 1990, they hopped a flight from Munich to Atlanta, making their way to Gulf Breeze to see two friends, a psychic and her housemate who would become Vance's wife, Iris.

After their arrest and release from the Army, the group split up. Davis, 27, lives in Albuquerque with his wife and 8-month-old daughter, does odd jobs and gives seminars on "self-sustaining lifestyles."

"With everything we were told that's supposed to be occurring in the next five years, we want to be here to help," Davis says.

The predicted changes, he says, include earthquakes and volcano eruptions — including a major eruption of Mount Rainer in Washington state — the devastation of New York City by a gas leak, and food and race riots in every major U.S. city that will lead to martial law and economic collapse.

"After the thing occurs, we'll come back out again to help put the pieces back together."

But meanwhile, Davis says, the group may write a book, follow up on a possible movie deal, and — if offered — do an ad for Parker Bros., maker of the Ouija Board.



Debbie Tomey, the Indianapolis resident, whose incredible story is told in "Intruders" spoke to the Local MUFON Chapter at the Sunset Lodge August 11.

Photo by Bland Pugh

## Key "Intruders" Figure Unfolds Personal Story

Debbie Tomey could be the girl next door. The attractive brunette, a divorced mother of two teenage sons, could be in anyone's circle of friends. She is loving and unassuming, kind and caring. She is also the lead player in the Budd Hopkins book, "Intruders" which recently aired as a television mini series.

Debbie held an audience of 300 local residents spellbound as she vividly recapped the last nine years of her life at the August meeting of the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON chapter, held at the Sunset Lodge on Pensacola Beach.

"I always feel dumb when I do this," Debbie said, explaining that this speech was only the fifth one she had ever made.

"But, I feel like I need to help anyone who has had experiences like mine," Debbie described herself as a "scared little girl" the first time she saw a strange object land on the lawn of her Indianapolis home. She showed slides of the rutted area where the craft had been, an area which is only now beginning to nurture vegetation, an area where the snow melts immediately, as it continues to stack up everywhere else in the yard.

From that night forward, Debbie's encounters with extra terrestrials reached dramatic proportions, graphically detailed by Budd Hopkins in "Intruders."

She became so frightened by the encounters that she called Hopkins in New York City. He agreed to see her and help her recall her experiences through hypnosis, so she told the audience, she sold her washer and dryer to raise the money to buy a bus ticket to New York.

Debbie said she was certain there were thousands of people who had endured the same terrifying experiences which had happened to her.

"I guess I'm here to help other people now," she said. "I don't even know how I got this way, but I think

I'm supposed to assure people who have had these encounters that there is really nothing to fear."

After her two hour speech, Debbie answered questions from the audience with humor and candor. She never shied away from any query, no matter how personal, nor how drastically it had affected her life.

Debbie was asked why she thought the UFOs has singled her out and why there have been so many sightings and experiences in Gulf Breeze. Her answer was a simple, "I don't know."

Debbie portrayed her encounters so realistically, so honestly, and with such humility that she left no doubt in the minds of the members of the audience that the sequence of events she described had actually happened to her.

After she left the Conference Room, she sat in a big wicker chair in the Sunset Lobby, posed for pictures, and talked about a variety of subjects.

She seemed to enjoy all the attention, but at the same time, she obviously found it hard to believe that all these people would consider her some kind of "celebrity."

"Some people say I remind them of Roseanne," she quipped. "What do you think?"

When it comes to capturing an audience and telling an incredulous story with so much down to earth credibility, the answer to her question would be that she probably cannot be compared to anyone, anywhere. If there were doubters who had read the book or seen the TV mini series, Debbie's courageous decision to tell her story in person, dispelled any lingering uncertainties.

The Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON chapter meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Sunset Lodge on Pensacola Beach. For information, call the hotline, 438-3261.

ARIZONA REPUBLIC, Phoenix, AZ - July 20, 1992 CR: L. Railer

## Valley UFO buff waits for the telephone to ring

### Organization's hotline seeks reports of sightings

By Randy Cordova  
The Arizona Republic

Like a detective obsessed with finding the answer to a great mystery, Ray Maurer finds himself looking for the solution to a centuries-old puzzle.

Maurer, director of the state chapter of the Mutual UFO Network Inc., has set up a hotline — 273-5000 — for people to report sightings of unidentified flying objects. Callers also may request further information on the subject.

Determining whether the sightings are triggered by alien spacecraft or are the result of a mass delusion would be "the biggest news story of the century," the Scottsdale man said.

"Nobody knows 100 percent for sure what it is," he said of objects that people have reported seeing in the skies.

"Possibly extraterrestrial... possibly a psychological phenomenon."

UFO Network members investigate sightings by checking with the National Weather Service and the military. Ninety percent of the reports have earthly explanations, Maurer says.

It's the other 10 percent that keeps his motor running. He believes that most unexplained sightings are craft or a "totally new psychological factor."

By that, he means a type of



Tom Story/The Arizona Republic

"mass-consciousness phenomenon" in which people report UFO sightings for undetermined reasons.

Maurer, 48, a Northern Arizona University graduate, works in computer sales in Tempe but finds he spends "literally hours a day" on his avocation. He also realizes the stereotype that persists for people with his pursuit: "kooks."

But Maurer added, "The perception is improving. There is less skepticism now."

He should know, because he was bitten by the bug early. As a child, he thought of joining the space program. Years later, on his first date with his future wife, Carol, "we talked about UFOs," he said.

"She was even the one who brought

it up," he added.

Today, she, too, is a UFO Network member. Maurer credits her with persuading him to become the group's state director, a position he took in October.

The Arizona chapter is one branch of the non-profit organization, which boasts chapters in all 50 states and in 37 countries.

So far, it's unclear whether the hotline will be an effective tool. After nearly a month in operation, Maurer says, only two calls have been received. Still, he hopes it will lead him down the right path.

"If you get five or six people all reporting seeing the same thing at the same time," he said, "that should tell you something's going on."

## Strange aerial object stirs national interest

On March 29, 1897, Robert Hubbard of Sioux City, Iowa, was nearly killed when a mysterious aerial object with "glowing red lights" snagged him from his bicycle and dragged him along the ground for several hundred feet.

When Hubbard's ordeal — which occurred six years before Orville and Wilbur Wright's successful flight at Kitty Hawk — was reported in the national press, it caused quite a stir. The result was a rash of similar incidents involving strange aircraft that filled newspapers for weeks to come.

On April 1, for example, three days after the Hubbard story broke, hundreds of people in Kansas City, Kan., watched spellbound while a brightly-lit, cigar-shaped airship hovered over the city. According to local accounts, strange voices and crackling noises were heard emanating from the strange aircraft.

### Terrifying encounters

Throughout the month of April, tens of thousands of Americans from California and Texas to Alabama and West Virginia told of terrifying encounters with "great airships" piloted by occupants "not of this earth."

In nearly every case, the airship was described as "cigar shaped" with beams of glowing red lights fanning out underneath.

One of the strangest stories came from LeRoy, Kan. On the morning of April 21, farmer Alexander Hamilton was awakened by a strange, whirling sound out in the pasture.

Thinking his cattle might be in trouble, Hamilton raced outside only to discover a "glowing, strange-shaped craft" trying to steal a cow by hoisting it up with a rope.

Earlier, on April 14, a series of landings was reported in Iowa. The Cedar Rapids Evening Gazette reported that a "giant, cigar-shaped" object landed on the Union Station in the "wee morning" hours and that several local citizens were taken on-board.

The next day a similar object "came to rest" on the Waterloo, Iowa fairground, according to the local newspaper. While dozens of curious onlookers gawked, one of the vessel's occupants reportedly went to the police station to seek protection from the crowd.

### Several sightings

Several sightings were reported on April 16. Two men from Rhame, Texas, said they saw a giant cigar heading west at 150 mph. The same day, the Fort Worth Register reported that a man traveling near Cisco, Texas saw an airship crash into a field.

According to the Register, several local citizens helped repair the downed aircraft, then watched it roar away.

In Paris, Texas, a night watchman said he saw a cigar-shaped craft that measured 200 feet in length and had several large wings. Later, in Farm-



E. Randall Floyd

Southern Mysteries

*Throughout the month of April, tens of thousands of Americans from California and Texas to Alabama and West Virginia told of terrifying encounters with 'great airships' piloted by occupants 'not of this earth.'*

ersville, Texas, several people said they heard the crew of an airship singing hymns.

### Bizarre encounter

Another bizarre encounter in Texas came on April 17 when a large airship came in low and buzzed the town of Aurora. The ship then continued north where it finally struck a windmill on the farm of a Judge Proctor and exploded.

People rushed to the scene of the crash and discovered the badly-mangled body of the pilot.

"He was not of this earth," said T.J. Weems, a Signal Corps officer who offered the astonishing speculation that the dead pilot was a Martian.

The next day the "Martian" was given a Christian burial.

On April 19 other airships were spotted near Sisterville, W. Va., and El Paso. On both occasions multicolored lights flashed from portholes and strange voices were heard talking inside the ships.

Stories about the mysterious aircraft continued unabated in the months to come, as newspapers competed to come up with the wildest accounts. Then, as suddenly and mysteriously as they had appeared, the airships disappeared.

The whole airship excitement was forgotten until the 1960s when researchers interested in UFOs began rummaging through old newspapers and came up with the original stories.

What were they? Where did they come from? Even today, investigators aren't really sure, though early rumors linked them to an unknown scientist involved with secret aircraft testing.

There is good reason to suspect that some of the stories were deliberate hoaxes, spread by over-imaginative telegraph operators who reported many of the sightings, as well as newspaper reporters themselves.

## Sedona woman says alien 'abductees' in need of counseling

By KARIN SCHILL  
For the Associated Press

SEDONA (AP) — Being abducted by space aliens can change your life, says Sandra Bowen.

People who were brought on board spaceships may not remember afterwards what transpired; they're just left with feelings of fear and confusion. That's why people like herself are on a mission of mercy, the 49-year-old Sedona psychic consultant says.

"I have an agreement to teach people," she says.

A year and a half ago, Bowen moved from the San Francisco area to settle into a comfortable home in Sedona, surrounded by the red rocks that have made the town famous.

To Bowen those rocks are more than just a pleasure to the eye, however. They also attract a large number of Unidentified Flying Objects to the area, she says. This is where she can remain in daily contact with those she calls her extraterrestrial friends.

People who suspect they've had an encounter with a spaceship pay Bowen \$75 per hour for a reading in Bowen's living room. A reading may consist of a regression, or hypnosis, during which Bowen says abductees are able to remember what they think are visits to UFOs.

About a year ago, Bowen also ran support groups for people with space ship experiences. People would get together to compare stories and feel connected to one another.

Some who consult Bowen are

tourists who find her flier in the Chamber of Commerce or local hotels. Others are members of the crystal-clad New Age crowd that has taken to Sedona in recent years. And some are just people with unusual experiences, like businessmen.

"The businessmen often have problems with their digestion. They come in and say they have these strange feelings they can't understand," Bowen says.

They all come to Sedona, drawn by the town's magic aura, she says.

"Everybody in Sedona opens up to it. Dreams, for instance, are more vivid here."

Bowen's realization that she can communicate with extraterrestrial beings came when she did a regression in 1980. She says it helped her remember how, a week earlier, two aliens had taken her away, up to their spacecraft.

She describes a ramp leading up to a podium on the ship. There they made her lie down on an examination table.

She said the aliens were "very tall and iridescent and vibrated. They had long arms, their eyes were large and round, but they didn't have much of a mouth or nose."

Another thing she says she noticed was that the aliens had no feet, but floated a few inches above the floor.

"Then they said they would put light into me," she says.

The light, Bowen says, is the ability to communicate with the many spaceships that hover up in the sky, though not always visibly.

Crystals and crystal skulls, supposedly planted on Earth by the aliens, also play an intricate part, Bowen says. She has many in her home and one in a ring on her finger. It grounds her to the Earth, she says.

In 1988, Bowen co-authored a book entitled "Mysteries of the Crystal Skulls Revealed." Crystals are important because they indicate what's going to happen to the Earth, Bowen says. And that's where the UFOs come in.

"They've come to help us because we're destroying the Earth," Bowen says.

At the Fund for UFO Research in Washington, a non-profit group, Don Berliner takes such a conclusion with a grain of salt.

Space aliens are interested in humans solely for their research, he says. Their project is extensive, though nobody knows exactly what they're after.

"Bizarre abductions are popping up all over the place," he claims. "It's been estimated over 2 million Americans have had experiences with spaceships already."

Whatever the motives of such encounters are, and whether or not they really happen at all, the interest in visitors from other planets seems to be picking up.

At the Center for New Age in Sedona, volunteer staffer Connie Sullivan estimates a third of all people who walk through the door ask about UFOs.

"There's definitely an increased interest," she says, adding that she thinks she saw one the other night.

NEWS-TELEGRAM, Sulphur Springs, TX - Aug. 3, 1992 CR: G. Massey

## Austin woman forms UFO encounter group

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A 53-year-old Austin woman says she has formed a group that is out-of-this-world because she knows she isn't alone among those who believe we are not alone.

"There still is a part of me that thinks I'm totally nuts," said Jean, who asked that her last name not be published for fear of harassment. "But I know what I experienced."

Jean's group is for people who have had encounters with aliens. She told the Austin American-Statesman that she encountered aliens twice in the 1940s — first when she was 3 years old and again when she was 9.

She says her group will allow others with similar experiences "to open up to others and to come out to themselves."

"The meetings will be open to the public, but it will not be a debate," she said. "If anybody gives any of the abductees a hard time, they will be asked to leave. We don't need anybody making fun of us. We've lived with too much of that already."

"The people who laugh at us are uneasy and uncomfortable with something they don't understand and can't identify with," she added.

People who say they have had close encounters often find

themselves suspected of some sort of mental disorder, Jean said. Science says it's impossible, the government says UFOs don't exist and a person's own conscious mind is saying it's beyond the realm of reality.

"We don't know where they are from, we don't know why they are here, and we can't control them," Jean says. "That's probably why the government is covering it up."

Memories of her two encounters were triggered in 1987 while browsing at a San Antonio book store, she said.

The cover of a book about alien encounters featured an artist's rendering of the alien the author recalled seeing. Jean saw the eyes, like black onyx, and suffered an anxiety attack in the store, she said.

Soon after, long-repressed memories streamed back into her consciousness, she said.

As a 3-year-old, Jean says, a ball of light appeared in her bedroom and communicated with her telepathically.

"I understood the voice at the time, but now I don't remember what it was saying," Jean said. "I do remember the feeling I had as being comforting and positive. I was not frightened at all."

But as she felt like her body was swelling, she became scared and ran screaming out of her room, she said. "My parents figured I had a bad dream, but I was not asleep."

As a 9-year-old, she said, she awakened during a rainy night and a face — the same face she saw on the book cover — stared at her through the window.

DISPATCH, Columbus, OH - Aug. 20, 1992 CR: MORA

## 'UFO' takes fascinating look at close encounters

By Andy Wickstrom  
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

There's always someone who takes flying saucers seriously.

On the eve of the recent miniseries *Intruders*, *The Wall Street Journal* interviewed a UFO expert who feared that the show would trigger a panic similar to the long-ago hoax of Orson Welles' *War of the Worlds*.

*Intruders* may not have stirred panic, but it has fueled curiosity.

In a well-timed release from MPI Home Video, *Contact UFO: Alien Abductions* (90 minutes, \$79.98), you can encounter people who say they've had close encounters.

Also featured is Budd Hopkins, author of *Intruders: The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods*, on which the show was based.

Hopkins is one of many UFO researchers

interviewed on the tape. Others include John Mack of Harvard University's department of psychiatry; Mark Rodeghier, scientific director of the Center for UFO Studies; and Walter Webb, an astronomer with the Boston Planetarium.

Viewers will find the tape a fascinating history of "UFOlogy" reaching back to the years just after World War II, when atomic-bomb terror and doomsday rhetoric played a role in a wave of saucer sightings.

Vintage news and other archival footage show us people gathered in the desert for saucer conventions.

The UFO craze was subsiding when the case of Betty and Barney Hill arose in the early '60s.

The New Hampshire couple reported under hypnosis that they had been taken aboard a spacecraft and subjected to medical examination. Barney Hill died in 1967, but Betty Hill discusses

the ordeal in an eerily matter-of-fact manner.

Mack leads a support group for people who say they have been abducted. This knowledge often surfaces under hypnosis — when they've sought treatment for emotional problems that Mack characterizes as symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder.

The hypnosis factor, one researcher notes, might serve to undermine the validity of their reports. Yet it is disturbing to see how strangers from different parts of the country describe such similar encounters.

The tales in *Alien Abduction* could have been played for sensationalism, but the producers avoided the temptation.

There are no "re-creations." Instead, the professional gravity of the experts and the plain-spoken manner of the "abductees" leave viewers with a sense of wonder — and a little trepidation.



# Ozark UFO Report

By W.G. Eslinger, Director  
Ozark U.F.O. Network

Very shortly after publication of my previous column on the subject of UFO abductions, I received letters from several persons who described unusual events in their lives, indicating possible abductions. All of these persons will be interviewed for additional details and no doubt, other events will be recalled at that time. Most abductees share a need for counseling for emotional or mental trauma. Some need medical attention for physical side effects resulting from implants received from UFO occupants.

"Implant" is a term used in discussion of UFO phenomena, referring to the insertion of a foreign object in some part of the body of the abductee. The type of material and shape of the object varies. To date scientists have not been able to identify the physical ingredients of the objects. The implant is usually very small and many times it is placed somewhere in the abductee's head, although they have been discovered in other parts of the body. Often it is not subject to identification by x-ray, thereby making medical analysis difficult. Even if its location is identified, surgical removal may or may not be advisable, depending upon the circumstances.

It is believed the implant serves as a tracking and control device for the UFO occupants. Until it is removed from the body, the abductee may be subject to constant monitoring. The abductee may be contacted anywhere, even when traveling hundreds or thousands of miles from home. Before the reader is tempted to snicker at that statement, I should hasten to state we have adult persons living in this area who have experienced such an event... this year... not during fantastical memories of their youth.

More incredible than that, however, is the ability of the UFO occupants to monitor the mental activity of the abductee... their thoughts, spoken and unspoken words. Telepathic communication between the abductee and UFO occupants is not uncommon. We have many cases of such events in

this area. A mental and emotional environment of fear and apprehension is the world in which many abductees live, not easily described even by them.

## Midwest Conference On UFO Research

Residents of this area interested in UFO phenomena will be afforded a most unusual opportunity next month in Springfield, Mo. One of the most outstanding UFO conferences ever organized in the U.S. will be held September 18-20 at the University Plaza Ballroom. It commences Friday at 7 p.m. and ends about noon Sunday.

Nine top experts from across the U.S., England, and Puerto Rico will be discussing recent events and updated research in several areas of ufology. It is a rare opportunity for whatever level of knowledge one has regarding the UFO phenomena.

One of the speakers, George Wingfield, top "crop circle" expert from England, has just recently reported there has been an avalanche of "crop circle" events in his country this summer... so many that he and the other researchers there cannot track and document all of them. Not only more numerous, but the pictogram configurations are also more complicated than ever. Those who have seen our "Crop Circle Communique" video film on 1990 and 1991 configurations may find this hard to believe. George will be reporting on this incredible accelerating phenomenon, most likely with photos of 1992 events.

Another outstanding speaker will be Budd Hopkins, national expert on UFO abductions, author of "The Intruders." He will report on the now documented event of November 1989 during which many witnesses, including security guards, observed a woman abducted in Manhattan, New York City.

This event will be presented by the Springfield MUFON, a non-profit group dedicated to the same purpose as our organization: education of the public about the dominant phenomenon in our world of today. Send SASE to the address below for admission



## Another account of '56 sighting

Here is a letter written to Chester Grusinski by John C. Hau, a chief warrant officer on the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt, about a possible UFO sighting:

"At about 2130P/25 or 26 July 1956 (0030Z/26 or 27 July 1956), I was standing a signal watch on the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CVA 42), then anchored in Rio de Janeiro Harbor, Brazil. The sky was clear.

