

UFO

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ROUTE 1 — BOX 220

PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U.S.A.

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: LUCIUS FARISH

AUGUST 1993

NUMBER 289

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL — June 30, 1993

Blazing Blue And White Lights Sparkle On Giant Boomerang

by Bland Pugh

These articles were submitted to me through *The Islander* Newspaper by a gentleman, Ray Lynch of Memphis, TN, whose daughter lives in Clearwater, FL. Since receiving them, MUFON has received subsequent reports from State Section Director's Gene & Jean Brown of the Tampa, St. Pete area. The formal investigation is being conducted by SSD Leonard Sturm. A report of a similar object was turned into Pensacola MUFON last year at this time. It was thought to have been sighted over the Santa Rosa Sound, and off of Avalon Blvd. in Santa Rosa County. Credit Wes Platt of the St. Petersburg *Times*, I have made some changes in order to condense these articles.

"It looked like a giant boomerang, the witnesses said, dotted with blue and white lights. Larger than a commercial jetliner, it hovered silently only 300 feet above the moonlit marsh along the Hernando County coast."

"Then, in a blink, it was gone." Whatever it was, the Dortch family of Brooksville is pretty sure what they saw about 9:20 p.m., that evening.

The Dortch family had gone to a popular park and picnic area to fish and crab, unaware that the pier they intended to use had been blown away by an earlier storm on March 13.

As they turned to leave, Dortch spotted something, "Do you see those lights up there?" "That airplane's huge," Dortch told his wife as they sat in their pickup truck in the darkness.

"He and I both said there's no way that's an airplane," Mrs. Dortch said. "It's way too big, it didn't make a sound. It just hung there. We looked away, and when we looked back it was gone." She said they didn't hear it leave and had no idea in which direction it traveled.

Chancey, a sheriff's deputy who previously worked for the Florida Highway Patrol, saw it about the same time over Pine Island Drive. In his report, he said, "It flew south, toward Bayport, at a moderate rate of speed."

As the Dortch family left the park, Chancey stopped them. He seemed uneasy, Mrs. Dortch recalled.

"How long have you been out here?" Chancey asked.

"A few minutes," Dortch replied.

"I'm going to ask you a strange question, but I don't know how to ask it," the deputy said.

Dortch said he needed no further prompting, "Yeah, we saw it," telling the deputy, "that thing in the sky."

In his report, Chancey said he talked to two other park visitors. Both said they saw the mysterious thing, which Chancey said stayed in sight for about two minutes.

Officials at MacDill AFB, which hosted an air show during the weekend, said all its aircraft were on the

ground by 9:00 p.m. that night. The Coast Guard reported nothing unusual.

Air traffic controllers at Tampa International Airport dittoed the report.

OTHERS DESCRIBE STRANGE SILENT OBJECT IN THE SKY

BAYPORT — Ron Chancey, a Hernando County Sheriff's deputy, may not know exactly what he saw on patrol Friday night, but he insists he saw something.

"A boomerang-shaped something with a wingspan of at least 200 feet. Something that hovered in the starry sky along Hernando's coast. That could go from still to warp whatever time, in the time it takes to snap your fingers."

Chancey found six Hernando residents who said they saw the same thing over the coastal communities of Pine Island and Bayport. On Tuesday, three more sightings of the mysterious thing were reported to the *Times*.

While on patrol about 9:20 p.m. he noticed, to the north and through trees, blue lights that seemed to follow him. He drove southeast toward Bayport. Then he saw it over the marsh.

"It was like a huge something or other," Chancey said. "The first thing I thought of was the Crystal River nuclear plant. I don't know why, really. Then I thought of that movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, with that big whatever-it-was that played the music, but this thing was real quiet. I would guess it was 200 or 300 feet long."

Chancey said he stopped his cruiser and shined a spotlight at the thing. He saw no markings or numbers, no cockpit. He made out a vague, dark outline that appeared to be shaped like a boomerang.

After watching for a few minutes, Chancey drove toward the park at Bayport. As he accelerated the object accelerated. The deputy said he shined the light on the object again and it cut west toward the Gulf of Mexico.

At the park he met with six people that said they also had seen the object.

Chancey said, "Based on what I know now, I don't think it's from this planet. Nothing on Earth could hover and haul ass like that."

From Tarpon Springs a report of a sighting at approximately 9:30 p.m. "We sat and watched it a good five minutes," Garth Curtiss said. "It was moving slowly to the west, I don't know what to believe. I've never seen anything like it."

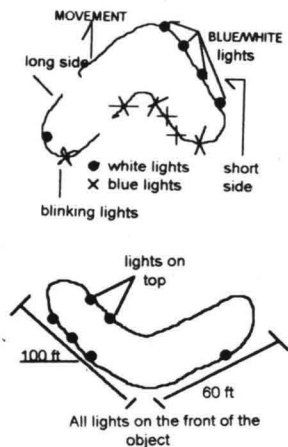
Mary McCracken of New Port Richey said she saw the same object the night before the Bayport sighting. "Through my bedroom window, over in the southwest, I saw a bunch of real bright lights not too far over the tree-tops, moving real slow. I kept watching it. It was really big. I opened the window all the way, even with the

rain, and listened. It didn't make a sound.

McCracken said as the object passed near her house a street light winked off. When it was gone the light glowed again.

"I couldn't believe it not making a sound and going so slow like that," she said. "It makes me feel better that somebody else saw it and it was somebody credible like a deputy."

Lisa Curran, 28, also of New Port Richey, said she and her parents saw the unusual object in broad daylight Sunday afternoon. "It hovered high above them, rising until it vanished," she said.



DAILY HOME, Talladega, AL — June 8, 1993

UFOs heading south? Area residents cite strange happenings

By Denise Sinclair and Fred Guarino

Home staff writers

Are UFOs flying over Childersburg and landing in Stewartville, leaving black circles?

There's no official confirmation an object spotted flying over Childersburg and captured on video is a UFO. Nor that the black circles found in a yard in Stewartville were made by UFOs landing.

But an object was spotted in the sky around Childersburg and the circles were made in a Stewartville yard on the same night, and it has left the two men who've seen them shaking their heads wondering what they are.

"It's a bright looking ball," said George Dewberry of Third Street in Childersburg as he described the object in the sky he said he has seen for the past five nights and captured it on video tape.

Dewberry said the object, which he has seen from 11:30 p.m. on into the night, has been southeast of the Coosa River Bridge and from where he lives, appeared to be over Taylor's Restaurant. The restaurant is located on U.S. 280 in Childersburg.

When Joe Camp of Alabama 21 South in Stewartville got up early Saturday morning, he spotted a small circle and a large circle, gray and black in color, in his yard.

There were no tracks leading to or from the circles, Camp said. It was the second time in two weeks the circles have appeared in his yard.

Camp said his dogs started barking after midnight Friday, but he didn't get up to see what they might have seen.

"I'm not sure what it is or what made it," Camp said, "but I haven't seen it in my yard before."

Camp didn't see any objects in the sky before any of the circles were found. The circles appeared to be between five feet and 10 feet in diameter.

Dewberry said the object he saw appears to be a bright ball with two antennae coming from it, but he said they do not show up on his video tape that shows it in motion.

"I don't think it's a star or anything, because it moved too slow to be an airplane, and all of a sudden, it just took off like a bullet," Dewberry said.

He first saw the object on Wednesday night and has seen it for the past five nights. Does he think it's a UFO, perhaps? "Definitely, I do," he said.

Dewberry said he has never seen anything like what he has seen of late, and "I don't even drink."

Dewberry is retired from Specialty Sand Company in Houston, Texas, and has lived in Childersburg since 1985.

Camp examined the black substance found in his yard and still doesn't know what it is. It rubbed off the grass blade like smut or a chemical of some sort but had no smell to it.

"It may be nothing but some sort of fungus on the grass, yet I have never seen it here before. I just thought it was strange and had seen on television and read in the newspaper about those occurrences in north Alabama recently. I thought this could be something similar," Camp said.

Camp, a retired military officer who served in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam, has lived at his present residence for five years. He said his neighbors had reported nothing strange to him.

Camp did say a businessman across the street from his home had taken a sample of the black stuff to have it checked.

Camp also contacted the Coosa County Extension Service, and an agent plans to visit him on Wednesday to study the black substance.

"It's curious to me, these circles. They're not just patches here and there but circles, different sizes. I wondered if it was related to what was going on in north Alabama."

"If it had been a patch here or there, I wouldn't have paid any attention to it," Camp said.

Denise Sinclair/Home staff photo

Joe Camp examines a black, smutty material from circles found in his yard Saturday morning.

UFO believers: 'No beanies or Trekkies'

BY LILY ENG
Seattle Times staff reporter

Sharon Filip says alien beings have visited her for the past four decades.

Her most recent experience was two years ago on a September morning at her Kirkland home. She woke from a dream and saw something staring at her with black, liquid eyes. The creature had a yellowish tint and a sky-blue glow circling its head.

Filip was not afraid. "I felt as if I was visited by a friend I had known forever," Filip said yesterday as she sat outside a seminar on Mysteries on the Surface of Mars. "I had a sense of oneness with the universe."

Filip, now director of the UFO Abduction Studies Center, was one of 250 participants at the Seattle UFO Research Conference, where believers in extraterrestrials gathered in the Grand Ballroom of the Bellevue Hyatt Regency to discuss the latest research on third encounters and abductions — the phenomenon of being kidnapped by aliens. It was a low-key event, not much different than the convention of insurance agents going on next door.

Topics at the two-day conference ranged from artifacts on Mars to government secrecy. Participants talked about their latest abductions, examined computer-enhanced pho-

tos of extraterrestrials and picked up pamphlets on how to interpret crop-circle language.

Today's seminars will feature John Mack, a psychiatrist from the Harvard Medical School, who will give his perspective on UFO abductions; and Fred Alan Wolf, a physicist and author, who will talk about the "Dreaming Universe."

Organizers said participants include teachers and university professors as well as psychologists whose clients say aliens abducted them.

"There are no beanies or Trekkies here," said John Carpenter, a hypnotherapist from Springfield, Mo., who treats abductees. He led a semi-

nar on multiple-participant abductions. "They're not wearing T-shirts saying, 'I've seen an UFO.'"

"Abductees are much like Vietnam veterans who saw some awful things or people who have lost loved ones in a tornado," said Carpenter. "The experience is just too much. They are knocked off their centers."

There's no pattern among those who believe they've been abducted by alien beings, Carpenter said, and many abductees have friends and family who don't believe them.

Filip says she doesn't know why alien beings visit her. She does know they keep coming back. They don't talk to her but make her feel their emotions. There have been times

when the visits have been scary.

"One of them stared at me so hard that I felt like its eyes had tentacles and was reaching into my soul and my entire being," Filip said.

Marilyn Childs, a baby-boomer from Bothell, heads the local chapter of MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network Inc., which has 100 active members. She said she has had hundreds of visits or "missing-time episodes" involving space aliens. She believes they are beings from the future who are checking up on their ancestors.

Her last missing-time episode occurred Jan 11, 1992, she said, while she and a friend drove in her van eastbound on Interstate 90 toward Issaquah. Somewhere along the highway, they entered a "black void" and time stopped.

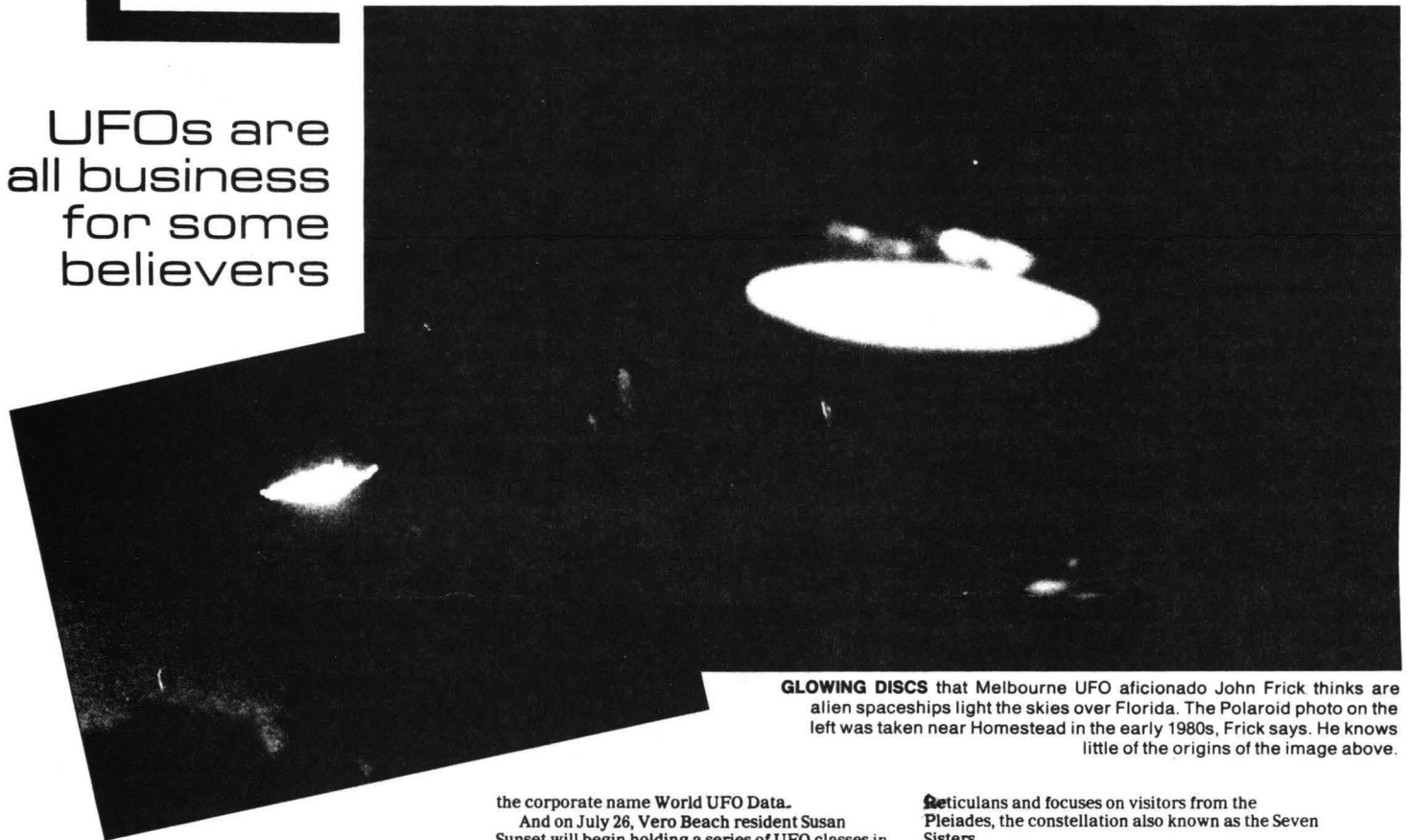
And that was all. It was as ordinary as that.

"I kept asking, 'Where are the lights of Bellevue? Where are the lights of Issaquah?'" Childs said. "All I saw was black darkness."

FLORIDA TODAY, Melbourne, FL - July 11, 1993

Extraterrestrial Enterprise

UFOs are all business for some believers



GLOWING DISCS that Melbourne UFO aficionado John Frick thinks are alien spaceships light the skies over Florida. The Polaroid photo on the left was taken near Homestead in the early 1980s, Frick says. He knows little of the origins of the image above.

By Billy Cox
FLORIDA TODAY

The strange, unending drama of unidentified flying objects took yet another twist when 45 demonstrators demanding an end to the "Cosmic Watergate" picketed the White House.

Monday was a slow news day in the nation's capital, and the sizeable media contingent that showed up tended to hype the exotic and subjective tales of UFO kidnappings related by some of the protesters. On the other hand, rally organizers unfurled government documents to hammer away at a theme which, via pop-culture osmosis more than mainstream journalism, is fast becoming axiomatic:

UFOs are America's last big, Cold War secret. And a cottage industry is blooming in the vacuum of government silence.

Caroline Connor of Melbourne, for instance, offers "radionics therapy" she says can dissolve the BB-sized nasal implants that space aliens supposedly use to monitor the activities of selected Earthlings.

John Frick, a Melbourne resident who claims he was abducted in the 1960s, offers his prolific insights into UFO propulsion systems under

the corporate name World UFO Data.

And on July 26, Vero Beach resident Susan Sunset will begin holding a series of UFO classes in Cocoa Beach.

Sunset (her legal name; it's a long story) is a former model who saw her first UFO in Acapulco in 1965. Today, nearly three decades later, Sunset has plunged full-time into the realm of space aliens — if, indeed, that's what they really are.

"The word 'alien' has always bothered me," she says. "They're not really aliens; they're our ancestors."

With conversational familiarity, Sunset makes distinctions among the extraterrestrials. She is reluctant, for instance, to give a lot of air time to those known as the grays.

First elevated to national prominence with Whitley Strieber's best-selling nonfiction book *Communion*, the grays are the frail, spindly, 3½-foot-tall big-headed creatures reportedly responsible for abducting human beings and experimenting on them, often painfully, like med-school apes.

Recollections gleaned from hypnotic regression suggest the grays are interested in genetic research and cross-breeding; they keep tabs on their subjects by injecting them with tiny tracking devices.

These guys, agree some UFO researchers, are probably from the binary star system Zeta Reticuli. Sunset normally steers clear of the Zeta

Reticulans and focuses on visitors from the Pleiades, the constellation also known as the Seven Sisters.

More human-looking and possessing higher ethical standards than grays, the Pleiadians, she says, "are 3,000 years more advanced technologically than we are."

"They say the greed and egotism on this planet is unparalleled anywhere else in the universe. I believe they're here to help us help ourselves."

How does she know?

Largely from the work of Billy Meier, a one-armed farmer in the Swiss Alps whom the Pleiadians supposedly have been visiting most of his life. Meier's controversial stories and photos have left American UFO groups sharply divided over their authenticity.



SUNSET



FRICK

UFO info

■ For more information on Susan Sunset's series, call 784-2313 or 407-569-1421 in Vero Beach.

■ To discuss getting rid of alien implants with Caroline Connor, write P.O. Box 1002, Melbourne, FL, 32902-1002.

■ To reach John Frick, write him at P.O. Box 0705, Melbourne, FL, 32902.

(continued on page 3)

But for what it's worth, Michael Malin, director of NASA's upcoming Mars Observer photo reconnaissance mission to the Red Planet, examined Meier's pictures during the 1980s and found no evidence of a hoax.

So, beginning the last Monday in July at 7:30 p.m., Sunset will offer six two-hour UFO courses for \$50, which will include a look at Meier's UFO footage. The classes run for six consecutive Mondays at Freedom 7 Community Center, 400 S. Fourth St. in Cocoa Beach, and for six straight Thursdays at Harmony Health Center, 1900 Municipal Lane in Melbourne.

But if you're having problems with Zeta Reticulans, Caroline Connor of Melbourne has a suggestion.

For less than the price of two compact discs, Connor has a machine that can raise the body's vibrational frequency rates and, in the process, disintegrate those troublesome implant monitors. All she needs is a lock of hair.

The suitcase-sized gizmo is called a radionics machine, or black box. Invented by an American named Albert Abrams in 1913, the black box generates weak pulsating magnetic currents that supposedly cure a wide variety of ills. Though not authorized by the FDA for medicinal purposes, they're on the market as research and development devices and sell for anywhere from \$150 to \$3,500. Connor has found them effective for, among other things, disintegrating those sometimes painful alien implants.

"Essentially, we raise a person's vibrational frequency, and by doing that, they can't find you," Connor says. "We have a lot of UFO activity in the Cape Canaveral area. As you might expect, I get people who've run out of hope, who are at their wits' end."

But you might not have implants; your stress might be symptomatic of something less dramatic. For \$30 and a lock of hair, Connor says she can make an assessment and adjust the black box for whatever frequency you need.

John Frick of Melbourne says he had an implant that worked its way out of his arm without radionics assistance.

It happened sometime after 1965, the year he says he was hustled aboard an ET spacecraft in Palm Bay. The pilots resembled Earthlings, but where they came from, he doesn't know. What he says he does know as a result of the experience is how the vehicles work.

In 1980, he published an intricately-detailed booklet titled *Portrait of an Alien Spacecraft*. He has since redefined gravity and repudiated Newton's gravitational laws based on the insights given to him by the aliens. But unlike the spaceships that elevated him to higher levels of understanding, his writings never have taken off.

"Well what can you say?" says Frick. "I'm used to it. People will read it when they're ready for it."

A quick scan of the classified ads in the UFO magazines suggests the public appetite for such unconventional wisdom may be growing, fueled by the advent of camcorders and tabloid TV shows that routinely air UFO footage and scenarios.

Barely a week goes by without La-Z-Boy Larry and Couch Potato Carrie getting the latest on cattle mutilations from Montana to Alabama, elegant crop-circle hieroglyphs in the wheat fields of England, or the newest sightings of nocturnal lights zigzagging about the country.

In Florida, small bands of residents and tourists monitor the night skies near Pensacola Bay through their camera lenses as the Chinese lantern-shaped UFOs continue their six-year exercises over Gulf Breeze. In March, a silent, hovering, 200-foot boomerang began making nocturnal incursions over the west coast around Hernando County, occasionally dazzling the locals with light shows.

Exacerbating these matters is the government's official indifference. Like a dust-clogged needle snagged on an old record, the position has remained unchanged since the Nixon years.

The United States government hasn't investigated UFOs since Project Bluebook, the Air Force study, rendered them harmless and

unscientific in 1969.

Not a word anywhere in those archives — not even an effort to scuttle it — of the celebrated Roswell Incident. This was the one in 1947 where the Army issued a press release announcing it had recovered a crashed flying saucer near Roswell Army Air Base. The statement was quickly rescinded and replaced by the red-faced news that veteran field investigators had actually mistaken a weather balloon for a spaceship.

In 1991, the year before their deaths, Lewis Rickett of St. Petersburg and Thomas DuBose of Winter Park gave *Florida Today* an altogether different account.

Rickett, a retired counterintelligence officer, said he participated in the recovery operation and personally gathered the fabricated debris, which he said was not of this Earth. DuBose, who retired with a general's rank, said he helped engineer the weather balloon cover story on orders from Washington.

Forty-six years later, people keep seeing and photographing lights in the sky, the footage keeps coming in, and the government continues to duck.

The most frequent target of UFO-related Freedom of Information Act thrusts is the Central Intelligence Agency, established under the National Security Act of 1947, just after Roswell. What few documents the CIA usually releases often are painted with black holes.

Still, the bottom line remains the same: Whomever, or whatever, is behind the phenomenon has yet to accept a standing offer to attend a party at the most logical place on Earth.

Joe Morgan, managing director for the Freedom 7 Community Center where Susan Sunset will appear, recalls the big PR exercise in 1965.

"We wanted Cocoa Beach to be the first community in the world to set up a UFO welcome station, and that's what we did," he says. "I put up concrete blocks in the form of a cross at Fisher Park and a big sign: 'World's First UFO Station.' I mean, where else but on the Space Coast would people be more receptive to meeting people from other planets?"

"We're still waiting, and the offer's still good."

NUGGET, Sisters, OR

June 30, 1993

Bright star or UFO?

By Mark Duncan

There are phenomena in the universe that defy comprehension, things that can be seen but not explained.

Well aware that some types of sightings, be it Elvis, Big Foot, or mysterious lights in the sky, can arouse skepticism, Ray Bowlin of Sisters made sure he had backup when he spotted a UFO in the eastern sky, shortly before dawn on June 22.

"I don't want people to think I'm losing it," said Bowlin. "I called 911, and they turned me over to a sheriff's deputy. He



It had lights and saucer shape.

saw it, too."

