

UFO

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It's looking up for Rachel, Nev.

Stop in for a cup and (flying) saucer

By Tom Simmons
Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

RACHEL, Nev. — Sometimes "Freewheeling" can lead right out of this world.

We had driven "The Loneliest Road in America," U.S. Highway 50 from Ely, Nev., in the east to Fernley, Nev., in the west and survived to tell about it (in Travel Nov. 22).

Now we had to get back east a different way, and there were few choices. We skirted the Monte Cristo Range to Tonopah, then to Warm Springs. From there, State 375 winds southeast and, 100 empty miles later, winds up at Ash Springs. Loneliest Road, you've met your match. Not a person, not an animal, not a structure, not a billboard.

But wait. Two-thirds of the way along, a corrugated metal building with a pickup alongside hardly had eye appeal, but it was high noon and hunger prevailed.

The town sight

Over humpbacked hamburgers we heard the waitress talk about UFOs and the people who come to this forsaken spot from the world over in hope of seeing a flying saucer. Skeptics can enjoy the food, have a beer and play draw poker on the slot machine. We were the only customers. A modest highway sign said "Rachel," but this was Rachel — all of it.

An idle look at the guest book showed exotic hometowns spanning the globe.

Then, what's the name of this bar and grill? LITTLE A'LE'INN. And who patronizes it? Not aliens, but a few ranch hands plus hundreds who come in chartered buses, auto caravans, RVs, looking for something from another world.

The souvenir section of the little cafe is distinctly UFO-oriented, from pencils to pictures. We asked the waitress for more.

Yes, she said matter-of-factly, UFO-watchers meet nearly every night by the mailbox. That's the only mailbox, and it's 18 miles south of Rachel. And what do they see? Lights, flying craft — as many as five at a time. Nellis Air Force Base is over the mountain, but these aren't earthly planes. Visitors focus their binoculars, try for pictures and take their stories back home.

Some have pitched their tents; sometimes they huddle until dawn in subfreezing weather. Little A'Le'Inn itself has motel rooms (trailer houses) with shared bath for \$25 and \$30 a night.

A close encounter

Five years ago Pat Travis, a cook in Las Vegas, would go on weekends to meet her husband, Joe, a carpenter in Tonopah, at the halfway spot, the Rachel Bar and Grill. Its owner was ready to go out of business. Pat talked a reluctant Joe into taking it over; they enlarged and re-

modeled it and spruced it up.

Then word got around that there were sightings. The story made the local radio stations, got into UFO publications.

Business was so good that Pat and Joe opened the modest motel and provided RV hookups. They were pleased at the lure that brought business, so they coined Little A'Le'Inn.

Their own conversion — if they were the least bit skeptical — came in 1990.

"Joe and I were in the bar alone about 8:30 that night," Pat recalled. He's 53, she's a no-nonsense 49. "It was 20 below. Snow was piled high, and nothing was moving."

"Then, through the center of the back door — it's a steel-sheathed door — an intense beam of light illuminated the room. Our hair felt like it was standing up on the back of our heads. We looked at each other, and the light faded away in a few seconds."

"That light couldn't have come from outside — nothing was there. It sure didn't come from inside."

To some, Nellis air base is the prime suspect. Super-secret planes such as Stealth are based and tested there, zooming through the night.

To others, Nellis is the answer. It's supposed to keep under wraps alien spacecraft flown from distant solar systems. They're hidden in hangars deep inside a mountain and flown over a vast swath of closed-off desert, usually on Wednesday night (prime-time viewing night for the faithful).

Eric Schine, aerospace writer for *Business Week* — surely a factual skeptical observer — made the pilgrimage in 1991, taking a beach chair, prepared to scoff.

A fellow watcher shouts, "I see one!"

Writes Mr. Schine: "And there it is, a tiny dot of reddish light hovering above a mountain peak. First it grows steadily brighter, then darts back and forth, and finally fades in a grand swoop to the west. The whole affair lasts a good two minutes, and everyone seems immensely satisfied. There are pats on the back and hugs all around. And for me, a special round of congratulations. They say I have just had my first encounter with an H-PAC. And lucky I am, too, since not everyone sees an H-PAC his first time out. 'A what?' I ask. 'A human-piloted alien craft. You know. A flying saucer.'"

Alas, we could not spend the night; Bryce Canyon National Park was beckoning. It would have been nice to try for the scoop of the century, an interview with a little green person.

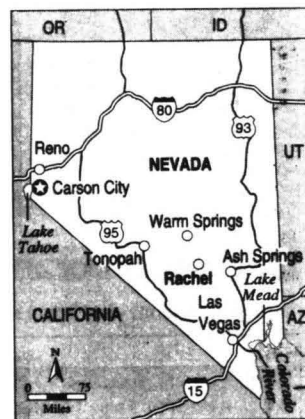
A former executive editor of The Dallas Morning News, Tom Simmons accompanies wife Jean on research trips for her *Freewheeling* travel column; he also takes photos to accompany the articles.



The Dallas Morning News: Tom Simmons

People the world over come to this corrugated-metal cafe in the Nevada desert hoping to see a UFO. Skeptics can enjoy the

food, have a drink, play the slot machine and scan the souvenirs. Die-hards pitch a tent or rent a trailer for the night.



The Dallas Morning News

SENTINEL, Milwaukee, WI - March 16, 1993

DODGE COUNTY

UFO appearances deemed genuine

The Jan. 31 UFO sightings in Dodge County appear legitimate, a Chicago-based organization that studies unidentified flying objects said Monday.

Milwaukee resident Richard W. Heiden, a field investigator for the Center for UFO Studies since its founding in 1973, said the center checked with nearby air traffic control centers and the military, who both said no aircraft had been sent into the area that day.

Nearby weather bureaus reported no irregular activity in the atmosphere on Jan. 31 either, Heiden said.

CR: M. Anderson

SAND MOUNTAIN REPORTER, Albertville, AL - Feb. 23, 1993

Geraldine woman's tape gets attention

By JAN JONES
Reporter Staff Writer

Susanne Austin describes herself as somewhat of a skeptic.

"It's not easy to get one over on me," she said.

So when the Geraldine police dispatcher saw some strange lights hovering over her house one night earlier this month, her imagination didn't run wild.

"I would have passed it off as a weird aircraft but people had been calling the police department reporting having seen strange lights," she said.

It was her concern for dispelling rumors of UFOs and alien visitations that prompted Austin to borrow her brother's camcorder in hopes of capturing an

image of the strange lights, should they return.

Sure enough, they did. Austin, a self-proclaimed non-believer in spaceships and Martians, said she couldn't help but get excited. "I ran in the house and told my husband the lights were back," she said.

What Austin recorded the first time was an extremely bright light, much larger than a star, that appeared to be hovering in the sky.

The second tape reveals an object with three very bright lights, triangular in shape, with two smaller flashing lights extending from the two base lights. Austin said although the audio was operating on the camcorder, no sound was picked up.

Soon Austin and her tape became famous. She said two north Alabama television stations came and interviewed her, various law enforcement officials, members of UFO organizations — all trying to determine what the object on the tape is.

"I didn't do this for the publicity though," Austin said. "I wanted to find out once and for all what it was so people could put their minds at ease."

Austin also showed the tape to Geraldine city clerk Eric Calvert. Calvert, who served in the United States Air Force, brought Austin several books and magazines full with military aircraft. "I think it was some type of aircraft," Calvert added.

Austin holds to the same theory. "Someone told me it could have been a Stealth bomber — a high-tech military fighter plane designed to fly undetected."

It looks as if the Stealth theory holds the most water. Austin said the tape was reviewed by a state trooper and then sent for a professional opinion and most agreed the object was probably a Stealth.

The only question left is what the Stealth was doing in skies over Geraldine.

ALIEN ABDUCTION

Most of us find the idea unbelievable, but . . .

By CHERYL TERHORST
Daily Herald Staff Writer

One could say the study of alien abductions was born with the bizarre account of Betty and Barney Hill.

During hypnosis sessions with a psychologist in the mid-1960s, the couple separately told amazing stories of being abducted by aliens while driving late at night along a dark stretch of highway in New Hampshire a few years earlier.

It prompted a flurry of interest, including movies and books and the forming of UFO study centers. In 1981, UFO investigator Budd Hopkins published "Missing Time: A Documented Study of UFO Abductions."

More recently, the academic community has become intrigued. David M. Jacobs, an associate professor of history at Temple University in Philadelphia, published "Secret Life: Firsthand Accounts of UFO Abductions" in 1992. Noted Harvard University psychiatrist John E. Mack plans to publish a book about the phenomenon this year.

Mack has hypnotically regressed some 28 alleged abductees. "... I do not regard abductees as patients in the usual sense," he writes in an International UFO Reporter article. "Rather, they are, with some exceptions, normal and healthy persons who have undergone disturbing and mysterious experiences. Some possible abductees contact me because I am a psychiatrist willing to take this phenomenon seriously."

But there are psychologists and others who say the whole notion is bogus.

Despite the skepticism, the phenomenon is growing. UFO groups have about 1,000 incidents on record, says Don Berliner of the Fund for UFO Research in Alexandria, Va. A 1991 survey by the Roper Organization estimates two percent of the United States population — or five million people — probably have been abducted by space aliens, often unbeknownst to them.

But even those within the field are skeptical. "The five million figure is basically meaningless," says Mark Rodegheir, scientific director for the Center for UFO Studies in Chicago. "The 1,000 published cases is the only meaningful number. People in the field themselves bandy about all types of numbers."

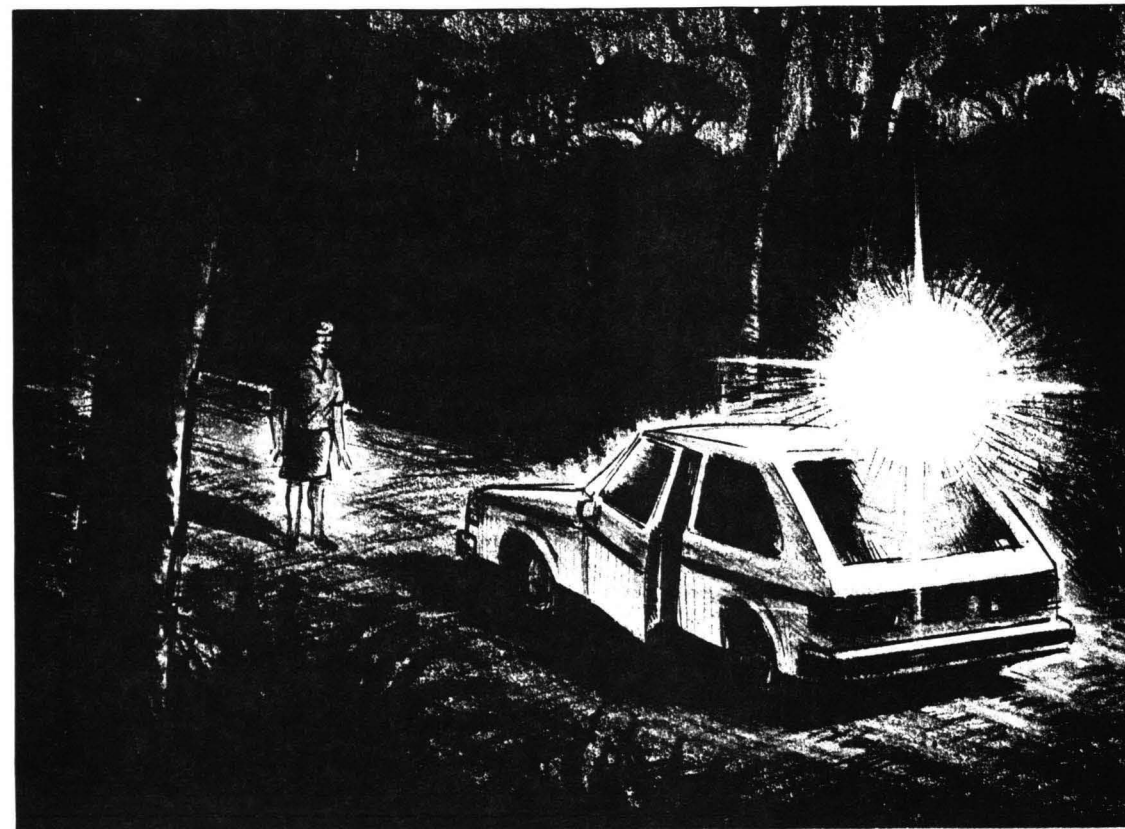
In 1990, The Gallup Poll News Service found that 14 percent of people say they have seen a UFO, and 47 percent believe UFOs are real, not imagined.

Alien abductions are deemed close encounters of the fourth kind. (The first kind is a UFO sighting; the second, evidence of UFO landings; and the third, sightings of aliens in the flesh.)

Although one in five remember their abduction experiences, the rest need hypnosis, said the late Tom Stults, who served as the Illinois director of the Mutual UFO Network, based in Seguin, Texas. (Stults died recently.)

Hypnotic regression — a popular method recently used to help adults recall alleged abuse as children — is purported to help people uncover suppressed memories.

Under hypnosis, UFO researchers say, most victims tell



A Northwest suburban woman, Ann Livingston, recalls this scene, and believes it means she was abducted by aliens. While driving along a lonely road in Mexico, she stopped her car to try to figure out why a ball of light seemed to be following her.

Daily Herald illustration/Dick Westgard

similar stories including one of driving along a deserted road at night and seeing a spaceship or light and having their car stop, without them controlling it.

They recall being paralyzed, floated out of their cars and taken aboard spaceships, undressed and experimented on. Many remember the aliens (called grays, because they have grayish-white skin, large eyes and small bodies, similar to the "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" aliens) communicating with them telepathically.

The abductees say they were probed. They speak of having eggs and sperm removed from them and during consequent abductions, being told they have half-alien, half-human children.

The abductees are often frightened and embarrassed, and researchers believe their memories are suppressed or altered by the aliens. Before being hypnotized, many people only have odd clues: missing chunks of time and scars they can't account for.

"We can easily find out who the fakers are," said Stults. He said there are six major points that are never published, things that happen to all abductees. "That's our control."

And, anyway, there are almost no fakers when it comes to alien abduction, says Rodegheir. "Basically, there's nothing in it for them," he says. "Unless they're crazy, and if they're crazy they think the CIA is bugging their teeth or something." About 1 percent of UFO sightings are hoaxed, he says, but usually just to try to pull the wool over investigators' eyes.

Not all UFO researchers are quick to recommend hypnosis, though. "We only recommend it when people are greatly troubled by the experience," says Rodegheir. "We don't recommend it willy nilly. We aren't just doing investigations, we're actually dealing with people's lives."

As for why aliens would do what they're allegedly doing, Stults said: "We don't know the point. We have no clue for whose benefit this is. They say their race is dying."

The experience isn't necessarily all horrible. Some believe the aliens are trying to warn us from imminent danger. Many abductees say they had medical conditions clear up after being abducted.

Cincinnati UFO researcher Leonard Stringfield saw his first UFO while flying with the Army Air Corps in World War II. He's written a couple of books on the subject, and says he knows a medical professional who performed an autopsy on an alien. He says 41 witnesses say they have seen aliens in government custody.

The government is covering up for several reasons, he says. The psychological shock would be too much, for one thing, and would "shake our religious and cultural beliefs." If people were to realize the government wasn't in complete control, we'd have an economic disaster on our hands, he says.

And he believes most of the thousands of people who say they were abducted are telling the truth. "I can't believe that many people would be delusional or psychotic," he says.

A medical researcher who has spoken to more than 80 people who say they have been abducted, Brian Thompson hypnotically regresses alleged abductees. "I haven't seen a UFO myself, I'm just trying to gather information," he says. "It's worth my time and effort to try to find out for sure."

Critics — and there are plenty of them — claim the whole phenomenon is a farce. Robert Baker, professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Kentucky, has repeatedly written that he believes the whole thing nonsense.

He speculates that the out-of-body experiences many abductees de-

scribe are perfectly normal waking dreams, when someone feels as though they've woken up at night, but are paralyzed, or experience someone else in the room. "They get a mixture of real perceptions of the room, with a dream," says Baker. "It's a very traumatic experience."

He estimates up to a quarter of the American population has had such an experience.

He believes people see "grays" be-



Robert Baker says alien abduction is sheer nonsense.

cause they've appeared so often in the movies and on television. "It's an urban legend, a myth," Baker says.

As for the missing time so many abductees complain about, that's common, too, he says. "The reason they can't account for the time is because nothing happened," he says. "It's so boring and unmemorable, they daydream."

"There's not one single shred of evidence," he says.

He believes that some people are led to believe they're abductees by unscrupulous therapists.

Abductees, he says, tend to be fantasy-prone, highly suggestible people who believe in psychics, reincarnation and the supernatural.

"They are not crazy, they are not psychotic in any sense of the word," he says.

Sacramento psychologist Terence Sandbek says hypnotic regression has been shown to be faulty because people can and do make things up —

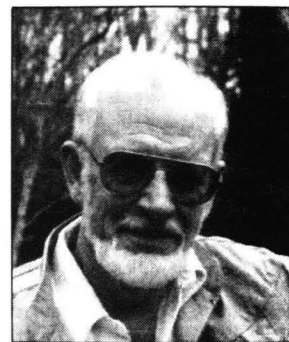
it's not the truth serum it's purported to be.

He believes people put more stock in subjective experiences than objective proof. "There's a lot of self-delusion," he says. "We experience a lot of mental and emotional turmoil when our belief system is conflicted by facts. So we either change the belief system, or change the facts."

What he means is lots of people want to believe in UFOs. He says 5 to 8 percent of the population is fantasy-prone.

Thompson agrees "there's a lot of conflation (combining fact and fantasy) and the mind fills in stuff that makes sense. But it can be an authentic memory."

He agrees there are some fantasy-prone people out there, but says abductees are no more so than the general population.



Leonard Stringfield saw his first UFO in World War II.

(continued on page 3)



Ann Livingston wants people — especially psychologists — to be aware of the phenomenon of alien abduction.

Daily Herald Photo/Daniel White

Woman seeks the truth about her own abduction

By CHERYL TERHORST
Daily Herald Staff Writer

In her quest to find out if she was indeed abducted by aliens, as she believes, Ann Livingston has contacted many people.

The Northwest suburban woman — a prolific and lucid letter writer — produces a stack of letters written to experts of all kinds, and has a running correspondence with several of them who vouch for her sincerity.

"Initially, she sounded very distraught and disturbed, which is not uncommon for this field," says Richard Hall, a board member of the Fund for UFO Research in Alexandria, Va. He corresponded with her and "she responded rationally. She was reaching out to seek help and guidance."

When she was first seeking help, she found her way to Leonard Stringfield, a Cincinnati UFO researcher and author of a number of books on the subject. Stringfield suggested she be hypnotized.

"I was impressed by her sincerity," says Stringfield, who says he saw his first UFO while fighting in the Army Air Corp (now the Air Force) in World War II. "Her story is analogous to most other stories (of abductions). She has made no big, sweeping claims."

Livingston could find no one in Chicago to hypnotize her so Stringfield recommended Brian Thompson in Cincinnati.

Thompson describes himself as a medical researcher who does consulting and has helped burn victims control pain through biofeedback — he completed medical school but stopped before doing his training. He says he's hypnotized more than 80 people who say they've been abducted by aliens.

Thompson hypnotized Livingston three times in April, 1992. The sessions were videotaped.

Although he says he's never seen a UFO, Thompson believes the phenomenon is worth exploring.

"I know she's sincere and wants to understand," says Thompson of Livingston.

Thompson said prior to her hypnosis, Livingston was checked out by a psychologist, a psychiatrist and an audiologist.

Diane Vickery, the Cincinnati psychiatrist who checked out Livingston wasn't willing to comment on her case, but says this of alleged abduc-

tees: "I think many people experience unusual mental events which they are unable to comprehend. People experience things internally that they believe they're experiencing externally. Some people feel comfortable understanding them in this way. Who am I to judge?"

Before his death recently, Tom Stults, the Illinois director of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), said there are six secret checkpoints experts use to weed out the liars and Livingston mentioned them all.

Larry, Livingston's husband of 24 years, stands by her. "I've never been abducted, but I do believe in aliens — we're not the only planet with living things on it," he says.

Her daughter, Karen, 20, is supportive of her mom, but somewhat skeptical. "Some things seem kind of weird," she says. "I have to see it to believe it."

Livingston's stories are met with a variety of reactions and she wants to get one thing straight. "Abductees are not out to make this a religion," she says. "What's happening to me here has nothing to do with my Judaism."

She says she herself is sometimes skeptical of some of the things UFO investigators tell her. One figure she guided her to the Yucatan to go through testing, to determine whether she could perform tasks for them, she says. She doesn't buy it. "I'm a human being. I don't want to go around saying I did this because of aliens," she says.

She admits she's fantasy-prone, believes she's psychic and is intrigued by the supernatural.

"I agree we can all be suggestible, but I contend that in the case of UFO abductions, some of us just are more aware than others," she says. In other words, maybe people like her are more open to admitting they've had such experiences. She agrees nothing can be proven.

"What's proof and what isn't?" she says.

Livingston has joined MUFON and the Ancient Astronaut Society. And she gathers occasionally with three other people who claim to be abductees. They give each other moral support, she says.

When people scoff at her story and criticize her for trying to bring attention to herself, she says: "It's not the kind of attention you want to have. If I had my choice, I wouldn't be an abductee."

How they decided who's telling truth

"Unusual Personal Experiences: An Analysis of the Data From Three National Surveys" is a Roper Organization poll incorporating the work of several top investigators in the field of alien abductions.

The participants included John E. Mack, a psychiatry professor at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; David M. Jacobs, a history professor at Temple University in Philadelphia; Budd Hopkins of the Intruders Foundation, New York City; and Ron Westrum, a sociology professor at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

The Roper Survey — done in three takes — included interviews of 5,947 adult Americans between July and September 1991. The polls included 11 questions, five of which are considered key "indicators" of possible alien abductions. They are:

■ Do you remember waking up paralyzed with a sense of a strange person or presence or

something else in the room? (18 percent said yes.)

■ Do you remember feeling that you were actually flying through the air although you didn't know why or how? (10 percent)

■ Do you remember experiencing a period of an hour or more in which you were apparently lost, but you could not remember why or where you had been? (13 percent)

■ Do you remember having seen unusual lights or balls of light in a room without knowing what was causing them, or where they came from? (8 percent)

■ Do you remember finding puzzling scars on your body and neither you nor anyone else remembering how you received them or where you got them? (8 percent)

According to the results, 1,033 reported one key experience, 484 reported two, 232 reported three, 101 reported four and 18 reported all five experiences.

The remaining questions asked participants whether they'd ever seen a ghost or a UFO, feeling as if they'd left their body, seeing a vivid and terrifying monster and having vivid dreams about UFOs. To filter out the abductee wannabes, they asked this question:

■ Do you remember hearing or seeing the word TRONDANT and knowing that it has a secret meaning for you?

There is no such word so the investigators deleted those who answered yes to that question, as well as yes to any of the five key indicators. It was a control question.

The surveyors regarded only those who answered yes to four of the five indicator questions, or 119 out of 5,497 people. That's 2 percent of those polled. Extrapolating to the general population, they figure one out of every 50 adult Americans may have had UFO abduction experiences. That's five million people.

— Cheryl TerHorst

Victim: 'You live in fear'

By CHERYL TERHORST
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Ann Livingston's life seems as though it should be splashed across the front page of a tabloid paper: "Space Aliens Abduct Northwest Suburban Woman More Than 30 Times!"

