

# UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

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Photo by Karen Ballard/The Washington Times

John Mack, Harvard psychiatrist and author of "Abduction," listens to a speaker yesterday.

## UFO buffs meet

Earthlings called unprepared for alien arrival

By Sean Piccoli  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

In the 1951 sci-fi movie classic "The Day the Earth Stood Still," a wayfaring space creature named Klaatu lands his flying saucer on the Ellipse — practically in the president's back yard — and gets shot and chased all over town for his trouble.

All of which could explain Washington as the choice of settings for "When Cosmic Cultures Meet," a conference that concluded yesterday after a long weekend of a soul-searching, star-gazing inquiry into the biggest appointment humankind — or a segment of humankind, anyway — is still waiting to keep.

The conference, held by the Falls Church-based Human Potential Foundation, brought together a group of true believers looking for ways to cushion the inevitable global shock when worlds collide and to make for a warmer welcome than the one Klaatu got.

"It's a start," Harvard University psychiatrist John E. Mack said of the gathering, which included scientists, historians, journalists and several people claiming to have regular contact with alien beings.

But the wiry, dark-haired Dr. Mack — author of the recent best seller "Abduction," chronicling his work with some of those people — seemed to capture the mood of the conferees by suggesting that earthlings have light years to go before they're ready to handle neighbors from beyond.

As one presenter put it in the title of his paper: "If We Can't Even Talk to Each Other, How Can We Talk to Them?"

To outsiders, it might have looked like a conspiracy buffs' bazaar or a Trekkie convention for the reality-impaired. Scholars steeped in the mysteries of UFO sightings and alien-abduction accounts delivered papers on the social, legal, technological and religious implications of extraterrestrial contact.

One guest, a middle-aged man in a striped shirt and bolo tie; sat on a couch eagerly sharing a UFO scrapbook stuffed with clippings and pictures of spacecraft. "Now we get to the weird stuff," he said with a smile.

Other guests found nothing "weird" — or even debatable — about alien visitation and instead chirped about the good tidings that such contacts are bound to bring.

"I think it's a very positive time," said Kay Allison, a bookstore owner from Charlottesville who busied herself at a table selling titles like "Preparing for Contact," "Visitors from Within" and "The Alien Book of Truth."

*As the book title put it, "If We Can't Even Talk to Each Other, How Can We Talk to Them?"*

Still others spoke grimly of powerful people withholding crucial information about the existence of otherworldly life. At one point, a visitor found himself being pulled aside for a "background" briefing on the subject of possible government cover-ups.

"Don't get sucked in," he was warned. "Like all dialogue, there's bound to be some nuts involved," said Scott Jones, the retired Navy officer and ex-Capitol Hill staffer who created the Human Potential Foundation to tackle such issues. "But any perceptive ear can tell the difference."

Participants also insisted they had pressing business to discuss.

"I think this is the hottest question on the planet right now," said Rauni-Leena Luukanen-Kilde, a physician and UFO expert from Helsinki who has written several books on the topic.

The conference's timing did seem inspired, given the rush of best-selling books, movies and TV programs that has signaled the '90s as a decade of resurgence for UFO spotters and alien-abduction buffs.

"Interest is way up," Ms. Allison said, basing her appraisal on her book sales.

Extraterrestrialists have a multitude of conferences to attend these days: Even the respected Massachusetts Institute of Technology held one in 1992. They also have something of a guru in Dr. Mack, a Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer who could become a martyr to the alienists' cause if the internal inquiry Harvard is conducting into his abduction research goes badly for him.

As one observer put it yesterday, "He's the hero of this conference."

Some guests professed more than just academic interest in bug-eyed beings. Dr. Luukanen-Kilde, dressed festively in beachy stripes and big earrings, identified herself as a "contactee," a frequent guest aboard alien spacecraft.

Nobody here was questioning the claim. "I haven't heard any debunking or skeptics here," she said in a pleasantly accented voice. "This crowd is so sure [that aliens exist], they moved beyond that a long time ago. We have our evidence — the military also has its evidence, which it doesn't share — and we're here to explore."

ROUNDUP, Payson, AZ - June 23, 1995

## Missing trucker attracts UFO group

BY MAX FOSTER  
STAFF WRITER

The mysterious disappearance of a Kansas truck driver almost one month ago near Payson has family members grieving, law enforcement authorities scratching their heads and a UFO organization claiming aliens might have been responsible.

On the morning of Sunday, May 28, Devin Williams, 28, a long-distance driver for Flint Hills Transportation in Emporia, Kan., drove his refrigerated truck loaded with salad mix and strawberries off Interstate 40 onto the Beeline Highway.

About 50 miles later he turned onto a remote Forest Service road, FR95, and drove into the Buck Springs area.

Several miles down the narrow, winding dirt road, the 18-wheeler became stuck and Williams left the vehicle.

The incident is a mystery to many. They want to know why Williams — a respected, married man with three children — would drive his truck into a dense wilderness area and vanish without a trace.

Cocoon County Sheriff's Detective Bruce Cornish has been investigating the disappearance since the day it was reported and he says he has no idea why Williams would take the truck into the area or what has since happened to him.

"It's such a remote area. It certainly isn't a shortcut to Kansas City (Williams' destination)," Cornish said. "And we have no recent leads on his whereabouts."

Kyle Burris, a fellow employee of Williams' at Flint Hills Transportation, said he, too, is baffled.

"I went out to Arizona in early June and brought the truck back," Burris said. "Why he would have driven into a rugged area like that, I don't know."

"This is not at all like him. It is out of character. He's worked here about four years and everyone knows and likes him. His wife and kids are taking this real hard. Everyone is worried and no one can figure out what happened."

Tom Wilson, owner of Flint Hills Transportation, said he had complete confidence in Williams, who he says was one of his better truck drivers.

"I don't know what to think. Devin is a good man. He passed all his random drug tests that federal law requires us to give. Detective Cornish tells me there were no drugs found in the truck. I don't believe that had anything to do with it."

Campers in the area told authorities they talked to Williams at about noon on

Sunday and asked him why he drove the truck into the rugged area. They said he pointed to the truck and said, "I didn't do it, they did it." Then he walked back to the truck.

During the course of Cornish's investigation — which is still ongoing — the Flagstaff detective interviewed witnesses who told him they saw Williams on Monday, May 29 a short distance from the stranded truck and that he was barefooted, seemingly disoriented and "talking to a tree." That was the last time Williams was seen, Cornish said.

The highly unusual disappearance has attracted the attention of a Texas-based research organization known as MUFON — Mutual UFO Network.

Tucson Insurance agent Charlie Green, a long-time member of MUFON, said the case has him fascinated because of what Williams told the campers who first confronted him.

"The driver said, 'I didn't do it, THEY did it,'" said Green. "That kind of makes you wonder who 'THEY' is, doesn't it?"

Cornish said he was recently contacted by a female who identified herself as a "UFO scientist" who wanted more details about Williams' disappearance.

"She asked if I wanted this case listed in her organization's log. I told her I had no reason to believe this had anything to do with UFOs. But, some people really believe it does."

Wilson said he also has been contacted by UFO organization representatives but couldn't recall who the callers were.

"They asked me about Devin and then told me about a man out in Arizona who was abducted into a spaceship and later got away. They made a movie about it," Wilson said.

The movie the caller was apparently referring to was "Fire in the Sky," a drama that depicted the alleged abduction of Snowflake logger Travis Walton by aliens.

Burris said when he visited Arizona to retrieve the 18-wheeler he found it unusual that Williams had left his personal citizen's band radio, valued at approximately \$300, in the cab.

"That was his own — not the company's. And he also left his favorite hat — a Marlboro hat — he always kept it with him."

While the questions are many and the clues are few, detectives, family and friends will continue looking for answers to Williams' disappearance.

# Area resident finds art in extraterrestrial life

By Sue Kidd  
STAFF WRITER

David Chace rarely mentions in casual conversation what he does in his spare time. After all, telling someone you chronicle the existence of aliens on Earth isn't usually the best ice-breaker.

"I don't usually bring it up, but if someone is interested, I talk. To some people, it's a threat to their belief system," Chace said during an interview at his Federal Way area home last week.

It was sweltering outside, but Chace appeared cool wearing a black T-shirt and long, black slacks.