"As I recall, the signal bridge was called by Combat Information Center asking for visual verification of an air search radar contact in our vicinity, holding stationary. Inspection revealed a cigar-shaped object estimated to be at 5,000 feet, close by the zenith. It was displaying at least one row of white lights — and I do not remember if any were flashing.

"After about 10 or 15 minutes, it suddenly started moving in a northerly direction, accelerating smoothly and rapidly, until it

CR: S. Mendez



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disappeared from view in one or two minutes. It may have disappeared more quickly than that, as CIC later said it went off their radar scope in two or three sweeps.

"The incident was reported to the Officer of the Deck and I am sure to the Commanding Officer, (Capt. John T. Hayward, USN). The sighting was certainly noteworthy enough to have been logged both in the CIC Watch Officer's Log and the smooth Deck Log. Copies of the latter would be available from the Ships Histories Branch, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. 20374."

WIFR-TV's Sue Mroz's column on science and nature appears here weekdays.

NEWS-EXAMINER, Connersville, IN - Sept. 1, 1992 CR: D. Worley

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SUMMER ABDUCTION SCENE

We have seen a continuation of the secret, silent, mind-boggling activity of UFO abduction in this area and elsewhere. The profound implications of it all confronts a 27-year investigator-researcher like myself at every turn, and it is very disturbing. Far too disturbing for our inner political-military complex to ever reveal the truth. Revelation would show its nearly 50-year trail of lies, its utter helplessness, and send a shock wave that would severely strain the very foundation of civilized existence.

It is clearly apparent that Earth has an unseen presence and that among other things it is engaged in a massive abduction project involving human reproductive elements and hybrid creation.

In their life an abductee will experience some of the following: UFO, lost time, often limited recall of the event, mysterious scars, lumps, pregnancy problems and other things. If you have any of these indications please contact me. It's confidential and I can help you.

Recently I was faced with the mystery of why three women each had a 1½ inch red blotch on the back of their heads. An X ray accidently revealed an object in the knee of one abductee. At the home of another much has happened. A neighbor lady watched a light repeatedly hover over the property. A circle appeared on the ground and a dog and horses showed fear of a nearby woods. Objects vanished and reappeared in the home. A magnetometer registered odd magnetic deviations at the site. Indications were this may be another whole family abduction situation.

In another area case one of the residents of a trailer believed that she was four months pregnant. Two witnesses watched a lighted object hover above the trailer for an hour. Then there was suddenly nothing and we have another vanished fetus case. If you suspect a similar incident will you please contact me? We suspect such utterly lawless activity is extensive and seek more information. You have my promise of confidentiality.

I don't have space to explain some other interesting cases I've had but want to mention a spectacular one that occurred in New York City near the Brooklyn Bridge. At least 14 scattered witnesses watched a UFO hover

above an apartment building. A bluish-white beam of light shined down from under it. Twelve stories up an abductee accompanied by three aliens floated up the beam to the UFO.

Considerable debate goes on concerning the UFO aliens' activities and motives. I dislike putting a good-evil spin on this vast complex mystery, but to me in view of the actual facts there seems no way out. Aeon's ago primordial intelligences from space took up residence here.

Maybe the abductor/surgical cattle parts group are late arrivals thus their vast projects of this sort. New Agers, Channelers, and many Ufologists dismiss this group as neutral or maybe humanities benefactors after all. Since its entities and craft can appear and vanish into thin air it is apparent they exist in a space/time state here with us. We also know they can enter our environment and become physical-like if they choose. So these denizens of the netherworld exist in the same medium and have the same attributes that some ancient books identify as bad. The universal nature of this force is invisibility and secrecy. It masses no forces but instead controls its subjects by more subtle means. It features a modus operandi of delusion and the lie. Its minions are often robotic-like and well-programmed for their tasks. Some of those tasks are wontonly criminal in nature. Stealing a human fetus is criminal. Placing implants in little children, then locating them at later times, and physically violating their bodies is more than just kidnapping. Immobilizing or controlling the human brain is a devilish act. There is much I've not mentioned, but maybe the appalling matters that I have brought up will help you realize why government believes it's best you live your entire life and never know about these things.

The aliens' huge projects of abduction and cattle parts acquisition are a ruthless disregard for society's protective laws. We have other "not so nice" para-forms in the UFO realm that research has shown are directly linked to this same abduction group. Believe it or not, an ape-like entity called Big Foot and other names certainly is. The black-hooded figures sometimes present at haunting

scenes also is. The men in black who should be called spectres in black certainly are. The MIB type phenomena seems to have only a fear and harassment motivation. I have four abductee cases in this with two being very extensive. These beings with powerful eyes, wearing black suits, and sometimes 1940s style derby hats, who usually arrive in a black limo, have threatened loved ones and silenced thousands of frightened witnesses over the years. It is abundantly clear they are part of the alien operations. Just exactly why remains a deep mystery.

In view of what I have stated above, how can anyone not realize that what I have brought to your attention must be classified as an evil force. Since in all nature there exists beautiful light and its opposite sinister blackness there must exist a counterforce to this. At present it seems mostly absent. One day in the future our little speck in the Universe will desperately need help. It's promised — there are 442 references to this miraculous help in the New Testament.

DONALD WORLEY  
1051 Beech St.  
CONNERSVILLE, IN 47331

REGISTER-STAR, Rockford, IL - July 8, 1992

## '56 UFO sighting

Here is a letter written by Leon Treadwell, who was a radar technician on the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt from 1956-1958, to Chester Grusinski about a possible UFO sighting:

These objects were seen by me as well as several dozen others, including officers, while crew members of the carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt. The time was in the early morning hours of July 26, 1956, while at anchor in the port of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Most of the crew were asleep and unaware of the sightings. As members of C.I.C.-Radar Div., these objects were watched through high-power binoculars for several minutes before they finally vanished with tremendous speed.

When first sighted, the objects were suspended in midair over one another with 700 feet between them. A radar fix placed them several miles from the FDR's position at a height of about 2,000 feet. Two rows of bright counter-



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rotating lights could be seen through the middle of each object that made them appear to be round in shape. For several minutes, they never moved. Then the upper one released a fireball object that dropped into the top of the lower one. Within seconds, they both vanished with tremendous speed. Radar contact was almost impossible. It was estimated the objects could have been between 75 and 100 feet in length.

All involved were told to keep a tight lip on what we saw. A report was filed, signed and sent to the Defense Department, along with a color sketch by me of what was watched that night by many.

WIFR-TV's Sue Mroz's column on science and nature appears here weekdays.

CR: S. Mendez



Advocate staff photo by Tim Mueller

W.L. "Barney" Garner, Louisiana state director of the Mutual UFO Network, poses beneath an ominous sky near the Mississippi River levee.

## Baton Rouge area has a history of UFO sightings

By STEVE CULPEPPER  
Advocate staff writer

At around 7 p.m. on a cool November night in 1957, traffic started backing up on Dalrymple Drive next to City Park. It was the same night as the Dixie Horse Show Jubilee at LSU, but most people were not on their way to see horses.

About 5,000 people had driven to City Park to stare into the sky as two powerful anti-aircraft searchlights swept the low clouds in search of flying saucers.

For weeks, WLCS radio station had been broadcasting a general invitation to all spacemen to drop in on Baton Rouge, and promoters had laid out a large "landing grid" in the park in case they did. The crowds were advised to stay off the grid and to not panic if a saucer appeared.

A bakery provided a sound truck. A soft-drink company provided free samples. A car dealer showed off his 1958 models. Near the landing grid, a "large ribbon-bedecked welcoming committee stood by having their pictures taken by a LIFE photographer," according to a news story.

But behind the obvious promotion, there was something real in the night air: a current of genuine anticipation.

The UFO watch took place during a gust of UFO sightings in the Baton Rouge area. WLCS owner Lamar Simmons recalled that a number of people in town were "very, very uneasy" about the possibility that aliens actually might take the station up on its invitation.

That mood was shared by a number of people. After all, since World War II there had been regular outbreaks of UFO sightings in Louisiana and throughout the country, and many of those stories had been reported in the press. Popular entertainment — movies, books, television — made it seem all the more real.

Basically, flying saucers had become pretty commonplace.

For instance, in the same edition of the Morning Advocate that carried the story of the UFO watch, a small story on another page described a UFO sighting by a Watson family.

The father told a reporter that he realized something was "up" when cars started stopping in front of his home.

"I thought it was a wreck or something," the man said. What it turned out to be was an object, he said, "directly overhead, moving toward Baton Rouge. . . . It appeared to be white in the middle and to have a red ring around it, and it moved slowly toward Baton Rouge."

In those days it seemed possible to Adras Laborde to get to the bottom of the flying saucer business by inviting all of the nation's experts and credible UFO witnesses to Louisiana, where Laborde and the members of his Young Men's Business Club planned to hold a Flying Saucer Witness Convention.

"I had inquiries from people all over the country," Laborde said. "The Associated Press had carried it all over. I think we even had some inquiries from as far away as Canada. There was a general interest. We had statements, affidavits, from otherwise reputable people who just about swore that what they saw were flying saucers."

Laborde, who retired in 1977 after 32 years as editor of the Alexandria Daily Town Talk, said he doesn't remember why the convention never took off. "But I'm sorry we didn't go through with it," he said. "Maybe we had too many irons in the fire."

UFO fever was at such a pitch during the 1950s that even the Baton Rouge Parks and Recreation Commission climbed aboard.

For about five or six years BREC sponsored the Baton Rouge Unidentified Flying Objects Forum, which published a monthly newsletter and met at the Howell Park

Community Center once a month or more to discuss the latest UFO books and the latest UFO sightings.

A retired Baton Rouge bank vice president — who didn't want his name used in connection with the subject — was secretary treasurer of the forum.

"There was so much to talk about UFOs in those days. There was considerable interest, but I'm just not interested in it anymore," the man said.

"We didn't go at it from a 'gee-whiz' standpoint. What we thought at the time was based on what we felt was solid evidence. . . . But some people go from that into more and more exotic fields. I have gone in the other direction. There is a real, real loony lunatic fringe to this thing. We were not into that. And eventually, those of us who were not loony just lost interest."

Some meetings at the old BREC auditorium were packed, the man said.

"I remember standing up to introduce a speaker and, gosh, there was a room full of people. It was really encouraging at the time."

Over the decades, the Morning Advocate has carried scores of stories on local UFO sightings.

In 1950, a north Baton Rouge man reported five "elliptical or circular shaped objects traveling at a high rate of speed" in a southeasterly direction over the city.

A month later, a Brusly housewife saw a saucer speeding about 300 feet above the Mississippi River.

In 1952, two workers at Kaiser Aluminum reported a flying saucer near the old Mississippi River bridge flying at an altitude of about 400 feet.

An anonymous caller phoned the paper in September 1952 to report another saucer.

"I was cleaning fish in my back yard on Broussard Street when I heard some planes passing over," the man said. "I looked up as I always do and saw what I took to be five P-51 fighters flying north at about 4,000 feet. Above them, going in a westerly direction, I saw what appeared to be a disc of some six or eight feet in diameter. The disc was flying much faster. . . . I think it was at least 10,000 feet high."

Sightings have come in big waves: 1957 was a big year, 1962 another, 1966, 1967, 1973 were others. Most sightings have come in the spring or the fall.

Not all sightings were by John or Jane Does. Some were made by people in authority.

At about 3 o'clock one morning in 1965, a group of four police officers were staking out the border of East and West Feliciana parishes, on the lookout for an inmate escaped from the state penitentiary at Angola. As they waited, the four noticed a "strange moving light in the skies."

"It looked like a white light, slightly egg-shaped and was traveling in a high rate of speed," a state trooper who was part of the group reported.

East Feliciana Parish Assessor Carl Bunch was a deputy then and one of the four men to witness the flying egg.

"It's been a long time, but it was a scary scene," Bunch said. "It wasn't an airplane, and I've seen many a star fall and it wasn't a star. I wouldn't say anything to anybody for a long time because people would say I was nuts."

In 1966, Wayne Stone spotted a bright dot in the sky, which alternately speeded up and slowed down. He and a friend, looking at the object through a telescope, described it to reporters as disc-shaped.

Twenty-six years later, Stone hasn't forgotten that night.

"I had always had an interest in astronomy and I'd been looking for Venus that night when I saw what was definitely a disc-shaped object gliding through the sky, moving northwest to southeast. It made no sound whatsoever. I began collecting everything I could find on the subject," Stone said.

"It left a kind of impression in my mind. I really felt I saw something — a craft, a spaceship of some kind. I really felt there was something there and I really still believe there's something out there."

"I'd be very disappointed if there was not something out there," Stone said. "I hate to say it, but I'd be very disappointed if we were the most intelligent beings in the universe."

Laborde said he never saw a UFO but can't discount the possibility that they're real.

"In those days the jet age was just dawning and they had lots of experimental aircraft. Jets were just coming into their own. You wonder, looking back, if maybe things people thought were flying saucers were really some sort of experimental aircraft."

Simmons said he imagines that the lure and attraction of America's race into space had something to do with many of the UFO sightings.

"It was a time when flying saucer stories were always big," he said.

In the same edition of the Morning Advocate that carried the story on the City Park UFO watch and the Watson sighting, an editorial tried to put the entire UFO situation into perspective:

"The launching of two Russian satellites has created an unprecedented interest in aerial phenomena," the editorial read. "It has created a tension which has made everyone alert for the sighting of any object. And it has shattered skepticism and produced in all of us a believing state of mind. Anything seems possible."

The retired bank vice president said he thinks of UFOs in terms of Santa Claus and the Easter bunny.

"The world's a pretty vicious place, and if we can find things like that to hold onto, that's great," he said. "But I say, don't tell little children there is no Easter bunny. If this helps them through this terribly rough world, then that's okay."

### Garner is ready to hear UFO tales

By STEVE CULPEPPER  
Advocate staff writer

Wherever there are people with UFO stories to tell, Barney Garner is ready to listen and willing to believe what they say they saw.

Working in the suburb-muffled study of his Kenilworth home, Garner has devoted his retirement to hearing their strange tales, sorting them out and hoping that some of it leads to at least a glimpse of the Big Picture.

A retired Air Force lieutenant colonel and LSU professor, Garner is the state director of the Mutual UFO Network, known better to ufologists as MUFON, an organization dedicated to the careful scientific investigation of UFO sightings.

(continued on page 7)



(continued from page 6 - SUNDAY ADVOCATE,

Baton Rouge, LA - Aug. 30, 1992)

"My job is to investigate and document," Garner said. "When some people retire they chase golf balls. I chase UFO reports."

Being a former career military officer prepared Garner well for the job. He's organized like a Swiss watch. His study is stocked with a personal computer, a ham radio, files of investigations and reference books on UFOs and ufology.

But probably the most important tools Garner brings to the job are his openness to the possibilities and his willingness to believe.

Garner admits that plenty of people in the UFO field aren't nearly as interested in the scientific method as

he and other MUFON investigators are, and for him they are just as big a problem as the diehard skeptics.

"We're lumped in with these, whether we want to be or not," Garner said. "I avoid a lot of the New Age people, a lot of the psychics, because mainly their approach is not scientific and you cannot prove anything. But deep down I have to admit sometimes that they may be closer to the truth than we are in the scientific approach."

Since World War II, UFO sightings have peaked and dipped repeatedly. There are fewer sightings nowadays because the government has been pretty effective in its efforts to ridicule them, Garner said.

"Louisiana has just been unusually quiet for two, two and a half years," Garner said.

Since MUFON isn't a household name, people who witness UFOs generally don't know what to do or who to call. For referrals, Garner relies on word of mouth and help from sympathetic law enforcement officers.

"The state police troop commanders know my name and a couple of sheriff's deputies have called me and a couple of state police troopers have called me," he said. "But that's really up to the individual officer and it's not an official policy of either of those organizations."

The most recent, serious sighting was referred to MUFON by a state police trooper three years ago.

On Sunday morning, Aug. 13, 1989, an elderly Avoyelles Parish couple saw something curious behind their small rural home.

The following are excerpts from Garner's MUFON incident report. Names have been deleted:

"The man noticed something moving near the side ditch at the back corner of his lot (about 120 feet away) which he at first took to be a large piece of blowing paper or something similar. He soon realized it was an oval object of some kind moving randomly in a westerly direction across the back of his yard, moving a short distance then stopping for a few seconds and moving again. He watched it for a few seconds, then called to his wife who was in the kitchen just inside the back door.

"The wife first saw the object when it was directly back of the door, about 50 feet away and at its closest approach to her. She asked her husband, 'What is that?' and he replied, 'I don't know.' As the object continued across the back of the yard, the man started toward it. The wife warned him, 'Don't you go towards that, you don't know what that is.'"

The couple's dog began barking at the object as the man began walking toward it.

"Immediately the object shot straight

up into the air, circled the top of a 30-40 foot gum tree just to the west of its take-off point, then quickly accelerated out of sight going up at a steep angle toward the west."

Garner wrote: "The early part of the sighting might be suggestive of a balloon-like object blowing across the yard, but the suddenness and velocity of its takeoff and disappearance belie that." Both witnesses said the day was hot and windless.

"People are seeing UFOs more or less continuously," Garner said.

Seeing them in America, seeing them in Louisiana, seeing them in Baton Rouge.

"Many business leaders in Baton Rouge — lawyers, etc. — have had close encounters," or a sighting within 500 feet, Garner said.

Seeing a UFO within 500 feet entitles the observer to a 3 on a scale of 1-6.

The highest rating is given in the case of an abduction; the lowest, for sighting "nocturnal lights, far away."

So how to explain such things?

"There are no black-and-white answers," Garner said. "To me the most likely probability is a multi-dimensional universe. Our own scientists are talking about a multi-dimensional universe, but in terms of subatomic particles.

"If we look into theoretical physics, I think the existence of a multi-dimensional universe would provide a plausible explanation for much psychic phenomena, as well as how UFOs could travel vast distances."

On the other hand, "It may be pure hogwash and science fiction," Garner said. "But based on what's known, that's what some people are saying."

While the government's efforts may have been to suppress and ridicule reports of UFOs, the public still believes in them, Garner said.

A 1990 survey by a researcher at the Chicago Academy of Sciences asked American adults whether they believed "some of the unidentified flying objects reported are really space vehicles from other civilizations." Fifty-four percent responded with a "yes."

Garner said a "key period" in the history of public perception of UFOs is under way. "The public is being educated. Over the next 10-15 years, much more of the public will come to accept the existence of UFOs."

In a prepared speech he delivers, Garner said, "I don't know the reality behind all of this any more than you do, but for now I am convinced the phenomena we observe is physical and real, is based on a very advanced technology, and deserves serious scientific study."

## Vivid stories of UFO sightings have disappeared from news

By STEVE CULPEPPER

Advocate staff writer

During the heyday of unidentified flying objects — the 1950s, '60s and '70s — newspapers, including Baton Rouge newspapers, regularly carried vivid accounts of exotic discs, silver cigars and egg-shaped things spinning through the sky.

But today, outside of the pages of the National Enquirer, UFOs seem to have all but disappeared.

Even the UFO Reporting Center hotline is unmanned.

Call the (206) 722-3000 number today and you'll get a recording advising you to "give a complete description of what you saw, then leave your name, address and telephone number. . . . Keep an eye on the sky and keep our number handy for future use."

So if you see a UFO hanging over your back yard one night and feel the situation needs the immediate attention of an authority, who you gonna call?

Bob Talmadge with the local Federal Aviation Administration office at Metro Airport said FAA rules are clear when it comes to the reporting of UFOs.

Paragraph 283 of his handbook advises that when he "receives reports of unidentified flying objects, 'refer individual to the nearest scientific establishment and institute of higher learning that has expressed an interest in such objects.'"

Astronomy instructor James Giammanco said he's never gotten a call on a UFO during his four years at LSU. He said he's never seen a UFO either.

"The closest I ever came was a rather spectacular weather balloon," he said. It was "brighter than the planet Venus. With about a

50-power telescope, it was clear it was a weather balloon."

Paragraph 283 cautions that if callers are worried that "life or property" might be endangered by the UFO, they should be told to call police.

The police say nobody's called them; check with 911. The 911 people say they haven't heard of any UFOs.

Jerry Bowman works at the air-traffic control tower. Controllers used to get a few UFO calls now and then, he said.

