

UFO

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UFO Investigator All Over This One

By MATT GRIMISON
Press-Journal Staff Writer

The case of the unidentified flying object — possibly a blimp — that was spotted in the Sebastian skies last week is being investigated by a national UFO organization.

But Scott Gibson, a Stuart resident and Mutual UFO Network investigator, said the group's main task is to identify sightings as aircraft or other terrestrial things before declaring the crafts interplanetary.

"We approach these as normal objects misidentified," Gibson said Monday.

Several area residents reported seeing a strange illuminated object cruising south over Sebastian at about 10 p.m. last Tuesday. Several area officials said it was most likely a blimp since they traverse the coast often on their way to moorings in South Florida.

Gibson interviewed witnesses Monday and viewed videotape of the object taken by Sebastian resident Sam Gilmore. After viewing the video, which comes in and out

of focus showing a moving white blotch, Gibson said it was inconclusive for now.

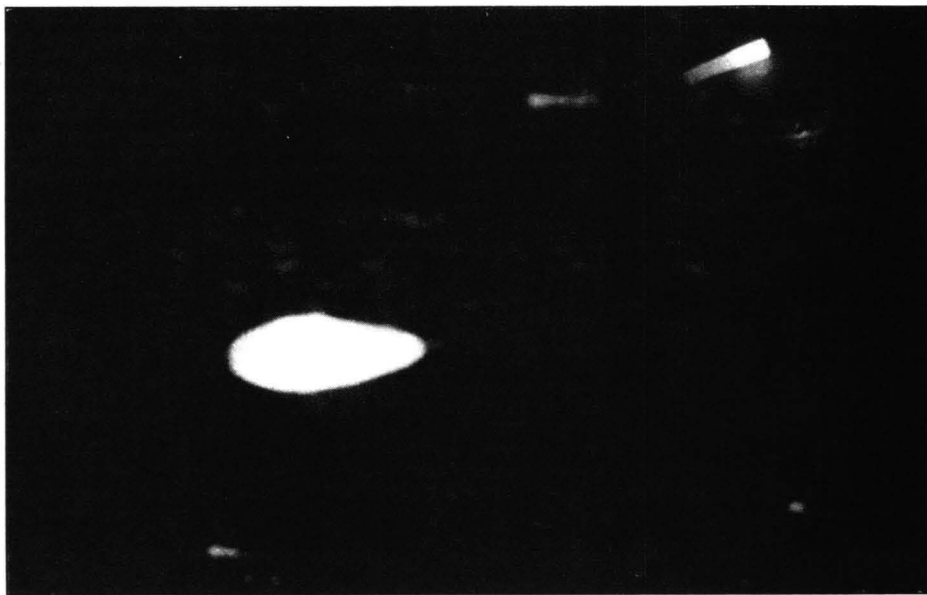
"I've never seen a blimp like that," Gibson said. "The lights look like aircraft lights."

He said he would copy the tape and send it to one of his organization's consulting scientists, optical physicist Bruce McAbee of Maryland, for further study.

Gibson said the network is not an extraterrestrial advocacy group, just people compiling information.

"We don't profess to know what they are or who is in them," he said, adding that there are chapters in all 50 states and 20 foreign countries.

Dispatchers at the Indian River County Sheriff's Office, Vero Beach Police Department and Sebastian Police Department said they each only fielded one or two calls about the object that night. About 10 people have contacted the *Press-Journal* about the sightings.



Press-Journal staff photo by Matt Grimson

A photo of the object seen over Sebastian last Tuesday, taken from a videotape shot by Sam Gilmore.

PRESS REGISTER, Mobile, AL - Oct. 17, 1994 CR: K. Wilson

UFO speaker: There are aliens on moon

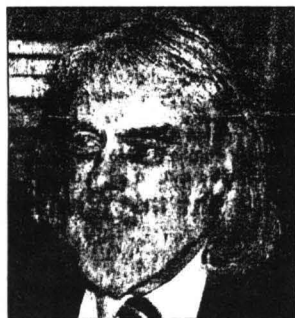
► Lecturer says government covering up 'greatest secret'

By EDDIE CURRAN
Staff Reporter

PENSACOLA — In a cover-up so massive and insidious it dwarfs Watergate, the United States government is hiding from its own people the news that there are four species of aliens residing on the moon, one of which looks just like us.

So asserted retired Army Command Sgt. Major Robert Dean, one of the speakers at this weekend's UFO Conference at Pensacola's Grand Hotel.

The conference began Friday



Dean

and ended Sunday with five lectures, the final one being, "The Family and UFOs: Coping."

According to Dean, some of America's astronauts could stand

to listen to that final lecture.

"There are aliens mining the moon. They have bases on the moon. All of our astronauts know it, and many of them are having nervous breakdowns."

"The guys are being forced to keep their mouths shut. They're being forced by the government to keep the greatest secret of our time."

To some, Dean's words might sound crazy. But to the 1,000 or so people who came from throughout the country to attend this conference, Dean wasn't merely being sensible, he was courageously telling the truth.

He was standing up to our government and demanding an end to the greatest conspiracy of silence in the history of man.

Dean first became aware of our government's knowledge of alien visitors in 1964, when he was based in Paris and provided with "Cosmic Top Secret Clearance." Cosmically cleared, he was allowed to read the secret NATO document cryptically known as "The Assessment."

"I have never been quite the same since," he said.

Dean, who looks like a well-dressed, well-groomed cross between Captain Kangaroo and Howard Hughes, said evidence of life on the moon is overwhelming.

"They've been there for a helluva long time," he said of the aliens.

"NASA knows about it. The highest levels of government know about it. They were seen, and they saw us. Every Apollo mission we had was monitored and followed."

Dean said Neil Armstrong was among those who saw the aliens. Armstrong was unavailable for comment.

After his lecture, a group of believers gathered around Dean, enthralled as he revealed the depths of the conspiracy.

There are four species of moon aliens, he said. The reason the government is so determined to keep this secret is that one of those groups looks exactly like human beings.

"They look so much like us they could sit next to you and you would never know it. You think that didn't bother the generals?"

A woman, probably kidding, asked, "Is Hillary an alien?"

Dean chuckled, and said she was not. Then he explained why our astronauts no longer go to the moon.

"We were told to get off the moon and stay off," he said.

Mobilian Walt Baldwin, who heard the lecture, said he's not sure about moon aliens, but he remains open-minded.

"I don't believe we're so smart that we're the only people in the cosmos," he said. "There are bound to be others. It's plausible."

One California attendee, an intense man named Jim, claimed to be a pilot for a major airline. Short and stocky, with burning blue eyes, Jim demanded that his last name not be used.

"A lot of pilots have seen them, but they're scared of speaking about it. They're afraid of being ridiculed. Some pilots have been fired for speaking out. It's time to stop ridiculing and laughing at people who tell the truth," Jim said.

Jim said he's studied alien cultures for years, and has interviewed numerous astronauts and fellow pilots. He agreed with Dean's assertion that there is life on the moon, but said the moon is "just a staging base" for four alien types from four different star systems.

Jim said that human-like aliens are on earth, interacting with humans. Some are good, some bad, and some help the government.

"Twenty percent of UFO sightings are real. The rest are probably government craft using alien technology. Our engineers work with them, from what we hear. When they finish, there is some kind of amnesia drug, and you forget, and that's one of the ways they keep it quiet."

"It's the best-kept secret of all time," Jim said, his intensity maintaining a fevered pitch.

Jim believes the government keeps a lid on the alien secret because it fears mass panic. Also, there's the problem with religion. Alien cultures just doesn't jibe with most religions, he said.

Judging from various comments and reactions at the conference, religion is not a wildly popular topic among many UFO believers.

"I don't much like religion," Dean said during his lecture. "Religion has done more to divide us than anything in history. It has led to so much bloodshed and savagery. I'm just about fed up with organized religion."

Dean received a huge ovation when he said this.

Certainly most religious faiths would have a problem with the philosophy espoused by Dr. Arthur David Horn, a conference speaker and former Yale professor.

"Extra-terrestrials have been involved in human biology and cultural evolution since the beginning," Horn said. "Among other things, they genetically engineered us 700,000 years ago."

Horn said aliens came to earth and mated with early man, which helps explain how we evolved from being real hairy and stupid to how we are now.

DAILY RECORD, Roswell, NM - Sept. 23, 1994

Sightings on TV

Hard Copy will air footage today of unidentified flying objects seen over Midway.

The UFO footage that will be featured includes the giant marble-shaped sphere that was videotaped by Manuel Escamilla on July 14, and that was witnessed flying over Roswell later that night by the Kelly sisters.

Other segments will include the jet that gets "tagged" or "bumped" by a UFO that occurred on May 9. John Moffett and the crew spent all day Tuesday at Ultimate Dinosaur Productions interviewing people, and out at Midway later that day. Carl Nash, of Nash Street Media, provided Jose Escamilla and Moffett use of his edit bay at the last minute for transferring certain key segments for the show.

"I was amazed because I couldn't see any wheels or supports to hold it off the ground and it appeared to be about 3 or 4 feet off the ground."

Sterling Jewett

Former insurance salesman in
Cheshire

Conference, meeting on UFOs planned

■ Two events are scheduled for people interested in learning more about UFOs and extraterrestrial life:

- Omega Communications will hold its seventh annual UFO conference Oct. 8 and 9 at the Holiday Inn in North Haven.

- Information on attending the conference can be obtained by writing to John White at P.O. Box 2051, Cheshire 06410. The cost is \$175 for the two-day event.

- The state's chapter of the international Mutual UFO Network once a year has a meeting that it opens to the public.

The meeting will be held Oct. 30 from 1 to 4:45 p.m. at the East Hartford Public Library.

The Mutual UFO Network also has two hotlines for people who have seen something they wish to report. The numbers are (206) 722-3000 and (510) 379-9216.

The Connecticut chapter can be reached by writing to P.O. Box 107, 2490 Black Rock Turnpike, Fairfield, 06430.

The Hartford Courant

OUT OF THIS WORLD

Story by AMY ASH NIXON of the Hartford Courant
Photos by SHANA SURECK-MEI of The Hartford Courant

John Bielinski says he awakens some mornings and notices a new scrape mark on his neck or on a leg — a sign that he has been visited in his sleep. For nearly 15 years, Bielinski says, alien visitors have been beaming themselves into his Wallingford home and taking skin samples. The scrape marks, like small depressions that have healed, are on many parts of his body.

Bielinski has made an 8-foot-tall model of a creature he calls "Zatar," who he says has frequently visited him. There is a wall-length map of the galaxy in his living room.

It's strange stuff, sometimes scary, and it isn't something that is easy for most people to make sense of. Bielinski, however, says the experiences have been fascinating.

"You've got to be a certain kind of person to handle it," says Bielinski, who was an investigator for the international Mutual UFO Network for several years in the Wallingford area. "I'll tell you one thing: My life will never be normal."

Life on other planets?

Who — if anyone — lives on other planets in the universe? And do they come looking for us, as we have gone looking for them?

It's a subject many people are intrigued with, uncomfortable with, even afraid of.

Are we alone? Are the kinds of experiences chronicled in movies such as "Star Wars," "ET" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" purely fictional or are they rooted in experiences people have actually had?

Television programs dating back to "Lost in Space" and "Star Trek," and newer series such as "Alien Nation," have created

visions of who our intergalactic neighbors could be.

Although many scientists say there is no evidence to back up many of the reports of UFOs and aliens, those who believe they have had UFO experiences ask doubters to at least admit that extraterrestrial life is possible.

Believers throughout Middlesex and New Haven counties are banding together to share experiences, offer support and spread the message about people who claim to have been in contact with alien beings.

'They've been watching us'

The statue in Bielinski's house is of a being with a large, heart-shaped head, a tiny nose and shiny, angled eyes. Bielinski says the being — which has four fingers on each hand — has come to call on him many times.

Bielinski predicts more and more humans will be visited by such beings as alien contact with the Earth increases, under a plan he says he has been told about.

"It's going to be like 'Alien Nation' and 'Star Trek' all rolled into one," Bielinski says. "They have always been around. They've been watching us for thousands of years."

Roberta Puhalski, a friend of Bielinski's, also lives in Wallingford. Her articles on the abductee experience have been published in the Mutual UFO Network's journal, and in a newsletter called SPACE, which stands for Support Program for Abductees' Contact Encounters.

Puhalski is working on a book about the things she says have been happening to



■ Sterling Jewett, a retired insurance salesman in Cheshire, says he saw a UFO in 1966. He holds a model of what he says he saw and stands in the same field.

her the past six years. She has photographs of her and another woman standing inside a so-called crop circle, an unexplained pattern left in a field that alters the growth cycle of the area. In the pictures, bands of lavender and amber-colored light are evident; she says photographers have told her the bands are unexplained.

During recent years, Puhalski says, she has moved to different areas of the country, where she places ads in newspapers asking people whether they have had such experiences. She then forms support groups to help them.

Many people are "scared to death," Puhalski says. "They don't want it to

happen, but there's nothing you can do about it," she says with a laugh, calling herself and others who have such experiences "The Chosen!"

She adds, "The only way to stay emotionally healthy is to have a sense of humor."

Another friend who shares his experiences is Kenny Lloyd of Meriden.

Lloyd hosts a cable show called the Intergalactic TV Network, taped in Southbury. He says he has seen many UFOs, as has his wife, Mary. One night, on the set of their show, they saw shadowy figures of tall beings, he says.

"As far as proof, we don't have a photograph," Lloyd says. "But I know what I saw, and it was witnessed by two others."

The Lloyds, Puhalski and Bielinski say they were drawn to science fiction, rockets and the stars all their lives, and since being "awakened" by their first encounters with aliens, understand why.

Puhalski, who cracks a lot of jokes about the subject to keep it lighthearted, likened an alien encounter to an unexpected visit from a cosmetic company representative — "[the aliens] doing their little Avon-calling thing."

They all say there are many kinds of beings — good and bad — and the subject is complex and impossible to sum up easily.

"It's an exchange," says Bielinski, who works in electronics. "I have been shown a lot from them."

Bielinski describes the workings of UFO controls and says, as a pilot himself, he recognizes many of the controls he has been allowed to see on the crafts. If humans were aware of the kinds of technology that power such crafts, "We could tap into the energy of the universe," Bielinski says.

But what they call the benefits of such encounters are balanced by the frustrations, because many people doubt and scorn them, Bielinski and the others say.

Sightings called hoaxes

This summer, Cynthia Peterson,

an astronomy professor at the University of Connecticut, was invited to give a talk at the Wallingford Public Library billed in the monthly newsletter as "Search for ETs."

"It's really a complicated subject," Peterson says, opening her lecture and quickly saying, "I don't want to talk about UFOs."

Peterson believes many of the reported UFO sightings are hoaxes. She says people have always pondered life on other planets, but conditions observed so far indicate little chance of life on the planets we've been able to study.

"It's not inconceivable that life could exist here," Peterson says, showing the surface of a planet in our galaxy. "We can't say no, but it's pretty unlikely."

Although Peterson maintains "we have no proof" of UFOs, she says the subject is one people are always interested in, and the possibility of their existence has profound implications.

"We certainly want to join the galactic club," Peterson told her audience at Wallingford's library. "It would be perfectly exciting!"

People in ufology, as it's called, believe there is plenty of proof and say some of the nation's most credible scholars are lending credence to what people have long been saying.

Anastasia Wietrzykowski, the Connecticut state director of the international Mutual UFO Network, was called just a few weeks ago by a police department after a man in East Haddam said he witnessed a UFO flying over train tracks. Police statewide have the network's hotline number and put witnesses in contact with the group.

"It's not as simple as flying saucers from out of space," Wietrzykowski says. "We're dealing with civilizations that can materialize in and out of our dimension. They leave traces of having been here and they can wink out of our reality in an instant."

The experiences people have are many, says Wietrzykowski, who adds, "There is something very real going on. The whole story is not found in the tabloid

supermarket checkout. There is so much evidence."

"The finest minds on this planet are beginning to understand more about this," says Wietrzykowski, who teaches courses on the subject at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. "We don't know everything. Humans are so much more than we know. There is a wider reality."

At the observatory at Wesleyan University, people often call in, saying they've seen something they believe might be a UFO, says Bill Herbst, chairman of the astronomy department.

Herbst says in most instances, there are explanations for what the people have seen and "they don't know what they are. The planet Venus can be incredibly brilliant. It often loads the sky, it is very brilliant and very spectacular."

He says many people who think they are seeing UFOs are actually seeing Venus for the first time.

"A lot of the UFO sightings simply come from people who don't know the sky, and they're just seeing natural phenomena and it doesn't have anything to do with little green men," Herbst says. He has serious doubts about people who say they've not only seen UFOs, but also their inhabitants, and gone on rides with them.

To Herbst, such people often are "just craving for attention, they may actually have hallucinations, or they're seeking publicity."

When asked, though, if the existence of such things can be positively ruled out, Herbst says they could not.

"Is it conceivable that in fact there are creatures out there that are watching us," he says. "Anything is conceivable."

Herbst says it is difficult to imagine such possibilities, however, given our present understanding of physics and the vast distances that would need to be traveled.

"Just to send a radio beam to the nearest star it would take eight years. Four years to get there and four years to get back," Herbst says. "Nobody can say that it's impossible. Nobody can say that it could not happen. All I can say is

that the evidence for it is very, very weak."

Kenneth Ring, a professor of psychology at the University of Connecticut and the author of "The Omega Project," which in part deals with people who claim to have had UFO experiences, says, "I'm not a skeptic, and I'm not a believer."

Ring says he doesn't believe people who say they have had such experiences are doing for attention or are making it up.

"I think there's something to the phenomena most definitely.

They're not just events or fantasies. [But] I don't believe they take place in our physical reality. They take place in an alternate reality," Ring says.

"I feel very strongly that the people who've had these experiences need to be respected for their experiences," Ring says.

Scrutiny under hypnosis

Bob and Betty Luca's purported 50 years of experience with aliens have been the subject of several books by author Raymond E. Fowler.

The Lucases (who prefer their exact town not be shared) live in southern Middlesex County. Though they are in their mid-50s and were raised in different places, she in Massachusetts and he in Meriden, they say they each had their first experience in 1944.

Since then, they say, each has had multiple experiences, few consciously, with most recalled through regressive hypnosis monitored by professionals. Both say they have passed lie detector tests and psychological evaluations to try to prove their stories were not a hoax.

Fred Max is a hypnotherapist who lives and works in Cheshire.

Max has performed regressive hypnosis on John Bielinski and on Bob and Betty Luca and, once a month, he travels to Harvard University where he meets with dozens of other researchers and medical professionals in a group called the Program for Extraordinary Experience Research.

Through hypnosis, Max says, he has been able to help abductees view their experiences "as though

it were occurring on a television screen." He says it's not as frightening that way. He says the mind is capable of storing, but not easily recalling, many things, such as encounters.

"The stories are very interesting. You always wish you had more information" about the abductees' experiences, Max says. "You're only allowed to look in a window at an aspect of their journey."

Max says most of the people who have had such unexplained encounters tend to be gentle-spirited.

"They seem to have more peacefulness about life, more accepting," Max says.

Bob Luca, who works in automobile service, says for years credible people such as astronauts and jet fighter pilots have been stepping forward, saying they have seen UFOs and their occupants. Among those who have stepped forward, he notes, is former President Carter.

Betty Andreasson Luca, the subject of books titled "The Andreasson Affair" and "The Andreasson Affair, Phase Two," says more and more images of beings from other planets are infiltrating our experiences through mass media.

"The children are really being indoctrinated," Betty Luca says. "It's going to be the up-and-coming thing, and the reality will be there for them. They won't be so stand-offish [toward the subject]."

Through hypnosis, she says, Betty Luca has relived the installation of a tiny implant into her body at the age of 13. Later, she learned through hypnosis she was taken aboard a UFO where the object was removed by a being who inserted a long needle into one of her nostrils, she says.

Because her experience has included a slow, seemingly planned release of information from the beings she has had contact with, she says, she believes she may still have another implant.

The Lucases have been "public" for many years, though both

(continued on page 3)

started out telling only a few trusted people.

Bob Luca says when he had his first conscious sighting — on Route 68 at the Durham/Wallingford line — he confided in only his parents and one close friend.

"I never talked about it," he says. "I was worried about getting put into a mental institution."

It was 1967 and he was traveling from Meriden toward Madison, planning to spend the day at the shore.

"I was on my way to the beach when I noticed guys on the railroad weren't working. They were looking up," Bob Luca says. He was near the mining operation by the freight railroad line.

Bob Luca says he saw two cigar-shaped UFOs. As he gazed at them, he says, two similarly shaped, but smaller crafts, came off of the main ones and traveled in opposite directions.

One was above his car as he drove through Durham, he says.

"I got down the road about 4 miles, and it was over me, like a floating leaf," Bob Luca recalls. It was about 11 a.m.

The next thing he knew, he says, it was mid-afternoon and he was arriving at the beach in Madison with no memory of the three to four hours that had lapsed since he saw the UFO. It shouldn't have been more than a 30- or 45-minute drive.

"For years, I didn't know what had happened," Bob Luca says.

Like his wife, Bob says he has pieced some of those lost hours together during hypnosis. He now believes he was taken onto the craft that hovered over his car that morning 27 years ago.

But even in hypnosis, the fragments of memory don't come

together easily. Bob still hasn't recalled a lot from that day.

"It's almost like going inside an ink bottle," he says of the sensation he gets after recalling being taken "into the craft."

The Lucases have been interviewed nationwide — by Tom Brokaw, by Hugh Downs, by Oprah Winfrey, by Connecticut Magazine — and they have worked extensively with the author whose interest in their experiences has led to a series of three books. The latest was "The Watchers," and a fourth is expected soon.

"All we can do is present the information and talk about what happened to us," Betty Luca says. "People need to hear."

As for the jokes and the doubts some people have when they hear about UFO experiences, Betty and Bob Luca believe people have a "fear of loss of control."

"It rocks their religious foundations," Betty Luca says.

UFOs focus of conference

Like many people who say they have had experience with UFOs and aliens, the Lucases believe the federal government works to discredit such stories and keeps quiet many occurrences that have taken place.

The Lucases point to the Roswell Incident, which they say occurred in July 1947. Newspapers all over the country carried the first government admission that a saucer had crashed and had been recovered by officials near Roswell, N.M., they say.

Within a day, the admission was recanted and characterized as a huge weather balloon mistaken for an alien craft. There were many witnesses, however, and intrigue in the case is still alive.

It was that incident that got John White of Cheshire interested in the possibility of life on other planets, and their visits here,

when he was still a child living in Maryland.