The 24-year-old biology enthusiast sat on his bed barefoot, thumbing through illustrations of aliens he had sketched from descriptions given to him by others. Books about extraterrestrials and dinosaurs littered the floor of his dim room.

"It's a natural curiosity, but as far as I know, I've never had an experience," Chace said about his fascina-

ed.

Chace's interpretation of this alien contact was of a female-like figure with large, almond-shaped eyes. The being seemed to be enveloped in light.

In his own research, Chace said he has been startled in finding familiar patterns in different experiences he has illustrated, particularly with similar descriptions of green, reptilian aliens that have popped up in six separate sightings on which Chace has worked.

Chace said although he never has had a personal experience with aliens, he has gathered enough evidence to make him a believer.

When asked for proof, Chace contemplated for a moment.

He described documentation published by Mufon and other groups. Regardless of the research, belief is ultimately up to the reader, Chace said.

"In the absence of proof, there is a tendency to deny there is any evidence," Chace said. "I can't prove it to you. All I can say is if you're interested in exploring the possibilities, look into the research."

Chace said he never tries to convince

tion with alien creatures.

He picked up from the pile a sketch of a green reptilian face. The bulbous yellow eyes of the alien peered from the canvas as Chace described his work with a group called Mufon, which stands for Mutual UFO Network, Inc.

Mufon is an international non-profit organization composed of people who study and research the phenomenon known as Unidentified Flying Objects.

On July 7, 8 and 9, Mufon will host a symposium at the Sea-Tac Red Lion Hotel. As of last week, about 400 were registered to attend the conference, but about 1,000 are expected.

Chace began illustrating for Mufon after he moved here in 1993 from California, where he attended the University of California at Santa Cruz. He has a bachelor's degree in biology and evolution, which has been essential in guiding him through complex research theories on the genetic evolution of aliens.

When he's not at his full-time job at a local department store, Chace volunteers about 15 hours a week meeting with local sources who report to Mufon that they have had some sort of experience with an alien. The stories he's illustrated have ranged from haunting to intriguing.

He detailed one memorable sighting he heard in Monroe.

It was the middle of the night when a woman and her daughter awoke to a strange, trilling song coming from within their home. The woman walked down her hallway and saw an ethereal figure. As the woman drew near, the figure retreated into her kitchen. The woman followed. The being disappeared, but the chirping song continued. It seemed as if an invisible chorus of beings were chirping excitedly in her kitchen.

As the voices crooned, a single familiar word suddenly emerged from the song. "Mom?" a voice asked tentatively.

At that moment, the woman became frightened and retreat-

**"I'm a chameleon. I try not to push my beliefs. I try to be intellectually humble and try to listen to what people say."**

**— David Chace  
UFO artist**

skeptics.

"I'm a chameleon. I try not to push my beliefs. I try to be intellectually humble and try to listen to what people say," he said.

As for concrete proof of the existence of aliens, Chace said perhaps only time will tell.

"All you can do is hope there's more information that will come in the future to prove what is actually going on," he said.

When asked if he thought anyone had ever made up a story for the sake of getting recognition, Chace said it was possible, but he couldn't imagine why any of his sources would lie.

"It's always possible someone has been making it up for whatever reasons," Chace said. "I've met enough people who presumably have had genuine experiences. It's always possible people have deceived me. If that's the case, it doesn't matter. Those few people aren't going to upset the overall research."



John Froschauer/staff

Area resident David Chace shows off one of his sketches depicting a reptilian-like alien.

NEWS TRIBUNE, Tacoma, WA - Aug. 17, 1995

## 'We're not alone': Spate of sightings suggests space sojourners in the sky

By Anthony K. Albert  
The News Tribune

Strange lights in the sky rarely get past David Bailey.

The 30-year-old Tacoma man said he was taking a break from work Monday night when he saw a white light - a bit brighter than Jupiter - traveling from southwest to northeast.

The light pulsed, then changed course. Moments later he saw another light, traveling the same path over Tacoma.

"It got almost to the zenith ... and disappeared," he said. "There was no cloud cover."

The nursing-home employee said he has no doubt he saw a UFO.

"I think it's a sign of the times," he said.

Bailey phoned his sighting into the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle.

He's lucky he didn't get a busy signal.

The center was swamped with calls this week from people up and down the West Coast reporting objects in the sky.

"We appeared to have had an extraordinary amount of activity," said Peter Davenport, director of the 21-year-old center.

The phone was relatively quiet Wednesday, but Davenport said he'd taken several dozen calls in previous days since the sightings start-

ed Sunday night.

In the past 10 months, the center has received about 10,000 calls. Of those, about 10 percent to 20 percent are believed to be legitimate sightings, he said. The center's number is (206) 722-3000.

Davenport said he didn't know why there has been a rash of UFO sightings in Western Washington.

Clifford Stone, a private UFO researcher from Roswell, N.M., said the lights might have been UFOs or possibly a common natural phenomenon called ball lightning, produced when the Earth gives off a sphere of energy.

Bailey said a friend saw a bluish-green light over the area last weekend. The light was about the size of a nickel viewed at arm's length, he said.

"The bluish-green color we're concerned about," Bailey said. "I saw ball lightning in the military. This was something other than this world."

Bailey, who said he's seen UFOs since when he was young, offered some advice.

"People shouldn't panic," he said. "These sort of things have been happening for thousands of years. We're not alone, despite what the government tells us."

PROGRESS TRIBUNE, Scottsdale, AZ - June 8, 1995

## Believe it: UFO activity in Valley

I enjoyed your article, May 30, "UFO rumors fly in Nevada town." The Arizona media and national media has brought to our attention that a lot of people believe that "unbelievable" things are happening there.

I would like to bring it to the attention of your readers that not far from the Luke Air Force Base/White Tank Mountain area, there is ongoing

UFO activity. I know 10 people who have witnessed strange orange lights and UFOs with red, blue and white lights on them doing bizarre maneuvers.

For the curious, Sun Valley Parkway, starting at dusk, makes an ideal viewing area for this activity.

Roger Bollinger  
Editor  
UFO Update



## VALLEY FOLKLORE

## SHENANDOAH SAUCERS

By George Hawke  
Special Correspondent

The Shenandoah Valley is a great place for tourists. They come from Europe, Canada, Asia, and all the states of the Union to see our sights. Some may even have come from beyond the Solar System. We can't be sure, of course, because none of these extraterrestrials has signed in at any of our visitor centers. But we do know that a lot of reputable Valley residents have spotted them.

In July, 1952, skywatchers in the Valley saw eight little visitors - or intruders - coming in from Tidewater and the D.C. area. These UFO's were apparently solid. They showed up on radar screens, changed colors, and soared over airports and restricted areas. Blurry photos were taken of these fast moving sightseers.

On December 21, 1964, Grottoes resident Horace Burns saw an oval space ship land near Fishersville, just off Route 250. Mr. Burns, a gunshop owner, said the vehicle had a blue band around its base and stayed on the ground for about a minute before whooshing off in a northeasterly direction.

Mr. Burns noted the exact spot where the UFO landed near the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center. Nine days later he led Eastern Mennonite College professor Ernest Gehman to the site. Gehman's geiger counter registered an abnormally high radiation level. Gehman's readings were then verified by DuPont engineer H. M. (or Lawrence) Cook.

No other evidence of the saucer's landing was found, although another flurry of sightings occurred from January 24 through 27, 1965. This group of vehicles moved swiftly and silently across the Valley. A Verona couple reported that a bright yellow light hovered over their home for about five minutes on the night of January 24th. Other sightings from Marion, Rappahannock, Fredericksburg and Bedford supported the local reports.

In 1977, on the evening of Tuesday, December 6, three Waynesboro residents saw and photographed two UFOs near Martin's Store south of Greenfield in Nelson County. Although this sighting on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge was technically outside the Valley, the photo taken by J. D. Phillips, Bernie Phillips and Glenn Loucks was published by the Waynesboro News-Virginian on December 8, 1977. These UFOs were swift and silent like the others, but they proceeded in single file and were connected by a streak of light.

Move forward a decade to the next significant local sighting. It occurred about 10 PM on the evening of March 23, 1988. This visitation was described in the March-April, 1990 edition of *The Virginian* magazine.

A lady who did not wish her name used reported seeing a large, luminous object flying along beside her car near Rockbridge Baths. The location was on Route 39, near the Maury River Scenic Area.