Except it's not funny. And she's not kidding.

Although, at first blush, most people would find her story odd at best, and many might label it downright whacko, Livingston leads what appears to be a normal life — kids, husband, full-time bookkeeping job and hobbies that include bird watching, crossword puzzles, reading espionage novels and travel.

She speaks of bright lights following her along deserted roads, having

several alien encounters in a white room where she was asked to memorize numbers and names, being on an examining table, floating through space and seeing disembodied, skull-like faces.

Although she's quick to point out she can offer no hard and fast proof of her abductions, Livingston produces a thick file of correspondence with UFO experts — from researchers to psychologists — with whom she's discussed her story. They back her and say it rings true.

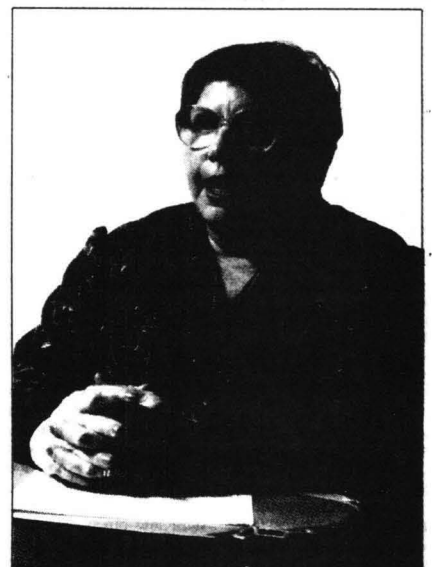
She says she's willing to tell her story, to stand up to public ridicule, because it's time we start taking alien abductions seriously. A 1991 survey by the Roper Organization estimates that some five million Americans have been abducted by otherworldly aliens, whether they realize it or not.

"You feel helpless in the sense that, if they want to take me, they're going to do it," says Livingston, who lives in a standard two-bedroom Northwest suburban apartment with her husband and one of her three grown daughters. "You live in fear, but that doesn't mean I've stopped living my life."

Livingston says her story has come out in snippets since 1985, with an odd memory popping into

her mind here and there. She learned a little more in April when she traveled to Cincinnati to be hypnotically regressed — a controversial method that is supposed to help people recall repressed memories. She hopes to entice Chicago-area psychologists and other experts into becoming interested in working with alien abductees.

Surrounded by the comforts of home — a color-splashed modular couch, brass and glass tables, pictures of owls and unicorns everywhere — Livingston relates experiences she says she never chose to



Believing she may have been abducted by aliens as many as 30 times, Ann Livingston says she is searching for the truth.

Daily Herald Photo/Daniel White

have, memories that she wishes she could erase.

This is the account of her close encounters of the fourth kind.

'Why me?'

It was Feb. 7, 1985, a Thursday evening, and Livingston had gathered with some friends at a North Side Chicago tavern to shoot a little pool. Livingston says she doesn't drink liquor so she was sipping a Coke. She got a little tired, sat on a bar stool and had a conversation with the owner. He walked away.

"The next thing I knew, my eyes snapped shut and I saw what seemed like an audio-video broadcast," she remembers. "I was in a huge white room with a computer console and four young-looking males — they looked like human men wearing brown tunic jumpsuits, like paratroopers wear."

"Two were standing on each side of the screen, like they were posing for a family picture," she says. "The shorter fellow walked up real close to me, and was almost touching my nose. But I don't remember if he had a nose."

She was aware of a voice coming from above her. She saw the man who was "talking," but nothing came out of his mouth. She doesn't even remember whether he had a mouth. The voice seemed to be communicated telepathically and sounded hollow and monotone, as if it had been computer-generated.

The voice commanded her to watch the computer screen and the two-digit numbers that scrolled in rows across it. "The voice was reciting all those numbers real fast; I didn't know how he could do it," says Livingston. "I was very agitated, feeling like, 'Why are you bothering

(continued on page 4)

me? Why aren't you leaving me alone? This is stupid, a waste of my time."

She turned to go and they told her she wasn't finished yet, to look at the screen again. This time, she says she saw a series of names flash on the screen and she was told to remember them.

She remembered only one: Domingo Vasquez Cancino.

"Then it was over and my eyes opened up," she says.

The whole incident only took a few minutes, but she says she was shaken.

"I thought somebody had put something in my drink," she says.

Although Livingston says she had a breakdown and episodes of neuroses in the mid-1970s, this was nothing like that. And she now wonders whether her experiences (which she believes began when she was only 4 or 5 years old) brought on the psychological problems she experienced nearly 20 years ago.

Life-long dream

In May of 1985, she took a long-dreamed-of vacation to Cancun, Mexico, and later returned for five months. "All my life, I've been compelled to speak Spanish, to go to the Yucatan and study Mayan culture," says Livingston. At the time, she was separated from her husband, Larry. (They reconciled in 1986).

She says she was eating breakfast at a Cancun restaurant, when a waiter approached her and said he had to speak to her — urgently.

"He said he was abducted and he was told to look for me," says Livingston.

"His name was Domingo Vasquez Cancino."

The two struck up a friendship — since ended — and had a number of odd experiences together, especially missing time while driving along deserted stretches of highway in Mexico. After one such experience, Livingston recalls feeling little electrical shocks up and down her thigh, back and neck on the right side. She says she felt dehydrated, nauseated and had a sore throat and the chills.

She says she never figured out Cancino's significance to her.

There were other weird experiences in Mexico. Livingston says she found herself drawn to the Mayan ruins, and after making a pilgrimage to Izamal, she says she suffered mild radiation sickness — possibly related to alien activity — and was treated by a doctor. Another time she was in a power outage and noticed an orange glow out her window. She was later told by locals that it was a UFO.

On Dec. 2, 1985 — a night with a full moon — Livingston said she was driving in her white Volkswagen Rabbit. On a lonely stretch of highway west of El Tintal — surrounded by jungle — she kept noticing a white ball in her rear view mirror. The moon was in front of her, and the white ball wasn't caused by car headlights, she determined. It kept following her.

She finally stopped the car to get out and look around, but didn't see anything. She got back in her car and took off. That's what she remembered, anyway. Years later, while under hypnosis, she determined that she had, in fact, seen something.

Under hypnosis

In April 1992 she was hypnotized three times by Brian Thompson, a medical researcher in Cincinnati, and the sessions were videotaped. Livingston says she has never had the courage to watch the tape before, but agreed to sit through it with a reporter recently.

Much of the videotape is unremarkable, but during the middle of the second session, Livingston begins to recall what happened when she stopped the car along the lonely stretch of highway in Mexico.

"I'm driving and it's dark and there's nothing on the radio," she says under hypnosis. "There's no oncoming traffic and I can see for miles.

"Behind me are two balls of light. One is headlights from a bus and it passes me. The other light stays the same all the time. I feel like it's right over the car. I stop and get out and look for it. It's very scary — I'm in the jungle.

"I started to shiver and got very afraid and was trembling. There's definitely something following me."

She pauses and then says, "It's not supposed to be like this."

She relates that the ball of light turns into a face. "It had hollow eyes, it looks like a skull," she says, and starts to sob. "Why is it doing this to me?"

Thompson asks her where the face is. "Over the left rear of my car, like a basketball, maybe bigger. I'm standing on the side of the road in the ditch."

She can't move, feels paralyzed. "I'm afraid a cat's going to come and jump me from behind," she says, still sobbing. "Why do I have to stand here?"

Suddenly, the light is gone. She gets back in her car. "I wonder if I can drive because I feel so bad," she says, but forges on because it's better than the alternative, she figures.

The light continues to follow her, but eventually blends into the night sky. Still under hypnosis, Livingston re-

calls a few other odd, disjointed events: floating feet first through space, being on a soft, cushioned examining table and being very warm, as though a sunlamp was shining on her. She remembers glimpsing a number of faces like the one she saw that night in Mexico.

Without the help of hypnosis, Livingston also remembers all kinds of odd goings-on during her life, from unexplained scars to car headlights flashing on and off by themselves, to an odd odor that she couldn't smell, but her family could. As a child, she would refuse to take naps in the afternoons "because my friend Caspar was in the room playing with me." (Aliens look something like ghosts, she explains.)

She had another waking dream-like experience (similar to the one in

the Chicago bar) in which the same four aliens were trying to teach her Swedish, and stood in a burned-out field showing her a shocking pink cloth.

And she had a sleeping dream about lying in a dentist-type chair, and being told by the same four males that she was getting a ribcage X-ray. They told her they had cured her sinus problem. "And I didn't have cold, flu or sinus problems for probably two years after that," she says.

They gave her all kinds of cryptic messages — such as she should only travel through space in clockwise vortices. And they pushed her to "get going with that book." (Livingston plans to write a book about her experiences.)

The most recent incident took

place three days before Thanksgiving, 1987. She says the aliens told her to travel someplace and they would see to it that she received money to finance the trip. Shortly after that, she got in a car accident and received a sizable insurance settlement.

Livingston's had some 30 incidents with aliens — or so she's been told by experts she's consulted. She suspects many of her recalled scenes — especially those of the four human-like men — are not true memories, only screens covering up what really went on.

But she wants to get to the bottom of the matter. "I want to know more about it," Livingston says. "I don't like loose ends, and I've been living with a lot of them."

PHENOMENA

LITTLE GRAY MATTERS

Ufologists give serious thought to alien beings

BY THOMAS CRONE

One Sunday a month — the second to be precise — members of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis meet to discuss the fields of parapsychology and ufology, right there in the basement of the Tyler Place Presbyterian Church at Spring and Russell in South St. Louis.

Although the topics of UFOs and demons and ghosts and abductions are usually the fodder of the tabloids, the people you're likely to encounter at the Tyler meetings consider themselves serious investigators of unnatural phenomena. At the very least, they're very interested bystanders. And they've been at it, in this incarnation, since 1969.

Not to say they don't enjoy the tabloids.

In fact, at the meeting held last Sunday, one of the members, Frank Brown, took time out during the roundtable portion of the afternoon to read the headlines of the tabloid pieces published in the last month. The audience, about 15 on this snow-covered day, tittered at such screaming headlines as "Elephants Kidnapped by UFOS" ("That happened a couple of years ago, too"); "Demon Ghosts Go on Rampage"; and "Monsters Ahoy, Scientists Go After Sea Creatures" ("I hope that stops. I'm going to the Triangle [Bermuda, apparently] in two weeks").

Says Brown, "Every once a while the people from NASA say they find something worthwhile, though you have to look really hard to find anything credible there."

During Brown's run-down of the weird news, the Tyler Church pipes began to act up, banging away in time. For a couple of seconds, attendees looked at one another, looked around at the room and looked for someone to crack the joke. It would be Brown who'd do the honors. "That's spooks. That's a poltergeist."

My neighbor turned to me and said, "You can laugh at that."

We all laughed. But not for long.

The first portion of the day's agenda dealt with lighthearted fare like the above. In addition to the tabloid news, the discussion was freewheeling, with talk about crop circles, a summary of a recent assembly in Eureka Springs and some more gab about the television show *Sightings*.

That thread of conversation led to one of the more interesting comments of the day, when a member of the group said that the Aurora aircraft being developed by the U.S. military was too fast for any conventional purpose.

The deduction? "I can see no other reason for a speed that fast except for UFO pursuit."

Once again, conversation veered back towards crop circles, with a number of relevant publications having been donated to the study group's library just that day, including the British zine *Cereologist*. Debunkers of crop circles were talked about in less-than-complimentary terms. Although the group

did say that some of the circles might be human-made, too many of them exist to have simply been the work of pranksters. Or so the discussion went.

Said my neighbor of the debunkers, "It's probably a government put-on to keep it down." In effect, those who have come forward with their elaborate systems of beating down crops are part of a larger effort to keep the crop-circle phenomenon quiet. Why?

"It's already in the food chain. We're already getting the milk and beef of the animals who've eaten these crops. That's what people are wondering about."

Interesting, but not as interesting as things would get.

After a 10-minute intermission, the main portion of the day's events would get under way, specifically a review of the new Simon & Schuster tome *Secret Life: Firsthand Accounts of UFO Abductions* by David M. Jacobs, with a foreword by John E. Mack, a prof of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.

Spencer "Spence" Wolling, the study group's treasurer, spoke first, giving an objective review of the work, which he characterized as "very realistic." Wolling continued, "I highly recommend this book. I think for anyone that might be an abductee, it would bring back memories they'd rather forget."

As it turned out, the speaker originally scheduled for the "subjective" review of the book had bowed out because it brought back those memories, ones too vivid to discuss. However, the day wasn't lost, as the study group's president, John Schroeder, filled in.

His address was absolutely personal, relating in great detail a series of dreams that he'd had since childhood. He also discussed meetings that he's had with a number of different interested parties, from

mid-level executives at McDonnell Douglas to a captain sent from the Pentagon to an unnamed agent in Florida. In short, the subjective review ranged from conspiracy theory to Schroeder's own religious take, which is not a minor point in that Schroeder is a Lutheran minister.

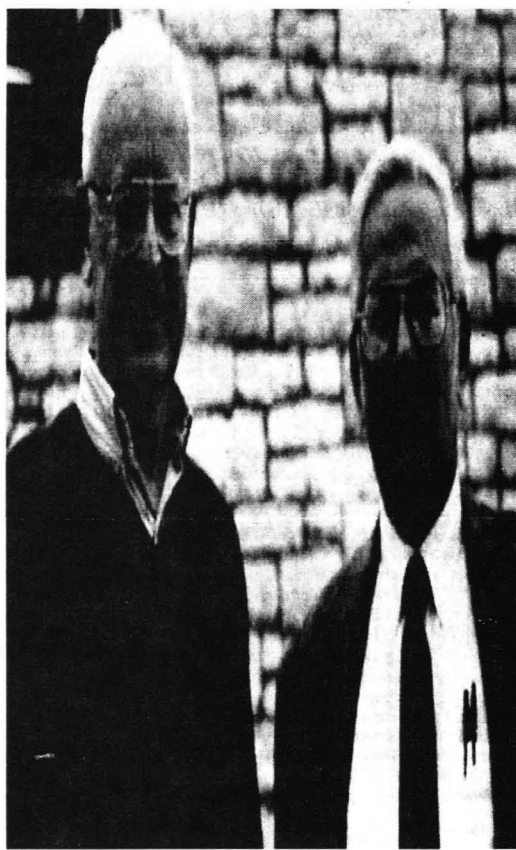
"I felt I ought to give a response to the book rather than a review," Schroeder said before the talk. "Some of these things may be threatening to my status as a pastor. But as an investigator, you tell what you know and hope that those you speak to receive it charitably."

Even holding back on the details, Schroeder's hourlong address ranged over topics like black holes, prophecies of 1993 as "the year of the floods," and childhood remembrances of maybe seeing "little grays" — the name apparently given to otherworldly beings. No matter what your own take on the topic of ufology, it was nothing short of a fascinating talk, rich in detail and given with a preacher's sense of timing and energy.

"There's something going on. And it's important."

When Schroeder's lengthy talk ended, it was time for questions and answers. The first query came from my neighbor, who recounted a quick anecdote from last week's Eureka Springs confab, then asked whether the little grays were able to pop large, black, buglike eyes out their heads.

Schroeder didn't say they could. But he didn't rule it out, either.



Spencer "Spence" Wolling and John Schroeder

No Martians on display at new UFO museum

Stories by
Florence H. Allen

Most of us have opinions about UFOs. They exist. ... Hogwash. ... Crashed flying saucers have been located. ... Reports of such crashes are bunk. ... Alien space beings have been found, some alive and others dead. ... Absolutely no evidence of little green men from other planets have surfaced.

"They aren't green," was the brief statement of a witness, who, like many others, was sworn to silence in July 1947 when it was reported that a flying disc had crashed in the desert of Roswell, N.M.

Since that time, snatches of information about this event and others have continued to surface. And after 45 years of mystery, secrecy and cover-up, light is shining on the Roswell controversy. The International UFO Museum and Research Center has opened in Roswell, N.M., devoted to material and information of the UFO sighting there.

People worldwide have contributed personal experiences and evidence, and this non-profit museum and research center has organized and displayed it. The material on exhibit includes pictures, tapes, newspaper articles and letters. The supply of information continues to grow now that there is a center to house it.

One of the men involved in establishing the museum, Walter Haut, got into trouble with the Army in 1947 for issuing a press release which attracted great public interest about the Roswell incident. The incident and details were quickly stamped confidential by the military.

Now, it is hoped that anyone interested will have a chance to see UFO information about the Roswell incident in southwest New Mexico, as well as other alleged sightings.

The facility's main exhibition room has five large display boards, both sides holding a wide assortment of information and photographs.

Originally this was a UFO exhibit owned by John Timmerman, a researcher and member of the board of directors for the J. Allen Hynek Center for

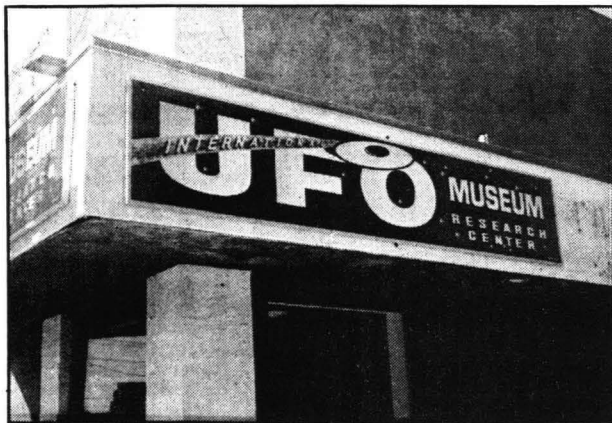


PHOTO:UFO MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTER

The humble-looking building holds some startling mysteries, say founders of the UFO Museum which opened last fall in Roswell, N.M.

Center offers closer encounter of the Roswell kind

It is appropriate that one of the men involved in establishing the UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell, N.M. is Walter Haut. He was an Army Public Information Office back in July, 1947 when he issued a press release on the reported sighting of a UFO there.

The publicity attracted great public interest and eventually brought Haut an Army reprimand.

"... The flying object landed on a ranch near Roswell sometime last week. Not having phone facilities, the rancher stored the disc until he was able to contact the Sheriff's Office, who, in turn, notified the ... 509th ..."

Within a matter of hours the story was hushed up, and people were sworn to secrecy for national security purposes. A story was quickly circulated

by the Army that a weather balloon had crashed, and it released photographs of balloon fragments. Although Walter Haut did not see the disc or flying saucer, as they were called, those people, sworn to secrecy, said only that it was not a weather balloon.

About 1,980 books have been written about UFOs as people developed an interest in the subject.

Two books about this 1947 sighting are: "The Roswell Incident, The Classic Study of UFO Contact," by Charles Berlitz and William L. Moore, and "UFO Crash at Roswell," by Air Force Capt. Kevin R. Randle, and Donald R. Schmitt, director of special investigations, Center for UFO Studies.

UFO Studies in Chicago.

Timmerman traveled around the country, setting up his exhibit in schools, malls and shopping centers.

Anyone who had a UFO experience to share was encouraged to allow Timmerman to tape the interview and this became part of the record. This unique exhibit is an important part of the museum.

Smaller side rooms are devoted to special uses. One room is set up for listening to tapes, another for viewing videos. A separate library contains the many books that

have been collected on the subject.

Volunteers staff the museum, keeping track of and cataloging materials, as well as working in the museum shop and the museum itself.

Museum director Haut, who was reprimanded by the Army for his handling of the Roswell incident as a public affairs officer, is pleased the museum has finally materialized. Haut also believes that new technology will become available to help identify and understand materials and debris similar to that found at the

IF YOU GO

UFO MUSEUM

• **Where:** The UFO Museum And Research Center is located at 400 North Main St., Roswell, N.M. 88201. Mailing address is: P.O. Box 2221. Roswell, N.M. 88202, phone (505) 625-9495.

• **Visiting Hours:** 1 to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

• **Admission:** free although contributions are accepted. Several types of membership are available which offer special museum and research privileges. This information is available by calling or writing to the museum.

We knew the services sector was expanding ... but this?

Feeling a bit alienated since spotting that shimmering light descend from the heavens while fishing in the country last weekend? You are not alone — at least, you don't have to be.

A new company, **UFO Investigations Inc.**, will check out your claim and set your mind at ease — at no charge. This unusual Mandeville-based venture brings together **Troy Rodgers**, owner of Rodgers Construction, **Bill Robinson**, an account executive with WNOL-TV in New Orleans, and Mississippi resident **Calvin Parker**. (More on Parker in a moment.)

UFO Investigations records verbal accounts of sightings, interviews witnesses and then draws a conclusion as to whether the event was an actual encounter with extraterrestrials or merely an overreaction to a weather balloon.

"We visit with the people and find out if it's fact or fiction," Rodgers says. Though only two months old, UFO Investigations has already probed a couple of sightings.

About Parker. He will serve as president of UFO Investigations, a position for which he is eminently qualified. Parker made national headlines 19 years ago when he claimed to have been abducted (and obviously later returned) by a UFO while fishing near Pascagoula.

Since they are not charging for their investigative services, Parker and partners expect financial rewards to come in the form of royalties from an upcoming book about Parker's abduction. "The book is going to be worth a fortune," Rodgers predicts. He says the UFO account will appear in book stores later this year.

DAILY SENTINEL, Scottsboro, AL - Feb. 19, 1993

Lights in sky still confound DeKalb County onlookers

From The Times-Journal

What ever it is, it is still doing whatever it does over DeKalb County and witnesses are still stumped.

But Gary Coker of Skirum believes he captured a picture of the object that has had everyone talking.

It began four weeks ago in the Dogtown community near the backyard of Sue Johnson. Since that time, others have reported seeing a dazzling star-like triangular-shaped craft with red and white lights. All said the silent object could hover or move in any direction at slow or blinding speeds.

At least seven sightings were reported in Geraldine, Grove Oak, Crossville, Dawson, Kilpatrick, Duck Springs, Walker's Chapel, and Adamsburg.

Geraldine Police dispatcher Susanne Austin said she and her husband Dave, a Geraldine police officer, saw the object from their farm on Feb. 2nd, about two miles southwest of Geraldine City Hall.

Mrs. Austin attempted to take photographs, but her camera did not outline the object clearly. Then Mrs. Austin said she captured the object

on videotape as it moved near her home on Feb. 8.

Coker said he had just returned from a baseball clinic at Jacksonville last Sunday and was feeding his dogs around 8 p.m. when he saw a red light along the western horizon.

The next night he noticed another light along the horizon and ran to get his 35mm camera. Over the next five minutes, he took six exposures through his telephoto lens, shooting on Tri-X-Pan — a versatile film used by photojournalists that can be "pushed" to register details in darker settings.

Fastening the camera to a tripod further enabled him to get an image from the black of night.

He speculated the the object was six miles away.

"I time-lapsed some of the exposures to 15 seconds or 30 seconds, so part of it may have been distortion," he said.

He described it as looking like "a real large star" through his lens.

Coker called his sister, who told him earlier that she wanted to see it. She said she had heard it may be the planet Venus, he recalled.

"When I went back out, it was

gone, and I told her not to worry about Venus anymore," he said.



Gary Coker of Skirum said he shot this photo of a strange light that has appeared a number of times in the skies over DeKalb County.

People

Compiled by JIM BEDNAREK

'UFO abductee' is still hounded by skeptics

■ **Travis Walton**, whose UFO abduction story is told in the movie "Fire in the Sky," says he's hounded by people who doubt him and seven fellow loggers.

"I hope people come out of the movie more open-minded," he said in a telephone interview from his home in Snowflake in eastern Arizona.