White — who says he has sighted just one UFO, in New York state — is an author and educator who once worked at The Institute of Noetic Sciences, founded by Apollo 14 astronaut Edgar Mitchell to study human potential for personal and planetary transformation. He says his interests lie in the "psychic, paranormal and spiritual" realms.

White writes a monthly column for "Science of Mind" magazine titled "Explorations of Consciousness" and edits the "Mind-Expander" newsletter.

White seven years ago organized the area's only annual conference on the subject, being held this year in North Haven. It has drawn people from across the nation and beyond.

The conference was created to "bring together credible people to discuss UFO phenomena and experiences with the many people interested in the subject," White says.

"I felt that the subject was of such importance for the public, and I also felt the public was not getting good access to speakers and researchers. There was a lot of schlocky material in tabloids," White says. "I felt it would be good to create a public forum for people to have direct access to the best researchers and experiences."

The UFO forum is the only one in Connecticut held each year. This year's conference, which will take place next month, will feature UFO investigators and people who say they have been abducted.

White, 55, who served in the Navy as an officer after attending Dartmouth College, says he didn't have a UFO experience until about seven years ago, when he and several others saw a glowing, flying object over Pine Bush, N.Y.

The object changed shape during the few seconds White and

the handful of other witnesses watched it, he says. He took off after it, he says, but a swampy area prevented him from going further.

With White that day was Ellen Crystall, author of "Silent Invasion: The Shocking Discoveries of a UFO Investigator."

Crystall, along with geologist Bruce Cornet, will attend the October conference being put on by White. This year's themes are "Ancient Astronauts" and "Alien Abductees."

The subject of ancient astronauts is a controversial one within the study of UFOs and outside it, White admits.

But with controversy comes debate and discussion, and that, White says, is healthy for any discipline. Erich Von Daniken of Switzerland (author of the best-selling book, "Chariots of the Gods?") will take part in the discussion, in his only U.S. appearance this year.

Others to be featured at the Omega Communications conference will include Debbie Jordan, the central figure in "Intruders," the 1987 best seller about UFO abductions.

Jordan, who uses the pseudonym "Kathie Davis" in the book, and her sister, Kathy Mitchell, will together describe the numerous UFO-related events they say they have had in Indiana, where they live.

He wants an answer

Sterling Jewett was a well-thought of insurance salesman in Cheshire, and the day he was leaving a farmer's home on Mountain Road after dropping off a policy, he saw something he never believed in before, he says.

"I believe it was May 16, 1966, something like that. But I remember the incident," Jewett, now 78 years old, says.

"It was 3:30 p.m. It was

overcast. You couldn't see the sun, but it was overcast. I drove out of their driveway and made a left turn, and went around a sharp bend in the road, and right in front of their house and to my surprise I saw a cylinder-shaped object and it appeared to be approximately 8 feet in diameter and 20 feet or more long."

As Jewett got closer, it got smaller, he says.

"I was amazed because I couldn't see any wheels or supports to hold it off the ground and it appeared to be about 3 to 4 feet off the ground. I kept putting my brakes on to look at this object."

Later, Jewett learned that the farmer and his wife could see him hitting his brakes, but a large tree blocked their view of the hayfield and they didn't see any kind of object.

"It was bright and it looked like the texture of coral, like something like coral painted aluminum color. It seemed to be moving ever so slightly. I didn't know what the darned thing was. I just saw this thing and wondered what the darned thing was. I didn't believe in UFOs," Jewett says.

"It was a beautiful thing, because it was all aluminum-colored, almost like a velvet texture, but solid," he says. "Because I was in a hurry to get to the post office by 4 p.m., I didn't stop. Like a dummy, I didn't stop. It's a shame I didn't stop and get a witness. Someone says I should have gotten a chain and caught it."

Fear that people would think he was unstable kept Jewett from relating his experience at first. "I didn't want people to think I was a weirdo," he says.

"I hope before I leave this Earth, they find out where these UFOs come from and if they really exist. It is very frustrating to me. It would be easier if one should land in the middle of a city somewhere."

"They have always been around. They've been watching us for thousands of years."

John Bielinski
Former investigator for the
International Mutual UFO
Network

"There is something very real going on."

Anastasia Wietzychowski
Connecticut state director of the
International Mutual UFO
Network

"A lot of UFO sightings simply come from people who don't know the sky, and they're just seeing natural phenomena and it doesn't have anything to do with little green men."

Bill Herbst
Chairman of the astronomy
department at Wesleyan
University

"I feel very strongly that the people who've had these experiences need to be respected for their experiences."

Kenneth Ring
Professor of psychology at the
University of Connecticut



■ John Bielinski of Wallingford stands near an 8-foot, handmade model of a creature he calls "Zatar," who he says has visited him.

Bielinski says his life has been changed by his abductions and experiences with extraterrestrials.

Caller reports unexplained, weird light in the sky

By Jean Gray
Editor and publisher

A light in the sky, ET, space ship or whatever, the woman reporting "it" swears if she's crazy, so are a lot of other people.

A woman, who wishes to remain anonymous, says lights appeared in the skies northeast, but more east than north of Fleming on Sunday night from about 9 p.m. until 10:10 p.m. "It lasted forever," the woman said by phone on Monday. "It was like the stuff you see on TV—like something you'd like to explain away, but can't."

The woman said she and a neighbor watched together, but she also did not want to give the neighbor's name. "Personally I don't know what I saw," she continued. "It's one of those things you don't think is possible, but it's happening. It was amazing."

She said she woke her son up so he could see it. "He was in awe. It was too weird to be a crop duster and if it was a plane, it had to be a very special one—one they are testing and not telling us about." She added that she and the neighbor stayed on the tele-

phone until 2 a.m. "She was spooked."

In describing the lights, the woman said it first resembled a large star, but then bursts began coming out of it.

The woman said she reported it to the UFO Reporting Center Foundation located in the state of Washington. Peter B. Davenport,

but the largest number on Sunday night came from Jackson Hole, Wyo., where a total of seven calls originated, six, Davenport says, from adults.

The sighting at Jackson Hole reportedly took place at around 11:45 p.m. and lasted for 50 minutes. The callers described it as being from one light at times, to

ment reported seeing strange lights that night. However on Monday, he said they later figured out that it was actually a spot light coming from an electronic sight. "They are supposed to report when they will be working out there, but they didn't," said Terry Watson.

At least one newspaper at Jackson, Wyo., where the seven calls

as director of the UFO Reporting Center Foundation when its founder, Robert J. Gribble, decided to step down. He said the purpose of the Center is to act as a clearing house for UFO sighting reports. They take the information, do a preliminary investigation to determine value, then decide if follow-up is warranted. If they feel it is, they call on investigators from the Mutual UFO Institute or the Center for UFO Studies.

The investigators go out into the field to talk to the people who report the sightings. The two Haxtun area women will not, however, receive a visitor. According to Davenport, it is difficult to investigate lights in the sky. Instead the women have been asked to put their impressions and a detailed description of what they saw in writing.

"It was a calming affect to know other people saw it," said the woman. "It kind of lets you know you're not crazy after all."

Neither the ComCenter at Holyoke, nor the Logan County Sheriff's Department received reports about strange lights on Sunday night.

"It was like the stuff you see on TV, but you don't believe it. It was like something you'd like to explain away, but can't."

Anonymous caller

director of the Foundation, confirmed a call from two women who said they live near Haxtun, Colo. "I felt what they said was very credible," said Davenport, adding that the women's description is compatible with other reports received over the past two weeks. "We have been swamped with calls," he said, adding that they have received in excess of 200 calls during that period.

He said calls came from several states, including Washington, Oregon, Utah and Montana,

seven lights at other times, and at one point seemed to form a star.

On the previous Friday, he said they received a call from a swimmer who reportedly saw a UFO that came streaking from the sky, then went into some zig zag turns before hovering. "While it was hovering something propelled down like a cannon shot," said Davenport, repeating what the caller said.

One of the calls on Sunday night later fizzled. A jailer with the Libby, Mont. Police Depart-

ment reported seeing strange lights that night. However on Monday, he said they later figured out that it was actually a spot light coming from an electronic sight. "They are supposed to report when they will be working out there, but they didn't," said Terry Watson.

Another caller, who told Davenport he is a state trooper for Wanachie, Washington, could not be located. A dispatcher in the Wanachie Patrol Office said they had no Officer Hill that she knew about.

Davenport recently took over

Walsh speaker claims UFO abduction

By BRET ADAMS

Free Press Co-Managing Editor

John R. Salter Jr. has led an incredible life. He just retired as professor and chairman of American Indian studies at the University of North Dakota. His civil rights work placed him in great physical danger in the South in the 1960s. But the most stunning event in his life occurred on March 20, 1988, in Wisconsin; Salter claims he and one of his sons, John III, had personal contact with extraterrestrials. The Salters were interviewed for the final segment of a recent CBS documentary titled "Visitors From the Unknown."

Salter delivered a 2½-hour lecture titled "Extraterrestrial Contacts: Their Nature, Meaning and Effects" at Walsh University in North Canton on Oct. 23.

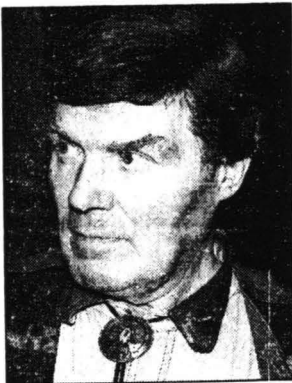
He explained that after memories of the 1988 event became clear in his mind, other memories returned to him regarding three similar extraterrestrial encounters beginning in 1941, when he was 7, and then again in 1952 and 1957. This pattern of multiple encounters is consistent with many others who claim contacts with extraterrestrials.

"I don't see ETs as devils, angels, psychics or time travelers. I see them as friendly visitors who are extremely cautious," said Salter.

The morning of March 20, 1988, Salter and his son left for speaking engagements in Mississippi and Louisiana. But before mapping the driving route, he somehow decided on an inefficient route.

"I thought, 'This doesn't make

any damn sense at all,'" Salter said. "We should have gone



Free Press photo by Bret Adams

UFO abductee
John R. Salter Jr.

miles east of Peoria, Ill., a bright light came toward them from the east.

"There was a clear sky. It was no weather balloon. There was no Air Force base nearby. It wasn't swamp gas," Salter said. "It was enveloped in a silvery, shimmering force field. It looked like the glowing coals of an oak fire. We saw a saucer-shaped craft about 200 yards in front of us, hovering. It possibly had a dome. It took off at an extremely high speed."

Salter said some possible explanations became apparent. First, the UFO's appearance was for the Salters' sake and theirs alone. Second, the extraterrestrials were friendly. Third, the UFO's appearance helped explain the events of the previous day. And fourth, he remembered the famous story of Barney and Betty Hill, who claimed to have had contact with extraterrestrials in 1961.

After returning to North Dakota, Salter began to experience several startling physiological changes.

"Wrinkles on my face faded. My fingernail growth accelerated dramatically. I had little in the way of

body hair and facial hair but hair grew on my legs and chest and I developed a dark beard by September 1988. My sparse eyebrows became bushy. A scar on my leg about the size of a quarter, and some other scars, faded while not all did. My energy level went way up," Salter said. "I had been a notoriously heavy smoker for many decades. I used to smoke four packs of non-filtered Pall Mall cigarettes a day. Then I switched to a pipe and used to smoke a pound of strong tobacco a week. Then, in May 1989, I was standing in my office one day when I suddenly realized I had gone 24 hours without smoking. I haven't noticed a single physical or psychological twinge (since I stopped smoking). I began to lose fat without any conscious effort to do so. A ruddy quality developed in my skin. When I get cuts now, the blood clots right away and doesn't run."

Every March since the encounter, a red spot appears on his chest and lasts for a few hours before disappearing. From August 1988 until recently, Salter met with scientists

every month to keep careful records of his physiological changes. His son also experienced physiological changes. John III was 23 at the time of the encounter. He had stopped growing at age 18 but after the encounter, he grew another 1½ inches.

Salter's memories of the extraterrestrial encounter started a few months afterward.

"Recall for me started in June 1988. It returned in a linear fashion. It was vivid in a sense you could feel your emotions. I would get up to eat at 2 a.m. or 3 a.m. and eat meat or fish because my protein needs increased dramatically. Then I would go back to sleep for an hour or so and recall would rise up and recede and later in the morning, before noon or so, I would remember everything consciously," Salter said.

"I had started on arrangements for hypnosis if recall wouldn't come. (A noted author and hypnotist) wrote a letter to me saying it's memorable that my memory returned spontaneously without hypnosis. My son's

straight south. Why did I decide to take this meandering route?"

Ultimately, the Salters' 90-minute memory blackout occurred in an isolated part of Wisconsin.

"At that point, all memory in a conscious sense stopped. The highway forks and we went the wrong way. We drove about 60 miles until briefly our memories returned," Salter said.

When their conscious memory returned, they realized they were lost. They ended up in a small town called Richland Center. The Salters went to a hotel and restaurant where they talked quietly about what happened and tried to make some sense out of it.

They continued their journey the next morning. About five

memories took longer. His memories and my memories meshed very intricately."

Here is a summary of Salter's memories of what happened during the blackout period. They drove to an isolated area and their truck came to a stop underneath a grove of trees. Six or seven small figures came toward the truck. Salter said he remembers not being afraid and thinking the figures looked just like children. A taller, more humanoid figure led the Salters up a hill toward a small spacecraft. Inside the spacecraft, they entered a room with curved walls and a sparse layout.

The Salters were then given cursory medical examinations. Salter's son had his face examined with a flashlight-like device with a soft end. A few days later, a mysterious growth that had been on John III's jaw for some time disappeared. Salter was given three injections. One went up his right nostril, near the pituitary gland. The second was given in a thyroid gland in his neck. And the third was given in his chest, where the red spot later appeared.

The extraterrestrials communicated telepathically with each other and with the Salters. Salter said they explained they came from Zeta Reticuli, a binary star system 37 light-years from Earth. (Some physics theories reach the conclusion that travel between star systems is possible. Magnetic principles would be used for propulsion, not nuclear fuel. Einstein's theory of relativity is also pertinent.)

The extraterrestrials said a long time ago, they migrated from one planet to about two or three others in the Zeta Reticuli system that were acceptable for colonization. The different climates on the planets resulted in their slight differences in size and appearance. The extraterrestrials also explained their travel among the stars. Soon, it was time for the Salters to leave.

"Only the tall figure went back with us to the truck. I felt a deep sadness and poignancy, and that we would meet again another time," said Salter.

Soon, Salter said memories of his three previous close encounters became quite clear. And he has had two UFO sightings since his 1988 encounter and some telepathic projections.

"Multiple encounters appear to be the rule rather than the exception," Salter said.

Why are extraterrestrials visiting Earth and interacting with humans? Salter believes they want to help us with our social and political problems. He said reports of UFOs have been around for thousands of years and he believes their visits and human contact increased in the wake of Earth's nuclear proliferation and space exploration in the 1940s and 1950s.

Salter does not believe extraterrestrials want to harm humans. He argued that extraterrestrials are obviously higher forms of intelligence than humans and they could have destroyed humans a long time ago if they really wanted to.

Perhaps most importantly, Salter, who is Catholic, said his experience in no way contradicts his religious beliefs. In fact, he said it has strengthened his belief in God.

Second part
of a five-part series



Grabbed by 'the grays'

Alien abduction reports show similarities

By JOE MANNING
and JERRY RESLER
Sentinel staff writers

Wisconsin people who insist they have been abducted by aliens say the experiences often are infuriating, frustrating, terrifying — and eerily similar in detail.

These experiences have reportedly changed lives for a wide mix of people who believe they have been abducted. They include a physician, real estate agents and business people, all of whom were interviewed for this story.

They report their clothing is sometimes removed and they are physically examined and left with scars.

They feel aliens choose them and study their families. Many suffering from UFO abduction syndrome fear their children have been or will be abducted. One woman thinks her daughter

may be a cross between herself and a space creature.

Most say they are told by the aliens that Earth faces ultimate, imminent destruction. The experiences of the Wisconsinites closely parallel those of other so-called abductees, including those profiled by noted Harvard psychiatrist John E. Mack.

Mack contends in his book, "Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens," released this spring, that abduction experiences are real although they may occur on a level outside of normal human understanding.

People who believe they have been abducted have told the Milwaukee Sentinel their memories of the events usually are blanked out by the aliens, but the thoughts can be retrieved under hypnosis.

They often seek the help of therapists using hypnosis to help them relive the "missing time episodes."

The aliens are typically described as short and large-headed with long, thin arms and long, tapering fingers. In the jargon of "abductees," they are referred to as "the grays."

Grays are said to have large, hypnotic, black eyes with no discernible irises. Looking into their eyes is frightful, say those who believe they have seen them.

The Wisconsinites say they are abducted repeatedly and often become familiar with their almond-eyed captors and other space creatures.

They are able to function in society. Other than their shared experiences, there is little to indicate they live with this perplexing problem.

For many, however, the experience is too powerful not to mention to someone close, often at the cost of ridicule. Relationships are damaged, sometimes permanently, when friends and relatives learn from a loved one about their abduction memories.

Some are completely rejected by their families. Family members fly into rages when abduction is mentioned.

One Wisconsin woman said her alien experiences contributed heavily to her divorce. Her husband could not accept her story. The family moved 37 times in 13 years because the woman feared

the aliens were tracking her.

A physician said his wife becomes irrational and screams at him when he tries to discuss his abductions.

Some, knowing the reactions they will face, never reveal their stories, or do so only in trusted company, such as a support group.

The experiences often dominate their lives, terrifying them because at any moment they know they may be abducted again.

Even though they feel their experiences are real, there often can be nagging sensations that the whole thing is in their minds or "made up in my imagination," one practicing physician who reported being abducted said.

Some demand signs from the aliens to prove the experiences are real.

A businesswoman challenged her aliens to "walk through my front door if you are real."

The "head alien" responded that the woman could only see the aliens when she was in "an altered state."

The sign the alien did offer was that 10 of her friends would see UFOs over a period of several days. They did, the woman says.

The following are interviews with two Wisconsin residents who believe they were abducted by aliens:

A Wisconsin physician, now in his early 40s, said he first experienced abduction when he was

in college.

He and a roommate were driving from their Michigan college town to North Carolina and had become lost on some back roads.

They came to a dead end at a large body of water the physician thinks was Lake Erie.

The next thing he and his roommate knew was that they were back on the interstate highway hundreds of miles and two states away from where they had been.

The experience was so upsetting to him that he went into a state of depression, sleeping almost constantly and nearly flunking out of school.

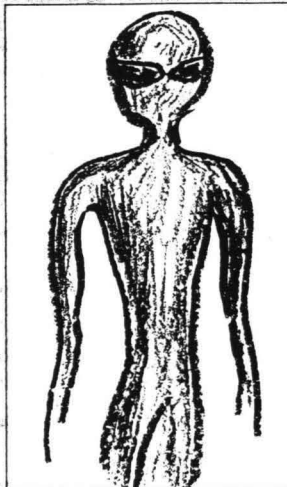
Years later, still troubled by the missing time, he underwent hypnosis and discovered an episode in his youth on a playground. A sudden storm had sent children running for cover but out of the storm he saw a spaceship land on the school yard.

"Something like a ramp was lowered and something was coming out," he said. The memory of that Good Friday afternoon ends there.

In another hypnotic session, he was able to recall being aboard a space craft.

The images are dim, but he remembers large, almond-shaped eyes of the terrifying creatures, up close, examining him.

"If the abduction phenomenon is real — and it seems plausible to me — you have to wonder what their ultimate motives are,"



Gray captor: A Milwaukee-area man who says he has been abducted by aliens drew this sketch last month of one of the creatures who he believes abducted him.

he said.

"The entity has been with us all along, possibly guiding our evolution," he said.

The government knows about aliens and may have something worked out with them, he said. Officials are engaged in "a cover-up" to avoid undermining social structures and religion, he said.

His experience has left the physician with "a sense of foreboding, particularly at night."

To him, the aliens are not as benevolent as some "abductees" regard them.

He said he has "overwhelming fear for the planet and the environment."

As much as he believes his experiences are real, he admits, "It may be nothing more than my imagination getting the best of me."

Sherry is a businesswoman in southern Wisconsin.

"I was abducted when I was 17," she said.

It happened on a drive to a friend's home. Her car stalled in a remote area.

"I saw five people ahead of me on the road. I said to myself that it was good my car stalled or I would have run over them," Sherry said.

She said the people were short and dressed alike "and they were not human."

"It was absolutely terrifying," she said. "I cannot describe it to you. The leader looked at me through the windshield. He called

my name. He told me to look at his eyes, but I wouldn't. If you do they can take control of you.

"They opened the door. They wrapped long fingers around my wrists and pulled me out of the car," she said.

As she was being dragged to a nearby silver spaceship, she said the leader assured her that she would not be harmed.

"They said they had to do this and I would be OK. There was a ramp down, and I did not want to go in there. I knew what was going to happen," she said.

They took her into a large room where she said she met a woman who looked more like a

WEDNESDAY: DREAMS OR REALITY?

■ People who say they see UFOs and aliens tend to be more open to beliefs in paranormal activities and may have more psychological problems than others, studies show. Some incidents may be related to a condition called "sleep paralysis."

human being than the creatures did.

"She helped me to get undressed, and they put me on a narrow, cold table. The woman said everything was going to be OK."

The aliens took skin samples, stuck probes under her nails and "touched me all over," she said.

"They checked my heredity. They told me I had problems with my legs and joints, and they were going to take care of them. They had been studying my (ancestral) line for some time," she said.

"They took a needle and said they had to take a sample from me. They wanted a sample of my eggs. They held me. The needle went in through my abdomen, and I watched this yellowish fluid go up through the tube," she said.

The creatures used telepathy to communicate with her, she said. After the physical examination, she said, she was questioned about her views on politics, war and pollution and asked if she knew how people's thoughts affect the world.

They reportedly asked her if she thought it was important for her to be a virgin when she got married and if she thought her parents were raising her properly.

The leader told her that all living things are related and part of "the creator" and human beings should live in harmony and not pollute, she said.

Sherry said she asked if she could again be taken up in the spaceship. Her use of the word again triggered memories of her having been abducted as a child, she said.

The space creatures told her it was time for her to leave and she would forget everything that happened, but they would always be nearby, she said.

As they were putting her back in her car, she said she fought to retain the fleeting memories of the abduction as they rapidly drained away like "a blackboard being erased."

The memories were later retrieved through hypnosis, she said.