*The UFO flashed four green lights at its corners and blocked the path of the lady's car. The viewer estimated the flying object to be about 20 feet long, seven feet wide, and only about a foot thick.*

The next night "dozens" of Staunton residents reported seeing a white oval shape with red pulsating lights hovering low in the southern sky. This object remained stationary for nearly an hour and was also seen by some residents of Crimora and Mt. Sidney.

Since Staunton is about 20 miles north of Rockbridge Baths, this may have been the same UFO seen the night before by the anonymous lady.

Wytheville in southwestern Virginia is in the same flyway as the Shenandoah Valley. This town, which has reported over 3000

sightings since 1987, claims to be the UFO capital of the world.

UFOlogists from around the world held a conference at the Wytheville Community College in October, 1989. The attendees compared notes, but not conclusions. Some experts attributed the Wytheville sightings to military aircraft performing night refueling exercises, while others - including many who actually viewed the flying objects - vehemently dispute this explanation.

A recent sighting was reported by Paul Grant and his son Jim. About 7:30 PM on October 10, 1992, Paul was driving his son's truck along Route 666 (a mystical number!) about two and one-half miles south of Greenville.

*The Staunton News-Leader reported this incident in its November 9, 1992 edition stating that "a large, glowing object suddenly appeared over open pastureland near Lofton Lake."*

The Grants estimated the UFO's size at about that of a 747 jetliner. The Grants were convinced it was not like any man-made object they had ever seen.

Adding credibility to the Grant's sighting was the fact that on the previous night Augusta County police had received reports of a "green ball darting across the sky." Also, about the same time the Grants saw their UFO, Franklin Moses spotted a ball of fire falling from the southern sky. Mr. Moses' vantage point was the intersection of Routes 11 and 675, and two miles north of the Grant's location. He thought what he saw might have been a meteor or fireball, but added that the Grants would have been closer to the object, which he saw only momentarily.

Two weeks later, on October 28th, Fishersville resident Sibert Armstrong, a frequent skywatcher, reported seeing a huge, bright light traveling across the sky.

University of Virginia astronomers tend to believe most of the UFOs reported are meteors, comets and aircraft. But the farmers, hunters, and other reputable viewers believe otherwise. They point out that their UFOs change color, shape and direction. The objects are frequently seen by viewers in different locations, and the descriptions are identical.

So you decide. Forsake the TV some clear night when the moon is dim. Go outside and look above the wooded slopes and covers of the Blue Ridge. You might spot a tourist who has traveled light years to see the museums, battlefields and natural wonders of our Valley home.

LEWIS RIVER NEWS, Woodland, WA - Aug. 9, 1995

## Have you seen the UFOs?

At least nine persons have recently reported seeing unidentified flying objects in the vicinity of the Lewis River Road, about 5 miles east of the Woodland city limits.

Peter Davenport, at the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, said there have been a flurry of sightings all over the nation, and in particular, the West Coast.

"We're being lied to by our government," Davenport said. "They know the truth and they're not telling us."

In a phone conversation with The Lewis River News, Davenport related various types of sightings around the Portland/Vancouver area. From falling stars that stop dead in their tracks to blue hovering lights.

He also related the swarm of reports coming from the Midwest. Apparently, Davenport said, 50 creatures were sighted on

the ground below a hovering disk on July 9 near Versailles, Missouri. The sighting was verified by at least a dozen people. And on June 19, police of Cameron, Missouri, responded to a UFO sighting which resulted in firefighters dowsing a suspected scene. The UFO reportedly zipped overhead while they were working on the flames.

Then, three days later, some young men came back to Cameron from a camping trip, Davenport said. They immediately went to the police department, where the officer separated them and took individual descriptions. They all matched stories, according to Davenport.

The UFO Hotline asks that you contact them at (206)722-3000, or you can call The Lewis River News at 225-8287.

Please, no inquiries, only those that wish to report a sighting. Story at 11.

HERALD, Titusville, PA

July 7, 1995

## Unidentified Green Light Seen in Sky

A former area resident home for a short vacation called *The Herald* last night to report something he never expected to see back on home turf - an unidentified object in the sky.

He reported that he and his fiancée were at the intersection of Routes 8 and 408 at Hydetown at 9:23 p.m. when they both saw a green light in the sky.

The steady green light was in the center of a dark cloud, he said. It was fairly large, he added.

As the couple watched, the light became brighter and then suddenly disappeared.

Anyone else who saw this light, or anyone who knows what it may have been, may contact the newsroom.

# UFO

## LIGHT PATTERN APPEARS AGAIN

By Carole Baker  
(recently elected Publicity  
Chairman for Pensacola/Gulf  
Breeze MUFON)

Another report of mysterious orange lights in the night sky were received on the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline. At about 11:30 p.m. Christa King was driving east on Hwy 98 on the night of July 20. To her right, east-north-east approximately over Garcon Point or over the Sound, she saw a large bright orange light. As she watched the large light (about the size of a quarter at arm's length) appeared to have three or four others come out from it and fall slowly down to a certain point, whereupon the whole light pattern, including that large initial light went out, all at the same time. She stated that the smaller lights were about the size of a dime. While she watched for approximately five minutes, she saw exactly the same pattern repeated several times with the light pattern being lit for approximately 30 to 45 seconds and being out for approximately 10 to 15 seconds. "They just kept kind of going on and off," Christa told me. "The one bright one would just sit there, then three or four others shot out and went slowly down, they would all disappear." Recently moved to the area from St. Louis, Missouri, Christa was amazed by what we saw. "The lights just flowed on and faded off in the exact same pattern every time - they did not look like anything I have seen before." She was particularly interested in the fact that all of the smaller lights would stop at the same point in the sky, then the whole pattern would disappear.

This is not unlike other reports we have received recently and this information will be added to our investigation of these strange lights in the night skies.

To report a sighting, call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261. For information on the Project Awareness 1995 Gulf Breeze Conference to be held October 20-22, call Project Awareness at (904) 432-8888. Keep Looking Up!

# Space aliens & academic freedom

By ALLEN  
DERSHOWITZ



Should a distinguished Harvard professor of psychiatry be subject to formal investigation and potential discipline for doing research on the possibility that people who claim that they were abducted by space aliens may not all be crazy after all? This question is dividing the academic community, which is watching carefully as Harvard Medical School completes its year-long investigation into the research of Dr. John Mack, who wrote the controversial best-seller "Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens."

The dean of Harvard Medical School established the faculty committee last year, and it has met 30 times, with lawyers and with Dr. Mack. Its mission is presumably to determine whether Dr. Mack's research and clinical activities satisfy certain unspecified academic criteria. But, at bottom, the committee will necessarily be asking whether a Harvard Medical School professor ought

to be lending his credibility to stories of space alien abductions. It is extremely unusual for great universities to second-guess the research or publications of their tenured faculty, except for allegations of fraud, plagiarism or violations of patients' or students' rights. For example, City University of New York has never formally investigated the "research" and claims of Professor Leonard Jeffries that "melanin" has an influence on racial characteristics and makes blacks better than whites, or of a white professor who has argued that blacks have lower IQs than whites. Harvard, moreover, is

denying that the Mack investigation "is a disciplinary or tenure matter" -- at least for now. But any formal investigation of a professor's ideas raises serious concerns about the chilling of academic freedom. Will the next professor who is thinking about an unconventional research project be deterred by the prospect of having to hire a lawyer to defend his ideas?

If Dr. Mack had taught at the Harvard Divinity School, it is unlikely that any investigation would be tolerated, since divinity schools are not governed by the laws of science. Indeed, it is at least as likely that space aliens exist as it is that God exists. The former is, however, a scientifically testable hypothesis (at least in theory); whereas the latter -- for at least most theologians -- is not. It is a matter of "faith," not proof, and faith is not subject to the scientific method. But the paradigm of the scientific method -- testable propositions subjected to double-blind and replicable experimentation -- is not the only criteria for evaluating academic undertakings. This is certainly true in the formative, exploratory phases in the development of an idea. If Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx or Martin Buber had been required to satisfy a committee before they could continue their research, the world might have been deprived of significant insights.