Walton, 40, was a logger in northeastern Arizona when he said he was lifted into the sky by an extraterrestrial beam of light on Nov. 5, 1975. He said he reappeared five days later.

The movie, starring **D.B. Sweeney** as Walton, prompted a new attack on Walton's claims by the Committee for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, which debunks supernatural claims.

A member of the organization, **Philip J. Klass**, said in a 1983 book that Walton and logging crew leader **Michael Rogers** concocted a hoax to win a National Enquirer UFO sighting contest and to manufacture an excuse for missing a logging contract deadline.

Walton, Rogers and six other loggers split a \$5,000 prize, but have denied any hoax.

Seeing the movie was tough at first for Walton.

"I had to put on the brakes emotionally to sit all the way through," he said.

SENTINEL, Milwaukee, WI - March 23, 1993 CR: M. Anderson

This time, UFO is caught on video film

By LARUE CORNELISON
TheTimes-Journal

GERALDINE - The UFO saga that began three weeks ago in Dogtown near the backyard of Sue Johnson continues in DeKalb County — this time with film footage from Geraldine that has caught the eye of at least two TV stations.

Susanne Austin, a Geraldine P.D. dispatcher who first reported seeing a brightly-lit object in the sky near her home last week, says she has captured the object on videotape. She filmed the object moving over her house Monday night in hopes that recording its movement would distinguish it from a star or ordinary aircraft.

Channels 40 and 48 on Wednesday came to Geraldine P.D. to make 'dummy copies' of Mrs. Austin's film, after State Troopers in Attalla reviewed it on Tuesday.

"They (TV photographers) said they didn't know what it was, either," commented Mrs. Austin on Wednesday, adding that both stations were to air the footage Wednesday night.

Sgt. Ron Olgetree, Post Commander of Trooper Post E in Attalla said the tape "shows a diamond-shaped object with three bright lights, and smaller ones moving a distance behind it ... less than 1,000 feet high. I have never seen an aircraft lit up in this manner. If

'None of these people have said they believe this is a flying saucer... They want a logical explanation...'

--Trooper Post E
Commander Ron Olgetree

the lights were colored lights, I would guess they would be landing lights. But these were bright, white lights. Mrs. Austin says she saw a metal shape to the craft that extended below the lights."

Mrs. Austin said Tuesday she is very curious to know what the flying object is, but is certain that the publicity her film is attracting will earn her a reputation for being "crazy". (She took photos last week, which didn't turn out well).

However, Olgetree is convinced Mrs. Austin, as well as at least seven other people he has interviewed, are not crazy. "They gave me good statements," he noted.

"I have seen and heard some very interesting things. I believe these people saw something."

"They all say they don't know what it is they saw; then they describe exactly what they saw; and then they say they'd like to know what it is."

Olgetree, who has kept record of the sightings, says the Trooper Post continues to get calls concerning the DeKalb UFO.

"My guess is that this object is one of three things: a military aircraft - experimental or not; a natural or manmade object such as a weather balloon or satellite; or a truly unknown flying object - a UFO. People forget that's what the letters stand for. They automatically think of aliens."

"None of these people have said they believe this is a flying saucer. My guess is that they want a logical explanation."

The Federal Aviation Administration in Atlanta said they do not accept UFO reports, and suggested a call be placed to the National UFO Reporting Center, 206-722-3000.

Robert Gribble said in a telephone interview Friday that the privately-owned center located in Seattle, Washington, had not received any reports of UFOs in DeKalb County; but that the center would be interested in hearing from those who have seen the object.

Gribble said the center covers all of North America.

CITIZEN-TIMES, Asheville, NC - Feb. 9, 1993

Local woman presenting slide show on crop circles

By Nancy Marlowe
FEATURES EDITOR

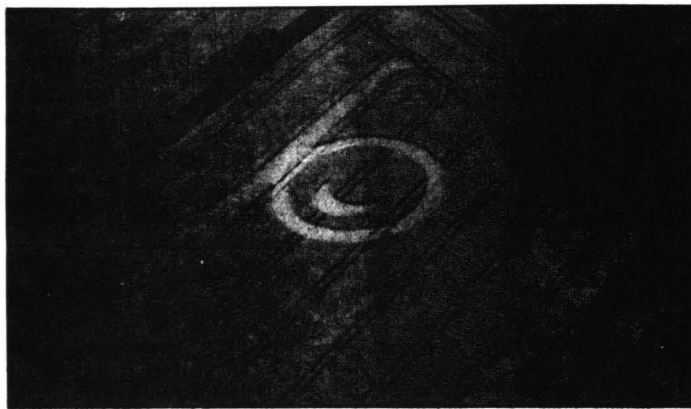
Colette M. Dowell of Black Mountain studies crop circles, the phenomena whereby fields of grain are flattened in precise patterns of unknown origin. The naturopathic physician said she does mathematical analysis of the circles, guided by unexplained "nudges," for she is not a physicist or trained mathematician.

Using a calculator and the guidance of the nudges, she spends hours studying the patterns she has observed in England, the United States and Canada.

Dowell will present a slide lecture on scientific analysis of the crop circle formations appearing in England on Sunday, Feb. 21, from 2 until 5 p. m. at the Unity Center, Airport Road, Arden. The lecture, "Harmonic Formative Forces/The Pulse of Life," is open to the public.

Dowell, who says she is psychic and clairvoyant, says she has reached no conclusion about who or what makes the circles. "I call them 'the circle makers.' Yes, UFOs have been associated with the phenomena and they are thought to be of extraterrestrial origin, but I try to keep an open mind. They (the crop circles) are amazing, really beautiful."

"The circle makers are trying to communicate. They are obviously some higher form, extraterrestrials possibly, but they could be spirits."



Colette M. Dowell of Black Mountain will lecture on crop circles, such as this one that appeared in England last summer depicting Earth and moon.

Whatever the technology used, its much greater than any we have. We have yet to replicate them (the circles) without damaging the crop."

She does not accept British government explanations that the crop circles were the work of two pranksters, Doug and Dave. The controversial crop circle formations have been seen around the world on various continents, she said.

"The possibility of 'Doug and Dave' producing these magnificent art forms is highly unlikely."

Dowell, who spent last summer in England studying crop circles, said, "My findings are that they are an attempt to communicate scientific information. Others think it is only art and a pleasure to look at."

Dowell has been involved in anomalies research for 19 years. She said her research on crop formations has been presented to the United Nations, at conferences in the United Kingdom and on panels at Discovery Expo in Atlanta.

She has published her work in various science journals and publications, including *Borderland Research* and the Louisiana Mounds Society journal. She is a contributing research consultant for the Mars Mission, a group of scientists studying the possibility of life on Mars, and her work is credited in the revised edition of "The Monuments of Mars" by Richard Hoagland. She is a subject in David Jacobs' book titled "Secret Lives," which deals with the topic of alien intelligence.

She said her lecture at the Unity Center on the Airport Road will be illustrated by slides made during the 1992 season. A love offering of \$10 will be taken. For further information, call the Unity Center at 684-3798.

Alleged Local UFO Sightings Being Investigated, Studied

By VALORIE TRAMM
Beacon News Staff Writer

UFO sightings that have recently been reported around Edgar County will be investigated by a Vincennes, Ind., man who studies the phenomena, Paris resident Phillip Dean said.

Dean, who has been researching UFO sightings for more than 30 years, has interviewed several witnesses in Paris and the surrounding area who claim to have seen large, bright unidentified objects. He has invited Jerry Serviers of Vincennes, Ind., to visit Paris and investigate the sightings further.

Serviers is the Indiana assistant state director of MUFON, or the Mutual UFO Network. He will be visiting Paris Feb. 13 to interview witnesses.

Paula Frigge, one of three Paris residents who say they sighted a UFO on the night of Jan. 26th, said the object was very strange. She will describe her encounter to Serviers.

"(It looked like) a big round thing, and it was pure white for a while," said Frigge. "It stayed white for a long time, and then it changed colors, raised, and was gone," Frigge said of the object that was observed at approximately 3:45 a.m.

Frigge is also frustrated at the reaction from other people about the sighting. "I'm tired of people thinking we're nuts because there were people at the police department that saw something, too," she said.

Another sighting was reported prior to Frigge's sighting, and the appearance of this UFO was different.

On the night of Jan. 24, Mary Ann Moonyham of Paris saw a round ball that emitted blue light and a white tail. Moonyham said she saw the object from her home on Cherry Point Road, and called police to the scene.

A police officer who asked to remain

unidentified, claims to have seen the light as well. However, he said it resembled a star, and he was not concerned.

Dean said these recent sightings are just a sample of what he has discovered over the years. Since 1955, Dean said there have been more than 25 people in Paris, Grandview, Redmon and Chrisman that have reported strange sightings bearing no resemblance to an airplane or a star. He said there is no indication of what causes these lights, and that is what interested him in researching it.

"I do not know (where the lights originate). It's a complete mystery," he said. "All that we can say is that they are unidentified and they are flying."

He and other witnesses who will talk to Serviers on Feb. 13 hope to learn more about the strange phenomena that defy explanation.

If you look -you might see them

Current UFO sightings puzzle Saguache County residents

by Christopher O'Brien

The San Luis Valley in south-central Colorado is heating up. There have been, and continue to be, numerous UFO sightings. These unusual sightings are picking up in intensity.

Additional witnesses, of the November through January sightings, are being interviewed from all over the northern portion of the San Luis Valley in Saguache County (see Crestone Eagle articles in February and March issues).

Additional Witnesses Found

Several additional accounts during the third week of November include a Crestone resident being "compelled to drive to the end of the Baca Grande development" to the border of the Baca Ranch where she claimed she lost almost two hours. She said she arrived at the end of the road at 8:30 pm, November 24th, 1992, the eve of Thanksgiving, and doesn't recall the next hour and a half. This was the time period "small glimmering" lights were spotted by several Crestone/Baca residents over the Baca Ranch. Two Baca residents who lived just over a mile away witnessed "... lights that at one point were directly over our house."

A rancher 25 miles north and 10 miles west of the Baca Ranch area where "large whitish-gold laser-like ovals" where seen December 9th, 1992, claimed seeing a "a bright white light come over the Sangre De Cristos." He said it hov-

ered momentarily then "in no more than 2 or 3 seconds", streak south over his head 60-70 miles and hover "over the (Baca) ranch." The witness has only lived in the valley for a year and had not had any prior sightings. "It sure got me keeping my eyes open!" he stated.

Another Saguache County rancher and his wife travelling south on [Hwy] 285, 35 miles north of the Baca Ranch saw what was described as "brilliant white light."

"Up until now I didn't believe in UFOs, but that was the damndest thing I ever saw", remarked Donna Alexander, one of the witnesses.

Daytime Sighting

On December 21, 1992 at 10:50 am, two Crestone residents again observed what they had previously described as a "bell-shaped metallic object" just outside the town of Mosca, Colorado. The object flew over their car as they travelled south on [Hwy] 17 and appeared to be "headed for Bianca Peak" to the east. This object may have been spotted by occupants of another car travelling on the road.

A Strange Copter Seen

During the second week of January, a Moffat, Colorado rancher returning from Salida, Colorado on [Hwy] 17 saw what he described as a "dark green 2-man helicopter menacing his herd" of horses in a corral next to the highway. He said the helicopter was hovering less than 100 feet from his herd. The rancher, a former Air Force officer candidate, tried to get

the aircraft's FAA ID number but said the number appeared incomplete. The rancher is understandably upset because, two years ago this spring, he noticed that two of his horses began missing "clipped off" portions of their ears. This disturbing phenomena occurred over a two month period. He stated that this all happened after the last frost and could not be attributed to frost-bite.

From Over the Mountains

On February 11th and 12th, 1993, a Crestone resident claimed he saw a "bright white light come over the (Sangre De Cristo) Mountains," hover for "10 or 15 seconds" before "zipping north over the tops of the mountains." The next night a "bright white light", again was seen. This time the object dropped through cloud cover, lighting up the clouds, before streaking north. Both these sightings occurred between 9:30 and 10:00 pm and were completely silent.

Who's Up There?

During the third week of February, a Moffat, Colorado resident was parked at the North Crestone Campground entrance gate where he experienced his car being "lit up from above" by a "brilliant white beam of light". He described the beam as having "incredible energy." He said the "light was trying to get him out of his car!" A second smaller beam of light then proceeded to light up 4 or 5 spots sequentially

around his car. He said the whole episode only lasted for 4 or 5 seconds and after wards left him feeling "exhausted and limp." He was never able to see the source of the light beams and he claimed that whatever it was, it was completely silent.

On February 23rd and 24th, a psychotherapist who lives 20 miles north of Crestone near Valley View Hot Springs observed an unexplained light over the valley. There were reportedly additional witnesses to one of the sightings.

Gonzo Journalism?

On March 15th, two Baca Grants residents again observed lights over the Baca Ranch. The couple also saw an unusual light on the western skyline. This sighting took place just after 8:00pm. Two other witnesses were driving east on Road T towards Crestone and observed lights in a triangle in the same vicinity. One of the witnesses, a firm non-believer in UFOs, has evidently altered his view of these puzzling phenomena. I received a call on my answering machine at 8:16 pm telling me of the couple's sighting. I arrived home at 9:30 and immediately climbed up on the roof with binoculars to observe the area where these lights were seen. At 9:40, I happened to catch movement over what I perceived was the town of Saguache Colorado, 30 miles directly west. The light could be described as looking like a brilliant sodium-vapor street-light. I have an unobstructed 70 degree view of the western portion of the San Luis Valley from Villa Grove to the northern border of Costilla County. I watched the light travel silently almost 100 miles down the western side of the valley, at what appeared to be around 4 or 5,000 feet above the valley floor. This only took 2 or 3 minutes. After the light reached what appeared to be the Costilla County border, it disappeared instantly to the south. Five minutes later, I observed a second light, exactly the same as the first, travel the same path as the first one. Midway in its flight path I called to my girlfriend who also observed the strange light. The light could not have come from the after-burner of an unlit jet, for we observed it coming and going. There were 4 aircraft in the air over the valley at the same time as these two objects, some obviously much further away than the object, and all of them exhibited the standard flashing anti-collision lights required by the FAA. The objects never flashed.

Jet Fighters Seen

Less than 10 minutes after the second light disappeared, three military jets screamed over the Sangres from the east, two of them made a sweeping turn and headed directly south in the direction the lights disappeared while the third jet continued west towards the town of Saguache.

Under-sheriff Lynn Bogle of the Saguache Sheriffs Department heard "around 10:00 o'clock," a "jet roar over his house" at an unusually low

altitude. He had been working on his computer and ran outside to see it, but was unable to spot the plane. No reports were made to the Alamosa and Rio Grande Sheriffs Departments.

Could You Turn That Light Off, Please!

That same night two Crestone Baca residents experienced strange lights illuminating their houses. One of them described the light as being like moonlight but much brighter. The other one described the light as red. Neither of them checked the time, but thought it happened between 2 and 3 in the morning.

Keep Your Eyes Open

All these incidents are puzzling. They indicate SOMETHING is going on. The San Luis Valley has periodically been a hotbed of UFO activity for the last 30 years and it appears we are in for an exciting spring, summer and fall. These sightings curiously seem to start around 9:30pm. Area residents are urged to devote time to trying to observe these unexplained lights and report them to me at (719) 256-4128.

Since my February article, I have discovered two additional cattle mutilations this past fall, over the Sangres in Huerfano County, and two possible mutilations this past spring.

Stranger Than Fiction

I am hot on the trail of documenting a forced crash of a small UFO over the Great Sand Dunes National Monument observed by two archeologists on a dig on Medano Creek.

These and other fantastic stories will be covered in upcoming issues, stay tuned and alert.

Oops!

Linda Moulton Howes address was subject to a typo last month. Her address is PO Box 538, Huntingdon Valley, PA, 19006, we apologize for the error.

Again, thanks to researcher Tom Adams in Paris TX, and to researcher Dave Clemens of Westcliff Colorado.

Christopher O'Brien is a researcher in the San Luis Valley, who is working on a book and documentary concerning paranormal activities in southern Colorado. His mailing address is: P.O. Box 223, Crestone, CO 81131.

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JOURNAL, Falls City, NE - Feb. 8, 1993 CR: G. Nelson

Professor: space aliens are here

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A physics professor believes space aliens are visiting Earth and at least one civilization is kidnapping people and performing medical experiments on them.

The U.S. government covers up evidence of the aliens to avert panic and news organizations and even scientists avoid the subject for fear of ridicule, said University of Nebraska at Omaha professor John Kasher.

Kasher, who holds a doctorate in physics, teaches courses on supernatural phenomena and space science. He has taught at UNO for 25 years.

Kasher has been interested in unidentified flying objects and science fiction most of his life, and 20 years ago became involved with the Mutual UFO Network, an international organization with about 4,300 members that gathers information on UFOs and publicizes the information.

Nebraska has about 50 MUFON members, most of them in the eastern part of the state, said Kasher, who is the state director.

Kasher said he approaches the question of UFOs as a scientist and that MUFON stresses gathering scientific evidence for UFO reports.

"I demand that I look at the evidence objectively wherever I can," Kasher said. "And if there's nothing there, then there's nothing there."

But Kasher feels there is something there.

"I personally feel that there are probably several civilizations here and they may have different agendas," Kasher said.

"Some may be here just on a scientific investigation, and so they'll just watch quietly. You know, if you want to study an anthill you don't go in and mess it up, you just watch it," Kasher, 54, said in an interview in his office, which includes pictures of purported flying saucers.

"There is a good deal of evidence to support the fact that at least one civilization is involved in kidnapping our citizens and doing medical exams on them and then bringing them back," Kasher said. "It could very well be that they are doing this on a massive scale."

Kasher said the aliens don't appear to be hurting people, and he hopes they are benevolent.

"I think if they wanted to take over (the planet) they could have done it a long time ago," Kasher said.

At least once a year Kasher gives a talk on campus on UFOs and he talks often on the subject to rotary and optimist clubs, Kasher said.

UNO teachers and administrators support him and students are open to the possibility of extraterrestrial life, Kasher said.

Kasher acknowledges that his beliefs are shocking, but he feels it is important that people know the

truth.

"I think it's important for people to realize it's happening around here," Kasher said. "The abduction thing, I don't know how much you want to hit that, that's really kind of bizarre stuff. But boy, if it's happening people should know about it. And that's happening, apparently, quite a bit in Omaha," Kasher said. "And then there are saucer sightings here, too."

There is a support group of about 47 people in Omaha for people who believe they were abducted or contacted by aliens, Kasher said.

Kasher declined to name any of the people in the group.

The group meets just west of Omaha at the Oakcrest Institute, said E. Quay Fitch, a 74-year-old retired funeral director who is in charge of the institute that collects information on paranormal experiences.

"This is the only place people can go to talk about what happened to them without being ridiculed," Fitch said.

Martians in New Mexico? HBO Begins Filming Government's UFO Encounter

Whenever UFO buffs gather, the name Roswell is certain to be mentioned.

It has become synonymous with "little green men" and flying saucers.

The anecdote goes something like this:

In 1947 a strange disklike spacecraft crashed in the New Mexico desert near Roswell.

The U.S. government at first reported it had retrieved a UFO — in those early days of "sightings" they were called flying saucers and ultimately acronymed to Unidentified Flying Objects. Then the government abruptly changed its tune, announcing the UFO was a weather balloon and cloaking further investigation in secrecy.

In the 45 years since, only bits and pieces of information have escaped the military muzzle, which has for nearly a half-century prompted the nagging question: Had they found proof of life beyond the Earth?

More recently a number of genre films have alluded to that crash. CBS's two-part miniseries, *Intruders*, last season made much of Roswell and the alleged discovery of alien crewmen aboard the craft. From time to time other screenplays have drawn on a similar premise.

Now, HBO Pictures is in pre-production with a March filming schedule on *The Roswell Incident* directed by Jeremy Paul Kagan from a script by Arthur Kopit, based on the book, *UFO Crash at Roswell*, by Kevin Randle and Donald Schmitt. The cast has not yet been determined and HBO hasn't decided where it will be filmed. (How about Utah?) ...



Harold Schindler

Television Editor

TRIBUNE, Salt Lake City, UT - Feb. 21, 1993

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - March 24, 1993

Skywatchers Miss Photo Shoot - Gulf Breeze UFO Surprises Group

By Bland Pugh

On Thursday evening, I spoke with Ed Walters. After talking for about 10 minutes, he asked if I was going to go on a skywatch that evening. I said yes, Ed responded that he might show up. I really didn't think too much about it as I know how busy he is with building these days, so I just went on to Shoreline Park and put it out of my mind. I arrived and began talking with a couple of other skywatchers when Ed drove up, he walked down to the water and stood alone looking out over the Sound. I finished my conversation and headed over to speak with him, when he turned and pointed saying 'there it is,' in an excited voice. There sat the Gulf Breeze UFO at about 18 degrees with its brilliant Ruby Red light glowing in the Southern sky. I didn't have my video camera with me, nor did anyone else at the park have any photo equipment at the time, so there were no pictures taken of this particular sighting. Ed and I stood there watching as the UFO pulsed and moved ever so slightly to the Southwest, then turning a spectacular white and green before popping out. This sighting lasted some 3 1/2 to 4 minutes.

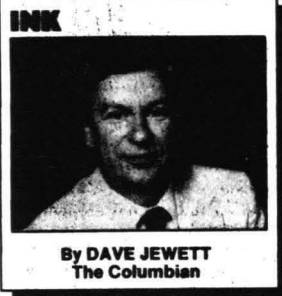
Approximately 5 minutes after the UFO had disappeared Bruce, Anne, and 'Clancey' Morrison arrived at Shoreline Park in a cloud of brake drum smoke and dust, excitedly telling me they had seen the UFO from the 'Three Mile Bridge.' There were able to see the last of the sighting when the brilliant white light appeared. Bruce went back to the bridge and got the coordinates, I had taken them from the Park, and after putting the two together it gave us somewhat of a triangulation placing the UFO out in the Gulf just off of

Pensacola Beach, in the vicinity of the Tristan Towers. The problem, when you have a sighting very close to being due South, is that both Shoreline Park and the Three Mile Bridge are almost on the same compass bearing, thus making an intersect very difficult.

I guess all of this only proves one thing, the Gulf Breeze UFO hasn't gone away, and that you can still see it from the 'Three Mile Bridge.' It also says that Ed Walters is still very much a player in the Gulf Breeze UFO phenomenon.

The UFO continues to attract people to the area. A gentleman in his 80's, Walters Wiers, from Los Angeles, CA and a friend, Susan McNeill of Leominster, MA arrived Friday evening to study, and hopefully observe the Breeze's most famous resident. I was fortunate enough to speak to Mr. Wiers at length on Saturday evening, this gentleman has been studying the UFO phenomenon for over 50 years, I found him to be a wealth of information. It's also good to have Floyd and Sally Hitchcock with us again. They have just returned from Israel, and are on their way home to Denver, CO. They went on a skywatch with us on Sunday evening. We began our watch about 7:00 p.m. About 8:30 p.m., we were told of a sighting that had happened around 6:30 p.m. in the area of the Fire Station on the Beach. Floyd and Sally, maybe next time.

Now that the blizzard of '93 has passed, and the Azaleas are back in full bloom, hopefully the weather will permit more warm evenings for skywatching. Keep looking up and behind you, you may be surprised at what or who is watching you.



Our own star in the sky

Vancouver resident Robert Biheller appears in two scenes, and has dialogue in each, in the movie "Fire in the Sky," the No. 2 film in national ticket sales last weekend. In each instance, Biheller gets a pretty good closeup.