Today, Sherry, divorced, is still plagued by her abductors who she said "interfered with my pregnancy." Aliens told her they had enhanced her pregnancy. She wonders if her daughter, now in her early 20s, is a hybrid, half space creature, half human.

Her daughter once asked her if her father was "from out there."

She said she knows her daughter has been abducted because of the bruises from alien fingers she finds on her daughter's wrists and because of needle marks on her body.

She no longer fears the situation.

"I just wonder what they are up to," she said.

REVIEW-JOURNAL, Las Vegas, NV - Sept. 15, 1994 CR: M. Hines

Air Force still covering up '47 crash of alien craft

To the editor:

The Sept. 9 Associated Press article "Air Force debunks 1947 'crash' of UFO" is strewn with errors. If Col. Richard Weaver, author of the debunking attempt, competently investigated the July 1947 UFO crash near Roswell, N.M., he wouldn't characterize the claims as "undocumented, taken out of context, self-serving or otherwise dubious."

More than 300 people have been interviewed for the various books on the Roswell crash. The vast majority of all military interviewees and other principal witnesses involved in the event have openly discussed the crash and its subsequent cover-up with researchers and the media. For instance, there was Maj. (later Col.) Jesse A. Marcel, the Roswell Army Air Force base intelligence officer who was sent to the Foster ranch by base commander Col. William Blanchard to recover material from the debris field. Col. Blanchard, probably because of his reputation for having good relations with the community, ordered PIO Lt. Walter Haut to issue a press release saying that the

RAAF recovered a flying saucer. This story even appeared in the Review-Journal on July 8, 1947.

Before his death, Maj. Marcel gave various interviews saying that the material he picked up was not of this Earth (extremely light and strong metal, I-beams with hieroglyphic-type markings embossed in lavender, light bending fiber optics, and material one could wad up in one's hand, but which would, on its own, reform to its original shape). Retired Brig. Gen. Thomas J. DuBose admitted (on video produced by the Fund for UFO Research) that the "weather balloon" explanation was a cover story and that the entire operation was conducted under the strictest security. Brig. Gen. DuBose was in a perfect position to know of the cover-up, since he was an aide to Gen. Roger Ramey, head of the Eighth Air Force, who ordered the weather-balloon cover story.

"Wooden sticks" and "rubber pieces" were not found on the debris field, as the AP article falsely states, but they were part of the weather-balloon cover story. The video of Brig. Gen. DuBose

and Maj. Marcel speaking directly into the camera can hardly be called "undocumented" by a competent investigator. Brig. Gen. Arthur E. Exon, a man of impeccable credentials, also openly discussed the other-worldly properties of the metal flown to then Wright Field. According to both Maj. Marcel and Brig. Gen. Exon, some of the metal found at the crash site was thinner than the foil in a pack of cigarettes, yet so strong it could not be dented with a ten-pound sledgehammer. Col. Weaver's suggestion that this wreckage came from Project Mogul is not worthy of comment.

Maj. Marcel, Brig. Gen. DuBose, and many of the other interviewees are of sterling character. Interested only in the truth, they had neither any financial gain nor any "self-serving" purpose in granting interviews. In my opinion, Weaver shames his uniform by trying to discredit America's best and by spreading disinformation, especially at a time when so many others have come clean about the event.

MARK HINES
Las Vegas

Third part
of a five-part series



Some fear ridicule over sightings

By JERRY RESLER and JOE MANNING
Sentinel staff writers

Many people who have had UFO experiences — even those who have only seen strange objects in the sky — are reluctant to talk about them publicly for fear of being ridiculed or called crazy.

A middle-aged professional woman, who said she saw a strange, saucer-shaped object hovering near an electrical power substation in North Carolina about 20 years ago, says she has rarely discussed the incident

outside her immediate family.
"I don't talk about it because people are going to think you're crazy," said the woman, who now lives in a Milwaukee suburb and asked that her name not be used. "To this day, I keep saying to myself, 'No, I didn't see it'... But I know in my gut what I saw. I saw it."
Even those who are interested in UFOs, but have never seen one themselves, fear they will be labeled kooks. Yet many of these people appear to be bright, level-headed individuals with responsible jobs and positions.

Canadian psychology researchers who studied people with UFO experiences found they were surprisingly down to earth.

A study by Kenosha researcher Jeff Goodpaster of people who believe they have been abducted found that, as a group, they were no more prone to fantasies than the average population although some did seem to have more psychological problems.

Goodpaster, who teaches psychology at Gateway Technical College, is concerned because he believes there are earthly expla-

"I've known John since 1963, and I've worked with him," Gudeman said of his former Harvard colleague. "He's very well-trained, solid psychiatrist, a really brilliant guy who's done some excellent research with nightmares. But he's moved from real traditional kinds of works and real solid things into things that are more questionable."

Saying they have been abducted may be a way for people to get love or attention or to cope with their fears, Gudeman speculated.

"I, myself, do not believe in extraterrestrials nor have I seen any clear evidence in the patients I see that this is a common phenomenon," Gudeman said.

"In my honest view, there are many, many other things within the field of mental health, including the tragedies around childhood abuse, sexual abuse, schizophrenia and depression, that are far more important that need to be studied," Gudeman said.

Ashok Bedi, a psychiatrist at the Milwaukee Psychiatric Hospital, 1220 Dewey Ave., Wauwatosa, speculated that many of the people who say they have been abducted may be experiencing dreams or delusions tied to a sort of mid-life crisis.

It is not uncommon for some people in this age group to develop a fear of flying or birds. This appears, Bedi said, to be the result of dashed dreams and unmet expectations.

For such people, who feel they have spent most of their lives involved in mundane, 9-to-5 activities, the birds and planes — and maybe even UFOs — come to symbolize the dreams they never allowed themselves to pursue.

Bedi says "abductees" may be experiencing something beyond our comprehension, beyond the capacity of our scientific instruments to measure.

nations for what is happening to the so-called abductees and that many of them are not adequately receiving treatment for the very real terrors they are experiencing.

The Canadian researchers, from Carleton University in Ottawa, studied 49 people who said they had seen strange lights or objects in the sky or had close encounters with them, including, in a few cases, abductions.

"There was no mental illness," Patricia A. Cross, one of the researchers, said in a telephone interview with the Milwaukee Sentinel. "We gave them a battery of tests for psychopathology, and they scored well within the normal range."

Not only that, but the 31 people who simply reported seeing strange lights or objects in the sky scored higher on intelligence tests than 127 people who also were studied and reported never having any UFO experiences.

The only difference between those who reported seeing UFOs and those who did not, Cross said, is that the people who reportedly saw UFOs tended to be more open to beliefs in UFOs and other paranormal activities, such as reincarnation.

This, the researchers believe, may have caused people who apparently saw UFOs or aliens to interpret what they were experiencing from the standpoint of their beliefs.

"Most incidents occurred at night, usually in situations where the person was alone and usually in a situation surrounding sleep, going to bed, waking up in the middle of the night, etc.," Cross said.

speculate that the so-called abductees actually experienced something called sleep paralysis, a short period of total body paralysis that can occur just before falling asleep or immediately upon awakening.

Sleep paralysis, which is not uncommon, is typically associated with extreme fear and often prompts hallucinations.

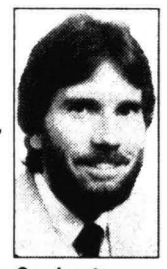
"Some can be explained by sleep paralysis like waking up and finding aliens in the room and not being able to move," Cross said. "That's where they are interpreting what they see in terms of pre-existing beliefs."

"We have a little piece of the puzzle," Cross said. "Sleep paralysis tends to explain some things, but not everything. But I would say that before you can ever endorse a belief in extraterrestrials visiting you, you have to explore the other alternatives first."

In his controversial book, "Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens," Harvard psychiatrist John E. Mack says he believes that people who say they have been abducted by aliens are not dreaming or hallucinating but are recalling actual experiences.

In the forward, Mack says that before he began looking into this phenomenon several years ago, he thought "abductees" were mentally ill.

But after interviewing nearly 100 people who say they have been abducted over the past few years, and hypnotically regressing 49 of them, Mack now be-



Goodpaster



Mack



Bedi

Despite his impressive credentials, Mack, to no one's surprise, has caught a great deal of flak since his book appeared.

"If he believes that aliens are abducting people, then I think he's off base," Goodpaster said.

Goodpaster is affiliated with the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Chicago. Goodpaster and others, including Mark Rodeghier, director of the Center for UFO Studies, studied 27 so-called abductees and are continuing their research. Rodeghier teaches at the University of Illinois — Chicago.

Goodpaster said their research showed the people reporting abductions "were somewhat better educated than the average population. We found most were not fantasy prone. It was the same you would expect to find in the general population."

The 27 people studied were divided into two groups. The study showed that "one group of abductees was very emotionally and mentally healthy, but tests suggested the other group had some psychological problems."

Goodpaster says he is professionally leery of hypnosis being used to help people recall their UFO experiences.

"The general population thinks that hypnosis is a tool to get at lost memories and it's not," he said. "You get a lot of junk in this state."

He agrees that sleep paralysis may explain many of the cases.

Milwaukee psychiatrist Jon E. Gudeman says he thinks Mack is out on a thin limb.

Gudeman is professor of psychiatry at the Medical College of Wisconsin and medical director of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Complex in Wauwatosa.

THURSDAY: LIGHTS IN THE SKY

■ Some UFO sightings can be logically explained, yet some sightings defy explanation. A police officer in Belleville, a Milwaukee-area woman traveling through Missouri and a University of Wisconsin — Milwaukee student are among those who described their bizarre sightings.

lieves they are not only sane but telling the truth.

"Psychological testing of abductees has not revealed evidence of mental or emotional disturbance that could account for their reported experiences," Mack says.

His own experience, Mack writes, shows that some of the people he has interviewed are "highly functioning individuals" while others "verge on being overwhelmed by the traumatic impact and philosophical implications of their experiences and need a great deal of counseling and emotional support."

UFO fans pack meeting

Close encounters,
curiosity unite group

By Karla Schuster
Register Staff

NORTH HAVEN — Paul Mirer is something of a skeptic when it comes to the idea that aliens are making regular contact with, well, regular folks here on Earth.

But that didn't stop him from spending Saturday at the seventh annual UFO Conference, which drew 200-plus people to the Holiday Inn for a two-day journey into the world of extraterrestrials.

"Just curiosity, I guess," Mirer, a Yale student who lives in New Haven, said when asked what brought him to the conference. "I'd say I'm open to the idea, but uncertain right now. But I think if there's something to it, it could mean a lot economically, politically and philosophically for the entire world. The implications are so large."

The conference, which ran all day Saturday and will continue un-

til 6 p.m. today, brought together some of the most renowned experts in the field of UFOs, alien abductions and extraterrestrial sightings.

"It's a public forum for education and information," said paranormal phenomena researcher John White of Cheshire, who organizes the conference. "People are perfectly free to question and disagree or critique what they hear. Some are skeptical and some are what you'd call true believers."

White said when he opened the conference Saturday, a quarter of the audience of about 150 raised their hands when he asked how many had seen a UFO. About a dozen said they'd been abducted by aliens, while five said they'd been aboard a UFO, White said.

Conference speaker George Fawcett, state director of the North Carolina for the Mutual UFO Network, told the audience that alien abductions happen in many ways.

"It is my belief that many of these abductions are physical events and some of them may be out-of-body experiences," Fawcett

said.

Later, while showing slides of a cartoon about a UFO sighting that showed the captives had been given other-worldly souvenirs, he quipped: "Even with souvenir T-shirts, I don't think people are willing to believe us."

Joan Orzech of Meriden said people "should have an open mind until it's disproven," adding that "I have friends that are believers and friends that just don't."

Ben and Sharon Warren of Port Chester, N.Y., came to the conference to see family — organizer John White is her uncle.

But Ben Warren also has a keen interest in UFOs and said he spotted one about a decade ago while living in Kansas.

"They get some big-name speakers and researchers here," Ben Warren said. "I've seen (a UFO) myself back in Kansas."

Wife Sharon is less convinced about the existence of UFOs. "I like to listen. There're some things I believe and some things I don't," she said. "It was before I knew him, but if he says he saw it then I'm sure he did."

JOURNAL, Alexandria, VA
Sept. 23, 1994

More stonewalling in UFO cover-up

After spending presumably thousands of taxpayer dollars searching for non-existent records on what went on near Roswell, N.M., in July 1947, the secretary of the Air Force has come up with a mea-non-culpa report that poses more questions than answers.

Once again, our military authorities grudgingly agreed to disagree with private researchers on the significance of the material retrieved (and suppressed) in New Mexico.

Before this latest whitewash, we had to contend with an Air Force-sponsored report on the scientific non-value of conducting official UFO research. Before that, we had to deal with occasional protestations that the executive branch had nothing to hide about UFO-encounter reports (a number of which, we now know, bore security classifications of confidential and secret.)

Obviously, we must look outside official channels. We must look to prospective whistleblowers weary of the continuing deception.

In the past, some of them have leaked information to the private UFO research community. Some of them now may view the Roswell report as the final catalyst for coming forward and telling all.

LARRY W. BRYANT
Alexandria

CR: L. Bryant

UFOria

Strange sightings and odd visitations in Bridport

BY MOLLY WALSH, FREE PRESS

BRIDPORT — As Joe Gleason tells it, this quiet farm community on the southeastern tip of Lake Champlain is becoming a UFO hot spot. Glowing discs hover in the western sky. Mysterious electrical charges drive animals wild and knock out farm machinery. Frolicking aliens barge into bedrooms.

Such stories are difficult to believe and impossible to prove. No wonder Gleason suspects that his mental state will be questioned as he airs the tales to his neighbors.

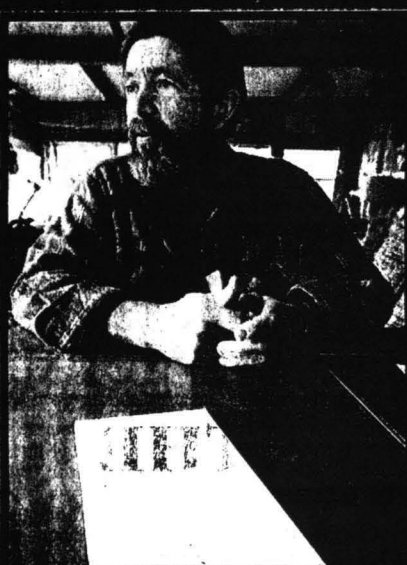
But the ponytailed carpenter and auto restorer is beyond worrying about what his community thinks. "They know I'm the town nut," he joked.

Gleason is founder of a new Vermont chapter of the International Center for Aerial and Abduction Research (ICAAR).

The group's start up comes at a time when interest in the paranormal is surging.

No longer are reports of aliens and abductions confined to the tabloids. Now both daytime and primetime TV are full of shows about UFO's, from Fox's "Sightings" to NBC's "Encounters: The Hidden Truth."

Just last weekend, a Larry King special on TNT explored an alleged government coverup of UFOs at a Nevada military base, and the Southwest is rife with news accounts of mysterious cattle mutilations.



JOE GLEASON SHOWS A SKETCH OF A UFO THAT HE SAYS HE'S SEEN.

Harvard psychiatrist John Mack rocked the establishment with his book, "Abduction," and last month, a new poll showed that young people have more faith in UFOs than Social Security.

Forty-six percent of people between the ages of 18 and 34 believe that UFOs exist

One Addison woman claims her son has been abducted by aliens. A local man believes electrical surges from UFO landings could be harming livestock and machinery. A third person swears that she was visited by aliens in the wee hours of Sept. 10 — while, according to Gleason, dogs and cats and livestock were going "berserk" around his Lake Street neighborhood.

The woman awoke to a buzzing sound. Then she felt a scampering presence in her room. "There were these beings — they were very, very busy," she said. "It felt as though these little 2- or 3-years-olds were walking around on my bed."

The woman then felt the beings weaving a "psychic web" over her that left her motionless and dumb. With great difficulty she was able to hum and then work out the word "Go." This scared the creatures away, she said.

The idea that Bridport is a sort of Twilight Zone is news to many residents.

Are UFOs commonly sighted there? "I guess anything's possible, but I haven't heard of anything," said Joe Boise of Boise's Citgo in Bridport.

There have been no reports of UFOs to the police, said Sgt. Dutch Lavalley of the Vermont State Police, based in Middlebury.

But Gleason stands fast to his belief that something strange is going on in Bridport. "I look at it as a situation where people have certain parameters of belief, and when something strays outside those parameters they tend to want to silence it."

Gleason claims to have seen two UFO's, but not in Vermont. He says he saw the first flying over the Connecticut commune where he lived in the 1970s, and the second three weeks ago while driving to a UFO conference in New Hampshire.

"I was almost there when I saw this object beam in front of me," said Gleason. It disappeared just as suddenly.

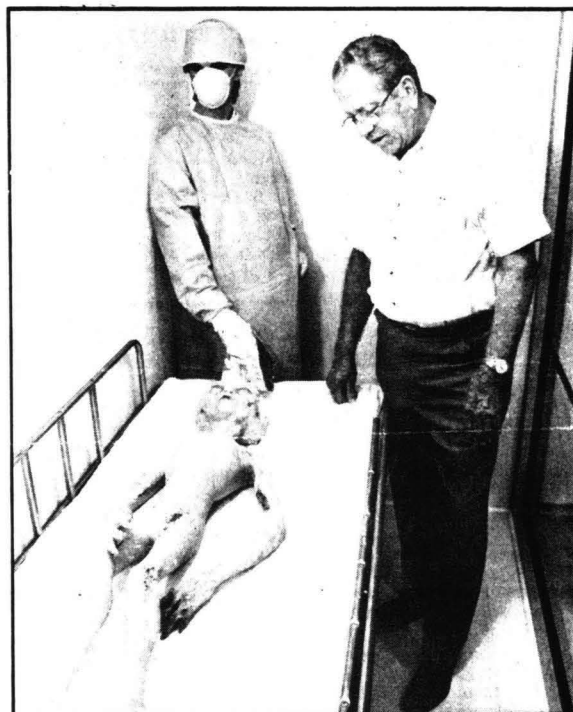
The strange doings in Bridport, in Gleason's view, are in part due to its geology. He believes that the area produces natural currents of electricity that attract UFOs. Many ufologist believe that hot spots of natural energy are often the scene of paranormal activity — ranging from crop circles to alien abductions.

While natural electricity does occur — in lightning, for example — the theory about earth having electrical hot spots is not supported by science, said Barry Doolan, chair of the University of Vermont's Geology Department.

There is no evidence of natural voltage in Bridport, he said. "We have nothing to support his theory."

DAILY RECORD, Roswell, NM - Sept. 21, 1994

New exhibit



Mike Pettit photo

Walter Haut, president of the International UFO Museum and Research Center, on Tuesday displays a model alien at the museum. The alien mannequin was used in Showtime Network Inc.'s production of "Roswell," a movie about the alleged UFO crash in 1947 near the city. The museum, 400 N. Main St., has received about 35,000 visitors since opening in 1992.

COURIER, Lake Zurich, IL - Sept. 29, 1994

Don't dismiss signs of UFOs

Lake Forest/ Paul Sassone's Sept. 22 "Mike Royko" type article, "Not of This Earth," on UFOs was amusing, but unfortunately, it tried to rule out any authenticity.

As a former UFO layman investigator, who took a 10-week course on the subject, read many, many

books on UFO evidence; interviewed several people, some right here in town; and had a proven landing on my property in 1968, I must take exception to Mr. Sassone's whimsy.

There are two reasons for people not believing in a subject: one, they haven't studied it, and two, they are afraid it might be true!

Bunnie Corwith

according to the survey by Third Millennium.

What's going on?

"There's definitely something at work," said Joe Citro, a Burlington author who has interviewed dozens of UFO believers. "Whether it's internal or external remains to be seen."

Whether real or imagined, Citro can't dismiss the boom in UFO reports. If it is psychological trend, he has an interesting theory: "I think people need things to fear," he said. "Fear is most easily dealt with when it's personified — we've got this UFO to be afraid of, or these little grey men who might abduct us — it gives some specificity to random fear."

Citro writes about UFOs in his latest horror novel, "Deus X," (Twilight Publishing Co., \$24.95) and his other new book, "Green Mountain Ghosts, Ghouls & Unsolved Mysteries" (Vermont Life & Chapters, \$12.95/\$21.95).

In Citro's experience, most UFO believers are mainstream people with Middle American interests and values. "Then they

have this one anomaly in their lives."

And while skeptics dismiss UFOs with a wave of the hand, believers are adamant about the reality of what they've seen.

Two Vermonters — Jack Weiner of West Townsend and Charles Rak of Wardsboro — are becoming nationally known in UFO circles for their story of being abducted by a UFO during a canoe trip in Maine in the 1970s.

The abduction, during which Weiner, Rak and two fishing buddies were allegedly beamed into a craft and relieved of sperm, fingernail samples, blood, urine and feces by aliens conducting a medical examination, was recounted on a recent episode of "Unsolved Mysteries."

It is also the subject of two 1993 books, "The Allegash Abductions" by Raymond E. Fowler, and Rak and Weiner's first-person account, "The Allegash Incident."

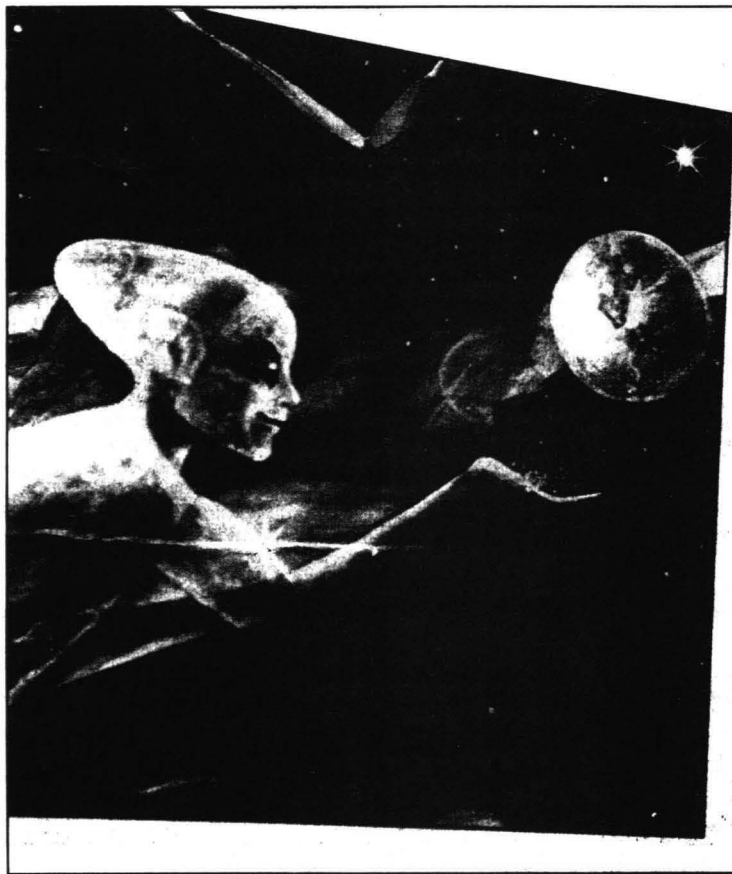
Rak has no doubts that UFOs exist, and in his view the argument is not whether they have

come to Earth, but how often and in what kinds of vehicles. "I wouldn't be surprised if there aren't several civilizations studying us here," he said.