"It's been at least a year and a half since I got one," Bowman said. "Basically it was just something in the sky they didn't recognize."

Used to be, he said, "A couple of people called regularly. They'd say, 'Get those little planes out of here, they're shooting rays at my feet,' or something like that."

"What it looks like to us is that the daylight sightings are a thing of the past and most of the nighttime sightings are mistakes on the part of witnesses," said Don Berliner, a member of the executive board of the Fund for UFO Research in Mount Rainier, Md.

"The sightings are all but worthless. You can't get much out of a report and do anything with it," Berliner said. "But there is certainly activity, especially in this bizarre abduction area. We're up to our ears in that. We just keep getting more and more of that."

Berliner said UFO sightings come in flurries.

"It will spring up here and there, most recently in Belgium and Russia," he said.

Then again, many of the reported sightings never become public.

"The government likes to keep secrets," he said.

Although there are none of the "great daylight sightings like there

used to be, there's still a lot going on," Berliner said. "If you read the little papers, the weekly papers, you see the UFO sightings. We don't get it in the big newspapers and on the networks."

UFOs don't keep to any particular schedule or follow any plan known to man, so it's hard to figure out what they're up to or why they're up to it.

"We just do not know what the aliens are doing," Berliner said. "The source of the problem is the total lack of knowledge of their psychological makeup. We don't know why they do anything."

Major Colman VonKeviczky of Jackson Heights, N.Y., is director of the Intercontinental UFO Galactic Spacecraft Research and Analytic Network. His goal is to "preserve universal peace and prevent a space war."

He said there are still plenty of UFOs out there, and they're probably none too happy about the United States pursuing the Star Wars outer space defense program.

"Recently I have a big memorandum on behalf of all humanity that clears all that up," VonKeviczky said through a thick eastern European accent. "I believe millions and millions people see UFO activity in our atmospheric blanket. The problem is not solved. It is so common."

VonKeviczky said all questions are answered in his memorandum, which he calls the "full documentation on behalf of humanity."

"You will find the answer in the documents," VonKeviczky said. "I feel you are intelligent personality. Send a money order or a check for \$25 and we are right away mailing to you the documents. I am certainly sure you will be satisfied with it."



File photo

This photograph of a UFO over Broadmoor subdivision ran in the pages of the State-Times in August 1965.

TIMES, New York, NY - Sept. 3, 1992 CR: V. White

## Airliner Reports Close Encounter

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 2 (AP) — The pilots of a United Airlines jumbo jet last month reported a close encounter near here with an unidentified aircraft that, the pilots said, passed beneath the jetliner at supersonic speed.

The incident was disclosed in the Aug. 24 issue of Aviation Week & Space Technology magazine, which said that Los Angeles air traffic controllers had not detected the mysterious aircraft on radar and that the Federal Aviation Administration had been unable to identify it.

The jetliner, a Boeing 747, was United Flight 934, from Los Angeles to London. It had just taken off on the afternoon of Aug. 5 and was near George Air Force Base, 50 miles north-  
east here, when the pilots saw the

craft at 23,000 feet, Aviation Week quoted them as saying in their report to air controllers.

The pilots, whom the magazine did not identify, estimated that the craft's speed was supersonic and said it had passed less than 1,000 feet beneath the jetliner. Such proximity would be a violation of F.A.A. rules, which require that aircraft be separated by at least 1,000 feet vertically and five miles horizontally.

The location of the pilots' sighting is only about 20 miles south of the vast restricted airspace surrounding Edwards Air Force Base in the Mojave Desert, but Aviation Week said the base's radar data and flight activity showed no military craft in the area at the time.

EAGLE, Cherryville, NC - Aug. 26, 1992 CR: G. Fawcett

## Fawcett publishes UFO book

A four year study of human reactions to UFOs worldwide covering the years 1940-1983 by George D. Fawcett, a Mount Airy native and a Lincolnton resident, was published this week by Arcturus Books Inc., Stone Mountain, Ga.

Fawcett, who is well known worldwide in UFO circles and is one of the genuine "old timers" in the field, penned his research paper based on 31 distinguished reactions exhibited by human UFO percipients in over 25 countries.

The author feels that since humans are undergoing the impact of the UFO presence on Earth, that one should contemplate how our species reacts to it when it happens in our midst.

After 48 years as a UFO investi-

gator and researcher, Fawcett feels this booklet is his most important contribution to UFO study.

Interested persons can purchase a copy of his latest work by sending a check for \$7.90 to Arcturus Books Inc., P.O. Box 831383, Stone Mountain, Ga. 30083-0023. The cost includes both postage and handling.

Yesteryears  
David A.  
Maurer



## Ah, 1952, was very good year for the UFOs

It was the sweltering heat, not the fear of an alien peeking its head through his bedroom window, that was keeping 14-year-old John Kumler awake. The hot spell that had lingered over the East Coast for days was more troubling than the news story that had broken the day before.

On July 22, 1952, national news services reported that the Air Force had acknowledged they were seriously investigating reports that several "flying saucers" had been spotted by radar on the outskirts of the nation's capital. Not only were the unidentified flying objects seen on radar — indicating actual substance and not mere lights — but two airline pilots said they sighted seven UFOs between Washington and Martinsburg, W.Va.

Capt. S.C. (Casey) Pierman of Detroit, piloting Capital Airlines Flight 807, said the objects changed pace, sometimes moved at tremendous speed, and at other times hung almost motionless in the sky. During the same period another airline pilot reported that a light had followed the plane from Herndon to within four miles of Washington.

As unsettling as the reported sightings might have been, they had occurred a considerable distance from the Gordonsville farmhouse where the teenager lived with his parents. The temperature, nudging 80 degrees at 3 a.m., was a lot more troubling than any UFO.

Unable to sleep, the boy decided to go downstairs for a glass of ice water. After getting his drink, he went into the living room to see if he could catch a cool breeze by an open window.

He looked out at the clear night sky as he sipped the water. When he saw three objects "about the color of a candle flame" streaking across the sky in a westerly direction, he didn't think much about it. But moments later he was startled when four "flame-like shapes" flying in a diamond formation came streaking in from the west.

The boy, whose father had 20 years flying experience with the Army, had been around airplanes all his life. He was familiar with aircraft of all types, including jets, and he knew that no jet in the world could do what he saw the UFOs do next.

Without slowing, the objects "veered sharply upward and disappeared." They, or others, then reappeared several miles to the west and made a new flight eastward before finally vanishing. The boy said they made no sound.

He noted the time — 3:12 a.m. — and immediately drew diagrams to illustrate exactly what he had seen. He said the objects looked like "candle flames turned on their sides, and they were orange with bluish tinges, or about the same color as a gas flame."

He went on to say that they traveled much faster than a jet plane. The boy was convinced that what he saw warranted reporting. After telling his parents about the incident, he told James Ingles, chief of the Gordonsville aeronautics radio tower, what he had seen. Ingles, in turn, reported the incident to the Air Forces Information Center at Middletown, Pa.

That afternoon Army officials arrived at the farmhouse to get a full report. It was apparent that the government and military officials were taking the sightings seriously.

A few nights later the UFOs were back.

This time four to 12 unidentified objects appeared on radar screens at Washington National Airport and Andrews Air Force Base. Jet fighter interceptor planes were scrambled. The Air Force reported that the UFOs appeared on the radar screens at 8:06 p.m. July 26. Their position was estimated at 10 miles east of Mount Vernon.

When the interceptors appeared on the radar screens, the operators attempted to guide the planes into contact with the mysterious objects. After closing in on the area, one pilot said he saw four lights approximately 10 miles away that "were really moving."

He said they were traveling in excess of 600 mph and disappeared before he could overtake them. A few days later, the Air Force admitted that about one-fifth of the sightings reported were "from credible observers, of relatively incredible things."

Nonetheless, they were quick to add that they were certain that "the saucers — whatever they are — don't seem to be a menace to the United States."

The Air Force then quietly turned the press away from its special section at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio, which had been studying UFO reports. The Air Force said that all information concerning that group's personnel, activities and budget had become strictly classified.

As The Daily Progress and newspapers across the country began running lead stories of interviews with the radar operators who reported the UFOs and "credible" eyewitnesses, the government began debunking the reports.

Maj. Gen. Roger M. Ramey, who headed the Air Force's investigation of the rash of reports, said six years of study had convinced him "reasonably well" that there were no such things as flying saucers. Dr. Jessie Sprowls, professor of abnormal psychology at the University of Maryland, apologized for his grammar but said flying saucers "just ain't there."

Sprowls later said that UFO reports were due "primarily to hallucinations." No one seemed concerned that if Sprowls was correct in his assessment, responsible people like airline and military jet pilots, not to mention air traffic control radar operators, were hallucinating at work.

As more and more sightings came in, 1952 was quickly becoming the year of the UFOs. At the end of July, a very shaken Sid Eubanks told police in Enid, Okla., when they gave up watching it, that he was nearly forced off the road by "tremendous pressure" when a "flying saucer" swooped down on his car.

Eubanks described the object as what he saw on Dec. 14, 1952. He appearing as a "yellow-green, then yellow-brown streak about 400 feet long." He said the object swooped over the airfield at 11:45 low over his car, completely reversed directions, then disappeared in a matter of a few seconds.

Soon, reports like Eubanks' and other strange happenings in the night sky were becoming almost routine. Mrs. R.R. Hogan of Crozet and her husband reported seeing a mysterious object near their home on Sept. 15.

Mrs. Hogan and her husband claimed they saw an "elongated yellowish object hovering in the sky" at 9:45 p.m. She said "it was the slowly rising the entire time they watched it and was still in the sky after about a half-hour."

Roy Franke, manager of the University of Virginia Airport at Milton, wasn't quite as blasé about what he saw on Dec. 14, 1952. He wasn't alone. Franke, his wife and Harry Pond Jr. all saw the same objects over the airfield at 11:45 a.m.

Pond, a student pilot, was the first to sight what he initially thought were leaves floating around in the sky. But on further examination, all three saw a disc

with an orange glow hovering over the leaf-like objects.

Franke said the disc hovered over the area for a few seconds and, with terrific speed, moved in a northeasterly direction, and then turned directly east. He estimated the speed of the disk at 1,000 mph or faster. The leaf-like objects, he said, hovered with the disk and then followed it away as it disappeared.

Before the year ended, top Air Force officials said they were "personally satisfied that the sightings were caused by weather phenomenon." In fact they said they had created "airborne objects which can speed up, hover indefinitely or disappear and reappear in a flash, in a vacuum bell."

In the following years, except for occasional newspaper stories, the UFO phenomenon was relegated mostly to the pages of the supermarket tabloids. Nonetheless, people like John Kumler would always wonder what exactly it was he had seen.

GORDON: S. GORDON; CR: S. GORDON; TRIBUNE-REVIEW, Greensburg, PA - Aug. 11, 1992

## Reports of unexplained said to be on rise in area

By The Tribune-Review

Local reports of unexplained phenomena, including unidentified flying objects and strange animals, have increased in recent months, according to the director of the Greensburg-based Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained.

Stan Gordon said the Eighth Annual UFO Information Week, which runs through Sunday, will help make the public aware of the increased reports.

To cap off the observation, PASU will sponsor a public display Saturday at Greengate Mall, along Route 30 west of Greensburg.

The display will feature ongoing video presentations, photographs of UFOs, UFO documents obtained from government agencies, and casts of alleged Bigfoot prints.

Gordon said the majority of sightings come from four area counties: Westmoreland, Somerset, Washington and Indiana.

He said the Chestnut Ridge areas of Westmoreland and Indiana counties have long been a hotbed of sightings particularly of UFOs and the legendary Bigfoot, the ape-like creature with the facial characteristics of a human.

Statewide, an estimated 200 people belong to PASU and the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON). Locally, about 15 people meet monthly in the PASU communications center in Gordon's basement.

"We could have thousands of members, but membership is not open to the general public,"

Gordon said. "Most of our members have some type of research background: scientists, medical people, technicians, engineers, former military people, and we're all volunteers."

Since 1969, PASU's UFO hotline has logged hundreds of calls from people reporting UFOs and other strange phenomena.

Gordon said most of the sightings have logical explanations: atmospheric conditions, search lights for advertising or meteors.

"But there have been hundreds of sightings that can't be explained away," Gordon said. "There just isn't any logical reason for them."

He said recent reports include a so-called crop circle found in Butler County, and UFOs in the skies over Fayette and Somerset counties.

In eastern Pennsylvania, a UFO reportedly landed at a Chester County industrial site.

Gordon said after such reports come into PASU, one of his investigators goes to the scene as quickly as possible to gather information and possibly some physical evidence.

He said there are increased local sightings of hidden or unknown animals: the extinct eastern cougar and black panthers, which are not indigenous to North America.

Gordon said abduction phenomena, accounts of people taken aboard strange aircraft and given medical examinations, are also on the increase in western Pennsylvania.

Those wanting more information about PASU should write to the center at 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, Pa. 15601.

## There's evidence of something, but who knows what?

By MIKE HUDAK

Free Press Staff Writer

Through the years many UFO researchers and groups have claimed threatening phone calls, government harassment and operated in an atmosphere of general paranoia. But according to Paul Rozich of the Tri-County UFO Study Group, his organization has operated for almost 20 years virtually hassle-free.

"We make no wild claims, and have sort of just plugged away in a low-key manner year after year," he said. "Still, we've been the recipients of some interesting material through the years."

A lot of this material is at Rozich's spacious home outside of Alliance, where he lives with his wife, Cindy, and their sons, Trent and Dirk. People always say they want proof of UFOs, and some of the artifacts in Rozich's possession are on the borderline of being just that — if you believe they're real.

One interesting possession is photographs of a dead alien (not a crystal clear photo, but it looks like it could be a dead alien) given to Rozich in 1981 by a reputed member of Navy intelligence. The photos were allegedly taken at a UFO crash site in New Mexico on July 7, 1948.

According to the story given to Rozich, besides the dead alien, two live ones were also captured at the site.

Also in Rozich's possession was a NASA film given to him by a scientist who helped design the "claw" used in the recent satellite rescue mission. This film, taken from a shuttle craft as it was flying over New Zealand, shows a total of 35 disc-shaped objects in the sky. At one point, a ground missile is fired at one of the discs, and it takes off at a 90-degree angle at an incredible rate of speed and disappears from the screen. During this footage, ground

control is talking rather calmly about the discs as the astronauts are watching.

There's more. Rozich also came into possession of supposedly top secret documents outlining the formation of Operation Majestic-12, a group of high-ranking military and government officials designated to study the UFO visits. The documents are signed by President Harry S. Truman, but even more interesting, one of the appointed members was supposedly Dr. Donald Menzel. Menzel just happened to be one of the leading UFO "debunkers," and

his presence on the list gives credence to the theory of a government cover-up.

Who knows, eh? Either you believe, or you don't believe. Rozich believes, and he's currently in contact with a sister group in the former Soviet Union who believes, too. Sharing information between the two cultures will hopefully add a couple more pieces to a very large puzzle.



# 'Seismic' plane doesn't exist, Air Force claims

By Laurel Kenner  
STAFF WRITER

The secretary of the Air Force said Thursday that the secret supersonic plane suspected of setting off seismic monitors in Southern California doesn't exist.

"If it's out there, it's something the Air Force doesn't know about," Air Force Secretary Donald Rice told reporters at the Los Angeles Marriott after a speech to the National Contract Management Association.

The Air Force has "a little investigative effort going on to

try to figure out what the devil is causing the coincidences that lead to all this speculation," Rice said. "If we come up with anything, we'll put the information out."

**Shock waves in March**

Speculation about the existence of a new, secret supersonic aircraft began in March with reports that seismologists at California Institute of Technology had recorded mysterious shock waves originating from something flying faster than the speed of sound.

Residents have continued to call in reports of "mystery sonic

booms" every few months — always on Thursday mornings, said Caltech seismologist Jim Mori. The flights are picked up first over Catalina Island and then inland in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino valleys. The last was recorded June 18.

He said he could not tell how fast the plane goes on its Thursday-morning flights. "Whether it's going Mach 2 or Mach 5 we can't tell," he said. Bodies at Mach 1 are traveling at the speed of sound.

Mori confirmed that the Air Force had come to Caltech to inquire about the data.

"It's hard for me to figure out

if they're on the level or not," he said. "We see these things, and they seem to be moving really fast. If we wanted to find out, we probably could. We could put a lot more instruments out. But that's not our business. We should be monitoring earthquakes."

News reports have pegged the plane's speed at anywhere from Mach 3, which is about 2,000 mph, to Mach 6, which is about 4,000 mph. The world record-holder, the SR-71 Blackbird, flew at more than Mach 3, but was retired two years ago.

The British trade publication *Jane's Defence Weekly* started

off the speculation by reporting in March that geologists in Southern California and an air traffic controller in Scotland recorded mysterious ground tremors and radar blips attributable to an aircraft flying at three to four times the speed of sound.

Pentagon spokesmen have previously denied the Thursday-morning boomer's existence, but Rice's denial seems to be the highest-level yet.

"I can tell you that there is no airplane that exists remotely like what has been described in some of these articles," Rice said. "I think it is a safe comment that there is nothing flying that is faster than the SR-71 was. At least I'm not aware of anything."

Rice said he was talking about manned airplanes.

But Rice, the former president of Santa Monica-based RAND Corp., acknowledged the Air Force still has some secrets flying.

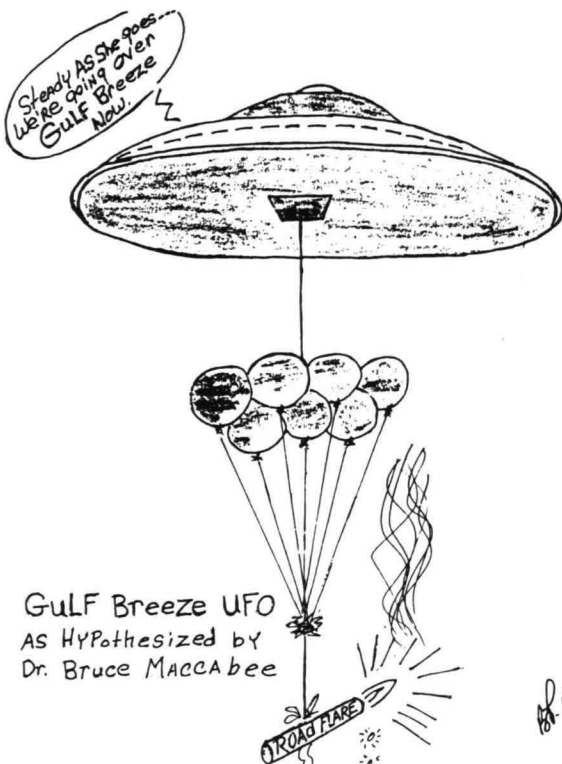
"There are some experimental, little small-scale things that we do that are classified," he said.

"But there just is nothing that has the kind of scale and range, anything like the kind of capabilities, nothing that operates at the speeds that have been alleged or anything like that. There isn't anything like that."

Lockheed Corp.'s Skunk Works in Palmdale and Northrop Corp.'s aircraft division in Hawthorne both are known to be working on classified projects.

The author of the *Jane's Defence Weekly* article, Bill Sweetman, speculated that the plane could be the Aurora, a mysterious name that appeared in the Air Force budget one year next to the U-2 and SR-71 spy planes, apparently through an error. "The only Aurora I know about is the aurora borealis," one Air Force general said around that time.

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Sept. 4, 1992



## If Mysterious Lights Are Flares, Where Are Gulf Breeze Officials?

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Objects of substantial size with bright red and white lights have been traveling through the skies of Gulf Breeze and the vicinity during the last year and a half. If these are pyrotechnic devices such as flares, then the person(s) responsible for these devices are endangering the community and the nearby airways.

A recent analysis of video and photographic data by Dr. Bruce Maccabee, optical physicist, has shown that on the night of May 18, an object between 7 and 11 feet in width and carrying at least two bright red lights traveled at a speed of 20 mph or more into the prevailing breeze for 4 minutes along a several mile path over the Gulf Breeze area, including over land areas. The altitude was about 3,500 ft. At one time the red lights turned white and then returned to red. According to Dr. Maccabee, this structure was large enough to present a hazard to aircraft passing through the area. Furthermore, according to Dr. Maccabee, if the lights were created by burning pyrotechnic devices then the citizens of Gulf Breeze were in danger of "fire from the sky." A flare or other pyrotechnic device could have fallen from the object and lit a field or a building.