"It was an apparently large, saucer-shaped object, covered with white lights, that hovered, nearly motionless, for 45 to 50 minutes while Bowlin and his wife, Mary, watched. Bowlin set up his telescope, which revealed a domed shape atop the saucer section.

"You could almost see a window around the top," he said. "It was like a big, brilliant kaleidoscope."

Deschutes County Sheriff's Deputy Gene Moyers was on duty at the time, and spoke to Bowlin on the telephone.

"The officer asked if I was referring to a big object in the eastern sky at about 30 degrees," said Bowlin.

Deputy Moyers, who was on vacation at press time and unavailable for comment, noted the call in his log. His only mention of the sighting, however, was to call the object "just a bright star."

But the deputy wasn't looking through a telescope.

Bowlin managed a photograph of the object, though not through his telescope. The photo shows a starless expanse of sky, punctuated by a cluster of bright lights. Very little imagination is necessary to give the object the shape Bowlin attributes to it.

This is not the first time Bowlin has seen unidentifiable lights in the sky. Once last summer, and again in the fall, he spotted similar objects.

"But when I saw it before," he said, "it also had colored lights. It's kind of eerie when you see this kind of thing."

WALKING SOFTLY By JOHN E. ANDRIST

Tales of a card-carrying UFO detective

UFOs FLEW INTO my life again Thursday when Peter Davenport of Seattle stopped in to ask questions about the "earth cookie" which appeared on the Timm Ranch on the Colville Indian Reservation in October 1984.

Davenport was too late to see the phenomenon, but not too late to come up with two new theories about it.

For those who don't remember, a huge pear-shaped "earth cookie" was lifted from a dry pothole, carried 65 feet and dropped, intact. It had rotated slightly during its "flight."

Rick and Pete Timm discovered it while riding for cattle.

Davenport looked at our photos, copied our entire clip file (it's an inch thick) and offered his ideas, along with dozens of anecdotes about Unidentified Flying Objects.

You see, Peter is a UFO investigator. Carries a card identifying him as such, affiliating him with major UFO groups in our nation.

He came to Omak from Kennewick, where he'd been investi-

gating crop circles. Designs in standing grain fields. More on that later.

★ ★ ★
THE EARTH COOKIE theories are too fascinating to wait. I had to call Rick Timm Sunday to bring him up to date. There were deep chuckles and yet, a sense of "could be" as I related Davenport's two notions.

Peter is serious about this. "There definitely is something out there we don't know about," he said. "It's powerful and it's scary."

Like tractor beams.

You "Trekkies" understand that — beams of energy which transport people up into the sky or down out of the sky. The stuff of "beam me up, Scotty."

Peter suggested a UFO had hovered over the spot and used a tractor beam in an attempt to retrieve a cow. Instead, it took up a huge divot of earth, 8x10 feet by two feet thick. Upon discovering the error, it dropped the divot.

Probably tried again and got it wrong, he said.

Rick Timm couldn't remember any cattle missing. But when you're rounding up hundreds, one more or less isn't going to be noticed instantly.

A tractor beam could have picked up a couple of cows without much fuss. As a one-time Star Trek fan and "Dr. Who" addict, I don't doubt it a bit.

★ ★ ★
THE SUB-EARTH travel theory took me by surprise.

Peter observed humans have mastered travel in all parts of our planet as well as in space. All parts but one. We travel through the air and above it. We travel over water and through it.

We travel across the top of the ground, but not through it.

UFOs may have mastered that one. They might create "earth cookies" or huge divots when they surface too quickly on their subterranean journeys.

No, Peter Davenport isn't a wild-eyed odd-ball. He looks like anyone else, dresses casually and neatly, speaks clearly, doesn't waive his arms or suddenly accel-

erate his speech. He looks you right in the eye when he says, "there's something out there."

★ ★ ★
HE SUPPORTED the tractor beam theory with an anecdote about a rural resident who woke from a sound sleep to find himself standing in his pajamas in his front yard. His house was totally locked. He couldn't have sleepwalked there.

While puzzling the event he heard a loud humming and saw a beam of light come straight down from the sky and illuminate a cow standing in a pasture near his home.

The humming increased and the cow was lifted by the beam, straight up. After a bit, the beam snapped off. Seconds later the cow plopped to the earth, killed by the fall.

Davenport gave me a number for the UFO hotline in Washington State. He encourages anyone who has had an event or experience involving UFOs to call the 24-hour hotline at 206-722-3000. It's not a toll-free call.

More reports of UFOs in area

By JANICE KARLOVICH

Staff Writer

"It had lights, it was quiet, it was low and it was slow."

That's how Shriner Lake resident George Rowe described the unidentified flying object that she said appeared near his Whitley County home Tuesday night.

Rowe and his 14-year-old son were watching the Major League All-Star baseball game shortly before 9:30 p.m. Tuesday when they saw a group of six to eight red lights outside.

"I've never seen anything like it before," said Rowe, who is a finance manager at Evans Toyota in Fort Wayne. "I don't know what it was, but we definitely saw something."

Rowe said the object made no noise and hovered right about tree level.

"That's why I ruled out anything like a plane because there was no noise," Rowe said. "It was so weird because it was so quiet."

The number of people who say they saw an unidentified flying object in the night skies Tuesday in Whitley and Noble counties continues to grow.

In addition to Rowe and another Whitley County man, a Ligonier family and two Ligonier police officers reported seeing a strange flying object Tuesday night.

So far, military and weather officials have been unable to explain the incident completely. Walt DeHaven, an engineer at Dana Corp. in Churubusco, said he was on Whitley County Road 550 East northeast of Columbia City, when he saw what he thought were three helicopters flying in

formation.

But something wasn't quite right. DeHaven, like others who claimed to have seen the object, said he didn't hear the loud noise associated with helicopters or aircraft.

"I stopped my truck and looked," he said. "When I first saw it, it was very spooky. It was a little freaky when you looked at it."

Fort Wayne International Airport did not report unusual objects on radar Tuesday night.

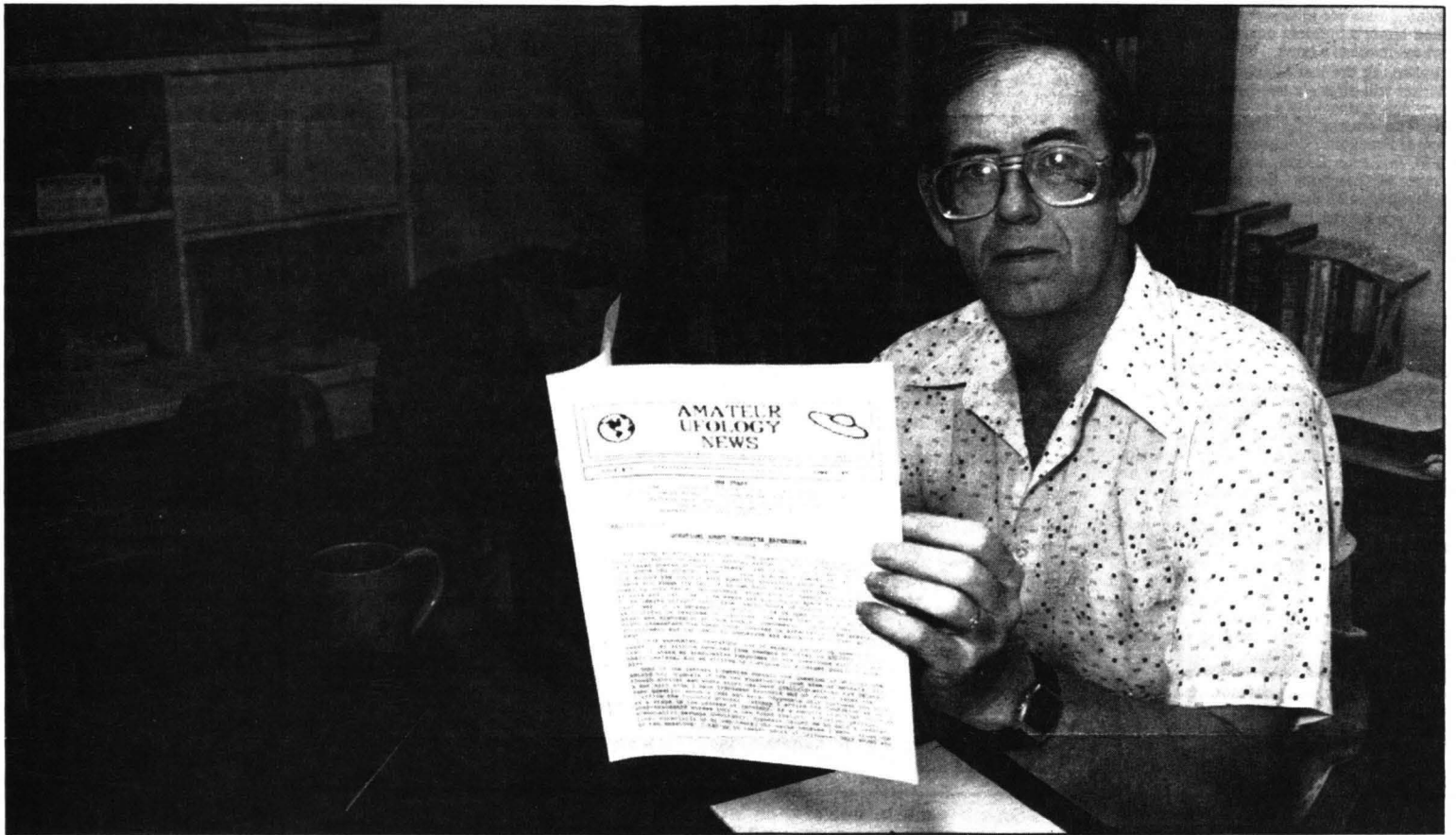
A spokesman at the Indiana Air National Guard unit in Fort Wayne said Wednesday that there were no flights Tuesday night in the Ligonier area. A spokeswoman at Grissom Air Force Base in Peru said Grissom

does not send aircraft over north-east Indiana.

Lt. Shirley Zumbahl, a public affairs officer at Grissom, said she could not be sure, but thought there might be new military helicopters that are quieter than usual.

Russ Marshall, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Fort Wayne, said the lack of sound may have resulted from something called the Doppler effect.

That phenomenon occurs when sound frequencies shift and noise sounds either greater or less appears either stronger or weaker than the emitted frequency.



Globe Photo/MIKE GULLETT

Sam Uptegrove sits in his office in his home where he writes, edits and publishes *Amateur Ufology News*, a magazine about UFO sightings and experiences.

Reporter says some things he's heard are. . .

Out of this world

By Mike Surbrugg
Globe Staff Writer

LOCKWOOD, Mo. During the last 20 years, Sam Uptegrove estimates he has interviewed more than 1,000 people to record their descriptions of what are commonly called Unidentified Flying Objects.

He says the accounts are about "incredible things seen by credible people."

"What people tell of seeing is often unbelievable, but told by people who are believable," says Uptegrove.

The 42-year-old Lockwood police officer writes, edits and publishes the monthly *Amateur Ufology News* magazine. He says has more than 300 subscribers in the United States and four foreign countries.

"I plan to exchange subscriptions with a UFO magazine published in English in Russia," he says.

While being a police officer may keep some people from talking freely with him, he says it helps others who like the credibility it brings.

"You try to get all the facts you can about each reported sighting

and reach conclusions. I get some good-natured kidding, but I am not mocked," he says.

Uptegrove says he's surprised at the number of people in the last two years who have confided to him about UFO sightings they have encountered recently or years earlier.

His own interest began when he was 8 years old.

"One day my father called me and my mother into the yard to see a bright-blue light in the sky. Neighbors in our Kansas City suburb were looking at the light that would move in small circles and then move quickly in a wavering motion to another site to resume the small circles. We looked at it for more than 10 minutes," he says.

Uptegrove began reading books on UFO sightings. When he was 15, his father took him to interview a couple at Lexington who told of seeing a UFO.

"It turns out what they had seen was a weather balloon. About 75 to 80 percent of reported sightings are not UFOs," he says.

His interest was a hobby that he

did not talk about publicly until the last two years.

"For lack of better words, that was when I came out of the closet," he says.

Besides publishing his magazine, Uptegrove also attends UFO conferences. He is also working with a group in Springfield who are keeping track of sightings, locations and dates.

Among seven sightings reported in April:

— A Battlefield resident seeing a white oval light with a red-yellow-green band moving around the center.

— A man in the same area who says he was followed by a light that left when stopped and got out of his car.

— A Marshfield resident who saw a black oval object with "funny colored" lights in the sky. A similarly described craft was reported seen in other areas months earlier.

"It is difficult to describe things you have never seen before. Colors are difficult because they are so bright," says Uptegrove.

Unexplained sightings are not

"You try to get all the facts you can about each reported sighting and reach conclusions. I get some good-natured kidding, but I am not mocked."

— Sam Uptegrove

new to the Ozarks. He says what was described as a flying airship was seen in Webster County prior to 1900.

Persons who have seen UFOs react with fear, fascination and doubt.

"I saw it with my own eyes, but it is not possible," he says people tell him.

Most people are hesitant to call sightings a spaceship, Uptegrove says, referring to sightings as craft or an airplane type they had never seen before.

Uptegrove says current interest is on abductions that appear to follow UFO sighting paths recorded since 1947. Some who say they have been abducted are scheduled speakers during a UFO conference to be held Sept. 17-19 in Springfield, he says.

Most aerial sightings are in the

warmer months when more people are outdoors, says Uptegrove.

Not all sightings are in the sky. He talks about seeing fields where craft may have landed and about a depression left in a gravel road in Webster County.

"The ring was nine feet in diameter. The gravel had been pressed into the ground. Some in the bottom of the depression was crushed. The gravel was not thrown out like what would be left by a motorcycle cutting doughnuts," Uptegrove says.

He says people have reported close encounters or seeing objects at a distance they cannot explain. Sightings last a few seconds to hours and are seen day and night.

Uptegrove says persons can call him at 232-4856 to get facts about the magazine or tell him about unexplained sightings.

■ **Visitors?** Michigan has always been a popular tourist destination — in fact, some say the state's popularity extends all the way into the far reaches of the galaxy.



THE DETROIT NEWS

In 1966, reports of UFO sightings in the skies above Dexter drew people to the area hoping to get a glimpse of alien spacecraft.

UFO watchers look to the stars in hopes of seeing fire in the sky

By Douglas Iika
THE DETROIT NEWS

Aliens from outer space are saying yes to Michigan.

And they're even taking state residents for a ride, say local UFO — unidentified flying object — "watchers."

The recently released movie *Fire in the Sky* tells the supposed-

ly true story of Travis Walton, an Arizona Forest Service tree cutter who claims he was abducted by aliens in November 1975.

Such close encounters of the third kind — contact with extraterrestrials — are happening right in our back yard, UFO students say.

"There have been 33 abductions in Michigan since Jan. 1," said Shirley Coyne, statewide di-

rector of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

Have any of these abductions been documented and publicized?

"Absolutely not," Coyne said. "People come to me in confidence. They don't come to me to have their stories publicized."

"These people are traumatized. This is not like driving down the

SOUNDOFF

Have you ever seen a UFO? Tell us about your experiences. Please include your name, town and daytime phone number. You can:

■ Fax your response at 222-2335.

■ Call the hotline at 222-2284 or 222-2287

■ Or write Soundoff, The Detroit News, 615 W. Lafayette, Detroit, Mich., 48226.

Close encounters

Most alien abduction stories share these elements:

- A UFO is sighted.
- Victims report a period of unaccounted, missing time.
- Details of the abduction are revealed only after the victim undergoes hypnosis.
- Someone appears to have medically examined the abducted victims.
- Victims display psychological problems and sometimes physical aftereffects.
- Victims' story is substantiated with a lie detector test.

road and seeing a deer. These people have had a hard experience, and they don't want to talk about it in public."

More than 50 UFO sightings have been reported in Michigan, according to MUFON. The most celebrated occurred 27 years ago in the Dexter and Hillsdale areas.

Officials wrote off reports of the pyramid-shaped object with blinking red and blue lights as swamp gas, even though sheriff's deputies in Washtenaw County engaged the UFO in a high-speed chase.

But skeptics say UFO watchers should get their heads out of the clouds.

"I've had some contact with MUFON in the past when they rented the Kellogg Center on campus," said Doug Murphy, program director for Michigan State University's Abrams Planetarium.

"I believe they tend to look at this as a religion, as opposed to a scientific point of view. They're very quick to jump on the UFO bandwagon."

Murphy agrees there have been a great number of UFO sightings, but said most of them are explainable.

"Even President Carter was fooled by a bright object he saw that turned out to be the planet Venus," Murphy said.

"And he was trained in astral navigation at the Naval Academy. We get lots of calls about people seeing unusual things in the sky. The absolute bottom of my list would be a visit by a UFO."

According to Murphy, the odds are astronomically slim that an advanced civilization would want to visit Earth.

"Our Milky Way is one of billions in the universe," Murphy said. "If

you were to shrink it to the size of the United States, our solar system would fit inside the palm of your hand. The nearest star would be a quarter-mile away. That gives you some idea of the size and depth of space."

Murphy gives an example of the relative distances a UFO would have to travel to visit our planet.

"The United States launched Voyager in 1977," Murphy said. "Using the image of the solar system being the size of your palm, Voyager would only have traveled from the center of your hand to the edge of your palm in 12 years. And that's traveling at 40,000 mph."

But that does not stop people from reporting sightings:

■ In July 1952, officers at the Selfridge air base in Harrison Township were swamped with late-evening

calls from residents who reported seeing mysterious orange and blue lights and flying disks in the sky. Among the witnesses were a World War II bomber pilot and a Baptist minister.

■ In October 1973, two Detroit police officers reported seeing a UFO with red and white flashing lights at 6 a.m. while patrolling near Marygrove College. Both agreed it couldn't have been an airplane because, one said, "Planes can't travel that fast straight up."

■ In September 1967, three people, including a United Press International business manager, reported seeing a UFO behind an Air Force jet over Detroit one night. They thought it was a bright star or weather balloon until they noticed it was keeping up with the jet. The object stopped completely for a minute, then sped away from the plane, they said.

UFO devotees hope *Fire in the Sky* will bring more people forward to tell their tales of abduction. The movie focuses on Travis Walton, then 22. He and five crew members were returning from a job on a backwoods road near Heber, Ariz., about 100 miles southwest of Flagstaff, when they saw a bright light.

They said a UFO appeared in front of their truck. Walton got out to investigate and was hit by a ray from the craft, the workers said.

The remaining workers fled in terror. When they returned, Walton was missing. Walton turned up several days later, and staggered into Heber, supposedly suffering from shock and partial amnesia.

Walton's story of abduction was revealed under hypnosis with three physicians in attendance. In his retelling, Walton described his examination in the spacecraft by aliens with large heads and hands that had no fingernails.

Others called Walton's story bunk. Philip J. Klass, a retired senior editor for *Aviation Week and Space Technology* magazine, concluded Walton and logging crew leader Michael Rogers concocted a hoax to win a National Enquirer UFO-sighting contest and manufacture an excuse for missing a logging deadline.

Walton, Rogers and the others split a \$5,000 prize, but have denied any hoax.

Klass said Walton flunked his first lie detector test, and respected polygraph examiner John J. McCarthy concluded Walton committed "gross deception," and, "in concert with others, is attempting to perpetrate a UFO hoax."

Coyne disputes Klass' findings, saying: "I wouldn't give you 2 cents for Phil Klass. He's the biggest debunker out there. He's an armchair investigator. He's a liar. He's never even talked to anyone who has been abducted."

"These abductions happen and they happen to people just like you and me."

Does MSU's Murphy believe human beings have been abducted by UFOs?

"Maybe I'm not the best person to ask about that," Murphy said. "Talk to a psychologist. I think there are some disturbed people out there who need some help."

But he does believe life exists outside the solar system.

"The materials are all out there," Murphy said. "The substances of life are found freely in space. If the conditions are right there's a good chance that life does exist, but for it to be intelligent and want to visit us is a huge stretch of the imagination."

Coyne and other students of UFOs say the cynicism hasn't stopped them from enjoying *Fire in the Sky*.

"I thought it was well done," she said. "It sticks exactly to what happened to Travis Walton."

■ Detroit News Staff Writers Mike Best and Tom Greenwood contributed to this report.



Taking UFOs seriously

Group works to give
credence to sightings

BY TOM CAMPBELL

TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

The word "serious" shows up often in the literature of UFO sightings and investigations.

UFO people advocate serious inquiries into Unidentified Flying Objects and using serious scientific methods to obtain serious data, seriously studying them and drawing serious conclusions.

"It's probably the most important scientific subject of the century," said Walter H. Andrus Jr., international director of the Mutual UFO Network. MUFON is holding its 1993 International UFO Symposium here this weekend.

Several hundred people are attending and yesterday nearly filled a ballroom at the Hyatt Richmond to hear speakers on an agenda that started Friday, ran late last night and concludes about 5:30 p.m. today. More than a dozen people will speak through the weekend.

The written proceedings of the symposium present UFO reports and investigations in exhaustive detail.

Many topics discussed

So do the speakers, whose topics include world-wide similarities in abductions of humans by aliens; significant sightings in Germany, China and Puerto Rico; and declassification of Spain's version of Project Blue Book, the U.S. Air Force report on UFOs.

"Detail is really the evidence that you need to substantiate the solid cases," Andrus said. "We deal with facts — names, dates, places, anything that would stand up in a court of law. We don't deal in generalities. We investigate these things down to every little detail we can find out."

Bringing scientific investigation to bear on what used to be mainly just somebody's description of what they saw is difficult. But nowadays people often obtain photographs or videotape of lights in the sky, shapes hovering nearby and other UFO phenomena.

MUFON and other UFO study groups employ scientific investigative methods to weed out the 80 percent to 95 percent of those reports that are explainable or unreliable and to give some measure of credence to the rest, Andrus said.

That growing, detailed "body of evidence" will one day be sufficient to "resolve the phenomena" and explain UFOs. That is MUFON's ultimate hope, Andrus said.

Interaction with aliens?

Perhaps that will happen by inducing the U.S. government to acknowledge what Andrus says it has known for years — that UFOs are real, that UFOs are extraterrestrial spacecraft and that aliens are interacting with human beings.

"The government has denied the existence of UFOs for ages," he said. "They're continually lying to the public."

Andrus said the 4,500 MUFON members include NASA scientists, engineers for McDonnell-Douglas and other aerospace firms, doctors, lawyers, military officers and college professors — "serious people," he said.

Also attending the symposium is the woman who said she recently gave birth to her tenth human-alien hybrid child. So is the New Yorker who reported being abducted from her apartment by aliens using a blue tractor beam.

Andrus said the evidence is overwhelming that UFOs exist and he's personally convinced the explanation is that they are extraterrestrial spacecraft. Not everyone in MUFON is so sure.

TIMES HERALD RECORD, Rochester, NY - July 31, 1993 CR: T. Nesser

UFO, or folks feeling their oats?

COLUMBIA CENTER (AP) — Whatever caused the strange design in Helen Pyc's oat field, it sure is the talk of this upstate farming town.

The unusual pattern mysteriously appeared this week. That, combined with a report of unidentified objects in the air near the field, have fueled speculation over what caused the design.

"It makes you think; it makes you wonder," Mike Robelard of Ilion said.

"Yes, it might have been a UFO," said Cyndie Bailey of West Winfield.

Cars lined both sides of Route 28 this week as motorists tried to make sense of the strange design that appeared in a corner of a 20-acre field of ripening oats.

On Monday, an unidentified "truck driver from North Carolina" told the Herkimer Evening Telegram he had seen "round cylindrical shapes" in the air near the field.

The Telegram printed a story, and people began driving by to gape at the pattern. Hundreds were there Thursday and they kept coming yesterday, Mrs. Pyc, of Herkimer, said.