Gleason's foray into ufology — the study of unidentified flying objects — was gradual. Although he's the sort of person who is planning to spend the winter in New Mexico because one of his channeling entities advises him to, Gleason says he approached the reports in Bridport with some skepticism.

But after hearing several stories from Bridport and Addison residents about mysterious objects, particularly hovering orbs in the night sky over the Adirondacks, Gleason decided to investigate. He hopes that by founding the Vermont chapter of ICAAR, the mysteries will be discussed and compared.

Though Gleason is willing to go public as a UFO believer, most of the people who say they saw strange things in the area are not. Upon being contacted by a reporter, they declined to publicly discuss their stories for fear of being labeled "wackos."



Aliens aren't so alien to Linfield College Professor Brian Crissey, who spends his free time investigating unidentified flying objects and publishing books about them. The benign-looking alien belongs to a poster promoting one of those books, "Close Extraterrestrial Encounters."

ROBERT BACH/The Oregonian

By ROBIN FRANZEN
of The Oregonian staff

HILLSBORO — Tenure has been liberating for Brian Crissey, chairman of the computer-science department at Linfield College.

Otherwise, the professor probably wouldn't be talking quite so freely about an eyebrow-raising subject that has consumed a portion of his life ever since 1963, when he had a close encounter with something that looked suspiciously from out of this world.

We're talking about unidentified flying objects here. But don't write Crissey off yet.

He's not the kind of half-baked guy who rambles on incoherently about lights in the sky. In fact, he's about as far from that blithering stereotype as a person can get: professorial, frighteningly credible with a shock of authoritative gray hair and decid-

Out THERE

Brian Crissey, a Linfield professor, is risking the respect of his colleagues by talking about the possibility of alien life

edly down to earth, albeit with a veil of dreaminess about him.

As Crissey might say about himself, if he's a fraud, he's a very good fraud.

In fact, the more you listen to him or read the books coming from his home-based UFO and new-age publishing house, Blue Water Publishing, the more difficult it becomes to

resist his broad thesis: The existence of alien life forms is probable, given the expanse of the universe, and if documented conclusively, it would dramatically change the way we think about ourselves and our place in the cosmos.

Never mind that some of the details seem a tad far-fetched.

"People resist the possibility of alien life, because the consequences of their existence are immense," says the 46-year-old Johns Hopkins University Ph.D., kicking back in Blue Water's small-but-professional-looking offices perched above his garage in rural Hillsboro. "Alien life would raise all kinds of unanswerable questions."

"They would be endless. Who are they? Who are we? Are we related to these new beings? What is our role? Are we like cattle in the field to them? Are they peaceful? What is our neighborhood? How far away did they come from, and is there anything else out there?"

"Is there a God?"

As Crissey speaks, he seems oblivious to the panorama of sky visible from his office window — an expanse seemingly made for UFO-watching with its views of the Tualatin Valley, Mount Hood, Mount St. Helens and, on a clear day, Mount Adams.

His mind is light-years away from the blue-and-green scenery, cranking away on the fundamental rethinking of the meaning of life that humankind would be forced to undertake if proof of life elsewhere was uncovered.

The underpinnings of education — his field — would be terribly shaken, he says, and a whole new way of looking at knowledge would have to emerge.

"That change could potentially touch every aspect of life," he says, pointing out that evidence supporting the existence of other worlds and life forms is mounting — some of it on the pages of his company's books. "We've got to start thinking about the possibilities now. It's the most probable explanation to what I see going on."

Breaking ground at Linfield

Crissey joined Linfield in 1985 and built the computer-science department from the ground up. He used to keep his views mostly to himself while on campus. However, last month he gave his first, well-attended lecture on the subject, titled "Collegiate Implications of Alien Presence on Earth."

He's pleased to report that all the feedback he received was positive or noncommittal. (Apparently when you're in the UFO business, even noncommittal is considered good.)

"It was a risk, but I have enough self-confidence not to be too concerned about what people think of me," he says, drawing rough parallels between himself and historical pioneers such as Christopher Columbus and Copernicus.

(continued on page 9) 8

Brian Crissey's close encounter

In the summer of 1963, while working as a counselor at a camp 40 miles west of Milwaukee, 16-year-old Brian Crissey had an unusual experience that he believes was a "close encounter" with extraterrestrials. This is his unsubstantiated account of that night:

It was a warm, clear evening, sometime after the camp's 8 p.m. lights out, and Brian Crissey and another sentry were patrolling the grounds. As they stood near a cluster of cabins in a meadow, they noticed a strange light in the north sky.

What struck them was the curious way it moved, then paused, moved, then paused, moved, then paused, as it made its way across the darkness. It didn't behave like any plane they had seen.

They speculated about what it was — maybe a hot-air balloon — but eventually the speck turned east toward Milwaukee and disappeared. They figured it was gone, didn't give it much more thought and proceeded with their duties.

About half an hour later, they saw the same light returning from the east, and this time they felt sure it wasn't any hot-air balloon. It continued in their direction, and as it got closer details began to emerge that ruled out many earthly explanations.

As the light closed in, Crissey remembers feeling it, as if the thing were a presence. Fear began welling up inside him. Now he was sure this was something outside his realm of experience.

He and his buddy debated what they should do, but the camp rules didn't cover unidentified flying objects. They stood there, transfixed.

When it was roughly the length of a football field away, Crissey saw it was some kind of craft, but it had no blinking lights and no rotors or jets. It hovered about 20 feet above tree level, was longer than it was tall and was about the



ROBERT BACH/The Oregonian

In 1988, Brian Crissey painted this picture depicting his close encounter with a UFO in 1963.

size of a city bus. A string of lights surrounded it, and a pulsating, orange-pink glow came from its underside.

The silence was almost deafening. Fear became terror. Crissey saw tears running down his friend's face.

Suddenly, a brilliant blue light flashed, as if a gigantic flash bulb had gone off, creating deep black shadows around them.

The next thing Crissey remembers, he was

running through a thicket of trees and brambles, not caring whether or not he was on the path.

Shortly afterward, the pair stormed into the counselors' cabin, jabbering about lights and pointing at the sky. The group agreed to hold a vigil in the meadow until 4:30 a.m., but nobody saw the strange light again that night. As the sun rose, people started cracking jokes about what a good prank it had been.

— Robin Franzen

"I asked one person how I did," he adds wryly, and her response was, "Well, you did."

Fellow computer scientist Allen Brookes, who attended Crissey's lecture, acknowledges that some educators might not welcome discussion of the subject, because such things conflict with their religious or scientific beliefs.

It's too early to tell if Crissey's beliefs will affect his stature on campus, he adds.

But Brookes is willing to at least vaguely entertain the possibility of UFOs, and his own feelings about Crissey are positive. "He's a very curious person, in general," Brookes says, "and he's very open-minded about things, whether it's UFOs, the way he designs his house or the way he teaches computer science."

Marvin Henberg, Linfield's vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty, also took in the talk.

"I'm not more persuaded that UFOs are a genuine phenomenon than when I went in, and I think most of the faculty who attended told Brian that," he says. "But I support academic freedom and his right to raise it as a subject of discussion. I can weigh in with my skepticism, and he can weigh in with his beliefs."

Still at risk

Despite his candor, Crissey realizes that his decision to talk about UFOs in public is something of a professional risk, and probably makes die-hard skeptics unsure of his grasp on reality. "This is not the type of thing that people think intelligent human beings should be discussing," he says. "But once you can talk about it, you're willing to take the risk of being ridiculed."

Having seen a glimmer of light under the door, he'd also like to take his message to other campuses as well. "The issue is so important," he says. "We can't avoid talking about it."

Perhaps the most persuasive piece of evidence Crissey has of alien technology is his own fantastic experience, when he was a 16-year-old counselor patrolling at a summer camp outside Milwaukee.

Thirty years later, he still becomes emotional describing how a strange-moving craft approached over a valley from the east, then hovered in the night sky within easy sight, about 20 feet above tree level. Another counselor he was with saw it too, he says, and it's something he'll never forget.

He even painted a picture of it in 1988.

"It was longer than it is tall — about the size of a city bus — and a strange orange-pink, pulsating glow came from underneath it," he recalls. "There were no rotors and no noise. ... We were terrified." But not so terrified to be hallucinating, he points out.

That mind-opening experience marked the beginning of a long chain of events that Crissey figures might factor into a larger alien plan, involving himself, to educate mankind about alien existence. Such a plan, he says, might explain what



Brian Crissey and his wife, Pam A. Meyer, unpack UFO books produced by Wild Flower Press, a company they formed in 1990 to help UFO research.

appear to be odd coincidences in his life, such as meeting his wife, Pam A. Meyer, 44, who also had a close encounter, and deciding with Meyer to form Wild Flower Press, the UFO arm of Blue Water Publishing, in 1990.

The couple met at a computer conference in San Jose in 1987, where Meyer was serving as a marketing support representative for Apple. "Within the first three minutes, we talked about religion, politics and UFOs," he says. "To this day, I don't know why it came up."

Though already married, Crissey was drawn to Meyer and ended up corresponding with her by electronic mail. Eventually, because of their shared interests in UFOs, the relationship became blossomed and, after Crissey left his first wife, they were married in 1990.

"My first wife didn't do anything wrong," Crissey says, clearly saddened by the whole thing. "But the whole topic of UFOs made her uncomfortable, and she didn't approve of the time I spent on it."

Telling the alien story

Crissey — whose resume lists a stint in the 1970s as a staff officer to the Committee on Nuclear and Alternative Energy Systems of the National Academy of Sciences — understands the skepticism some people feel about alien life. He retains a healthy degree of skepticism himself about some of the more far-out stories. Incorporating milky-skinned beings with big, dark eye sockets into one's personal paradigm is a big shift, he notes — bigger than some people care to make.

Just the same, when Crissey's new matrimonial arrangements were settled, it finally opened a door for him to explore more of the unknown himself. The couple says the publishing venture, an offshoot of that interest, was first suggested through a Hillsboro woman who professed to communicate with aliens.

Meyer says they asked the being speaking through the woman what people interested in computers

could do for alien life. "They said they needed publishers," she says, "and that there was information out there and it would come to us."

Since then, the small publishing enterprise they founded has doubled its output every year, increasing its owners' sense of personal satisfaction along the way.

The mission, says Crissey, who is part-time publisher, is to find the

best, most credible, research on UFOs that is out there and put it into print for people of any age and nationality. "A lot of places mix fiction with fact," he says. "We discriminate."

Titles now available, by mail and in bookstores, include "Close Extraterrestrial Encounters: Positive Experiences with Mysterious Visitors;" "The Allagash Abductions: Undeniable Evidence of Alien Intervention;" "UFOs and the Psychic Factor;" "The Alien Book of Truth" and "The Aliens," a book of cartoons.

Blue Water Publishing, which pulled in \$160,000 in gross worldwide sales this year, even distributes a children's book about an alien named Ceto and his young human friends and puts out a UFO-related newsletter, "Contact Forum," six times a year. Its next project is getting its catalog out on the Internet.

"Usually, you find our books under 'Occult'" in the bookstores, Meyer says. "But we don't feel that way. We think there should be a New World Studies section."

Paul Cohen is national sales manager for Atrium Publishers Group, a company in Lower Lake, Calif., that recently began handling Wild Flower Press's distribution. He says Wild Flower's sales have been surprisingly strong during the first several months of their relationship, indicating that it's tapping into a niche that major publishing houses haven't been able to fill by them-

selves.

"They are definitely onto something — there is a tremendous amount of interest," he says, pointing out that readers of UFO books cross demographic lines. "I hope they are prepared to keep up with the demand."

Nonetheless, while Crissey and Meyer are heartened that business now includes four partners and the equivalent of 1½ employees, for the moment it is still largely a break-even proposition. (Blue Water, not coincidentally, was the name Crissey went by in camp back in 1963.)

"It might be a little risky, but we also think it's going to go," says Meyer, who serves as full-time president of the company. Not one to miss the humor inherent in UFOs, she adds, playfully, "Especially with a little help from our friends."

Robin Franzen covers educational issues for *The Oregonian's MetroWest news bureau in Washington County*. She can be reached by calling 294-5958.

CRISSEY'S BOOKS

Everything from UFO abductions to alien perspectives on the afterlife are covered in the pages of books published by Brian Crissey and his partners at Wild Flower Press, a division of Blue Water Publishing.

Titles are available through major bookstores, including Powell's Books, New Renaissance Bookshop, Barnes and Noble and B. Dalton, as well as through mail order. Catalogs are available by writing Wild Flower Press, Box 726, Newberg, Ore. 97132 or calling 1-800-366-0264.

According to Atrium Publishers Group, which handles Wild Flower's distribution, the current hot-seller is "The Allagash Abductions: Undeniable Evidence of Alien Intervention," written by Raymond E. Fowler and recently featured on an episode of the NBC television series "Unsolved Mysteries" (\$16.95 softcover; \$23.95 hardback).

The book recounts the experiences of four artists who were allegedly abducted by alien beings while on an adventure in Maine's Allagash wilderness in 1976.

Other titles include "Close Extraterrestrial Encounters: Positive Experiences

with Mysterious Visitors," by Richard J. Boylan; and "UFOs and the Psychic Factor," by Ida M. Kannenberg. There's even a book of cartoons, "The Aliens," by Helen Olian — evidence that even dedicated sky-watchers such as Crissey can poke fun at their out-of-this-world pursuits.

EYES ON THE SKIES

■ **WHO:** Brian L. Crissey

■ **AGE:** 46

■ **HOME:** Rural Hillsboro

■ **OCCUPATION:** Chairman of Linfield College's computer-science department.

■ **AVOCATION:** Investigating unidentified flying objects; publishing books discussing the possibility of alien life; talking about the implications for education. His partner in the publishing venture is his wife, Pam A. Meyer, 44.

■ **REASON FOR INTEREST:** Crissey claims to have had a close-encounter experience in 1963, when he was a 16-year-old camp counselor in Wisconsin.

■ **QUOTE:** "Skepticism is fine and it's good, as long as it's not a religion."

DAILY NEWS, Anchorage, AK - Oct. 27, 1994 CR: J. & L. Nicholson

SOUTHWEST

BRIGHT LIGHTS CIRCLE A FEW BUSH VILLAGES

DILLINGHAM — On a clear Alaska night it seems like every star in the sky is visible, and a cloudless night earlier this month gave Bristol Bay stargazers an excellent chance to search for the northern lights or behold the Big Dipper.

But several residents of Manokotak, Dillingham and Aleknagik spotted something a little extra.

Molly Pauk, a secretary at Manokotak School, said she was watching television in her living room when bright lights shining through her windows drew her attention. At first she thought it was an airplane.

"I saw red and green lights like a regular airplane," she said, "but when I went over to look out the window I noticed that the object didn't make a

sound. It circled around three or four times pretty close to my house and flashed the light right on me."

Anecia Lomack heard the same story from about seven other people in Manokotak, including her two sons. VHF Channel 68 was all abuzz with the news after Lomack joined local chatter. She said she broadcast the news to warn people to watch after their kids so they wouldn't be snatched.

Lomack said she wasn't worried about herself.

"I'm too busy to be kidnapped," she said. "I'm still working on Earth."

Shirley Yeager was at the Snake Lake lookout near Aleknagik on the same night with a friend when she saw what appeared to be brightly colored stars in "sort of a triangular pattern."

"The lights looked pink, blue and green and they were blinking on and off. It looked like a group of stars moving,"



Yeager said.

"Yes, I thought it was a UFO," she said. "I never saw stars move like that before. They were just moving, there was no sound."

Yeager speculated that UFOs may visit Alaska because there are fewer people here and more

open spaces than in the Lower 48.

The Federal Aviation Administration in Dillingham and the U.S. Air Force in Anchorage had no comment.

— Michael Berger
The Bristol BayTimes

DAILY NEWS, Eden, NC - Oct. 11, 1994

What Happened In UFO Incident?

To The Editor:
Concerning The Associated Press story that was published in many newspapers titled, "Inquiry Into UFO Claim Has Down to Earth Results," relative to a 47-year-ago UFO crash at Roswell, N.M., the U.S. government coverup continues.

The balloon was part of "Project Mogul," a secret effort to use long-range balloons to monitor Soviet nuclear tests, or so the story goes.

But the real story is yet to be told and as a democracy freedom of speech is revelant.

What the final Air Force response to Rep. Steve Schiff, R-N.M., in his request for documents on Roswell does is:

- Avoids the eyewitness descriptions of the type of metal involved.
- Avoids the town mortician report that he received an urgent call for four to five child sized caskets.
- Avoids the nurse and doctors who performed autopsies on the 4-foot tall aliens reports.
- Avoids the testimony of dozens whom handled either the bodies and/or the metal fragments and/or watched the process.
- Avoids the testimony of over 350 first-, second- and third-hand eyewitnesses, many of whom have agreed to testify before congressional committees (some of whom have also asked for immunity from prosecution, because of oaths of secrecy documents they signed at the time.)
- Avoids the harassments and death threats reported by eyewitnesses whom were threatened by the military, et cetera.
- Avoids consideration of eight death bed confessions as to the reality of the event.

If this is justice, then we want no part of it. Nor should any truth seeking Americans in this matter. If you feel, as many do, you might want to make a copy of the Roswell Declaration, which can be found in the October issue of *Omni* magazine, fill it in and mail it to your U.S. representative. Responsible citizenship is imperative at this time.

George D. Fawcett
public relations director
Mutual UFO Network of N.C. Inc.
Lincolnton

UFO sightings gain national interest

By KEITH ERICKSON
and JOHN FIREHAMMER
Staff Writers

There's something strange appearing in the skies over Post Falls and Hollywood wants a closer look.

A nationally syndicated television show that investigates unexplained phenomena is interested in a Post Falls man's videotape that shows mysterious lights hovering over the city.

Several residents have reported seeing the light, including a few members of the Post Falls Police Department. Similar lights also have been seen in parts of the Spokane Valley.

James Farley said he is sending a copy of the tape to Paramount Pictures' "Sightings," which may air it during an upcoming episode.

He was interviewed by Phil Davis, a "Sightings" researcher last week.

He said the video was shot by a neighbor, Guy Johnson, who happened to be watching the lights from his home on the same night Farley first saw them last April. Both men live near the Spokane River.

Farley said he's seen the lights many times since, including Thursday night. The sightings generally take place between 9 p.m. and 1 a.m.

The white, red, blue, gold and green lights flash on and off and, when observed through binoculars, look as if they're attached to something. "The closest as I can describe it is a squished tear shape," Farley said.

Peggy Malar, who lives with Farley, said "We have sightings all the time, it's just that more people are starting to report them now."

"The problem was, a lot of people didn't want to report it before because everybody would think they were nuts," she said. "It's definitely something, we just don't know what it is."

Police Chief Cliff Hayes said the department has taken several reports of the lights and four police employees have seen them from an office window.

"They saw something that had multiple lights over five nights south of the PD far away," he said. "They weren't at the distance or level of most stars."

Hayes hasn't seen the lights himself and

is perplexed by them, though he isn't taking the matter too seriously.

"These people have been on graveyard a long time. I'm going to take them off," he said.

The U.S. Weather Service hasn't observed anything unusual in the area on its radar and Fairchild Air Force Base reportedly hasn't had any unusual flights or aircraft nearby.

Gerald Rolwes, a volunteer for the Spokane branch of the Mutual UFO Network, said he is getting calls from both Post Falls and throughout the Spokane Valley. All the callers have described the same color of lights.

He said his group investigates UFO sightings and works to find explanations for the them.

There isn't enough evidence yet to prove or disprove that the lights over Post Falls are some sort of spacecraft, he said.

Rolwes said the lights might be some sort of natural phenomenon caused by light and water, since most of the sightings appear to be near the Spokane River. However, he added that was speculation.

TIMES-UNION, Albany, NY - Oct. 10, 1994

Twinkle, twinkle little starmen?

■ Blinking, saucerlike objects are spotted hovering over Stillwater

BY SARAH METZGAR
Staff writer
STILLWATER — Little green men in Stillwater?
Clarmont Road residents were drawn outside Friday night by red

and green blinking lights in the sky. It wasn't a bird, it wasn't a plane, and it wasn't Joel O'Keefe.

"A whole bunch of people witnessed this, including a member of the Stillwater Police Department," said Ray Cecot of Niskayuna, section director of the Mutual UFO Network. "I have multiple witnesses all saying the same thing. Nobody was drinking; there were no drugs around."

The lights were first seen at about 8 p.m. by a woman and her daughter, who won't speak to the press. About seven neighbors came out to watch, and so did Stillwater police Sgt. Wayne DeSorb.

"I saw four or five things blinking red and green. What they were, I don't know. It beats me. It's not my specialty — I couldn't arrest it."

DeSorb called the State Police, who called the Albany County Airport. Airport officials said they had no aircraft up in that area, and referred the witnesses to Cecot.

The residents said the blinking,

saucer-shaped objects were hovering for two hours. Cecot didn't get there until 11 p.m., and they were gone.

Witnesses said the objects were in a cluster, as many as 12 at one time. They were as big as a dime at arm's length, he said, which is pretty big. "They were significantly larger than a star and significantly brighter than a star and they blinked red and green," Cecot said. "It was so bright and big — they knew it wasn't a star and it wasn't an airplane."

Cecot interviewed witnesses on Sunday, and said he hasn't finished his investigation. "At this point, it's unidentified," he said. "Not necessarily alien."

Said DeSorb: "Let's put it this way — I've never seen it before. But I don't usually keep my head up in the air. Who knows? I can't tell you what it was or what it wasn't. We've got cows, horses, everything else — now we've got UFOs."

Reports of strange phenomena knock socks off county residents

Not one of ours, says Point Mugu. Don't know a thing about it, says the FAA. No reports, says the Sheriff's Department.