Biheller used to be a successful Los Angeles actor, and had a long-running job as Corky in ABC's "Here Come the Brides" (1968-70). He later moved into screenwriting but left the big-city rat race and moved to Vancouver some years back. He has a thriving video-audio production company here, but keeps his hand in acting when TV and movie crews head to the Pacific Northwest.

"Fire in the Sky" was filmed last August in Douglas County, Ore., in and around the Boomer Hill area and the town of Oakland (population 8,400), which doubles for Snowflake, Ariz.

The story deals with one of the best-known alien abduction stories, that of Travis Walton, a logger who believes he was lifted into a UFO and used for experiments by alien beings. He was missing for five days, before being found nude and apparently traumatized. He has repeatedly passed lie detector tests.

In the movie, Biheller plays one of the concerned townsfolk, a bearded fellow first seen wielding a shovel out in the woods when searchers go looking for Walton.

Later in the movie, Biheller's character is seen speaking up from one of the front pews when a meeting of the citizens is held in the town church.

Biheller passes along an interesting tip for those who will be seeing the movie. In the church scene, the woman seated next to him is the real wife of Walton, and the man next to her in the pew is the real-life Walton, both serving as extras without lines in the brief sequence.

Don Berliner, a member of the executive committee of the non-profit Fund for UFO Research Inc., based in Washington, D.C., calls the Walton case "one of the very first abduction accounts which rang true."

"The number of outside witnesses and Walton's own testimony forced a lot of previously skeptical inves-

tigators to begin taking abductions much more seriously. His behavior in the years following the incident has been that of an honest man, adding to the strength of his story, and thus helping to bring the entire abduction phenomenon into focus as a real, physical matter, rather than a purely psychological one," Berliner declares in press materials for the movie.

But another group, the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, sternly challenges the claim that the movie is based on a true story. Philip J. Klass, an officer of that group, says he spent months investigating the Walton story and determined the incident "was most likely a hoax." About alien-abduction stories in general, Klass said, "None of these cases stand up under scrutiny. They can be given natural, prosaic explanations without postulating extraterrestrial visitation and kidnapping."

Some UFO authorities have traced the modern era of UFO sightings to a 1947 case in which Kenneth Arnold, a civilian pilot, observed nine disc-shaped flying craft near this state's Mount Rainier. This was the beginning of the first of many waves of "flying saucer" sights, as they came to be characterized.

There are apparently lots of believers. According to a 1990 Gallup Mirror of America survey, one in seven Americans (14 percent) say they have personally seen a UFO. The same poll also reported that 46 percent of Americans believe there are "people somewhat like ourselves living on other planets in the universe."

It's still a UFO...

Stealth theory out; more sightings in Fort Payne, Crossville

By LARUE CORNELISON
TheTimes-Journal

Now they're in Fort Payne. Baffling bright lights that have appeared on Lookout and Sand Mountains for the past month have been caught on video from South Grand Avenue.

Susan Eads of Grand Avenue South and Pine Hill on Thursday night took what State Troopers feel is the best film of the UFO to date.

Sgt. Ron Ogletree of the Attalla Trooper Post said Friday that at least four TV stations and three newspapers had visited the post to view the video. It was scheduled to appear on TV Friday night.

"Ms. Eads used a zoom lens camcorder, and you can see the object in relation to her house. It's the best video I've seen of the UFO."

Ogletree described the UFO as "a fat Batman emblem. It's disc-shaped, with an indentation at the bottom; and wide on the sides like out-spread wings." Speculators have dubbed the UFO an alien ship, a weather balloon, a star, and even a Stealth bomber.

The object was seen Thursday night in other places, too. Crossville police and DeKalb Sheriff's deputies spotted the strange lights over Skirum, where Times

Journal correspondent photographer Gary Coker captured the object on still film.

Air Force officials have put a quietus on the notion that the UFO is a Stealth bomber, as has been suggested in printed reports.

Lt. Col. Mike Gannon, an Air Force spokesman in Washington, was quoted Friday as saying the Stealth bomber is still being tested at Edwards Air Force Base in southern California, and there is no likelihood of such aircraft flying in DeKalb County.

Coker, who shot photos on a tri-pod outside his home between 7-7:30 p.m., said his zoom lens reveals a "red glow coming from it, and four round lights inside the large glow ... I have no idea what it is."

"I don't believe it's a Stealth bomber. If it was, it wouldn't hover there for 45 minutes. And I don't believe it could be a weather balloon, without someone knowing it was up there."

DeKalb Sheriff's Asst. Chief Deputy Dale Orr said he saw the object for the first time Thursday night. "What I saw was no star," he commented Friday.

The sightings began in DeKalb on the night of Jan. 28 in Dogtown, followed by others from Licksillet, Adamsburg, Dawson, Crossville, Skirum, Geraldine ... and now Fort Payne.



This photo of the mysterious UFO was taken by Times-Journal Correspondent Gary Coker in Skirum Thursday night around 7 p.m.

TIMES-JOURNAL, Fort Payne, AL - Feb. 20, 1993

Mystery of UFOs entices officer to Sand Mountain

By Kathy Kemp
Post-Herald Reporter

FYFFE — Ted Oliphant is just about to bite into a forkful of country fried steak when the waitress calls to him from across the restaurant.

"A man was in here this morning that seen two of those things set down on the ground," she says. "He was so upset he was shaking all over."

Oliphant nods silently and continues eating lunch. Reports of UFOs — even ones that land in farmers' cow pastures — don't startle him much anymore.

But don't think the 34-year-old Fyffe police officer isn't interested in the odd goings-on in this Sand Mountain town of 1,300 people.

Such reports, in fact, were what prompted Oliphant to move from the pulsing metropolis of his native San Francisco 2,400 miles to rural Fyffe, which has one stop light, plenty of pickup trucks and, apparently, UFOs.

"I came here expressly to get to the bottom of what's been happening here," he says.

"Ever since I've been here, people have been telling me about seeing strange lights in the sky, some of which I've seen myself. I find it fascinating and want to learn more about it. But what bothers me are these cattle mutilations. That's disturbing. And this is the first time we've had that in this area."

Since October, Oliphant says, police in DeKalb and Marshall counties have recorded 26 cattle mutilation cases that bear distinct and upsetting similarities. In nearly every case, organs were removed from the animals in a clean, "surgical" fashion, sometimes leaving evidence of high heat, he says.

The mutilations have been accompanied by a rash of UFO and helicopter sightings on the mountain.

While area veterinarians work to solve the mutilation mystery, Oliphant has established himself as the local

expert on the unnerving phenomena.

With permission from neighboring police, he has roamed a 40-mile, two-county area, photographing maimed animals and interviewing farmers. Although he won't go into details, Oliphant says he has invested his own money for outside scientific help in trying to find an explanation.

The Sand Mountain mutilations, he says, match similar cases documented worldwide since 1967. Oliphant touched on the mutilation phenomenon in his 1991 film documentary, "UFOs — A Need To Know," which brought him to Fyffe two years ago, before the Sand Mountain mutilations began.

Oliphant had just finished a four-year stint in the U.S. Air Force when he began exploring the idea of UFOs. Before that, he says, enjoying the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" was the extent of his interest in flying saucers.

Born and reared in Oakland, Calif., Oliphant had worked at several San Francisco radio stations before joining the Air Force in 1984. After studying at the Air Force broadcasting school, he went to work for the American Forces Network, doing everything from TV commercials to film documentaries.

In 1988, while stationed in Michigan, he and six fellow airmen went on a fishing trip to Lake Superior.

"I saw a reflection of light in the water, and I looked up above the treetops and said, 'Look, there's a satellite,'" Oliphant recalls.

But then he saw a second light. "These two 'satellites' came from opposite horizons, crossed paths and disappeared, and satellites just don't do that."

Oliphant discussed the strange lights with friends and was surprised to learn many had seen similar sights in the sky.



Kathy Kemp/Post-Herald

Fyffe police officer Ted Oliphant visits a lookout point in nearby Bucks Pocket State Park, where many UFO sightings take place. Oliphant has found beauty and friendship in northeast Alabama — but no answers to the UFO mystery.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO - Jan. 3, 1993

Florida believers await their UFOs

For tomorrow's another night

By Thomas Brown

GULF BREEZE, Fla. — Sun worshipers are not the only ones who relish the white-sand shores and emerald waters of the west Florida Panhandle. Some beachcombers are apparently from beyond the sun, at least according to a coterie of true believers.

On the south side of Pensacola Bay an earnest crowd gathers every night and watches the sky. They're residents of Gulf Breeze — UFO City, USA — many of whom claim at least visual contact with visitors from other worlds.

Gulf Breeze occupies the western point of a jut of land that makes up the southeastern shore of Pensacola and Escambia bays. Just north is the city of Pensacola; south across the sound is Santa Rosa Island, a dune-covered barrier island of stunning beauty and part of the Gulf Islands National Seashore. (Perhaps more importantly, though UFO watchers vehemently discount it, the U.S. Na-

val Air Station is just west across Pensacola Bay. Not to mention Eglin Air Force Base, the largest military reserve in the Southeast, only 40 miles east.)

This city of 6,000, many retirees and military people, is quiet and suburban off U.S. 98, the main drag. Situated between bustling Pensacola and the island seashore, Gulf Breeze watches most visitors stop for gas and move on.

Some visitors, however, don't come for gas; one of them seems to have come for Ed Walters, a Gulf Breeze contractor, in 1987. Later, Walters wrote *The Gulf Breeze Sightings*, a book about being lifted off the ground by a blue beam, and other close encounters of the third kind. The attention of UFO enthusiasts everywhere fixated on Gulf Breeze and never left. The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), an eccentric group with a national membership, meets every second Tuesday of the month in Pensacola. MUFON calls the Gulf Breeze sightings "proof of alien visitation."

Tourists are welcome to join in and wait for ET to drop by. Nightly sky watches are held in Gulf Breeze at two sites: the tiny mari-

IF YOU GO

For more information on sky-watching (and to report sightings) call the Mutual UFO Network hotline, (904) 438-3261. Or call the Pensacola Area Convention & Visitor Information Center, (800) 874-1234.

na at the southwest foot of Pensacola Bay Bridge and at Shoreline Park South, off of Shoreline Drive. Sometime after dark, lawn chairs are set up, and the occupants train their eyes to the sky.

Although some of the sky watchers are suspicious of questions — gun-shy from smirks of nonbelievers — others are eager to talk about the things they've seen. Ed Walters occasionally opens up the trunk of his convertible and shows off the photos he's taken of UFOs. Walters is often out at night looking, sometimes shuttling between the marina and the park.

"It becomes like an obsession," says Sandy, a sky watcher who's in real estate and who shows off a scar on the back of her neck which

no doctor can explain away. She says she doesn't know where it came from, but she claims the mark is similar to the ones Walters carries, from his supposed abduction by a UFO.

So Sandy is out nearly every night, searching the skies for an answer. She doesn't feel alone. "There's hardly a person in Gulf Breeze who hasn't seen it," she says.

Sometimes there's not a lot of talking going on; the watching becomes more important. When cars enter the area, the headlights are turned off so not to interrupt the viewing. Even in the dark, cars are recognized. "That looks like Kathy," a voice says out of the night. "There's Duane," another comments.

At the marina, there is discussion over whether or not to head to the park. Similar discussions are taking place at the park. Some watchers stay late, depending on what kind of "feeling" they have, but most start heading to bed around 10 p.m. or so. After all, tomorrow is another night.

Thomas Brown is a freelance writer in New Orleans.

They encouraged him to do the documentary, which took Oliphant on a 40,000-mile cross-country trek that eventually landed him in Fyffe, where in 1989 a flurry of UFO sightings had been reported.

Convinced by residents that something strange was indeed going on, Oliphant settled in Fyffe in December 1990. A year ago, after a seven-week course at the Jacksonville State University police academy, he became a member of the town's three-man force.

"I thought the best way to find out what's really going on was to become a cop," he explains.

As he got to know residents, many told of seeing the strange lights and aircraft for years. Some said such sightings had been common on Sand Mountain for generations. The cow mutilations — and recent reports of low-flying helicopters — just add to the puzzle, Oliphant says.

Patrolling lonely mountainous stretches alone at night doesn't seem to frighten him. "I love unsolved mysteries, frontiers without footprints," he says. "If it's strange, unexplainable, I'm fascinated."

Oliphant lives with his Sharpei puppy, Lord Have Mercy, in a rented house on two acres of land. Twice a year, he visits his family in San Francisco. He says it seems worlds away from Sand Mountain, where the primary criminal activity is drunken driving and locals don't hesitate to ask a bearded, fast-talking, UFO-hunting out-of-towner to dinner.

Oliphant plans to stay on Sand Mountain another year and then evaluate his situation. Meeting single women, he says, isn't easy in small-town Alabama. And he concedes the cow mutilations and UFO sightings will likely go unexplained, regardless of his efforts.

"I don't think I'll find the answers. But as long as I'm here," he promises, "I'll keep trying."

From Where I Sit

Fire in the sky

by Frank Andrews

I got in on the tail-end of a recent TV program about a sworn, true story of an UFO (unidentified flying object) in the mid-1970s. About that time nearly everyone had seen a UFO or heard of an encounter with one.

That TV story, true or make believe, brought back some scary memories for my wife and me. One dark night in 1975, when we were living in Mancos, Colorado, and were on our way home from visiting my wife's brother in Durango, we witnessed an amazing spectacle overhead in the sky. We pulled off the road for a few minutes to watch this most unusual display of lights.

We continued on our way home to ponder what we had just seen. We had read about these encounters, but didn't believe any of it until it happened to us. My wife and I talked half the night away trying to figure out what we had seen.

Our new house was on 11 beautiful acres with fantastic views in all directions and ranches all around us. It had taken us a full year to build the place ourselves and we met many neighbors during that time. One of those good neighbors was a blacksmith named Epich. He was the real honest-to-goodness blacksmith from the old days. His tools of the trade were out of the westerns: charcoal forge, huge anvil, hammers, chisels, but lacking all the electrified equipment of modern times.

I visited my friend Epich the morning after our night under the lights. I don't remember if I had mentioned our encounter before he showed me his alfalfa field, but anyway, what I saw in his field helped me believe more in UFOs.

He, too, had seen the bright lights from his bedroom window but didn't get up to investigate until after dawn. "Frank, I've got to show you something really wierd," as we walked out in his field. Standing knee-deep in the lucious, green-blue alfalfa, I observed a perfect circle about 20 feet across burnt into Epich's field. This grass crater was only about a mile from where we had seen the bright lights the night before.

I asked Epich, "Have you told anyone else about this?"

"No, Frank, I haven't, but I think that I'll call the newspapers."

The TV show the other night disclosed an incident in the '70s about a UFO that landed in the desert not far from our place. The wide spot in the road was named Snowflake, Arizona. We were located near the "four corners," a place on the map where Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado come together.

The story, true or false, stated that a round flying machine landed on the sand but did not show the tracks that were left on Epich's field. A man disappeared for a short time but was found the next day a few miles away showing signs of wear and tear. He swears even to a lie-detector machine that his story was true.

That TV story could have been related to the same spooky incident which was connected to Epich's and our unbelievable story. I guess we will never know for sure.

TIMES-JOURNAL, Fort Payne, AL - Feb. 2, 1993

Strange - mutilations and UFOs all at once

• More sightings, more cows slain over weekend

By LARUE CORNELISON
TheTimes-Journal

LICKSKILLET - It all sounds like science fiction, maybe even a Stephen King novel.

UFO's and mutilated cows -- a bizarre combination but some people are thinking the two might go together.

A rash of phone calls to

State Troopers and Sheriff's Offices since Thursday have recorded at least seven sightings of unidentified flying objects in the Lookout Mountain area.

In the same time frame, three mutilated head of cattle were reported in DeKalb County -- the first such reports that law enforcement here can recall.

The carcasses were located on Sand Mountain, and the UFO sightings in a direct eastward line across on Lookout Mountain.

The cows had sex organs and tongues cut out, and no blood reported at the scene. The mutilations were reported on farmland near Geraldine, in Lathanville, and at Dawson.

Special Investigator Tommy Cole said the DeKalb mutilations are like 8-10 incidents in Marshall County, including one at his own farm.

"We have no explanation for them whatsoever," he said Monday.

Cole confirmed that reports of strange aircraft in the vicinity of the killings had come to his office.

Sightings of the DeKalb UFO were first reported at Dogtown last Thursday at 5 a.m.

Other reports came from Adamsburg at 6:30 p.m. Thursday; from Lickskilllet at 8:15 p.m. Saturday; from Gaylesville at 9:15 p.m. Saturday; and from Piedmont at 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

All described a craft with bright moving lights that could hover below treetops or move at a faster rate of speed and at higher altitudes. Some said they sensed a strange humming vibration at close range, while others said they heard no sound at all, though their pets reacted wildly to the aircraft.

State Trooper Post Commander Ron Ogletree described a Lickskilllet resident who reported seeing the craft as "very credible. I saw nothing about his appearance or demeanor that would cause me not to believe him."

Cole said his research indicates animal mutilations like those in Marshall and DeKalb were only reported in a few other states across the U.S. -- Pennsylvania, Colorado, Texas and Arizona.

Is Anybody Out There?

UFOs, alien beings, abductions ... is any of it true?

The classified ad reads:

"ALIEN AND ASTRAL IMPLANTS act as control mechanisms and lead to physical and emotional problems. 190 million people have them! We remove implants, cords, possessions, (and even mothers!)."

The name below the ad was Dr. Davis, Columbus, New Mexico, no first name given.

I call him.

Most calls to UFO experts on this story went like this: Ring. Ring. Hello? Hello, my name's David Frese, I'm a reporter with ...

>Click<

Dr. Davis answers. He does not hang up.

I ask what he does.

"Aliens are putting implants in humans as a means of control," he says, merely a voice over the phone.

"I have the ability to remove them."

At this point, it would be easy to snicker. To let Personal Feelings get in the way of Objectivity. It would be easy to tell you it becomes hard to believe; most people would tell you this.

An education from a College of Technical and Applied Sciences sometimes gets in the way of imagination.

Some may think to themselves, "I have never seen an alien, therefore aliens must not exist," though many have never seen a baby pigeon either.

"Up in Frisco," Dr. Davis says, "There was a man who sent me a picture, and I could see that the implants formed a helmet around his head. It took several months for me to get rid of them."

Dr. Davis emotes sincerity, belief, candor. An instinct to laugh in Kansas is replaced with an impulse to listen to New Mexico.

"I recently cleared two women who each had two or three in their backs," he says. "I also manufacture a board that wards the implants off. And I tell them there's no guarantee the implants will stay away unless they buy the board. If they don't, they're on their own."

Have you ever been to the Planetarium in Cardwell Hall?

It is a big room. Dark, with blue carpet.

Have you ever asked a scientist you don't know

if they believe there is life in outer space?

"It's not really a science," says Barry Adams, director of laboratories in physics.

"Astronomers and people who work with things 'out there,' either subscribe to the proposition that there is life out there or they don't. There is no middle ground," Adams says. "I'd be in the camp that believes there is life out there."

First he explains the question should not be "Does life exist in outer space?" but, "Where does life exist in outer space?"

Second, he explains Drake's Equation - $N = R * f(p) * n(e) * f(l) * f(i) * f(c) * L$.

This reporter is no math whiz, but I shall try to cipher forthwith.

Say there are 100 billion stars in our galaxy. Then say that there are 100 billion galaxies in the universe. Multiply them together and you get stars numbering around 10 to the twenty-second power, or 10 hextrillion stars, or a one followed by twenty-two zeroes.

Further, with new technologies of the Hubble Telescope, and the latest in optical and radio telescope technologies, it is now rather accepted that there are many stars out there with planets.

Now, if it is a billion-to-one chance that there is life in any given solar system, it follows that there are at least 100 billion planets with life in the universe. If my math's wrong, you still get the idea.

"Based upon that," surmises Adams. "I would say that the probability for life out there is highly likely."

But is that life on the order of amoeba, humans or wookiee.

Said Adams, "Here's the problem: If you accept the Big Bang Theory, then the universe is roughly 15 billion years old. Our solar system and the Earth is four billion years old.

"We're newcomers to the universe," he said. "Most of the life out there ought to be more advanced technologically, socially and culturally."

The other edge of the sword is if there are highly advanced civilizations "out there" why haven't they contacted us?

is a biologist. He has never been abducted by aliens.

He says, however, that he believes in the possibility of life elsewhere in the universe.

"The possibility is exceedingly high," he says. "If there's life out there," Johnson says, "it could go both ways. It could be more advanced, it could be less advanced. One could only speculate."

I tell him I know of a doctor in New Mexico who is pretty positive.

"I don't know of anyone who's ever been abducted. I personally have never talked with anyone who's been abducted," he says. "My in-laws on the other hand ..."

So I ask him why we are so skeptical. Why we turn our nose up at the notion of alien abductions and spaceships examining the earth. Why it seems so wacky.

"Humans tend to be very parochial," he says. "We tend to be able to couch our spiritual beliefs. We believe sometimes that humans are highly advanced. That's how we are able to do some of the terrible things that we do."

"If ever we are faced with the possibility that there is some sort of higher intelligence out there it would be interesting to see how we would react."

Story by
David Frese

Design by
Deanna Adams

Close Encounters

Narrow-minded critics might dismiss them as weirdos but hundreds of people who showed up at the Ozark UFO Conference defend those who say they have been abducted by extraterrestrials.

"Maybe we are all abductees of some sort."
— Dr. John E. Mack, Harvard University

BY RON WOLFE
Democrat-Gazette Feature Writer

EUREKA SPRINGS — No flying saucers appear to be hovering over the Ozark UFO Conference this morning. The sky is a gray mask of low clouds and rain.

But ... could it be that dark-eyed creatures from another world are staring down right now, targeting people for abduction?

Some of the 400 to 500 people attending this conference on unidentified flying objects will tell you they have been carried off the Earth by extraterrestrials and taken aboard alien spaceships.

Don't ask for reassurance that it couldn't happen. Don't ask those two men sitting outside the Inn of the Ozarks convention center, heads together, watchful of strangers.

They are talking about things they have seen aboard UFOs (unidentified flying objects) ... until they sense you might be listening, and the conversation stops. Only the rain whispers.

Pass them by. Push through the door. Hear the bawling of cattle, the sound from a TV set playing a video about cattle mutilations. See the first thing inside the door is a table with buttons for sale — buttons that read, "ABDUCTEE."

Truth or paranoia?

Either way, the sky's the limit.

★ ★ ★

Close encounter: Conference speaker Leah Haley, 42, tells of being spirited out of her house in Alabama by "chalky-looking creatures with big, black eyes."

An accounting teacher-turned-UFO author, Haley said she tried to tell herself the experience was nothing more than a



KANSAS CITY ARTIST Gail Aggen says her paintings of uncommonly happy-looking aliens are based on descriptions of them by "friends who are abductees."

"weird dream."

But it wasn't a dream, she said. She came to realize under hypnosis therapy that it was a memory. And it was just one of a series of such hidden memories that she has discovered under hypnosis, including one in which the aliens were joined by sinister, military-looking men with helicopters and machine guns.

After her nearly two-hour talk, Haley is surrounded by dozens of people out of the audience. One man tells her, "Thank you for your bravery."

Another confides to her, "I've

been seeing these same military men for three years."

★ ★ ★

Ordinarily, the most alien-looking thing in Eureka Springs is the McDonald's hamburger restaurant on Arkansas 62. But this quaint, Victorian-style resort town in Northwest Arkansas' Carroll County has become the setting for an annual weekend of UFO studies, speculations and claims of encounters.