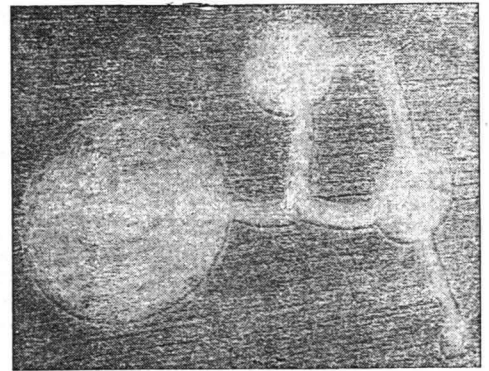
"I lived on a farm for 44 years. We've had windstorms, but nothing to make those oats lay so perfect as that," she said. "It don't seem possible that a prankster could do that."

The oats lay perfectly flat in precise patterns. Within each circular area, the oats lay in a neat concentric clockwise whorl about 25 feet in diameter.

Some of those who stopped to see the pattern said it might have been caused by visitors from space because they could see no way a prankster could have done it.

But some farmers in this Herkimer County community 10 miles southeast of Utica say the patterns were caused by recent violent winds.

Neighbor John Kucarak said he saw the oats down a



The Associated Press

Circular patterns appear in an oat field in Herkimer County.

week ago, and said that wind had knocked some of his own hay down as well. The pattern was "definitely the work of wind," he said.

Others think the patterns are the work of pranksters.

"I think there's somebody looking out the window of that barn right this minute laughing his pants off," said Paula Macisco of Frankfort.

REPORTER, Fond du Lac, WI - Feb. 4, 1993 CR: R. Heiden

UFO scare? City man says E.T. friendly

By Lee Reinsch
Of The Reporter Staff

A local man with an intense interest in unidentified flying objects (UFOs) says people shouldn't try to use scientific logic to "explain away" recent reports of UFO sightings.

Reports of a UFO sighting near Hustisford in Dodge County during the weekend has produced a flood of reaction and phone calls at the Dodge County Sheriff's Department.

"They (authorities) say it is the planet Jupiter, but what we're seeing is definitely an extraterrestrial craft," local UFO buff Bob Kuehn said. "Extraterrestrial beings are coming into our area," he says.

Kuehn, a former member of the Fond du Lac Symphonic Band who is employed in a "number of different jobs," says he saw his first UFO at age 4. Over the last 57 years, he's seen "literally dozens" of them, he says.

Kuehn, 61, says the federal government "knows what they (the sightings) are" but is not re-

leasing the information to the public."

One reason for the government's secrecy, he says, is that "New World Order is control of people, and any type of enlightenment can prevent the government from controlling people. It (secrecy) is mind control of the masses."

"The sightings around the country tend to come in a barrage, and you'll hear government officials giving some explanation that is absolutely ridiculous," he said.

To label UFOs as "natural phenomena" is outrageous, Kuehn says.

"I have seen UFOs, and they are not natural phenomena," he says.

Kuehn, a former private pilot and amateur astronomer, says he knows an aircraft when he sees one.

"The objects I have seen are spinning, saucer-shaped discs with yellow lights. I know what I see," he says.

Kuehn says non-believers are merely "frightened and lying to themselves."

"We shouldn't be frightened; we should wake up to this fact



Bob Kuehn says he saw his first UFO at the age of 4. Since then, he's seen "literally dozens" more.

very quickly because they are going to figure into the civilization of this world," Kuehn says.

Kuehn says beings from outer space are trying to help us.

"Most extraterrestrials are good people and they want to help us make things better," he says.

Kuehn says extraterrestrials walk, live and work among us.

"You can't tell them from regular people. Some of them have high cheekbones," Kuehn says.

Kuehn says he personally has had mental contact with beings from other planets.

"They contact your mind with radio waves or whatever. Your mind is no more than a radio receiver," Kuehn says.

Glasses showed effects of heat

Webb stuck his head out the window and looked behind; at that instant a red flash of light and heat seemed to hit him in the face and he was temporarily blinded. His plastic glasses showed heat effects and his face felt sunburned afterward. Doctors said his vision was affected.

In the MUFON report, we also learn the truck was a 1973 Peterbilt pulling a 40-foot Dorsey refrigerated trailer.

"But he was hauling plastic at the time so the refrigerator unit wasn't on," said John F. Schuessler, who described the highly detailed report yesterday in his talk on medical injuries from UFOs and what can be learned from them.

The wife had been sleeping in the bunk behind the cab, but she woke up and had just put her shoes on and climbed into the right-hand seat when the driver saw the UFO gaining on him about a mile behind.

The driver hit the brakes after the flash of light and brought the truck to a stop nearly straight, but not completely straight, in the lane.

Schuessler said MUFON has thousands of such cases on file, carefully researched from all available sources of information, all with "the details of what we found. The details are important. . . . It's there, it's all there, and you can decide for yourself what you think about it."

Andrus also buys the idea that aliens are abducting people for experimentation and also as a sort of fertility project.

Andrus said the aliens — often described by abductees as small, thin and frail, with huge heads and eyes, and no sex organs — are a dying race. They can reproduce now only by artificially inseminating human beings.

Detailed investigations

"They are using us. They're here for their own welfare, not ours," Andrus said. "Otherwise, they'll die out."

But he thinks the aliens are basically benevolent toward us, although they consider us lower on the evolutionary ladder. "That is speculation

on my part," Andrus said.

What's not speculation is the detail amassed in MUFON investigations of reported sightings and encounters with UFOs.

One report in the symposium proceedings details a 20-year-old incident near Cape Girardeau, Mo. Eddie Doyle Webb and Velma Mae Webb, a husband-and-wife trucker team, were nearing home on an interstate highway just before dawn one foggy night in 1973.

Something the shape of a turnip or a spinning top with bright lights in rainbow colors came up behind the 18-wheeler. Webb, who was driving, saw it in his mirror. Mrs. Webb couldn't see anything in the passenger-side outside mirror because it was angled for the driver.

Conference explores unexplained phenomena

Center's director insists UFO believers have evidence, sanity

By Sam Kepfield
Staff Reporter

Physicist Enrico Fermi once asked, "If there are other intelligent extraterrestrial life forms out there, where are they?"

Some people believe the answer to Fermi's question is that they are already here, and have been for nearly 50 years — and that the U.S. government knows about it.

The Lincoln-based Fortean Research Center sponsored "Exploring Unexplained Phenomena V" this weekend at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education. Founded in 1982, the Fortean Center, named for paranormal researcher Charles Fort, has sponsored five conferences over the past 10 years, on various paranormal topics.

The focus of this year's conference was Unidentified Flying Objects. Scientific data was presented by world-renowned researchers from such diverse fields as nuclear physics to theology, on topics from crop circles to abductions.

Scott Colborn, director of the center, said it was "high time that we forget about what others think of this. It's time for people to come forward with what they know, be it research or personal experiences."

The UFO field has too often been painted as the province of the "True Believers," who "want to be beamed up now," Colborn said.

Two presentations centered on the crash of a spacecraft near Roswell, N.M., in July 1947. Kevin Randle, a former Air Force intelligence officer, set out initially to disprove the entire story in 1988. But as he and his partner, Don Schmitt, dug deeper, they found credible, first-hand evidence that the crash had indeed occurred, and that the U.S. government had covered it up. Their first book on the incident appeared in 1991; a second book, presenting even more evidence, is due out at the end of 1993.

Stanton Friedman, a nuclear physicist, has researched the same event for the last 15 years. Friedman said he had uncovered evidence pointing to a crash near Roswell, as well as indications of another one nearby at the same time.

Although he and Randle disagree on some of the details, the two are in accord on most of the basics.

Friedman said the theory that UFOs are the staple of uneducated fools is inaccurate. He said Gallup polls showed that the majority of people believe in UFOs and that the more educated a person is, the more likely he is to believe in UFOs.

"If you're a believer, you're the cream of the crop, not the bottom of the barrel. Come out of the closet!" Friedman said, adding that most scientists and engineers are believers as well.

The three-day conference also included a panel of five people, four of them from Nebraska — two from Lincoln — who claimed to have multiple abduction experiences. One of the speakers was Dr. John Slater, a professor of Indian Studies at the University of North Dakota. Slater said he had been abducted several times, most recently in 1988.

Theologian Ray Boeche, co-founder of the Fortean Center, spoke on the similarities between ancient tales of demons and fairies and



Robin Trimarchi/DN

Carol Singer of Fort Collins, Colo., browses among the alien dolls made by J.P. Moore of Lincoln, on display at the "Exploring Unexplained Phenomena" conference at the Nebraska Center on Friday.

— 66 —
If you're a believer, you're the cream of the crop, not the bottom of the barrel. Come out of the closet!

—Friedman

modern tales of "Men in Black" who often threaten and harass UFO witnesses and abductees.

Boeche said he was doubtful that these sightings were actually extraterrestrial. He said he believed some may come from inside the Earth and abductions may be conducted in tandem with the government.

"The danger of belief," Boeche cautioned,

"is that widespread, uncritical belief could lead to overt rule by god-like beings, much like Mount Olympus." The subject must be approached with a great deal of caution, he said.

Colborn agreed. "The center comes at this from an open-minded, skeptical point of view. We try to be open-minded, but not so much so that our brains fall out."

Abduction survivor shares experiences about meeting aliens

By Sam Kepfield
Staff Reporter

"The first time you meet someone who's had a bizarre experience like this, you feel like you're no longer alone in this world."

For Vicki Stadler, that sentiment is particularly important, in light of her "bizarre experiences."

Stadler, 41, a lifelong Lincolnite, said she has been abducted by aliens nearly one hundred times since age seven.

She told her story Friday night at a conference sponsored by the Fortean Research Center, at the Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdrege streets.

Stadler said her first experience occurred at age 7, while playing in her back yard. She saw a tiny man — very old with large eyes and dressed in a snug-fitting uniform — motion to her from a garage in the back yard. She followed him inside, and walked into "an enormously bright light." She awoke three hours later in a closet — unusual, considering she had claustrophobia.

In 1984 Stadler's experiences began again, when she began to have a recurring dream that she was in her car taking a trip to Branched Oak Lake. At the lake she was met by a large ship and was drawn up into a light. Once inside, the aliens examined her physically and questioned her. She was returned two days later.

In 1989, she began seeing a psychologist to help her remember the events. With the aid of hypnosis, the memories came back in a "land-slide."

Since then, Stadler's visitations have resulted in two mysteriously-terminated pregnancies. One five months along, which physicians termed a "miscarriage."

She was followed several times by "men in black," after beginning work on an article, with her husband and her psychologist, about a secret underground installation in New Mexico which houses human and hybrid human-alien children.

Stadler said that everything that has occurred has left her with symptoms akin to post-traumatic stress syndrome, or rape trauma syndrome. Socially, she said she was hesitant at first to come forth with her story, "because someone you know will find out and think you're a lunatic." This is only the second time she has made her experiences public; the first was a year and a half ago at a similar conference in Lincoln.

She is not fazed, though, by those who might cry hoax. More professionals are coming to recognize the problem, and it is gaining acceptance from the general public, with support groups forming everywhere, including Lincoln.

"Most people don't know the magnitude of it. I'm not real educated, but I'm real knowledgeable on this topic," she said. "I try to live my life, with a husband and our children, and odd things occur in life from which there is no reference point to deal with them."

Warm Weather Brings Out Skywatchers, UFOs

by Bland Pugh

On Wednesday evening I had gone to the beach alone to skywatch. I was looking through binoculars to the east at about 8:00 p.m., hoping to see some flashes from the explosions being set off at Eglin AFB, when something streaked across the Sound heading north. This object appeared to be elliptical and opaque in color, there was no light associated with it, and it left no trail. As I watched, I noticed the flashing towers of Midway, and noted that this object was east of them.

I didn't tell anyone, as I didn't have pictures or a witness, so I filled it in the old memory bank for future reference, it didn't gather much dust,

because I received a phone call on Thursday from a fellow that lives on the beach. It seems that he was going to his mailbox and just happened to look up, as he did something moving at an incredible speed flashed over his head from the west northwest to east southeast. Of course he had the same reaction I did, "What the hell was that?" and filed it away. He went into his house and ate lunch, going back out a short time later the object came over again from the same direction. Having lived in the area for quite some time he knew this wasn't a Sea Gull, so he decided to set up his video camera on the sundeck. Putting the camera on A/C hook up, and putting in a two hour tape he went back to work. That evening he reviewed the tape, only to observe a "Huey" helicopter flying it's usual

beach pattern that we are all familiar with, the next day he again set up the video camera when he went home for lunch, after fixing a sandwich he went back onto the deck, looking to the southeast he was amazed to see the object streaking towards him from out in the Gulf. The video camera did its job, and captured the UFO as it crossed the field of view.

On Saturday evening, I met with him and saw this tape, he had dubbed the helicopter sequence, and the UFO parts out and put them on a new tape for quicker viewing. Carolyn and I watched over and over this object streaking across the screen from the lower left to the center right. Just doing a little mathematical figuring in my head, those "Hueys" would probably be doing about 50 M.P.H. as they cruise the beach, this one took 4 seconds to pass the entire width of the screen, assuming he was just about over the second sandbar, that would put him at about 300 feet

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - March 31, 1993

offshore. To witness, this object appeared to be about twice that distance away and it took only 1 second to cross the screen, making its speed 400 M.P.H. plus.

The object appears to be elliptical, and silver in color, there was definitely a structural feature, the bottom appeared to be flat, as the object streaked across the sky you could see the sun reflecting off of the upper portions of it, the underside was darkened. When the UFO had gotten to the last 1/4 of the screen it appears to lift the right side ever so slightly.

This persons identity is known to myself and another member of MUFON, he has requested that his name be withheld for personal reasons. I have to put credence in this video and story, in that I saw, what appeared to be this same object the night before it was videoed.

To cap off these sightings, on Thursday evening, the UFO was

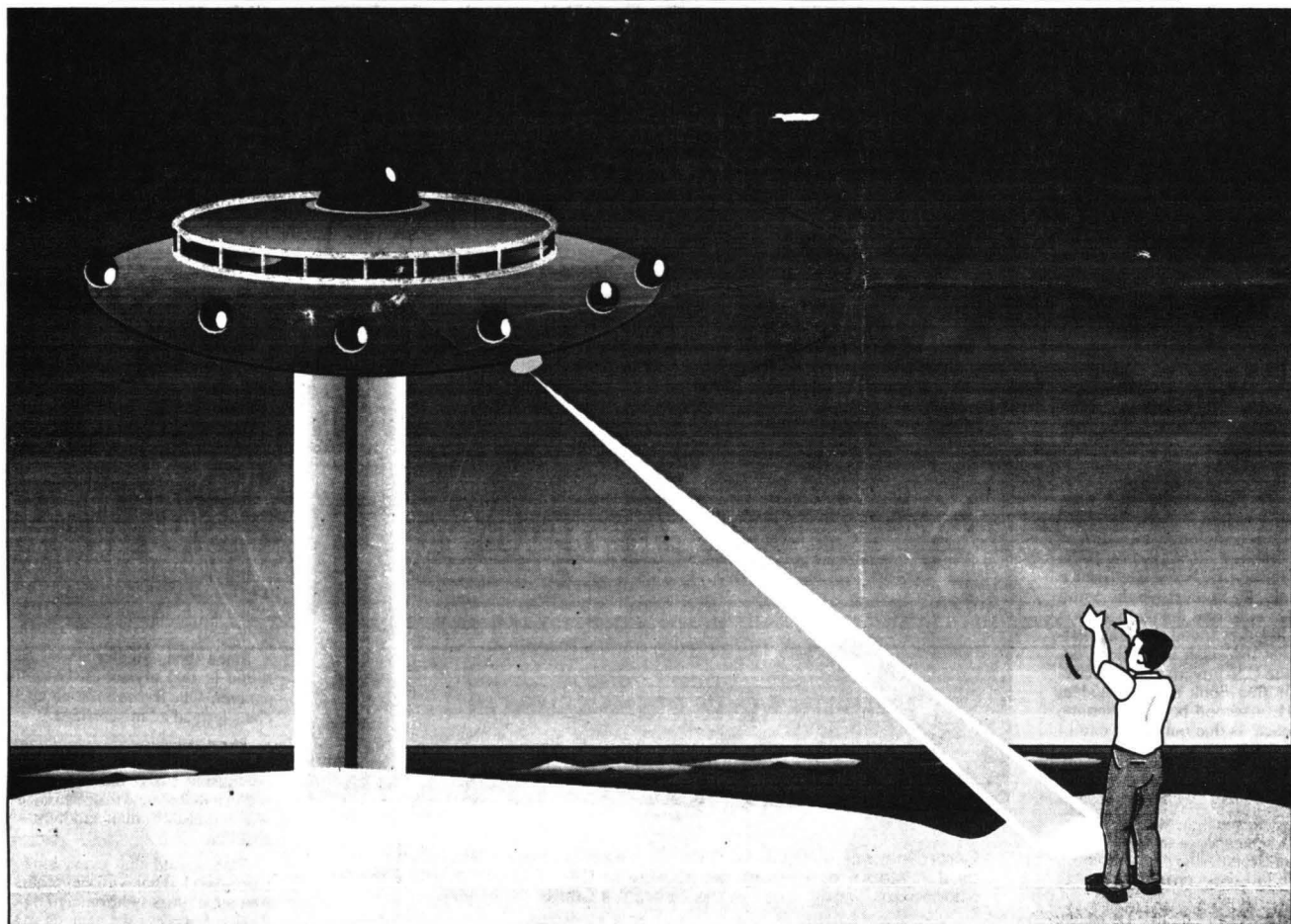
sighted at Shoreline Park, the object appeared at approximately 8:00 p.m., and remained for some 4 1/2 minutes. There were approximately 8 to 10 witnesses present.

As the weather improves, so do the numbers of people coming out to skywatch.

Well what can I tell you, other than to keep looking up and behind you. You never know what or who is watching you.

UFO

seminar lands on the Treasure Coast



Artist: CHARLES W. JONES

At UFO study group, participants encouraged to share experiences

By Barbara DiObilda
of the News staff

Birds, planes and Superman aren't the only things that prompt people to look up in the sky. UFOs — unidentified flying objects — get their share of attention, too.

"There are 10,000 reported sightings of UFOs every year," said Susan Sunset of Vero Beach, a yoga instructor and former school teacher who has made a career of collecting and disseminating information about UFOs.

"And that's just the people who report them — think how many thousands of others see something, but are afraid to come forward to talk about it for fear of being ridiculed or just not believed."

Those folks need a forum to air their stories among others who can relate and are willing to listen, Sunset believes.

So she's giving them one.

The UFO Study Group will meet every Tuesday for six weeks beginning July 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Boogie and Beethoven, a dance studio in Palm City.

Guests will be encouraged to share stories of their own sightings and participate in an open discussion about UFOs.

"About 95 percent of the people who come to the seminars have seen something," Sunset said. "We hear everything from someone seeing a pinpoint of light in the sky and not knowing how to explain it to ships landing and humans being abducted."

Following the discussion, films will be shown at each meeting. Topics include UFOs, sightings, abductions, contact with aliens,

extraterrestrials and planets previously inhabited in our solar system.

Similar seminars have taken off like rockets in Melbourne and Vero Beach, Sunset's home for the past 18 years. "We started a six-week course there, and it has gone on for two years," she said. "There is so much information to share we couldn't stop."

Sunset usually gets the ball rolling at the first class by telling her own story of a UFO sighting.

It happened in 1965.

"My husband and I were in Acapulco, staying with some friends in a cabana on a cliff, overlooking the ocean," Sunset remembers. "We were all sitting out on the patio one night, when suddenly we saw an extremely bright light about a mile away. Think of the difference between a 25 watt light bulb and a 1000 watt bulb — this was definitely a 1000 watt bulb!"

"It was round and flat, sort of disk-shaped, and there was no sound from it at all. It stopped right in front of us and did what I call a light show — it started blinking from white to yellow to red to green and blue."

"I remember thinking, 'I wish you'd come closer' and suddenly, it did. It stopped right in front of us and did the light show again."

The lighted object stayed for about an hour before disappearing.

Since that night, Sunset has collected every bit of information, including books, videotapes and articles, about UFOs. She's willing to share all of it with anyone who is interested.

Right now, word-of-mouth is the only way information spreads, Sunset said. She is critical of government, which she believes has covered up information regarding UFOs,

testing sites, and claims of sightings.

"For the last 50 years we have been taught to debunk everything we hear about UFOs," she said.

"More and more, though, people are gathering information and are becoming more willing to share what the government doesn't want to tell us."

But despite the government's

downplay, Sunset said studies have shown that 60 percent of Americans believe there is life on other planets. "If we can go to the moon, why can't others come here?" she said.

Besides, it might be high time the other 40 percent took note.

Sunset said UFO experts have predicted that there will be a mass landing of beings from another

planet by the year 2000 in America.

Why here? "We have the best communications system in the world," Sunset said. "I believe they want to get the word out that we are destroying our planet, and they want to help us help ourselves to save it."

"My purpose is not to prove UFOs exist — I'm not out to convince anyone — I just want to pro-

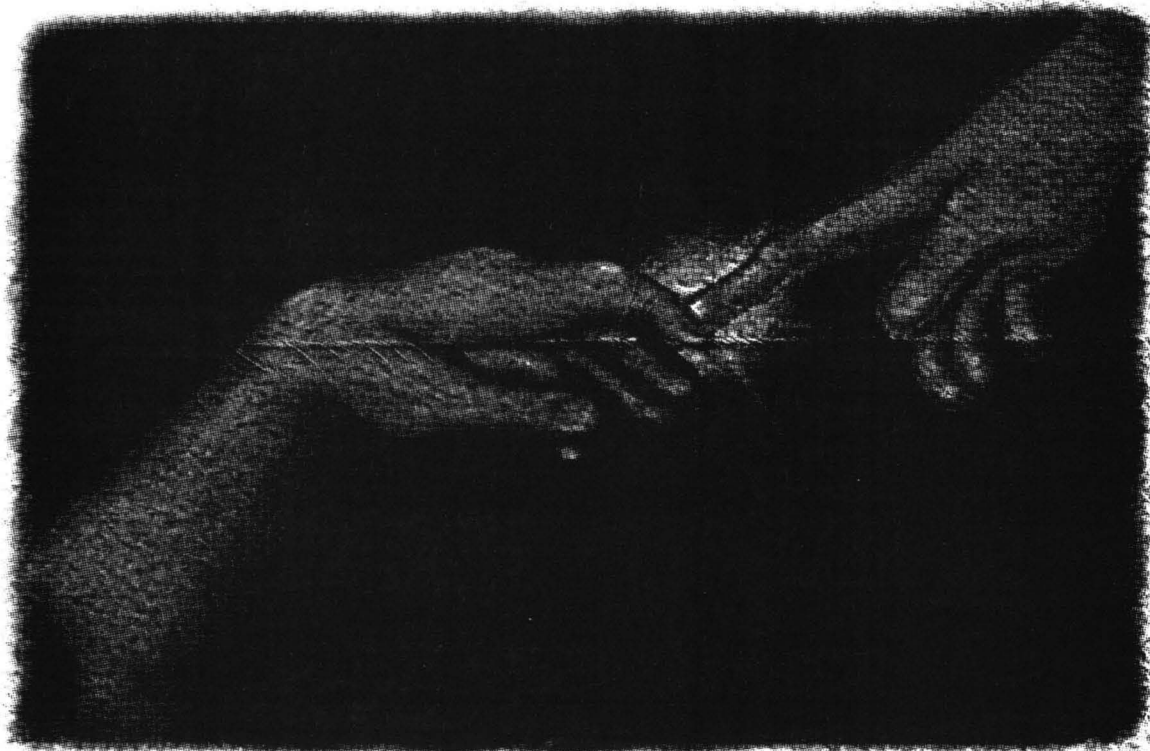
vide a place for serious discussion. This information is revealing, shocking and educational. It needs to be told."