But Rosie Fonseca knows what she saw.

Shortly before 11 p.m. one recent Tuesday, she was driving from Oxnard to Camarillo down Fifth Street, a dark, lonely road that stretches through the fields. She had to pick up her daughter.

"I saw a big light coming from the mountain," she said. "At first I thought it was an airplane. Then it got bigger. It was huge and I started getting scared."

The huge thing-that-wasn't-an-airplane passed low over Rosie's car. She slowed and blinked her brights, and drove halfway in the shoulder, her eyes fixed on this massive stingray-like object with an intense white light and dimmer red and blue ones.

It hovered maybe 12 feet off the ground. Her 10-year-old son started screaming, and her 12-year-old was breathlessly repeating "Ohmigod, ohmigod."

"I was in shock," Rosie said. A big bird with brilliant white feathers nearly grazed her windshield.

The object, maybe two stories tall and the length of a city block, spiralled up and vanished.



Steve Chawkins

Rosie's daughter didn't believe her. It was just a plane, she said, with the certainty of a 21-year-old reassuring her mother.

But returning to Oxnard, she changed her tune. The thing re-appeared. It followed them five

miles before vanishing again. I'm skeptical of such reports, largely because they scare my socks off. But Alice Leavy, an officer of the local Mutual UFO Network, accepts them.

"There's definitely something unusual going on here," said Leavy. A dozen "sightings" have been reported to the group since December.

In March, a motorist on the 101 at Dawson Drive saw "a large, triangular object the size of three houses," Leavy said.

In July, an airline pilot "saw something absolutely huge over Newbury Park."

Leavy's group maps and records and tries to make sense of such phenomena.

I still don't believe, but I wasn't the one who was driving down Fifth Street.

SUN-TIMES, Chicago, IL - Oct. 14, 1994 CR: R. Boomer

Sightings

UFOs Scheduled to Make Stop at Hobby Show

This year's version of the annual Chicago Model and Hobby Show will bring close encounters of many kinds, but one of the most intriguing ones may come from the Testor Corporation.

The Testor Corporation has created a scale model — called the Area S4 UFO — of an alien spacecraft allegedly hidden within the heavily guarded Nellis Air Force Range at Groom Lake in central Nevada. This mysterious craft is thought to be one of nearly a dozen UFOs the government is "back-engineering" at a remote installation designated Area S4.

What makes the appearance of this new product at this year's show all the more interesting is that it is based on the accounts of eyewitness and former government physicist Bob Lazar, who claims to have been involved in the government project.

Patterned after the classic disk or "flying saucer" shape so often re-created in movies and other stories, the Area S4 UFO recently made its retail debut in stores.

According to John Dewey, Testor Corporation public relations director, "Testor is interested in all types of aircraft, but the company can neither confirm nor deny the existence of UFOs. We must be careful to remember that any attempt to validate such reports would require overwhelming, concrete, physical proof. We don't have any, and as far as we know, nobody else does either. Nevertheless, the subject is of interest and quite intriguing to many people worldwide."

Testor based its Area S4 UFO on descriptions by physicist Lazar. Lazar claims he was

part of the back-engineering team hired by the government in 1988 to disassemble interstellar spacecraft in order to better understand the technology. According to Lazar, at least nine UFOs are stationed in hangars carved in the western slopes of the Papoose Mountains. This mountain range separates Area S4 from Area 51, the sector referred to by insiders as "Dreamland" — both within the grounds of the Groom Lake test facility.

Lazar states that his investigation centered on the craft's highly advanced propulsion system. A reactor fueled by very heavy elements, heavier than any found on Earth, generates and manipulates gravity in order to propel the craft rapidly over the vast distances between star systems. A more detailed account of Lazar's work is recorded in a booklet included with the model, and a video describing his experiences is offered separately.

The 1/48th scale Testor Area S4 UFO is 13 inches in diameter and 4-1/4 inches tall. It consists of 23 polystyrene plastic parts and a clear top for internal viewing. The model will retail for \$25 and is available in hobby shops across the country.

The Testor Corporation is well-known for its scale models of secret and controversial aircraft. In 1986, the firm stunned the Pentagon and became the focus of world media for its conceptual model of a top-secret stealth fighter — then called the F-19. More recent Testor stealth aircraft like the StingBat LHX helicopter and the "Aurora" system models continue to enliven the debate over secret government projects.



Richmond man spots unusual object at mall

By Don Fennell
Staff Reporter

Tony Cowling is convinced he saw a UFO. It was about 8:15 on a particularly clear morning last April, and the Richmond man was standing outside the Eaton's store at Lansdowne Park Shopping Centre when he saw a large black triangular object moving in a north-easterly direction.

Cowling became fixated as he watched the object continue to move unusually slow across the sky, head west, and then back track.

"It wasn't unusual at all in size," Cowling recalled Thursday. "It could've been the size of an aircraft but it was moving far too slowly to have been that."

Michael Strainic, the Mutual UFO Network's national director, said Wednesday there aren't a lot of sightings in Richmond because people often associate any sighting with airport traffic. But he said if what Cowling saw was a plane, "it would have been a Stealth."

Cowling had one other experience with the unknown several years ago.

In 1989, he was sailing from Fort Lauderdale, Florida to Tahiti aboard a 40-footer. Three days out of Panama on the way to Galapagos, Cowling and his shipmate suddenly saw a huge white light emerging from under water.

"It was quite amazing," Cowling said.

"It was to one side of the boat and there was no apparent explanation for it.

Our immediate reaction was that it must be an American submarine but we were sailing about seven knots and it kept pace with us for about 30 minutes."

Cowling said they didn't see the light disappear, however, because they were keeping a close watch on the weather which can unpredictable out on the Pacific Ocean.

Cowling, who is also a member of the Mutual UFO network, said he is convinced there's something to all the sightings and has been keenly interested in the phenomenon for some time.

"If we're being visited from other areas then it must be the biggest story of the century," he said.

"I'm sure we will learn more. TV and radio is spending more time looking at this sort of thing and are people are discussing it more openly."

Cowling also believes the governments know more about UFOs than they're saying, and it's only a matter of time before they come forward with their discoveries.

Mainland a hotbed for sightings and encounters

By David DaSilva
Regional Reporter

Don't be surprised if a UFO shoots over the Lower Mainland's sky.

The Mainland has been a hot bed of recent UFO (unidentified flying object) sightings and encounters. The Mutual UFO Network in Vancouver has logged about 100 calls from Lower Mainland residents in the past few months.

Michael Strainic, the network's national director, said most people say they saw a brightly-lit saucer-shaped craft. Some even claim they were chased by UFOs while driving.

About a year and a half ago, 350 sightings were recorded in the Kamloops area during an eight-month span. The sightings then shifted to Nanaimo from June last year until about March this year. Since then, the majority of activity has been in the Lower Mainland.

"For every person that sees a UFO, there are nine who aren't going to tell anyone," Strainic said. "You can count on the fact that

we are getting one abduction case out of 100."

Some people have vivid memories of encounters that occurred

years ago and can recall being abducted and subjected to bizarre medical experiments. They claim small bearings were implanted under their skin, they were cut open by lasers, or scoop marks left a small hole half a centimetre deep in their legs.

Generally, the sightings are of a triangular craft with three lights. These sightings seem to occur mostly near power lines or B.C. Hydro sub-stations.

The most common description of an alien is of a tall, slim entity with large rounded eyes and a narrow mouth. The fingers are generally twice as long as human fingers. The network has nicknamed

these aliens "greys."

Some recent sightings by Lower Mainland residents included:

“

For every person that sees a UFO, there are nine who aren't going to tell anyone,

MICHAEL STRAINIC
Mutual UFO Network
national director

• four young children in North Vancouver's Deep Cove area, who said they saw a domed craft with an alien on board. The kids were separated and given crayons. Strainic said

each child drew the same picture of a green-skinned alien with large floppy-pointed ears;

• a North Vancouver man said he was chased all through the British Properties area by a 30-metre wide craft that hovered at tree-top level and had "blinding" lights around the rim;

• the network recently logged two calls from Coquitlam residents living on the same street. Both calls came within an hour and both

described a domed-disk hovering and revolving over trees. The object apparently beeped every time it revolved.

So what is happening? Does the network believe aliens from outer space have arrived?

Maybe, Strainic said. But another possibility could be that the creatures are already living among us, just in another dimension.

Barry Beyerstein, a Simon Fraser University psychology professor, has another explanation - the mind is playing tricks.

Beyerstein, who's also a member of the Committee for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP), said people who have had sightings may simply be hallucinating or seeing natural illuminations of "back-lighting" from such things as meteors, satellite debris re-entering the atmosphere, shooting stars, or even ice crystals in the air.

As for the abduction cases, he said, the mind exaggerates images already portrayed in our pop culture such as from films and television.

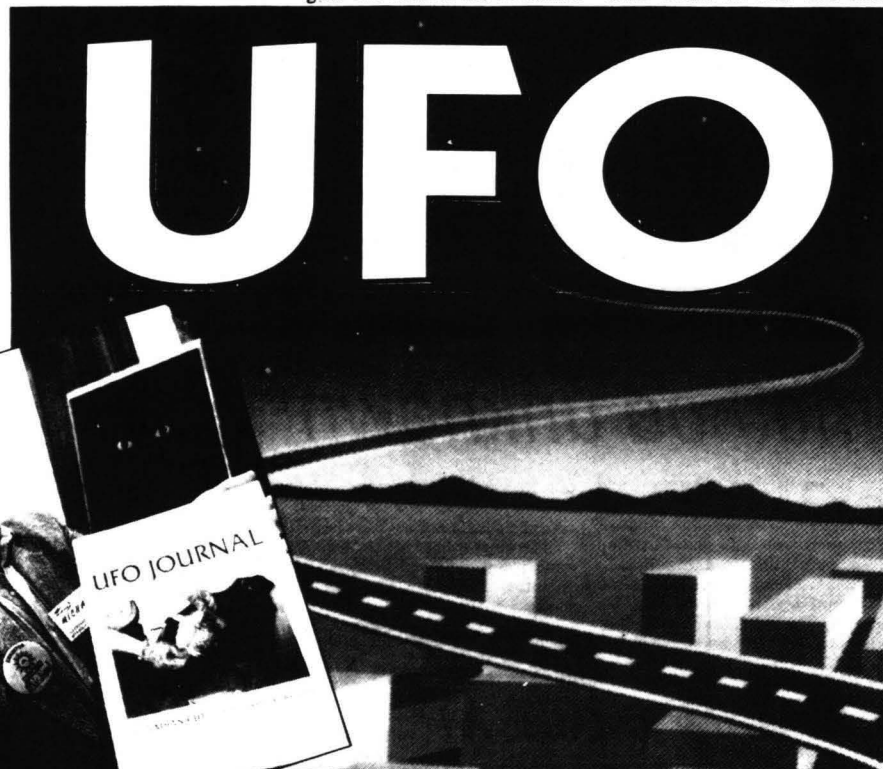
For example, the dream-like state when most people claim the abductions occur may be a product of "dream paralysis" which happens when a person is both asleep and awake. In that state, the symptom can actually produce feelings.

When people recall images or experiences, they exaggerate and link them together with recollections from television and movies.

"Memory isn't just a little video tape," he said.

"It stores a few salient points, and when we recall, it's largely reconstruction."

"The brain doesn't like uncertainty," he added.



Michael Strainic is the national director of the Mutual UFO Network in Vancouver. He says the network has logged about 100 calls from Lower Mainland residents.

Woman recalls numerous encounters

By David DaSilva
Regional Reporter

A 36-year-old Lower Mainland woman claims to have had numerous encounters with aliens.

"Cyndi" - who wishes to remain anonymous - believes her first experience occurred when she was between five and seven-years-old.

Back then, she remembers waking up every day at around 5 a.m., hopping on her bike, riding to a nearby forested area and then returning home. She has no recollection of what happened inside the forest during the two-hour periods.

Cyndi also says she has a small scoop mark on her right leg (about half a centimetre long) and a small metal bearing implanted on the roof of her mouth.

Most of her encounters occurred when she was asleep, she said. Her most vivid experience

was during one of these dream-like states when, she said, "I was like a worker in an enormous plant. It had steel-grey walls."

"In front of me were all of these buttons that I was pushing. A lot of people were working beside me, but I couldn't really see who they were. It felt very familiar."

A male and female alien then escorted her off the space craft. Cyndi said she believes the aliens were testing her by making her push the buttons on the wall.

She describes the male figure as "quite tall - six to seven feet and very slender. He had no muscle tone whatsoever. No hair and his eyes were large, slanted upward and very dark brown. I didn't notice any pupils."

"His skin was beige and translucent. It was loose and soft. I felt and saw very soft, sparse light hairs on his arms and the odd thing was that his hand was more like a

mit. No fingernails.

"He had no eyebrows. He seemed to have a mouth, though very small and it never opened. His ears were almost non-existent and his chin was small and pointed."

Cyndi said she believes her body was examined when she was asleep. Several times she woke up with bruises on her body, or found blood stains on her bed even though she had no cuts on her body.

She says she also awoke to find herself hovering above her bed, unable to move any part of her body except for her eyes. While she was hovering and unable to move, she says she felt several hands over her body.

"My whole entire body was paralyzed," she said.

"I felt a very strong, thick presence in the room. I would be absolutely terrified."

While in her late 20s, Cyndi

once saw a being when she flicked on a light switch. The alien, which she describes as an electro-magnetic outline, stood in front of her for about 30 seconds.

Other memories include:

• When she was between five and eight years old, she constantly drew the same picture of a craft with two aliens standing in front of it.

• When she was in her 20s, Cyndi said she often felt compelled to go for long drives in the middle of the night. On these drives, she remembers a bright light would envelop her car and then her car would break down. Her only memory is of her trying to start up the car again even though hours had passed.

• Both Cyndi and a friend saw an entity while on vacation in Mexico.

Anthropologists are expected to treat seriously stories of people who turn into leopards, women who eat their children and hairy monsters that live in the forest. What is important about such beliefs is not whether they are true but how they are protected from disproof, how they tie up with other ideas about the nature of the world, and how they are incorporated into a perfectly undramatic manner of living. Once a stance of the relativity of belief is adopted, it seems only permissible to make harsh judgments about the familiar, or close to home. The African witch is an acceptable research topic for anthropologists, but the witch who lives in Haslemere is dismissed as tedious or mentally ill.

Patrick Harpur and John E. Mack undermine this practice by maintaining that there is no reason to assume that encounters of the blurred kind which take place at home are any less significant than those which take place abroad. *Daimonic Reality* starts as an agreeable ramble through meetings with fairies, little men (grey rather than green), white ladies, black dogs, Big-foots, Loch Ness monsters, witches, even fake social workers. A survey of surveys gives the key characteristics of each but retains its grip on reality. Names are named, dates given. *Abduction* is more limited, being concerned solely with psychologically documented alien intrusions into the human world where victims are carried off to alien spacecraft for reproductive and study purposes. John Mack tries to illuminate his cloudy subject-matter by providing detailed case histories. Although he describes his visionaries in glowing terms - "psychically skilled", "expanded ontology", "spiritual growth" etc - most of them seem depressed, or desperate for distinction of any kind, even victimhood.

Both authors assume that the events which they describe are "real", that they are not simply the result of disordered minds or psycho-social stress or manifestations of social structure. Yet

Not quite of this world

NIGEL BARLEY

Patrick Harpur

DAIMONIC REALITY
A field guide to the otherworld
330pp. Viking. £18.
0 670 85569 3

John E. Mack

ABDUCTION
Human encounters with aliens
432pp. Simon and Schuster. £16.99.
0 671 71181 4

both state that what they mean by "real" is not really "real". For Harpur, the phenomena he describes are daimonic, part of a neglected aspect of the world and of ourselves. "Real", he thinks, does not imply "literal". Daimonic reality is like Jung's "collective unconscious" or Plato's "world soul", but all analogies are ultimately flawed and so one arrives at a series of Zen-like oppositions - inside/outside, material/spiritual, individual/collective, objective/subjective - none of which is very helpful when it comes to understanding "strange encounters". UFO-logists are mistakenly literal, psychiatrists and anthropologists excessively subjective or sociological. According to Harpur, the Otherworld is not simply "there", but here as well. In a sense Harpur's daimonic reality recalls nothing so much as those unlocatable collective representations that have been the staple of social science for generations.

As far as Harpur is concerned, the epistemology becomes the method. So, fairies are pretty similar to extraterrestrials who overlap with Big-foot, who has aspects of the daimon, and so on. An extraordinarily impoverished reading of Lévi-Strauss is invoked to "transform" almost everything into almost everything else:

Aliens : UFOs :: personified : impersonal; but, aliens : humans :: impersonal : persons. Or, aliens : fairies :: extraterrestrial : terrestrial; but, aliens : UFOs :: terrestrial : aerial.

Anthropology is invoked in the case of witches - but anthropology as conceived by Frazer in *The Golden Bough*, for all "primitives" are held to adhere to the same basic script, the best version of which is the Greek classics. Harpur presumes that the notion of the Person, beyond the Cartesian West, is generally composed of three ingredients mediating the categories of body and soul (which would seem pretty meagre to the Samo of Burkina Faso who believe they contain over twenty components). The proof of the daimonic nature of much of Harpur's material is that hard evidence - like fairy shoes, yeti footprints and UFO sightings - does not help our attempts to understand it. In our blinkered Cartesian world, it only makes things less clear.

Just about everything can seem to be daimonic, a conclusion that Harpur himself might cheerfully embrace. But of course all this is deeply unconvincing. If you try to establish which food is good for you, or who shot Kennedy, your inevitable failure is perhaps not the work of daimons. Maybe we simply live in a world where there is too much evidence of ambivalent status and contradictory implication.

Mack, unusually for a psychologist, seems to agree with Harpur. He abandons the usual thera-

peutic stance: "I cannot help you. Your problems are real." The aliens who prod, abuse and molest his patients and then load them with eco-friendly clichés are, Mack believes, not just from another place but from another plane of being.

Mack's catalogue of the sufferings of his abductees creates a cosily self-confirming circle of belief. Possible abductees approach him because he appears on television as an expert on the phenomenon. Through hypnotism they often provide a clear account of events which they have heard described, which is then firmed up in support sessions with fellow sufferers. Encounters with aliens, it seems, are sometimes the source of puzzling behaviour that a therapist would more usually explain as the result of childhood abuse. Since Mack's techniques are the same as those used to "recall" the abuse which seems to have become such a dominant feature of American family life, one is left wondering whether US prisons are not full of innocent men.

Both Mack and Harpur end with a guide to the expansion of consciousness. Mack offers the Messianic hope that "the earth would become the jewel in the crown of our being, the place where we experience once again our connection with a cosmic Source from which we have become too separate". Harpur is more succinct. "Travel light. Don't believe everything you have been told for good or ill." Quite so.

SOUTHEAST EVENING ECHO,
Essex, England - Oct.
4, 1994 CR: T. Good

CANVEY: A UFO was reported hovering over the island last night. The brightly coloured oval flying saucer was spotted heading towards Southend at 11pm. But Benfleet police said no other sightings were recorded and the unidentified object described as red, green, orange and blue vanished without trace.

BEAM ME UP!

UFO mystery: a cottage loaf a tractor or a flying saucer?

A GIANT glowing object spotted in the sky over Salisbury has sparked a UFO mystery.

By Ben O'Neill

Sightings of the bowl-shaped object hovering above Laverstock Downs have been reported by at least half a dozen Bishopdown people.

Alfred Wheeler, of Blyth Way, said: "It was amber and the bottom was bowl-shaped."

"The top was slightly obscured, and it was very hard to see how high or big it was, but it looked bigger than the sun does."

Sylvie Watkins, also of Bishopdown, said she had never seen anything like it.

"It was like a cottage loaf and, almost fluorescent," she said. "It seemed as though it was moving towards us from the brow of the hill nearest to Salisbury."

Her neighbour Pearl Wood said: "It must have been visible for a good 20 minutes, then it went behind a cloud and disappeared."

The sightings follow a report in the Times two weeks ago of a bright green and triangle-shaped

object seen near Deptford, but Mr Wheeler believes the latest UFO is more likely to be connected to an almost identical sighting two years ago.

"There were 15 or so people then who saw one looking similar, in the same place and about the same time of year," he said. "It's possible that it could be operating on some kind of flight pattern."

"There was no element of doubt in my mind that it could have been anything other than a UFO."

The incredulous residents all say they saw it just after 9pm on Wednesday August 24.

Other causes for the lights in the sky have been identified, however.

A spokesman for Clarendon Park Estate adjoining Laverstock Downs confirmed that there had been ploughing activities in the area using brightly lit tractors.

It is common for vehicle headlights to illuminate low clouds, giving an often sharply defined phosphorescent glow which can be mistaken for a "flying object".

Similar luminous effects can also be seen from hot air balloons or airships lit up at night.

UFO terrifies couple

Bright yellow and shaped like a brick

A TERRIFIED Colchester couple claim they woke earlier this week to find a giant UFO hovering above their home.

Report by
Tim Aves

Property developer Danny Vassar and girlfriend Julie Beasley's story started on Tuesday morning.

Mr Vassar, 36, says he watched a huge object covered in bright lights above Friars Close, Colchester, for more than 15 minutes.

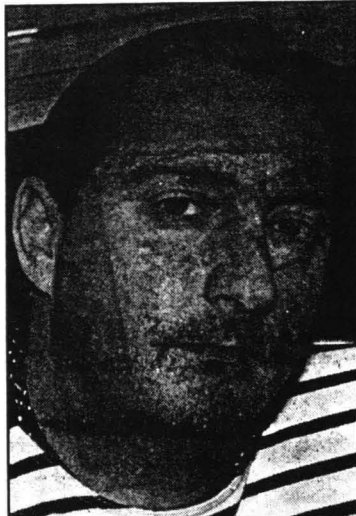
"I was awakened just after 5am by the most terrifying noise overhead," he said. "I went to the window and was totally transfixed. It was just the most amazing thing I have ever seen - I couldn't take my eyes off it."

Brick shaped

Mr Vassar says that hovering about 1,000 feet above his house was an object, which he described as about 100 metres across, brick-shaped, with domed semi-circular areas missing from either end.

"It was just looming there in the sky, covered in little lights with a big yellow glow underneath."

A Colchester police spokesman said checks with the civil aviation authorities had failed to reveal any air activity



DANNY Vassar was woken up by a UFO hovering above his home.

which might explain the sighting. Chelmsford-based UFO investigator Barry King, said he was a surprised to hear the Vassars' sighting had lasted so long. "These things don't usually stay in one place for very long," he said. "I think there's probably a more mundane explanation. I'll be checking it out with the authorities to see if they have anything which could account for it."