Photographs were taken by a local concerned citizen. The object was also videotaped by a TV crew from KHOU-TV in Houston, TX.

The TV crew was filming in Gulf Breeze because of numerous earlier sightings of these lights. The KHOU-TV crew first saw these lights in March, 1992. They returned during the week of May 18 with better camera equipment. They used a high quality color video camera and a special light-sensitive black and white camera with a small telescope attached. According to Dr. Maccabee, the special TV camera provided proof that the lights occasionally drop glowing material. Also, there was no swinging back and forth of the lights, indicating that they were supported by an aerodynamically stable vehicle of some sort.

According to Dr. Maccabee, if these lights are pyrotechnic devices supported by sizeable aerodynamic vehicles, the local authorities have been negligent in not investigating and ending this potential hazard and in not prosecuting the perpetrator(s) of this crime. (It is illegal to send flares into the sky unless there is an emergency: flying incendiary devices through the air is "reckless endangerment" of the population below.)

For more information, call 301/271-2307 (H) or 301/394-3458 (W).

Dr. Maccabee, Washington, D.C., is a research physicist who has been employed in United States Government research. He has studied the UFO phenomenon over the past twenty years.

REGISTER CITIZEN, Torrington, CT - June 26, 1992

## Alien abductions? or global psychosis?

By George Earley

MOUNT HOOD, Oregon

WHEN, on June 24, 1947, private pilot Kenneth Arnold saw nine unidentified flying objects near Washington's Mount Rainier, he rang up the curtain on a mystery that remains unsolved today.

Arnold estimated their speed at over 1,200 miles per hour, far faster than any known aircraft then flying.

With East-West tensions increasing, the newly formed U.S. Air Force, whose responsibility it is to protect America from flying foes, began investigating UFO reports.

Quickly deciding that the objects were not alien spaceships, the USAF embarked on a campaign of explaining away the sightings as hoaxes, hallucinations and/or misperceptions of conventional aerial land astronomical objects.

For their part, the UFOs refused to go away and in 1968, faced with mounting Congressional criticism of their "explanations," the USAF hired a team of University of Colorado scientists to study the subject.

Any hope of objective study was quickly dispelled before the investigation began when its director, Dr. Edward U. Condon, a respected physicist and former head of the National Bureau of Standards, said he was inclined to dismiss UFOs as nonsense.

And even though their own study left 40 percent of their cases unsolved, the Condon Committee held to the "nonsense" conclusion when it issued its final report in mid-1969.

But even as the USAF rid itself of the UFO controversy, the mystery was taking on a new dimension.

To reports of flying or landed objects were now added claims of alien abductions: An increasing number of people were claiming their homes had been invaded by small, big-headed creatures with large eyes who, somehow, whisked them out of their house and into an "examining room" where a variety of often-painful medical procedures were performed on them.

A recent TV docudrama, "Intruders," drew on literally hundreds of abduction reports for its script and characters.

The extent and scope of this newest twist to the ongoing UFO mystery can be seen in recent polls by the respected Roper Organization which indicate the strong likelihood that abduction cases involved over a million Americans during the 1980s. And there are abduction reports from many foreign countries too.

Is there any alternative to the idea that UFO aliens are abduct-

ing people all over the world?

If we reject the idea of alien abductions, we must posit a world-wide psychosis of unknown origin whose symptoms, no matter who has them, are identical. Such an aberration would be unique in medical literature. But, to date, testing of the so-called abductees has revealed two things: Percentage-wise, the abductee population contains no more psychologically disturbed people than would be found in a representative cross-section of any other group — baseball fans, for example.

Secondly, and more importantly, these people share not only identical physical scarring from their reported experiences but they also share certain aspects of their experience without knowing it.

Investigators have not published all that they have learned in studying abductees. This means that when two people, widely separated in both time and space (New York 1987 and Los Angeles 1992, for example), report the same experiences right down to those unpublished details, the possible validity of that experience is strengthened.

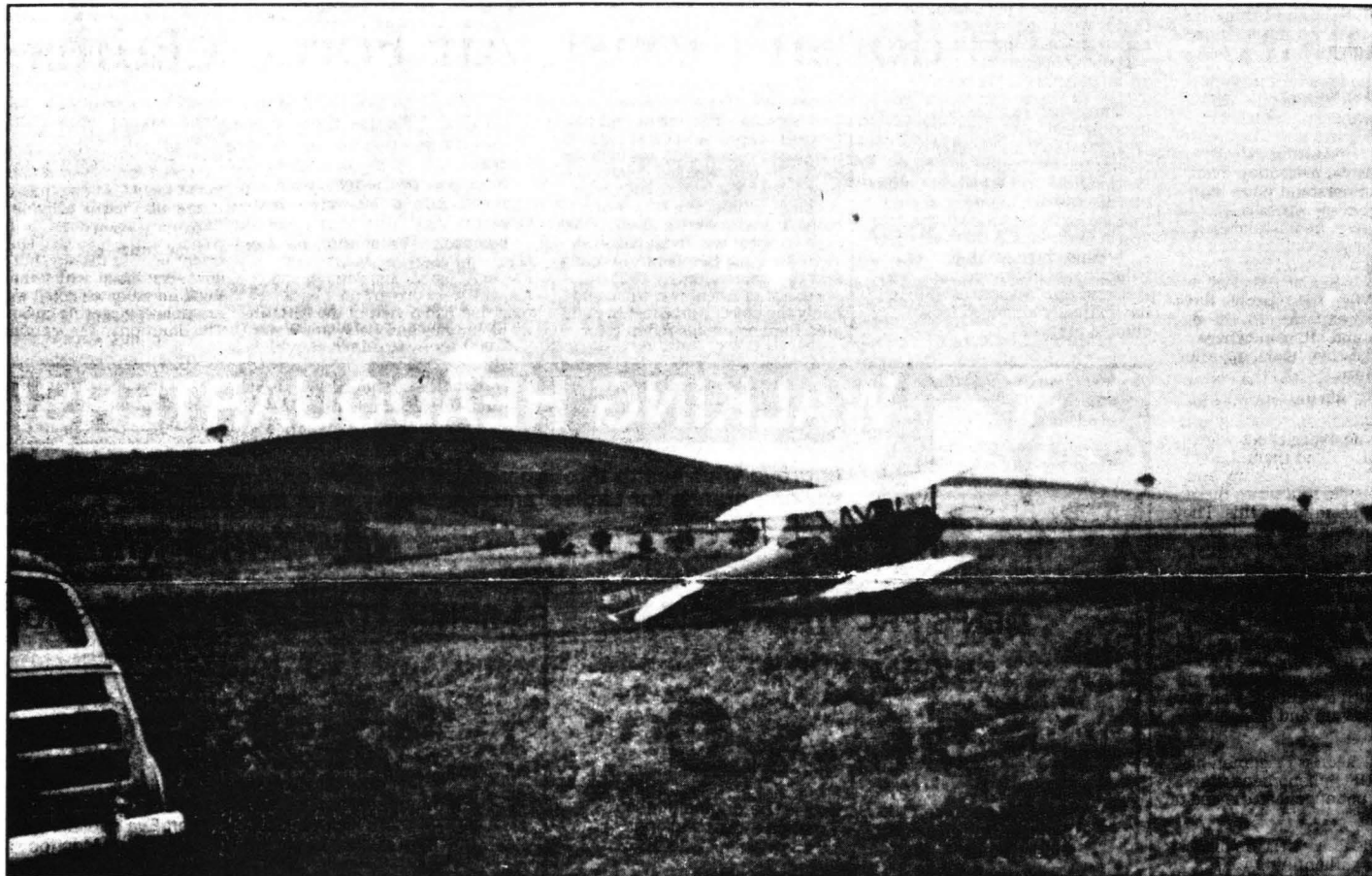
And when tens of thousands — and by extrapolating the Roper poll results, hundreds of thousands — of people are apparently experiencing such events, we have a mystery deserving of much more attention that it is currently receiving from both the scientific/medical community and the news media.

Are the people of earth being briefly abducted by aliens? Or are they experiencing a new type of global psychosis that includes self-induced stigmata of a heretofore unknown type? No one knows, but the topic begs for study. Which is why, earlier this month, scientists, medical doctors, UFO investigators and some of the alleged abductees gathered at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for a week-end seminar.

Co-hosts for the conference were David Pritchard, Ph.D., professor of physics at MIT, and John E. Mack, M.D., professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and primary consultant to CBS-TV for the *Intruders* mini-series. A proceedings of the conference will be published later this year. I can only hope the news media will give it careful study.

Former Bloomfield resident George Earley, now living in Mount Hood, Oregon, has been involved in the U.S. space program and has spent 40 years observing the flying saucer phenomenon.

DAILY BREEZE, Torrance,  
CA - July 24, 1992  
CR: C. Clark



Photograph taken by John Mittl in the 1940s purportedly shows unidentified flying objects hovering over a Lehigh Valley field.

# UFOs WON'T GO AWAY

By PAT DEFRANCISCO  
Of The Morning Call

**I**t all had a simple, innocent beginning: In June 1947, a pilot named Ken Arnold flying near Mount Rainier, Wash., observed a group of objects flying over a mountain range. He described them as looking like a "saucer skipping across water," which was later reported in the press as "flying saucers."

Within a few years reports from thousands of people claiming to have seen flying saucers poured into press and military files. And, not to be outdone, some people claimed they were chased by flying saucers, while others said they had been abducted or contacted by cat-eyed beings from Venus or Mars.

Hollywood latched onto the phenomena with movies like "The Day the Earth Stood Still" and "Earth vs. the Flying Saucers."

Early on, the Air Force began a series of investigations including Project Blue Book, until, in 1969, after reviewing thousands of cases, retired from the business of chasing flying saucers.

And yet the UFO phenomena continues with intensified sinisteria like this: Flying saucers over military bases; underground alien laboratories; human/alien biological experiments; aliens raping humans, and collaboration between the U.S. government and beings from another world. A recent headline in the Weekly World News declared "UFO LANDS ON NAVY CARRIER."

More than 40 years after Arnold's sighting, the debate, the movies (like "Close Encounters of the Third Kind") and the investigations continue, including:

■ Stanton T. Friedman, nuclear physicist and UFO lecturer, who first became interested in UFOs in 1958 and now is investigating and writing about UFOs.

to that kind of thinking."

Friedman says that, based on his investigations, he believes that UFOs are alien spacecraft. He also charges that the U.S. government has a UFO and is covering up. Friedman calls it a Cosmic Watergate.

"There is overwhelming evidence that some people within the government of the U.S. have indeed known since 1947, when two flying saucers were recovered in New Mexico [near Roswell], that some UFOs are alien spacecraft."

Friedman talked to witnesses involved in the recovery and also attempted to obtain government files. "My colleagues and I have talked to a couple of hundred people connected with these two cases. We have eyewitness testimony from people who handled pieces of the wreckage; people who touched the bodies; people who are well aware of the cover-up because they were part of it. That's testimony from military personnel as well as civilians in the area; lots of military personnel."

His research into the saucer re-

Sightings continue despite

scientific theories, denials

and links to the spiritual

■ Dr. Jacques Vallee, a former principal investigator on Department of Defense computer networking projects who was trained in astrophysics and has a doctorate in computer science.

■ John Mittl, a Lehigh Valley-area UFO lecturer and astro-projectionist who claims to have had many first-hand sightings and has photographed numerous UFOs.

Mittl's first sightings were during the 1930s and '40s. At that time he believed UFOs were real "physical" ships from space.

"I was always looking for one that would crash. I was like everybody else until I began to think about it. Suppose it isn't physical? There were some things that didn't make sense to me."

For example: "UFOs going 50,000 mph and then making right-angle turns? That [beings inside] would be mush if it was physical ... but these things all fit into the spiritual world."

Mittl's theory about UFOs being spiritual manifestations was reinforced one night, he says, when he was sleeping and a man sporting very long hair appeared at the foot of his bed.

"The man with long hair said if I wanted to know the answer to flying saucers or the secret to them, I should move up to the Pinnacle [a Lenhartsville-area mountain in Berks County]. I used to drive up there a lot. He said I should move up there."

covery has led to a book, "Crash at Corona," co-authored by Friedman and Don Berliner, that will be published in August by Paragon House.

Starting in 1979, Friedman, as a member of the board of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, and later on his own, filed numerous Freedom of Information suits against the government. But he says the government won't release documents pertaining to UFOs, and the ones they do release have blacked-out sections.

"The National Security Agency [NSA] admits it has found ... 156 NSA UFO documents and 79 other agency UFO documents. They not only refused to release any of the 156 NSA UFO documents, but they refused to show any of them to the judge" in the case.

"They did provide a 21-page Top Secret Plus. We don't know what the 'plus' is, because when we eventually got their affidavit under Freedom of Information, that's blacked out, as is 75 percent of that document," said Friedman.

"That's how I got this whole thing; when I came up here to the mountains, there were all kinds of experiences that went on."

Mittl, who claims to have had out-of-body experiences, did indeed live on the Pinnacle for a time.

"I found out after I did astral projection that there is no 'physical' ship," he said. "It's like finding the key; then everything fit in. Then you could apply everything to the spiritual. Nobody could ever tell me they're physical; I've had too many first-hand experiences."

Vallee, who has written books about the UFO phenomena including his recent "Revelations" (Ballantine Books; \$20 hardcover; 288 pp.), the third in a trilogy of UFO books, says he considers UFOs a very real phenomena but not necessarily extraterrestrial.

"In my view, the UFO phenomena is a real, unexplained, physical phenomena. ... We are dealing with a physical phenomena that represents a lot of energy, a considerable amount of energy in a small space. It seems to represent a form of consciousness that we haven't encountered before or, in any case, have not identified before. That does not mean that we are being visited by interplanetary explorers."

Vallee's hypothesis regarding the origin of UFOs:

"In physics today there are a number of theories about the universe having more than four dimensions ... This was very marginal speculation 20 years ago, but is not today."

"If there are more than four dimensions, then it's conceivable that there might be forms of consciousness that we have not yet identified that can operate across all dimensions ... This is speculation. This is not something I could prove before my colleagues, but we have to leave the door open

In 1990, Virgil Armstrong, who identified himself as a former CIA employee, gave a presentation in the Lehigh Valley. He held the audience spellbound as he said extraterrestrials control no fewer than 26 underground alien bases in the southwest United States and "probably at least one in Pennsylvania."

Vallee has heard claims similar to these before. He finds them amusing, yet troubling.

(continued on page 11)



"I've had people claiming to be intelligence officers and former U.S. intelligence officers telling me that there were hundreds of short, gray aliens working with our scientists in a city the size of Manhattan underneath New Mexico, and I ask them well, who takes out the garbage?"

"And you're not supposed to ask that kind of question, but if there is a city the size of Manhattan under New Mexico, we should be able to find out. So, that kind of thing is sort of ridiculous. At the same time, it is tragic, because some people do believe it."

Vallee says that this kind of belief system is an enormous projection of the idea that extraterrestrials from another galaxy will someday land on Earth:

"The imagery of alien beings [coming] from the sky is very, very powerful. So that expectation could be exploited by people who have absolutely no interest in science whatsoever, but who just want to see how far you can go in creating and manipulating high demand."

Cult groups, as well as publishers of supermarket tabloids and Hollywood filmmakers, all stand to profit from the perpetuation of a belief in extraterrestrials.

During his presentation, Armstrong quoted from the Bible, Sumnerian script, Hollywood movies like "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and New Age literature, and talked of the coming planet Wormwood. A quick stop at any New Age bookstore or a look at a UFO magazine like UFO Universe reveals that the New Age and UFOs are intertwined.

Vallee has investigated some of the groups involved in the growing UFO/New Age phenomena and questions their motives:

"The occult groups or new sects and so on have always been used or at least offer the suitable conduits for all kinds of disinformation ... occasionally for espionage and so on down through history ...

"Another hypothesis is that some people are just in it to make money. It's a sense of power and achievement; a sense of recognition that comes with that."

At the same time, Vallee complains that scientists will point to the sects, tabloids and filmmakers and declare that the study of UFOs is an irrational thing, thereby frustrating serious scientific investigation.

Numerous books have detailed so-called alien abductions. Armstrong said that not only ordinary citizens have been abducted, but the likes of Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev, as well.

The scenario is usually the same. Victims are subjected to hypnosis and claim they were abducted by aliens and subjected to terrifying experiments, or had religious experiences.

Vallee thinks most of the abduction experiences that are reported by victims and researchers are genuine to the extent that the people believe the experiences actually happened to them. But he notes that the people who are doing research into such experiences are generally not qualified in medicine, psychiatry or hypnosis.

Under hypnosis, for example, Vallee claims the individual is regressed with what he says is very strong imagery and the expectation that the person has in fact been abducted. "There is a pre-existing template ... I have a lot of trouble with that, and I think it's very dangerous. I think it's unscientific and unethical."

Mittl, who says he's not New Ager, believes that people who claim to have been abducted or seen a UFO, have not. They're unconsciously projecting astrally or seeing an astral projection event and don't understand what happened when they report it later as a flying saucer, he postulates. "Some of these people are just driving down the road one day — they've never had an experience like that. When these people have

these terrific experiences, these abductions and all, somewhere you will read they 'woke up' after the experience."

Mittl says the descriptions he reads of abductions are a key indicator that the experiences were not physical. "Read them. I don't care what book you pick up, and yet these people that write these books don't seem to see this. They still think it's physical. ... They call it a physical contact or physical trip."

**What about photographs Mittl has taken of a non-physical event?**

"You can see them [flying saucers/astral ships] ... like I photographed them ... but you can do the same with a rainbow. Can you roll a rainbow up and bring one here?"

And yet theorist Friedman believes the UFO phenomena may just be the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow:

"We're dealing with the biggest story of the millennium; we're dealing with potentially incredibly important technology ... You can't tell your friends without telling your enemies — the Russians, we're talking about; remember, it's easy to forget, but there was a Cold War for a lot of years."

He also says there's more than the now-defunct Cold War. "Suppose you make an announcement that in indeed some UFOs are alien spacecraft, what happens then? You might expect that the stock market would go down; church attendance, hospital admissions would go up — mental hospital admissions, that is ...

**There would be an immediate push on the part of the younger generation for a whole new view of ourselves, not as Americans or Russians ... but as earthlings ...**

"The problem here is fairly obvious: There isn't any government on this planet that wants its citizens to owe their primary allegiance to the planet. Nationalism is the only game in town. Just look around — that's the history of the planet. In other words, there's a transition difficulty that would [be] very hard to deal with."

Are current world-wide political transitions connected to the UFO phenomenon? Is the New World Order more than just sloganeering?

"Well, I would allow for the possibility that what's been happening — the astonishing events in the last three or four years in Eastern Europe ... the reduction of the Soviet Union to a non-major power, if you will — may all be a prelude to some kind of announcement, because I personally believe that it would be impossible for a major announcement to be made without cooperation from the other big players on the scene."

**"Now I can just see it — this is hypothetical — that on Oct. 12, 1992, President Bush after extolling the beginning of a New World Order in 1492 when Columbus discovered America, saying that we have begun a truly a New World Order again, 500 years later, because now we're part of a galactic neighborhood, and the U.S. and our 'associates' [aliens] have already arranged for an exchange program."**

## Lehigh Valley area sightings included in Blue Book

By PAT DEFRANCISCO  
Of The Morning Call



A sampling of Project Blue Book cases represents some but not all UFO sightings in Pennsylvania over a period of two decades. All were determined to be unidentifiable, according to the Air Force.

The summarized cases were obtained by The Morning Call from the National Archives, Washington, D.C., under the Freedom of Information Act. The information is available to the public for a fee by calling the National Archives Military Reference Section at 202 501 5402.

The files range from a couple of pages to more than 20 pages long. Some are photocopies of Air Force Teletype transmissions; others are copies of letters citizens sent to government officials or the Air Force which were then reviewed by the project's staff. Some, but not all, of the cases were investigated in the field by agents of the Air Force's Office of Secret Investigations (OSI).