In the end, it is unlikely that the Harvard Medical School will do anything to Dr. Mack. Nor is it likely that Dr. Mack himself will be deterred from pursuing his research agendas -- though other more timorous professors may. What is troubling is the principle behind a dean convening an investigative committee, at least in the absence of clear guidelines or criteria. Unless challenged now, the precedent-setting effect of the appointment of this committee will act as a sword of Damocles, hanging over the head of every professor who drifts outside the mainstream, especially in politically sensitive areas. It is noteworthy that

the issue of space aliens is not a politically, racially or sexually divisive one. Imagine if a committee were to be convened to examine controversial research that touched on any of these hot-button issues. There would be student demonstrations, alumni threatening to withhold contributions, and perhaps even governmental pressure. The dean's decision to appoint an investigating committee should quickly be reversed and the damage undone before it establishes a dangerous precedent. No great university should be in the business of investigating the ideas of its faculty.

To be sure, it is legitimate for a university to be concerned about the integrity of its faculty's research. There are widely accepted criteria by which such integrity is judged: Research must be reported honestly; sources must be attributed properly; informed consent must be obtained; biases must be disclosed. But these are not the criticisms directed against Dr. Mack's research. What is on trial in his case are his ideas -- his willingness to consider the possibility that the numerous accounts of alien abductions may not all be products of insane delusions. He has certainly not convinced me, but surely that cannot be the criteria.

Let those who disagree with Dr. Mack's research respond to it on the merits -- by reviews, rebuttals, debates and books of their own. The marketplace of academic ideas is wide open. Dr. Mack's idea "shop" in the marketplace should not be shut down; nor should it be subjected to extraordinary "inspections." Critics should open their own idea "shops" and try to compete. Eventually the truth will out. That is what a university is all about.

Alan M. Dershowitz is a professor of law at Harvard University. His newest books are "The Advocate's Devil" (Warner Books) and "The Abuse Excuse" (Little, Brown & Company).

## Farmers see odd objects

Area farmers who have been swathing and baling hay in the early morning hours have had their long and tedious tasks enlivened considerably in recent weeks.

Farmers from Bonanza to the Klamath Falls area have reported seeing unidentified flying objects overhead as they work.

One rancher reportedly sighted a cylindrical object he said was the size of a football field.

There have been about 10 UFO reports in the area since the early morning of July 31. Although mid-August nights are an exceptional time to watch the Perseides meteor showers, none of the sightings reported match the description of the meteors.

People who have seen a UFO during or since that time can call the Mutual UFO Network Inc. (MUFON) to report their sighting. MUFON is an international organization composed of people who study and research UFOs. Oregon's MUFON director is Michael Downey. He can be reached at (503) 621-3725. Jean Bilodeaux, a MUFON investigator in Northern California, can be reached at (916) 279-6125.

HERALD & NEWS, Klamath Falls, OR - Aug. 15, 1995

## UFO sightings reported by Vista residents

By D. Wade Booth  
Staff Writer

VISTA -- Strange lights in the night sky trailed by military-style helicopters. An eerie, peach-colored, glowing object that flared up over Vista neighborhoods Tuesday night.

Suuuuure they saw UFOs. Right. Men from Mars. Suuuuuure. Maybe the folks in Vista just

drank some bad water. Yeah that's it.

Well, late Tuesday night at about 10:20 p.m., the strange lights reported darting back and forth in the heavens made believers of several Vista residents and a family on Knoll Road. They didn't believe in flying saucers before then. They do now.

"There were so many people who saw it," said witness Joyce Holley, a 53-year-old Vista

woman who lives in the 200 block of Knoll Road.

"Right after it disappeared, the sky was full of military-style helicopters," she said. "It was not an airplane or a blimp. It moved too fast, (and) would stop and start, then speed up and change directions."

This sighting follows others from people in North County reporting unexplained objects hovering in the sky. UFO experts say many recent sightings can be explained easily, but this one has seasoned experts baffled.

There have been recent reports of people putting candle-lit balloons into the sky, but this was no balloon or airplane, according to witnesses.

"It would go in one direction, then move to another, then stop," said 17-year-old Talea Holley. "We

watched it. It was kind of spooky. It wasn't an airplane or balloon and it wasn't making any noise."

Talea's boyfriend, Wenche Navarro, 19, first ran into the home to report the mysterious craft to the Holley family. He was in Los Angeles and could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

Other residents of the area stopped in the streets to view the object, which lighted the area.

Davidson said his organization will attempt to eliminate possible explanations for the sighting. They

will contact local military bases compare star charts for that day and contact the Sheriff's Department and other local authorities.

Davidson, who has been investigating UFO sightings in North County for three years, said that of about 50 reported sightings during that period, only 3 percent to 5 percent ever got logged as "confirmed" sightings.

BLADE, Oceanside, CA - June 22, 1995



# UFO witnesses challenge you to open your mind

Melanie Landis  
Intelligencer Journal Staff

**M**ork landed his giant eggshell in Milwaukee to kidnap Richie Cunningham. The Great Gazoo appeared to Fred Flinstone and Barney Rubble when they found themselves between a rock and a hard place. And mild-mannered reporter Tim O'Hara opened his home to "Uncle" Martin, a Martian who had crashed on Earth.

"Happy Days," "The Flintstones" and "My Favorite Martian" are a few of the television shows throughout history that have tickled the public's consciousness with the idea of extraterrestrial life on this planet. These humorous portrayals of other beings made us laugh at the idea of visitors from other dimensions.

Movies like "Star Wars," "Star Trek" and "Aliens" paint vivid pictures of benevolent beings offering assistance and sometimes bellicose creatures that visit Earth for their own reward, calling into question the possibility of their existence.

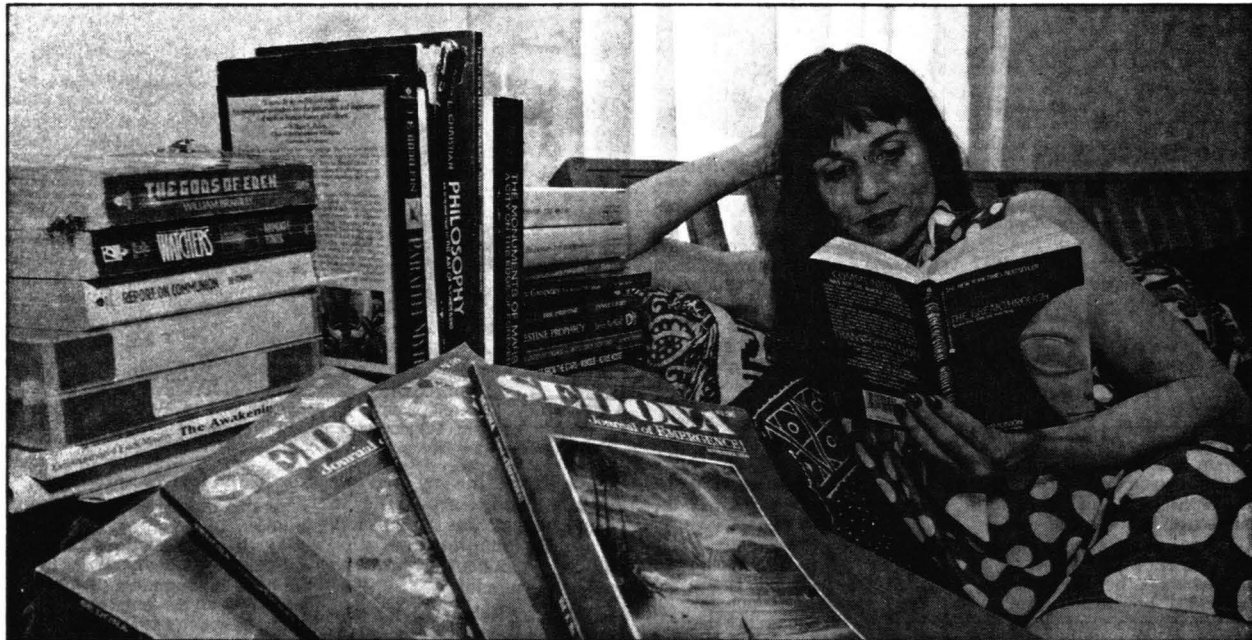
More recent programs like "Sightings" and "Encounters" provide testimonials and raise questions that some people might not want to have answered. Questions like "Who is responsible for the crop circles?" "Why did the government close Project Blue Book, the investigative force behind UFO and ET sightings?" and "What really was uncovered at Roswell (the site in New Mexico where a space craft allegedly crashed and extraterrestrials were recovered in 1947)?"