UFO riddle as teenager sees orange light in sky

A SCARED teenager broke down in hysterics after spotting a mystery flashing orange ball in the night sky on a lonely car drive. Frightened Lucy Brooke (19), of Burton Pidsea, was driving on her own to her local pub when she saw the huge glowing UFO dart across the skyline.

She said: "I was driving along when straight up in front of me there was a big orange ball with something flashing on the top of it. It was just sat in the sky hovering and then started to move really slowly with lights flashing on it."

"It darted across the sky and looked like it was playing about then it just disappeared. It didn't fade away it just disappeared out of the sky."

"I was really scared. I went into the pub and I was in hysterics and was shaking, but no one would believe me."

After the sighting Lucy even got out of her car to make sure the lights were not a reflection on her windscreen. She noticed another car driving along at a slow speed while the lights were in the sky.

"I would love to see if they saw the same as me and it would prove I actually did see something," she said. Lucy added when she came out of the pub later she saw the lights again but only for a short time.

Her original sighting came around 7.45pm on Sunday night and Lucy said she had not been drinking before her shock discovery.

Today, Mr Tim Lewis of the Royal Air Force Strike Command Centre confirmed there were no RAF planes flying in the area at the time. And the firing range at RAF Cowden said there had been no action at the base on Sunday night.

Out of this world!

HARD-BITTEN journalist Carl Nagaitis still keeps an open mind about whether the claims of alien abductees stand-up. And that's after trawling through hundreds of case histories for his and co-author Philip Mantle's new book *Without Consent* - the first ever survey of the phenomena in Britain.

Carl, aged 42, from Filgrave, had unique access to the files of the world-respected British UFO Research Association, spurred on by the fact that so many UFO books just featured case-histories from the US, "which few people can ever question," he said.

"I approached it like any good journalist with some degree of cynicism but when I had spoken to many of these people I realised at the very least here was something that requires serious investigation."

Years on papers like the *News of the World* taught him to spot the obvious eccentrics but here were teachers, retired professional people even police officers.

In many cases, says Carl, the

Reports by STEVE LARNER

abductees never told anyone of their experiences until they read or heard of similar accounts.

"In the States you can say you have had a close encounter and become a celebrity, here people will think you are odd or worse. One person told me being abducted was a social debilitating disease, like admitting you are an alcoholic or have Aids."

"But these people have experienced events they can't explain and at least deserve to have them investigated."

ALIENS just won't go away. This week sees the start of yet another television series about 'close encounters' and others are due this autumn.

But for every 100 saucer sightings there are also a handful of so-called alien abductions with reluctant humans whisked aboard alien craft to be prodded, poked - and worse.

For many their encounter **DOES** begin on that 'lonely country road' so loved by the television writers.

A car's engine stops and the vehicle is surrounded by weird lights. The victim inexplicably loses hours of time and later shows signs of sunburn to the face and hands.

Some people even claim to be the victims of sexual experiments on board spaceships. Believable - or just bonkers?

TEACHER trainer Elsie Oakensen, then aged 50, was driving home along the A5 just north of Towcester one November evening in 1978.

Suddenly ahead of her a dumbbell shaped object, grey and plastic looking, with a brilliant red light in the left sphere and a green light in the right hand sphere, hovered above the tarmac.

She drove towards and under it, turning off the A5 for Church Stowe. After a T-junction she

changed up into third gear but instead of accelerating the car slowed down, eventually cutting out with all the electrics dead.

Outside was total blackness, then a circle of brilliant white light probed around the car as if searching for something.

"It couldn't have been caused by a searchlight because there was no beam," she said.

Suddenly Elsie was 30 yards down the road, the engine was running normally but her head was spinning.

She drove the short way home and went upstairs. She could see an orange flashing light where she had seen the flying dumbbell. She went down to tell her husband John.

Her story appeared in the paper. BUFORA interviewed Elsie and she agreed to hypnosis. In a trance she spoke of brilliant lights and intense heat.

Now she says: "I don't know for sure what happened to me that night. All I do know is something very definitely did occur."

NINE year old Rae Fountain was bunking off school that July afternoon in 1957.

Rae, from Leighton Buzzard, knew as long as he got back to his boarding school for football at 5pm that no-one would miss him.

Along a muddy trail

Rae of sunlight

he noticed fresh foot-prints and like any schoolboy he followed them. The time was 3.30pm.

Ahead he spotted the pair in grey boiler suits walking in unusually short steps.

Hiding in the bushes he peered at them. One was about five feet seven inches tall and the other was shorter - perhaps a woman.

They picked twigs and berries, mud and leaves, putting them in a container.

Rae could not see their faces except for closely cropped hair

and tubes containing a green liquid down one side of their heads.

Suddenly a blue-tinted object appeared before them.

"It just swished into view," recalled Rae later.

"It was metallic and roughly bell-shaped about 30-35 feet across. A door in the rounded top slid open and a ladder was lowered to the ground.

Rae thought he spotted another figure

before the two strangers entered the craft, the door slid shut and it shot off into the sky.

His next memory is of being roused by a furious headmaster as he lay at the side of the road.

He looked at his watch. It still said 3.30pm.

He kept his silence for more than 20 years though his schoolchums remember his mysterious 'sunburn'.

● **From Without Consent** - A comprehensive survey of missing-time and abduction phenomena in the UK, published by Ringpull Books, price £16.99 hardback.



Mystery objects in sky

WORRIED residents telephoned Bacup police station after three unusual objects were seen in the sky.

They were spotted high over the town centre in the early morning and police have no explanation.

A Helmshore resident said: "I had the binoculars on them for several minutes."

"They were triangular aluminium coloured kidney shaped objects. They did not appear to be moving."

"It was not a sun spot or atmospheric. I am sure about that. Eventually they vanished."

Another resident said the objects were pinkish in colour and shiny.

A police spokesman said two telephone calls had been received at Bacup police station about the sightings, but they had no explanation to offer.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER: Welshman tells of medical tests by creatures in octagonal helmets

Aliens kidnapped me in a space ship

By Michael Settle

DAVID THOMAS is living in fear after he was kidnapped by aliens who told him: "We'll be back".

Star trekkers from across the universe flew him into deep space where they examined him and asked him for his eyes.

Then they brought him back to Earth and left with the chilling message: "We will see you again."

Now Mr Thomas is recalling his experiences in a new book about Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind, *Alien Abductions from Planet Earth*.

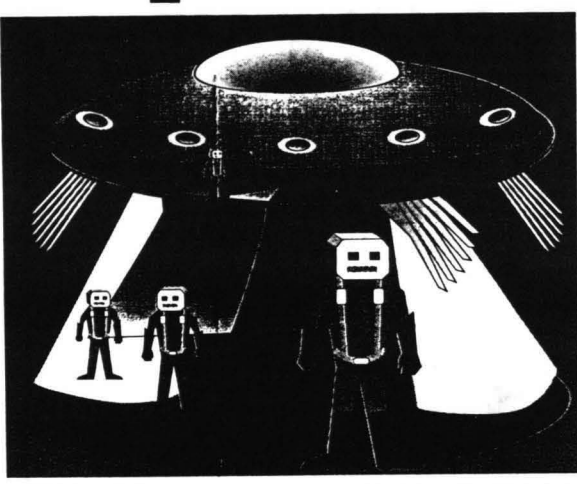
Mr Thomas, now 28, who lives in Pwllheli, Gwynedd, was on his way home in the early hours of the morning when he heard what seemed like the humming of an electricity generator from a roadside field.

He stopped his car and walked down a muddy track to investigate. It was then he was snatched by the aliens and whisked away.

UFO investigator Philip Mantle said last night that Mr Thomas' case was one of the most convincing he had ever heard.

"There is no doubt he believes that he experienced what happened," said Mr Mantle.

Mr Thomas suffered frightening nightmares and his family were so worried for his health that his



ET EXPERIENCE: Artist's impression of Mr Thomas' encounter

mother drove him to Oxford to meet UFO investigators.

Mr Mantle said: "A year later when I went to interview him, he still had burn marks on his wrists from the experience. He was still very perturbed about what had happened."

And the worst thing was that the aliens told him that they would come back for him. He told investigators: "They have chosen

me, they have instructed me and they are coming back for me."

Mr Thomas said his close encounter began when he was grabbed by the shoulder by an alien and led through a gap in the hedge by the edge of the field.

They had nothing like the friendly features of ET. They were like a throwback to the alien horror movies of the 1950s.

They wore octagonal helmets,

grey suits, gold belts and straps and black knee boots and gloves.

The alien craft was 20ft high and was hovering about two feet off the ground. It was domed and disc-shaped and had antennae or stabilisers poking out and a window and drawbridge at the front.

On board he saw Jupiter and Saturn flashing by before the vessel docked with a mother ship.

He was taken for a medical and they asked him if they could take his eyes for further examination, but he refused.

Mr Thomas, which is not his real name, told investigators: "They told me they came from a planet beyond the constellation of Lyra, that they breathed pure oxygen and disliked the polluted atmosphere of earth."

And they questioned him about the USA and NASA because they had captured a Voyager probe.

When he was dumped back on earth he was found reeling in the road by a passing policeman, who took him home.

Today, nine years later, Mr Thomas is married and still lives in Pwllheli. Mr Mantle says he does not want to talk about what happened to him anymore.

"But it has totally changed his life. He has developed talents for poetry and music and he is an avid campaigner on green issues."

● **Without Consent** by Carl Nagaitis and Philip Mantle. Published by Ringpull Press, £16.99.

Alien ship hovers overhead

A GREEN flying saucer hovered beside the A303 at Deptford last week - according to a lorry driver who rushed to Salisbury police station in the early hours of the morning.

The man banged on the station door in Wilton Road at 1.30am on Thursday after spotting the saucer suspended in mid-air. "He was 100 per cent convinced it was a UFO," said Insp Andy Shearing.

The man said it was bright green and shaped like a triangle with rounded edges. It also had green and white flashing lights.

Other drivers had seen it and were flashing their car lights at him.

A police patrol car took the lorry driver back to the spot but there was no trace of the flying saucer.

Insp Shearing said police had been alerted about similar sightings in the same area in the past.

UFOs have a message for mankind

Aliens want the world to stop emitting 'psychic pollution' before we destroy the universe, claims operator of Lower Mainland UFO hotline

By Dan Hilborn
BURNABY NOW REPORTER

George Crystal has a message for the world. Unidentified Flying Objects are trying to contact us.

Crystal knows this is true, because he has seen the flying orbs himself. He also knows this is true because his UFO Hot Line is doing brisk business on the reported sightings around the Lower Mainland.

And as operator of the UFO European and North America Study Group, Crystal has been compiling reports of flying saucers since early this year. He receives, on average, about one call per week from people in Burnaby. Those calls are often backed up by more than one witness. And he says the most best place to see this UFO activity is in the direction of Hollyburn Mountain and Mount Seymour.

"I was contacted," Crystal said in an interview last week. "I have seen a large UFO when I was 17 years old living in the Czech republic. It was huge, but then I was going to college and I wasn't much interested."

He then went on to gain a reputation as a pretty good psychic and collected a host of press clippings as he made predictions in a variety of large towns across western Canada. But his chance teenaged encounter with a UFO refused to be forgotten.

Then several years ago, Crystal claims he was again contacted by the Extra Terrestrials with a dire message for all of mankind — stop killing ourselves and the life around us with atomic weapons, pollution and what Crystal describes as 'psychic pollution'.

According to this UFO enthusiast, 'psychic pollution' is the result of a major man-made disruption in the fabric of the universe that is destroying the souls of our young people.

Crystal admits he has no literal proof for his claims, and they might sound outlandish to people who don't want to understand, but his basic belief is that UFOs are coming to earth to stop the spread of atomic radiation that is disrupting that other dimension where the aliens live.

"Exploding the atomic bombs at Nagasaki and Hiroshima sent a form of radiation which reached these other worlds, and this radiation has the potential to destroy the fabric of the soul," he said. "Take a look at young people born after 1970. Have you noticed they have no conscience? Their souls have been damaged — that's part of the proof."

Crystal estimates there are 1,100 alien societies in the universe, all more highly advanced both technologically and mentally than humans. Because of their advanced state, they won't interfere with another less advanced civilization unless that inferior society does something to disturb them. And that's where the psychic radiation comes in.

Since nuclear technology came into use, aliens began sending warnings to earth via more frequent sightings. More recently, the complicated designs of crop circles in North America and Europe have shown up as another warning sign.

Crystal believes these signs are indicators that the UFOs are planning a major landing on Earth sometime in the next few years.

Crystal does not need any more proof than his own experience as a teenager, pictures of crop circles and the second hand reports taken off his phone message machine to believe this is all true.

"Everyone in the world expects some kind of object that can undergo metal analysis or some other proof, but we don't need all that. To me the crop circles are the biggest proof. Some of those are over 300-feet in diameter and they're so complicated it would take hundreds of people hours to build them," he said.

"That to me is proof, nothing else."

"To me the crop circles are the biggest proof."

George Crystal
UFO HOTLINE
OPERATOR



In touch with the aliens

George Crystal, a Vancouver contractor by day, is the operator of the UFO European North American Study Group, an association compiling reports of UFO sightings and abductions in the Lower Mainland. He claims one of the best places to see Extra Terrestrial vehicles is over Hollyburn Mountain. On the table are photographs he believes are proof of the existence of civilizations from other worlds.

Now photo by Larry Wright

Skeptics are still not convinced

Belief in benevolent aliens trying to save mankind is one of the oldest myths surrounding strange sightings in the sky, the chair of the Society of B.C. Skeptics said this week.

And Dr. Barry Beyerstein, a psychology professor at Simon Fraser University, said despite his own research into claims of the paranormal, he is still not convinced that alien beings are trying to contact the earth.

"There are basically two frames of thought about aliens," Beyerstein said. "The position you (George Crystal) describe is that there are benign extra terrestrial angels who watch over us."

"That goes back as far as you want to go — the only difference is this is the modern high tech version of it."

"The other type are the Star Wars generation who see these creatures as, at best, toying with us and, at worst, fattening us up."

According to Beyerstein, who started the local chapter of skeptics in 1988, even the most convincing evi-

dence of alien contact has been scientifically proven false.

Last year, for example, a group of admitted crop circle hoax pullers were commissioned by BBC television to build elaborate designs. Their work was shown to a self-proclaimed cereologist (crop circle expert) who certified the work as being done by alien beings. BBC then showed the expert video tape of a bunch of college students building the circles.

"Studies of crop circles show they fit the so-called chaos pattern," Beyerstein said. "For example, people wondered if these ETs were biased against the Chinese, and then all of a sudden, boom, they start appearing in China."

Another aspect of hoaxes is they have to get more and more complicated and fancy otherwise to stay on the front page of The National Enquirer.

"Certainly we're accused of being the handmaidens of oppression but that's hardly the case," he said. "I'm also active in the Vancouver Civil Liberties Association."

"That goes back as far as you want to go — the only difference is this is the modern high tech version of it."

Barry Beyerstein
CHAIR OF THE SOCIETY
OF BC SKEPTICS

NORTH SHORE NEWS, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Sept. 30, 1994 CR: G. Conway

WV witness stands by his UFO

FIVE TEENAGERS sitting on the hood of a car had a cinematic experience early Sunday morning when they spotted what looked like a UFO.

By Kate Zimmerman
News Reporter

Steven Spielberg should have been at the foot of Capilano Road at 12:30 a.m. to record West Vancouver's Rich Turner, 19, and four male friends having a close encounter of the first kind.

The men were lounging around on the gravel by the water, just east of the Lions Gate Bridge, waiting for other buddies.

Suddenly, Turner said, "We saw a big blue flash of light."

They heard a buzzing noise and watched something swoop down "at phenomenal speed"

from outside the atmosphere to an altitude of about 30,000 ft. (9,144 m), or the height at which the average airplane travels.

Turner described the object as "a dull, (oval) kind-of ball thing" with two fixed lights. The UFO hovered, then shot out a cone of light.

"It was very bright," Turner recalled. "It reflected on the clouds because it was misty that night."

The light then retracted, the UFO "kind-of

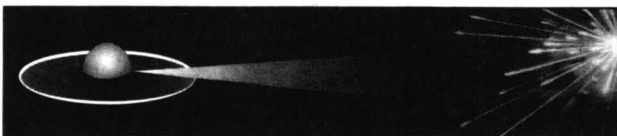
squished into a little dot" and then disappeared. Turner likened the vanishing to what happens when you turn off a TV set.

Turner said he and his friends saw the exact same event. "It was very incredible."

He speculated that the UFO had come down to inspect the area and its occupants hadn't liked what they saw so they left. "It had come too close to our city...." he ventured.

None of the young men reported the sighting to any officials, but, Turner said, their parents and friends trust their story.

"We believe it was an actual UFO," he said.



NEWS graphic Jacqueline Johnson

"It's just amazing," he added. "It's probably only a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

It's true that Turner and his friends may not witness such an event again, but astronomer David Dodge of the H.R. MacMillan Planetarium said the apparent spaceship was actually a bolide, a "higher-level, more flamboyant" meteor.

What the men saw, he said, was "a rock about the size of a telephone whacking into the

earth's atmosphere and exploding."

The meteor, which had spent 4-1/2 billion years at the temperature of absolute zero (or -273.16 degrees Celsius, travelled about 50 to 60 km per second.

When it plummeted through the Earth's atmosphere, resistance and friction caused it to heat to 6,000 degrees Kelvin (a scale of thermodynamic temperature used in science), which caused it to explode.

"It just can't handle the stress," said Dodge.

The planetarium received about eight calls regarding a UFO, all describing a similar scenario to that mapped out by Turner.

The only disparate elements between these accounts and that of Turner's were the time, which callers had placed at about midnight Sunday rather than 12:30 that morning, and the buzzing noise Turner heard.

Dodge said the explosion would likely have been inaudible because the bolide would have been approximately 100 km (62 miles) above the ground. As for the 23-hour time discrepancy, he said, "These (bolides) happen all the time. So (Turner) might have seen one (while) everyone else's backs were turned."

But Turner doesn't buy the bolide explanation.

"I stand by my story. I don't think it was a meteorite. It just did weird things."

Did UFO set off alarms?

UFO sceptic Peter Nelson has been shaken after alarms at his home were triggered by a mysterious object in the sky.

Mr Nelson says the copper coloured object passed over his Bellingham home and hovered above Tyne Valley for about 15 minutes before accelerating away at an amazing speed.

Infra-red alarms are set up to detect movement at the front and back of 49-year-old Mr Nelson's home. But when both went off together, just before midnight on August 21 he went outside to investigate.

"It looked like a copper dome with a light underneath. It hovered around over the Tyne Valley," said Mr Nelson, a former Swan Hunter shipyard worker, disabled after a fall at work.

He said it hovered 100ft above ground and was about the size of an aircraft in diameter.

CR: T. Good 14

EVENING CHRONICLE, Newcastle, England - Sept. 1, 1994

■ UFO expert excited by North-east sightings miles apart

Space ship vision shared

AN EERIE close encounter has been reported by a brother and sister watching the skies miles from each other.

A UFO expert says their chilling late night experience sound like the real thing.

Office worker Ethel Morrison got the shock of her life driving home to Cove from Newtonhill.

She was returning from her brother's house when she saw what looked like an enormous, luminous cloud — the only one in the night sky.

"There were white lights moving within it, going left and then right while opening and closing," said Ethel.

"I stopped the car and watched it for 10 minutes. It was absolutely amazing. It couldn't have been a helicopter or anything because there was no sound.

"I couldn't believe what I was seeing."

She called her brother David who observed the phenomenon with his family and a friend.

"They watched it from the Newtonhill flyover and then at the Loch of Loriston. David estimated it was about 500ft across."

"I phoned the meteorological office but they couldn't offer an explanation," she said. "It's a sight I'll never forget."

Ethel contacted local UFO expert Allan Brown, who is compiling a report for the British UFO Association.

"This sighting has all the hallmarks of a genuine UFO sighting — the misty cloud, the rays of light, the silence," he said.

"It is similar to sightings in the United States but this is the first such one in the North-east."



FLIGHT OF FANCY?: Ethel Morrison wonders just what she saw near Loch Loriston.

picture by DOUG MOIR

Sceptic spies UFO

A SOUTHEND woman is thrilled her doubting husband has at last seen for himself evidence that UFOs do exist.

Marcia Critchley, 44, and her husband Graham, 47, were sunbathing at home in Prince Avenue on Sunday afternoon when Mr Critchley saw a large silver object floating across the sky.

The couple say the craft was oval, probably about 30ft across, with a domed top and a flashing light underneath. They say it rotated slightly and was silent.

Mrs Critchley said: "It was my husband who saw it first and he doesn't believe in UFOs

"I had my eyes closed when he first spotted it but when he pointed it out to me there was no doubt it was not a conventional aircraft. It must have been visible for about three minutes."

This is not the first time Mrs Critchley has seen a UFO. She saw a triangle-shaped object in the sky in Rochford 14 years ago.

She said: "People will probably think I'm a crank, especially as I've seen one before, but it was my husband who spotted it first."

This is the second UFO seen in Southend in the past month. In July the Echo reported that Anita Grant, 23, had seen a teardrop-shaped craft the size of a small plane near her Kursaal Way home.

Something fishy in the night sky

A COUPLE could not believe their eyes when they stepped out into their back garden to see a jellyfish-like UFO.

Mrs Irene Smith, a machinist with Prestfield Fashions, in Brunel Drive, Newark, was ready to settle down for an evening in front of the television.

Then, her husband, retired miner Mr Leslie Smith, shouted her from their back garden, where he was having a cup of tea.

Mrs Smith, of Nicholas Place, Tuxford, said: "It was unbelievable. It was a round circle with green and yellow lights round it. The inside was like a jellyfish."

Photograph

"There was a red and yellow light in the middle and when it became vivid it seemed to set all the outside lights off."

The couple watched the UFO for two hours through powerful Navy

binoculars, which belonged to Mrs Smith's father. Neighbours came out to join them, and one tried to take a photograph, but the mysterious object was too far away.

Mrs Smith said: "Without the binoculars it looked like the North Star. I had to lean against the wall to steady myself to watch it more clearly."

The UFO spent the time floating, almost still in the sky, which was very clear.

Weird

Phonecalls to the RAF, the police and the Meteorological Office all failed to explain the sighting. The night was warm, which is often the case when suspicious sightings are made, according to investigators from the Mansfield UFO group.