"A lot of the people coming here have had (UFO) experiences of their own," said Lucius Farish, coordinator for the conference, held April 24. "They've seen things, experienced things, and they come here to find out more about it."

The conference has grown from a get-together of maybe 100 people five years ago to a meeting-in-the-pines attended by hundreds of

people from throughout the nation.

Farish, a postal clerk from Plumerville (Conway County), said he has "seen unusual lights" he couldn't explain over the Ozark hill country — "nothing spectacular." But it doesn't take being zapped by a flying saucer to make a man wonder what's up there.

"All I'm saying is there are craft that are, so far, unexplained, appearing to be of a much higher technology than ours, flying around our skies," he said.

Others say more.

Haley said she is convinced that alien creatures and government agents, sometimes working together, "have tampered with both my body and my mind" in ways she cannot prove, for reasons she cannot explain. She said she remembers a time when the aliens "stuck a needle through my abdomen into what was probably my right ovary."

She said she remembers seeing "baby greenhouses" with "babies suspended in transparent containers" aboard an alien ship.

And she is not alone.

"Looking over this audience, it looks like I am going to have a whole lot of company in the loony bin," she said.

It's an inside joke. Nobody here is called loony for talking about UFOs. Some people gave her a standing ovation.

Do they envy her the experience of alien contact?

"I hope not," said Haley, who told her audience of her suspicion that something alien has been implanted inside her head — something slid high up through one sore nostril.

But, "Some do," she said.

★ ★ ★

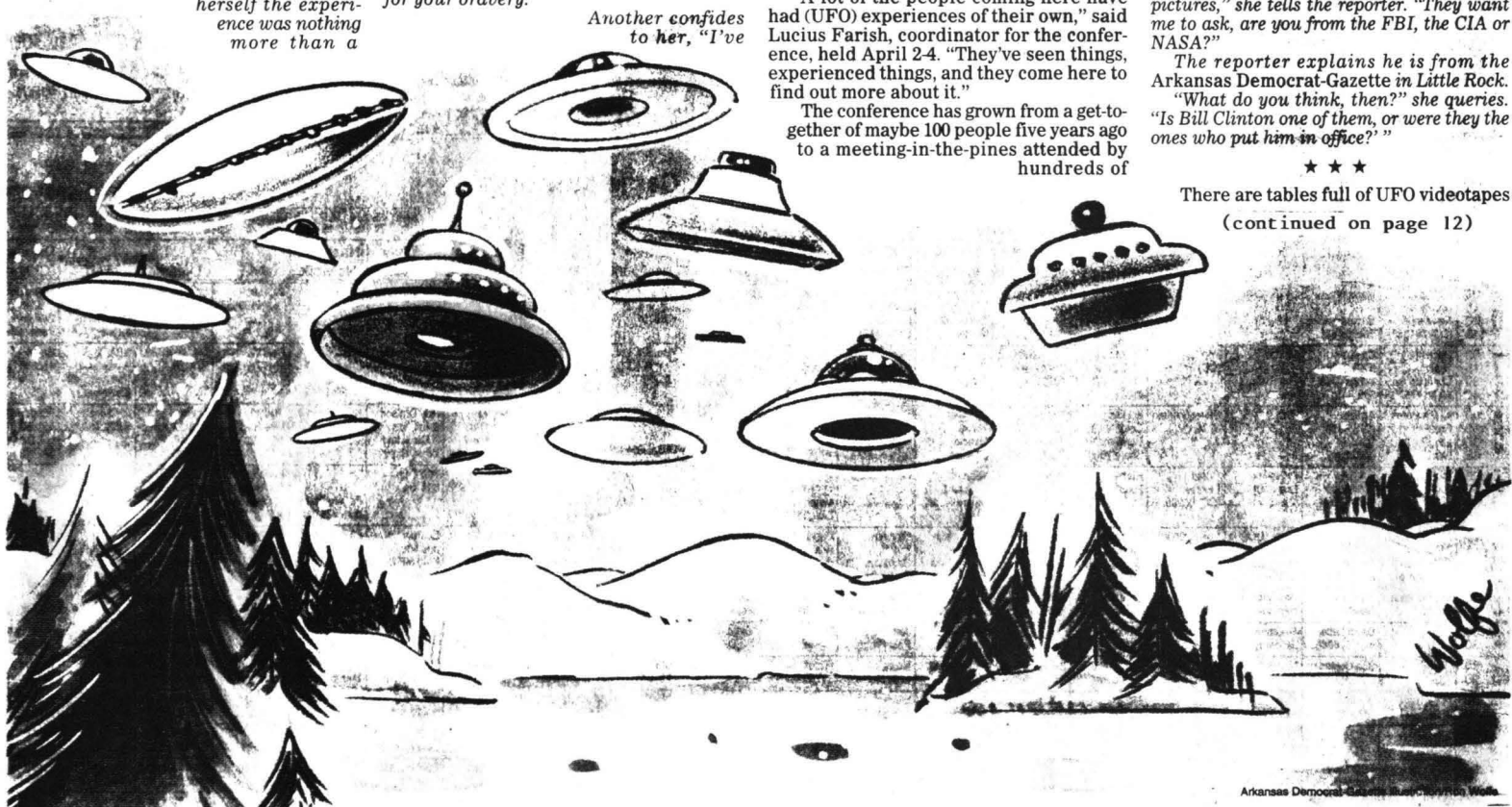
Close encounter: A reporter is taking photos in the conference center. A reddish-haired woman approaches.

"Some people are concerned about these pictures," she tells the reporter. "They want me to ask, are you from the FBI, the CIA or NASA?"

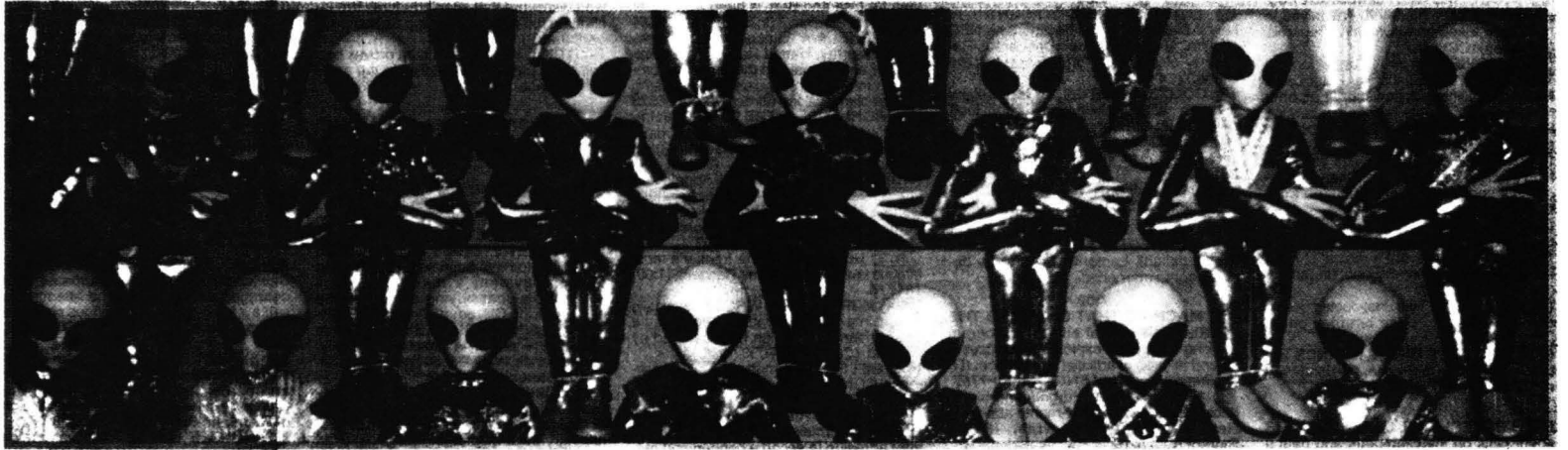
The reporter explains he is from the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette in Little Rock. "What do you think, then?" she queries. "Is Bill Clinton one of them, or were they the ones who put him in office?"

★ ★ ★

There are tables full of UFO videotapes (continued on page 12)



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/Ron Wolfe



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/Ron Wolfe

ALIEN DOLLS keep watch on earthlings at the Ozark UFO Conference in Eureka Springs. The foot-high dolls were made by Springfield, Mo., artist and UFO investigator Lisa Dusenberry,

who said believing there might be living creatures that look like this "is not as big a joke as it used to be."

and books for sale in the lobby of the convention center: Books about flying saucers, abductions and crop circles attributed to UFOs.

Among them are copies of Whitley Strieber's 1987 best-seller, "Communion," one of the basic manuals of UFO belief.

Strieber was best-known as a writer of horror fiction (including "The Wolfen," a story of wolf-like beasts preying on people), until he insisted his story of being carried off to a spaceship was the truth.

He warned his readers not to be "too skeptical," since they might be abductees, too, without knowing it ... yet.

Strieber's account meshed with the findings of UFO researcher Budd Hopkins, whose books include "Missing Time," adding up to a pattern of what happens to UFO abductees in general:

The victim has strange dreams of pale or gray creatures with round- or almond-shaped eyes, hairless humanoids up to 5 feet tall. Also, the victim may be troubled by periods that he cannot remember.

Under hypnosis, these bizarre dreams turn out to be true memories and blanks in memory turn out to be periods endured as a helpless abductee aboard an alien craft.

Physical evidence doesn't amount to much — maybe a bruise or a scar afterward, maybe nothing at all.

However, conference speaker Dr. John E. Mack, a professor of psychiatry at Harvard University, cited a poll that showed between 3 million and 4 million Americans claim to have had a UFO experience.

He said he suspects the true number is higher.

★ ★ ★

Close encounter: Conversation in the hallway. A woman thanks Mack for his talk on "The UFO Abduction Phenomenon: What It Might Mean for the Human Future."

Also, she introduces the man at her side, straightforwardly informing Mack this gentleman "was an alien in a previous life."

The quick way to cut into a hallway conversation is to mention, "Budd (Hopkins) says hello," invoking the name of the famed UFO researcher.

By contrast, UFO skeptic Carl Sagan is the object of cartoons that show him arguing "there is not one shred of evidence," while a flying saucer beams up a startled cow right behind him.

★ ★ ★

Mack told his audience he believes "we're at a crucial point in the abduction phenomenon," with so many people reporting so much the same strange experience that it cannot be ignored.

"My own center in this is what I can learn psychologically," he said of his therapy with people who claim to have been abducted. "What I am dealing with here behaves like something that really happened."

"I think we have to take the information as it comes — realizing it's a mystery, realizing we don't know."

Part of the mystery is what the "little dudes," as Haley terms them, mean to accomplish.

She said the aliens revealed to her that "time is not linear. 'Time is no more linear than the world is flat,' is what I was told."

UFO researcher Forest Crawford of Collinsville, Ill., assured the conference that "many aliens appear to be helpful in elevating our ecological consciousness."

Some people contend the creatures are struggling to save the earth, or to study mankind, or just to keep from being shot down on what might amount to a cosmic errand.

Some argue the creatures are not from space, but from somewhere deep inside the final frontier of the human mind.

Farish said the mystery is so intriguing that there are UFO conferences "almost every weekend," one place or another. Among those to come: the Midwest Conference on UFO Research in Springfield, Mo., Sept. 17-19, and the third international UFO Congress and Film Festival at the Showboat Hotel Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nov. 28 to Dec. 5.

★ ★ ★

Close encounter: Artist Joyce Moore, 45, of Lincoln, Neb., tells a frightening episode of lost time in which she found herself driving with no idea of when, how or why she had turned onto the wrong highway.

She began to make stuffed dolls of friendly aliens named Tsa-Sur and Santa Klaus as a way to cope with the experience, although she is not so sure they are friendly.

"There's this fear," she said. "I want to know, but I don't want to find out."

She said the one certainty is that something happened to her.

"People argue with me up and down, and I don't have any argument," she said. "I just know this is what happened."

★ ★ ★

The last thing a person might do at the UFO conference is to buy a \$1.50 button that reads, "If I hadn't seen it, I never would have believed it."

Or maybe this one: "Mom and Dad went to Alpha Centauri, and all I got was this dumb button."

UFO sightings stir emotions in everyone

The recent sightings of UFO's in DeKalb have drawn national coverage and raised the interest of most local residents. The mystery of the unknown will do that to us every time.

Since the end of January, numerous sightings have been reported within the county. These residents are reputable, competent, and sane individuals that are not just creating news to help *The Times-Journal* sell papers. (We have sold out daily at almost all newsstands since the sightings were first reported.) These folks really saw what they truly believe were UFO's.

Followers of this latest UFO epidemic to hit DeKalb County, are extremely interesting to listen to. Some recall the mystic feeling of the area in 1988. (UFO followers flocked to the Fyffe community in 1988 to spend weeks trying to see reported unidentified flying objects first hand.)

Others will tell you, they have seen UFO's before, while others will flat tell you that there is no such thing as a UFO and people that claim to see them are out in left field trying to find marbles they've lost.

Most of us can recall the gigantic UFO craze in the 1960s. Hardly a week went by that the national news didn't report a major incident. National gossip magazine covers were full of photographs of the UFO's. Most networks had specials similar to "60 Minutes" and "Unsolved Mysteries" on UFO sightings. T.V. series were developed to appeal to a nation full of curiosity. Of these "Project: Blue Book" was probably the most informative. Here accounts of stories were taken from actual sightings reported to the Air Force. Other series like "The Invaders," "V" and "The Twilight Zone" entertained the nation with UFO activity. Comical serials like "My Favorite Martian" and "Mork and Mindy" portrayed a lighter side of life from outer space.

Movies have played a major role in keeping the UFO fascination kindled. Movies like "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," "E.T.," "Aliens," and "Cocoon" are all recent box office hits that were reminders of beings from other worlds. The 50s also had movie success centered around UFO's. "It Came From Outer Space" and "The Thing" come to mind. Numerous low-budget movies were also produced in this era, which today seem ridiculous.

Even before television there was the radio broadcast that started the UFO phenomenon, and at the same time a nationwide panic. Orson Welles' "War of the Worlds," which in the 50s became an award winning black and white and later a color production, did more for creating UFO interest, than any single thing up to that time in history.

UFO history actually dates back to biblical time. Early sightings of strange lights moving about the sky were documented. Historians believe this may have been Halley's Comet, which continues to visit our solar system.

For me, UFO's are something I grew up with. I guess I probably believe more in their existence than not. I lived in New Mexico during the height of the UFO sightings in the 1960s. Sightings throughout the state were a nightly occurrence. I recall the Air Force being blamed for covering up much of the documented information, which only added to the mystery.

The local reports of the recent UFO activity, has reignited the emotion of many residents. Are they real? What do they mean? Why have they returned to our area again? Others say, "Oh brother are we going to have to go through this again?" "I haven't even seen a UFO before."

Whatever your feelings, one thing for sure, the illusion of unidentified flying objects is a part of life that remains an unsolved mystery, that is unless you've experienced first hand an encounter with a UFO.



TIMES-JOURNAL, Fort Payne, AL - Feb. 6, 1993 CR: T. Adams



When seeing is believing - the case of the UFOs

Reports of sightings of UFOs in the skies over West Sussex have met with a mixed response. Do they really exist or are they just illusions in the minds of the beholders?

Observer feature writer ANTOINETTE KENT went to find out about aliens, space ships and a whole host of other such 'things that go bump in the night'...

Edward Richards, who lives at Barker Close, Fishbourne, is in no doubt that UFOs are 100 per cent real.

A former Ministry of Defence scientist, Mr Edwards has made a detailed study of the sightings over a 25-year period. It is a subject which fascinates him and the findings, he claims, speak for themselves.

He quotes the case of two 12-year-old boys, also living in Fishbourne, who last autumn found themselves confronted by a large, shimmering object, 200ft high and 140ft wide.

Motionless, it hung in the sky over them before slowly moving off. The boys were terrified and ran for cover.

"There is no doubt that these are not human-made aircraft. They travel either too slowly or too quickly, or they are motionless," said Mr Richards.

At around the same time a retired clergyman from Cocking, and his sister-in-law, spotted a green, translucent figure in the sky as they walked home from Evensong one Sunday.

Mr Norman Wyatt, who lives at Bell Lane, remembered the figure was in human shape, with three long legs.

"It was a long way up and going like the clappers - about 40-50mph," he recalled.

His sister-in-law, Kathleen Maxwell, said there were "rigid, rod-like structures coming from the bottom of it. It made no sound."

"I thought at first it was a sort of kite, but it was too big for that," she said.

A Bognor woman claims to have had four sightings of UFOs and to have narrowly missed abduction by one of them.

Taking a short cut home across a playing field one evening, she became aware of being followed. Over the school building appeared what seemed like a white, fluorescent cylinder. It made straight for her. She ran for shelter and watched as it came down close to the

spot where she had been. Then, slowly, it rose and drifted off.

Two other women from Bognor reported seeing what they described as a "glistening chandelier" from their flat window. For almost three-quarters of a hour they watched. It was stationary and full of brilliant lights.

Perhaps one of the more dramatic sightings was reported by a Chichester taxi driver.

It happened on the road between Selsey and Sidlesham at about 2.30am. The cabbie was returning home after delivering his last lift of the night when, for no apparent reason, his taxi ground to a halt....

Looking out of the window he was dumb-struck to see a massive silver spaceship hovering in front of him.

It was around 500 metres in diameter with scores of coloured windows running in a strip round the middle.

...He sat mesmerised, hardly able to believe his eyes, until it floated up and disappeared out to sea.

A similar sighting was experienced by a businessman driving through Drayton to his home in Chichester.

It was late at night and he was anxious to get back to his family. Suddenly he was aware of a round, silver object floating up over his windscreen.

As he watched, it floated over a hedge and joined a larger, orange-coloured UFO waiting there.

There have been scores of such sightings around the Chichester area. The people involved have been ordinary folk involved in their day-to-day business. Yet it is

has become an extremely controversial issue since no-one can offer a rational explanation.

"It is very puzzling. I don't think we have the language yet to describe these things. It is almost like going back to Victorian times and talking to them about television."

They would not understand as they would not know the jargon. The aliens are able to thought-transfer, which is born out by the abductions," said Mr Richards.

Apparently tens of thousands of people in the USA claim to have been abducted by aliens. The most usual story is that they were levitated through closed windows and then up, vertically, to a waiting spaceship.

In this country just a handful have come forward with a similar story.

Nearer to home, there is a story that a spaceship landed in the grounds of Broadlands, the Romney home of Lord Mountbatten, when he was alive and in residence. It had burned a large part of the lawn as it landed, and scorched one of the gardener's bicycles.

That gardener was later to tell Mr Richards the thing he remembered most about the incident was the horrible smell which hung around afterwards - not the smell of singeing grass but of decaying flesh.

"The aliens have tiny holes for mouths and tiny holes for noses. And they are said to smell particularly bad. It is a mixture of methane and hydrogen sulphide," he said.

Astronomer Patrick More dismissed the whole idea of UFOs and aliens as "bunk". He would not be drawn into discussion saying that it was "a closed season to nuts."

Anyone having witnessed what they believe to have been a genuine sighting of a UFO in the area is invited to contact Mr Richards on (0243) 781820.



SKY-WATCHER: Edward Richards at his home in Fishbourne plots the UFO sightings in the area. - Photo sales no. 8296-1.

ADVERTISER, Grangemouth, Scotland

Feb. 17, 1993 CR: T. Good

Japanese to probe UFOs

BONNYBRIDGE'S unexplained visitors are bringing unexpected visitors to the town.

But they are not coming from so far away this time - and they will be using more traditional transport.

Japan's top team of investigators of unidentified flying objects are to visit Bonnybridge to dig deeper into the U.F.O.s sighted over the town two months ago.

Falkirk District Councillor Billy Buchanan received a phone call at the

weekend from Tony Dodds, one of Britain's top UFOlogists, to say the Japanese would be investigating the U.F.O. mystery in Bonnybridge.

SOUTHEND EVENING ECHO, Essex, England - Feb. 12, 1993

Did anyone else see pulsating dish in sky?

A STRANGE dish-like object in the sky has prompted a Westcliff man to appeal for others who may have spotted the UFO last month.

Mr Norman Sale was making his way to his home in Claremont Road, Westcliff at 5.40pm on January 27, when he saw the strange object "rolling" in the sky.

He said: "It was moving in a north to south direction, and it was almost overhead."



"There was a fairly misty sky that evening, but this thing appeared as a bright light surrounded by an outer ring of light, which appeared to be pulsating."

"It was quite large, about the size of a dinner plate. I could not really believe what I was seeing."

The object stayed in view for about 45 seconds before rolling off into the distance, but a woman passer-by told

Mr Sale that people in London Road had also been staring into the sky.

He added: "I know I am not going mad. I saw what I saw."

"Now I am trying to find someone who may have seen the same object."

"I do not know if it was a UFO, but I would very much like to know I was not the only person who saw this that night and also any explanation of what it was."

Mr Sale said the object looked like the diagrams which hit the news headlines some days later of the Russian space mirror which was designed to reflect sunlight and could banish night from various areas.

Mr Sale added: "It did seem to be like the dish, but I would like to hear from anyone who saw this thing."

Anyone who would like to contact Mr Sale is asked to write to the Evening Echo at 18 Clarence Road, Southend where we will forward your letters.

UFOs drive a wedge between European socialists

John Carvel in Brussels

PROPOSALS for a European centre to analyse sightings of unidentified flying objects provoked a row among scientist members of the European Parliament in Brussels yesterday.

Tullio Regge, an Italian socialist MEP and eminent physicist, produced a report for the energy, research and technology committee calling for a central office of information on UFOs.

After interviewing airline pilots and corresponding with the air forces of all member states, he said he did not personally believe in little green men in spacecraft. But plenty of people did.

An EC observation centre, like that at Toulouse in France, could help control the flood of rumours after reports of sightings. And it could have "an invaluable role in exploring the existence and nature of rare meteorological phenomena."

Glyn Ford, leader of the Labour MEPs and a former senior research fellow at Manchester University, described his fellow socialist's idea as "crackpot".

Mr Regge's report was commissioned by the co-ordinators of the political groups in 1991. "Sightings [of UFOs] are customarily thought to be due to the presence of aliens or visitors from other planets," he said. However, recent space exploration appeared to have found no evidence of a planetary civilisation and the distances involved in interstellar travel posed immense difficulties.

Most reports of UFOs seemed to spring from hoaxes, but there remained a few inexplicable sightings which had to be regarded as unidentified flying objects.

Mr Regge said he expected his report to go forward for discussion at a plenary session of the parliament. "It will be subject to a lot of flak," he said.

Mr Ford tried to have the report thrown out, but the chairman refused. "It makes it very difficult for people to take the parliament seriously when committees waste time like this," he added.

LOCATION	DATE TIME (DURATION)	DESCRIPTION	HEIGHT	ANGLE
Apuldrum CHICHESTER	14 Nov 1957 10.30 pm (1 min)			
Cocking MIDHURST	circa 1963 Late pm (several minutes)			
Southbourne BOURNEMOUTH	July 1966 6.30 am (15 mins)		500/1000 (30 ft)	10
London Airport (HEATHROW)	August 1967 2 pm (about 7 mins)		2 miles (800 ft)	8
Ventnor ISLE OF WIGHT	Feb 1968 Late after- noon (20/30 mins)		Horizon to 2 miles (sea level)	0
SELSEY	August 1968 2.30/3.00 am (5-7 minutes)		Horizon to 2 miles (8000 ft)	40
BOGNOR REGIS	Autumn 1973 8.30 pm (several mins - 3/4 hour)		Few 100 yds (50 ft)	10
CHICHESTER	approx. 1974 8 pm (10 seconds)		75 ft 75 ft	90 overhead

LOGGED IN: Part of the chart Mr Richards has plotted depicting the UFO sightings in the area. - Photo sales no. 8296-3.