Project Blue Book was the most famous of a series of Air Force investigations into UFO phenomena. It began in early 1952 and continued until 1969, when the Air Force shut it down.

The names of persons who either wrote to or were interviewed by the Air Force were blacked out.

Here are excerpts from Project Blue Book concerning alleged UFO sightings in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding region:

**■8:45 p.m. June 13, 1952, Middletown, Dauphin County:**

A witness described the object as round in shape and orange in color. He said the object was at a very high altitude and seemed to move downward. The observer described the object's direction of travel as southward, then stopping for approximately one second, then moving to the east and again stopping for one second, and then moving downward behind the horizon, approximately east-southeast.

There was no observation of exhaust, nor was there any sound heard. The observer, a civilian employee of flight operations at Olmstead Air Force Base near Harrisburg, said he thought it might have been an exploding star. Duration of sighting — about 10 minutes.

**■6:30 a.m. July 9, 1952, Kutztown:**

A farmer named John Mittl heard an airplane take off from Kutztown Airport and as he looked up, he saw an aluminum-colored spherical object hovering over a field. He said it had no propeller or other visible means of locomotion. Mittl took photographs of the object, which were then forwarded to the government. They showed a small, gray fuzzy object hovering in mid-air. Duration of sighting — about 20 seconds.

**■11:35 p.m. July 19, 1952, Elkins Park, Montgomery County:**

An Air Force captain and his wife observed two objects, one trailing the other. The objects were at about 30,000 feet and flying four times faster than a conventional aircraft, but made no noise. The objects on occasion had a faint tinge of red. The trailing object accelerated to pull up to the leading object in a formation tight enough to make the objects appear as one.

Duration of sighting — six minutes.

**■8:40 a.m. July 23, 1952, Pottstown, Montgomery County:**

A large silver object towing or being followed by two or three smaller objects was sighted at 55,000 to 65,000 feet by crew members of three F-94s on a local mission. One large pear-shaped to elongated object appeared to have either two or three smaller square-shaped objects hanging well beneath the larger object. One observer stated that they were suspended on long cables. The large object was white to silver in color. The smaller objects were considerably darker.

There was no visible means of propulsion. The objects moved to the west at 50 to 180 knots ground speed. Size of longest overall dimension varied from 50 to 300 feet. One object moved at an estimated "1,000 to 1,500 knots" around the large object. This object was described as delta- or swept-winged; one observer said it looked like an airplane, but when seen from a different angle it looked round as would the fuselage of a big aircraft from the front. The large object was observed from three to five minutes; the small circling object, for one to four minutes.

Visual observation from 3F-94A aircraft on a local training mission while at 21,000 feet climbed to approximately 45,000 feet and observed objects for about 25 to 30 minutes. Observing aircraft were in the area between Pottstown and York. Duration of sighting — one to 30 minutes.

**■7:40 p.m. Sept. 13, 1952, Allentown:**

Witness, a civilian pilot who was an inactive Air Force Reserve captain, sighted a flaming orange-red, football-shaped object traveling on a collision course with his light aircraft. The object pulled up and shot over his windshield moving in opposite direction from course of plane. It was traveling at about 700 mph. Witness was flying alone at 10,000 feet in a Beechcraft Bonanza and was approximately 15-20 miles northeast of Allentown when suddenly the object, three feet in diameter, flaming orange-red in color, appeared at a distance of 150 to 200 yards ahead of him at 11 o'clock high.

He pulled up into a steep climb to avoid hitting it, but the object, instead of continuing on its course, very suddenly pulled up into about a 65-degree climb and went directly over his windshield. He commented on the object's movement: "If what I saw was a physical object, the rapidity with which it altered its course was astonishing." Duration of sighting — two seconds.

**■4:35 a.m. Sept. 14, 1952, Olmstead Air Force Base, Harrisburg area:**

A commercial pilot reported sighting a blue light quite far ahead on a collision course with his aircraft. The object had tremendous horizontal speed. Further reports from ground observers said it was watermelon-shaped and from maneuvers it could have been a helicopter. Duration of sighting — three minutes.

**■7 a.m. March 10-11, 1953, Hackettstown, N.J.:**

Two witnesses saw a round object emitting a blinking orange light which changed color to red, white and greenish blue. The object was observed at 9 p.m. and midnight March 10, and 4 a.m. March 11. The object was in sight for one hour maintaining the same shape and frequency of blinking (10-15 blinks per minute). It disappeared at 10 p.m. local time. After the object disappeared, a long white streak resembling an exhaust streak appeared to rise. Then at midnight and later at 4 a.m. the following day, one witness observed the same type of phenomena. When first observed, several objects seemed to be as high as the stars. An Air Force OSI investigator was sent to the scene and determined the lights were from all-night construction crews doing work at the Delaware Water Gap turnpike bridge.

**■5:20 p.m. Oct. 8, 1958, Warren County, N.J., and Delaware Water Gap:**

Summary of letter sent by a couple from Polkeville, N.J., to Air Force: At 5 p.m., the witness and his wife were driving on a back road that had a view of the Kittatinny Mountains and Delaware Water Gap. He noticed a very vague, hollow, more or less circular "puff" of smoke. The object was flashing on and off from almost total diaphanousness to complete solidity at about three flashes per second, but stayed put right over and in the Gap. The object was extremely large. It winked out then appeared again in the same place. Witnesses said it was slightly ovoid but having a very solid rim and void within (colorless). It seemed to flash on and off from almost nothing to solid black, but was overall a dull leaden gray color, like an old dull nickel. It then began a rapid series of complicated flip-flops and moved south. It also turned horizontally, and on about three occasions turned edge-

on when it formed an extremely thin line. The object dipped below the mountains a couple of times and rose up, tilted away from the witnesses and with a flash from the setting sun became a hairline and disappeared. Duration of sighting — 15 seconds.

**■11 p.m. May 26, 1964, Pleasantville, Venango County:**

Two witnesses driving west on Route 36-27 reported seeing an object as a brilliant white light in a dark field. The brilliance was like that of a flashbulb and as large as the moon or a basketball higher in the sky. The observers caught a glimpse of a yellow-orange gaseous bottom of a ball which seemed streaked with blue. It moved at a high rate of speed and went out of sight in one to two seconds. It then reappeared. The witnesses said they "took after it for about two miles down the road." They said it was very low over a field and clearly defined. It looked like a perfect circle of yellow-orange light and was standing still and was about 500 feet away. They got in their car again and followed the object along a dirt road. Very shortly thereafter, the light, which now looked like a large setting sun, rose some 25 feet. It rose a little higher and traveled west horizontally with "incredible speed and disappeared within five seconds." The witnesses said it went from a dead stop to phenomenal speed and "seemed to be looking at them." At one time they turned off their headlights because they were afraid of an "attack." A woman in the area said she saw a bright light in the sky, but pulled down her shade, which the Blue Book investigator noted was "a fine example of scientific curiosity." The duration of the sighting varied.

# Was it 'cosmic Watergate' in Roswell 45 years ago?

UFO buff says CIA hid truth, but Air Force says it has no records

## Gannett News Service

WASHINGTON — Something crashed on a sheep ranch near Corona, N.M., in July 1947, and members of the Fund for UFO Research said Monday it was a flying saucer — complete with tiny, fragile creatures from outer space. The U.S. Air Force, however, says it has no record of any such incident.

UFO lecturer Stanton Friedman and science writer Don Berliner accused the U.S. government of a cover-up and said

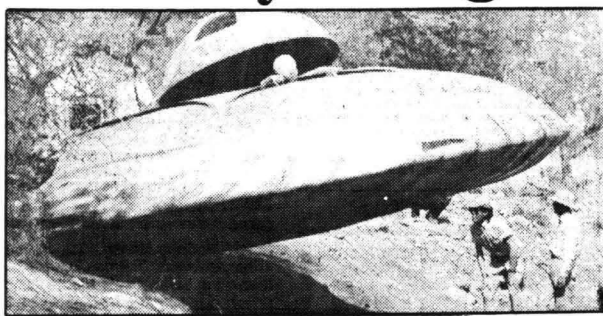
attempts to learn the truth have been stymied by the CIA.

"It's a cosmic Watergate," said Friedman, armed with videotaped depositions of 24 witnesses claiming knowledge of the crash and drawings of "humanoids" who purportedly navigated the unidentified flying object.

Dr. Jesse Marcel, who was 11 at the time, said he handled strange pieces of the wreckage brought home by his father, Maj. Jesse A. Marcel, who investigated the incident.

They said the public information office at the Roswell Army Airfield had even released a statement about the remains of a "flying disc" discovered on a ranch 75 miles northwest of Roswell on July 8, 1947.

But before Marcel could get his intriguing debris to Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio for further research, the government changed its story, saying the material was weather balloon wreckage.



Associated Press

NBC's "Unsolved Mysteries" set up a re-creation of the alleged 1947 UFO crash at a ranch outside Roswell for a 1989 television program.

The younger Marcel, now a physician in Helena, Mont., said his father told him to keep quiet about the incident after being ordered not to speak of it himself. "The materials were not of this Earth," Marcel said.

In the videotape, New Mexico mortician Glenn Dennis tells how a nurse he knew took notes on the dead bodies of 4-foot-tall space creatures before they were flown away for study. The nurse disappeared long ago.

Friedman and Berliner, who are touting their search for the truth about the Roswell incident in a book titled "Crash at Corona," said the government felt releasing information about the crash would be a national security risk.

New Mexico at the time was awash in nuclear weapons and military secrets. Los Alamos had given birth to the bomb, Sandia National Laboratory was developing nuclear weaponry and White Sands Missile Range was testing German rockets confiscated after World War II.

The Air Force has no records of such an incident, said Maj. Dave Thurston, Air Force public information officer. It stopped research into UFOs after studying 12,000 reports between 1948 and 1969.

Project Blue Book was created to determine whether there was any valid reason to pursue the UFO issue. "The conclusion was there were no UFOs reported, investigated or evaluated by the Air Force that ever gave any indication of being a threat to national security. There was no evidence the sightings represented anything beyond the range of present scientific knowledge. There was no evidence the sightings were actual UFOs," Thurston said.

In the National Archives and Records Administration, archivist Ken Schlessinger, who now has Project Blue Book records, said they contain no mention of the "Roswell incident."

"We have never found anything in our records," Schlessinger said. "There is nothing official from the government."

NEWS-LEADER, Springfield, MO - Sept. 9, 1992 CR: J. Carpenter

## YOUR TIME MIDWEST CONFERENCE ON UFO RESEARCH

# Close encounters closer when experts arrive

By Kathleen O'Dell

The News-Leader

"Science should be the investigation of the unexplainable, not the explanation of the uninvestigated." — George Knapp, reporter, "UFOs: The Best Evidence," KLAS-TV, Las Vegas, Nev.

The stories continue to pour in from across the Ozarks:

■ A couple drives home to rural Conway at 11 a.m. March 27 when they see a silver disk approach, dart 90 degrees and travel west, stop abruptly, hover momentarily, then dart away and disappear.

■ In mid-July, two men near Marshfield see a large ball of light maneuver in the sky, then separate into 12 lights that fly off in formation into the west.

■ And in early April, a Springfield woman awakens in her bedroom at 1:10 a.m. to see a disk-shaped object with red lights outside her window. She feels herself being pulled toward the window by a "force."

Next, she awakens with a jolt in her bed — and it is 3:10 a.m.

Wild stories, or real encounters?

■ Science of 'ufology': Today, as credible scientists and researchers have begun verifying independent sightings of aliens and unidentified flying objects, or UFOs, these and other stories are considered valuable contributions to the science of

## Conference Information

- What: The Midwest Conference on UFO Research.
- When: Sept. 18-20.
- Where: University Plaza Ballroom.
- Cost: \$35 per person for entire conference if paid by Saturday; \$40 after Saturday and at the door.
- More Information: Call 882-6847.

"ufology."

Next week, many of these scientists and researchers are coming to the Ozarks to share what they know.

■ UFO 'Dream Team': Ten professionals are scheduled to attend the Midwest Conference on UFO Research Sept. 18-20 at University Plaza.

As Springfield UFO expert John Carpenter says, they comprise the "Dream Team" of UFO experts.

Everyone in the group is at least a master's degree-level professional, and some have 30-plus years of experience in UFO and alien research, he says.

■ Research extensive: "The whole reason for doing this is we want to bring good, credible information from professional

sources together," says Carpenter, who when he's not doing UFO research is a psychiatric hypnotherapist at a Springfield hospital.

Because of their extensive national and international research, even one of their cases represents hundreds of cases, Carpenter says.

"So when nine or 10 speakers get up and talk, they represent thousands of cases. You're really looking at data patterns."

■ Incredible statistics: Some 6,000 face-to-face interviews in May by the Roper Polling Organization yielded some unusual statistical results that reinforced what researchers suspected: At least 2 million U.S. citizens may have had encounters with aliens.

"Ninety-five percent of people are interested, 5 percent laugh," Carpenter says.

■ Heads turn: "But they don't laugh when you give them some good, solid information. They say, 'Oh ...' That's what this conference will do. We've got good speakers with good, solid evidence."

"If you don't have a rigid or ultra-conservative bias and you look at the information with an open mind," Carpenter adds, "you will basically be blown away."

# Seminar covers outer limits of subject

The following is a list of topics and speakers at the UFO convention at University Plaza in Springfield:

■ Abduction Research, Budd Hopkins. This 17-year researcher of UFO abduction accounts has made him a recognized expert and guest on Unsolved Mysteries and network talk shows. His book, Intruders, was the basis of a 1992 mini-series.

■ Crop Circles: Scientific Findings, George Wingfield, England. Retired from IBM of the United Kingdom, and an astronomer, he is director of field research for the Centre of Crop Circle Research in Somerset, England.

■ Crashed Saucers, Stanton Friedman. This nuclear physicist worked 14 years on the development of classified advanced nuclear and space systems for companies such as General Electric and Westinghouse. He began researching UFOs in 1970.

■ Animal Mutilations & Aliens, Linda Howe. This career film and television documentary producer is known for her 1980 Emmy-winning "A Strange Harvest" about cattle mutilations and the link to UFO sightings, and her book, "An Alien Harvest," about further research in the field.

■ UFO Photo Analysis, Bruce Maccabee. This U.S.

Navy research physicist in laser optics is known for his investigation of photos from several UFO cases including the Gulf Breeze, Fla., sightings.

■ Area 51 & Government Secrecy, George Knapp. This investigative reporter for KLAS-TV, Las Vegas, Nev., produced the award-winning "UFOs: The Best Evidence." He found Robert Lazar, the former government scientist who says he worked at the super-secret Nevada test site called Area 51, and saw nine retrieved alien crafts and studied their technology.

■ Monuments on Mars Project, Harry Jordan. With training in engineering and archi-

tectural work, he concluded from the abnormal surfaces photographed of Mars "architectural artifacts."

■ Intense Encounters: Puerto Rico, Jorge Martin and Amaury Rivera. Martin investigates events in Puerto Rico for the Mutual UFO Network and his magazine, The Enigma. He tells of U.S. jet abductions in view of witnesses and the abduction of Rivera.

■ Correlations & Synchronicities, Forest Crawford. The research chemist/scientist has investigated UFOs for 20 years, and notes correlations among Indian cultures and abduction details.

## Inquiry sought regarding alleged Kecksburg UFO

A Greensburg-based UFO clearinghouse is calling for a congressional inquiry into the alleged landing of an unidentified flying object in Kecksburg 27 years ago.

Stan Gordon, director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, said he is convinced the U.S. military covered up the alleged landing.

On Dec. 9, 1965, witnesses reported seeing a fiery object gliding over western Pennsylvania skies. At least two witnesses have publicly stated that an acorn-shaped aircraft landed in a Kecksburg field.

Others said military personnel converged on the scene and hauled away a tarpaulin-covered metal object on the back of a

truck.

The official military version is that the fiery object was a meteor that simply passed over the area but never touched earth.

PASU members are unconvinced.

"We know something fell to earth that night and we know the military hauled it away," Gordon said. "If it were a meteor, the government wouldn't have said there was nothing there. They're being secretive for a reason."

Gordon said the most reasonable explanation is that the object was a Soviet-made craft.

"People have tried to get me to say it was extraterrestrial, but I

never have," he said. "We describe it as a UFO because that's what it is at this point: an unidentified flying object."

As part of its effort to secure a congressional inquiry into the incident, PASU will collect signatures on a petition during the eighth annual public UFO display this Saturday at Greengate Mall.

For years, many Kecksburg-area residents have been opposed to PASU's version of events on that December night.

They agree with the government's meteor explanation and say PASU is furthering a "hoax."





# E.T., phone weatherman

Sun photo by TIM KROCHAK

## Crop circle formed by wind or foe

By JOANNE FARYON  
Sun Staff Writer

Blame it on big grey winds, not little green men.

A 20-year-old man who spotted crop-circle type configurations in a farmer's field near St. Adolphe yesterday likely witnessed a weather phenomenon, not a close encounter, astronomer Chris Rutkowski said.

"The cosmic forces that made the patches are known as weather."

Rutkowski checked the site and declared recent rain storms accompanied by heavy winds created the phenomenon, known as lodging.

It was the second time in two weeks Chris Chester had reported the strange markings. The first sighting, near his family's St. Mary's Road trailer, resembled horseshoes — the most recent, east of St. Adolphe, was more like a maze of bizarre shapes.

"This is really weird," Chester said.

"I believe it's UFOs totally. All the time we've seen them and now they've landed."

A Montreal expert told Chester UFOs create a "force-field around them and it makes



■ Did the wind, an alien or a giant Reese's Peanut Butter Cup create the strange markings in this field?

them invisible," he said.

But meteorologist and member of the Manitoba Skeptics Jay Anderson said he's tired of hearing about crop circles.

"He's been reading too many comic books," Anderson said.

"(The circles) don't mean anything unless someone sees a UFO

sitting in one of them."

Rutkowski said pranksters are responsible for many of the circles weather often rationalizes the rest.

Some scientists say "some type of energy phenomenon" combined with wind could make the circular shapes.

UFOs may account for a tiny percentage of sightings, he said.

Last year, 165 Canadians claimed to have seen a UFO and about 15,000 North Americans believe they were abducted by aliens.

Sometimes, people want to believe they've had a close en-

counter because it gives them something to believe in, Rutkowski said.

"The world is getting mixed up ... environmentally and politically. People are looking for an easy way out. Some believe if aliens come maybe they can solve our problems. But that's not practical."

TARGET, Lincoln, England - Aug. 30, 1992 CR: N. Oliver

## Strange sights in city's night sky

STRANGE sights in the sky baffled local residents when they appeared over the city on Sunday night.

One man, who does not wish to be named, said he saw a blue flashing light in the sky in the Yarrow Road area of Lincoln at about 11.45pm.

And it ties in with other sightings of strange lights across the east coast.

The man said the object, which made no sound, was going in a straight line at enormous speed and faded to silver at intervals.

It was shooting across the West Common and heading towards Skellingthorpe but he has no idea what it could have been.

He said: "I'm 50-years old and I've seen two shooting stars in my time — this was not at all the same."

"The light was so bright and moved across my view in a matter of seconds."

"It was too fast to be an aircraft and there was no sound."

The sighting followed widespread reports of incandescent meteors in the sky but the Meteorological Office in London said as yet it had heard of no sightings in the area.

Lincolnshire Police were told of the UFO sighting but have not received any further reports from anyone else.

Squadron Leader Tony

Cunniffe, from RAF Scampton, said it was unlikely that any aircraft were out that night and put the sighting down to meteor activity as he had heard reports of other sightings along the east coast.

The man who made the report said he had tried to think rationally about what he had seen and systematically eliminated the obvious such as fireworks, aircraft or shooting stars — because of the way the UFO was travelling.

"The thing was coming across the city about 300ft up in the sky, and it flew three miles across in about four seconds."

STAR-PHOENIX, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada - June 11, 1992

## Spacemen don't like drunks!

MANILA (AP) — Reporters joined members of the Philippine Extraterrestrial Club to greet visitors from outer space but did not see anything because, organizers explained, spacemen don't like drunks.