Eventually, the UFO-spotters went to bed but the bright light was still in the sky.

Mrs Smith told

fellow-staff about her experience the next day — and found varying reactions.

She said: "Some think it is a bit weird, some believe me and some don't — but everybody is interested. There's got to be more in the universe than just us."

However, one work-mate recalled a story about a man who spotted a UFO, reported it, and then disappeared.

□ Yet another mystery sighting?

Neighbours spot UFO

THE spate of UFO sightings in Falkirk District has taken another twist.

Local people have reported a mysterious object over Westquarter.

Mary Higgins and her neighbour Kathleen Swanston claim to have watched "a shiny silver object shaped like a cigar" floating slowly across the village, as they relaxed one evening in their back garden.

Mrs Higgins (69), of 5 Elm

By TOM HUNTER

Drive, told The Falkirk Herald: "I've seen the Northern Lights and Halley's Comet, but this was nothing like either of those."

"We were sitting out the back when we saw this thing floating low across the roof of the church."

"It was moving very slowly towards the high flats in Falkirk."

The Westquarter sighting was made just after 9 p.m. on

Monday, August 8 — almost exactly the same time as Falkirk pensioner William Bestall and his wife Mabel watched a mystery object from their home in Falkirk's high flats.

Now Mrs Higgins and Mrs Swanston are asking: "Did we see the same UFO?"

□ Airships

Mrs Swanston (31), who lives above Mrs Higgins at 7 Elm Drive, added: "It was a bit like the Good Year airship that you sometimes see on TV."

"Only it had no lights, no windows — nothing."

"It was really low in the sky but I couldn't hear any sound coming from it."

She added: "I'm normally the sceptical one — if anyone had said to me they had seen a flying saucer I'd have asked them what they were on."

"But I definitely saw something, and I haven't got a clue what it was."

UFO spotted at Canonstow

A UFO was spotted over Canonstow last week.

Amanda Wright, who lives in the village, said she was in her garden when she saw two bright lights flying from west to east in the night-time sky.

She said that the "Unidentified Flying Objects" did not look like aircraft lights and made no noise.

She telephoned the Ministry of Defence and reported the sightings to a department that deals with UFO reports.

"It is the second time I've seen a UFO," said Amanda.

"Last time was 12 months ago over Gulval."

She said that her Canonstow sighting took place 9.50pm.

CAN DAN DARE TO ZAP UFO CLAIMS?

I attended the recent UFO conference held in Cardiff. I do not wear beads nor is my hair tied in a ponytail.

I am, however, a qualified surveyor currently employed in the computer industry as an engineer.

As far as UFOs are concerned I have never seen anything unusual myself. I find it difficult to understand that in this age of modern technology and information we cannot confirm and resolve the mystery that surrounds this subject.

I believe the feature in the Times newspaper of August 25, highlights the reason why.

In this article, British born Professor Sturrock said: "Mainstream scientists too readily dismissed strange phenomena with giggles and sometimes violent opinions".

He suggested that we should be more open to the unknown, be open-minded not bloody-minded. With that in mind, my reactions to the conference were different.

Of the 300 people in attendance, 80-90 per cent appeared to be ordinary, intelligent people. More than half were young people, who listened quietly and attentively to the various presentations.

When asked if anyone had seen anything unusual or unexplained in the sky, almost 60 per cent indicated that they had.

It was obvious that some of the presenters were not professional lecturers and a couple of them did get carried away with their own thoughts and opinions.

But the investigators provided many examples of personal and reported sightings of possible UFOs, backed up with photographic and film evidence.

They also highlighted examples of elaborate hoaxes involving not only civilian but military personnel.

It is true that with the majority of sightings the investigators found a feasible explanation

Dan O'Neill's de-bunking of a recent UFO conference in Cardiff prompted many letters from readers - but none quite as convincing as this one. Mihangel Fychan attended the conference as an open-minded sceptic and left with a headful of unanswered questions.

which discounted any possible alien involvement.

But there were also multiple sightings by many witnesses with hard evidence that the experts could not discount nor explain.

One example was of a British Government scientist, his wife and mother who had a "close encounter" which resulted in all three receiving medical treatment to surgically remove implants.

No one could explain the function nor the structure of these implants.

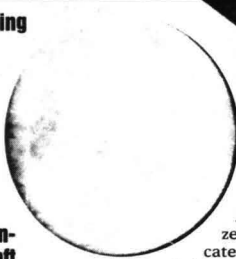
If this story is true, who carried out the operations and what conclusions were made?

I believe the investigators have a common goal, to try to sort out the truth of reported sightings. It is a pity they appear to have no support to achieve this.

Before I attended this conference I was not aware of the following "facts". I would like to establish from other sources, such as government and scientific establishments, whether these facts are true or just fabrication?

Looking at the world, it was stated that in the USA, there is a "Regulation 200" which implies there is intelligent life forms

What do you think? Write to the Editor, South Wales Echo, Thomson House, Havelock Street, Cardiff, CF1 1XR.



other than human. Also there is a law which forbids American citizens to communicate with alien beings.

Perhaps "an alien" is any person who is not an American citizen? The government of Japan is releasing all information on UFOs to its public. The most senior officer in the Belgium air force has stated publicly that UFOs exist and there have been many confirmed sightings over Belgium.

Then there is the involvement of the film industry. *Close Encounters* was based on certain incidents provided by a NASA scientist, ie: during one night over the USA, five states were "blackened out" and at the same time air traffic controllers recorded the same sound that was used in the film.

Is it true, that Steven Spielberg has set aside \$50m to make a film of this incident? The film would be based on the reports and film footage from 1947, which have just been released to the American public. The incident also involved unknown craft crashing in New Mexico and aliens being taken to an air base.

And what about crop circles? They appear around the world in different crops.

There are 95 major circle patterns in the UK. One of these, which appeared overnight, was half a mile long with one circle 800 feet in diameter. Is it possible for a group of people to construct such a large pattern in one night without lights and special survey equipment?

Evidently, genuine circle pat-

terns have certain characteristics, the crops have been twisted 180/360 degrees and then bent over.

In one case, 70-foot pine trees were twisted and bent over. Exactly where and when did this occur?

And is it true that British farmers are being paid to immediately cut crops if any circles appear. If so, who is paying the farmers and why?

I have only summarised three areas covered during the conference.

As far as hard facts are concerned I would like briefly to mention the following incident which I find difficult not to believe. The details come from an American TV programme called *Sightings*.

In 1989, the space probe Phobus 2 disappeared from its orbit around Mars. Recently, Russian scientists have revealed that the last pictures transmitted from the probe, on the day it was due to descend to 15 metres above the surface of Mars, showed a Mars moon and a long oblong-shaped object.

The object was unidentifiable and calculated as being 23km (14 miles) long.

Later it was established that an

amateur astronomer from Japan had filmed the lunar surface of the earth's moon within a day of the disappearance of Phobus 2. On viewing the film, a long thin shadow was observed moving across the surface of the moon.

Experts agree that the shadow was cast by a vast object flying over the moon at 200km per second.

By putting these two separate pieces of evidence together, the Russians concluded that Phobus 2 was probably removed from orbit around Mars by a large unknown object.

Which leads to two main questions, by what and why?

I can only conclude by saying there is either more to this than we are led to believe or we are being deceived by the figment of people's imaginations.

Mihangel Tomos Fychan.



Mysterious flying objects

SKYGAZERS were urged today to help solve the riddle of mysterious objects seen flying in the night sky over Devon.

Serviceman turned UFO researcher Doug Cooper is trying to work out what the objects were by a process of rational elimination.

He said: "On Friday August 5 at 3.15pm, a couple saw a large spinning object hovering over North Exeter for about 20 minutes, before it sped off to the south west.

Then on the 6th, a daisy-shaped pattern of lights was seen by a man over Stoke Canning near Cullompton - exactly a year after a similar

display was seen over Stoke St Gregory in Somerset."

Honiton-based Mr Cooper, who claims to err on the side of caution, said: "We know that on August 6 there was a light show on at a village near Cullompton, but it was over by the time of the sighting."

SOUTH WALES ECHO, Cardiff, Wales - Oct. 11, 1994

Unexplained evidence

I AM writing about the current debate in the Echo about UFO's.

An enormous amount of unexplained evidence still exists which people would rather brush under the carpet. For instance in a genuine crop circle the plants are bent over (not broken or buckled) just above the ground. Also they are found way out from tractor lines with no tracks where people

could have walked.

Since 1991 UFO's have been filmed on a regular basis in Mexico where 1,000 items of footage have been shot. In an incident at Florida in March last year a UFO was filmed accelerating to more than 2,000 mph in under one tenth of a second.

CHRIS FOWLER
Witla Court Road,
Rumney, Cardiff.

CR: T. Good



Strange tales of many unexpected goings-on

SIMON TOFT meets one of the forces behind the Fortean Times and finds out about strange goings-on.

Paul Sieveking was only a teenager when he encountered his first phenomenon.

"I went down to the Suffolk coast in 1962 and the entire sea wall was covered as far as the eye could see by millions and millions of ladybirds. I was very impressed with such a natural wonder and realised at that moment how little we understood, even in our modern age."

Then there was his out-of-body experience.

"I was walking through Richmond Park in the 1970s when I suddenly became aware that I could see over a clump of trees to a building beyond. My vantage point must have been way above my head. I got a feeling of panic and then returned to my body. I can't explain that at all."

With incidents like that, it's not surprising that Paul has become something of an expert in the bizarre and bewildering.

For 16 years he has been part of the 'gang of Fort' running the *Fortean Times*, a magazine devoted to strange phenomena and experiences, curiosities, mysteries, prodigies and portents.

The journal covers topics from showers of frogs to crop circles, houses that drip with blood, appearances of the Virgin Mary and life in other worlds.

It continues the work of Charles Fort, an American philosopher who objected to the way the scientific community ignored any data that did not fit its theories.

For Paul, who describes himself as a cosmic clerk, it's a labour of love. He fondly recalls some of the most memorable stories.

"There was a man in Canada who was a compulsive obsessive. He shot himself and managed to give himself a lobotomy with the bullet. When he recovered he found he was cured of his personality disorder."

"Then last year an enormous egg 30 inches in circumference was found by children on an Australian beach. It had been laid by a Madagascan elephant bird. But the bird has been extinct for 400 years and lived 4,000 miles away."

Closer to home he tells of items falling from the sky. Little balls of damp sand came down over Bournemouth in 1984, while the previous year saw a fall of coal. Even more bizarre was the fall of crabs in Brighton the same year.

Paul, a softly-spoken anthropology graduate, doesn't claim to have the answers to life's many mysteries. But the questions fascinate him.

"We may give other people's explanations but we are not wedded to them. We want to give as much information as we can and let people make up their own minds."

"The trouble is that a lot of people apply self-censorship. I believe more people are having strange experiences but don't say anything because they don't want to seem peculiar."

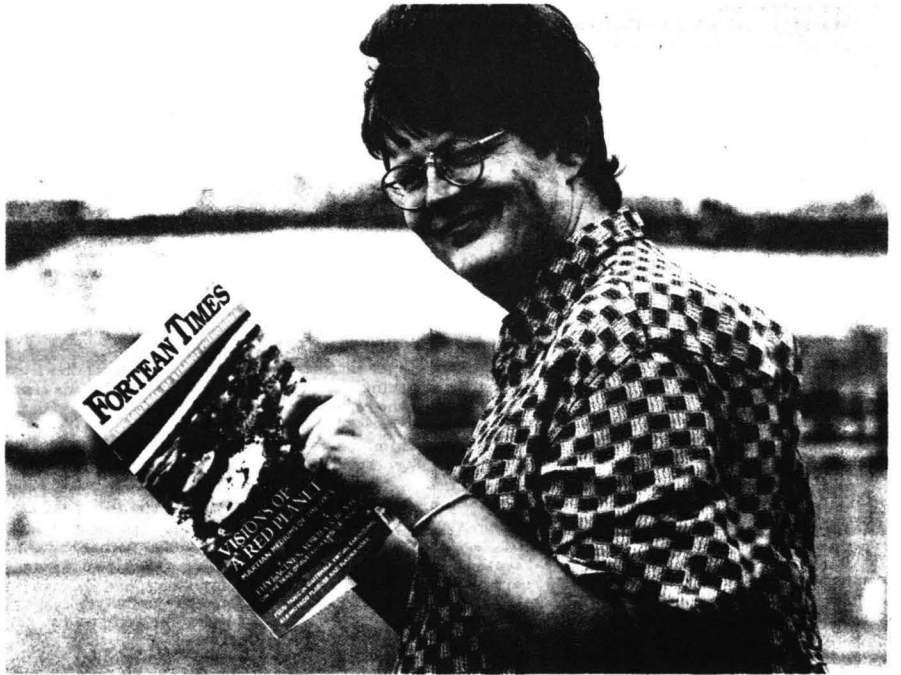
"If they do see something that doesn't make sense they will convince themselves that they have not seen it at all, but imagined it. We doubt our own eyes as a kind of natural self-defence mechanism. People prefer to stay with the comfortable, the known."

The crop circles phenomenon has provided a lot of material for the magazine.

So does he believe they are the work of an alien intelligence trying to make contact?

"There may be a lot of people out there creating hoaxes, but there is also some sort of natural phenomenon going on. I have learned to tolerate uncertainty but a lot of people can't do that. They want everything cleared up, so that's why they dismiss crop circles as fakes. But some things are inconclusive. I think there is a lot we don't understand. We just have to learn to live with that."

■ The *Fortean Times* is published bi-monthly by John Brown Publishing and is priced £2.



EXTRAORDINARY ● Paul Sieveking with a copy of the *Fortean Times*



ODD ● Crop circles are one of the more controversial incidents

FANCY that!

■ Reports of a large, lynx-like cat roaming Hayling Island were scoffed at - until it was knocked over and killed in 1988. It was identified as a North African swamp cat, but checks revealed that no swamp cats were kept in British zoos. Later that summer more sightings were recorded at Hilsea, Portsdown Hill and Hayling Island.

■ A Mrs Holloway, walking along a hilltop on the Isle of Wight, was startled to see an unusual cloud formation. She took a picture of it and, when the film was developed, discovered she had captured a realistic image of the Grim Reaper complete with scythe.

■ The Swain family of Somerset made more than 200 trips to the New Forest in search of a strange lake they had passed while on holiday in the area in 1952. They were certain they had seen the lake, complete with a boulder 50 yards from the shore and a sword embedded in it.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO - April 28, 1994 CR: C. Carpenter

Autopsy awaited in garden death

Man working in yard collapses; body gives off mysterious fumes

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — A 76-year-old man who collapsed in his yard gave off fumes that sickened a dozen paramedics and hospital workers. A coroner said garden chemicals may have been to blame.

Frank Kulczynski collapsed while working in his tomato garden Monday in McKeesport, about 5 miles south of Pittsburgh. Paramedics said Kulczynski bled from his mouth and sores opened on his skin as they tried to revive him. Allegheny County Coroner Joshua

Perper said the man's skin began to peel after his death.

An autopsy performed Tuesday showed Kulczynski apparently suffered a heart attack, Perper said. However, there was also blood in Kulczynski's stomach and in a portion of his small intestine, leading Perper to believe that other factors may have contributed to his death.

A final cause of death will not be determined until results from toxicology and bacterial tests are available, Perper said.

Two hospital technicians and two paramedics were hospitalized overnight and released Tuesday. Eight others were treated briefly Monday night. Their complaints ranged from dizziness to irritated

eyes, rashes and difficulty breathing.

One emergency worker said Kulczynski smelled like chlorine, while another compared the man's odor to ammonia. Perper said he thought the chemicals Kulczynski was using contributed to his death, but his office released no ruling Tuesday and could not provide names of the chemicals.

Zorrie Kulczynski said her husband appeared to be healthy shortly before he began to work in his garden.

In Riverside County, Calif., a female cancer patient died Feb. 19 and emitted noxious fumes in an operating room. Six people were sickened by the fumes. Their cause has not been revealed.

SUN. Toronto, Ontario, Canada - June 11, 1994

Warp speed for space travellers

LONDON (Reuters) — *Star Trek* creator Gene Roddenberry may have been right when he invented "warp" travel as a way for his characters to travel through space, a physicist said yesterday.

Miguel Alcubierre, an expert in relativity theory working at the University of Wales in Cardiff, said he had proved mathematically that "warp" or faster-than-light travel is possible.

Such an idea violates one of the basic tenets of Einstein's theory of relativity — that nothing can travel faster than the speed of light.

But Alcubierre said in a letter to the journal *Classical and Quantum Gravity* that space can be warped or distorted, giving the effect of unnatural speed.

This would solve one of the

main problems of space travel the immense distances involved mean it would take generations to reach even nearby solar systems.

"It's more like an argument of principle. It won't violate necessarily any of the laws of nature that we know today," said Alcubierre.

"The calculation is very simple. I did it in one day." Modern physics holds that space and time are connected. Large objects such as planets and stars distort this space-time continuum.

But Alcubierre said the theory was a long way from being put into practice — if it ever could be.

"I just did it for fun," Alcubierre said.

"I was waiting to see what the reaction would be from the scientific community."

CR: G. Duplantier

Cattle mutilation phenomenon remains a mystery

In last week's paper, Ranchland News broke the story about two recent mutilations in Elbert and El Paso counties. Long before the daily papers and TV stations got in on the act, we started getting calls from individuals who were anxious to share their theories about the cattle mutilation mystery. I was happy to chat with them, as I've had an interest in the phenomenon since the mid-70s, when mutilations occurred with frightening frequency in the Ranchland region.

Back then, there was considerable speculation that a clandestine government operation might be responsible for the mutilations. Folks wondered if the government was tracking pollutants in the food chain, or maybe testing for radioactivity in plants and animals.

That theory doesn't hold water, according to the folks I talked to last week.

Dave Nipple, a rancher who lives north of Simla, said, "If it was backed by the military, if they were performing legitimate experiments on animals, why wouldn't they just go buy them? They can afford to buy them and do any experiments they want to. Why go out and kill John Q. Public's animal?"

Nipple paused and added, "It's a private group that's doing it."

Chandra Chandler of Colorado Springs doesn't agree with Nipple's theory about who or what is responsible for mutilations. But she does agree that the government theory makes little sense.

"This is too obvious to be the government," Chandler said. "If they wanted to track how far down the food chain pollutants have gotten, all they would have to do is buy their own herd of cows."

Another notion that Nipple totally rejects is the predator theory. "A 45-pound coyote is not going to drag down a 900-pound cow and kill it," he said. "It's not going to happen."

Former Elbert County Sheriff George Yarnell, now deceased, didn't think much of the predator theory either, even though that's what the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) attributed most of the mutilations to.

Yarnell had been instructed by the CBI to cut pieces of hide from animals he investigated. He was told to put notches in the side he cut out, and send it in so the CBI could examine the non-notched (or mutilated) edge.

In a 1985 interview with Ranchland News, Yarnell explained, "If the root hairs are cut, you know it was done with a knife."

Yarnell said he became frustrated with the CBI's predator-caused reports because he was sure that some of the cattle deaths he investigated were not caused by predators. "So one time I just reversed it (the notches). I got the same results," he said.

In other words, the CBI examined the edge of the hide Yarnell had cut out with his knife, and then reported the cut had been made by a predator.

Yarnell said he was infuriated when he received the report. He confronted CBI officials but received no satisfactory explanation. "They hem-hawed around, and I was so damned disgusted I just walked out," Yarnell said in the 1985 interview.

In spite of the CBI's leanings, veteri-

narians at the CSU lab in Fort Collins concluded that of the 19 animals they did autopsies on, nine were definitely cut upon by something other than predators.

The CSU vets weren't the only experts who admitted some of the mutilations were caused by a non-predator source. After investigating an El Paso County mutilation, a former county coroner stated, "The hide was removed by someone who didn't puncture the tissue layer directly under the hide. It was really an expert job. It's the most precise dissection I've ever seen."

Hmmm.... so if it's not the government, and it's not predators, what in the Sam-

directly over our house. They were oval-shaped, dark if not black, and each one of them had a pale halo or energy field around it. Three of them were flying in a triangle shape, going north. The fourth one came over and joined the other three, and then all four shot off in different directions."

Chandler said the UFO Institute of Colorado Springs is a relatively new and fairly small organization with about 35 members. People who are interested in the group, which holds monthly meetings, can call Chandler at 598-0618.

Chandler said there are members of her organization who have seen a very

maybe half a mile it was like a football field lit up. Then we looked and it went out. Then a little while later we saw it to the east, maybe three miles."

Although there hasn't been much mutilation activity locally in recent years, it has been occurring with considerable frequency in other parts of the world.

In her latest video titled "Strange Harvests - 1993," Emmy award-winning TV producer Linda Moulton Howe continues her investigation of the worldwide animal mutilation mystery. Howe reports that police detectives in northeastern Alabama were puzzled by more than 30 mutilated animals in 1993. Residents reported seeing moving lights, helicopters and large, multi-colored disks in pastures. A pathologist confirmed that high heat had been used to cut tissue in animals.

Howe has also written a most unusual 455-page book titled "An Alien Harvest." Folks interested in ordering Howe's materials can request a brochure by writing to LMH Productions, P.O. Box 538, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006-0538.

As for me, I'm as baffled today as I was 20 years ago about the mutilation mystery. I've read a lot of articles and books. I've given it a lot of thought. Several fundamental questions remain. Such as, what is the motive of the mutilators, whoever or whatever they may be? And how do they pull it off, in hundreds of cases all over the world, without ever getting caught?

I have a sneaking suspicion that the truth about animal mutilations will some day be revealed. There are times when I think I'd dearly love to be the one who solves the mystery. Other times, in the middle of the night when I get kind of spooked and I feel a cold chill run down my spine, I don't even want to know what it's all about. If you know what I mean.

Nevertheless, I encourage people to call me with reports of mutilations, strange aerial lights, or anything else that might be associated with mutilations. Ranchers are sometimes hesitant to notify law officers of mutilations because they're afraid the authorities, and even their neighbors, might think they are crazy. I understand that fear because I experience it, if only for a fleeting moment, every time I do a mutilation article for this newspaper. Those reports probably make some readers wonder if the local editor hasn't gone over the deep end.

Even so, I plan to continue my research into the phenomenon and report on it when new local information surfaces. That's because I think the most important factor in uncovering the truth about the mutilation mystery will be, well, truth itself. I believe there has been a concerted, wide-scale cover-up attempt by the "powers that be." Common folk aid and abet that cover-up when they fail to file reports of mutilations.