STAR PHOENIX, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan,
Canada - Dec. 5, 1992

25 YEARS AGO: Two Saskatoon residents, John Hrytzak and Gary Kostiuk, reported an experience with a UFO near Crystal Springs. A glowing red object came towards their car and then changed color. "There were no sounds any time, just flashing red or orange lights that became brilliant then disappeared," Hrytzak said.

Hanmer man preparing book about UFO sightings

By DAVID BRAZEAU
Star Staff Writer



A Hanmer man is hoping the release of a Hollywood movie will add credibility to reports of UFO sightings in North America and around the world.

Michel Deschamps, who has researched unidentified flying objects in this area by using old Sudbury Star news stories, has spoken to the man on whom the movie is based.

Travis Walton claims he was abducted by aliens in a UFO on Nov. 5, 1975, in a park near Snowflake, Ariz.

"Six days later, UFOs were spotted over the Falconbridge Radar Station," says Deschamps, 28.

The Hanmer man says Walton told him in a telephone conversation last week that the publicity about the movie, Fire

In The Sky, has also renewed skepticism about Walton's story.

The Paramount Pictures film opens in North America on Friday. It stars D.B. Sweeney as Walton and James Garner as a doubting police officer.

"He told me, 'I'm bracing myself for the onslaught.' So that's how he feels," says Deschamps.

Deschamps, who reports having witnessed two UFO crafts in his life, said he himself is sometimes the target of snide remarks because of his

hobby.

Nonetheless, he is working on a book about UFO sightings in Sudbury and surrounding cities and towns.

He is relying heavily on Sudbury Star press clippings.

Of particular note are local stories about reports of UFOs in Copper Cliff by several people interviewed by The Sudbury Star in 1953. They separately reported seeing lights on an unidentifiable aircraft.

The reports appeared in page one stories in The Star on Jan. 31, Feb. 2 and Feb. 17, 1953.

Deschamps also said he has photos of large doughnut-shaped clearings of sand at Spring Bay on Manitoulin Island, in September 1990.

In the photos, the sand seems to have been blown away by some sort of propulsion

system, he believes. Under the cleared sand is a limestone base, he says. Deschamps went to the scene and noted the sand did not clear very easily by hand.

Walton was interviewed on television's Entertainment Tonight a few weeks ago. He said short, thin aliens with domed bald heads and huge black eyes abducted him while he was part of a seven-man wood-cutting gang in Sitgraves National Park.

The six others said they witnessed Walton's abduction. Walton said a blue ray fired from the UFO knocked him into some trees.

"I felt this numbing shock, and I just became hysterical," he told the television interviewer.

The other workers saw little else, and police authorities

suspected they had murdered Walton.

He turned up five days later with some recollections of what had happened.

Walton and the others took and passed polygraph tests soon after the incident. They again passed lie-detector tests 18 years later.



Deschamps

Deschamps hopes to have his book complete in three years. By then he hopes there will be more believers than skeptics about the existence of UFOs.

In any event, Deschamps says he'll be the first in line to see Fire In The Sky when it comes to Sudbury.

Some things strange in the Muchalls air

□ KATHERINE PACITTI

"It was a perfectly authentic sighting of a flying saucer which came up over the railway viaduct between Newtonhill and Cammachmore and travelled westwards," she said.

"We just saw this still light. It appeared out of the sky and came in a south-east direction. It looked like a ball of fire.

"My father slammed on the brakes and we stopped. We thought it was an aircraft going to crash," she added.

"It passed in front of us, about 60ft away. It was travelling about the height of a telegraph pole. We were sure it wasn't going to clear the trees or the rooftops, but it did.

"We sat and watched, absolutely mesmerised," she said.

"It was the size of a detached villa — really huge. It was like highly polished aluminium — like two saucers clapped together."

Before going inland towards Cammachmore, the craft released two cones of coloured gases.

We sat and watched, absolutely mesmerised. It was the size of a detached villa — really huge. It was like highly polished aluminium — like two saucers clapped together."

— Witness to 1969 sighting

"A great cone of coloured gases came out of one end — turquoise and green, then a bigger cone, a very rosy hue," said the woman.

When they returned home, her father immediately phoned Cammachmore police station, which had apparently already received several calls from residents who had witnessed the strange phenomenon.

A man, now living in Glasgow, told how he and his sister saw strange craft — "the size of a car, with flashing red lights" — in the Muchalls area in the 1970s.

They were in their early teens when they first spotted the strange red lights floating in the sky in 1971.

"The first time I saw them I was with my sister. We moved towards one coming in our direction. It stopped over head and then went towards the whins by Muchalls Castle."

"I was absolutely scared to death," he added.

"There were red flashes — usually one flash a second. They would go to one farm and float for a while then go to another," he said.

"If a plane came they would dip behind a farm — they appeared to have some kind of intelligence."

Up to three of the craft — which he said were too low to be conventional aircraft — appeared at once over a period of years, usually in the winter and in the early evening.

In recent years, the same person has spotted inexplicable bright, white lights inland at Cammachmore.

Mr Storrier has also received a strange, unconfirmed report of an insurance salesman receiving hospital treatment for radiation burns after being on a back road to Aberdeen in the early 1970s.

He is keen to hear from anyone who is able to confirm this incident, or any of the other sightings.

Puzzler for the Bruce

Something strange is happening in the skies over Bannockburn, according to locals. Is it a UFO or just simple horse play?

Mystery surrounds one of Scotland's most historic towns this week with reported sightings of strange goings-on in the sky.

A woman who claims a UFO sighting in Bannockburn has been supported by others who say there WAS something in the sky over the historic town on January 17 this year.

Mary Young went to the back door of her home in Margaret Road, Bannockburn, on January 17 to call her nine-year-old son in from playing in the snow.

She said that at 9.15pm her entire family saw an oval shaped craft "like nothing I've ever seen before" hovering 40ft above the house.

The craft was dark, oval shaped and made very little noise, according to Mary. It had a square of red lights on the bottom, with a square of white lights inside that.

She said she was in no doubt that it was a UFO. After the story appeared in last Friday's paper more locals from Bannockburn called the paper to say they too had noticed something strange in the sky that night.

One man said he was driving back from Ayr and saw red and white lights in the sky. "I thought someone was letting off fireworks at first, but it just seemed to hang there".

Others called to say they wanted answers.

A strange phenomenon investigator is now in contact with the people involved in an attempt to discover what was flying over Bannockburn on January 17.

UFOs to blame for woman's 'missing time'

CALGARY (CP) — Many people have "missing time" in their lives they can't account for, says a woman from Langley, B.C., who believes she was abducted by aliens in a UFO.

"People who have undergone trauma may not be able to remember it. It's like missing time," says Linda Taylor, a registered nurse and trauma counsellor.

"It may have been that they suffered from sexual abuse or an accident or illness when they were young and it's been blocked from their consciousness."

Taylor says that until she was in her 30s she was plagued by the feeling that something traumatic happened to her when she was four.

"I thought I'd been a sexual abuse victim."

When she confronted her parents about it, they told her she'd been abducted by humanoids in a UFO near Langley and examined on a table.

Since then, she's had "spontaneous recall" of that event and subsequent other times aliens followed and contacted her.

"Aliens treat us like we treat bears," she says. "They give us a shot, take us away, tag us, then drop us miles from where they originally knocked us out."

Taylor says she feels more at peace with her experiences since going public with them several months ago and by helping other victims of aliens, childhood incidents and sexual attacks.

Taylor and Ed Hicks lectured about UFO experiences at the ninth annual Psychic ESP Fair at the Calgary Convention Centre, which also includes talks by psychics.

Hicks, from Tofield, Alta., says that crop circles found in Alberta fields are mathematical signs given to us by aliens that Earth is going through major weather, crop and

environmental changes.

He says an alien gave him an idea for his invention, the Dream Dome, a canopy put over a bed which reportedly aids sleep.

But not everyone is convinced spaceships have landed in Alberta. There have been few UFO sightings in Calgary in recent years, says Bill Peters, executive director of the Alberta Science Centre.

"No one has convinced me that we're being visited by Little Green Men," he says. "Most things that people see in the sky have logical explanations."

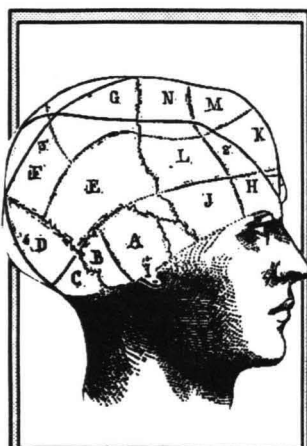
Sightings around North America have dropped off in the past five years, partly because of lack of evidence of UFOs, which has "devalued the subject from science down to the checkout counter tabloids."

"We live in a big, complex universe. We've learned in 5,000 years of astronomy not to set up our world as special and unique."

On the shelf...

WOMAN (48p) reveals the bizarre and tragic case of Tony Burfield, a man who is allergic to metallic objects, most foods and can't bear to be immersed in water. While these symptoms are not unusual, what is unusual is that Tony blames his complaints on a UFO. Tony believes he got too close to a one in 1988 and is suffering radiation sickness. Tony says: "It stopped about 50 feet above my head and completely blocked out the sun. It had two wings which folded into the sides and there were flashing lights and two decks with windows."

Flying saucers form first crop circles



Report from the Fringes
By John Betts
Gumshoe of the
Improbable

In our last Report Form the Fringes we described the British crop circle phenomenon. Canadian crop circles were first reported in Canada almost twenty years ago before British observers noticed formations in their own fields. The first Canadian sighting still remains one of the most bizarre on record and has become a legend in UFO lore.

It was a clear, cold prairie day in early September, 1974. Edwin Fuhr remembers there were ice crystals in the air as he headed his swather through a rape seed field on his farm near Langenburg, Saskatchewan. Weather had laid the crop low to the ground and Fuhr had to keep his eyes just a few feet ahead of his machine's blades. Turning at the west end of the field he looked up. In the tall grass on the edge of a drainage slough there was something shiny.

"At first I thought it was somebody playing a trick on me. It

was domed shaped. It looked like a kind of metal goose blind that some duck hunters might use."

Fuhr got off his tractor.

"I just walked up to see what it was and then I noticed it was spinning. It wasn't touching the ground either. I could see under it."

Instinctively Fuhr backed up. Never taking his eyes off the thing in the grass he climbed onto the swather. From the seat of the machine Fuhr now saw four more discs in the field — all silently spinning in the grass.

"There were arranged in a moon-shaped formation. There were three big ones in the middle about 13 feet across. There were two little ones like guards at the outsides. They were about seven feet across."

Fuhr was thinking just about how fast he could drive out of the field with the swather when the five discs lifted off the ground and hovered about a hundred feet in the

air above him.

"I could feel the pressure from them taking off. It pressed the standing grain crop flat to the ground. It wasn't air. It was just some pressure. It was a kind of thrust. There was no sound, just some kind of vapor from the bottom of them that you can feel."

Fuhr can't remember if the swather had stopped running. He remembers he couldn't move the machine. There was just the sound of the grass being pressed by the strange wash from the flying craft.

"There was nothing I could do. I wondered if they were going to take me away."

They didn't. They flew straight up and disappeared.

When Fuhr saw the things in his field it was mid-morning. He spent a few minutes looking where the craft had been then he raced home. It was a short drive to the farm house but when he got there it was past lunch. Fuhr had somehow

circles

passed an hour and a half he couldn't account for.

For a week Fuhr's muscles and joints ached as if he had received an electrical shock.

In Fuhr's field were five circular swirled crop formations. Another one appeared in the same field a few days later.

Investigators came from all over North America to look at the "saucer nests". The local RCMP Police and the Royal Canadian Air Force participated. The RCMP brought a German shepherd and a Geiger counter. Fuhr said two oil companies brought in ground drilling and exploration equipment although there had never been any oil or gas found in the area. Numerous UFO investigators came in from the U.S.

"The investigators never let us get too close. But you could hear their Geiger counters ticking like crazy."

According to Fuhr the scientist took soil samples and measured for radiation. Canadian air force jets flew constantly over the site for days. The ground in the circles was baked rock hard says Fuhr. "You couldn't dent it with a pick." Hundreds of people visited the field to look at the formations.

"One guy drives his mobile home up every few years from California. He just goes out there and stands in the field. Maybe he's waiting for them to come back."

Fuhr would be happy if they didn't. "It scared the hell out of me. I'd never heard of flying saucers before that."

Fuhr now is retired. He's moved off his farm and lived in Langenburg. People still phone him to ask about the saucer nests. The government investigators promised to give him their reports about what they found in the crop circles. They haven't yet. Fuhr is still wondering what happened to him during the hour and a half he can't remember.

DAILY NEWS, Budapest, Hungary - Oct. 30-Nov. 5, 1992 CR: M. Rofe

Aliens are here and watching

"THE representatives of a cosmic civilization of a superior culture live among us, but have not as yet considered the time ripe to contact the inhabitants of the Earth. Humanity and the various societies should be prepared for their reception. Getting to know a superior civiliza-

tion serves the future of humanity," speakers at the opening session of the Space Travel and Space Communications World Congress in Budapest said. The speakers stressed that it is the task of the world's governments and international organizations to

promote, with their cooperation, ever more extensive information about this problem. Efforts should be made to establish contacts with extraterrestrial civilizations.

UFO researchers from many countries — astronomers, physicists, historians, natural science experts and astronauts — have reported to the congress about their practical or presumed experiences.

The achievements of the first Space Travel and Space Communications World Congress have inspired Hungary's UFO watchers to stage a yearly conference in the future, aimed at the recognition of the latest discoveries in this field. It is noteworthy that Hungary is internationally recognised as the site of increasingly more frequent and intriguing UFO phenomena over recent years — said Sándor Ambrus, one of the organisers of the scientific conference.

Ambrus explained how, as an entrepreneur, he has had completed at his own expense the more than 100 meter long UFO calling-sign on one of the outlying parts of the Budaörs airfield. An electrical observation system will supplement the landing sign on the airfield in the near future.

Writer Károly Hargitai, a recognised expert in Hungarian UFO research, confirmed the assertion of frequent sightings in this country. These occurrences, he said, can be divided into several groups. Every year a dozen reports are received of light manifestations of unidentified origin.

Rarer and harder to prove occurrences are landings of alien spacecraft or hovering close to the earth. Experts in Hungary register between 10 and 20 of such happenings annually. Regrettably, adds Hargitai, experience shows that people are still influenced by decades of secrecy and by the earlier official standpoint in relation to UFO phenomena. Thus only a fraction of sightings in Hungary come to light.



Photo MTI/T. Kerekes

Models of ETs on display at the UFO congress

I saw a strange object in the night sky, too

■WITH reference to the Argus report on Mr Parsons who saw a strange object in the sky (February 10), I know he's not a wally as I also saw the same thing on Machen Mountain.

On Saturday, January 16, at approximately 11pm I went to draw the curtains and saw this huge round red object tinged with orange behind the trees on the crest of the mountain.

It was very strange, it was there for a long while and it

was really massive.

I told my family at the time, and made a joke about it, saying perhaps it was from outer space, but I didn't see any little men about.

The back of my house faces the mountain, it was all so clear.

So my sighting was on the same day as Mr Parsons'. I hope Mr Parsons will now feel better, knowing someone else also saw it at the same time, same night.

Mrs J. Hurford, Manor Way, Ty Sign, Risca.

University of Saskatchewan astronomy professor Stan Shadick couldn't offer an explanation.

However, he said of interest to readers might be a comet which can be seen by telescope called the Swift-Tuttle Comet which is now showing up for the first time in 130 years.

It takes 130 years for the comet to orbit the sun. Its nucleus, now about 150 million kilometres away, is a frozen ice-ball.

It can be seen through the U of S observatory which is open to the public Saturday between 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Unidentified light show reported

By Art Robinson
of The StarPhoenix

There are strange things happening in the skies over Saskatoon.

And Reg Siddall, for one, says he isn't buying the explanation that unusual weather patterns are the cause of it.

And Ron Stewart, who lives in a different part of the city, said what he saw appeared to be more like a comet than some kind of light pattern in the sky.

At the same time — and scientists say this is completely coincidental to reports of UFOs and lights — there is an unusual happening that can only be witnessed by a powerful telescope once every 130 years.

A number of residents on the south and west sides of the city called weather and airport officials along with media outlets after spotting red and green lights in the sky early Thursday morning.

But Siddall, who lives in the Nutana area, saw more than that.

"I was plugging in my car about 1:20 a.m. While I was looking for the block heater cord, there was a noise which sounded like a fan belt on some other car. I was kind of joking with myself that it might be a UFO. Then something flew directly over my head. It was boomerang-shaped."

He said there were four white lights on each side of its wings.

"It wasn't a plane. It was a weird feeling. I immediately knew what it wasn't. It wasn't a plane."

Siddall said he isn't accepting explanations that it could have been the result of a weather pattern and lights from another planet.

"This was no optical illusion and I didn't see any planet," said Siddall.

It was about the same time in the morning — but Saturday — that Stewart, who lives in Westview, spotted some kind of light outside his window.

"Whatever it was, the light started on the left side of the window and it went real fast. It was gone quickly. I thought it was a comet," said Stewart.

Cliff Hannah of the weather office said about 5:30 a.m. Thursday he went out and looked to the southwest where there had been sightings of lights. He said the planet Mars is in that location.

"There was almost a spectrum-type phenomenon," said Hannah.

He said because there was was a great temperature inversion — with it being so much colder closer to the earth — there's would be a tendency to distort lights and it could well have been lights reflected off Mars that people saw.

UFO night recalled

Retired clergyman Norman Wyatt has featured in a TV programme highlighting UFO sightings in the Chichester area.

Mr Wyatt, of Bell Lane, Cocking, near Midhurst, was interviewed for a Meridian programme about his supernatural sighting as he walked home from the village church one evening last September.

He and his sister-in-law, Kathleen Maxwell, spied a translucent green figure in human shape, with three long rods, speeding through the sky.

"It was a long way up, and going like the clappers — about 40-50 mph," Mr Wyatt recalled.

"A neighbour who is an expert on UFOs and has records of many sightings, confirmed it definitely was one. Similar shapes have been seen before in various places."

Mr Wyatt, who has seen no sign of the mystery object since, added: "I believe stranger things go on than we know about on earth. It didn't worry me unduly."

MIDHURST & PETWORTH OBSERVER, Sussex, England - Jan. 28, 1993 CR: T. Good

'Nobody seems to think there are UFOs, but I've had proof'

FOLLOWING a recent weekend seminar on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects, the Courier appealed for readers own experiences of "close encounters". Here are a few:

SEVERAL unexplained events have happened to a Tunbridge Wells pensioner over the years. She did not want to be named for fear of being ridiculed, but she thought the incidents could have been UFO experiences.

The first incident happened 20 years ago while she was standing at a bus stop on Pembury Road, opposite Sandhurst Road. She was waiting for a bus so

she could go shopping in town.

"I heard this high-pitched sound, then everything went deathly quiet. I had one of those awful gut-feelings."

"After a few minutes a man came from the direction of the Sherwood estate. He came up to me and said: 'Did you hear that peculiar noise?'"

She had another experience 12 years ago when she went to live for a while in Kennington, near Oxford.

"At the back of our house was a railway line, a stream and then fields. One day I was looking out when I saw two men in the fields. They were wearing silver suits and seemed to be jumping up and down like astronauts on the

By Tim Knight and Stephen Powney

moon. They were directly underneath pylons.

"I went upstairs to fetch my binoculars but the view from above was barred by trees. I came downstairs but then they had gone."

She said she went to the local UFO club so she could talk to someone about it. As she was waiting for the meeting to start she read some of the books and pamphlets on display. While reading she came across records of other people's UFO experiences in the area and one was remarkably similar to her own. It mentioned men dressed in silver underneath pylons.

This confirmed that she was not the only one to have seen the strange sight.

Another experience happened when, again in Kennington, she was out walking with her husband in the evening.

Above them they saw orange lights and heard a droning sound. She said that both of them were certain that whatever it was had no wings.

These events have given her a strong interest in the subject of UFOs. She said that if there was a local group she would be interested in going along, to see if it could explain her experiences.

"If you do experience things you need someone to back you up because it is so hard to explain," she said.

was looking at me. I looked up and saw a big machine stationary in the sky. It stayed like this for about ten minutes, then shot off very fast sideways across the sky.

"It was brightly lit and around the middle where the windows were there were coloured lights. I always remember the beautiful light at the back."

Mrs Butler concluded: "Nobody seems to think there are UFOs, but I've had proof of it."

several minutes and then suddenly moved away rapidly, the acceleration was so rapid — and in the direction of the castle — that the boys almost matched the speed in diving into their beds and hiding under the blankets.

"The rest of the night passed peacefully. There was a lot of talk at breakfast. UFOs were mentioned, but the strange lights in the sky were never explained."

"However close encounters in the same area were made in 1980. Police officer Alan Godfrey underwent a dramatic encounter in November, 1980, when he was abducted and taken on board an alien craft which had landed on the Burnley Road in Todmorden."

BOB Hanna, of Medway, Crowborough, also claims to be "not unfamiliar with UFOs". He was working as a nightwatchman at Dobroyd Senior Approved School in Todmorden, and part of his duty was to see that the boys — aged 16 to 19 — stayed in their beds at night, did not cause any trouble and did not attempt to abscond.

"It was one night in February 1968 when my tour of duty round the dormitories led me to find a group of boys out of bed looking across the moors at a line of bright orange lights, which seemed to be bouncing up and down and flashing out beams of red, green and white lights — not unlike the beams from a lighthouse," Mr Hanna said. The lights were west of Dobroyd Castle, Todmorden, over the Lancashire moors.

"The performance lasted

As for local close encounters, Mr Hanna said he remembers reading of sighting by parents collecting children from Herne School in Crowborough and added: "Certainly at Walshe Manor the boys kept a look out for UFOs and this photograph (below) was taken by one of the boys."

● If you have had any experience of UFOs or similar "unknown" phenomena, please let us know at *UFO Watch, Kent and Sussex Courier, Longfield Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 3HL*. Any photographs you send us will be returned.

Aliens abducted me: UFO researcher

By Art Robinson of The StarPhoenix

UFO researcher Dr. Laurie Vassos has himself been abducted by extra-terrestrials, he told The StarPhoenix Thursday.

Vassos, who last weekend hosted a conference in Banff, Alta., on the subject, said he has decided to go public with the information on himself because people who have had such experiences should know there are others.

"There are people out there in large numbers — maybe one in 50 — who are having those experiences," said Vassos.

The Saskatoon physician said he saw "a little grey guy" of the type described by many just several days before a series of articles appeared in The StarPhoenix last month.

As well, he had two experiences with humanoid extra-terrestrials before that. He said he didn't want to get into details of these beings other than saying one was a man and the other a woman.

Vassos said he didn't want to talk about his own experiences earlier unless he was asked because he thought it might be perceived as "self-serving."

But, he said, he decided to disclose them at the recent conference.

"I made up my mind I would talk about them," said Vassos.

He said he had his first experience in July 1989.

"I've had a series of them," he added.

He said he hasn't seen any UFOs — only extra-terrestrials.