Cost for the six-week seminar is \$50.

Pre-registration is necessary, as class size is limited. For more information, call Sunset at (407) 569-1421 or Cindy Harper at Boogie and Beethoven at 220-0929.

UFOlogy

SOMETHING
STRANGE IS
HAPPENING.
ARE ALIENS
VISITING US?
A BOTHELL
COUPLE IS
SEEKING
ANSWERS



Annette Kraus/Journal American

By Doug Margeson
Journal American Features Writer

BOTHELL — In Russia, they are 12-foot tall creatures resembling Native Americans. They say they have come to heal humanity. In China, they look a bit like rabbits. They don't say anything. In Latin America, they wear conical hats, dark capes and have glowing red eyes. Here, they are "the grays"; short, human-like creatures with big bald heads, scrawny bodies and slick, grayish skin.

In all cases, they come from glowing objects in the sky. Or so those who see them claim.

There's a lot of talk about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) going around these days, thanks largely to the movie *Fire in the Sky*, which tells of a man who claims to have been abducted by occupants of a flying saucer. It's a sure-fire movie formula: unexplained phenomena, danger and, of course, a great opportunity for razzle-dazzle special effects. Whether there's any truth to it, well, it is the movies, after all. You suspend disbelief when you buy your ticket.

But the issue the movie raises remains: Just what are those lights in the sky?

Larry and Marilyn Childs of Bothell don't know. But they spend a fair amount of their time trying to find out. They are the Washington co-directors of the Mutual UFO Network,

a Texas-based organization dedicated to collecting reports on UFOs and other unexplained phenomena. By cataloging and analyzing those reports, the groups hopes it eventually will come to some objective conclusions about the whole business.

Meanwhile, day in and day out, week in and week out, people who think they've had a brush with something strange keep calling the network. Its Seattle area hotline is 722-3000.

The Childses and other UFO students listen to tapes from some of those calls at the group's meetings, held the third Saturday of each month from 1-5 p.m. at the Bothell Library.

Lately, there have been a lot of calls from Long Island, as well as a bunch from the upper Hudson Valley. They're seeing glowing lights in the sky back there. The lights vary in shape and color and, unless there are some distinct landmarks to compare them to, it's hard to tell their size.

The reports have one notable similarity. All the callers start their stories with the same preamble: "You may think I'm crazy, but ..."

"Actually, some are nuts," Larry said.

"They're usually pretty easy to spot, though. The majority are perfectly sane; normal people who've seen something or experienced something they can't explain."

IT HAPPENED to the Childses. In September 1970, they were touring the area

around Lake Tahoe. As they drove through Donner Pass at about 2:30 a.m., they spotted a large red-orange disc in the sky to the south. They thought it was odd, but nothing to get upset about.

Then, the next thing they knew, it was 5:30 a.m. and they were near Wendover Air Force Base on the Nevada/Utah border, 280 miles away. Marilyn was sick as a dog. Larry felt fine, except he was extremely hungry.

What happened? The Childses have no idea, other than that their experience fits a whole category of close encounters known as "missing time." Typically, people see a bright light, sometimes in the sky, sometimes filling a room. Then, the next thing they know, it's hours later. Often, like the Childses, they find themselves miles away. And, often, they are sick for a while.

Were they abducted by a UFO?

That's one explanation, Larry said. But there are lots of things to consider before jumping to that conclusion. Did the person have a history of mental illness? Was he or she taking any medication or other drugs, including alcohol? Had he or she been physically ill? There are, for example, a number of neurological disorders that cause hallucinations. Glowing lights are among the most common. Or, maybe, the witness just made the story up. It's one way to get attention.

A little bit of history and anthropology go a long way in understanding UFOs, Larry said. Unexplainable lights have been appearing in the sky since ancient times. Different cultures offered different explanations.

limited at best. The creatures could, for example, be time travelers, he said.

For all that, there is *something* funny going on, Marilyn argues. Too many people have experienced too many strange things to dismiss the phenomena entirely.

In addition to UFOs and aliens, there is that business about animal mutilations. You've heard about it: A cow or horse or whatever is found dead in a field with its rectum, repro-

ductive organs or some other such thing removed with surgical precision. Often, there is very little blood and no sign of a struggle. The cases have a funny way of never being solved, Marilyn noted.

Same with crop circles: Patterns of flattened grass in the middle of an otherwise undisturbed field. They've been showing up in the United States lately, she said.

Whenever the Mutual UFO Network receives a call about such things, it sends an investigator to get the particulars. Investigators ask witnesses an exhaustive list of questions to get as much specific information as possible. The reports then are forwarded to the organization's Texas headquarters.

WHERE IS IT ALL HEADED?

The Childs hope it eventually will lead to some objective conclusions. But that's a ways off.

Some feel nothing will come of it. Cornell University's Carl Sagan is singularly unimpressed with UFOlogy. Although there's a pretty good statistical chance there is intelligent life elsewhere in the universe, there is no evidence of it, he said. And why would it want to visit us? Our planet is a small and rather obscure one, after all.

UFO sighting reports offer no help, Sagan added. The sighters' stories vary so widely that no general conclusions can be drawn. And, they often involve the sorts of cultural expressions the Childses noted. Usually, aliens who allegedly have spoken to earthlings claim they have been observing us for many years and are deeply concerned about our grave political crisis, Sagan noted. Since there have been such reports for more than 40 years, one must wonder which political crisis they mean and why it's more important than the one they came to warn us about a few years ago, Sagan said.

Exhaustive government studies of UFO sightings have found the stories either aren't true or involve unusual but explainable natural phenomena, Sagan said. That leads many UFO enthusiasts to howl coverup. Again, however, there is no evidence of one, Sagan said.

In the final analysis, he thinks the public fascination with UFOs is probably rooted in unfulfilled religious needs. People need magic in their lives, something to replace the gods science has replaced, Sagan said.

Well, maybe, the Childses said. But they still have never figured out what happened on that September day in 1970 in the high Sierras of California.

"But it did happen," Larry said. "That much we're sure of."

REVIEW, Towanda, PA

July 12, 1993

Midnight swimmers see UFO

A woman from the Mercur Hill area of Wysox Township telling a strange story. She and her husband both work second shift. At 12:45 a.m. Thursday they were in their swimming pool when they saw what she can only describe as an unidentified flying object (UFO). She explains the object they saw in the sky had three round white lights in front and it moved with a rolling motion from left to right — back and forth — while traveling straight. It sounded like a jet roaring. There were no flashing lights like on an airplane. She wonders if anyone else saw it. "Maybe there are UFOs," she commented, in telling about this sight.

The flaming chariots of the Old Testament may have been UFOs, for example. Same with space creatures. European legends about gnomes, and leprechauns may have been medieval man's explanation of them. Arabs saw them as genies. In the Southwest, Native Americans concluded they were kachinas.

"Now we live in the age of space exploration, so it's natural to see them in terms of visitors from other planets," Larry said.

WHY DO THEY TAKE different forms in Russia, China, Latin America and so forth? Again, it's impossible to say, but hallucinations tend to have roots in our cultural experience, Larry said.

In the final analysis no one knows what they are, if indeed they are anything at all, Larry said. Even the scientific approach comes up short because it's based on the laws of physics as we understand them. It's entirely possible our understanding is

Therapist sued in 'close encounters'

By Ramon Coronado
Bee Staff Writer

Psychologist Richard Boylan's belief in extraterrestrial life is no secret.

In his published writings, the Sacramento clinical psychologist describes his own alien abduction. He advertises in the Yellow Pages as a "close-encounter specialist." In a letter to President Clinton, Boylan has called for the appointment of "extraterrestrial emissaries."

And now, Boylan's belief in extraterrestrial life has become the focus of a court battle.

In lawsuits filed by two former female patients, Boylan is accused of using extraterrestrial phenomena to diagnose and treat the women's emotional problems so that he could get them to join him in "naked hot tub sessions."

Boylan is a licensed marriage and family counselor and current president of the Sacramento Valley Psychologists Association. Through his attorney, he denies the allegations.

Several members of the 150-member association, including President-elect Lisa Farquhar, declined to comment about Boylan and his controversy.

In separate suits filed in Sacramento Superior Court over the past two months, Diana Woycheshin and Dorothy Stone maintain that through Boylan's counseling, they became dependent upon him as a "father-like figure."

At his home, Boylan and Woycheshin would sit nude in a hot tub, her suit alleges. Stone's suit said Boylan encouraged her to go with him to Harbin Hot Springs in the Napa Valley for nude exercises.

A third former patient, Karla Grant, filed suit three weeks ago, claiming that although Boylan didn't discuss extraterrestrial close encounters, he fostered the same dependent "dual-role" relationship as Woycheshin and Stone allege and invited her to participate in nude hot tub sessions.

Boylan declined to discuss the suits last week, but he defended his research with people who say they have had encounters with UFOs and extraterrestrial life.

"My research doesn't involve whether UFOs exist. That's already been well established," he said. "There is much worth in making the scientific inquiry, and that's what I and a number of other people are doing."

Regarding the suit, Boylan's lawyer, Richard Linkert, said his client's therapy meets acceptable standards and that Boylan hasn't committed any sexual improprieties.

"The whole subject of extraterrestrial beings is controversial and I think its controversy is being used as a weapon against Dr. Boylan," he said. "This portrait of victims led around by this psychological Svengali is simply not true."

Joseph C. George, the Sacramento lawyer who filed the suits, said Linkert is wrong.

"Who cares if it is politically sensitive? The harm here," George alleged, "is that they feel they have been hurt, manipulated and exploited."

According to the suits, the women hired Boylan to help them with their emotional problems. Woycheshin saw Boylan for about a year, and Stone saw him for about two years.

In the suits, Woycheshin and Stone said Boylan told them that based on his interpretations of their life experiences, they had separate close encounters with extraterrestrial life.

They were then referred to support-group meetings at Boylan's home, which he led. Known as "CE-4" meetings, people discussed close encounters, extraterrestrial beings and related subjects.

Boylan further advised the women that their extraterrestrial experiences were of interest to the "CIA and/or FBI," which would have an interest in keeping them under surveillance, the suits said.

George, who is also a psychologist and specializes in mental health suits, said that although Boylan did not physically touch the women, his therapy crossed the line of propriety.

Shirley Glass, an expert on ethical standards in therapy and a former member of the board of examiners that licenses psychologists in Maryland, said that as a general rule, psychologists should not socialize with patients outside the office.

"There is something sterile in the office environment that the therapist has an obligation to create and maintain," Glass said.

But Mark Foster, a licensed marriage and family therapist in Sacramento and former associate of Boylan's, said there are also gray areas in the rules of conduct.

Boylan, Foster said, was known to provide therapy for free and to spend a lot of time in research on people who believe they have had close encounters.

"Was he doing community service? Were these people going to him as research subjects?" Foster asked. "A therapist needs to define the therapist-patient role. If that isn't provided, then you have a problem."

UFO PAC

It was inevitable.

The flying-saucer fringe of American politics has become a political force. Its members, once content to communicate among themselves via mimeographed newsletters, now call themselves "the UFO community." Like any other group fighting for recognition, it's marching on Washington. (What, not fly? Or just beam up?)

This very special interest group has picketed the White House to protest what it describes as (of course) a government conspiracy. Over the last 50 years, you see, the military has conducted several studies and gathered thousands of documents relating to unidentified flying objects. Most of the material remains classified, leaving these people with some questions they find tantalizing.

For instance: Were the many airborne metallic disks captured on film in the '50s and '60s extraterrestrial spacecraft? Or, as the Air Force claims, only stray weather balloons? Have alien beings landed on Earth? If so, are they secretly running the government, or at least the Clinton administration? What happened to the flying saucer that

crashed in the New Mexico desert 45 years ago? And what about Naomi? The UFO community wants to know.

And it has a right to know.

Like certain kinds of mushrooms, conspiracy theories grow best in the dark. Weird, contorted explanations for the assassinations of the Kennedys and Martin Luther King Jr. remain popular because the public doesn't have access to all the facts. Nothing makes a story more intriguing than the missing details. (Naturally, the secret cabal of Mafia members, CIA agents and space aliens responsible for the killings knows every detail, but that's another story.)

The administration should declassify all documents relating to these events as soon as possible — or explain why it can't or won't.

In the end, the country will benefit. Oliver Stone and the UFO community might not be so lucky. If real information were available, they could go out of business. Nothing is going to discourage some fanatics, but sunlight and ventilation can still help clear out a lot of musty things that grow in the dark.

REVIEW JOURNAL, Las Vegas, NV - July 11, 1993 CR: M. Hines

From our readers

Columnist behind the times

To the editor:

Rafael Tammariello really needs to get some new material for the next incarnation of his shopworn, bi-annual anti-UFO column. Besides merely being inaccurate, Tammariello's oft-recycled vitriol is getting brown around the edges.

A group of American citizens has asked its government to release information on UFOs. What's wrong with that? We know from the government's own files that several agencies have studied UFOs for decades. We also know the government is spending \$10 million a year, taxpayer dollars, on the search for extraterrestrial intelligence. It strikes me as odd that a journalist, any journalist, would want to bash people simply because they dared to demand information from their government.

I have filed dozens of UFO-related Freedom of Information requests over the years. Most have been refused, and that makes me all the more curious. I don't know if Tammariello has ever worked as a reporter, but it would seem that he and the Review-Journal should support, not ridicule, citizen efforts to find out how tax dollars are being spent. If UFOs aren't "real," it becomes all the more intriguing why the government is spending money to study them.

Tammariello is correct in suggesting that some people approach the UFO topic with religious fervor. But not everyone is a nut case. Serious researchers at Harvard, Temple and other universities are now studying the topic. The company I work for, Altamira, has opened an office in

Russia and we recently signed an agreement with the Russian Academy of Sciences for joint research into UFOs. If Tammariello thinks there is nothing more to UFOs than lights in the sky, then he is simply behind the times.

As for Area 51, I first learned about the alien technology allegations when I read it in the Review-Journal, of all places. Other than reporting the "rumor," and other than several snide columns aimed in my direction, your paper has done virtually nothing to take a look at the story. Heck, even if there are no flying saucers out there, it's a mighty interesting place. In the past year, journalists from Japan, Germany, England and Australia have come to Nevada to ask questions about Area 51. American journalists from national television programs, network news affiliates and major magazines have also been here. The Review-Journal, which is only 80 miles from Area 51, isn't interested. I don't understand.

The UFO-bashing columns that Tammariello writes are probably the most widely read items he puts out all year. The fact that he keeps writing about UFOs is, in itself, a testament to the public's enduring interest in the subject. It's a story that won't go away, and it's one that I intend to keep working on. If Tammariello is truly interested in getting up to date information about some of the exciting UFO-related research under way all around the world, I would be glad to put him in touch with the right people.

GEORGE KNAPP
Las Vegas

EXAMINER, San Francisco, CA - July 16, 1993

KEAY DAVIDSON

DOWN TO A SCIENCE

SKEPTICS CORNER: A baffling UFO photo has apparently bitten the dust. On a November morning in 1966, a driver on Route 58 along the Oregon coast



paused at a lookout point and took pictures of Diamond Peak. After the photos were developed, the photographer — a seemingly credible witness with a respectable scientific and military background — found that one image included a dome-shaped object with a series of alternating light-and-dark bands beneath, and what appeared to be a vaporous trail under the bands. The world's most distinguished UFO investigator, astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek, called the photo "one of the most puzzling on record." Another saucer researcher speculated that the dark bands shed light on UFO propulsion.

Now, after years of careful study, an intrepid Bay Area physicist has apparently solved the mystery. The UFO wasn't a spaceship from another world or another dimension. It was something much more mundane: a road sign that was blurred because it was photographed from a moving car.

Los Altos physicist Irwin Wieder, who has a Ph.D. in physics from Stanford, began investigating the case in the early 1980s. Initially enthusiastic

about the photo, he became increasingly skeptical as the years went by, partly because of holes in the witness' story. In the latest issue of the Stanford-based Journal of Scientific Exploration, Wieder explains how he eventually determined that the witness, in a moving car, had photographed a sign saying "Diamond Peak" with an upward-pointing arrow. Wieder reconstructed the incident by photographing a replica of the sign from a different moving vehicle. Result: An image of a blurred object that looks exactly like the purported "UFO."

To be specific, the car's movement blurred the image of the sign, creating the illusion of a "dome" (the blurred top of the post holding the sign), "light-and-dark bands" (the blurred letters reading "Diamond Peak") and the "vapour trail" (the blurred bottom of the post). Eventually Wieder traveled to the Diamond Peak area and found the smoking gun — the broken post on which the sign once sat.

In his article, Wieder acknowledges he might have hit on the truth sooner if he hadn't been so convinced the photo showed a mysterious phenomenon. For a while, he "remained oblivious to an abundance of evidence that should have signaled something was wrong. If anything can be learned from this, it is that UFO researchers need to be more diligent in applying the principles of scientific research."

Marlette man hunts for UFOs in Thumb

Marlette-
There are some things you can't tell even your closest friends. "I saw a UFO" is one of them.

But Bob Snow Jr. of Marlette won't laugh at you or make jokes at your expense. He won't even include your name in his report.

Snow, co-owner of Snow Screw Products, is hoping you will call with details of your UFO sighting.

Snow, 50, is now the regional representative of the Mutual UFO Network.

The network is a national organization, which has about 200 members in Michigan and 4,000 world-wide.

As the field investigative trainee, Snow collects as much scientific data as possible about each sighting.

"I've got different forms to fill out...weather, distances, shapes," Snow said.

Snow submits any information he collects to the state director. All data collected is being cataloged on a computer in an attempt to find a pattern to UFO appearances.

Early this spring Snow began to hear rumors of three UFO sightings in the Thumb, near Marlette, Silverwood and Kingston.

It was about dusk on March 17 when two members of a Silverwood area family saw a great big disk-shaped thing in the sky.

It had a dome, rounded ends, a flat bottom and was several hundred feet across, the woman told Snow. It was still light enough so she could see it had windows.

The woman told Snow she and another family member watched the thing for about five minutes before it just vanished.

A Marlette woman was outside around 8:30-9 p.m. the same night when she saw a real bright light up in the sky.

The woman, who wants to remain anonymous, said, "I saw a bright yellow line and thought it was a power surge. Then I realized there are no (electric or telephone) lines out there."

"The bright light started splitting off into balls of lights in a revolving motion. It started spinning and I couldn't see the (individual) round balls. Then I couldn't see it anymore," she stated.

The whole thing took about a minute and a half, she said.

"I couldn't believe it. I kept rubbing my eyes...I went back there in the field the next day (to find something to explain the lights) but there was nothing there," the woman stated.

"Everybody asked me if I was scared, but I was just so surprised. It was very interesting, not scary at all," she explained.

Snow has also seen what he believes are UFOs, one as recently as late April.

"I was up by Cass City (about 11 p.m.) and I saw a strange phenomenon," Snow stated.

He saw what he first thought was a small plane, but planes are supposed to have one red and one green light.

"I was suspicious. Then when it disappeared, and there's another one way above it...The switch was instantaneous," Snow remembered.

"After a minute it dawned on me it could be a UFO...(or) I was seeing two planes breaking the law," Snow stated.

The next morning he called the UFO network's state director and described what he had seen.

A light that moves up and down instantaneously as it moves across the sky and then just disappears, is common in UFO sightings, the director told Snow.

"I'm a pilot and I've never seen anything like these extremely big lights," a Deford man told Snow about an April 21 sighting.

About 80% of what people think are UFOs have a legitimate explanation--ball lightning, weather balloons, or magnesium flares, among other things, Snow commented.

"But that still leaves 20% we have no earthly explanation for...This technology is beyond our understanding," Snow stated.

Snow said the UFOs may be sending out a signal that blocks their ship or activate some clocking mechanism in order to make it appear such a large object just vanishes.

"We're not trying to convince people or change their minds. We just want to catalogue (the details of sightings)," Snow said.

UFO sightings aren't the joke they used to be, Snow remarked.

"Eventually I figure the government will let out information. They've tried to keep the lid on it since the '40s," Snow said.

Now the pentagon doesn't deny UFOs exist anymore, Snow stated. The government just denies they are a threat to national security.

Snow has always been interested in UFOs.

His first sighting was in 1967 while he was stationed at Fort Myers, adjacent to the Pentagon.

"I saw a red light way up over (Washington) D.C.," Snow recalled.

He pointed the light out to another soldier on duty, and told the man to watch it for a few minutes in case it did something.

"The next day he told me it zipped right, left, straight up and then was gone," Snow said.

Then last spring one of Snow's employees mentioned a sighting.

"It surprised me it was this close," Snow said.

After watching a series on the subject on TV, Snow called the network's state director out of curiosity. She urged him to become a member of the organization.

"Now I'm in neck deep...Once I had my name out there people started calling me," Snow stated.

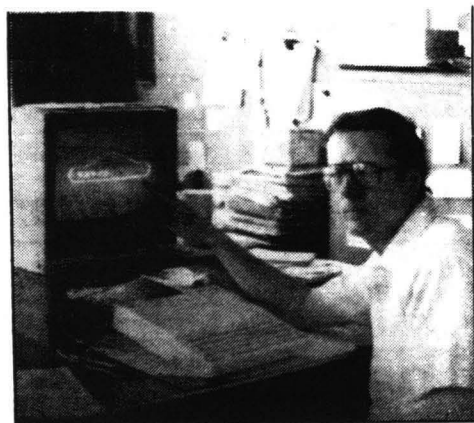
A man from Mayville called to tell Snow about something that happened back in the '60s.

The couple were driving at night in their pickup when a big orange light came at them. The truck shut off, lights and ignition, and didn't come back on until the light went past them.

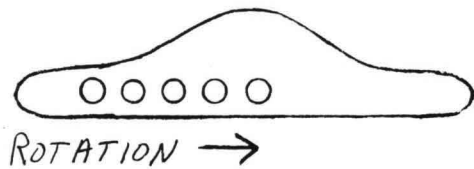
"It was a long time ago, but he never forgot," Snow added.

"Something is going on here. Our technology isn't up to explaining this stuff. I assume we're dealing with some extraterrestrials," Snow stated.

Snow will be glad to hear from anyone who has seen a possible UFO. Call him at 517-635-7158 evenings.



Bob Snow displays the computer he uses for his UFO reports.



This sketch, by Snow, is of a UFO sighted by a Silverwood woman. The gray colored ship, with yellow lights, was rotating in the sky, she told him.

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - May 12, 1993

Bright Lights Blaze In First May Sighting

Seven Objects Appear Over Gulf of Mexico

by David A. Holcomb

At approximately 8:30 p.m., on a brightly moonlit night, on May 5, along the beach road, between Pensacola Beach and Navarre, six field investigators with the Mutual UFO Network or "MUFON," observed from five to seven red or amber colored objects in the evening sky, similar to those which have been witnessed and recorded in the area for the past four years. They were seen out over the Gulf at an approximate azimuth of 194 degrees with an elevation of six or seven degrees above the horizon.

The sighting began with the appearance of one lone object, which initiated the usual camera rigging drill that is becoming once again fairly routine. Within three or four seconds, a series of four or more appeared in rapid succession from left to right (east to west). Within a few more seconds, a solitary sixth and possibly seventh object appeared out of sequence further to the East. Within thirty to forty-five seconds they vanished, leaving six experienced sky-watchers straining the limits of their night vision capacity for some shape or form that would suggest a possible return, or provide additional clues about what it was that had appeared unexpectedly out over the water.

Much to this writers extreme frustration, my rather expensive video camera failed to engage its record mechanism and captured only the final appearing object just before it and the others disappeared. The other cameraman could not find the objects in the viewfinder which leaves one heck of a sighting unrecorded on film.