When I interviewed local rancher Dave Nipple last week, he made a similar observation. "There is definitely something strange going on here," he said. "I hope it doesn't pick up like it was in the 70s, but if it does, I think we could stop it if people would just be more aware of what's going on. They need to report it when they find one."

One thing is certain: making believe it didn't happen won't make it go away.



Monty's Musings

by Monty Gaddy

Hill is responsible for cattle mutilations?

Rancher Dave Nipple believes the answer to that question is Satan worshipers. He thinks they use animal parts and blood in their rituals, and he suspects that timetables for satanic rituals coincide with timings of mutilations. He theorizes that the highest level of satanic hierarchy is comprised of judges, lawyers, doctors, priests, ministers and high-ranking military officials.

"The U.S. military is the number one spot for satanic cults and devil worship," Nipple said. "Several of the upper echelon — colonels, generals, majors, lieutenant colonels — are high priests in cults. If they have that kind of support within the military, that explains your airlifts, it explains your laser operations. It may not be backed by the military, but it may be that these colonels and majors have access to this equipment. It's possible."

Nipple said he has done a lot of recent research into cattle mutilations, and has come to the conclusion that a majority of them have taken place near major military installations.

Unmarked black helicopters have often been spotted in areas of mutilations. Chandra Chandler, a member of the UFO Institute of Colorado Springs, believes the choppers are sent in by the military to patrol the area after mutilations have occurred. But she believes extra-terrestrials are responsible for the actual mutilations.

"I think they are here, and I don't think there's anything we can do about it," Chandler said matter-of-factly.

Frequently, strange aircraft are sighted in the area around mutilations. "And it's silent craft with very bright lights," she said. "People have seen things that didn't make a sound fly right over their homes."

One of those people is Chandler herself. It happened one night over Memorial Day weekend when she and her husband were sitting in the yard doing some star-gazing.

"I caught a movement out of the corner of my left eye," Chandler said. "I had my binoculars and when I looked through them I saw four objects. They flew

large triangular shaped UFO. It's interesting to note that a perfect triangle was carved from the forehead of the bull that was recently mutilated north of Simla.

Chandler feels that many aspects of mutilations cannot be easily explained from a human perspective.

"One thing is that the way they are sliced and diced — it appears to be the work of a laser, but a laser capable of doing this type of work would have to be hauled in on a flatbed truck" she said. "There is evidence of extremely high heat. Another thing is the total absence of blood at the sight. Often the animals look like they have been lifted up and dropped. And there are no footprints or evidence of humans in the area."

Dick Rowley, an independent real estate agent in Colorado Springs, contends it's possible that humans are performing the mutilations. Local folks may remember Rowley as the man who set two world altitude records for light aircraft while flying at Meadow Lake Airport near Falcon.

Rowley buys into the satanic cult theory as a way to explain the mutilation mystery. He says the mutilators could use a tranquilizer gun to take an animal down, then use a cauterizing scalpel that seals the wound at the same time it cuts it.

"That explains why there is no blood," he said. "And there are several techniques for concealing footprints and scent."

But what about the lights and aircraft that often appear in areas of mutilations? Rowley contends that highly sophisticated aircraft, which the general public knows nothing about, has probably been developed already.

"Even back in Viet Nam, they had helicopters that had great big banks of lights, enough to light up a football field," he said. "It created night blindness for the enemy."

Maybe that's what former Elbert County Sheriff George Yarnell saw one night when he was out on patrol. In the 1985 interview, Yarnell recalled, "One night we were east of Elbert on the north Fondis road on a high hill. Right north

Workers find pharaonic, secret tunnel into Sphinx

The Associated Press

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE,
Little Rock, AR - Oct. 8, 1994

GIZA PLATEAU, Egypt — Workers repairing the ailing Sphinx have discovered an ancient passage leading deep into the body of the mysterious statue crouched at foot of the Giza pyramids.

That the tunnel is old — very old — is not in dispute, said Giza antiquities chief Zahi Hawass. Evidence indicates it dates from pharaonic times.

What's puzzling is who built the passage? Why? And where does it lead?

Hawass said mystery lovers will have to bide their time to learn what the passage is all about. He doesn't plan to remove the stones blocking its entrance until at least February.

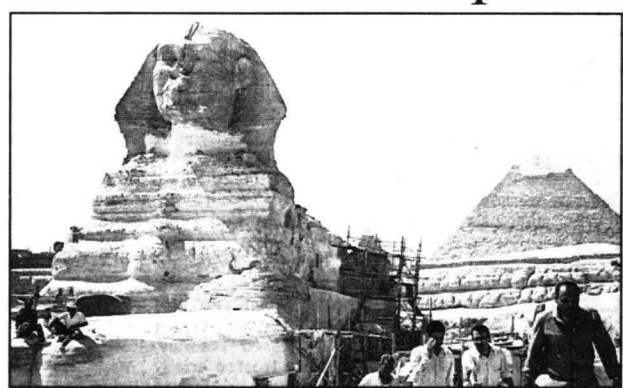
The secret tunnel burrows

into the northern side of the 240-foot-long limestone statue, about halfway between the Sphinx's outstretched front paws and its curved tail.

Though Hawass said he's thrilled about the new mystery of the Sphinx, he warns that treasure-seekers are likely to be disappointed. Based on long experience with the Sphinx, he predicts that antiquities workers will find nothing more than rocks.

"But the rocks are their own treasure, because they'll give experts a close-up view at what's happening inside the Sphinx," he said.

Few, if any, structures are as haunting and mysterious as the Sphinx, built by pharaonic artisans 4,600 years ago as half-man, half-beast.



Associated Press

SECRET TUNNEL — Local Egyptian officials pass by the Sphinx on Wednesday, where repairs have discovered an ancient passage leading deep into the body of the statue at the foot of the Giza pyramids.

Desperately seeking Bigfoot

Pleasant Hill man tracks elusive beast by gathering as much evidence as he can

By JOE GAROFOLI
Staff writer

Bigfoot rules Tom Morris' life. Yes, that Bigfoot. As in Sasquatch. Morris has never seen the big guy, but he did find some dung samples that seem a bit too big to belong to a bear. He'll show you the framed photograph of them in

his home.

In fact, he's got dozens of framed photos to show you. They cover the walls and line up along the floor nearly everywhere in his Pleasant Hill home. That's OK, since there's plenty of room here now — hasn't been much furniture since he and his wife broke up several months ago.

Part of the reason for the split, Morris says, is that he's really into Bigfoot.

He just poured all his knowledge — except for some of the really inside stuff he's holding onto — into "California's Bigfoot/Sasquatch." The book breaks no new ground and offers no new theories. Instead, it's a compilation of newspaper articles and other resources aimed at making it more comfortable for Bigfoot sighters to come forward with information.

You see, Morris doesn't want to bag a Bigfoot. As he says, "I prefer the Jane Goodall approach. I want to hear about some more sightings, get some footage, just get some more information out there so we can get some part of the scientific community to investigate this seriously."

"It's not like I'm getting any money out of this," the 36-year-old underground construction contractor says. He invested about \$4,000 to publish the book. "It's just like it's in my blood now."

Morris isn't the little boy who cried Bigfoot. He's not alone in his quest.

Since 1990, there have been eight Bigfoot sightings in California, Oregon and Washington, according to

stuff, science does have the technology, but they're just not applying it to look for Bigfoot."

The endless trail of photos in his home detail what Morris has been chasing for nearly 20 years. There's shots of tracks he's found, of wooded areas where sightings were reported, of fellow Bigfoot devotees on the hunt with him, and of course, frames of The Film.

Morris bases much of his faith on the 952 frames of movie film that Roger Patterson shot in 1967 in Northern California. To Bigfoot-heads, it's their Zapruder film. In the absence of any skeletal remains or teeth, Patterson's film is the closest thing to scientific proof for the faithful.

No doubt you've seen the few seconds of grainy film somewhere. It shows a large, hairy, upright creature walking through the woods, swinging his long arms wide. Too big to be a man. Too humanoid to be a bear or an ape. Too complex to be faked, Bigfoot-heads believe.



SHRINE TO SASQUATCH: The walls in Tom Morris' Pleasant Hill home are lined with Bigfoot photos, books and other paraphernalia.

BOB PEPPING/Times



PURPORTED FOOTPRINT casts like this are part of Morris' collection, which now includes his own book.

and folklore Alan Dundes. Bigfoot represents a yearning for something primitive and peaceful. It's about the purity of nature, and those corners of the world that humans haven't bulldozed over and polluted with their smoke-belching technology.

"It's about something purely ecological," Dundes says. "It's about an opposition to science and scientific thinking. Look at all the scientists and all of their technology and they still can't find Bigfoot."

"And then there's another theory," Dundes says. "It's a male thing. Big Foot represents the Big Phallus that's out there in the woods. It's the id, the unconscious. Untamed sexuality."

Whoa. "Uh, I don't know where he's coming from with that stuff," Morris says. "As for the technology

the Bigfoot Research Project, an Oregon group that only counts sightings that they have investigated and found to be credible. They field about 600 calls a month on their 1-800-BIGFOOT line.

The group has secured enough private funding to use helicopters and computers to comb the woods of the Pacific Northwest for Bigfoot.

Over the years, hundreds of footprints have been found; one set even has some dermal ridges. So why haven't any bones or teeth been found of one of the dozens of Bigfeet estimated to be roaming the wilds? Some Bigfootologists estimate there could be as many as 2,000 in North America.

The standard reply from Bigfoot-heads is: Any remains are totally devoured by other predators.

Finding a Bigfoot carcass isn't the point, though, says one observer.

Faith in Bigfoot may be a search for something deeper, says UC-Berkeley professor of anthropology

"There it is, that's what it's all about," Morris says as he watches the Patterson film excerpted on an episode of "Unsolved Mysteries" he taped. Morris bought the rights to use the photo in his book for \$50 and four free copies. Several framed copies of Bigfoot looking back at the camera are scattered around the house.

Later, when Peter Byrne, who heads the Bigfoot Research Project, is mentioned, Morris says, "Ooh, I get goosebumps when I hear about him."

Byrne is a Dublin-born guy who wears khakis and ascots and talks in a refined Irish accent. He uses computers and sound sensors. Morris is a jeans-and-backpack guy who looks like Fred Dryer. His tracking method is a bit different. He's more comfortable laying raw fish and meat around his campsite to lure Bigfoot at night. Then he plays recordings of rabbits in distress to attract predators like Bigfoot. He waits inside, his hand on a gun, just

in case.

Morris' eyes widen as he describes what he's looking for: a hairy creature about 8-feet tall, 800 pounds, covered with black or reddish-brown fur. It walks upright like a human, with a slight hunch, and swings its long arms high. It emits an incredibly rank odor.

The creature is nocturnal, which helps him elude man, researchers say. The species is believed to be very rare — estimates range from several dozen to 2,000 in North America, with the highest concentration in the forests of the Pacific Northwest.

Morris wishes he had some night vision binoculars. He can't afford them now, but he devoted a full-page ad to ITT's night vision binoculars and hopes to get a pair in return for the plug.

"Now I can't wait until it snows," Morris says. "I'll be out there on cross-country skis. It's so much easier to see the tracks in the snow."

The search never ends.

BIGFOOT SIGHTINGS

Tom Morris asks that you report any Bigfoot sightings or tracks still in existence to Bigfoot Investigations, 930-8123.

You can also report Bigfoot sightings in Oregon, Washington or California to the Bigfoot Research Project at 1-800-BIGFOOT (244-3668). The group interviews all those who file reports before entering them in their database. Both organizations keep the names of those who report sightings confidential.

To purchase Morris' new book, "California's Bigfoot/Sasquatch," send \$19.95 to Bigfoot Investigations, 1000 Pleasant Valley Drive, Pleasant Hill CA 94523. It is also available at Hogan's, 1500 Contra Costa Blvd., Pleasant Hill.

'Life on Mars' debate wants to go where no man has gone before

By MARK BAGNE

Scientists from Europe and across the United States are expected to converge on Cody in mid-September to present some "revolutionary" theories about life in the universe.

Organizers of the conference, the first of its kind, say Cody is just the place for them to pursue some quiet, thoughtful dialogue about their belief that intelligent beings may have built artifacts on Mars and the moon.

At first glance, the theories that will be explored with Cody students and citizens seem strange, but the loose grouping of professors, writers and researchers behind these ideas feel they're on the revolutionary edge of new science.

The "Cody '94 Moon/Mars Conference" was brought to Cody primarily as the result of contacts made by Tom Fell of Cody with one of the featured speakers, Richard Hoagland, who plans to attend the event, Sept. 13-18.

Hoagland, most widely known for his theory that a monument resembling a face was built on Mars, said from his New Jersey home this week that the conference was born during a conversation

with Fell at a party in New York.

"I and many other scientists had been discussing for some time the idea of holding a conference to thrash this out," Hoagland said. "Cody seemed like a nice, quiet place to bring the scientists together with the students — who will live with the results of what we eventually find out."

Hoagland and Fell say this is the first time a conference has been held with this many scientists and other interested political and corporate observers on this unusual topic.

They also promise findings will be presented in Cody that have never appeared in a public forum, and they're hopeful national and international media will be here to report those findings.

The conference will include academic presentations to students at Cody and Powell high schools, a public reception at Northwest College, public presentations at Wynona Thompson Auditorium and a Cody "town hall meeting."

Hoagland and the other scientists, philosophers and writers planning to speak or observe the forum generally believe hard sci-

entific evidence exists that ancient extraterrestrial beings visited parts of our solar system.

They say data gathered by moon and Mars missions has already given indications of extraterrestrial ruins and suspect NASA has covered up some of that data because of fears it would create psychological and social turmoil on earth.

Most of the established scientific community dismisses such theories, but Hoagland and others en route to the Cody conference believe they're at the forefront of exploring evidence others simply refuse to believe.

Hoagland is the author of "The Monuments of Mars." He's a former consultant to NASA and served as an advisor to Walter Cronkite during the Apollo moon missions. He was recently featured in the August issue of "Omni" magazine.

As Hoagland visited with Fell about the possibility of a Cody conference, he said he became especially attracted to the idea of sharing his theories with students.

"We'll be sharing with the students how the use of math and geometry and other basic principles can be used to figure out something with this much controversy and significance," Hoagland said.

He hopes the forums with Cody

and Powell students will serve as a pilot project for communicating with students across America through satellite television links.

Asked about the "anti-establishment" views he and his colleagues present, Hoagland was quick with a defense.

"If a scientist has a vested interest in the way things are, it's hard for him to come to grips with something different than that," he said. "It has fallen to 'outside' scientists to take the data NASA has acquired and point out some remarkable evidence NASA has refused to grapple with for more than 30 years."

Such data, including films revealing structures built by intelligent beings on the moon, are among the presentations planned for Cody, Hoagland said.

"Revolutions in science always come from outside," he said. "We want to assemble all the 'outside' people who have worked on this, and do some thinking about it, alongside some political, corporate and media people."

Because he believes political leaders should be involved, Hoagland said he was meeting with advisors to President Clinton Wednesday to invite their participation in the Cody conference.

"Crucial political decisions have to be made by this administration," Hoagland said. "What the presi-

dent should do is command NASA to open its files to make freely available to people all information regarding artifacts on the moon and Mars."

Among items to be shown in Cody, he said, are NASA data and photographs from lunar and Mars missions that have been altered and blanked out.

Although Hoagland has gained media attention as a leading spokesman for his brand of science, he also has drawn critical reviews from other leading scientists.

For example, Michael Carr, who headed the Mars Viking orbiter imaging team, told Omni: "I don't know of people of any consequence who give any credence to this whatsoever."

When asked about the "face monument" on Mars, Michael Malin, the principal investigator in charge of a camera on the Mars Observer, told the magazine:

"Just because a hill looks like a face doesn't prove it is a face. In my view, the face barely resembles one, and there is certainly nothing in its form or topography that is even suggestive of its being artificial. There are far stranger things in Antarctica (geology) than I have seen on Mars."

The complete schedule for the Mars conference will be published later.

Cattle mutilation reports spawn talk of cults, aliens

Since Aug. 23, four cases of cattle mutilation have been reported in eastern Colorado — only the latest wave in a long line of bizarre cases reported over the years by ranchers in the West.

By D'ARCY FALLON

COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE TELEGRAPH



SIMLA, Colo. — It seems like a B horror movie with something for everyone: Sex and Satan, government conspiracy and E.T.'s, wigged out ranchers and baffled investigators.

But not even Hollywood could have cooked up this disquieting yarn.

Since Aug. 23, ranchers in eastern Colorado have reported four cases of cattle mutilation. All are eerily similar to a wave of mutilations in northern New Mexico, where 47 cattle have been attacked in the last 18 months.

Ranchers say the "soft tissue" of their mutilated cattle — including sex organs, lips, tongue and udders — was removed with a laser-like precision. At the same time, there have been no human, animal or tire tracks nearby, no sign of blood, no sign of struggle, no barking dogs in the middle of the night.

Whatever's zapping their cattle isn't your typical predator, local ranchers insist.

The cases are the latest in a long line of cattle mutilations in Colorado and the West. Between 1971 and 1985, there were more than 10,000 reports in nine states.

The recent spate of deaths has rekindled the mystery: Who — or what — is neatly slicing these animals to death?

"I have a theory that it ain't predators," said rancher Ted Hasenbalg, who found his 18-month-old bull, Buddy, dead in a field a few miles from his home. His reaction: "Well, I'll be damned. They're back."

Hasenbalg isn't sure who "they" are. He only knows they're repeat offenders: this is the third time in 17 years that Hasenbalg's cattle have been mutilated.

The first time was in the late 1970s, when he found a steer mutilated. A day or two later, it was the same story with a pregnant cow.

In the recent case, he found his \$2,000 bull lying on its side in a pasture, neatly cut up with what his wife, Patsy, says must've been a "high-tech" instrument.

The bull's scrotum, an eye and pieces of hide were missing.

The Hasenbalgs won't say for sure what killed the bull, although they have some theories.

"It could be a cult," Hasenbalg said. Patsy Hasenbalg, a dental hygienist, argued, "How come no tracks? How come no blood? I don't think a bunch of cultists are going

around with a laser. This has to be something really high-tech. I think it's possible that something could've come from somewhere."

It's possible, she said softly, that the mutilations could be the work of aliens who need parts of the animals to survive.

Lionie Pribble lost three head of cattle last year.

"They were mutilated," he said. "The second one, I had an autopsy done on her." The cow's tongue and sex organs had been removed, her nipples were cut off.

His uneasiness increased when some of his neighbors found their cattle mutilated, too.

"We were getting kind of nervous. We had three kids up there. A lot of times in the night, I'd have to go out and check the cows at a different place and leave the wife and kids at home."

When Pribble's lease expired, he moved his family to town.

What killed his cows? Maybe it was a satanic cult, he said slowly, ever so slowly.

While Dr. Dave Getzy isn't ruling out that theory ("I go into this with an open mind"), he says he hasn't seen anything unexplainable in the mutilations.

Many ranchers don't realize there often are scientific reasons for what seems to be an inexplicable act, said Getzy, a veterinarian pathologist and director of the Colorado State Diagnostic Lab in Fort Collins. For instance, many people unfamiliar with post-mortem changes don't realize that animal wounds often appear to be sharply defined because the skin tightens after death due to bloating.

There are often explanations for what appears to be bloodless mutilation, Getzy said, stressing that he has not examined any of the dead cattle in Elbert and El Paso counties.

"In cases that I've been involved in, I've never found an instance where it appeared unusual and couldn't be explained by predators or the effects of decomposition on the body," Getzy said.

That's an interesting observation, but it gives no comfort to Clyde Chess, a rancher and truck driver. When Chess found his heifer killed and mutilated Sept. 5, there were incisions around the rectum and vulva in a neat circle. Gone were the udder, tongue, lips, an ear — and the heart.

"Why do people feel they can do this to other people's property and to live animals? It ain't right," Chess said plaintively.

SANGRE DE CRISTO CHRONICLE, Angel Fire, NM - July 28, 1994

Cattle mutilations — no joke for Eagle Nest ranchers

Ellen Miller-Goins, staff writer

EAGLE NEST — Eagle Nest ranchers now have the dubious honor of having the second highest number of cattle mutilations in the country (Alabama has the highest) — and Eli Hronich has had the greatest number in Eagle Nest.

Hronich found another cow with its tongue, eye, and other vital organs and part of its side surgically removed. Again, there was no blood on the site or in the cow. So far the Hroniches have lost 11 cattle to these bizarre

incidents.

State and federal investigators are once again noticeably absent although Susan Hronich said she heard there was an FBI investigation a number of years ago that yielded no conclusive evidence.

Incidents in New Mexico have been left to the resources of private citizens such as Gail Staehlin of Albuquerque, who enlists the aid of veterinarians and pathologists, and journalists like Linda Howe from Pennsylvania who has made the mutilations her life's work.

According to Staehlin, it is

fairly conclusive that the surgically precise cuts were made using very high heat. The nature of the cuts have led Staehlin to conclude they were not the work of a "satanic cult."

"For you to walk up to a cow that size and kill it, you'd have to slit its throat," she said. "They'd have blood all over the place. If it is confirmed that it is laser cuts, the equipment they'd have to use is fairly good sized. That's why I think the cows are removed."

Susan Hronich confirmed what other ranchers have said — that unmarked helicopters are

often spotted near the scene of the mutilations.

"This year we see them after the cattle have been mutilated," she said, "not before."

She said the cattle they have lost were worth \$600 to \$1,000 each.

"What do they have against us?" she asked.

To help with investigations, Staehlin advised, "Under no circumstances should anyone touch these cows. Eli got something caustic on his thumb when he stuck it inside a cow's mouth. Cover the cow with a tarp and call us as soon as possible so we can come collect samples!"

Call 505-897-2066. ■

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
Oct. 15, 1994 CR: G. Conway

THE GOOD NEWS IS, IT WAS FROZEN:

George Neseveremko, 51 and his wife Fanzia Zaig, 56, were slumbering peacefully in their home north of Toronto when a frozen block of blue and green came crashing through the roof.

"It was like a big, big bomb crashing through my roof and it landed right beside the bed," Zaig said. "It missed us only by a couple of feet."

You're probably wondering . . .

"It's a huge piece of ice with deposits from the toilet of a plane and it smells very, very bad and makes me nauseated," Zaig said. "We don't know what to do and nobody is helping us to get rid of it. The whole thing is making us sick."

Bruce Reid, of Pearson International Airport, said the situation happens every few years. "It's not poisonous, it's just frozen blocks of waste from the washrooms of airplanes," Reid said.