Since last week, hundreds have been gathering near Laguna de Bay lake southeast of the capital Manila to communicate with ships from the "intergalactic fleet," which are said to drop by the Philippines from time to time to commiserate with earthlings.

This was to have been sort of an "Earth-plus Summit."

The return of the "intergalactic fleet" is the latest in a series of bizarre reports which have drawn attention from more mundane happenings, such as the fact the Philippine Congress still has not

**"They want the people to be casual with them and not be feared."**

— Actor Roy Alvarez

counted all the ballots from the presidential race more than a month after the election.

Other recent news reports have included a vampire running loose in the streets of Manila and a pregnant "man."

Late Tuesday, a group of reporters showed up at a rendezvous point near the lake to see the "spaceships" for themselves. But

no ships, nor strange lights in the sky, appeared.

"What happened was there were drunks in the media," explained actor Roy Alvarez, who calls himself an E.T. contactee.

"They don't like drunks."

Alvarez said spacemen are sensitive. He cautioned a television reporter not to point his finger at the sky because "something negative comes out."

Better to crook the finger, he explained.

The space visitors may be a bit prissy and discriminating in their choice of company but Alvarez insists they're really nice guys.

"They want the people to be casual with them and not be feared," Alvarez said.

"They want to be treated as brothers."

MAIL ON SUNDAY, London, England - Aug. 10, 1992 CR: G. Fawcett

## A close encounter of the vanishing kind...

THE world's UFO enthusiasts are about to receive a strange and mysterious message from on high — well, Sheffield.

Just 45 years after the first flying saucer sighting in America, alien watchers are to be taken to their leaders and told at a conference that we Earthlings are alone after all. Not only are sightings at

By JONATHAN MARGOLIS

an all-time low, but most UFO watchers now think flying saucers never did come from outer space, and are natural, or at best parapsychological, events.

The international gathering next weekend at Sheffield's Library Theatre has the sobering title, 'ET Or Not ET

— Is That The Question?' and may turn out to be a requiem for the Little Green Man and his time-honoured transport, the Cigar Shaped Object.

Organiser Philip Mantle, a print union shop steward from Batley, West Yorkshire, and UFO investigator for 13 years, said yesterday: "When I started out, I was convinced we were being visited by aliens. Now I am

not. Having investigated hundreds of cases, I can see no evidence at all of extra-terrestrial involvement."

The main speaker at the conference will be 62-year-old New Yorker John A. Keel — who having perceptively first written about flying saucers in 1945, two years before the first one was seen, abandoned his

belief in their unearthly origins as early as 1967. He believes the sightings to be a mixture of natural phenomena and hallucinations of the type that stimulated religious beliefs, tales of fairies and the occult, in ancient societies.

The fall-off in UFO sightings has been phenomenal. In Britain, where at the peak in 1987

there were several hundred, there have been just 56 this year.

In Belgium, the world's most UFO-infested nation, there have been 50 this year against 2,000 in 1991.

Where the UFOs have gone is anyone's guess. The dearth could be down to Earthlings having their own problems, like war, famine and recession.

## Rock carvings 'not spacemen'

AN Aboriginal tribal leader says that UFO researchers are mistaken if they believe that ancient Aboriginal rock carvings supposedly of helmeted space beings are in fact today's extraterrestrials.

Film producer and author Lorraine Mafi Williams told the Sunshine Coast branch of UFO Research Queensland "the helmeted spacemen" were an Aboriginal interpretation of reincarnated spirits whose so-called helmets were auras of spiritual energy.

"They are not ETs," she said. "That is a Western myth."

Ms Williams, a producer and director of the TV series *Blackout* and director of *The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith*, discounted theories that flying saucers were metallic or had a physical structure.

"We believe that space beings cannot create a metal spaceship," she said.

"What people see during UFO sightings is really a crystal laser beam which, when it strikes the wave lengths in the rainbow, produces different colours and gives the illusion of being a solid object."

"These highly intelligent beings we call ETs use magnetic forces - mainly crystals - but their space vehicles are not made of metal and cannot pierce our galactic belt."

# Local man joins UFO network

Cattle mutilations, crop circles and UFO sightings, although difficult to believe, have become a common occurrence in this area leaving Potashville to be - according to professionals - a hot spot for intradimensional life.

Daniel Clairmont of Esterhazy has held an interest in such findings for many years and has recently joined the world-wide Mutual UFO Network as a field investigator.

"Too much has been kept secretive and has been ignored," commented Clairmont. "These occurrences need to be taken seriously so we can gather as much information as possible and find the facts behind them."

Mutual UFO Network is a world wide organization which originated in Texas in 1967 and has now spread to 54 different countries. "They have a great number of trained field investigators with connections everywhere in the world," explained Clairmont.

In order to qualify as a field investigator for the network, Clairmont was required to write extensive exams. "My job is to gather information and to store it in a journal which can be used to compare my findings with others. Hopefully, the findings will bring us one step closer to finding out all that we can," he explained.

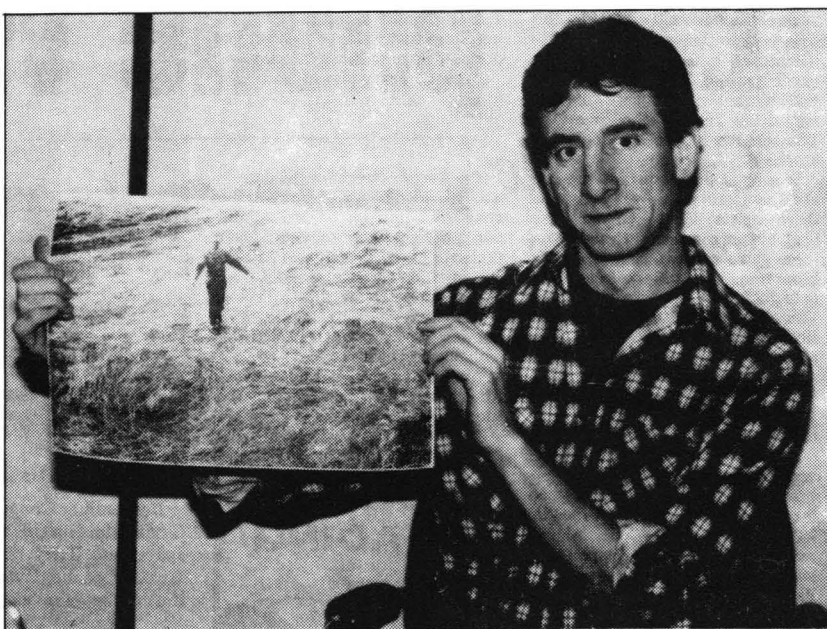
All occurrences appear to be extremely high tech and are investigated by a wide range of scientists. The network also hold annual symposiums for comparisons of world-wide findings and they publish these findings in a monthly magazine, called the *Mufon UFO Journal*.

A number of cases of crop circles have been reported in local areas, but perhaps the most memorable case is the circles discovered in 1974 by Edwin Fuhr, who farms six miles north of Langenburg.

While swathing a canola crop on a September morning, Fuhr discovered not only the crop circles, but also what he believed to be the cause of them. He saw what appeared to be five silver colored disks or saucers lined in a half-moon formation spinning rapidly while hovering about two feet above the ground. Only 15 feet from the objects, he could see grass underneath being swirled by strong winds caused by the hovering objects.

Because Fuhr not only saw and reported the mystery rings, but also explained the cause, it provided for a very good case for the network and has resulted in a television special produced on Fuhr which is due to air in the next few months.

Clairmont commented that explanations of these mystery rings have been debated and argued by many specialists, with some believing the cause to be either weather or human efforts of construction. After extensive studies, the



## Interested in UFOs

Esterhazy area resident Dan Clairmont has developed an extraordinary interest in Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). He is pictured above during a visit to the Miner-Journal office during which area visits by UFOs were discussed. Clairmont holds a blow-up of a photo taken on the Fuhr farm near Langenburg in 1974.

Mufon UFO Journal reports, "it is discovered that damage on the microscopic level implies that a lot of energy was involved, much more than can be generated by macroscopic techniques such as foot-stomping. These findings constitute powerful evidence that the phenomenon is not a hoax, or at least not a common hoax, perpetrated by pranksters with strings and planks."

As reported in the *Mufon UFO Journal*, these geometric forms range from three to 35 meters in diameter, and sometimes even larger, with the crop either being flattened or swirled in a clockwise direction. Most have whirls or veins starting in the center and taking up to four turns to reach the wall of the circle while others had

swathes of flattened crop going straight out from the center. No two forms are ever the same.

Last year, 45 percent of crop circles discovered in Canada were in Lethbridge. "These occurrences seem to take place during the spring or fall and number of them are discovered in one area at a time," explained Clairmont.

Clairmont also received a report from a Rocanville farmer who discovered crop circles in his pasture land 15 years ago but never reported them. Because of the high pressure winds and the heat required to form such circles, evidence of them still remains and Clairmont plans to further investigate them in the spring.

Many will remember the reports of cattle mutilations reported last year near Churchbridge and in 1987 near Russell. Clairmont described the bizarre findings with the animals; the animals are discovered with "cookie cutter" incisions that are cored out in rectal or genital areas; the removal of body parts are generally genitals, ears, tongue, heart and extremities; there is an absence of blood in or around the animal; the removal of flesh to bone especially in the lower jaw and in the area where the animal is found there are findings of unusual soil conditions such as hard or baked appearing soil. Perhaps the most amazing discoveries, he continued, is the animal's inability to decompose and the fact that coyotes and other carnivores refuse to touch or come near the carcass. Dogs will run with their tails between their legs when coming in contact with the dead animals.

Clairmont also talked about UFO (unidentified flying objects) sightings and alien abductions. A number of sightings were reported in the Langenburg area in 1989 making believers out of many people.

"Theories have ranged from space aliens to interdimensional travel," explained Clairmont. "It's a big universe. Why should we be the only ones to occupy it, and why should we be the only intelligent beings?"

Many cases of alien sightings and abductions have been reported in other areas of the world, he said, and went on to explain that four different forms of alien life have been viewed with some being friendly and some vicious. These forms include the "Grey's", the Sasquatch, small anthropoid entities and a human form.

Although alien abductions are perhaps the most difficult to believe, Clairmont explained that it has been speculated that 1992 is the year these intradimensional space travelers will make themselves known.

"There are probably a lot of people who have seen something but won't come forward for fear of ridicule," explained Clairmont as he continued to ask that anyone who has seen strange sightings, or had any contact with intradimensional life, to contact him and confidentiality will be assured.

"There are too many unanswered questions," he concluded. "We need all the information we can get for comparison reasons and to bring us one step closer to solving these puzzling mysteries."

CR: M. Strainic

HAILSHAM GAZETTE, Eastbourne, England - May 27, 1992 CR: T. Good

# 'GHOST' PLANE MYSTERY DEEPENS

ARE little green men flying their saucers above the Downs near Eastbourne?

Or is some ghost plane from a crashed World War Two bomber still spookily buzzing the skies around the town?

Whatever, since our report of a strange low flying UFO appearing and then disappearing over Willington, other reports of similar sightings have come into the Gazette.

## Aircraft

Earlier this month Gazette photographer Justin Lycett spotted a red flashing light and silhouette of an aircraft flying low over Butts Brow.

Justin said the 'plane' got lower and lower until it looked as though it would crash into houses

alongside the A22 at Willington - but then it vanished!

Police said there were no reports of planes flying low over houses and cannot explain the sighting.

Now another local man has reported seeing strange lights and UFOs above Butts Brow.

Mr Chris Emo, who lives in Willington, said he saw a similar strange phenomenon to Justin around the same time.

Mr Emo said weird

By Sean Keeley

lights above the Downs around Butts Brow are a common sight.

"I have seen these lights quite often," he said, "There are mysterious goings-on up there."

"I have seen a bright white light appearing just above the Downs and then coming down."

Also, a Seaford woman has reported seeing exactly the same strange silent aeroplane flying above her town

two years ago.

Mrs Marjorie Chapman, of The Shepway, said she saw a dark plane shape flying low over houses in Saltwood Road about the same time as UFO sightings around the town.

"I saw a brilliant white light just above the houses," she said, "Then a dark shape came down the road, not very high and quite silent."

"I could see small, coloured lights on the wings but what was unusual was there were no

port or starboard lights or rear lights."

In Eastbourne you have to go back to 1989 when locals reported a dark pear-shaped UFO crashing on the Downs - but no wreckage was ever found.

Then, in 1977-78 there was a cluster of strange light sightings by various Eastbourne residents.

## Objects

Many people reported seeing strange lights and flying objects on the Downs but official sources, like the police and Ministry of Defence, could offer no explanation.

Maybe a clue to some of the strange 'ghost planes' might be found in the book *WarTime Eastbourne*, which details several instances of German fighters and bombers crashing near Eastbourne.

CITIZEN, Fenland, England - May 13, 1992 CR: T. Good

# 'UFO SPOTTED' HOVERING OVER STREET

RESIDENTS in a Wisbech street are trying to find some answers to an unexplained light which caught their eye on Sunday night.

Nineteen-year-old Rebecca Dickson, of 30 Kinderley Road, was watching television with her family when they noticed the light at 8.40pm.

The family monitored it until 9.20pm when it flashed four times. Rebecca contacted the Citizen first thing on Monday to

see if anyone else had reported witnessing the strange light.

"We thought it was a UFO. It didn't look like an aeroplane it was a bright light like a sunbed light - a bluey white colour," explained Rebecca.

The mystery light was also seen by Rebecca's father, George, and her boyfriend, Dominic Waters. One of the neighbours, Paul Clarke, also saw it, as did Mrs Nora Bradford, a family friend of the Dicksons,

from her home along the Old Lynn Road.

Investigations by the Citizen revealed that no calls had been made to the local police station reporting the light and RAF Marham was unable to solve the mystery.

A spokesman at the base confirmed they were not engaged in any flying exercise on Sunday night and they could find no record of any other RAF flights in the area at that time.



# Farmer Edwin Fuhr's strange sighting in his fields

Some residents of Langenburg, a farming community about 70 kilometres southeast of Yorkton, believe they can create a tourist attraction based on an eerie event that occurred in a farmer's field near the town in 1974.

On Sept. 1, 1974, the skies were grey and threatening, but Edwin Fuhr was on his swather in a field of rapeseed (now called canola).

Moving up a small incline, he glanced up to make sure he would skirt a grassy, dried-out slough just ahead when he spied something made of metal in the grass. His first thought was that someone was playing a joke on him or had dumped junk in the old slough.

As the swather moved up the incline, the slough came into full view. The metallic "something" was one of five machines rotating rapidly and hovering just above the grass.

Fuhr, startled, stopped his swather, climbed down and took a few steps toward the hovering machines. Then, overcome with fear, he stopped and began slowly to ease back to his idling swather.

The machines continued to hover and spin, then slowly lifted. About 100 feet above ground, they manoeuvred into an echelon formation and rose at a much greater speed. Each vented a brief puff of smoke and, in seconds, disappeared over the horizon.

At the controls of

his swather, Fuhr was almost paralyzed with fright and barely able to put the machine into gear. At lunch, he was unable to eat.

When he inspected the site where the strange visitors had been, he saw five circular depressions. Most of the tall grass was pressed down, and, in places, was twisted as it would be by a spinning object. The circles were exactly 11 feet (3.3 metres) in diameter and there was unflattened grass in the centre.

The shaken farmer reported the incident to the RCMP. In a few days, a newspaper story brought hordes of curiosity seekers to the farm, all expecting to see the landing site. Fuhr could not allow that because the estimated 3,000 people who arrived would have pulverized his crop.

Fuhr said the mystery machines were made of what looked like stainless steel, but

had a "brushed" finish. Each was about five feet (1.5 metres) high at the peak of its dome-like structure. There were no windows or portholes, no antennae or other projecting parts except something resembling a short exhaust pipe, the source of the vapor the objects emitted as they rose through the overcast.

The Centre for UFO Studies in Illinois sent a specialist to the farm and he found no reason to dispute Fuhr's report.

Cpl. Ron Morier of the RCMP concluded that the five circles were caused by "something exerting what had to be heavy exhaust or air pressure. Whatever was in there came out of the air and departed the same way, as far as I could tell."

Edwin Fuhr still lives in Langenburg where he's regarded as a dependable, quiet-spoken citizen not given to inventing tall tales. As one businessman said at the time of the incident, "If that's what Edwin says he saw, that's what Edwin saw."

Today, portions of the rings made by the strange machines are still visible on his land.

About three years ago, there was a report of two UFOs that hovered briefly over Langenburg.

In another incident, four people, who were not identified, said they saw "a silver, saucer-shaped object" hovering above a highway in the Prince Albert area.

The sighting was in 1955 and was not reported until 1973 because those involved feared being ridiculed.

It's likely that numerous other events have gone unreported for the same reason.

Stories  
by  
Ian Bickle,  
a  
Saskatchewan  
freelance  
writer

The  
mystery of rings, formed in farmers' fields, has  
baffled experts for reasonable explanations.  
Top, farmer Edwin Fuhr examines the marks  
left by strange craft. Lower, a farm field in the  
Vale of Pewsey, southern England, were rings  
believed to be created as a hoax, while  
rings were found in a field just south  
of Calgary (right). SP File Photos.

CARDIGAN & TIVYSIDE ADVERTISER,  
Wales - March 13, 1992 CR: T. Good

## 'UFO headed for Moylegrove'

Local builder Gary Price couldn't believe his eyes on Tuesday night when he saw a mysterious egg-shaped object shooting through the stars above St Dogmaels.

Gary, who lives with his parents at Heol y Felin, Penparc had parked his car near St Dogmaels abbey and was walking to his girlfriend's home near the mill when he saw the strange, bright light whizzing through the sky.

"At first he thought it was a shooting star but it continued to move very fast straight across the sky," Gary's mother Gwennie told the *Tivy-Side*. "It was shaped like an egg and left a trail of light behind it. It was travelling faster than a jet.

It really shook Gary up."

The UFO came from the direction of the sea and disappeared over the hills towards Moylegrove.

"It certainly looked as if it knew where it was going," continued Gwennie. "Gary was rooted to the spot - his girlfriend's mother was watching him from the window and she couldn't understand what the problem was."

Gary, 24, has always been sceptical of UFO sightings but his experience has left no doubts in his mind of the existence of extra-terrestrial beings.

Added Gwennie, "When he came home that night and told me what had happened he just couldn't get over it. He'll certainly take more notice of UFO sightings in future!"



On a dark  
and scary  
night . . .

Penny Suehsschlof battled heavy rain and a muddy road as she drove alone to her farm home near Marchwell, southeast of Yorkton on the Manitoba border, one night in early fall.

Suddenly, a vigorous high-intensity white light surrounded the vehicle. "It was as if someone had flipped a big switch," recalled Suehsschlof, "and I felt really nervous."  
The car's engine quit, the headlights went out, the radio went silent.

The light was gone in a matter of seconds. The engine started. "I didn't touch the ignition," Suehsschlof said. The lights and radio worked.

Frightened and bewildered, she continued through the mud and rain to her home just a few hundred yards away.

Her husband believed her story. A few years earlier he had experienced the famous Tabor Light—a bright light that, at intervals, has appeared over a cemetery not far from nearby Esterhazy.

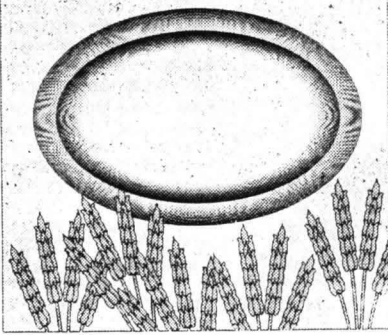
Both Suehsschlofs are certain that "there's something out there" that visits the region periodically (they now live on a farm near Esterhazy), and they know others who feel the same way. "But there are plenty of skeptics, too!"

The bright light occurred on the evening of the day after Edwin Fuhr of Langenburg reported sighting five UFOs on his land, an incident in 1974 that drew national and international attention.

Similar objects were reported over Langenburg two or three years ago by classmates of the Suehsschlofs' daughter, Kandy, and they were described as "oval and a shiny silver color."