The inevitable group reality check revealed that we had all witnessed essentially the same event, with minor variations in the placement of individual objects and the

amount of elapsed time. Our immediate suspicion was that we could possibly have witnessed a succession of emergency flares shot from some foundering boat in trouble. None of us however observed any flare ignition trails, nor the expected descension of gravity bound objects, despite looking at a relatively small area encompassing only six or seven degrees of elevation.

Further analysis suggested that the objects rapid appearance would require us to believe that flare guns have a machine gun-like firing capacity. No conventional or routine (for the area) flying aircraft were seen or heard in the sky at or after the appearance of the objects. A conventional military craft would surely have been visible given the brightness of the full moon and the clearness of the skies. Two phone calls were made to the Coast Guard within twenty minutes of the sighting. They informed us that they had not received any distress calls and were not aware of any aerial activity in the vicinity. The Coast Guard did dispatch a helicopter to the area soon after the phone calls and began to do search patterns in the area.

Despite its routine efforts we did not observe a reaction from the helicopter which suggested it had discovered a source for any possible use of flares.

So here we are, left to our own devices, speculating about the latest enigma(s) in the skies. MUFON will be celebrating its twenty-fourth birthday on May 31. It would be a nice birthday gift if the government would begin to declassify materials related to its own on-going secret investigations into the much maligned acronym UFO. Why the cover-up?

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - June 23, 1993

Mysterious Photo Arrives In Islander Mail

by Bland Pugh

On Tuesday, of this past week, I walked into *The Islander* to turn in my weekly article. Ms. Jane said "Come here," meaning into her office, "I want to show you something." I figured some Nutburger had written to her and demanded that I be boiled in oil or exiled to the Antarctica for the winter because they didn't believe in UFOs or something. Instead, she very excitedly showed me a picture that had just come in the mail. It was a typical beach scene, white sand, sea oats, green Gulf, white puffy clouds, you know, your garden variety Pensacola Beach picture, complete with UFO and all.

It seems that a gentleman from Harrisburg, PA had come to our area last September to visit our beaches and even get a little skywatching in while he was here. He and his wife had gone to Ft. Pickens for the afternoon and as it was their last day in Pensacola he decided to take one last picture of the Gulf. This accomplished, they had come out on a skywatch, which was unfortunately uneventful and then left the next morning for home. Several weeks later they had the pictures developed and were very surprised to see the results. Being *Islander* subscribers, they were excited to see the picture of

the daylight sighting which was very similar to their picture.

Back in the early part of the year, I wrote an article on a fellow that had received some sort of mark on his hand while out on a skywatch. I asked for and have been receiving letters from all over the world detailing reports of similar marks. Some have shown themselves on other parts of the body and they have been in the form of bruises and other marks but they all seem to have one major characteristic, there is a circle of marks. I had one from England saying, "I had seven pin pricks on my little finger." One came from a fellow in Oklahoma and another from Naples, FL.

There have been no sightings of late to report. There are many reports coming in from all over the rest of the state, however. One in particular is that of a large Boomerang shaped UFO over Hernandez County. This was reported in the *St. Petersburg Times*. So, there are other UFO sightings in other places besides Gulf Breeze and Pensacola Beach.

I have nothing else to report at this time, so until next week, keep looking up and behind you.

UFO studies, stories converge in Bellevue this weekend

It's research, not 'screwballs,' speaker says



BY JACK BROOM
Seattle Times staff reporter

Did you know:
 • **Tens of thousands** of Americans have been abducted by UFOs?
 • The **U.S. government** has captured UFOs and is testing them in Nevada?
 • Extraterrestrials have mutilated up to 20,000 cattle?
 • Physical features on Mars were made by intelligent life?

Skye Ambrose

• NASA's space-shuttle crew has videotaped alien spacecraft?

Sound far-fetched? Even flaky? Theories on all those subjects will be discussed this weekend in Bellevue at a national research conference on unidentified flying objects.

It's a gathering not just of believers, but — organizers insist — of professionals, scholars and scientists.

"We know there are screwballs out there, people who claim all sorts of crazy things," said John Carpenter, a hypnotherapist from Springfield, Mo. "But these are quality speakers with good research, not anything built on speculation."

Carpenter will discuss his studies of more than 80 people who, under hypnosis, have recalled details of their abduction by alien beings. He believes many people may have had such an experience and don't realize it.

Among his clients was Skye Ambrose, a St. Louis-area massage therapist who initially knew only that she and a friend saw a bright light while driving along a Colorado highway and later couldn't account for a two-hour period of time.

"She didn't have any knowledge about UFOs. But she couldn't sleep at night, she was anxious and she just wanted

like to take some part in changing the perception of people on this planet."

The Saturday-Sunday conference at the Bellevue Hyatt Regency is sponsored by the Missouri-based Triad Research Conference Foundation.

Carpenter, whose wife, Denise, is one of the conference coordinators, said hundreds of people from around the western U.S. are expected to attend the \$45-per-person conference.

The Seattle area was selected for the event because mailing lists and membership rosters of UFO-related organizations indicated a high level of interest here.

In a sense, that's fitting. It was a pilot's 1947 sighting of saucer-shaped objects over Mount Rainier that's often cited as the beginning of the UFO era.

But the area has also drawn the attention of UFO-debunkers. CSICOP, the New York-based Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims Of the Paranormal, plans to hold a conference in Seattle next summer.

A likely participant in that conference is Philip Klass, a contributing editor at *Aviation Week & Space Technology* magazine, who has challenged UFO reports for more than two decades and written several books on the subject.

Klass calls the UFO-abduction phenomenon the result of a "dangerous cult" in which hypnotists and therapists abuse the power they have over their patients. He finds it inconceivable that if UFOs have been seen since the 1940s, there is still no irrefutable photographic or videotaped evidence of them.

"There are enough things in this world we need to worry about, enough legitimate problems, without adding any contrived ones," he said.

to get to the bottom of this," Carpenter said.

Carpenter separately hypnotized both Ambrose and her friend and said their accounts of the abduction included 43 identical details, including the shape of the room in the spacecraft (round), the color of light inside (rosy) and the features of the alien beings (pear-shaped heads with dark, slanting eyes).

Ambrose, who also will speak at this weekend's conference, now says she remembers those details but no longer sees them as significant.

"I rarely think back on the physical experience. To me that's the least important part of it," she said. What's important, she said, is the continuing, mind-to-mind communication she has with the beings she encountered.

"It's telepathic, and I don't even know how to explain it," Ambrose said. She believes the visitors have a spiritual, almost biblical message: that a time is coming when people will have to choose between unity and separation, between peace and conflict.

Ambrose, who is writing a book on her experience, realizes many people react to UFO stories with suspicion or fear, skepticism or downright disbelief.

"These are the reactions of a negative people," she said. "I would

READER, Los Angeles, CA - July 2, 1993
CITYSIDE

Flying on the Ground Is Wrong

An Intrepid Reporter's Odyssey Into the Belly of UFO Expo West

By Jack Briggs

The UFO community often is its own worst enemy. Even within the generally open-minded category of "fringe science," "ufology" is a ghettoized practice. This is unfortunate, for among the more credible researchers one can uncover a few genuinely fascinating and puzzling cases (for example, the ongoing series of close encounters with a huge unidentified craft seen in New York's Hudson Valley since 1982, "abduction" reports investigated by such writers as Budd Hopkins and Dr. David M. Jacobs, and so on). However, for attendees of UFO Expo West, held last month at the LAX Hyatt, encountering such "legitimate" researchers was a challenge: All those charlatans, cultists, and flakes who give California itself a bad name were proliferating like a bad infestation of roaches.

The Reader entourage entered the exhibit-booth area only to encounter such groups as "Morningland." It went like this: While my companion went off in search of any free wacky conspiracy literature she could find, I stumbled upon a relatively spacious booth adorned with wicker chairs and various crystal objects. The people in this booth were blonde women wearing white robes and loose-fitting headbands. A sign toward the front of Morningland's booth claimed attendees could receive "telepathic readings" here. Curious, I asked one tallish, attractive woman what the deal was — and, in the spirit of humor, mentioned that I was with the Reader, adding that she probably knew this already, given her telepathy. Her response? An iceberg would have given a warmer reception. She motioned toward the group's leader, a plumpish blonde who purports to receive channelings from "The Master." I asked this woman about her "readings." She replied that they help prevent UFO abductions. I quickly departed; my companion later (jokingly) said that it probably did not take these people long to figure out that I was "totally evil." (Leave it to a UFO convention to make me feel self-conscious for looking like one of the Ramones.)

Elsewhere, my companion encountered (pun intended) an elderly San Diego couple selling sculptures of those ubiquitous little gray, almond-eyed aliens cropping up in most "abduction" reports. I listened patiently while the couple told my friend about their own adventures in space. Impressed, she bought a glow-in-the-dark T-shirt from them.

It was unfortunate that the major lectures cost extra; I had wanted to listen to Terence McKenna, the hugely popular psychedelics researcher (author of *True Hallucinations*, *Food of the Gods*, and more). Yet the fee was thirty big ones. From all indications, his presentation was one of the convention's bigger hits; after it was over, a throng of people flocked to the booth of *Psychedelic Illuminations* magazine, a quite good journal published in, of all places, Orange County.

Another booth manned by refreshingly sane, rational persons was that of *UFO* magazine. Editor Vicki Cooper had just attended the McKenna lecture and was waxing rhapsodic

about the psychedelics researcher. As we talked, I told her that one of the most disappointing developments in recent ufology was the apparent unraveling of "Majestic-12" documents. These were allegedly top-secret documents written in 1952, briefing then president-elect Dwight Eisenhower about the crash and retrieval of an alien spacecraft near Roswell, New Mexico, in July 1947, and the subsequent formation of an ultra-secret government body — Majestic-12 — devoted to handling the notorious "UFO cover-up." Delivered anonymously on a roll of 35mm film to a prominent UFO researcher in 1984, and released to the public four years later, the Majestic-12 documents were ufology's biggest hit for a couple of years. Apparently, they've been discredited after much investigative work. Yet, according to Cooper, many researchers still believe something happened out in the New Mexico desert nearly fifty years ago; it certainly persists as one of ufology's most enigmatic cases.

Further, a subsequent conversation with fellow UFO staffer Don Ecker, a journalist with good investigative credentials (he is a retired law-enforcement officer, among other things), was fascinating. He believes the U.S. government probably has in fact had its hands on alien technology since 1947. Should all this prove true, then it is the biggest news story of all time. Is there a UFO cover-up? One actually wishes this were so. At any rate, credible people like the staffers at *UFO* magazine were all too rare at this convention.

Instead, for the most part, UFO Expo West was the New Age gone amok. Hawkers of crystals, trinkets, oddball literature, and such abounded. Some of the UFO community's blackest sheep were also present; much attention was given to the notorious Billy Meier case — Meier, a Swiss eccentric, is ufology's latter-day George Adamski. But instead of his "space brothers" coming from Venus, Meier's hail from the Pleiades star cluster. And it is because of this sort of nonsense that the UFO phenomenon continues to be a subject held in contempt by the mainstream press.

Interested persons should read *UFO* magazine, check out the better literature (including *Intruders* by Budd Hopkins), and get in touch with groups like the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON). There is, if one is sufficiently determined, some truly eye-opening information to be had on what could be the story to end all stories. Until then, UFO events are like magnets sucking every oddball loony into their midsts. And, if one were interested in this subject but not well-informed, attending an event like UFO Expo West would dampen your curiosity as effectively as a swift kick in the groin.



PHOTO COURTESY MORGAN TAYLOR FOR BUDD HOPKINS

Air Force veteran believes area UFO was 2 helicopters

By JANICE KARLOVICH
Staff Writer

A 33-year Air Force veteran who saw the strange configuration of lights near Ligonier on Tuesday believes the object was two high-tech Army Apache helicopters.

Most Apaches are reserved strictly for active-duty bases, and one could have been flying Tuesday night in northeast Indiana, spokesmen from the Indiana and Michigan National Guard said.

Several people reported seeing the strange, red lights and were unable to identify the craft because of its quietness and its lowness to the ground.

Clarence McDaniel, a retired Air Force master sergeant, said he and his wife were on their way back to Fort Wayne from an auction in Ligonier when they saw the lights.

To some, the quiet, low-flying object looked like a spaceship. To McDaniel, the shape of the lights looked like two Apache helicopters.

"They're really quiet; and they're very swift," said McDaniel, who retired from the Air Force in 1988. "I didn't stop to analyze the situation because I thought they were helicopters. I'd almost stake my life on it that it was

helicopters."

The Apache is a quick-reacting, anti-tank weapon equipped to attack at night and during bad weather, according to an Army fact sheet. It is the Army's premier attack helicopter, but the Blackhawk is a similar Army helicopter designed for transport.

According to Sgt. Charlane Busse of the Indiana National Guard's public affairs office, the Apache is "awesomely silent."

Paul Miller, a flight instructor at the Indiana Army National Guard's base at Shelbyville, said there are no Apaches or Blackhawks based in the state, however. And any other military aircraft would make considerable noise.

Lt. Col. Brian Downey of the Michigan National Guard's public affairs office said Michigan doesn't have any Apache or Blackhawk helicopters either, but an active-duty craft could easily have been in the area.

"There are hundreds of possible reasons for a helicopter to be flying there," Downey said, referring to various air shows and the recent floods in Iowa, Illinois and Missouri.

JOURNAL-GAZETTE, Fort Wayne, IN - July 17, 1993 CR: J. Hamm



FOREIGN NEWS

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - June 10, 1993 CR: G. Conway

UFO HUNTER

Mail sorter's not a wild and crazy guy, but he'd still like to meet some aliens

A search for aliens in space has detected 164 mysterious radio signals that must be studied to learn if they come from natural causes or from ET trying to phone home, scientists said Tuesday.

— June 9 news item.

NICOLE PARTON
Vancouver Sun

The first thing you should know about Lorne Goldfader, is that he isn't crazy. A little odd maybe, but perfectly sane.

By day, the mild-mannered, 43-year-old Goldfader is a Canada Post mail sorter. By night, he's a UFO researcher who runs his Vancouver-based UFO Research Institute of Canada (UFORIC) from a one-bedroom West End apartment that's off-limits to visitors.

Goldfader's summer vacation won't be like yours or mine. He plans to communicate with space aliens hovering above B.C.'s Interior. Using a flashlight. And magnets. And a little luck. Reread the first paragraph. Lorne Goldfader isn't crazy.

The former optician says his life

changed at 1:30 in the morning in December 1977 when he stared into the darkness just above Sunset Beach to see a glowing, pulsating egg-shaped object "large as a full autumn moon ... moving very elegantly and slowly across the sky."

He phoned a local radio station to learn others had seen the same thing, but he never learned its origin.

"What I saw, I just couldn't explain," he says.

So he established his UFO research institute, taking calls from across the country and sharing information with hobbyist and ex-military UFO researchers.

When NASA officials answer his letters, he treasures their replies the way a besotted suitor hoards love letters.

From the grey gym bag he took to our restaurant rendezvous, he pulled a couple of hand-held flashlight strobes and a Panasonic Camcorder, all the better to contact and videotape aliens with. If he's successful, CNN has promised to air the results worldwide.

While he won't say exactly where

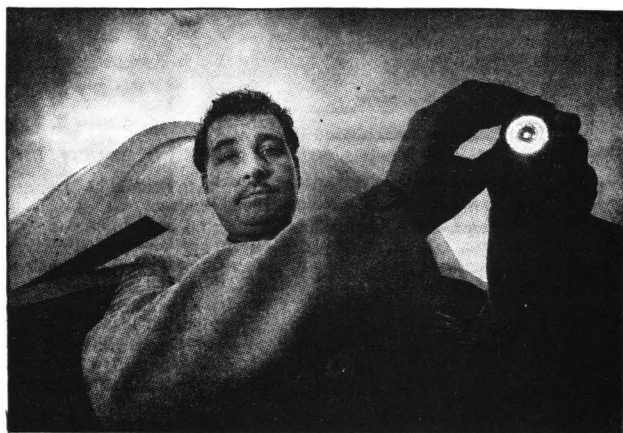
he plans his search for intelligent life in the atmosphere (the universe being a little beyond the strobe's reach), Goldfader admits, "We'll signal to draw in the craft. There's a few hot spots. I know where the landing — the supposed landing — sites are."

With the most recorded UFO sightings anywhere in Canada, B.C.'s Williams Lake and Hefley Creek are among the hottest of the hot spots. An area around the Great Lakes and near a Pickering, Ont. nuclear plant have also produced multiple sightings.

Goldfader's summer project may not be as far-fetched as it sounds. He and a core group of volunteers, along with similar groups in Belgium, England, Mexico and the U.S., all plan to pump computer-generated wave forms through a coil this summer, beaming the resultant "magnetic anomalies" into the heavens.

"Then we'll flash three strobe bursts until we get a response. When that happens, there's other protocols we'll follow. We're taking this seriously," he says.

Goldfader promises nearby house-



IAN LINDSAY/Vancouver Sun

USING FLASHLIGHT, magnets and a little luck, Lorne Goldfader hopes to shed more light on existence of UFOs.

holders' TVs and microwave ovens won't even hiccup.

So what do you say to a space alien? Besides Klaatu barada nikto, as Gort kept repeating in *The Day the Earth Stood Still*? The answer is, not much. Goldfader says alien species can probably sense our feelings.

So what's really going on up there?

"We may only see a little bit of it. It's like looking at the foot of a giant.

You don't see the giant."

Goldfader spends nearly half his income on his hobby, devoting 40 to 60 hours a week to it.

"Nowadays," he says, "people don't ridicule it as they used to. Most of them are very interested in the subject."

He says no one should fear the unknown: "If we're to fear anyone, it's our fellow human beings. Humans are the aliens, the way we treat this planet."

Witnesses seek answers to strange lights

Several local people witness unidentified flying objects during past month

by BORIS NIKOLOVSKY
Brighton Independent

Similar sightings of strange orange objects hovering over Lake Ontario during the past four weeks have been confirmed by separate witnesses.

All witnesses at first thought it was a plane or a flare from nearby CFB Trenton search and rescue exercises.

But the vividness, length, and circumstances of the sightings left them with an eerie curiosity begging for another explanation to what they saw.

In each case separate witnesses saw a bright orange object — commonly described as a light bulb in the sky — hovering near or on the lake with other bright objects moving at high speeds towards or together with it.

Witnesses reported no sounds of planes or helicopters, and sightings ranged from 15 to 25 minutes.

Bill Topham, a World War II air force veteran and former engineer, and his wife Eileen were driving on Hwy. 2 shortly after dusk from Cobourg, June 15, when they noticed a bright orange light moving east parallel with them. They followed as the light reappeared after passing through

Colborne.

"Either it was following us or we were following it," said Bill.

They then turned down Union Road.

With the light straight ahead of him, Bill and Eileen stopped the car and heard no sound, no planes, no helicopter. Being so close, they noticed a satellite object, a smaller orange light next to the hovering main object. They turned east on Lakeshore Road. This time, they were very close and could see two smaller lights adjacent to the main object. They saw a vapor trail emanating from the forward motion of the main light. They followed the lights — in all for about 15 minutes — into Presquile before the lights disappeared.

"We saw it and I'd like to know what it is," he said.

CFB Trenton has confirmed that search and rescue teams were out on June 15, and June 23.

On June 23 at about 11:30 pm, separate and unaware of Topham's sighting, Mary Shannon looked east out of her Main Street window. In the sky about 15 degrees above the horizon and over land, she saw a bright orange object hovering. Again, the object was a definite bright orange. For

about 15-20 minutes, Shannon watched as about 10 smaller bright objects moved intermittently from the western sky toward the main orange object. The smaller lights would disappear into the main light as they collided.

After the lights stopped coming, the main object faded into oblivion.

Capt. Pete Peterson, of CFB Trenton, said a vapour trail seen by Topham would be consistent with a search and rescue flare, some of which are as strong as 1 million candle power. Flares are dropped from planes and helicopters mostly over the lake and last about six minutes. Attached to a large parachute, he said, they may hover and are prone to winds. Although mostly white, fog, pollution, and perspective may give flares an orange color, he said. The lake, he said, was one of the busiest with search and rescue operations from CFB and the U.S. Coast Guard.

On the night the Tophams saw an object, winds were calm and skies were clear. A call he made to a CFB operation manager confirmed that two planes had been out that night, but no helicopters and no flares.

Another similar sighting by three people back in early May, had the characteristics

of the same orange lights.

Janice Morgan was at home on Hwy. 2 west of Colborne, when something caught her eye from the window overlooking the lake.

She looked away to the T.V., then out again but it was gone. A minute later, a bright orange object reappeared. Walter Leigh, who was also in the house, grabbed a pair of binoculars.

"There's definitely something out there," he said.

Janice, Walter and his wife watched the object hover while giving off a steady light for about 15 to 20 minutes. Out of the eastern sky, a smaller object moved with incredible speed and stopped just beside the main orange light. They hovered together for about 3 minutes, before the satellite object shot off in the same direction from which it came.

The main light "disappeared as if someone had turned off a switch," said Janice.

Ed Barker, a UFO researcher at the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, said that the sightings aren't unusual.

"I've been inundated with sightings in the past two months," he said from his office.

CR: M. Deschamps

CRAWLEY & DISTRICT OBSERVER, Sussex, England - May 5, 1993 CR: T. Good

MUM'S CLOSE ENCOUNTER!

'UFO in Ifield, claims Dianne

By Penny Randall

UFO experts believe a young mum had a Close Encounter of the Third Kind - in Ifield!

Dianne Munro, 33, spotted the object from the bedroom of her house in Warren Drive last Sunday night.



Sighting: Dianne Munro

The sighting comes just a week after a young couple said they were buzzed by a UFO on the A3 by Purford, near Dorking.

"I was looking out of my window and I saw a red light with a white glow in the centre," said Dianne.

"It was coming towards me, just skimming across the tree tops very slowly, when suddenly it flew up into the air very quickly."

Dianne believes the object was about 20 feet across. It was completely silent, and seemed to be looking for something.

"My first thought was that it was an aircraft, but they usually fly over my house east to west, and this was flying north to south."

Dianne added: "I used to laugh at the idea of UFOs, but now I'm not so sure."

Startling

Police have confirmed the Sussex Police Helicopter was nowhere near Ifield on Sunday night - and a Gatwick spokesman said nothing unusual had been reported by Air Control.

The Meteorological Office, who have a station at Pease Pottage, said no weather balloons, which are often mistaken for UFOs, had been released for some time.

Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena spokesman, Gordon Millington, said Dianne's sighting fits in with a cluster of reports from the nearby Pitch Hill area, which is near Dorking.

"Over the years we have had reports of a number of sightings in this area - some have been very startling indeed," he said.

Strange tale of the unidentified flying jellyfish

A MYSTERIOUS object seen in the skies over Taunton in November 1991 is one of several reported UFO sightings investigated in a newly published book.

The UFO was reportedly seen by Anne and Fred Hickox as it flew over the town early one morning before heading off towards the Quantocks via King's St Mary.

At the time, Mrs Hickox told the *County Gazette*: "We saw a round thing going across the sky with two 'legs' hanging out. There was a rectangular bit at the top and it was humming."

Mr Hickox said: "It was like a huge jellyfish. It just suddenly appeared from the direction of Taunton School."

The *Gazette* report of the sighting is reproduced in *Alien Update*, compiled by Timothy Good and published by Arrow, price £4.99.

The book looks at other reported UFO sightings all over the world, crop circles, the possibility that the US Government is in possession of extra-terrestrial vehicles and beings, and claims of contacts with aliens in Puerto Rico.

Earlier this month, Doug Cooper, manager of the County Walk shopping centre in Taunton, reported several claims of an early-hours UFO sighting between Snowdonia and Cornwall. Over 40 people have contacted him to say they also saw the 500ft wide, 200ft long UFO, said to have hovered over the ground before speeding off.