Organizations like the Fund for UFO Research in Maryland and the Center for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence in North Carolina conduct studies, investigate sightings and seek to give credence to the idea that extraterrestrials exist.

In honor of Space Day, which was last Thursday, local ET-watches challenge you to open your mind to the possibility that extraterrestrials have broken the fourth wall and exist beyond Hollywood.

Lyn Egy of Lancaster remembers an incident when he was about 16, driving with a friend through back country.

"There was just this huge object that came up over the top of the farm house," says Egy. "It hovered above the house for about



Intelligencer Journal photo by Dan Marschka

Lark Zeigler looks for answers from her library on extraterrestrials. The books are available for the public to borrow.

seven or eight seconds, which seemed like forever."

Then it was gone. "You knew it went and it went fast," he says. He describes the object as round with eerie, strange lights that were green, blue and red — but not like the green, blue and red of our universe.

Egy doesn't doubt we are being visited by extraterrestrials. "The odds are against us being the only ones," he says. "Since you never experienced it, you wouldn't understand," he says to skeptics. "What seems ridiculous now may not be ridiculous in the future."

"People are afraid to talk about it," says Lark Zeigler, owner of Sun, Earth, Moon, an eclectic boutique at 349 W. Lemon St. "People will act like, 'Oh, that's crazy,' but deep down inside I think they know there's some truth to it."

Zeigler says she's always been interested in UFOs and considered the possibility of "life out there." She had an experience herself in Northern California about nine years ago.

"I was on top of a mountain in Garberville, at a neighbor's house. This huge ball of light appeared in the sky," she says mak-

ing a dramatic swing of her slender arms over her head. "It slowly floated down in the distance," Zeigler says she saw the same thing again later.

John Schatt of Lancaster witnessed an unidentified flying object five years ago when he lived in Hawaii. He says he was driving home about 1:30 a.m. near a marine base when he spotted an unusual craft.

"You do see aircraft low flying there," he admits. But this seemed different. It made no noise.

"Something came across us left to right rising very quickly... too quickly for an aircraft," he says. "All the street lights went out for about a half hour about a half mile in each direction."

His reaction was not fear but amazement. Schatt called the local police, but was told they had no other reports of the incident.

"I still don't know if it was an experimental Marine thing or a UFO," he says.

Ben Vonderheide of Conestoga says he had two UFO experiences, which he rarely talks about because talking would "diminish the experience."

The first observation took place about 1980 on River Road in the

Green Hill area. It was 4:30 or 5 a.m. before sunrise.

"I saw a single light moving erratically through the sky," he says. "It hovered in one spot. I pulled the car over to look."

He describes the ship as a disc about a mile away with lights around the bottom. It traveled at "unbelievable speeds," he says with a "zup, zup, zup."

"It was not of this world," he says. "I pretty much figured it was a neat experience." Shortly afterward, he and two friends spotted another ship on the beach at Long Branch, N.J. He says the sun had just come up about 5:30 a.m. and they were walking along the shore.

"A ship came up along side of us, along the side of the ocean," he says. "I looked up and saw this unbelievable ship about 150 feet from the ground, 200 feet from where we stood." He says the rectangular ship was about 100 to 150 yards long with lights along the boarder.

"This was very frightening," he says. "I remember looking to the other guy and saying, 'Did you see that?' His eyes were wide open. It wasn't moving much faster than we were walking. And it wasn't making a sound."

Vonderheide says he went through several emotions after the sightings — awe, fear and a need to look for other witnesses in the area. He contends that extraterrestrials do visit the planet, often in human form.

"I'm sure I've met them," he says. "But they haven't identified themselves."

"Everyone has experiences," says Joseph Anthony of Philadelphia, an extensive extraterrestrial researcher. Anthony was a guest speaker at the first Close Encounters meeting held at Sun, Earth, Moon. The meetings are for anyone who has had a close encounter of the third kind (observation of humanoids usually associated with UFO activity) or those who want to learn more about UFOs. Three more are scheduled. A discussion of the Bill Meier videos at 6 p.m. Sept. 11; a discussion of the Roswell incident at 6 p.m. Oct. 2; and a program on the monuments of Mars at 6 p.m. Oct. 16, all held at Sun, Earth, Moon.

According to Anthony, there are 85-90 different varieties of extraterrestrials, including the Grays, the Pleiadians and reptile-like beings. He says the government has interacted with at least two of these. His research has re-

of very bright orange/red colored lights "half way up in the sky" that were going on and off and "definitely spinning counterclockwise." Mike stated that they were to his left and ahead of him as he traveled the interstate and crossed the Bay Bridge. At arm's length the configuration was at least an inch and a half across and he saw no aircraft in the sky around it.

While Mike was relating his story, the group was approached by Tom and Janet from Navarre. They had been driving east on Hwy 98 near the entrance to the Naval Live Oaks and had seen "bright orange lights that stayed on in the sky for about fifteen to twenty seconds, faded off and then came on again." Tom, who is ex-USAF said that they did not look like flares to him at all. Each light was the size of a dime at arm's length and was over the Bay or over Garcon Point area in their estimation. They stated that the lights were at an approximate elevation of thirty degrees and that they also had seen no aircraft near them.

On Saturday, July 15, a couple came to tell the skywatch group at

Shoreline Park that they had been on the beach near the campground at Ft. Pickens last evening and had witnessed bright orange/amber lights in the sky to the east of their viewpoint on the sound-side beach. They estimated that they were east of them, past the Bay Bridge. The lights appeared to these witnesses as "two triangles coming down that just kept coming and going in the sky." They observed the lights for approximately fifteen minutes between 9:45 and 10:00 p.m.

A member of Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON called Hurlburt Field on July 15 and was told by the Command Post that "there were no aircraft in the area at that time." Investigation will continue, and if anyone can shed any "light" on these events (no pun intended), or to report another sighting, please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261.

For information on the Project Awareness 1995 Gulf Breeze Conference to be held October 20-22, call Project Awareness at (904) 432-8888. Keep Looking Up!

ported encounters with Grays and the Pleiadians. The Grays promised technology in return for harmless human studies. The Pleiadians, described as human-looking, claimed they are here to help achieve a peaceful world — on the condition we put down our weapons and follow their lead. Anthony says the government was leery of being defenseless and chose to go for the Grays and their technology.

"Obviously we made the wrong choice," he says. "The ones we aligned ourselves with were here to use us." Anthony says the Grays performed bizarre experiments on humans and never delivered the technology they promised. This error in judgement, he claims, is what keeps the lid on the can of worms they've opened. "They're trying to play catch up before they reveal anything," says Anthony. He claims that through the Freedom of Information Act, government was forced to reveal formerly classified information about extraterrestrials.

"People that worked for the government are talking about encounters," he says. "Past presidents... Carter... Reagan made a public statement. Eisenhower had encounters. This is public record."

Zeigler says television programs and movies about extraterrestrials are designed as part of the master plan to slowly indoctrinate the public with the idea.

"All that stuff (movies, TV) seems like it's getting us ready," she says — ready for the announcement that extraterrestrials have visited the planet and made contact with us.

Anthony says by exposing the public gradually to the idea, "we're more able to accept the reality of it." Anthony, who studied astronomy and served in the U.S. Air Force, maintains that Orson Welles' 1938 broadcast of the H.G. Wells description of an invasion from Mars, "War of the Worlds," was a government test to see how the public would react.

Hysteria ensued with that broadcast. And Zeigler predicts the same would happen now. "It would create panic," she says. "People are afraid."

"It's not a frightening thing," says Anthony. "It's beautiful."

Zeigler maintains that the fear is borne out of the unknown. "It's scary because you don't understand it," she says. "We need to get over the fear. We think they're these little green men that are going to take over the world. They're actually here to help us."

## UFO

### MYSTERIOUS LIGHTS OVER GARCON POINT AREA

By Carole Baker

Three independent reports were received of mysterious light patterns in the skies over Garcon Point on Friday, July 14, 1995. The first report was given to sky-watchers at Shoreline Park by a very excited young man who had viewed these lights on his way home from work. Mike, a Tiger Point resident, was totally amazed by what he had seen. Driving down I-110 and across the Bay Bridge between 9:40 p.m. and 10:05 p.m. he saw a configuration

# Attention all space cadets: 'Autopsy' may astound

Roswell. Depending on where your head's at, Roswell (in Southeast New Mexico) may mean nothing much or it may send chills down your spine.