He said his first encounter was in 1989 in Wyoming.

"I wanted to have an experience — because I was investigating it. While I was sleeping I had some sort of out-of-body experience and encountered this being. It was a humanoid, it wasn't a grey fellow."

Many have described their visitors and abductors as being grey, with large heads and eyes and less than four feet tall.



DR. LAURIE VASSOS ... 'little grey guy'

He said he first dismissed it as a dream.

"Things started to happen related to the experience. I have had several others in which I was taken — abducted."

He said he was taken in an altered state to a strange place.

"There was a dome covering this place. I saw stars. I remember seeing a humanoid-type being. I didn't know who the person was. I asked myself why I was so afraid. This person (who had human-like features) said I was frightened because it was new to me."

He said later he talked to a man in his office who described a similar account with a similar being — "not a little grey guy."

He said these beings communicate telepathically and appear to control people with their minds.

Vassos said nothing painful has been done to him in these experiences.

Others have told of being operated upon by aliens.

UFO is sighted

ANOTHER mystery of the skies' has been reported near Nottingham — UFOs over Calverton.

Royal Mail van driver Stephen Hobbs spotted brilliant blue, red and white clusters of lights as he was going to work just before 6am on Saturday.

The lights, he claimed, were very low and no engine sounds could be heard. The sighting is the latest in a catalogue of reports sent to Bulwell UFO enthusiast Anthony James, who features in our special report on page 9 inside this week's Herald & Post.

UFOs OVER HEXHAM?

A Glasgow couple got more than they bargained for when they paid a visit to Hexham this week — for they claim to have spotted five UFO's hovering above the Market Place.

Mrs Helen Clark and her husband were walking through the Market Place at 10.30pm on Wednesday when they saw five bright orange globes of light in the sky.

Each globe had a ring through it and they stayed in the couple's view for 30-40 seconds before disappearing.

Summer of crop circle mania?

By Peter Davison

CROP CIRCLE mania looks set to hit Marlborough this summer with the launch of weekend-long circle tours, a free information service for circle-spotters and tourists and a crop circle conference in the town.

The man behind the scheme is Michael Irving of the Acorn Centre, Kingsbury Street, Marlborough, who is fascinated by the phenomenon of crop circles.

He has set up the service to provide up-to-date information on local circles when they appear, whether they are genuine or fake, and which have the landowner's permission to be visited.

The crop circle tours will include full board accommodation at the Parklands Hotel, Ogbourne St George and trips to crop circle sites and ancient monuments like Stonehenge and Avebury.

Also on the cards is a national Crop Circle Conference to be held at Marlborough Town Hall on August 7.

Crop Circles - The Real Phenomenon will be a seminar similar to last year's Glastonbury conference, and will include a talk by Colin Andrews, an expert who has studied the mystery of crop circles for over a decade.

His video, *Undeniable Evidence*, which discusses why the circles appear and who is responsible, is available for viewing at Acorn.

The credibility of crop circles was almost ruined last year when several people claimed they had been faking

the markings. But Colin Andrews claims the fakes are easy to spot.

"In genuine patterns the corn is not broken but growing at an angle of 90 degrees, and the patterns are very complex and difficult to fake," he said. "Around hoaxes there are always signs of human activity like trampling and footmarks."

Michael Irving is convinced that the circles are caused by UFOs.

"Several people have seen spaceship shapes with beams of light projecting from them down to earth in the vicinity of where crop patterns have been found the next morning."

"One woman driving near Avebury before a highly impressive pattern appeared at Silbury Hill saw the spaceship and suddenly all the instruments flew off her dashboard!"

"Intelligences from other planets are the most likely cause of crop circles," said Mr Irving. "I believe they exist on other vibrational levels and have mastered the ability to change space and time co-ordinates very rapidly."

"It seems highly likely they are trying to tell us something very important. Our culture is one of logic and intellect — attributes of the left hand side of the brain. The right hand side of the brain controls intuition, expression and creativity which is what the beings are appealing to," he said.

Further information about crop circles is available from the Acorn Centre at 4 Kingsbury Street, Marlborough.

'Alien landing' baffles experts on UFOs

By NIGEL BURTON

BAFFLED UFO experts are holding a conference to discuss claims by a North-East couple that they were visited by alien creatures.

The independent UFO Network (IUN) says it is no closer to uncovering the truth about allegations of a flying saucer landing in Redcar, Cleveland, despite a lengthy investigation.

It has convened a conference at the University of Northumbria, in Newcastle next month to discuss the unusual incident and other UFO sightings in the North-East.

Leading researcher Gloria Dixon has interviewed the Cleveland couple. She

said the pair, who wish to remain anonymous, "definitely experienced something highly unusual."

"They were absolutely terrified and the husband became quite ill shortly afterwards. We cannot offer a logical explanation."

Experts even used hypnosis to try and discover what happened to the family who say they witnessed a strange craft land on their concrete carport.

While they were in a trance the couple gave more details of a visitation

by strange child-like creatures, with pale skin and no facial features.

The creatures came into the family's house and examined their baby — then left in the strange oval craft.

Investigators say their testimony makes the Redcar case one of the most sensational ever reported in the UK.

Mrs Dixon said: "Nearly 95pc of all recorded sightings turn out to have a perfectly reasonable explanation. This one doesn't."

Leading researchers plan to discuss the Redcar landing at a North-East UFO seminar at the University of Northumbria, on Saturday, March 6,

from 1pm to 5pm.

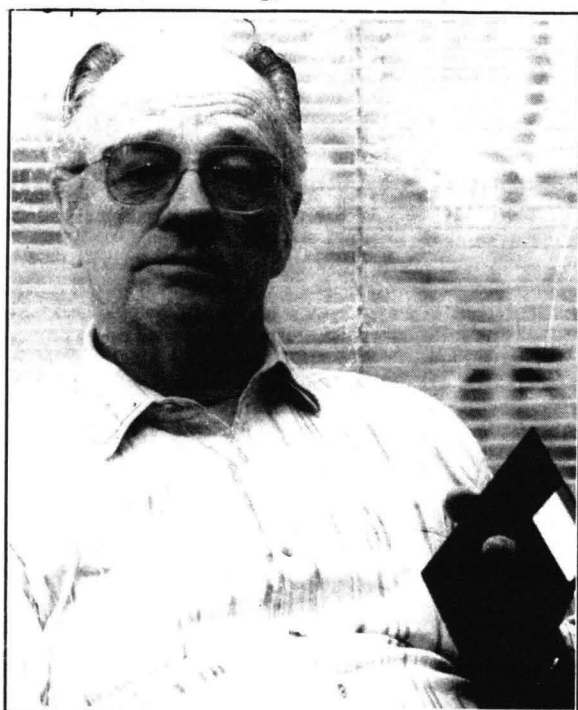
The conference has been thrown open to members of the public. Investigators hope people who believe they may have seen a UFO will come forward during the day.

IUN spokesman Philip Mantle said: "It has been said that the North of England has had more UFO sightings than the rest of the country put together."

"Certainly since 1947, when the term 'flying saucer' was coined, barely a week goes by without someone, somewhere in the north of England seeing a UFO."



TIMES, Waitsburg, WA - Feb. 11, 1993



Writer Vance Orchard holding book-computer disk.

Orchard's new book tracks Bigfoot of Blues into the computer age

Bigfoot has gone high-tech.

And, it took the pioneering knowhow of popular Touchet Valley writer Vance Orchard to bring the legendary pursuit of Bigfoot into the computer age.

Orchard's ninth book, "Bigfoot of the Blues" is not only untraditional in subject matter but in its method of publication as well. The book is available on computer disk only.

A columnist for The Times, Orchard of Walla Walla has been writing about Bigfoot of the Blues since 1966 when as a roving reporter for the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin newspaper he wrote the first news story about the finding of Bigfoot tracks in the local mountain range. His story was picked up by the Associated Press wire and transmitted all over the nation and, Orchard has been in pursuit of the Bigfoot story ever since.

Today, the 75-year-old author of eight books about life in eastern Washington and Oregon has penned what amounts to a 200-page book about the elusive Bigfoot of the Blues: The tracks and facts, the history and Indian legends, the eyewitness sightings and the theories and conjecture surrounding what Orchard calls "easily the most intriguing story I've ever written about."

Additionally, the book focuses like a tracker's eye on fresh footprints on the compelling saga of Walla Walla's Paul Freeman, a former U.S. Forest Service employee and outdoorsman who first sighted a Bigfoot in 1982 in the Mill Creek area, a sighting that, once disclosed, heaped ridicule on himself and his family

and ultimately caused Freeman to pull up stakes and flee the very land he loved. But along with his exit grew a stubborn personal oath: Prove the legend of Bigfoot was more real fur than fiction. It's a goal Freeman, after a decade of trial, believes he has met. Orchard tells readers how.

Orchard has been computer-friendly since his days at the Walla Walla newspaper when the paper computerized its newsroom. Orchard said he has been collecting Bigfoot stories and information for nearly 30 years and, after a friend suggested it, he decided to write an intended book on the Blue Mountain Bigfoot for computer disk.

The book is available on various computer "bulletin-board" services, such as CompuServe for \$14.95 each. Computer users will be able to connect into the electronic bulletin boards and retrieve sample chapters of Orchard's book. If they want more, they can order the full book on diskette.

By writing to Bigfoot of the Blues, Box 224, Walla Walla, WA 99362, Orchard will fill orders for the book as well.

His is the first book about Bigfoot for computer.

Who will buy the book?

"Anybody who is a Bigfoot enthusiast and who has a computer," said Orchard, in an interview at Whitman College, where he was involved in research on local history. He said computer-users are always looking for new ways to use their "toy of the '90s" and his computer-book fits that need.

Orchard can see the day when books will be available on computers and pictures that help tell the story will be in movie form

right on the computer screen.

Orchard is the author of eight earlier books, including "Life On the Dry Side," "Just Rambling Around Blue Mountain Country," and a local favorite, "Waitsburg: One of a Kind."

His Bigfoot book is timely because in recent months several nationally seen TV programs have been devoted to the Bigfoot story and, some of them, to Freeman's recent capturing of Bigfoot on videotape.

Orchard is a believer.

There is Bigfoot. Whether it exists or not is "hardly worth talking about," Orchard said. "There is so much proof out there."

But what Orchard doesn't know and, most engagingly explores in his book is how Bigfoot exists.

It could be zoological, an animal that some call the "missing link." Or, it could be something more difficult to comprehend: A psychic phenomenon from another dimension. Another "or" is there could be a UFO connection.

Notwithstanding the very human drama of Paul Freeman's quest for vindication and acceptance, it is in Orchard's forward-looking theories of HOW Bigfoot exists that blazes a new path in the myths and realities of Bigfoot, tracking the beast truly into the forest of the computer age.

Abduction by aliens isn't anything this group would scoff at

By Shermakaye Bass
Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

Does the idea of crop circles make your head spin? Does the thought of UFOs give you vertigo? Do rumors of Martian pyramids send you into orbit?

Then the Eclectic Viewpoint isn't for you. The Dallas group, whose newsletter has about 200 subscribers, is a "forum for extraordinary science, unusual phenomena and diverse viewpoints." Things your average-folk-taking-the-same-route-to-work-every-day would consider, well, weird.

Among the topics listed on Eclectic director Cheyenne Turner's business card: free energy, alternative medicine, antigravity, extraterrestrial abductions, radionics, anomalous phenomena, unusual archaeological finds, crop circles, age reversal theories — all of which are explored monthly by lecturers whose specialty is making the incredible credible.

Saturday, the speaker is Tracy Torme, screenwriter of the film *Fire in the Sky*, the "true story" of an Arizona logger abducted by aliens. Since its March 12 release, the movie has drawn the wrath of a strange-stories watchdog, the Committee for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, and caused controversy over what the label

"nonfiction" really means.

But perhaps most disturbing to the public are the reasons such a film might exist. Presented as a quasi-documentary, the movie explores reports not just of UFO sightings (those have become small potatoes by now) but extraterrestrial abductions the likes of which were depicted in last year's miniseries *Invaders* (script also by Mr. Torme).

What's going on? Eclectic Viewpoint wants to know. And Tracy Torme — a writer with sci-fi taste buds — wants to know. He began asking the question almost 15 years ago after reading Bud Hopkins' book *Missing Time*.

The book was one of the first to document UFO abductions, Mr. Torme says. And the idea of missing time, of "people with missing hours they really couldn't account for," intrigued him.

Short aliens

Later, after moving to New York, he hooked up with Bud Hopkins. The two spent hours interviewing Kathy Davis, who is the subject of *Invaders*.

What Mr. Torme has learned since then is that the most credible "abductees" say the same things — they report seeing the same dwarfish beings with large, hairless heads and black eyes, and they report undergoing the same painful experiments. All that adds up to... something.

"There's something going on, something physical and very real," Mr. Torme says via phone from Los Angeles. "I tend to be pretty cautious about what it really is, what the purpose behind it is, and I think with the subject of UFOs in general, it's very important to maintain a healthy skepticism to separate the wheat from the chaff."

With that mind-set, he will address Dallas listeners. The lecture — the only "UFO lecture" Mr. Torme plans to give during the film's promotion — is strictly designed to broaden people's perspectives.

"I'm going to try to make it clear... that I'm not some kind of UFO lecturer," he says. "I'm really just there to talk about the movie, the phenomenon and some of the reactions we've been getting."

The reactions in 1990 are surely more forgiving than in 1975, when logger Travis Walton reported the incident. At the time, few other abductions had been reported, Mr. Torme explains. The idea seemed

outlandish; speaking of it could ruin a person's career, devastate his family. And the image of a small alien body with an oversized head might be something conjured up by Ray Bradbury — not some Joe Whosit down the street.

"Now, 18 years later," the writer says, "you see that image on beer commercials and camera commercials. They even abducted Gummy on a cartoon. ... That image has become part of the American consciousness. And I think part of the reason that has happened is just the weight of the number of people who claim to have seen these beings."

Yet Mr. Torme, who has also written for *Star Trek — The Next Generation*, doesn't exactly call himself a believer. He says the UFO-abduction issue is a compelling one. And he contends that *Fire in the Sky* is based on fact.

"The movie is about a missing person's case, where someone disappeared for five days and the police felt murder was involved — that's the true story. ... As far as where Travis went and whether these guys were telling the truth, we don't say that's 100 percent the truth."

In this way, Mr. Torme differs from the Eclectic Viewpoint's previous speakers. Past guests are steadfast believers in their respective phenomena, and many are authors, military officials or scientists.

Recent guests

Last year, the Eclectic Viewpoint hosted Arlington-based archaeologist and divinity scholar Vendyl Jones — "the real Indiana Jones" — and David Fasold, who claims to have discovered Noah's ark in Turkey.

Other speakers have included Robert Groden, one of the world's leading photographic experts on the Kennedy assassination; British astronomer and former IBM employee George Wingfield, who is director of research at the Centre for Crop Circle Studies in England; ex-Marine Dannon Brinkley, whose near-death experience landed him on *The Joan Rivers Show*, *Oprah Winfrey Show* and *Larry King Live*; and Mary Nash Stoddard, head of the Dallas-based Aspartame Consumer Safety Network.

More bizarre topics — such as the idea that extraterrestrials erected pyramids on Mars — are broached by people who have a "scientific background if possible," says Eclectic Viewpoint director Turner. Although the Mars monument pill may be pretty hard to swallow, its champion, Richard Hoagland, has an impressive background: He is a former NASA consultant and an adviser to Walter Cronkite on the Apollo moon program.

In his "Ghosts of the Air" lecture last month, Martin Caidin, a former NASA consultant and Air Force intelligence officer, told of inexplicable happenings in the wild blue yonder: a Boeing 727 that disappeared from the Miami International Airport's radar system for 10 minutes, then reappeared with its clocks 10 minutes behind; ghost-piloted fighter planes during World War II.

All these topics fascinate Ms. Turner, who founded Eclectic Viewpoint more than a year ago with the idea that they would fascinate others. Or that they might irritate others.

"I'm sure I've pushed some people's buttons by these lectures," says Ms. Turner, a former research biologist who is a skeptic. "My personal belief is that a mind that is never challenged becomes stagnant. I'm not saying everyone's theory is correct. In fact, I don't think I've ever had a speaker that I completely agreed with. I'm just saying, look at the facts and do the research yourself."

LECTURE INFORMATION

Tracy Torme speaks at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Addison Conference and Theatre Center, 15650 Addison Road. Tickets, \$12. Call 601-7687 or 424-5855.

DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, UT - April 1, 1993 CR: M. Bieseke



TRACKING BIGFOOT

HAIRY 'N' SCARY

Real or not, creature haunts us

After 13 years of probing encounters, self-styled expert is a believer.

By Lynn Arave
Deseret News staff writer

Bigfoot lives. So says Ryan Layton, Utah's self-styled premier expert on Sasquatch, the mythical creature believers insist hides in the wilds of North America. Layton has hunted Bigfoot for 13 years through interviews with Utahns who tell of close encounters and by gathering what he insists is evidence of its existence.

"As far as I know in the state of Utah, I've taken this (Bigfoot study) further than anyone else. It's absolutely overwhelming the things I've come to find out. It's controversial but fascinating." People have reported sightings of an animal the fits the Bigfoot description in Utah as well as in the Pacific Northwest.

Layton, 39, a self-employed entrepreneur, doesn't claim to have solved the mystery of Bigfoot. He also hasn't personally glimpsed the creature, but he says he's found enough evidence over the years to be convinced there's something out there that goes beyond normal understanding.

He stresses he's not on a "monster hunt," but rather he's looking for some answers and perhaps for an unknown species of animal.

"In all probability, they do exist," he said, "I can't prove it to anybody, but people have indeed seen Bigfoot in unmistakable conditions."

Most people scoff at the reports, and Layton said he's already taken heat for his belief in Bigfoot. Scientists will remain unbelieving until they capture or get a skeleton of a Bigfoot. Detractors point to the lack of fossils, bones or remains of any kind. They maintain an animal can't have existed without leaving remains behind.

"You'd think you'd come across a dead one or a fossil," he said, stressing he isn't one to advocate what some Bigfoot enthusiasts do — shooting one in order to have a body to present to science as proof.

He said the lack of such evidence has put some Bigfoot study into the metaphysical realm. One of the recent trends in Bigfoot theories nationally is the possible connection of Bigfoot to UFOs.

"I can't say I've seen much connection between the two," Layton said, but others say Bigfoots are extra-terrestrial beings.

"I don't rule out that we're dealing with a band of experimental or introduced species from another source, based on the fact we have no fossil evidence of Bigfoot," he said.

What happens when man encounters Bigfoot? Reports vary, but Layton said 80 percent of all sightings happen at night and most involve a creature who is reserved, though a little curious. He may watch a camp in the mountains from a distance, but is rarely aggressive. A few have reported trucks or campers being rocked by a Bigfoot, but Layton said this is rare.

He said a foul odor, which might be caused by some sort of special protective glands, usually permeates a Bigfoot encounter.

Layton said other animals react negatively to Bigfoot. Dogs will track bears or cougars, but they'll run away from Bigfoot. Horses will also act frightened and apprehensive.

Layton is aware of a belief that Bigfoot might be Cain, who killed his brother Abel in early biblical times and was cursed to remain a fugitive. A sighting of a hairy man in the 1830s by David W. Patten, an early LDS Apostle, has fueled such speculation. Patten's experi-

ence is related in the late President Spencer W. Kimball's book "The Miracle of Forgiveness."

"I don't think it's Cain or a Cain-related offspring," Layton said, although he does believe Bigfoot is a sojourner. On the other hand,

Layton doesn't believe Patten met Bigfoot, either, because Patten apparently was astride a horse that remained calm during the encounter.

"They're not built like us. I doubt if they have too many human tendencies," Layton said, referring to Dr. Grover S. Krantz's research. (See accompanying story.) Krantz is one of the nation's most respected Bigfoot experts with whom Layton has collaborated.

"
I don't rule out that we're dealing with a band of experimental or introduced species from another source, based on the fact we have no fossil evidence of Bigfoot.

Ryan Layton
Expert on Sasquatch

Layton said some theories explain Bigfoot as a modern version of a primate, apelike creature, called gigantopithecus, that existed in China more than 500,000 years ago and migrated to North America. But he said that idea still doesn't explain why no skeletons have ever been found.

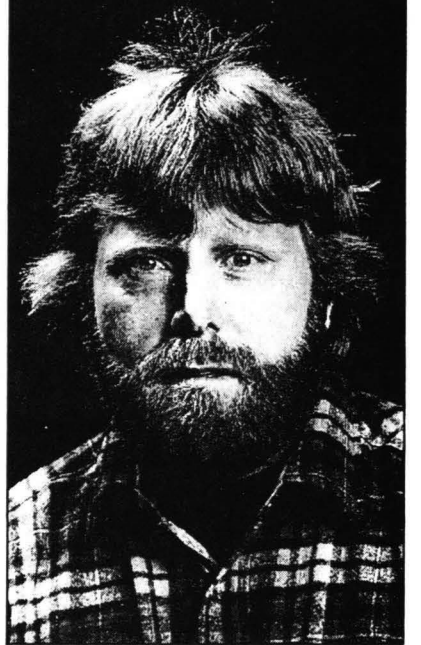
Layton said he remembers reading a Bigfoot story in "True Magazine" back in 1962. He also helped classmates make an amateur Bigfoot movie when he was a ninth-grader. His interest was renewed in 1980 when there were several reported Bigfoot sightings in South Weber, Davis County.

He admits he was obsessed with the creature back then. The local sightings hit home because previous ones were mostly in the Pacific Northwest. (Still, Bigfoot has been reported in such places as San Diego, the Las Vegas area and the Grand Canyon.)

"I made a promise to myself to get to the bottom of those sightings," he said. "I decided to be an investigator and remain skeptical."

He said it has taken many years for him to become convinced of Bigfoot's existence and also to come down to reality.

"It's turned into a real interesting hobby. . .



Ryan Layton

You'd be shocked how many people in the state of Utah have eyewitnessed these things," he said, explaining he's talked to 30 to 40 Utahns who say they have had close encounters with Bigfoot. "These things have been seen all over the state."

"I'd like to see one. . . but I haven't. . . They don't show up very often."

Layton believes Bigfoot is something you have to be lucky to see. You just can't go out looking for it like a big game animal using certain parameters and expect to see one. He's seen footprints and also believes he heard a Bigfoot cry out in the Uintas during 1983.

He also said the reported evidence of Bigfoots in Utah didn't stop after the South Weber sightings 13 years ago. He said there's even a legend among Indians of a place on the Ouray Indian Reservation near Roosevelt, where Bigfoot-like creatures have been reported.

though he's been unable to get permission to visit the area, sacred to the Indians.

The Utes also have a ceremony of cedar burning that involves the Sasquatch (an Indian name), and Layton said he's aware of some petroglyphs that depict the feet of some hunters way out of proportion to body size and may indicate Indians have had knowledge of Bigfoot for many centuries. Some Indians lore indicates they believe Bigfoot to be a spirit.

If a Bigfoot is ever found or caught, Layton believes it might be in Utah's Uinta Mountains. Layton said a Roosevelt outfitter told him he was approached by Roger Patterson, a hunter who took what he says is a video of Bigfoot in October 1967, about going into the Uintas to look for Bigfoot in the summer of that year. Layton also said one author states in the epilogue to a book on Bigfoot that he believes the Uintas will be the likely place where Bigfoot will finally be caught.