SOMERSET CO. GAZETTE, Taunton, England

April 30, 1993 CR: T. Good

UFOs lighting up skies across province

Brighton skies not alone for strange stellar sightings

by BORIS NIKOLOVSKY
Brighton Independent

A rash of unidentified flying object sightings in southern Ontario has left dozens of witnesses scratching their heads for answers and a UFO investigator swamped with intriguing cases.

"This is what we call a flood," said Victor Lourenco, provincial director of the Mutual UFO Network, a civilian based non-profit group.

"It's very unusual. We don't get these kinds of reports in such a quantity, in such a short period of time. It's too much of a coincidence," he said.

Over the past two weeks, dozens of witnesses in Newmarket, Keswick, Bradford, King City and Brighton were astonished to see strange lights in the skies.

"We try to explain it within a conventional scientific approach. If we can't, then it's a UFO. That doesn't mean, of course, that it's extraterrestrial, just unidentified."

— Victor Lourenco
Ontario director for MUFON

An Aurora lawyer, reported an orange light around the Newmarket area early Tuesday morning.

The object, also sighted near Orlitha, was circular in shape with a cross of lights spinning on its own axis. The woman watched the object hover for two hours. The object then climbed in altitude before it vanished.

"We try to explain it within a conventional scientific approach. If we can't, then it's a UFO. That doesn't mean,

of course, that it's extraterrestrial, just unidentified," said Lourenco.

Also during the past month near Brighton, at least three sightings over or near Lake Ontario have been seen by about a dozen people. All witnesses described an orange object like "a giant light bulb in the sky."

On June 15, retired engineer and World War II air force veteran, Bill Topham and his wife Eileen were driving along Hwy. 2 when they spotted a bright orange object over the lake.

"Either we were following it, or it was following us," he said. During the 15 minute chase, they noticed two satellite objects with the main light.

In early May, Janice Morgan, along with Walter and Joan Leigh, watched out of their Colborne home as a deep orange light hovered over Lake Ontario. Suddenly out of the eastern sky, another smaller orange light shot at incredible speed and stopped near the main light. They hovered together for about three minutes before the small light shot off.

The larger object vanished as if "someone flicked a switch," said Janice Morgan.

Witnesses at first thought the orange lights were flares from search and rescue missions from nearby CFB Trenton.

But no witnesses reported hearing sounds of planes or helicopters and sightings lasted up to 25 minutes. Flares typically last 6 minutes. In one case, a witness phoned an operations manager at CFB Trenton who confirmed two planes were out that night — but no helicopters and no flares.

In an interview two weeks ago, Capt. Pete Peterson, a spokesman for CFB Trenton, confirmed that search and rescue crews were out on June 15 and June 23, nights when two of the sightings took place.

Although flares burn mostly white, he said, fog, pollution and perspective may give them an orange color.

Lourenco said he doesn't have enough data to account for the sightings while pointing out that the sightings could be prototype aircraft or military exercises.

"We have to give CFB Trenton the benefit of the doubt and do a bit more research on that."

"In general they don't lie but it doesn't mean they're telling the whole thing," he said.

Other sightings since June 23 include:

- A fast moving light was reported near Bradford.
- A bluish yellow light moving slowly near King City.
- A Brighton resident looked out her window and watched for 25 minutes as about 10 smaller lights moved intermittently towards a bright orange object hovering, disappearing when they collided with it.

Lights in the Sky

Was it a flying saucer?

Unlike so many during the month of March, the night sky at 10pm on the 30th was almost cloud free, and whilst taking my dog for his final outing, my attention was drawn towards two extremely bright lights quite close together, some considerable distance away in the Western sky in the direction of Padstow.

At first they were motionless, one slightly higher than the other and larger than any other planets or stars in sight. They then commenced to move, travelling from West to East maintaining a uniform distance between them, suggesting they were from the same unit.

Any theory I may have had connecting them with the landing lights of an aircraft were soon dispelled as there were no signs of recognised aircraft port, starboard, and under belly flashing identification lights visible at any time.

As I watched, I strained my hearing for any engine noise, and whereas I thought I could discern a faint hum, the object had disappeared eastwards at considerable speed, before I could be absolutely sure. Before being lost to sight heading in the Camelford direction, I estimated I had been observing the lights for some 6 or 7 minutes.

Although I have had considerable night flying experience in the past that included many hours of

astra navigation, I can honestly say I have never before seen anything quite like the spectacle I have described.

I reported the matter to R.A.F. St. Mawgan who lost no time in giving me confirmation that to their knowledge, no scheduled aircraft were known to have been in the vicinity at that time, but Air Traffic Control had however received a telephone report of a similar sighting on the same night.

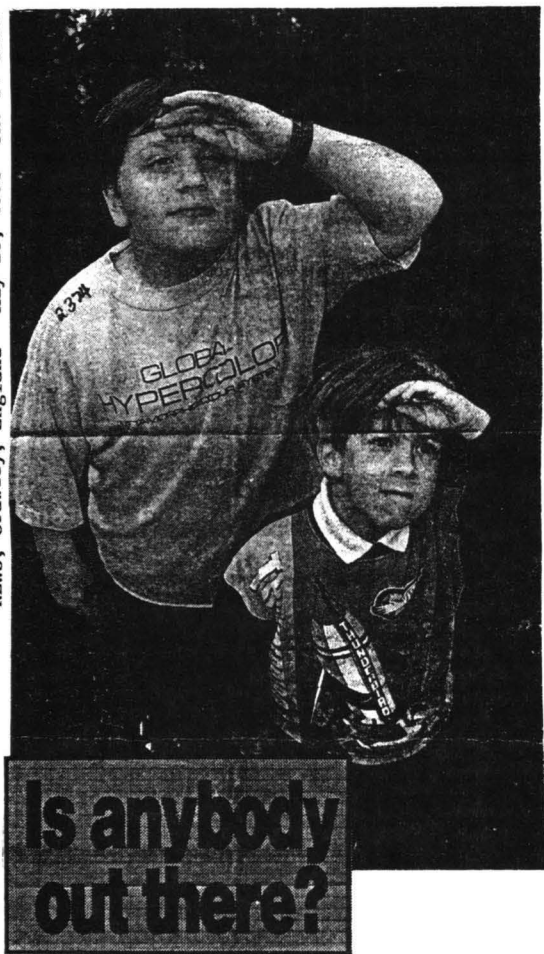
The Officer Commanding St. Mawgan saw fit to pass my letter on to the Ministry of Defence from whom I have since heard that many other people from Devon, Cornwall, South Wales and Shropshire had also reported seeing two bright lights on the same night. The Ministry were unable to say what we all saw beyond categorizing the sighting as U.F.O.

It is, perhaps, of additional interest to note that BBC TV South West included an item of these sightings in their evening 'Spotlight' programme on Thursday, 22nd April.

In the past, I can admit to have been somewhat sceptical about reports of people having seen Flying Saucers and other such things, but I am now quite satisfied that I witnessed something that night that was very unusual indeed.

Derek L. Johnson,
Phyme

NORTH CORNWALL ADVERTISER, England 1 May 2, 1993 CR: T. Good



Is anybody out there?

PUZZLED Crawley folk have reported more spooky UFO sightings above their homes.

Tyler Weeks, five, and his 10-year-old friend Rikki Hobson, couldn't believe their eyes when they spotted a strange flying object in the sky above their Southgate homes.

And although Tyler's mum Tina didn't believe their strange claims at first, as soon as she peered up into the sky there it was — a UFO.

Tyler and Rikki's strange sighting comes only weeks after Ifield mum Liane Munro spotted a mystery object over her house.

And then Simone Clark backed up her sighting and told of a similar experience some years ago.

And Derek Blyth saw some strange object above his West Green home the same day.

'Frisbee' in sky

Tina said she was in her house in Malthouse Road when the two lads said they'd seen some sort of flying frisbee in the sky, and when they carried on about it Tina looked up and saw it.

She said: "It was large and silver with a red glow in the middle. At first I thought it might be a foil balloon but it stayed in one position for a while and was flat underneath."

And at one point the trio thought it was coming towards them as the two boys waved at it.

Tina added: "We were all really excited about it. Why shouldn't there be other people out there somewhere?"

UFO expert Malcolm Terry said it was more than likely that the sightings reported in the last few weeks are genuine.

He said: "It is the beginning of the season for sightings where in some areas they are coinciding with crop circles."

"There isn't much activity during the winter months but from spring to October there are 50-70 per cent more sightings."

UFO fact file

ANTHONY James detailed three typical sightings of UFOs over Notts which have been reported to him since last summer.

■ June 1992: over Trowell, 4am. Saucer shaped light in sky about 100ft up.

■ February 10 1993: over Calverton, 5.45pm. Misty cloud with black "wings" or "spokes" emerging and retracting.

■ February 20 1993: over Calverton, 5.52am. Bright lights in sky, looked like firecrackers going off very close to observer, but no sound heard.

After numerous UFO sightings, Nick Baker asks what's going on in...

The sky at night

CONTROVERSY roars on about 'unidentified flying objects' and whether or not we have been visited by beings from another far-away world.

But according to a Nottinghamshire man these visits have already begun and Nottingham itself is an active area for UFO sightings.

Anthony James from Bulwell is the founder and leading member of the East Midlands Unidentified Flying Objects Research Association.

Set up in 1990 the group collect and investigate evidence from local people who claim they have witnessed a UFO. Anthony set up the group when he felt the books he was reading weren't telling the whole truth about alien encounters by local people and he is now actively committed to investigating and recording all Nottinghamshire sightings.

"I believe we are being visited by beings not of this Earth," says Anthony "and Nottinghamshire is an area where a

great deal of genuine sightings have been recorded." The last major UFO sighting in Nottingham was witnessed by thousands of local people last May when two giant triangular objects the size of football pitches travelled slowly over Calverton then into Derbyshire in the early evening.

Police and the Ministry of Defence later confirmed the crafts as 'alien'.

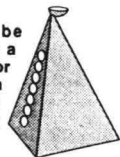
Anthony claims that Nottingham alone has over 100 sightings per year and although the majority turn out to be false there are still a significant number of genuine UFO recordings.

■ An artist's impression of a UFO apparently sighted above Calverton in May. Eye-witnesses claimed the object was the size of a football pitch

Anthony has had a number of articles published on the subject and hopes to produce his own book on UFOs in the East Midlands soon.

At the end of each year Anthony's association produces a case file with all the genuine sightings in or around Nottingham.

■ If you would be interested in obtaining a copy of the case file or have experienced a UFO yourself contact Anthony James on Nottingham 275623.



HERALD & POST, Nottingham, England

Feb. 25, 1993 CR: T. Good

FLYING SAUCER SIGHTED

IS it a bird? Is it a plane? No, but it could have been a UFO according to one Crawley mum.

For Diane Munro has spotted a strange object in the skies above her Ifield home.

The mother-of-two was looking out of the bedroom window of her house in Warren Drive, on Sunday night when she saw a peculiar glow.

She said: "I saw a big white light with a red glow

in the middle. At first I thought it could be a big star of a plane coming into land but they don't normally fly over here."

Diane then watched the object shoot up into the air then fly off out of sight at high speed.

She added: "I'm not positive it was a UFO but I was quite excited and would like to believe there is something out there."

"But my five-year-old thinks I'm stupid and my nine-year-old thinks if he hasn't seen it, it can't

exist."

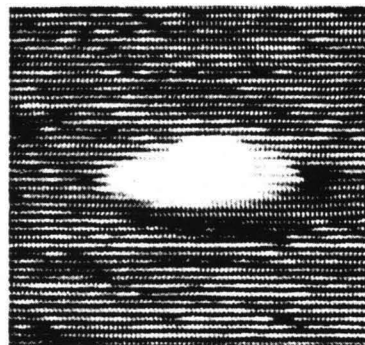
Norman Hatt of the Redhill and Reigate Research Phenomena Group said: "It can be difficult in this area because we are so near the airport."

"But when we look at things in full there is very often a reason behind what

we see, and sometimes we think we see something which isn't really there." And Diane added: "I was always very sceptical about UFOs but now when I look out last thing at night, I always check to see if there is something up there."

TOTTENHAM & WOOD GREEN JOURNAL, England - May 20, 1993

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? NO...it's a UFO!



CR: T. Good

UFOs are being sighted once more, and they seem to be making for Ally Pally - again!

The latest flying saucer was reported to Janice Georgiou, editor of The UFO Witness, a magazine for people who have had experiences of unidentified flying objects and other supernatural phenomena.

The Hornsey mother-of-eight, of Nightingale Lane, who has a wealth of strange experiences to her credit, was told of this new Unidentified Flying Object sighting by her son-in-law, Alan, who lives in Palmers Green.

Says Janice: "Alan doesn't believe in UFOs - so sceptics can't say that he is over suggestible. But I must say that after seeing this evidence with

By MARGARET SMITH

his own eyes his disbelief is a trifle shaken!"

As soon as Alan saw the strange object, he grabbed his camcorder and recorded its flight through the night sky. The film showed a luminous object, in the shape of a flying saucer, moving through the sky.

Janice checked with a ufologist from BUFORA, the British UFO Research Association, and he says that there were no air balloons, airships or aeroplanes in that part of the sky on that night.

Janice has had sightings before. Both times, the UFOs were in the vicinity of Ally Pally - once over the palace, and once over the old racecourse.

Belgian Researchers Plan UFO Spotter

BRUSSELS (AFP-Jiji)—Belgian researchers are planning a UFO-busting operation—a mobile van loaded with high technology that would race around the European Community investigating sightings of unidentified flying objects.

The plan, which has its origins in successive waves of UFO sightings in Belgium in 1989 and 1990, was disclosed here Tuesday by Brussels academic and UFO researcher Leon Brenig.

The plan is almost ready to be submitted to the European Parliament, after which the European Community's executive European Commission will be asked to help pay for the project.

THE YOMIURI, Tokyo, Japan
March 4, 1993
CR: Y. Matsumura

PRESS, Christchurch, New Zealand - Feb. 9, 1993

Mysterious furrows appear in Ranfurly fields

PA
UFO landing sites, moa mating circles or fairy rings? Locals in Ranfurly are at a loss to explain strange circles, up to 15 metres in diameter, which have appeared in their district over the last three weeks.

While the rest of New Zealand struggles to cope with the possible re-emergence of the extinct moa, the Ranfurly community now has its own mystery to deal

with, and so far the answers are not forthcoming.

Those who have viewed the circles in the dry and barren Maniototo landscape from land and air described the phenomenon as weird.

Lying on the southern face of a hill between Ranfurly and Wedderburn, the circles range from five to 15 metres in diameter and are visible from State highway 85.

While some appear to form a pattern with symbolic meaning in their proximity to each other, others seem to have drifted aimlessly across the hillside before touching down.

The entire community was awash with talk about the circles, according to a local publican, Mr David Weyer. So far the best explanation had been the UFO landing site, although he hastened to add that no

spacecraft had been seen in the area - not yet anyway.

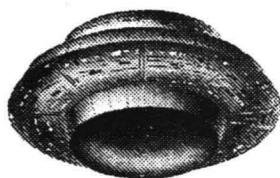
Other explanations have included moa grazing rings, or circles formed by the birds stomping around during their mating ritual.

The owner of the property concerned, Mr Bill Carson, said the circles had appeared in an area which he had planted out in trees about four years ago. The circles only slightly resembled

mushroom rings, but, strangely enough, he cannot recall mushrooms ever growing there.

The lines show a strong growth of exotic grasses - evidence, maybe, of sophisticated soil fertility techniques from outer space.

Scientists could not be reached for comment last night but indications are they are likely to dampen fertile imaginations with the mushroom ring theory.



UFO seen from Kaikohe

An unidentified flying object has been reported from Kaikohe following an earlier report of a UFO sighting in Hokianga.

A group of three men at a house on Purdy Street, Kaikohe, watched in amazement while an orange disc moved across the sky at great speed about 10 p.m. on Friday.

Christian Kaio, Robert Walters and Mark Tito, all of Kaikohe, said they watched the disc for about five minutes.

Mr Walters said: "It was a pretty strange sensation watching the object 'blinking' and moving rapidly across the sky."

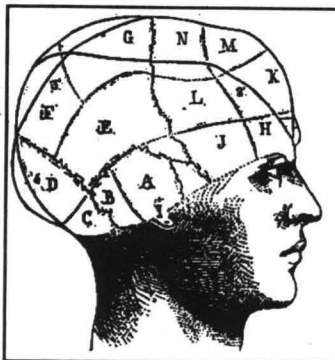
"It wasn't a satellite, I know what they look like, I have used a telescope before."

"After about five minutes the orange disc just faded away."

Fred Toi and Dave Dawson saw a similar "orange light" in the sky last Thursday.

DAILY NEWS, Nelson, B.C., Canada - March 5, 1993

Are UFO's crushing prairie porcupines ?



Report from the Fringes

**By John Betts
Gumshoe of the Improbable**

In the last Report From the Fringes we told the story of a Saskatchewan farmer who watched five flying saucers rise out of a grain crop leaving behind a set of crop circles or "saucer nests" as they became known. Is there a connection between what this farmer saw and what two other farmers say they found in their fields recently?

Crop circle investigations in Canada have revealed a new twist to the phenomenon. Dead, crushed and strangely desiccated porcupines have been found in two crop formations on the Canadian prairies.

The first to be reported to investigators was found last August near Milestone, Sask. by Joe Rennick, a farmer. He noticed a 60 foot-long by 20 foot-wide irregular depression in his field of ripe wheat that "looked like something big had bounced a couple of times across the crop."

Inside the depression the three and a half foot tall wheat was flattened and swirled in three foot-wide spirals. Rennick noticed that within the formation the normally soft prairie "gumbo" soil was rock hard. He could also see how the seed heads and stalks of the plants had been pressed down leaving their impressions in the hardened soil. On top of the bent over wheat was a dead, flat porcupine.

"The porcupine was flattened about two inches thick with all four legs sticking out at 45 degrees," said Rennick. Scattered around the carcass on the wheat stalks were little balls of clay mixed with the animals broken quills. Twenty feet away near the edge of the formation was a

"skid mark" in the soil where a number of quills had been knocked out. They were all oriented in the same direction as the swirled crop.

North American porcupines grow to about two feet long and can stand about a foot high. "We usually only notice them at night in the trees around the fields," says Rennick.

The farmer said there was no blood around the animal he found or tears to its flesh. Other than being only two inches thick the porcupine seemed undamaged. Rennick left it in the field for three weeks and said the animal hardly decomposed in spite of the heat. He eventually threw the animal away.

Crop circle investigators in Canada are few and far between and by the time Chad Deetkin of the Pacific Research Center in Vancouver arrived the carcass was lost. Examining the site Deetkin concluded the porcupine was caught by whatever force formed the circle dragging it into the center. It was the first incident of death in a crop circle he had heard of. He theorized it was the animal's natural defense that did it in.

"Most animals will fly or scurry away if there is a threat. But a porcupine stays put, relying on its sharp quills for defense," said Deetkin, explaining why no other species had been found dead in a crop circle.

Deetkin's theory was partly supported when another farmer came forward and described a dead porcupine he had found four years earlier.

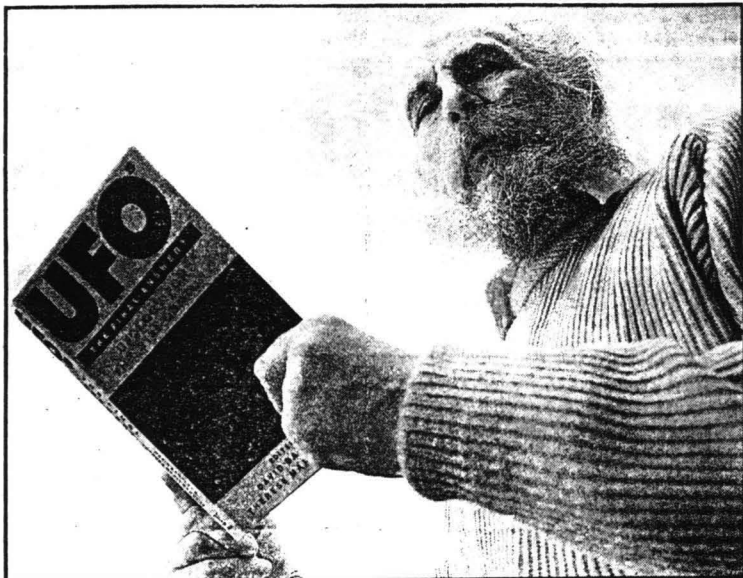
"I've seen decomposing animals before," said Don Hagel, of Estavan Saskatchewan, "but this was not normal. The skin and quills and bones were all there but nothing else. No insides. It looked like it has been cooked, sort of, from the inside out."

Hagel's strangely deflated porcupine appeared unburned but covered in a charred black dust. There was an ash-like covering around it.

A little unnerved, Hagel called the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who performed an autopsy on the remains. They couldn't conclude what had happened to the porcupine although they didn't think it had been cooked. The Mounties figured the porcupine was the victim of some sort of satanist activity.

Hagel said he never saw any footprints in the crop circle that would indicate any ritual had taken place. He also doesn't think there are any satanists in his rural farm community and if there are he says he can't understand why they would walk three quarters of a mile into a wheatfield to scorch out the insides of a porcupine.

"You'd think they would sacrifice animals like chickens. They're easier to catch and they don't have those quills."



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS... David Barclay believes Bradford is a UFO hunter's dream

City 'top spot for UFO tourists'

AUTHOR David Barclay believes Bradford now has a new claim to fame on the tourist map — as a hotbed for unidentified flying objects.

He is certain the spaceship-like objects — probably manned by ET-type creatures — often hover above the city and surrounding moorland.

His latest book, due to be published next month, contains stories of strange sightings in the Bradford area — although the people involved remain anonymous because, he says, they fear they will be laughed at.

Three people describe how they were followed by a lighted object in Dockfield Road, Shipley. The book contains a story about someone who seems to have been beamed aboard a spaceship on Ilkley Moor and a couple tell how they were followed as they drove from Keighley to Bradford by an object which hovered above their home in Low Moor.

Mr Barclay, 56, of Prospect Walk, Shipley, gave up his sales job to study UFOs full time. He said: "Bradford does seem to be a hotbed for UFOs, possibly because of its ancient connections, and I think the council's tourist department could cash in on it. I had a big response when I started researching for the book but people always want to be anonymous because they think they will be laughed at."

He does not think the little green men involved come from Mars. "They might be dinosaurs which evolved and went off into space. They do look a bit like them."

The book — UFOs, The Final Answer? — has been compiled by Mr Barclay and his daughter Theresa, a university student. It contains interviews with spotters, contributions from other UFOlogists and scientific data and will be sold in Britain, America and possibly Australia.

Mr Barclay hopes to start work on another book soon and wants anyone who has seen a UFO and can help with material to contact him on Bradford 588335.

A spokesman from Bradford Council's Economic development unit said the idea of using UFOs to attract tourists was interesting.

Huge object first seen by police Reports flood in of UFO over region

POLICE reports have triggered an investigation into a huge catamaran-shaped UFO with lights which appeared over the Westcountry.

Most of nearly 40 sightings reported so far from Gwent to Somerset and Devon were from police officers who claim to have seen a similar object in the sky at about 1.10am on March 30.

Devon UFO investigator Doug Cooper, 56, a retired Royal Engineers Warrant Officer who is collecting the information, said yesterday: "For the first time in a long career I have tangible proof that something extraordinary passed across the country."

"Had I not got police witness reports of the object being very close to them I would have dismissed it as being a natural phenomenon or space debris coming through the atmosphere."

"But people over a large area are saying something similar came in high and fast at the same time."

Mr Cooper, a shopping centre manager at Taunton, is an investigator with the British UFO Association and founder of the Devon UFO Research Association.