You've got to be going there to get there, because the city of 40,000 bakes in the middle of the desert about 150 miles from nowhere. But conspiracy buffs will tell you that it was in the middle of all that remoteness where ... it all began.

It was near Roswell in 1947 that something came from the sky. The circumstances surrounding the purported crash of a UFO near Roswell and the government cover-up that allegedly followed have been hotly debated ever since.

All agree that something went down near Roswell, but was it a weather balloon, as officials would have you believe, or was it a UFO with a really bad case of engine trouble?

If it was an alien and its spacecraft, the little guy wasn't wearing seat belts, because the bugged rascal bought the farm and Fox has the film to prove it.

Well, maybe. Trust no one. The truth is out there.

Ufologists, close encounter enthusiasts and all you alien abductees will want to set that VCR for 7 p.m. Monday on Fox (where else?) and Channel 16 when *Alien*

THE MEDIA COLUMN

**Michael Storey**

**Autopsy: Fact or Fiction?** debuts. Jonathan Frakes (*Star Trek: The Next Generation*) hosts the one-hour special.

Not since Geraldo opened Al Capone's vault has there been such excitement. Fox, which has obtained exclusive U.S. and Canadian rights to this controversial film, boldly states that it's "either an extremely elaborate hoax or the first ever documented evidence of an alien being."

Can't argue with that. This is better than cattle circles or crop mutilations.

What you'll see if you tune in, Fox publicity crows, "may be the most startling film footage ever shown on television!"

I suppose that excludes the pilot episode of *Models, Inc.*

The guy who's responsible for "finding" the long-lost footage claims he got it from the actual, genuine cameraman who used to work for the military and who filmed the actual autopsy on the actual dead alien body as it actually took place.

The show, however, isn't sim-



**A DEFUNCT ALIEN** prepares to go under the knife in "Alien Autopsy: Fact or Fiction?" at 7 p.m. Monday on Fox and Channel 16. The special will let viewers decide if the little guy is real or an elaborate hoax.

ply going to let the guy drop this bombshell and vamoose. They're gonna 'vestigate this thing. Gonna be a whole lotta 'vestigatin' goin' on — about an hour's worth, with lots of commercials.

Producer Robert Kiviat (*Unsolved Mysteries, Encounters: The Hidden Truth*) called in assorted experts to check things out. Pathologists, camera and film specialists, government officials and special effects artists all have a shot at the

footage to test its veracity.

Is this purported government autopsy of an alien visitor for real? If so, what does this tell us about the Roswell incident and the involvement of the government? The bottom line is that the special will lay it all out and ask you to make up your own mind.

GLOBE, Boston, MA - Aug. 3, 1995

## Harvard takes 'no adverse action' on UFO researcher

By Alex Beam  
GLOBE STAFF

After a yearlong investigation, the Harvard Medical School has decided not to censure psychiatrist John Mack, a tenured professor and nationally known UFO researcher who has publicly asserted that extraterrestrial beings have "invaded our physical reality and [are] affecting the lives of hun-

dreds of thousands, if not millions of people."

In a meeting held last Friday, Medical School dean Daniel Tosteson informed Mack that the review carried out by a "Special Faculty Committee" had ended, according to committee chairman Arnold Relman. "John Mack is just as he started out — a perfectly full-fledged member of the Harvard faculty with no adverse action tak-

en," said Anne Taylor, a Harvard University counsel who sat on the committee convened by Tosteson last summer.

Mack had become a *cause celebre* at Harvard after the 1994 publication of his best-selling book, "Abduction." In countless television and newspaper interviews, he was inevitably dubbed "the Harvard professor who believes in UFOs," causing considerable an-

guish to many of his colleagues.

The Medical School committee's preliminary report, drafted earlier this year, chastised Mack for "affirming the delusions" of his many patients who claim to have been abducted by aliens. The committee also found Mack to be "in violation of the standards of conduct expected of a member of the faculty of Harvard University."

Mack's lawyer, Eric MacLeish, vigorously contested the preliminary findings and helped mobilize prominent academics to support Mack. The preliminary conclusions were toned down in the final draft sent to Tosteson a few weeks ago. It is unknown what restrictions, if any, will be applied to Mack's future work.

Neither Mack nor MacLeish was available for comment. In the past, Mack has said he hoped the conflict with Harvard could be resolved quietly and amicably. Now, "he's very relieved," a friend reported. "He feels he and the dean had a useful exchange."

The committee primarily concerned itself with the procedural details of Mack's work, according to two doctors who worked on the effort. "One of the issues before the committee was whether John was doing clinical care, or research," one doctor said. "If he was doing research on human subjects, he needed formal permission. He said it was clinical work." Committee chairman Relman said the board examined Mack's "professional behavior as an academic psychiatrist, and whether he was dealing with his patients in a suitable academic way."

Contrary to published reports, Relman said the committee never

considered revoking Mack's tenure at Harvard. "Harvard University isn't going to take action against someone who takes unorthodox views, and with whom it may disagree. John Mack may win the Nobel Prize and go down in history as the modern Galileo."

**The committee examined Mack's 'professional behavior as an academic psychiatrist, and whether he was dealing with his patients in a suitable academic way.'**

ARNOLD RELMAN, chairman

Mack, who has taught at Harvard for more than three decades, was a controversial figure even before he began his UFO research five years ago. Alternately described as a restless crusader or an intellectual butterfly, he has plunged himself

into the anti-nuclear movement, meditation efforts in the Mideast and US-Soviet diplomacy, as well as a variety of alternative therapies, including "holotropic breathwork" and est. Mack served on the est board and introduced founder Werner Erhard to Harvard, "which went over like a lead balloon," according to one colleague.

Much of Mack's UFO investigations take place at his Cambridge-based Program For Extraordinary Experience Research. Many of his colleagues first learned of his UFO interests when he co-sponsored a national conference on alien abduction held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1992. While most of his colleagues privately scoff at the abductees' tales, they do credit Mack with many important contributions to psychoanalysis during his 35-year career.

Furthermore, many viewed the Medical School's review committee as an unacceptable intrusion into Mack's research. "I would defend to the death John's right to indulge in kooky stuff, in the name of academic freedom," said one psychiatrist.

The committee, whose proceedings were kept secret, met 25 times between summer 1994 and late spring of this year. Mack appeared several times before the group, as

did a handful of his patients and several Harvard psychiatrists, who criticized his abductee research.

In the early weeks of the committee's proceedings, Mack and his first lawyer, Carl Sapers of Hill and Barlow, cooperated with the review board, turning over interview tapes and urging patients to tell their stories to the Harvard panel. "Initially, their approach was, 'What can you do to help us understand this research,'" said Peter Faust, an abduction "experiencer" who testified before the committee. "Then it became clear that Harvard had another agenda."

Mack later changed lawyers, engaging first Daniel Sheehan of the far-left Christie Institute, and then MacLeish, who specializes in mental-health related litigation.

In an interview earlier this year, a wistful Mack noted that the Harvard investigation "has been expensive in all senses of the word." In documents unrelated to the Harvard inquiry, Mack disclosed that he has already paid \$30,000 in legal fees, and expects to be billed for \$100,000 more.

Although Mack derives considerable income from family trust funds, his Harvard salary is \$12,000 a year, which is not unusual for a clinician with limited teaching duties.

GAZETTE, Phoenix, AZ

July 24, 1995

**cybertravel**

## UFOs, aliens hot subjects on Internet

Each week, we travel the globe via the Internet and the commercial online services to scout cyberspace. Here's a travelogue from our most recent trip.

By Kerry Fehr-Snyder  
THE PHOENIX GAZETTE



Maybe it's the hit film "Species," or the sneaking suspicion that Newt Gingrich isn't human, but

people seem to be talking about aliens again.

Several supposed alien autopsy photos from an alleged 1947 UFO crash in Roswell, N.M., are circulating on the Internet's World Wide Web. More pictures can be downloaded from Usenet newsgroups dedicated to the subject. Even America Online has an area (keyword: sightings) designated to UFOs and the creatures who fly them.