At the same time, an area farmer told neighbors his cattle had become seriously disturbed and though he had seen nothing, he felt the flying objects may have been responsible.

CROP CIRCLES



ADVOCATE, Baton Rouge, LA - Aug. 12, 1992 CR: W. Garner  
UFO crew leaving 'signs,' since  
mere mortals can't see them

By JULIA HORVATH  
Deutsche Presse Agentur

BUDAPEST — A young boy says he saw a yellow dome-shaped object fringed with red light. His father claims he saw a clearly outlined rectangular mass of light appear over the center of the town of Szekesfehervar.

The object apparently left behind a circle 125 feet in diameter along with several triangles in a nearby cornfield.

Hungary is currently in a fever over unidentified flying objects.

The pilot of an air-sea rescue helicopter first spotted the strange crop circles at the end of June. Since then, Hungarian UFO fans have been flocking to see the circles for themselves at Szekesfehervar, near Lake Balaton.

Some parents even place their children in the middle of the circle, in order to fill them with "magical energy." Others believe they're in direct contact with the "crew" of the UFO and that the latter will actually appear there in the flesh.

Laszlo Marnitz, who informed the daily newspaper Kurir about the alleged extraterrestrial visit, has an explanation for the strange sightings: He says the extraterrestrials cannot be seen by mere mortals because they live in at least

16 dimensions.

He added that the strange geometric patterns in the cornfield can only be explained away by a UFO because the corn sheaves weren't broken, just bent down. The sheaves had furthermore been bent in just the one direction, because the circle was caused by a magnetic field, he adds.

Marnitz, a self-professed UFO-logist, says he's quite sure the UFOs don't land when they visit Earth, they just hover above the ground.

Some of the corn sheaves are now being scrutinized at an agricultural station in the nearby town of Velence and compared with "normal" specimens.

The latest evidence is a 26-foot circle in a cornfield near Enying on the south bank of Lake Balaton.

Largely unbeknown to the Hungarian public seems to be the fact that similar "signs" which appeared recently in Britain and north Germany turned out to be a hoax.

Meanwhile, officials in charge of the agricultural concern on whose land the first "UFO" left traces are very skeptical about the whole affair. All the commotion caused by curiosity-seekers at the site is having an effect on the harvest, and the business intends to issue a summons against persons unknown to claim compensation.

ADVERTISER, Ilkeston, England - July 3, 1992 CR: T. Good

UFO sighted  
in village

A UFO was spotted hovering over a West Hallam field where corn circles have appeared in the past.

The 20ft-wide ball of brilliant white light hovered over a field across from Straw's Bridge at Derby Road on the outskirts of West Hallam at 4am on Tuesday last week. A resident and a passing lorry driver witnessed the strange sight.

Omar Fowler, of 12 Tilton Grove, Kirk Hallam, is a

member of a group which investigates UFO sightings and the phenomena of the corn circles, and desperately wants to talk to anyone who saw the UFO.

A corn circle appeared in

the middle of the night and saw the ball of bright light through the window.

"It was about 30ft above the field and was about 20ft across and was rotating and gradually got smaller until it

disappeared," he said.

Mr Fowler is a member of the world-renowned Phenomena Research Unit, based in Ilkeston, and revealed that the group had come up with a new theory

on how the corn circles were formed.

"We think they are caused by micro wave energy and could be a form of communication — but who is communicating?" he said.

Since the West Hallam sighting, members of the group had been visiting houses in the area to see if anyone else had seen the UFO. "We desperately want to speak to this man — what he has seen is vitally important."

EXCLUSIVE By Julie Crouch

the same field a year ago and Mr Fowler is convinced that it was caused by a UFO.

The resident, who would not be identified, told the Advertiser that he had got up for a drink of water in the

middle of the night and saw the ball of bright light through the window.

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on how the corn circles were formed. "We think they are caused by micro wave energy and could be a form of communication — but who is communicating?" he said.

Since the West Hallam sighting, members of the group had been visiting houses in the area to see if anyone else had seen the UFO. "We desperately want to speak to this man — what he has seen is vitally important."

In Shrewsbury, there was a sighting of a "silver cascade of mercury pouring out of the sky."

Other spotters said they had seen green and orange lights and said the sky had been lit up for several seconds.

A woman who was on the telephone at the time said the line went dead as the lights passed over.

Morfudd Roberts, at Uwchmynydd, near Aberdaron, was out in the garden at the time, when she saw the night sky lighting up as a mysterious object flew over the peninsula.

The RAF at Valley, Hereford and Brawdy, as well as coastguards, confirmed that the lights were nothing to do with them.

But a possible solution to the mystery came later when a spokesman at the Astronomy Centre in Cambridge said they believed the mystery objects were meteor showers.

Thomas Jones, however, was not convinced. He claimed that meteors usually fell to the ground, whereas the object he saw on Sunday night was flying over Mid Wales and continued into the distance "just like some sort of flying object or a satellite."

CR: J. & C. Bord

DAILY POST, Birmingham, England - Aug. 18, 1992  
Meteor showers  
caused flood  
of UFO reports

METEOR showers may have been responsible for a flood of UFO reports across Wales yesterday.

Reports of vivid lights and flashes came from all over the Principality. An ambulance man who saw a blue flashing light as he was driving along a country road in the Dolgellau area late on Sunday night thought he had turned on his emergency lights by mistake.

The switchboard to BBC Radio Cymru's Hywel Gwynfryn programme was jammed yesterday morning as puzzled householders tried to find out what had happened.

The Astronomy Centre based in Cambridge said the most likely explanation was meteor showers.

The BBC programme's hotline was permanently engaged for two hours, but around 50 listeners succeeded in getting through to the studio in Cardiff to describe what many believed to be an unidentified flying object that had lit up the sky at around 11pm on Sunday.

Thomas Jones, of Llanbryn-mair, Powys, was outside his home at the time saving

By Emyr Williams  
Daily Post Correspondent

goodnight to a neighbour, when he said he was startled by a pure white flash.

"I looked up into the sky and saw a bright blue object as big as a little boat, with a long streak of fire about twenty feet long coming from it," said Mr Jones.

"It was about 50 feet above the ground and gave off a loud whooshing noise. Later on there was a distinct smell in the air, but I've no idea what it was."

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - July 13, 1992 CR: G. Conway  
UFO theory on  
crop circles in  
Alta. quashed

Canadian Press

EDMONTON — Aliens aren't coming to Alberta after all.

That's the conclusion reached by a UFO specialist sent to investigate two mysterious crop circles near Hobbema, about 40 kilometres south of Edmonton.

The circles were discovered in a barley field last week, and some UFO enthusiasts speculated they were caused by a UFO landing.

But Guy Desrosiers, from the Edmonton-based Society of Earth-bound Extraterrestrials, said yesterday that the circles have more to do with local farmers than visitors from outer space.

Instead of being a kind of intergalactic oil spot, Desrosiers said the circles were caused by an unintentional drop of crop seed.

The largest of the two circles — really more like ovals — measures about 14 metres (46 feet) long and 10 metres wide. Inside the circles, the barley is flattened out and slightly yellowed.

"Once we started digging inside

the circle it was obvious there was a lot more seed per square inch than what there was outside the circle," said Desrosiers.

The solution to the mystery came from an area farmer.

"While I was digging, (a) farmer came by and said: 'Boy, I know what the problem is here. This is a seed dump. When these guys were seeding they must have dumped a whole pile of seed here.'"

"What happened was the crop was so concentrated, there was so much competition among the plants, the plants couldn't grow very strong," said Desrosiers.

The circle might have mystified visitors who flocked to the site, but Desrosiers said many farmers knew the truth from the beginning.

"One guy I spoke to Saturday said he'd have spoken up a few days ago, but he didn't want his name to show up in the paper," said Desrosiers.

"Another guy came up to me and said, 'Well, everyone's kind of having fun, here, and I don't want to ruin their fun.'"





## Bigfoot sighting has '50-50' chance of authenticity

The Associated Press

PULLMAN, Wash. — Washington State University anthropologist Grover Krantz gives last week's reported bigfoot sighting near Lapwai, Idaho, a "50-50" chance of being authentic. "It's the sort of thing a very large man could have done," Krantz said, alluding to the possibility of someone staging a hoax.

But Krantz, who has spent more than two decades studying the legendary, ape-like creature said to roam the forests of the Pacific Northwest, said such a hoax would have involved "an incredible amount of work."

After being called Friday to the scene about 90 miles southeast of Spokane, Wash., Krantz said he found tracks in a plowed field. While the footprints were

only about size 12 or 13 and relatively undefined in the loose soil, the stride between them was fairly long, he said.

Krantz said he also found three or four lines of tracks of equally wide spacing. Someone perpetrating a hoax, he said, would have had to come downhill, gone back up a different route and come down again a number of times.

It would be almost impossible to maintain the long stride going uphill, Krantz said.

At least eight witnesses said they saw only one hairy creature last Thursday evening, descending a hillside and later hiding in some bushes near the Nez Perce National Historical Park's visitor center near Spalding.

Assuming the creature

was a bigfoot, Krantz said, he speculates it could have been one of as many as four nearby.

"My best guess, though, is it's a single Sasquatch that got into the area ... and left," he said. Sasquatch is the ancient Indian word for the creature.

Krantz said he would rate the incident "run-of-the-mill" among the many he has investigated.

"This sort of thing happens once a week," he said.

Krantz said he is quite sure bigfoot is real. His new book titled "Big Footprints: The Scientific Evidence for Sasquatch," will be released this fall.

He also clings to his somewhat controversial belief that a bigfoot should be killed if the opportunity arises.

"The only proof is bringing in a body," Krantz said, explaining that pictures, videotapes, movies, eyewitness reports and physical evidence like footprints are all subject to hoax.

He said those who want to save bigfoot must accept

the demise of an individual animal as the key to ensuring the future of the species.

Krantz said his pursuit of bigfoot has been like a professional "albatross" around his neck, because so many anthropologists consider the evidence found thus far more fiction than fact.

STAR-PHOENIX, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

## Mutilated heifer sparks speculation

LEDUC (CP) — A heifer has been found dead and mutilated on a family farm, apparently the latest in a string of ritualistic killings south of Edmonton.

Since September, seven heifers each worth about \$600 have been killed, and six have had their sex organs removed. Often, their blood has been drained.

The surgical neatness of the wounds and the tidy site around the cadavers has sparked speculation about how the killings occurred.

"It's easier to imagine that it's a cult operating or dumb Druids," a frightened Doris Verchomin said in an interview Thursday.

"But some people think it might be UFOs. We are so secluded here and it was so peaceful for so many years, and all of a sudden we have one thing after another."

RCMP are investigating the incidents on the Verchomin beef farm.

July 18, 1992

## Powerful tremors baffle Dutch scientists

The Associated Press

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands — Dutch scientists were mystified Thursday by powerful tremors that sent hundreds of frightened rural residents running from their homes in the night.

Police and weather service switchboards in northern Frisian Province were flooded with callers who told of swaying houses, flower pots falling off ledges and tumbling tableware.

There were no reports of injuries, but one person said a roof gable cracked.

While seismic equipment suggested that the tremors were caused by sound waves result

ing from an explosion either above or below ground, none of the callers reported hearing a bang.

Several people said they saw a yellowish-red fireball streaking down through the sky about 10:30 p.m. local time Wednesday.

"We are quite puzzled," said Hein Haak, the director of the seismology department at the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute. "We checked all the hypotheses we could think of and none work out."

Police said all the calls came from a clearly defined area

about 31 miles wide in the southwestern corner of the province.

While television and radio reports speculated on the cause, the largest daily, *De Telegraaf*, topped its front page with a report of panic in the streets under the headline: "Meteorite Strikes North."

A diagram showed a burning trail and a space rock crashing into a meadow between the farming villages of Joure and St. Nicolaasga.

No rock or crater had been sighted by midday Thursday and

Haak said the data picked up by the institute's ground stations did not suggest a meteoric trajectory.

Yet after ruling out an underwater explosion, sonic boom, military test, and tectonic plate activity, Haak said the meteorite hypothesis was the only plausible explanation left.

Haak said the shock waves were of a comparable magnitude to those that emanate from industrial explosions, such as last July's blast at a chemical factory outside Amsterdam that killed three people.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE,  
Little Rock, AR - Aug. 21, 1992

## Entrepreneurs trying to market Mars face

By DAN SHOPE

The Allentown Morning Call

On a clear night, almost anyone can see the man in the moon. But only a few people have looked into the face on Mars.

Richard C. Hoagland, a former consultant to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, has seen that face.

It is a face that he and his followers believe could very well have been part of a message to Earth formed by extraterrestrial beings thousands — maybe millions — of years ago.

Yes, real E.T.s.

Photographed during the NASA Viking Mission in 1976, the Cydonia Region of Mars has recently been studied by Hoagland and other scientists as "intelligently-manufactured alien ruins."

Coinciding with President Bush's plan to send men to Mars by 2014, interest in the red planet — and the face on Mars — is beginning to take off.

And so is business.

Hoagland, director of San Francisco-based The Mars Mission, has produced a videotape titled "Hoagland's Mars: The NASA-Cydonia Briefings," and will release a book on the subject in September.

And a former Hellertown, Pa., man has linked up with Hoagland after obtaining trademarks and copyrights for a Mars logo and collectible medallion.

Craig Potter, president of Objec-

ment with Hoagland, allowing him to market the logo of the face on Mars.

"Our mission is to make sure the unmanned Mars Observer mission in 1993 takes a look at the Cydonia Region," said Gary Gunderson, director of marketing for The Mars Mission.

"There are some people in the scientific community opposed to it. But it would be ludicrous not to take a look."

"The geometry is somewhat similar to that of ancient Mideast cities, where there are pyramids and the Sphinx. In fact, Cairo means Mars in ancient Arabic."

By stirring up interest in the Mars missions — its Cydonia Region — Hoagland and others feel the existence of extraterrestrial life can be proven.

Perhaps most intriguing of the NASA photos is the series of images — including the face — on the Cydonia Region of Mars, which are likened to those at Stonehenge.

The face, Gunderson said, is similar to the Sphinx in Egypt.

Hoagland, who helped develop the famous "man and woman" message to aliens for the Voyager mission in 1971, feels there is a message on Mars.

Using mathematics, Hoagland discovered messages that "contain major decipherable clues to a potential new energy resource which could totally transform the energy economy and 'politics' of planet



Several unusual features, including this facelike formation, have been discovered on the surface of Mars.

Earth."

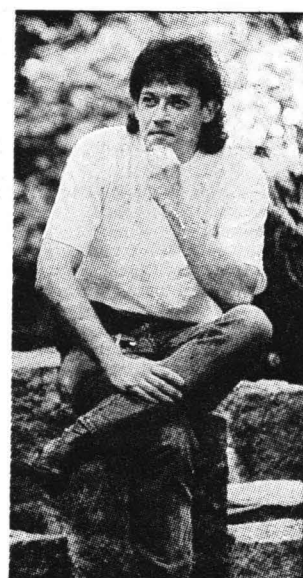
Hoagland and NASA have battled over his theories, with the space agency canceling a satellite transmission to television stations across the country in 1990, he

said.

"When NASA sent up the Viking in 1976, scientists were looking for microbes," Gunderson said. "Instead they found pyramids and faces. They weren't ready for that."



PAI PH BOWER



BILL KEAY



CANADIAN PRESS

SEEKING MONSTERS, Barrie Alden (left) sports fox hat, rattlesnake wrap and egg with snake hatching from it; sasquatch (top left) has a fan in B.C. Cryptozoological Club president John Kirk (top right); sightings of Ogopogo (above right, at Expo 86) and Cadborosaurus (above, on Mill Bay) have diminished

# Where have all the monsters gone?

*You could see only through your fear  
which blurs vision.  
But the god has not denied you.  
It is you who have denied the god.*

— from Margaret Atwood's  
Oratio for Sasquatch, Man and Two Androids

By TERRY GLAVIN

**F**or Barrie Alden, it all started with Warren Scott, an American expatriate, woodsman, recluse and prospector who came out of the wilderness northwest of Pitt Lake in 1978 with stories about strange tropical valleys, giant ferns and six-foot, dinosaur-like salamanders.

Back then, Alden was an up-and-coming outdoors writer. He staked his reputation on the prospect that there could be some truth to Scott's stories. He started lobbying for expeditions and habitat protection.

Alden was laughed out of his post as a director of the B.C. Wildlife Federation. His career vanished. So did Warren Scott.

Ever since then, Alden has been trying to clear his name. If there was the slightest corroboration, a specimen, a reason to believe. Other sightings. Anything.

Over the years, there have been lots of near hits. A logger claimed he was startled by a weird lizard near Bamfield back in the 1950s. A Mission cab driver claimed he once saw strange, giant salamanders in the mud along the shores of Nitinat Lake.

One man who talked to The Sun on the condition of anonymity claimed he and his uncle were attacked by an alligator-type creature near Salmon Arm, but that was 40 years back. There have been reports of huge reptiles in Harrison Lake, in lakes near Manning Park, the Kootenay Lakes and all the way down to the Trinity Mountains of southern Oregon, where a Jesuit saw one in 1959.

The best giant-salamander reports were collected by Jim Clark, president of the B.C. Cryptozoological Club, a 40-member society dedicated to the investigation of reports of strange beasts. Clark died three years ago, and he took his stories to the grave with him.

Alden is 51 now. He keeps looking.

He now makes a living from a variety of jobs, including his "Alden's Outdoors" program every Saturday morning on Abbotsford's radio station CFVR, and as a Christmas Santa Claus.

"I don't regret sticking my nose into the controversy," Alden says, over coffee at the McDonald's restaurant in Mission. "But I'll be frank."

"I'd really like to vindicate myself, you know?"

Stan Orchard, one of Canada's leading herpetologists (amphibian specialists) and a former research scientist with the Royal B.C. Museum, says he's heard a lot about the likes of giant salamanders in his time, like three-metre Cowichan Valley cobra snakes and other peculiar fauna, but it's all a thing of the past.

Alden doesn't have much of a chance, Orchard reckons. For three main reasons.

The first reason is the obvious improbability. Big lizard-type creatures do exist: the cryptobranchidae family, which includes the 1.5-metre Japanese salamander and the metre-long Ozarks Hellbender. But nothing like that, says Orchard, has ever allowed itself to be documented around here.

The second reason is that if there was something that strange and huge, and tremendously rare, its future is bleak. Like the leopard frog and the spotted frog, which have virtually disappeared from B.C. over the past 20 years, amphibians are disappearing all over the world, and nobody's sure why.

**T**he third reason has to do with people, and what they see: "It's the same with snakes. They open up some nightmare drawer — God only knows what people see, but it's not what people are looking at — but there's just less and less reports coming to the fore," Orchard says.

"There are all sorts of psychological dimensions that must be involved in this, but the number of sightings has really diminished."

John Kirk thinks so too.

"Sure," says Kirk, a 36-year-old Hong Kong immigrant, former sports writer for the South China Morning Post and now proprietor of Yogurty's Yogurt Discovery

on Vancouver's trendy Robson Street. "I've heard all kinds of stories like that about salamanders and things. Not too much lately, though."

Kirk took over from Jim Clark as president of B.C.'s Cryptozoological Club. He's quick to point out that his members are quite sane. The club turns away people who come in with reports of seeing Tammy Faye Baker's face on the moon. He says he doesn't believe in UFOs.

But he has a tremendous concern these days, for the sasquatch — the best-known of B.C.'s monsters. The one described as an hairy ape-like creature, known to frequent the Coast Range mountains and distinguished by its shy nature, strange night cries and foul smell.

There hasn't been a serious sasquatch report in a long, long time. And Kirk thinks it might be too late.

"They're on the verge of extinction," he said. "Humanity is encroaching so fast, with logging and what have you, and I doubt there are any left, quite frankly."

"And people are really reluctant to talk, nowadays," he said. "That might have a lot to do with it."

David George Gordon, a Washington state biologist and author of the most recent book on the subject of the mythical man-beast, Field Guide to the Sasquatch, says if the sasquatch exists at all, it lives only in B.C. and it's facing extinction.

"We are quite likely seeing the last of a dying breed," Gordon told The Sun in a recent interview.