He has been interested in the subject for 40 years and investigating seriously for four years.

Police in Devon have an arrangement to tell him of unusual sightings, and since the UFO appeared he has also received reports from other nightworkers.

"I had a call right from the beginning and when I contacted the police control at Exeter they said the reports were coming in fast and furious," he said.

"It crossed South Wales, where police officers watched it cross the Bristol Channel."

Stationary

"A sergeant and constable at Lynton said it went over their heads at about 1,000 feet and described it as huge because of the distance between its two lights."

"It was then seen by police officers in the Liskeard area, one of whom said it was stationary for a few seconds before it traversed across to East Devon and Somerset."

"A man near the Dorset border felt it was going to land because it disappeared behind a hill."

"It was also seen near Minehead by a man back from holiday driving home from Bristol Airport."

"Finally, several elver fishermen on the River Parrett described an enormous black object, shaped like a catamaran, near St Ives."

Several sightings said the UFO was about 500 feet wide and 200 feet long, silent, and putting out beams of light. At times it hovered, then moved very fast and disappeared through clouds at 10,000 feet.

A Devon and Cornwall police spokeswoman said: "We had quite a few calls about the UFO coming into the information room and the sightings were apparently quite widespread."

One observer, Sgt Dave Ledger, of Exeter police, said: "I was with a couple of colleagues when one of them drew my attention to the object as it went overhead."

"I saw two dots of light with vapour trails coming from them. I thought it was an aircraft and waited for the sound of a jet engine but it was dead quiet."

"If I had been alone I would have reported it, but I contacted our information room which checked with Exeter Airport and they said there was nothing in the area. It's a strange one."

The MoD, which monitors sightings, said it had received no reports of UFOs early on March 30.

CR: T. Good

May 6, 1993 CR: T. Good

Woman sees 'second UFO'

An Ashbourne woman who claims to have seen a UFO in the sky over Ednaston last December has reported seeing another in a 'carbon copy' incident.

The woman, who does not want to be named, claims she saw the strange craft on Monday night last week while travelling between Derby and Ashbourne at 9.45pm.

"It was in exactly the same place, at the same time and it looked the same," she said. "It was a complete carbon copy of the other sighting."

The UFO was strangely lit up and moved too fast to be either a helicopter or plane. It also made no noise.

The woman now thinks that little green men may be after her because she knows too much. "I have got visions of coming home and finding aliens there saying 'You have seen us twice so we have come to take you away,'" she joked.

Spaced out Jonathan

★ HEAVENS above! Chat show host Jonathan Ross has seen a flying saucer.

The normally down-to-earth telly star has kept the experience quiet for years. Until now.

He confided his schoolboy sighting to guests he was interviewing for his new ITV series, *Fantastic Facts*.

One of his guests on the show, Philip Mantle, of the British UFO Research Organisation, said: "He was really great with us. We are used to people taking the mickey about UFOs but Jonathan took the subject very seriously."

"I was stunned when he admitted that he had seen something strange in the sky some years ago."

Elsie Oakensen, another guest in the show dedicated to UFO sightings, said: "Jonathan was wonderful. He told me that as a young man he had seen strange lights and objects in the sky."

"It was an experience he would never forget."

CR: T. Good

Genette Tate: 'large cat' theory 'highly unlikely' but what of UFOs?

THE theory that Genette Tate could have been taken by a "Large Cat" - Journal, April 23 - is highly unlikely.

The immediate area, and indeed miles around, were subjected to a thorough search not only by the police, with dogs, but also by thousands of volunteers.

The area around Aylesbeare is surrounded by main roads, which would have to be crossed on a busy August weekend; not only were there no sightings of such a "Beast" reported - and it would have to be the size of a Lion - but no clothes were found.

Although perhaps equally as improbable, the other possible angle of investigation mentioned by the press officer at police headquarters, cannot be dismissed so easily - UFO taking Genette.

A few weeks ago, a number of police officers in the South West reported a large "Catamaran-shaped UFO with lights which appeared over the Westcountry. Now these officers are trained in observation, and their accounts of the object must be accepted, after all, if they witnessed a crime their evidence would be accepted by a court of law without question.

In the weeks prior to Genette's disappearance, newspapers carried reports that UFOs were seen almost every day over Mid Devon, one man reported being "lifted up" by a round object, so many reports were received that a newspaper produced a photograph on the front page of an object seen in the sky over Exeter.

The paper with that photograph was the very one that Genette was delivering.

John C Harding, "Gimbles", 25 Withycombe Park Drive, Exmouth.

UFO shocks Chinese airline crew

BEIJING, Sat. (Rtr)

AN Unidentified Flying Object appeared suddenly over China's far west region of Xinjiang, startling the crew of a passenger plane, the official *Workers' Daily* said on its issue today.

As the crew of Xinjiang Airlines flight 9304 was flying into Urumqi from the southern city of Shenzhen on the night of July 1, they saw an object brighter than a star hurtling towards them, the newspaper said.

The object, which first appeared as a point of light, grew into a shining ball, with light fanning out at the back.

The Chinese paper said it zoomed about 3,000 metres (9,800 feet) above the Soviet-made plane, which was flying at 11,000 metres (36,000 feet), and cast a bright beam of light into the crew cabin, making it as bright as day.

The crew took the plane down to about 7,000 metres (23,000 feet) and the object finally disappeared, the *Workers' Daily* said.

The plane landed safely, the paper said.

The paper further added that throughout the incident the crew remained in touch with air traffic controllers, who said the skies were supposed to be clear.

China's state-run press has recently mentioned several sightings of strange objects in the sky.

While official enquiries are sometimes promised, their results are not announced.

CR: C. Hart



NEWS-VIRGINIAN, Waynesboro, VA - July 13, 1993



In-Depth Study

Self-published writer Rick Berry of Stuarts Draft has been studying Bigfoot for 15 to 17 years. He sells his books "Bigfoot on the East Coast" and "The Easy and Inexpensive Art of Self-Publishing" at phenomena symposiums. Berry holds a picture of a frame from the film of a Bigfoot taken by Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin in October of 1967 at Bluff Creek, Calif. (N-V Photo by John Ward)

Stuarts Draft Author Chases Down Bigfoot Sightings in East

By JOHN WARD
N-V Staff Writer

STUARTS DRAFT — Myth, legend or a reality?

Does Bigfoot exist, and if so, does he exist on the East Coast?

Writer Rick Berry of Stuarts Draft has been studying Bigfoot and other phenomena for the past 15 to 17 years and firmly believes that Bigfoot does exist. He has self-published a book on his findings that lists over 1,000 sightings of the creature in the East.

Berry was born in Waynesboro, went to Stuarts Draft High

School and recently got out of the military, which he entered in 1985.

He sells his book, titled "Bigfoot on the East Coast," at phenomena symposiums.

"Bigfoot is an unidentified animal," Berry said. "You know that mountain lions exist, but how often do you see one? It's just that scientists have never

gotten a Bigfoot."

Berry has collected many things over the years, including hair samples that he said scientists have been unable to identify and plaster casts of footprints.

He has one film, which was taken by Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin at Bluff Creek, Calif., on Oct. 20, 1967. Berry said he feels this is the only legitimate film taken of a Bigfoot.

"There are sightings of the creature every month in one state or another," Berry said.

According to Berry, there was one sighting off U.S. 211 10 miles from New Market on Labor Day weekend of 1991.

"The most recent sighting was in Hamlin, West Virginia," Berry said. "The creature was sighted by four different people two weeks ago."

Berry said he has also heard of sightings that took place last month in Pennsylvania and Vermont.

"There are actually more reports of sightings on the East Coast than there are in the West," Berry said. "That's because the East is more heavily populated."

Berry said he has been interested in phenomena ever since the early 1970s when a friend, Jeff Huffman, got him interested in the Sasquatch, or Bigfoot as it has come to be called.

Berry plans to give presentations on his findings all along the East Coast at symposiums and libraries. He recently returned from a symposium which takes place annually in Richmond called Mufon.

Berry has also self-published a small book on self-publishing called "The Easy and Inexpensive Art of Self-Publishing."

He plans to work on book about a ghost at Fairfax Hall, and he wants to do research on UFO crash retrieval.

Anyone interested in more information about the East Coast Bigfoot can write to Rick Berry at P.O. Box 106, Stuarts Draft, Va. 24477.

Mutilation of pets rattles neighborhood



BOB ST. JOHN

When Debbie Mason got up early on the morning of the first Sunday in June to feed her three cats, 5-year-old Weasel wasn't in the back yard. That's odd, she thought, but figured Weasel was just sleeping in the bushes and would soon make an appearance.

She checked again later. Weasel still wasn't there so she told her husband, Bob, of her concern and he got on his bike and began searching their northwest Plano neighborhood around Spring Creek Parkway and Mission Ridge Road. Just before noon he saw something in a vacant lot on Ashington Lane between the Montessori School and a row of houses. What he found made him sick. Their cat's head had been cut off and was found some 25 feet away from the body. And its liver and heart also had been cut out. Officers from the Plano Police Department also found blood stains in the driveway of the Masons' back yard, speculation being the cat had been struck with a blunt instrument and carried off.

"It just broke my heart," said Debbie. "And a lot of animals are missing out here and people are concerned."

In recent months a number of other animals have disappeared in the adjoining Spring Creek-Forest Creek sections, a nice area which began to blossom in the early 1980s and actually is separated by a creek.

Informing residents

Alan Joyce, president of the Spring Creek Parkway Homeowners Association, has sent a flier to the residents, apprising them of the situation, warning them to keep a closer eye on their pets and to call the police if they see any suspicious people in the neighborhood.

In fact, a couple of months ago Mr. Joyce discovered someone had burned his dog's tongue out while the animal was in the back yard. "It was strange," he said. "We couldn't figure out what happened. The dog died about a week later."

Some in the area believe the situation is cult-related. "We're just not sure what, if anything, is going on," said Mr. Joyce. "We certainly don't want to alarm anybody but, well, we also want them to be aware of what's happening."

Officer Carl Duke, a spokesman for the Plano Police Department, said situations where animals have been mutilated are always investigated but explained that there still were some coyotes in the area and added: "We really haven't found enough to think that a satanic group is operating around here. There have been occurrences, but at this time we believed they're isolated incidents."

Heide Frankel isn't sure what to think, although her cat disappeared in early October and was never found. "The police say these are isolated cases, but there are signs that might make you think otherwise."

Tim Danby finds himself often thinking otherwise. He had an 11-year old Siberian husky named Smoky. His dog had gotten out of the back gate before, so he reinforced the gate by wedging three heavy wooden pallets against it. On the first Sunday in May, he went to feed the dog and found the pallets had been removed from the gate and Smoky was missing. In the back yard he found a plastic tag that was on the dog's collar and a wrapper for frozen chicken. He showed me the wrapper, which was from American Poultry International and had the words, "slaughtered according to Islamic law."

Investigation

He told me there was some odd graffiti painted inside a culvert not far from his home. We went there early Wednesday afternoon and walked about a block inside the round, concrete structure at a creek bottom. Graffiti was scribbled all over the inside. Most of it was fairly typical with names and initials and the usual profanity. But there was also a crudely drawn picture of a dog and something that looked a little like a dragon, dripping blood from its mouth. Deep in the culvert the words "This way to hell" were written several times and there was scribbled praise for David Koresh. Officer Duke said the police had looked at the area but didn't feel it was cult-related.

"I'm not blaming sinister forces for every lost pet but I have determined that most of the incidents occur the last weekend before a full moon and I think people around here should be especially careful about their animals at that time," said Mr. Duke.

When I went to the neighborhood on Friday there was a sign on a telephone pole about a lost dog. On Wednesday, there was a sign about another lost dog.

WALL STREET JOURNAL, Princeton, NJ - Oct. 21, 1992

We Don't Mean to Give Any Ideas To People Living on the Potomac

By CYNTHIA OWENS

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

VIENTIANE, Laos — Scotland has Nessie, Tibet has the Abominable Snowman, and now Laos has a five-headed dragon in the Mekong River.

Though photographic evidence of the beast is lacking, many residents of Laos' riverside capital insist that he — all agree he's a he — has shown his five faces several times in recent months. As the mostly secondhand accounts go, the mottled green, brown and yellow reptile breathes no fire, measures 15 feet from head to tail, sees through five pairs of shiny black eyes and finds children most appetizing.

Some take the dragon as an omen that something is rotten in Laos — a sign, perhaps, of a government shake-up. Residents say it's no coincidence that some of the country's most esteemed Buddhist monks awoke one recent morning to find a tree near their temple that for years had leaned across the swirling waters of the Mekong suddenly standing upright.

Laotians are as superstitious as any other people — they consider certain days best for moving, others favorable for opening a business and still others propitious for harvesting crops — but they aren't any more naive than the rest. "People don't

really believe [superstitions], but they don't want to take any chances," says Banpong, a 32-year-old Vientiane merchant. Still, like many others interviewed for this article, he asked that his full name not be used in a story about the dragon, just in case he would be tempting fate.

Perhaps because of such fears, few people acknowledge seeing the dragon themselves; most sightings are attributed to a friend of a friend of an uncle, or a cousin's schoolmate.

Panpong, a 44-year-old farmer, says he and his friends haven't had any luck since they began nightly gatherings on the river-side. But, he insists, "If you watch every night, you will see him."

Some who aren't persuaded say the dragon-spotters may indeed be seeing something — most likely a type of catfish that grows to as much as 10 feet long and is widely considered a delicacy by people who live along the Mekong. This year, these skeptics say, drought has lowered the river enough to bring these normally deep-dwelling fish to the surface.

As for the dragon's implications for the government, a spokesman for the Ministry of Information says with a smile: "Oh no, we have no dragon."

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
July 20, 1993 CR: G. Conway

Young foal latest victim of attacks on animals

BRADFORD, England — A five-week-old foal found mutilated in a field in northern England has become one of the latest victims of a wave of brutal attacks on horses in Britain.

The carcass of the young Shetland pony called Pandora was found Sunday after a weekend of assaults in which two other horses, both mares, were stabbed in the hindquarters.

Police are investigating more than 30 sexual attacks on horses in the past two years.

'Bigfoot' tales from the North

I've never seen a giant upright hairy creature. Does that mean such a critter doesn't exist?

That's the interesting question left after I'd finished reading a new book published by North Country Books. I read most of it in the South Country, on a beach of the Atlantic Ocean. That made the experience more unreal than it was meant to be.

The book's "Monsters of the Northwoods" by Paul and Robert Bartholomew, William Brann and Bruce Hallenbeck. The authors are amateur historians and journalists who live in the northeast part of the state.

They bring the Sasquatch, "Big Foot" phenomenon to Upstate New York and Vermont. One hundred-forty sightings or interesting experiences are listed, from before the time of written history to April 1991, when Katherine Kaifer reported seeing a "Bigfoot creature"

The evidence for the species existence and ongoing reproduction — if not guaranteed survival — in this area of North America is impressive in its historical depth and the numerous incidents in the 1970s and 1980s," he said.

THE AUTHORS begin by admitting most of us will have a hard time believing, "Bigfoot lurks in remote areas of New York and Vermont." They're right about that.

Why aren't there fossils? they ask. Or bodies, bones, something? How could a man-beast live so close and elude capture, even on a decent prime-time-quality video?

Yet how do you explain the huge footprints, seen and documented? The book has pictures of several and descriptions of many more. And what about the sightings by "seemingly sane, upstanding citizens and law officers?"

Their aim, spread out in Chapter 1, is to analyze the evidence and possibilities objectively. By the end of the book, we are asked to consider the notion the critters may have dropped off of UFOs.

Then been whisked away, bones and all?

LEGENDS of a man-beast are found in most North American Indian tribes, according to the book. This is true. The Iroquois version of the legend described cannibalistic stone giants. The Algonquin had Windigo, a great cannibal of a man that ate human flesh, mushrooms and swamp moss. It made an eerie hissing sound.

MODERN REPORTS published in the book include scary noises, too. Some of these vocalizations resemble "two enormous monkeys trying to converse with each other."

The earliest account of creatures in our region by a white man came from Samuel de Champlain, who wrote of his first visit to America in 1603 that the natives mentioned a giant, hairy, human-like beast called "Gougou."

Samuel got into trouble with established historians when he returned to France because he wrote in his journal of a dreadful monster on an island of the St. Lawrence River.

WE LEARN THAT Revolutionary War Rogers Rangers ran into a large black bear that threw nuts and pine cones from trees in northern Vermont.

Is it a bear we confuse with Bigfoot? After all, experts believe that was the severed head of a bear that passed for a dead Bigfoot at Lewiston, in Western New York, in the late 1970s.

No, the authors contend. The creature seen by their informants walked upright, on two feet. And the feet themselves, captured in plaster and on film, are elongated, with toes, not bear claws.

One of the earliest known newspaper accounts of a northeastern man-beast was published in New Hampshire in 1808. The dateline was our own Sackett's Harbor, the locale Ellisburgh, south of Watertown near Lake Ontario.

"Report says that in the vicinity of Ellisburgh was seen on the 30th by a gentleman of unquestionable veracity an animal resembling the Wild Man of the Woods.

"It is stated that he came from the woods within a few yards of the gentleman, that he stood and looked at him and then took his flight in a direction which gave him a perfect view of him for some time.

"He is described as bending forward when running, hairy and the heel of his foot narrow, spreading at the toes. Hundreds of persons have been in pursuit for several days but nothing further is seen or heard of him."

Years later, the sighting was right in Watertown:

"1975, Watertown. Five-foot creature 'swinging its arms' seen by Steve Rich, Jerry Emerson and another boy 'just walking' on State Street Hill." A year later, according to the authors, two boys claimed to have glimpsed an 8-foot Bigfoot covered with black hair near the Jefferson County city. Fifteen-inch tracks were found nearby.

No. 99 in the case summaries happened about Aug. 1, 1983, at Dexter, west of Watertown:

"Seven-foot creature seen by resident near hardware store."



ARTIST'S RENDITION of Bigfoot from eyewitness accounts appears in the new book.

I CALLED Don Hughto, a Dexter native who recently retired from cutting people's hair in a little shop next to Perch River. Did he remember the visitor of the summer of '83?

Don laughed. A what? Well, some folks would call it Bigfoot. He laughed again. In Dexter? Yes.

He hadn't heard of the creature, although he knew the hardware store, at the eastern edge of town. It's not a store anymore. Friends Don asked came up blank, too.

"You got me," he explained. "If it was a joke, it's probably been forgotten."

The last chapter of the book's called "What Is It?" I won't spoil the fun by explaining the authors' conclusion, except to say it jumps back to the suggestion for reasoned consideration of the evidence offered in Chapter 1. Sixteen possibilities are discussed, including hallucinations, demonic manifestations and extra-terrestrials.

Warren Cook, the academic who wrote the foreword, is quoted as believing the evidence points to a survivor of the man-like being that lived in Africa half a million years ago, "Australopithecus."

I DECIDED to run this by my friend Ray Fadden, who lives north of Saranac Lake and knows almost everything there is to know about wild creatures of the Adirondacks. This is because many of them come to "Ray's Restaurant" near Onchiota to eat goodies he spreads in the yard.

No, Ray replied, he'd never seen anything upright and hairy in his woods, except hunters violating the trespassing signs. Bears, yes; Bigfoot, no.

"My old friend Ernie Bennett told me about an experience he had in the Northwest. He followed this big set of tracks along a trail to the edge of a rocky cliff. Then they disappeared. I don't know about it, but Ernie never lied."

("Monsters of the Northwoods" by Paul and Robert Bartholomew, William Brann, Bruce Hallenbeck is available from North Country Books, 18 Irving Place, Utica 13501.)

EVENING POST, Wellington, New Zealand - June 25, 1993

New sighting of Nessie

LONDON, June 24. — A young Scottish couple claimed to have spotted the legendary Loch Ness monster, a mysterious creature said to live in the murky depths of a Scottish lake.

Edna McInnes, 25, said she and her boyfriend watched the creature, nicknamed Nessie, for 10 minutes before it dived back into the depths.

"Suddenly I saw this giraffe-like head and neck rise from the water — it was only 20 feet from the shore but along the coast a wee bit from us," she said today.

"We watched it swim over. It hovered. Its head was moving back and forward, its neck was moving up and down. It was a very light-colored brown. You could see it very clearly."

Since the 1930s, thousands of people have claimed to have seen Nessie and each year around 500,000 tourists flock to the loch hoping to catch a glimpse. Some have tried to take photographs of Nessie, but under scrutiny most of the pictures turned out to be of boats, tree branches or, in one case, a dead horse.

"I'll swear on my life and on that of my son that there is a living creature at least 25 feet (7.6m) long there in Loch Ness," said McInnes who ran along the shore following the monster. When she returned with a camera, Nessie was gone. — Reuter

Lake Erie creature resurfaces

BY DONALD D. CARR
BLADE STATE EDITOR

HURON, O. — Jurassic Park isn't the only place prehistoric monsters are being brought to life.

Three Lake Erie boaters, in two separate incidents, swear they have spotted what is commonly referred to as the "Lake Erie monster," which periodically rears its ugly head off the shore anywhere from Maumee Bay to Huron in Huron County.

Sightings of the sea creature, which have taken on a legend similar to that of the Loch Ness Monster in Scotland, have been reported since at least the mid 1980s.

And now it's back.

"I know what I saw," said John Liles, a Huron charter boat captain. "The thing is huge. I didn't see the head — just the tail flopping in the water toward the end of it."

He and his wife, Holly, said they saw a snake-like creature about two miles from Kelleys Island shortly after 4 p.m. Monday while aboard their 52-foot charter boat. Mr. Liles, who is on the lake seven days a week, added that he would sign an affidavit swearing he saw the creature.

Mrs. Liles described the serpent in great detail, explaining that it moved in an up-and-down motion rather than side to side like a snake. She said it was black or dark brown, as big around as a human being, and humped its body about a foot and a half above the water.

"The motion was so unique," she said. "It's quick. It seems powerful. I don't think we saw the whole thing, and that's what's spooky about it."

From 175 to 200 feet away, they estimated the length of what they saw to be 15 to 25 feet.

"I believe now," Mrs. Liles said. "There's something out there."

In a separate incident about 5 to 10 miles away, a local fisherman said he saw a serpent measuring between 30 and 40 feet July 3.

In both instances, much like the reports in past years, the witnesses said they initially thought what they were looking at was a log.

The legend of the serpent has led 10 area businesses to pledge a reward of \$102,700 in cash and prizes. Tom Solberg, an owner of the Huron Lagoons Marina, said more than half of the reward is cash.

"It has to be delivered alive and unharmed," Mr. Solberg said.

Other requirements for the reward are that the monster be at least nine meters long (about 30 feet), weigh at least 1,000 pounds, and be an unidentified aquatic species.

All of this must be certified by Dr. Charles Herdendorf, a marine biologist and retired college professor who lives in Huron. In 1990, Dr. Herdendorf left the door open for the possibility of a serpent, citing an unexplained image in a 1970's satellite photograph of Maumee Bay. In the photo, a 100-foot-long, serpentine shadow extends from the mouth of the Maumee River. He said it didn't resemble any sediment pattern that was seen before or since.

When the sightings first were reported in 1990, Mr. Solberg said several businesses offered a \$5,000 reward. But when an article appeared in a Hong Kong newspaper saying the reward wasn't worth the trip to the U.S., the businesses used the \$5,000 to purchase a \$50,000 Lloyds of London policy to offer a bigger payoff.

Officials thought the mystery was solved in 1987 when an odd-shaped, 40-foot-long watercraft washed up on Catawba Island near Port Clinton. It later was identified as a pontoon used in construction work around water.

Blade correspondents Vicky Taylor and Natalie Parsons contributed to this report.



DICK CASE

at Long Lake.