To see for yourself, make contact with your computer modem and try <http://www.interaccess.com/users/newman/>. The site has a link to the autopsy photos at <http://www.primenet.com/keithr/artbell.html>

If your Internet access is limited to newsgroups, find *alt.ufo.reports* and *alt.alien.visitors*. In addition to autopsy pictures that can be downloaded to your computer, you can experience close encounters with other UFO believers.

Either way, the areas will give you something other than weird happenings on Capitol Hill to talk about.



# A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO UFOs

**Colorado Mutual UFO Network, Inc. (MUFON)**  
PO Box 7119  
Boulder, 80306  
451-5992.

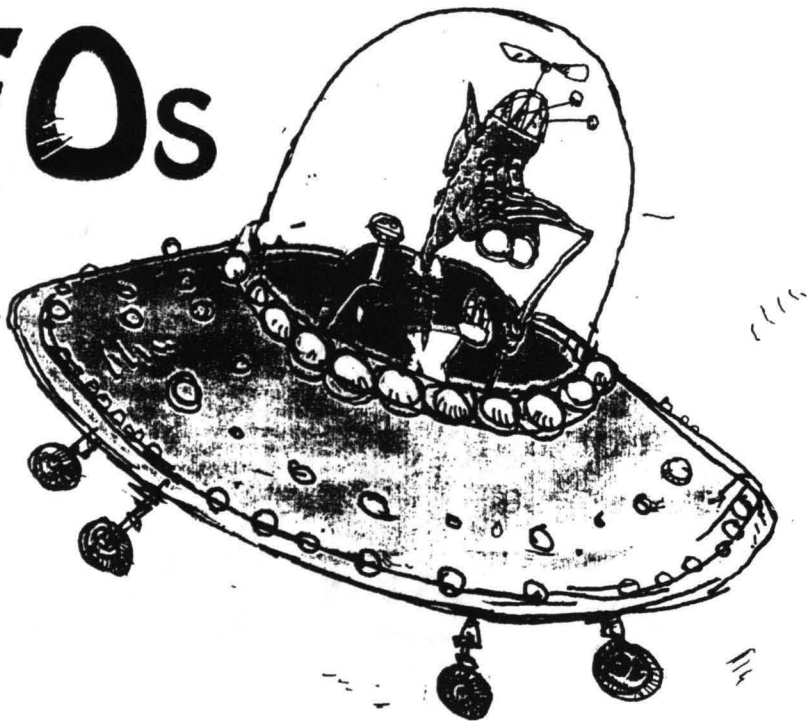
**Multinational Investigative Cooperative of Aerial Phenomena (MICAP)**  
PO Box 172  
Wheat Ridge,  
80034-0172  
863-0484.  
Meetings second  
Thursday of the  
month  
7:30 p.m.  
Pour Joe's Coffee  
House  
970 S. Lincoln  
St. Denver  
Admission: \$.35.

**UFO Institute of Denver**  
Meets second  
Wednesday of the  
month  
7 p.m.  
200 W. 92nd Ave.  
Holiday Hills  
Mobile Community  
Clubhouse  
650-5972.

**Denver UFO Society**  
Meets fourth Sat-  
urday of the month  
Glendale Fire-  
house Community  
Center  
999 S. Clermont  
\$2 admission  
252-1265 or 377-  
2933

**The UFO Phenomenon**  
A conference  
sponsored by the  
Sophia Institute  
Aug. 26, 8:30  
a.m. to 5 p.m.  
University of Den-  
ver GBC Auditori-  
um  
2040 S. Race St.  
Aug. 27, 8:30  
a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Boulder Broker Inn  
30th Street &  
Baseline Road  
Admission \$60 in  
advance, \$75 at  
the door.  
303-693-3407.

**ParaNet Continuum**  
A weekly radio  
show on UFOs and  
other paranormal  
phenomena  
Mondays at 1 a.m.  
on KHOW-AM  
630.



## More people are looking to the skies

By Alan Dumas  
Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

**M**ysterious lights in the sky. Cattle mutilations. Strange encounters with humanoid creatures. There was a time when a serious interest in this kind of thing would earn only derision. UFOs, Unidentified Flying

Objects, were the stuff of B movies, and only lunatics took reported sightings seriously.

No longer. Today physicians, lawyers, law enforcement officers, engineers and college professors are forming networks to investigate UFO reports and evaluate evidence with scientific detachment.

Many don't want their names in the paper; believing in the possibility of extra-terrestrial life visiting earth still invites ridicule in some quarters. But the excitement inherent in possible alien visits, the vast number of reported encounters, and the consistency of the details, lead many to deem the topic worth investigating.

"There's a tide in society that's moving people toward an attitude that's less antagonistic toward this subject," said Michael Corbin, who runs the Multinational Investigative Cooperative of Aerial Phenomena (MICAP), a group that promotes "standards-based" scientific investigation of sightings and encounters.

"There has been more media coverage and many

people have themselves seen unusual things in the sky and they know something's going on," Corbin said. "We need to stay away from the notion that our space brothers are here. There's still no proof it's extraterrestrial. But it's strange phenomena and we have to study it in the physical realm, and try to explain it scientifically."

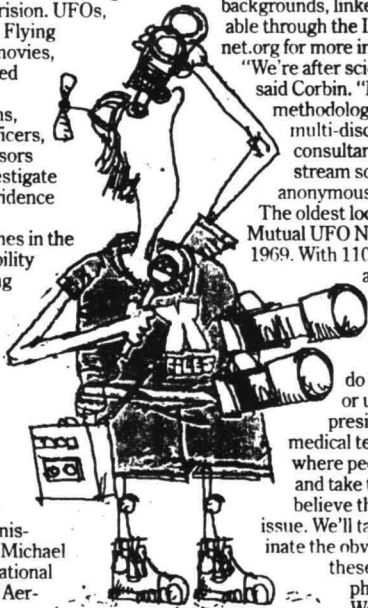
MICAP has 150 members, mostly with scientific backgrounds, linked by computer on ParaNet, available through the Internet (contact Mcorbin@Paranet.org for more information).

"We're after scientific evidence, not esoterica," said Corbin. "No one's ever brought a formalized methodology to this study before. We have a multi-disciplinary force of investigators and consultants, although so many have mainstream scientific jobs they like to remain anonymous."

The oldest local UFO investigative group is the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) founded in 1969. With 110 members in Colorado, they operate a UFO hotline for sightings reports (451-5992) and train field investigators to collect information.

"Most people don't know what to do if they've seen something strange or unusual," said Colorado MUFON president Michael Curta, an emergency medical technician by trade. "This is a place where people will treat them with respect and take them seriously. Whether we believe them or not isn't the immediate issue. We'll take the information and try to eliminate the obvious causes. Ninety percent of these sightings are probably terrestrial phenomena that's easily explained. We try to take a scientific approach, find samples to test and photos to analyze."

Other UFO groups take a less scientific approach.



Mark Mattér/Rocky Mountain News

### San Luis Valley's odd lights

Colorado's UFO hotspot is Greenie Mountain, in the San Luis Valley. Long rumored to be the site of a secret underground military base, more UFO sightings occur in this area than anywhere else in the state.

"For a long time they were a daily occurrence on our UFO hotline," said Michael Curta, president of the Colorado Mutual UFO Network.

Brian Norton, an undersheriff with the Rio Grande Sheriff's Department, says UFO sightings in that area are common; he even got a call from NORAD recently about an unidentified "hot spot" near Greenie Mountain picked up by radar. It was never identified.

"We get a lot of calls about lights, but the last one turned out to be a pivot light on a sprinkler," he said. "We've also got one cattle mutilation under investigation. The farmers tell me there's quite a few, but they want to stay out of the papers so they don't always report them."

Christopher O'Brian, a writer currently finishing Colorado's Mysterious Valley, a history of UFOs in this area, will be speaking at UFO conferences at the University of Denver, and in Boulder later this month. Information: 693-9205.

SUN, Bremerton, WA  
Aug. 21, 1995

**JIM ROTHGEB**



COLUMNIST

### MYSTERIOUS UNCLE FRED

I still haven't heard a logical explanation for those mysterious objects flying in the night sky over Manchester during the last week in July and the first week in August.