Layton's not exactly sure why the Uintas rate so highly as a possible Bigfoot refuge but that theory and the reported evidence of the creature in the Beehive State mean no one has to go to the Pacific Northwest to look for one. He said if a Bigfoot is ever caught, the environmental ramifications would go far beyond the restrictions prompted by the spotted owl in the Northwest and would hit Utah's outdoor country hard.

Layton said there have been tracks found in the Garland, Box Elder County, area in the past five years, a sighting around some North Salt Lake gravel pits on Beck Street about 10 years ago and also some more recent evidence in North Ogden during the past two years, though he declined to comment more on that.

The media reactions and the possibility of ridicule have prevented some people with Bigfoot evidence or experiences from reporting them publicly, Layton said.

'BIG FOOTPRINTS'

Book takes scientific approach toward existence of elusive animal

Washington State professor theorizes about an undiscovered primate.

By Lynn Arave
Deseret News staff writer

The newest book on Bigfoot is also perhaps the best one. "Big Footprints," (1992) by Grover S. Krantz, anthropology professor at Washington State University (Johnson Books, \$14.95) attempts a scientific approach to the existence of the creature.

Krantz doesn't mention Utah in his book, but he spent some of his childhood years living along the Wasatch Front. He refuses to discuss any supernatural theories about the Bigfoot. He believes the rumored animal may simply be an undiscovered wild primate that's not paranormal but has eluded capture and scientific identification.

Assuming it exists and judging from the reported sightings, he estimates a ratio of 100 bears for every Bigfoot in the Pacific northwest and notes that bears are rarely seen.

Regarding the lack of any skeletal remains of a Bigfoot, Krantz said he's yet to meet anyone who has found the remains of a bear who died of natural causes. He said the only bear remains found are of those killed by humans. He believes Bigfoots die in secret and, given the vast forests in North America, says finding a Bigfoot skeleton is like finding the proverbial needle in a haystack.

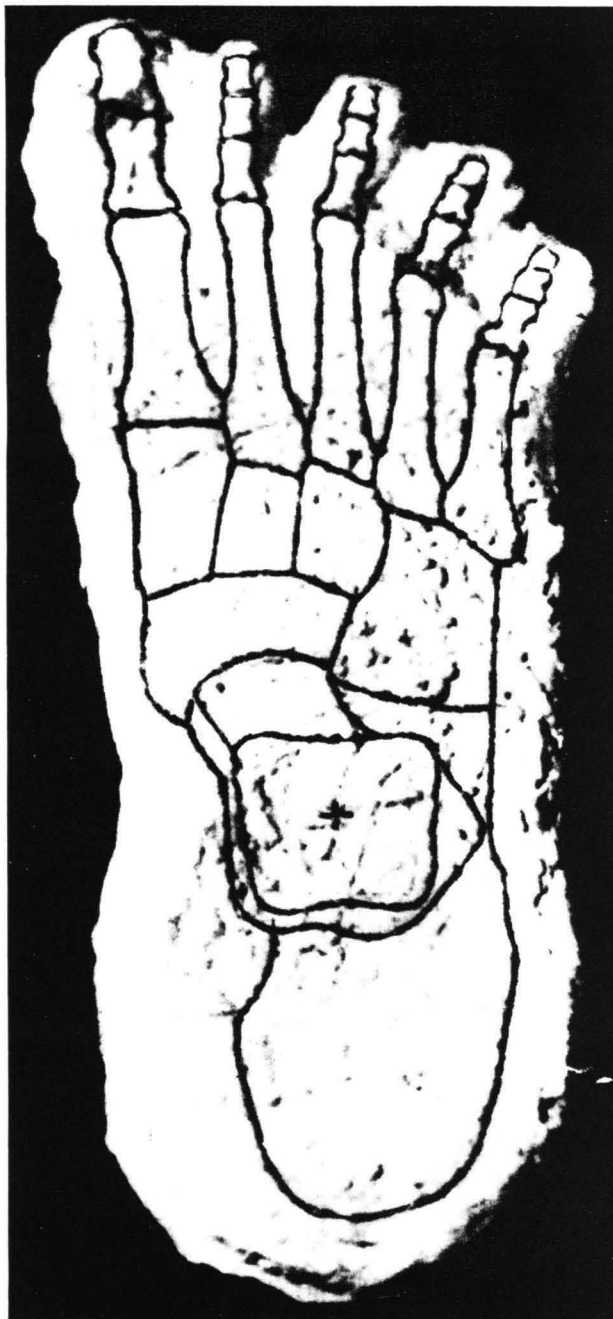
Krantz has never seen a Bigfoot, but he's studied numerous tracks and has concluded to his own satisfaction through what he points to as anthropological research that most tracks are *not* faked — he says they're just too detailed. What people really see in Bigfoot sightings can be challenged, but Krantz said nothing except an undiscovered animal could have made the footprints he's studied.

Most footprints have three times the surface area of a man's foot. Krantz admits there have been many Bigfoot hoaxes staged over the years and they have greatly discredited serious studies.

The typical Bigfoot sighter describes a creature walking upright, covered by hair, 6½ to 8 feet tall. Krantz estimates by footprints that the creature usually weighs about 800 pounds. Most sightings occur in forests, and the reported Bigfoots usually hastily retreat from man. An overwhelming odor also accompanies a percentage of the Bigfoot sightings.

Some people have said they found hair samples or Bigfoot droppings, but nothing conclusive has been determined.

Krantz believes the one-minute



Likely bone structure is scientifically drawn over a plaster cast of a footprint found in the wild and attributed to the mysterious Bigfoot.

film taken of an animal some claim is Bigfoot in 1967 by Roger Patterson in northern California is legitimate. The film has too much detail to be bogus, he says, even though most of it was shot from 100 feet away. Film experts at the Walt Disney Co. examined Patterson's movie in 1969 and said they couldn't duplicate the film, even with the facilities they use to create illusion — because it was too realistic. Patterson died a few years

later.

Patterson had said he felt the creature he filmed looked back at him once during the filming with contempt.

Eight other films owners claimed were of Bigfoot have been determined to be fakes, according to Krantz. Since Bigfoot is most active at night, videos or photographs would be difficult to get.

Regarding the Bigfoot's diet,

Bigfoot sightings

IN UTAH

Today, Bigfoot is part of our culture. There have been a movie and TV series — "Harry and the Hendersons" — and various TV reports on the mysterious beast over the years.

As "Sasquatch," it's part of many Indian legends. David Thompson, a surveyor and trader for the Northwest Company, discovered what may have been Bigfoot tracks in 1810, near the Columbia River Gorge. Bigfoot may be a larger cousin of the "Abominable Snowman" or "Yeti" and other similar apelike creatures rumored to live in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Over the years, Bigfoot evidence has been reported in Canada, most Western states, portions of the Midwest and even in Florida. Sightings have also been reported as far south as Guatemala. There is also a lot of evidence of Bigfoot reported in Utah, some of it fairly recently.

Here's a list of some of the reported Bigfoot sightings and evidence in the Beehive State. The information on these reports are from the files of Ryan Layton of Layton, who has interviewed many Utahns who have claimed to have spotted Bigfoot the past 13 years and from past media reports:

1960s: A possible Bigfoot sighting near Beaver.

1970s: Some residents of Clarkston, northwest of Logan, reported that something took a midnight trip through their community, awakening and frightening residents. An Indian reported seeing a creature in the Dixie National Forest.

1973: Craig R. Johnson of Farr West, Weber County, was elk hunting with friends in the Manti-La Sal Mountains. After returning to camp, they reported something very powerful had lifted the door off a 300-pound horse trailer and tossed it 10 feet away. An imprint in the dust on the door didn't indicate a bear or a human.

1977: The first major reported Utah sighting. Jay Barker and Larry Beeson of North Ogden were hiking one summer morning with five young men in the Cuberant Basin of the Uinta Mountains and reported watching an 8-to-10-foot tall creature with a mantle of white hair from 600 to 800 yards away for 20 minutes until some loose rock alerted it to their presence on a ridge. An expedition into the area a few days later found no tracks, but the ground was very hard.

1979: Larry Darley of Clearfield was elk hunting with his wife in the fall near Monte Cristo, east of Ogden. They later reported a loud noise and an "awful" odor at twilight. Mrs. Darley said she spotted a "hairy thing, with fangs" at a water hole 50 yards away through her rifle scope. They watched it for several minutes before rushing to their truck after the animal seemed to look at them. Hikers near Flaming Gorge reported stumbling onto a water hole with a huge pine bed and a dead deer hanging nearby. They said they unearthly screams and made a quick retreat to their boat.

1980s (by month): A man from Lapoint, Utah County, flying a small airplane from Ogden to his home one winter, reported seeing a large, hairy manlike creature walking through the deep snow of the High Uintas. Lee Fielding of Hooper, Weber County, who works for Utah Wildlife Resources, was camping in the Elizabeth Mountain area of the Uintas. He reported that something stormed through his camp one night and scared all the horses away. The next morning, his horse would not go in a particular direction, and he met a group of hunters in another nearby camp who told him they were spooked by seeing what they described as a Bigfoot.

A man on a dirt bike behind the Francis Peak Radar Towers said he was chased by some sort of creature. Indians in Ouray Reservation near Roosevelt reported Bigfootlike creatures in a particular canyon, but since they consider the area sacred, to outside investigation has yet been permitted. Ute Indians also have a legend that similar creatures sometimes congregate in the Island Lake area of the High Uintas. There are also periodic reports of large rocks being thrown in the middle of the night around Island Lake. A Vernal church leader and family reported seeing the outline of a large creature near their tent one summer night. They also saw a huge handprint press against their tent.

February: In February, Bigfoot made big news in Utah with numerous sightings. Paulene Markham said she saw something like Bigfoot walking on a ridge behind her house. Ron J. Smith reported a creature in the moonlight in a pasture next to his house. He also said he heard it make an inhuman scream. Walter G. Ray reported that a pan of burned stew, set outside to cool, was mysteriously licked clean. Possible Bigfoot tracks were reported in the South Weber area. Lee Padilla of Clearfield reported seeing a 10-foot tall beast dart across Riverdale Road in front of his headlights at 3:30 a.m. A Utah man reported seeing something he described as non-human out a window of his home in the foothills. A South Weber resident, Edna Arave, said she was frightened by the unearthly screams of what may have been Bigfoot one February night. She also believed many South Weber residents saw or heard things they never did report for fear of ridicule, or of the publicity they could receive from the media.

April: A 13-year-old Washington Terrace, Weber County, girl reported a hairy creature standing up with its back to her — only 10 feet away in a gully near the Weber River. She also said she smelled a terrible odor and rushed home. Her brother, cutting oak brush nearby, also saw something "large and black" about the same time.

May: An Ogden couple picking asparagus along the Weber River near 12th Street and I-15, reported an 8-foot-tall black figure with glowing red eyes about 40 yards away. They ran to their car and a later returned to the area with Ryan Layton and others and found hundreds of tracks. Several footprints were also discovered in a residential area of North Ogden.

August: Teenagers reported hearing an unearthly scream and smelling a terrible odor one night. Large footprints are also later found in the area.

1981: The police chief of Garland, Box Elder County, said he saw a creature run in front of his car. Several other residents also reported sightings and tracks are found that lead in a northwest direction.

1982: Several drivers along Beck Street in North Salt Lake reported seeing a hairy creature run across the road in the early morning darkness.

1983: A jogger in Farmington reported seeing a Bigfoot near the city cemetery early one morning. Ryan Layton of Layton and a friend were camping on Sept. 1 in the Hoyt Peak area of the Uintas. Layton, who collects Bigfoot stories, had heard a tape recording of a Bigfoot scream that a Montana rancher had given to another Utahn. At 3 a.m., he said "just for fun," he imitated — as best he could — one of the Bigfoot sounds and almost instantly got back a reply. It was the same as the Montana recording, and Layton described it as an "almost ungodly, sinister and weird scream" that lasted five to 10 seconds. It had too much volume to be human or made by any known animal. Several men in the Wheeler Canyon area, near the Snow Basin road, reported seeing something large with red glowing eyes at about 3 a.m. one night. They left their camping gear and rushed off to Huntsville to report it and also said they saw several other creatures in the vicinity.

1988: Ranchers near Garland reported seeing two Bigfootlike creatures near their lambing pens after dark. Soon after, many tracks were found in the Garland area in deep snow and were followed for two miles.

1990s: An Orangeville, Emery County, man told Ryan Layton he's spotted Bigfoot four different times in the High Uintas, including one time with his whole family. He also said his grandfather had told him he'd seen Bigfoot in the same area.

1991 (August): Bigfoot sightings reported by residents in North Ogden.

1992 (August): Screams and a foul odor were reported in the same North Ogden area.



Krantz believes it is "an opportunistic carnivore" — it can kill and eat meat but usually consumes already dead animals, berries or plants. It also does not hibernate, he says.

Krantz estimates there may be only several thousand Bigfoots in North America, while there are likely 200,000 bears living just in the Pacific Northwest. He believes Bigfoots are nocturnal and most active from midnight to dawn, while bears are usually only active during the day.

He told the Associated Press in 1981 that he believed there were at least 200 Bigfoot in the Mountain West.

He realizes science will never accept Bigfoot as real until it has a live or dead one in hand. Krantz has taken his own share of ridicule over the years but believes scientists in general are finally starting to tolerate legitimate investigations into evidences of Bigfoot.

Mutilated cows & UFOs

Experts dispute researchers' alien theory

By DAVID BREWER
Times Staff Writer

FYFFE — Are numerous dead, mutilated cows that continue to be found in pastures in DeKalb and Marshall counties the victims of extraterrestrial aliens?

At least one investigator has been exploring this theory and other possibilities in her efforts to explain the mutilations and their connection, if any, to thousands of similar animal mutilations that have occurred around the world.

But Dr. Fred Hoerr, a pathologist and veterinarian at the state Diagnostic Laboratory at Auburn University, said he doesn't see anything unusual about the incidents and discounts the possibility that the cattle were mutilated and killed by an extraterrestrial force. He said wild dogs or other predators may have been responsible.

And Dr. Thomas Wdowiak, professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, said the planet Venus may have been mistaken for the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) that have recently been reported in the Sand Mountain area of Northeast Alabama.

Nonetheless, former CBS Director of Special Projects Linda Moulton Howe of Huntingdon, Pa., continues her inquiry into the animal mutilations — something she's been doing since the production of her Emmy Award-winning

been unable to find any clues — including vehicle tracks, footprints or, in most cases, even blood around the carcasses.

Adding to the mystery have been the reported sightings of UFOs here and elsewhere in Northeast Alabama.

However, Fyffe is no stranger to such happenings.

Sightings of UFOs here in February of 1989 drew national attention as thousands of people descended on the community to see if they could catch a glimpse of flying objects that eye witnesses reported were oval or triangular-shaped and wider than a football field.

Wdowiak said that whenever a "rash of UFO reports" occurs in an area, it's usually when the planet Venus or Jupiter is positioned low on the horizon and it is seen for the first time at that location after the sky has been overcast for a period of time.

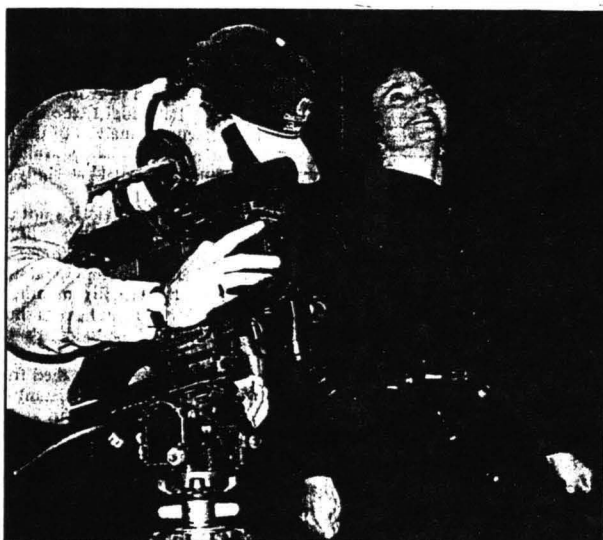
Wdowiak said he recently saw on a television news program in Birmingham a video image of what someone thought was a UFO. He said the image was shaped something like the Batman logo, which indicated to him that the photographer had the video camera out of focus and was actually seeing the shape of the iris in the camera.

"I have found from teaching over 7,000 students in astronomy that the public does not have the vaguest notion of what's going on in the sky and are really not equipped to make judgments," Wdowiak said.

"I think what people are seeing (now) is the extraordinarily bright planet Venus."

One of those interviewed by Mrs. Howe is Ted Oliphant, an official with the Fyffe Police Department.

Oliphant, a former public affairs spokesman for the Strategic Air Command at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base in Marquette, Mich., first became interested in UFOs after seeing two UFOs while on a fishing expedition in Marquette in 1987.



David Brewer/Huntsville Times

Linda Moulton Howe of Huntingdon, Pa., right, investigates strange reports from Sand Mountain.

television documentary, "Strange Harvest," on the subject in 1979 and 1980.

Her book, "An Alien Harvest," which was published in 1989, is a compilation of 10 years of investigation into animal mutilations and alleged human abductions by alien life forms.

Last Sunday, Mrs. Howe arrived in this rural Sand Mountain community of 1,400 to investigate the numerous reported sightings of UFOs and how these sightings might be associated with the cow mutilations.

Law enforcement officers have reported more than 20 cases of dead, mutilated animals in DeKalb and Marshall counties in the past five months. While most of the animals were cows, there were some goats and at least one dog, authorities said.

In some of the cases, helicopters were reportedly seen flying at tree-top level in areas where animals had been butchered.

The mutilations have left investigators baffled because they've



David Brewer/Huntsville Times

Ted Oliphant describes photographs of mutilated cows he examined in DeKalb and Marshall counties.

Oliphant began traveling across the country in 1990 conducting his own research on UFOs. He later helped produce a documentary on his findings, "UFO-A Need to Know," which is currently circulated in video stores around the country.

Oliphant made three trips to Roswell, N.M., where in 1949, according to Mrs. Howe in her book "Alien Harvest," it was reported that a UFO crashed and seven extraterrestrials were found, six dead and one alive.

Oliphant said he came to Fyffe in September of 1990 after hearing reports about UFO sightings in the area.

"The first evening I came up here, I saw a UFO," he said. "I moved here in December 1990 be-

cause after I had seen what I had seen I decided that I was going to get to the bottom of it."

Oliphant said he joined the Police Department because "it's the best way to find out" information about anything.

There have been 25 reported cases of cow mutilations in DeKalb and Marshall counties and one case in Jackson County since October, Oliphant told *The Huntsville Times* last week. Oliphant has collected samples himself and has taken several photographs of the mutilated animals.

In all but two of the animals, he said, high-tech precision instruments using a high level of heat of more than 350 degrees Fahrenheit seemed to have been used to core out the sex organs and rectums, re-

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE,
Little Rock, AR - April 9, 1993

2,000 faintings epidemic, fuel fears in Egypt

Deutsche Press Agentur

CAIRO — Several hundred more cases of mysterious student faintings were reported Thursday across Egypt amid a national controversy over whether the week-old fainting epidemic was due to environmental pollution or unbridled teen-age fantasies.

Cairo newspapers said parents were literally snatching their children out of government-run schools, despite assurances by the Health Ministry that clinical tests had failed to detect any serious symptoms in the victims or signs of contamination in the school environment.

Alexandria University said it

was sending teams armed with sophisticated pollution-measuring equipment to the affected communities to try to find a scientific explanation more plausible than the "mass hysteria" diagnosis proposed by the Health Ministry.

At least 2,000 cases have been reported so far, mostly among teen-age girls in Nile Delta communities around Cairo. But the Egyptian press said that more than 200 cases were reported Wednesday in Cairo and that the syndrome was spreading to the Suez Canal region.

The syndrome also was reported to be spreading to Upper Egypt, where 132 cases were taken early Thursday to the Dayrut General Hospital.

Chemical and biological warfare experts have come up with negative findings so far, and the Egyptian Atomic Energy Agency has ruled out the possibility of poisoning.

STAR PHOENIX, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan,
Canada - March 6, 1993

Okanagan Lake monster seems camera-shy

KELOWNA, B.C. (CP) — Ogopogo appears to have snubbed the chance of an appearance on television's Inside Edition.

Viewers might not see B.C.'s legendary lake monster when the report airs later this month. But they will get some scenic shots of Okanagan Lake and reports of sightings by a half-dozen valley residents.

Inside Edition staff in Los Angeles say the Ogopogo report is tentatively scheduled to air March 18.

Last month, the program's senior correspondent Rick Kirkham spoke to local Ogopogo expert Arlene Gaal about the possibility of a two-part series on Ogopogo.

moye the milk sacs and strip away the flesh from the animals' jaw bones.

He also said no blood was found in the animals, except for the two on which high tech instruments appeared to have not been used. Those two animals, he said, appeared to have been mutilated by "copy cats" with a "straight edge" instrument.

While there have been more than 8,000 livestock mutilation cases reported in the continental United States since 1967, no one has ever been apprehended in any of them, according to Oliphant.

Hoerr, the Auburn pathologist and veterinarian, said that although the state laboratory received specimens from one of the animals mutilated in Northeast Alabama, the pathologist who actually conducted the analysis of the tissues was not immediately available for comment on what the study revealed.

However, Hoerr said it's not unusual to have a high number of animal mutilations — like those reported in DeKalb and Marshall counties in the last five months.

Because the state has "a huge cattle industry," he said, it's not uncommon to find several cows in an area that have either died from old age or from their constant exposure to the environment.

And if a farm or ranch is "located in an area that has a lot of feral dogs, and those dogs are hungry, then dead animals, especially dead beef cows, are targets for (wild) animals," Hoerr said. "Wild animals feed on animals that die. It's just the way nature works."

"Once people start paying close attention to something they never paid close attention before, they start seeing things they were not aware of," he said. "I make my living explaining to people why their animals died."

"I deal with dead animals every day as part of my eight to five job. So I don't get surprised when a dead animal has been chewed on by another animal. That's just part of the things we sort through in trying to understand why the animal really died."

Dr. Danny Thrash, a veterinarian, said he examined three cows that had been mutilated. Two of

the animals were at a farm in Grove Oak in DeKalb County, he said.

What struck him as being unusual about the mutilated animals, Thrash said, was the preciseness of the incisions made to remove the mammary gland and the vagina. Also, he said the jaw on one of the animals was "stripped back."

Thrash said it is common for predators to go after areas on a carcass like the milk sac or jaw where the flesh is more tender and easier for the animal to tear off.

"If it had just been one (mutilated cow), I'd say it was predators," Thrash said.

Thrash said he was unable to conduct an autopsy on the mammals because they had decomposed too much.

Mrs. Howe, a graduate of Stanford University with a master of science degree in communications, said her "beat" while working at a CBS television station in Denver was reporting on environmental and medical issues.

She said she began her investigation of animal mutilations in 1979 after reading several newspaper accounts of this phenomenon occurring in Canada, along the Rocky Mountains into the United States and in other parts of the world about the same period.

All the animals, which were primarily cattle, were mutilated in the same way that the cows in this area have been mutilated, she said.

In 30 cases where Mrs. Howe said the tissues of mutilated animals were examined, the majority of these tissues showed that an incision had been made with an instrument that was "very hot."

She said this type of analysis of tissues has not been done in this area.

"That's been a constant problem in the 13 years that I have been investigating," Mrs. Howe said. "There's very little scientific approach to the analysis of what happens to these animals."

Mrs. Howe asks that anyone with information about UFOs or animal mutilations write her a letter about his or her experience and send it to: Linda Moulton Howe Productions, Post Office Box 538, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006.