THE FIRST thing I remember was the story told in Marcellus, where I grew up. Kathryn Heffernan put it into her history of the town of Marcellus, "Nine Mile Country." I think I heard it from Aunt Lucy Case.

This is Kate's telling: "Another tale handed down through the years relates that a child wandered from the early Tyler Hollow settlement and was lost in the dense woods. Several years later various residents claimed to have spotted a wild man in the area, and speculation rose that the so-called wild man might have been the long lost boy."

Aunt Lucy put the wild man closer to the village, in Spinks Woods, but it's surely the same scare.

IN LATER YEARS, when I was a kid, Marcellus got a lot of attention over black panthers, which some people claim are extinct. The attention had been stirred by Howard Merritt, a beloved village sport who worked as a reporter for The Post-Standard.

Villagers, including my father, claimed Howard made up the panthers. They quieted down when Howard did, though.

That put me in mind of the story the late Ted Aber, the Hamilton County historian, once related to me about a "wild man" in his neck of the woods. This sad story did make the new book; it's No. 25 in a capsule summary of cases:

"February 1932, Hamilton Co., near Blue Mountain Lake. Famous Adirondack 'wild man' sightings. A posse later tracked, shot and killed the 'creature' (which proved to be a Negro hermit in thick layers of animal skins.)"

The author of the foreword, Dr. Warren Cook of Castleton State College, Vt., seemed to me convinced there are hairy hominids out there.

MORNING NEWS, Dallas, TX

July 20, 1993 CR: E. Rager

Numerous calls came in after a recent column about the mutilation of animals in the Plano neighborhood around Spring Creek Parkway and Mission Ridge Road. Callers indicated they'd also mysteriously lost pets.

Most of the incidents in the column concerned missing pets, although one cat was decapitated and had its heart and liver cut out and one dog's tongue was burned out.

Some in the neighborhood felt the mutilations might have been cult-related, and some thought the disappearances could be traced to coyotes.

I heard from other people in or near the neighborhood and some from different parts of town. They mostly concerned cats that had disappeared, but one woman said that one morning she discovered 18 ducks missing from a fenced-in area.

Officer Bill Bonds, a spokesman for the Plano Police Department, said there had been no rash of reports regarding mutilated animals of late and "hopefully the situation has subsided."

Many upstate dwellers say high country is Bigfoot's stamping ground

LEGEND: In Humboldt County, the mysterious ape-man is part of the culture — and the economy.

By HUGH DELLIOS
Chicago Tribune

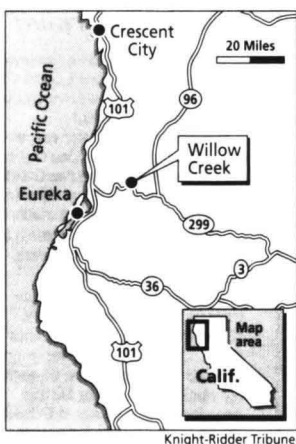
WILLOW CREEK — From one end of Humboldt County to the other, unsuspecting visitors can run into Bigfoot, the legendary ape-man, over and over again.

Tourists can fill up at the Bigfoot gas station in McKinleyville. They can join locals playing nine holes at the Bigfoot Golf & Country Club. New residents can join the Bigfoot chapter of the Lions Club in Willow Creek.

Since the 1930s, more than 120 sightings of the giant mountain-dwelling beast or its tracks have been reported in the dense forests of the Klamath-Siskiyou high country, along the Pacific Coast of Northern California.

The creature's existence has never been confirmed by scientists. Nevertheless, people who say they've seen it give similar descriptions: a hairy, apelike being, 300 to 400 pounds, 7 or 8 feet tall and walking upright. It usually shies away from people, but once in a while it is said to play with oil drums, trucks or construction equipment. Property damage has been reported, but not human injury.

Something similar is known in several parts of the world. In the



Knight-Ridder Tribune

Himalayas, Bigfoot is called the Yeti or the Abominable Snowman. In British Columbia it's Sasquatch.

But folks in Humboldt County attend their annual Bigfoot Daze festival in Willow Creek, a parade and carnival every Labor Day weekend, confident that they have a more legitimate claim to the legend than anyone else.

It was just north of Willow Creek in 1967 that a Bigfoot buff named Roger Patterson shot a film of the creature referred to as "Marukarar" in the ancient lore of local Indians. There have been more recent Bigfoot films, but Patterson's is still the only one that isn't routinely dismissed

as a fake.

Patterson had purposely gone hunting for Bigfoot. His film is about a minute long and was shot from 90 feet away, he said. The beast is seen in a creek bed; it turns and faces the camera, then turns back and walks down the creek and out of view. Patterson described the creature as a female, 7 feet tall.

"The legend is still alive, and we do what we can to promote it," said Dona DePaoli, vice president of the Humboldt County Convention and Visitors Bureau, who has been known to wear hairy Bigfoot slippers at trade shows.

"Where does Bigfoot vacation?" she asked. "Anywhere he wants. But he chooses Humboldt County."

Actually, DePaoli is admittedly skeptical about the unsettling phenomenon, but she may be in a minority around these parts.

"I'm rather convinced," said Al Hodgson, 69, who sells Bigfoot souvenirs at his department store in Willow Creek, "though I am bothered by the fact that it's been all this time and there's been no concrete proof."

Hodgson, who serves as sort of a clearinghouse for Bigfoot news, said the most recent reported run-in between man and beast came last September. In that case, a man from the town of Klamath told friends that a Bigfoot scared his two boys back into the house one night.

Rumors circulated recently

BIGFOOT SIGHTINGS

Among the significant Bigfoot sightings in the area since the 1930s:

1975: A man named Mark Karr said he drove his auto into a tree to avoid hitting a Bigfoot in the road.

1973: A logging-truck driver with slow reflexes said his front grille was badly damaged when he hit a 7-foot Bigfoot near Orick. The beast apparently wasn't hurt enough to be captured.

1967: Roger Patterson said he shot a one-minute film about 90 feet from a creature. The beast is seen in a creek bed; it turns and faces the camera, then turns back and walks down the creek and out of view. Patterson described the

creature as a female, 7 feet tall, perhaps 350 pounds.

1963: Thomas Sourwine reported that something repeatedly lifted a 300-pound boulder and used it to smash his road-building equipment near Bluff Creek.

1962: In June, Robert Hatfield claimed he was knocked down after running smack into the chest of a Bigfoot on the front porch of his cabin. His friend, Bud Jensen, supported his story, and a muddy, 11-inch handprint was found on the cabin's front door.

1958: A local newspaper editor reported seeing animal droppings so big they came either from a Bigfoot or "a 2-ton bear."

that a state road worker had seen Marukarar but didn't report it to the papers because he was afraid everyone would laugh at him.

Hodgson frequently has gone to the scene of reported Bigfoot sightings and has made about a half-dozen plaster casts of the beast's tracks. One of the casts is sitting in a showcase at the China Flat museum — a small collection of vintage logging equipment and other artifacts — run by Hodgson's sister, Judy Chase. Chase said the sheer number of sightings had her convinced.

"There was a case of a person making fake tracks," Chase

said, "but he couldn't go all over and make all those tracks."

Hodgson said he was among the first to talk to Roger Patterson in 1967 after the former rodeo cowboy stumbled back into town in a daze with his film of a Bigfoot. Hodgson later compared the film to some 14½-inch footprints in the area and was convinced it could have been real.

He has since seen other films that were obviously faked.

"I get disgusted when someone pulls something like that," Hodgson said. "If the legend is really true, and I really think it is, it will be proved someday."

Lake Erie monster sightings reported

There have been two recent sightings of the Lake Erie monster that some call "South Bay Bessie" and others "Lake Erie Larry."

I first wrote about the sea serpent three years ago when Tom Solberg, owner of Huron Lagoons Marina, offered a reward for the live capture of the creature.

Charter boat Capt. John Liles and his wife, Holly, told me they were aboard their 52-foot vessel, The Clevelander, about 1.5 miles off Kelley's Island on Monday.

"We were high in the pilot house.

The lake was calm as glass," Liles said. He said they spotted what they first thought was a big log 175 to 200 yards off the bow. "Then it took off and moved across the water." They saw three big humps that moved up and down as the creature swam.

"We saw 15 to 20 feet of it. It was thicker than a human and dark brown or black. We didn't see its head. I thought the people who saw it before were crazy, and now I run into it," Liles said. It remained on the surface about 12 seconds, and then it dived under the water. "I've been doing this for 20 years. I've spent my whole life on the water, and it's the weirdest thing I've ever seen. It was not a sturgeon."

Mrs. Liles said, "I don't think we saw the



JOHN SWITZER

whole animal. I thought it was a hoax at first, but we definitely saw it Monday. It's so distinctive. It had a motion up and down like a Chinese dragon you see in a parade. It was very serpentine. It didn't seem aggressive. You could see a foot-and-a-half of daylight between the humps and the water."

Two men, who didn't want to be named, spotted the beast July 3 about 7 miles north of Huron, Ohio. They said it was dark, 30 to 40 feet long and a foot or bigger in diameter.

"When I started this thing (three years ago), I thought it would be good publicity," Solberg said. "Now I think it's a possibility. They are seeing something that moves, and it's big."

Solberg bought a policy with Lloyds of London to cover the reward. He will give \$102,700 to anyone who catches the monster alive. He has a lagoon to put it in. It must be an unidentified aquatic species, a minimum of 9 meters long and weigh at least 1,000 pounds. It also must be delivered alive and unharmed to Solberg's marina and judged authentic by C.E. Herdendorf, professor emeritus at Ohio State University.

Today will bring clouds and sun and perhaps late-day or nighttime thunderstorms. The high will be 86; the low, 67.

TRIBUNE, Chicago, IL - May 14, 1993 CR: R. Boomer

Visions of Mary discounted

But investigation continues into Denver apparitions

Religious News Service

DENVER—An investigation by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Denver has turned up no evidence of "supernatural origin" for the apparitions of the Virgin Mary claimed to be seen by a 32-year-old woman, Theresa Lopez.

Archbishop J. Francis Stafford issued a two-paragraph statement this week describing that assessment as an "interim report" and saying the investigation would continue. A spokesman for the archdiocese said the interim report was released because of inquiries from interested Catholics.

Lopez first reported having apparitions in and around Denver

in the fall of 1991.

In the statement, Stafford said the work of the five-member commission appointed in 1991 "is proceeding according to established ecclesiastical norms." Such investigations "require prudent and prayerful discernment and therefore adequate time must be afforded them," he said. "The situation will continue to be evaluated with prayerful vigilance."

Details of the investigation remain confidential.

Lopez made the best of the announcement, saying it was "very positive because it means the investigation will continue." She compared the results of the Denver investigation to others

conducted in places like Medjugorje, in the former Yugoslavia, where people have reported seeing Mary for more than 11 years. Before the outbreak of war there, while thousands of outsiders daily crowded the town to observe those said to be receiving the apparitions, the local bishop discredited the apparitions. The Vatican has yet to rule on its validity.

Lopez said she still has visions of Mary. They occur two or three times a week in a variety of locations and have recurring themes—"global peace, having people return to the church, the renewal of the church spiritually and the opening and conversion of people's hearts."

NEW ZEALAND HERALD, Auckland,
New Zealand - June 19, 1993

Nessie stays loched away

SCIENTISTS who carried out the first full-scale investigation of Loch Ness in Scotland a year ago say it has uncovered as many new mysteries as it solved.

The freshwater specialists who took part in what was known as Project Urquhart admit that while they did not find Nessie, the loch's legendary monster, there is still no explanation for the sonar contact they made with a large object.

An advanced anti-submarine sonar tracked the object for two minutes during the project's three-week survey.

Bob Manson, marketing manager of Simrad, the Scottish-based electronics company that provided the advanced sonar, says experts were sceptical of finding any monsters in the loch but they could not explain the object monitored.

"It's not a shoal of fish, as you do not get shoals in Loch Ness. It might be a large water swirl, but to be honest we just don't know."

There was also no explanation of apparent man-made objects that were found to run in a straight line on the loch floor for between 13km and 16km.

Although the mystery of sightings of a Loch Ness monster over many years was not solved, the sonar was able to confirm that the loch is deeper than

The latest Loch Ness survey has left enthusiasts mulling over more than one mystery.



● British wildlife expert Sir Peter Scott's 1975 conception of Nessie and friend.

originally thought. A maximum depth of 239.5m was recorded at a point 3.2km north-east of Invermoriston.

This is an increase of nearly 10m on Sir John Murray's estimate of 90 years ago. The survey also established that there are no caves, walls or tunnels on the loch floor.

The new depth, and a 3D computer graphic of the loch, were the product of 7 million depth readings taken over 20 hours. When Murray made his survey in 1903 with a lead weight and piano wire, he made 1700 readings from a rowing boat over several weeks.

Project Urquhart's

chairman, Nicholas Witchell, comments: "The mystery of Loch Ness is still with us and probably will never be solved, short of draining it."

Results of work carried out by the Freshwater Biological Association on the loch have also been released. Association director Professor Gwyn Jones says: "While it's early days yet we have discovered that the fish and plankton population are all at one end of the loch. At the other end is a higher concentration of algae and other plant life. This is unusual, something we are going to look into this summer when we return to the loch."

Sounds like a car engine and drives folks crazy

A mysterious hum heard in Florida, New Mexico and other places baffles scientists.

By JOHN DONNELLY
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

TAOS, N.M. — When the wind is still and the nearby meadowlark silent, Steven Walters' back yard falls quiet.

So quiet that he hears the Taos Hum.

"It sounds like a great, big American car engine that's on idle," Walters said recently. "When I first heard it, I thought I was going crazy."

The same thing happened to many others.

In Taos, Santa Fe, Albuquerque and spots far beyond — even in Florida — hundreds of people lately have said they are hearing a similarly mysterious, low-level frequency or hum.

The audible vibration, they say, is as annoying as a mosquito circling your ear. Only this bug won't die. And the noise won't stop until you turn on the television, turn up the stereo, or do something else to drown it out.

The enigma has gained widespread attention — and a slow but growing acceptance — after a Taos couple spoke out a year ago about a humming sound that was driving them nuts.

At first, many people dismissed Bob and Catanya Saltzman as nuts themselves. But those impressions faded when others spoke up.

After they went public, several hundred people in northern New Mexico also said they were suffering from the constant noise, frequently described as a diesel engine idling in the distance, a low throbbing or a sputtering generator.

Soon, the story spread across the country, and more than 50 persons, from Washington state to Vermont, contacted researchers with the same problem. About 75 persons contacted the Saltzmans.

And soon, it became known that this was not a new phenomenon, that more than 2,000 people in the London and Southampton areas of Great Britain have reported hearing sounds dating to the 1940s.

The English have an organization (The Low Frequency Noise Sufferers Association), a comprehensive newsletter and even a name for themselves (the Hummers).

A New Mexico scientist refers to the Americans as the Hearers.

And so in recent months, the

New Mexicans' complaints have been taken seriously. Prodded by a once-skeptical congressman, the U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence is investigating whether any federal site is the source.

An eight-member team of unpaid engineers and physicists affiliated with the University of New Mexico has lugged geophones, magnetometers and electromagnetic antennas to Taos for measuring acoustic, electromagnetic and seismic signals.

A team of ear experts is about to test the Hearers.

"It's not something to make light of," said Bob Saltzman, who has heard the sound continuously since May 1991, with the exception of July 1991. "It is extremely serious."

U.S. Rep. Bill Richardson, a New Mexico Democrat, agreed. "It's not a figment of anyone's imagination."

Scientists believe, too.

"We now have two large populations who hear these hums, here and in England," said James Kelly, director of research on hearing at the University of New Mexico. "The people in Taos are deeply disturbed by this. This is not trivial."

That's especially so, scientists say, when it comes to solving this puzzling detective story.

Four studies in England, spanning 20 years, are inconclusive. New Mexico's first round of research so far has found no answer.

The study has pinpointed the range of frequency. Using a signal generator and loudspeaker that simulated the sound, seven Hearers selected frequencies from 33 to 80 hertz, or cycles per second.

Human hearing ranges from 20 to 20,000 hertz; rumbles are at the low end, speech tones generally fall between 1,000 and 3,000 hertz and hisses top the range. The ears of animals, on the other hand, generally are more attuned to high-frequency sounds, making it more unlikely they are bothered by the low-frequency hums, experts say.

The engineers and physicists couldn't locate any external vibrations. They still are investigating "power line harmonics," or the interference between power lines and other electromagnetic signals such as radar or radio waves. They still are researching whether the sounds are vibrating through the ground.

And, in piecemeal fashion, the House committee staff is looking at classified Department of Defense projects and numerous military installations scattered around northern New Mexico.

Bob Saltzman and Richardson both have said that a Defense Department project is a likely source. John Deutch, a Defense Department undersecretary, said the department was not responsible, and he had no idea where the sound came from.

Saltzman, convinced that the sound is "some sort of electromagnetic pollution," has several ideas: government experiments with infrasound that tracks stealth aircraft, other byproducts from Defense Department activities, or perhaps something as mundane as television transmitters.

But couldn't the sounds come from the ear itself?

Hearing expert Kelly, who will start his tests soon, thinks that is a possibility. He has ruled out the classical case of tinnitus, a common symptom in the ear characterized by a high-frequency ringing sound over 4,000 hertz — far from the low-frequency rumbles.

He wants to take a look at the inner ears of the Hearers.

"The ear is spectacularly sensitive to sound," he said. "The ear is the most sophisticated transducer; it makes the eye look homespun. It's not surprising to me that the ear can do some interesting things."

And yet, Kelly's exams won't be the Hearers' first.

Schatzie Hubbell, 50, has had six ear exams. None of the doctors pinpointed the problem. She has heard the hum for 3 1/2 years.

"We moved from Santa Fe because of the noise," she said from her house in Fort Worth, Texas. "After living there for 32 years, and being very involved in the community, we had to leave."

Her husband, Richard, has heard the noise infrequently.

"It's like a Chinese torture treatment. It affects you at a level you can't get to," she said. "Extreme irritation. Fingers across the chalkboard."

The Hubbells suspect power lines, electric transformers and an increasingly crowded field of transmissions from cellular phones and other communication devices.

"We believe that we are getting the fallout of a highly electronic age," Richard Hubbell said.

When they moved to Fort Worth, they selected a 23-acre property with only two nearby transformer pods.

But she still hears the hum.

What's That Hum?

The Post's story about the mysterious hum in Taos, N.M., ["Taos Hum" Disturbs Artistic Colony's Good Vibrations," news story, June 24] brought to mind my days as a news reporter in the early '50s on the now defunct Pasadena (Calif.) Independent.

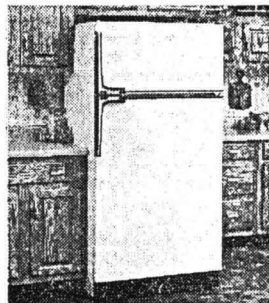
Our editor, Fred G. Runyon, wrote a front-page column covering an infinite variety of subjects. One day, lacking material, he concocted the idea that our circulation area, the San Gabriel Valley, was pervaded by a "mysterious hum" that was most discernible during the wee hours. The column was intended mostly to challenge readers' imaginations and draw their reactions.

Did it ever! Scores of readers called or wrote that they'd been hearing Runyon's mystery hum for years.

They all had theories as to its cause: The steady purr of car engines on the Pasadena Freeway, distant freight trains on the Santa Fe tracks, Pasadena's power-generating plant, water rushing through the Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct, secret doings at Caltech and its Jet Propulsion Laboratory, ocean surf sounds 30 miles away echoing off the Sierra Madre Mountains above Pasadena, and even the whir of brain cells processing and filing bits of minutiae.

Nobody ever accused Fred Runyon of creating a hoax. And even today, nearly 40 years and 3,000 miles distant from those days as a reporter, I can still hear Pasadena's mysterious hum when I awaken in the quiet hours. Or maybe I and the good citizens of Taos really hear only the soothing sound of silence.

ED ESSERTIER
Oakton, Va.



Taos Hum? Those who attempted to duplicate the mysterious sound identified frequencies near the lower audible range between 40 and 80 Hertz (cycles per second). Did any of the scientists who investigated the reported phenomena hypothesize that residents were simply detecting the notorious 60-cycle hum of almost every electrical device used in America?

Refrigerators, computers, fluorescent lights, fans, heat pumps, television sets and just about anything else that has an electric motor or a transformer in it will emit at least a slight hum. Since our standards for electrical power call for 110 to 120 volts at 60 cycles, this resonance is pervasive. It even finds its way into solid-state systems. It's the barely audible sound you hear right after you switch on your stereo.

Most of us tune out this drone, because it is omnipresent and because our attention is easily drawn to more important sounds, such as speech. At low decibel levels, the hum is easily masked or simply drowned out by other sounds, such as music. Have you ever noticed how loud your refrigerator seems late at night when everything else is quiet? That same sound is there all the time; it just usually isn't noticed.

Here's my hypothesis: Many of the denizens of Taos are refugees from the urban fast track. A town of 5,000 in the high desert is pretty still by comparison. I suspect that many of the complainers have never before been anywhere quiet enough to notice the 60-cycle buzz of American civilization that exists even in such a place as Taos.

The alpha brain waves characteristic of meditation are at a frequency range near 60 Hertz. Since Taos may arguably be the meditation capital of North America, this may help explain the complaints of "Taos Hum."

The fact that the mysterious hum was not found by the high-tech devices used by the scientific investigators was probably due to correctly identifying and discounting the 60 Hertz din as background noise.

I'm offering my explanation free, even though I could probably find a grant for further investigation. How much did the investigation by two Department of Energy laboratories—the Air Force and the University of New Mexico—cost us taxpayers?

BILL RUXTON
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CR: B. Greenwood

Devil worship?

Mutilated cow found on Pueblo County ranch

By JUAN ESPINOSA

The Pueblo Chieftain

The discovery of the mutilated carcass of a 4-year-old Hereford cow in Pueblo County near the border with El Paso County is similar to the mysterious cattle mutilations reported in Colorado 10 to 20 years ago.

The cow was found on the Pinos Ranch owned by Alex McCulloch at about noon on Wednesday.

McCulloch told Deputy Sheriff Richard Bregar that the cow had been shot sometime between Sunday and Tuesday. It was found by a neighbor who was checking his

fences.

"I observed the dead cow," said Bregar in his report. "It appeared to have been shot above the right eye. I also saw that the milk sack and uterus had been cut from the cow."

Bregar said Thursday he is certain the sexual organs had been

removed with a sharp object and were not torn or eaten away by predators.

An employee of the ranch who asked not to be identified said in a phone interview that the tongue of the cow also had been removed. As in many of the mutilations reported in the 1970s and 1980s, the organs had been removed without a great deal of bleeding.

"There was a little spot of blood where she had been shot," said the ranch hand. "And where she was laying, there was no blood."

The location of the ranch where the dead cow was found is 5150 Overton Road. The employee said the cow was found at least two miles from any public roads and the private roads in the area are behind locked gates.

The cow was purchased by the ranch a month and a half ago and had given birth to a calf. The newborn calf was found unharmed near the body of its mother.

The ranch hand said the cow had stumbled about 15 feet from

where it was shot.

"I'd like to catch the guy who did this," the ranch hand said. "But it's going to be hard to do because it rained the day after they did this and there are no tracks of any kind."

The man said he suspected devil worshippers.

"It had to be like a cult or something like that," he said when asked who might have killed the cow.

Some investigators in the past have linked cattle mutilations to witchcraft ceremonies and offerings around the seasonal movements of the sun. Coincidentally, Tuesday was the Summer Solstice — the day when the sun is at its highest point in the sky and the longest day of the year.

Capt. Harry Wenzel, head of operations for the Pueblo County Sheriff Department, said Thursday that the investigation into the mutilation is continuing.

"This is the first incident of this kind in recent times," he said.