Meanwhile, B.C.'s Rene Dahinden, co-author of Sasquatch, one of the first books ever written on the subject, says it's already too late. Dahinden has been on the sasquatch trail for almost 40 years. He still spends his summers at it. He has never seen one.

**O**nce an ardent and pious believer, Dahinden himself now regards the sasquatch as merely a "cultural entity."

"Besides, you've got roads all over. Hunters all over. There's a tremendous influx of

(continued on page 19) 18



(continued from page 18 -  
SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada  
- Aug. 15, 1992)

people. It's this God-damned clearcut logging every valley around the country."

As for Ogopogo, sightings from the 1920s to the 1960s occurred in clusters, and often with such frequency that the beast was seen on an almost daily basis. The creature is even officially protected under B.C.'s environmental legislation, and described under regulation 168-90: "An animal in Okanagan Lake, other than a sturgeon, that is more than three metres in length, and the mates or offspring of that animal."

Official protection hasn't helped. The lake has fallen particularly silent ever since the August 1989 flap that erupted after an Okanagan Valley car salesman allegedly captured the beast on a video. Experts reviewed the tape and wrote off the evidence as the antics of an otter or a beaver.

The Cadborosaurus is in big trouble, too, says marine biologist Dr. Ed Bousfield, who maintains that the Ogopogo-like sea serpent that haunted the B.C. coast until sightings fell off about five years ago may already be extinct.

Formerly with the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa and now a research associate with Victoria's Royal B.C. Museum, Bousfield says he believes that "Caddy" sightings were mostly legitimate observations of a strange, never-studied deepsea creature belonging to a species that may have fallen victim to pollution, habitat alienation or perhaps Asian mid-Pacific fishing fleets.

Caddy hasn't been seen since 1987.

But there is also the real world. And there are still enough strange and wonderful things out there to stay interested, says Chris Dodd, the B.C. environment ministry's provincial non-game biologist.

"All these critters — these salamanders and things — virtually none of them were studied until the last five years or so," says Dodd. "So I have no doubt that we will have new species turning up, from the Ice Age era."

**I**t happens, and Ice Age "refugia" have a lot to do with that. These were pockets of terrain that escaped glaciation during the last Ice Age, and many animal species found refuge. Bighorn sheep survived in a refugium in what is now Oregon. Refugia have been identified on the Queen Charlotte Islands and on Northern Vancouver Island, said Dodd.

The tundra vole survived in a little pocket of northwestern B.C., for example, Dodd said. So weird and rare lizards are possible.

Another explanation for the decline in B.C. monster sightings, says University of B.C. anthropologist Michael Ames, is that British Columbians are just seeing fewer home-grown beasts. They're seeing new and different monsters.

"Maybe the new monsters are pollution, or the ozone layer," he says. "I can't imagine us being without monsters."

People see flying saucers, or Elvis returned from the grave. British Columbians are increasingly embracing New Age mysticism, "channelling," crystals and all sorts of things exotic enough to upstage a simple faith in sea serpents.

What is also possible, says Simon Fraser University psychology professor Barry Beyerstein, is that people see monsters when a tiny area of the human brain short-circuits.

Wires cross, opening up the "nightmare drawer" Orchard talks about. The area of the brain that analyses sensory information is the same place that generates dream and memory images, says Beyerstein, who runs SFU's brain behavior laboratory.

Beyerstein is also president of the Society of B.C. Skeptics. Sort of Hatfields to Kirk's cryptozoological McCoys.

Some people just make things up, says Beyerstein. And people like that require a more conventional psychological analysis.

"It's a shame, really," he said. "There's such really interesting stuff out there, you really have to sift through the junk."

Whatever it is the people of Winter Harbor have been seeing in the water lately, it's not junk. And they're not making anything up.

For the past three years, many residents of the tiny community off Vancouver Island's northwest coast have watched something strange swimming around the floats and the docks. It's not a seal — everybody in Winter Harbor knows what a seal looks like.

"It used to come up a lot in front of our place," said Ruth Botel, whose house overlooks the water. The Botels run a fish farm.

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Aug. 2, 1992 CR: G. Conway

# A serpent lurking in the deep?

## Researchers trying to find cadborosaurus

By Wendy McLellan  
Staff Reporter

The moment is still clear in Richard Smith's memory.

He was out in his dinghy with a visiting friend, showing him the sea life around the bay below his Sidney home.

"We were looking to see some underwater life," said Smith. "We were just going from the shore out to a rock when he looked over my shoulder and said, 'Good lord, what's over there?'"

Just three metres (10 feet) from their boat, two enormous humps surfaced.

"They were as big as tractor tires," Smith said.

"We don't know how big it is, but it's got a head something like a horse's head. We haven't seen the eyes yet. It's not aggressive. I go down to the float when I see it swimming way out there and I call to it. It comes a little closer, like it seems like it's curious about the sound of your voice, and then it dives."

In the late 1800s, a strange sea creature answering the same description used to swim up alongside the boats of Russian seal hunters in the Pribilof and Aleutian Islands. Curious and friendly, the Steller's sea cow was bludgeoned into extinction before the 19th-century came to a close.

**T**he Steller's sea cow has continued to haunt North Pacific waters this century, however, but no sighting has been confirmed. It was a gentle vegetarian that grew to lengths exceeding five metres.

"We talked to Simon Fraser University about it," Botel said, "and they said it was a sea elephant. The [Vancouver] Aquarium said it was probably a sea turtle. At first, we thought it was some kind of a mutant seal. It's not."

"We've looked in encyclopedias and we're pretty sure it was a sea cow."

It never attempted to jump into the fish farm pens after salmon, the way seals do. It seems to feed on kelp and sea grass, and slowly moves about the harbor, under the government wharf, in through the pilings of docks, and out to deep water again.

It started about three years ago. Nobody in Winter Harbor has seen the creature since May. <

The front hump had ridges along it and each hump was about 2.5 metres long. The creature was about 12 metres long.

"It steamed right past us," said Smith's friend, Ken Kilner, from Florida. "We started to follow it, but it submerged."

Royal B.C. Museum researcher Ed Bousfield is convinced the pair saw a cadborosaurus, the famous sea serpent said to live off southern B.C.

Bousfield has records of at least 60 "Caddy" sightings since 1937. The most recent recorded sighting was Smith's, on March 28, 1987.

"They all come up with the same basic description — that's what convinces me it's real," Bousfield said.

Caddy, named after Cadboro Bay near Victoria, is a huge snake-like creature up to 18 metres long. It has been clocked swimming at 40 km/h, coiling and uncoiling as it moves. When it submerges, it goes straight down, tail first.

"Nothing else moves like this. It's an incredible animal," said Bousfield, who hasn't seen the creature, despite looking for it through binoculars every morning.

Bousfield and his partner, University of B.C. oceanographer Paul LeBlond, will present a scientific paper on cadborosaurus to the American Zoological Society in December.

"We're appealing to the scientific community to investigate the animal," Bousfield said. "We need to find it and study it. Then we can protect it from man."

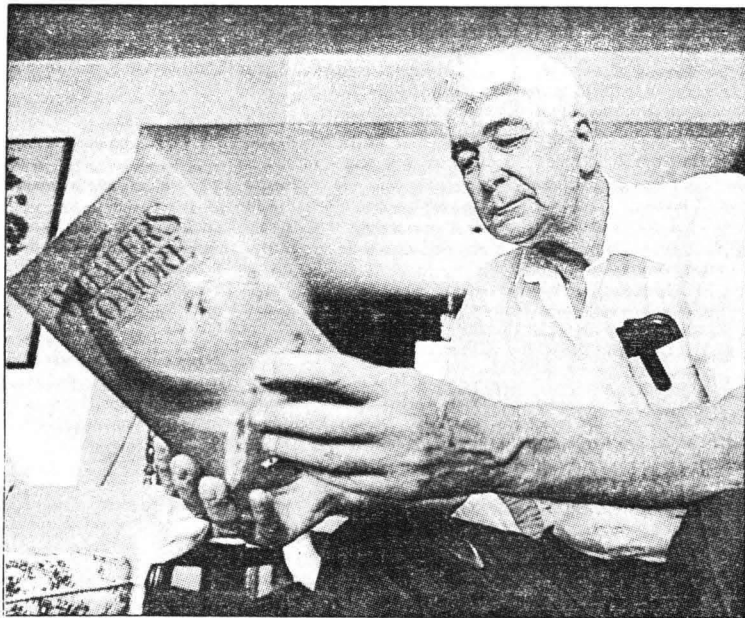
The closest they got to a specimen was a baby cadborosaurus caught by Capt. William Hagelund in 1968.

He scooped up the 35-centimetre (14-inch) creature in a fish net in Pirate's Cove at De Courcy Island, off Nanaimo.

He planned to take it to biologists the next morning, "but the poor little guy was floating around fighting to get out of the bucket. I thought I better let it go."

When he was researching his book, *Whalers No More*, he found a photo of cadborosaurus published in *The Province* on Oct. 16, 1937. That's when he realized his creature was a baby sea monster.

"If there was one, there's got to be more," Hagelund said. "We've just got to find them."



Staff photo by Gerry Kahrman

Writer William Hagelund claims to have caught a baby cadborosaurus.

TIMES, Waitsburg, WA - July 2, 1992

## Touchet Valley Ramblings

By Vance Orchard -- Waitsburg Times Columnist



**BIGFOOT UPDATE** — As long as we're in the Blue Mountains, I'd better give this Bigfoot update.

It came as a surprise at a recent gathering of Bigfoot aficionados, a neat little potluck put together by Nellie Jackson at the Blue Creek fire station.

When Nellie suggested we might hear from those present if they'd had any kind of Bigfoot encounters, we just went around the table.

Guess what? Right off the bat, the first person had the bell ringer!

It came from an experience related by Sheryl Jenkins of St. John, Wash. She and husband, Mike, lease a cabin close to the Mill Creek Watershed boundary.

Now, Sheryl has reported sightings of Bigfoots on two other occasions in that area since 1987, when she became a staunch, unswerving believer in the existence of this creature.

She made the most recent sighting while on a horse back ride not far from their cabin.

Just a week before our Bigfoot potluck, or on June 7, 1992.

In case you're a skeptic, just don't accost Jenkins with your opinions on this subject!

Speaking of Nellie Jackson, one of our most enthusiastic Bigfooters, is to recall how she talked Wes Sumerlin and I into doing a taped conversation about Bigfoot and then sending the tape off to a school in Glendale, Arizona. She'd done

it at the request of Cindy Saputo, a granddaughter of Bill and Jean Woodward of Columbia County, by the way. She teaches the third grade at Glendale. Two of her third graders wanted to make Bigfoot a class project, so she wrote Nellie, a long-time friend.

Nellie has reported that the tape and the casting of a Bigfoot footprint "went over real big" with all the kids.

Nellie, by the way, has been a Bigfoot enthusiast for many years, compiling a thick scrap book of clippings about the subject during that time.



Bigfoot enthusiasts from across the Pacific Northwest look at exhibits.

## Bigfoot experts gather at Eagles Cliff

By Joe Wrabek

Does Bigfoot really exist?

This was the topic of discussion last weekend at the Eagles Cliff Campground, in remote northern Skamania county. The site was the meeting place for the second annual convention of the Pacific Coast Sasquatch Investigative Team, an organization founded in 1975 to assemble data to try to prove or disprove the existence of Sasquatch, or "Bigfoot."

The huge, hairy creature is rumored to inhabit the remoter reaches of Oregon, Washington, northern California and British Columbia.

Northern Skamania County may be "ideal habitat" for the sasquatch, said Will Jevnick, the organization's chief executive officer. The creature is rumored to be reclusive, and the north county is virtually uninhabited except for the enclave

of 29 full-time residents near the Eagles Cliff Campground.

Many reported sasquatch sightings or tracks are in that area, Jevnick said — the latest just three years ago — prompting the group's focus. And while the creature's existence may officially be in doubt, Bigfoot is officially protected from bounty hunters in Skamania County by a county ordinance enacted more than 20 years ago.

The weekend affair drew more than 80 people from as far away as Kelso and Spokane. Most were simply curious, Jevnick said. "But I've been approached by a number of people wanting to talk confidentially about sightings."

More than a few of the attendees were local, including 80-year-old Datus Perry of Carson, considered Skamania County's "Bigfoot expert." Perry claims 13 sightings of the creature over a 50-year period.

most in Skamania County. "I just came to make sure they got it right," he said.

Perry brought his own sketches and displays, including his 8 ft.-tall Bigfoot statue of fur-covered plywood, constructed from memory following a close-up sighting in British Columbia 15 years ago.

Though Perry and Jevnick pooh-poohed each other's "research," there were striking similarities between Perry's handmade statue and the sketches and photographs (from a California sighting) displayed by the investigation team.

"There's a very large consistency among the reports," Jevnick conceded, even though they come from numerous and widely separated sources and locations. That's fueled the speculation that the creature, once thought to be a Native American legend, may actually exist.

That consistency was also

noted by the gathering's featured speaker, Swiss-born naturalist and author Rene Dahinden, who became interested in the subject after immigrating to British Columbia.

The stories of the North American sasquatch, he said, mirrored accounts of "wild men" in remoter parts of Eastern Europe and Russia that date back to the Middle Ages.

All the reports, Dahinden said, describe "a hair-covered erect creature 6 to 8 feet tall, 600 to 800 pounds," that apparently does not use tools, weapons, or fire. It has been reported only singularly or in small groups, suggesting no social structure — and all accounts recall the creature making only a high-pitched whistling sound.

"Hard" evidence of the sasquatch's existence beyond verbal accounts is sketchy, Dahinden

said, but some does exist. "For example, if the creature exists and runs around, we have to find footprints, yes? Well, we do."

Some have been bear tracks, and some are deliberate fakes — "somebody as been faking tracks around Walla Walla for 10 years" — but others aren't. One of the biggest concentrations of tracks was found in northern California's Klamath River Valley after logging roads were first built into the area in the late 1950s, he said.

The Klamath Valley also produced, 25 years ago, the only photographic evidence to date of a sasquatch, one minute of movie film shot from horseback by Roger Patterson, a researcher who had been flown into the area to investigate fresh tracks found by a roadbuilding crew.

The film footage was dismissed as a fake by the scientific community, in part because of Patterson's reputation (he'd earlier published a book, *Do Abominable Snowmen of America Really Exist? Latest Facts!*), but he may actually have found something, Dahinden said.

"We may very well have proof sasquatch exists in that film," he said. But no other film evidence has been obtained in the past 25 years, he said.

Dahinden maintains the creature in the film is real. "I tried to discredit this film for 20 years and was unable to," he told the audience. It's not a man in a fur suit, he insisted; displaying the footage frame by frame on a slide projector, he noted the "non-human gait" and the movement of "muscle masses" in the back and legs as the creature walked and turned.

Obtaining more and better evidence is the primary goal of the Pacific Coast Sasquatch Investigative Team. "Organizationally, we're neutral," Jevnick insists.

He emphasized that the group is different from other Bigfoot "tracking" organizations, which he dismissed as "sensationalist."

"We are not 'channeling Bigfoot' here," he said. "We are conducting serious scientific research." He described organization's efforts as "like assembling a Field Guide to Bigfoot."

"Nobody's been asking the important questions," he said. "What is this creature in a 24-hour period? What does it eat? Where does it sleep? Does it hibernate? How does it raise its young? Until you have an idea how it lives, you'll never find it."

Part of the investigative team's approach is to know the woods as well as its theoretical quarry. The organization has focused its research on an arbitrarily-limited area, a 100-mile radius around Vancouver, Washington, which includes most of the reported sightings in Skamania County.

"We want to become experts on this 100-mile radius," Jevnick said. To this end, members of the organization are out every weekend, checking out reported sightings and tracks, or investigating promising areas on their own.

Concentrating on a limited area also makes efficient use of the group's limited resources, he said. The organization's Board of Directors and "staff," totaling just 20, are all volunteers, most from the Vancouver-Portland area.

Though Marketing Director Jack Livingston is pursuing research grants, the group's current income comes entirely from private donations, membership dues, and T-shirt sales at events like last weekend's conference.

An immediate goal is establishment of a Sasquatch Information Center at the Eagle Cliff Store. About 1.5 million hunters, fisherman, and tourists each year come through the little store and campground, which boasts the only telephone, electricity and hot water for dozens of miles. A second information center is planned later for the Stevenson area.

"We hope," he said, "we can get people to talk about what they see." He encouraged the reporting of sightings or tracks to Pacific Coast Sasquatch Investigative Team at 1701 Broadway, #298, Vancouver 98663 or by phone at (206) 573-0423, 695-0390, or 944-9668.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - Sept. 9, 1992

## Odd space growth on satellite baffles NASA

Toronto Globe and Mail

Is it animal, vegetable or mineral?

Scientists at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are scratching their heads over how a tiny patch of something managed to grow even though it was exposed to the harshness of outer space for nearly six years.

The mystery growth has been found in a toothpick-sized region on what is known as the Long Duration Exposure Facility.

The bus-sized LDEF was launched in 1984 and was retrieved by a space shuttle in January 1990, a few weeks before its decaying orbit would have sent it crashing back to Earth.

The can-shaped satellite was designed to conduct experiments to measure how heat, cold, radiation, vacuum and other inclement conditions associated with space affect a variety of materials. Such information is considered vital by engineers

trying to design parts for a space station that is supposed to have a working life of 30 years.

NASA scientists in Huntsville, Ala., discovered the growth while examining a brownish discoloration on a Teflon-covered section of the satellite.

Using an electron scanning microscope they saw tiny, stalactite-like structures on the Teflon. Tiny means the longest was about seven microns in size. That's about one-tenth the width

of a human hair.

At first NASA scientists thought the growth might be a fungus or a mold that had contaminated the LDEF upon its return. However, their tests came up negative.

The scientists have published an account of the material in a recent newsletter devoted to LDEF results and are asking scientists around the world to suggest what substance X could be. No possibilities are being discounted.

## Webster County cow killing mystery gets even weirder

Cows in Webster County can breathe easy tonight.

None of them has been mysteriously killed and mutilated in five months.

But the puzzle remains of why — and how — 11 cows in fields around Marshfield last spring were killed, drained of blood and cut with surgical precision.

New test results have only added questions.

"It's all stopped, dead cold. It makes me wonder," says John Nolen, the investigator for the Webster County Sheriff's Department who handled the mutilations case.

The Sheriff's Department was joined in the case by the Missouri Highway Patrol — and the Mutual UFO Network Inc., the biggest worldwide group that researches possible UFOs.

The police agencies believed satanic cults were probably responsible. The MUFOF people leaned toward aliens from outer space.

The highway patrol performed blood tests on some of the cow carcasses to try to find how they died. The cows apparently just keeled over with no signs of struggle.

You may ask how the highway patrol could do blood tests if the carcasses had been drained of blood. At least, I asked. A cow has about six gallons of blood, so enough remained to test.

The results arrived recently from the state crime lab, people who have seen them say. The tests found no trace of drugs or anything else that could kill a cow.

The results blew one of the case's top theories. Investigators thought

maybe someone sneaked up and injected some quick-acting fatal drugs before the cows had time to struggle.

Guess not.

Now, the investigators are waiting to see if the mutilations start again.

Nolen says if they start next month, that's a sign of cults. Sept. 20 is the date of the next satanic "blood-type ritual," he says. Last spring, there were several rituals, he says.

"It'll be interesting to see what happens around mid-September," Nolen says. "If that correlation is there, it'll be interesting."

He hasn't ruled out UFOs, though.

"I'm an open-minded person," he says. "You've got to be pretty small-minded to believe there couldn't be other intelligent life in the universe. Whether they're visiting us, that I

don't know."

Duane Bedell, co-director of the MUFOF chapter in Greene, Christian, Webster and Polk Counties, is waiting for next winter.

He says UFO cow mutilations often occur in winter or early spring.

"I'm kind of anxious to see what happens then," Bedell says. "Not that I want anybody to lose any cattle, but it will be interesting."

For now, Webster County cows seem safe. If they're worried about anything, it's probably just the standard, ordinary ritual of killing cows and cutting them up.

You know that ritual. It gives us mysterious little things like pot roasts, steaks and Big Macs.

Chris Bentley is a News-Leader reporter.



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