But I have heard of at least a couple more sightings since the column last week about Uncle Fred's Onions.

One caller said she and about eight friends and family spotted something they couldn't explain one recent Friday night.

They were sitting on the deck of their home on Chico Way when they saw something moving so fast and so strange, they swore it couldn't be an airplane.

It had yellow and green lights, the caller said, and it left a trail of sparkling lights that looked something like flares. She said the object was quite far off in the distance but its lights were very bright.

Also, the woman who originally tipped us off to this said she saw the object again, two nights later. She called the UFO hotline in Seattle where at least one other sighting in the Manchester area was confirmed.

If anyone knows what these lights are all about, it's your turn to call.

## Field Trip To Roswell, N.M.

The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) is sponsoring a bus trip from Denver to New Mexico Sept. 9-12 to look at the site of a purported Roswell, N.M. UFO crash. Participants can talk to witnesses who claim they saw the debris and know about an alleged government coverup of the case.

One of the most persistent stories in all UFO lore, the Roswell crash was supposed to have taken place in July, 1947, when a rancher found a mile-long stretch of strange debris strewn across his field. The debris

was of some unknown metal, and the rancher's sheep refused to cross the area.

The story goes that an early investigative team from the U.S. Air Force base in Roswell issued a press release identifying the area as a possible UFO crash site, but higher-ups quashed that story, collected all the evidence and reported it was a secret weather balloon that went down.

In Roswell, rumors persist of alien bodies recovered from the site and autopsied. A local undertaker says

the government wanted four tiny caskets, and local medical personnel talk of colleagues present during the post-mortem examinations.

The bodies are rumored to remain in a secret location. One legend has it that Richard Nixon got drunk with Jackie Gleason one night and took him to see the tiny corpses.

Roswell is now home to two UFO museums, which Colorado MUFON members will visit. Tour cost, including lodging and most meals, is \$375. Information: 451-5992.

# UFO believers plan for 'contact' at SeaTac forum

Gathering draws 900 to discuss flying saucers

By Kim Todd

SEATAC—Old friends asking, "So what's happening in Oregon?" were inquiring about flying-saucer activity, not the weather.

At the latte cart, a slight young man from Seattle told a pilot about his abduction by aliens. He remembered waking up on an operating table with a sheet around his waist and three shadowy forms on either side of him.

The pilot, with 25 years experience in the air, had never seen anything more unusual than a rendezvous between a space shuttle and the Russian

space station Mir.

"I wish I could say something stranger," he said.

Approximately 900 people attended the annual Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) symposium at the SeaTac Red Lion last weekend, western regional director Marilyn Henry Childs says.

They met for three days to share

abduction stories, discuss government cover-ups and learn about the latest research into ufology.

MUFON, headquartered in Texas, has been operating since 1969, and currently has almost 5000 members.

To lend scientific credibility to the study of unidentified flying objects,

MUFON is involved with cataloging information about sightings and abductions. John F. Schuessler, MUFON Director of Administration and an aerospace engineer, gave a talk to a crowded conference room, listing human injury as a result of alien contact.

Dan R. Wright, manager of MUFON abduction transcription project, presented descriptions of aliens and their surroundings given by 142 abductees.

**MOST COMMON** were aliens three to three and a half feet tall, gray with large black eyes and a musty smell. But others looked more familiar.

"Were some of these actually humans — stolen sperm and ova — alien only in garments?" asked Wright.

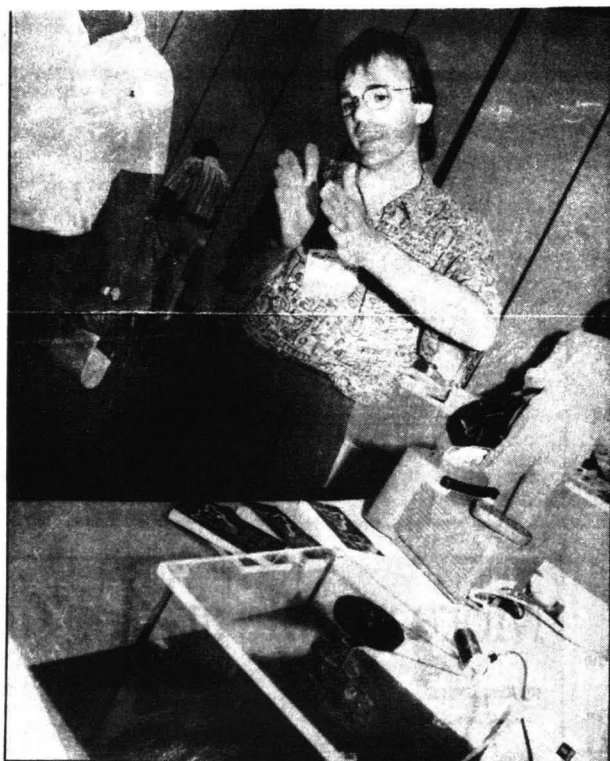
In the vendor room, humans still on earth could buy a UFO detector for \$85, jewelry in the shape of crop circles, or a cookie with a plastic E.T. embedded in it for \$2. Hats reading "Trust no one," and bumper stickers declaring "UFOs are real, ask me," were also for sale.

On the book table, "Preparing for Contact, a Metamorphosis of Human Consciousness," featured a human female and attractive alien male staring into each other's eyes. "The Ultimate Deception," was written by Commander X and the author, an alien, glared from the cover.

**IN ANOTHER** corner, Pierre Sinclair, hoarse from telling his story so many times, demonstrated his UFO model to another customer. In 1989, Sinclair met a man who said he had been abducted by aliens who had shown him how to build a flying saucer.

The first few attempts to duplicate the saucer on earth worked but didn't last.

"It went up eight feet, started glowing a radiant red and it exploded," Sinclair said, waving his hands over a mechan-



Kim Todd/staff

Author Pierre Sinclair explains to a potential customer the scientific principle behind his model of a flying saucer (in the foreground).

ical model under glass where a disk dutifully spun.

Now both men are working on the final prototype and Sinclair's book "The Granite Man and the Butterfly," is selling briskly for \$11.95.

Jamie Toth, another vendor at the conference, said he's seen an increasing interest in UFOs, in part due to television shows like "X Files" and "Sightings."

"They've really broke the medium. (Now) it's okay to believe in UFO's or to wonder if UFOs exist," he said.

The final speaker on Saturday night was Kal K. Korff, who went undercover as a "naive New Age dude" to expose a UFO scam in Switzerland.

**IN HIS** book "Spaceships of the Pleiades: The Billy Meier Story," Korff described locating

the original negatives showing that Meier's UFO pictures were models on strings. He also discovered that Meier, supposedly illiterate, read hundreds of book a month, including tomes on trick photography.

"We have caught them with their hands in the cookie jar this time," he said.

**BUT THE** crowd seemed more receptive to Stanton T. Friedman, who presented a speech on a 1947 incident in Roswell, N.M., where two flying saucers allegedly crashed and alien bodies were recovered by the government.

"I hope you will think about man's place in the universe," he said. "We're not at the top of the heap. We're not at the top of the mountain...If we're lucky, maybe we can qualify for the cosmic kindergarten."

ISLANDER, Pensacola

Beach, FL - July 12, 1995

## UFO

### Daylight and Nighttime Sightings Continue

AT 9:00 a.m. on June 14th, Eli was raising the Stars and Stripes in his front yard in Holley-by-the-Sea. In the southeastern sky he noticed a silverish white object that appeared flat on the bottom and rounded on top. He could hear the sound of a prop plane off to the east, but that sound soon faded. There was no sound associated with the object. The object moved slowly to the east at about thirty degrees from the southern horizon. It suddenly dropped down "real fast" to about twenty degrees above the horizon and continued slowly east, then shot straight up "higher than when I first saw it" (about thirty degrees elevation) before accelerating with tremendous speed out of sight.

"If I had blinked my eye, I would not have seen it go," Eli told me. "I would have thought it just blipped out." At arm's length, the object appeared to be about one half to three quarters of an inch across. The sighting lasted about one minute. Eli, USAF retired, said that he knows no pilot could survive those maneuvers and questions the ability of aircraft to maneuver in that manner in our atmosphere.

Immediately after the sighting, Eli and his son saw low flying jets overhead. They flew into the sector of sky where the object was seen. Eli stated they are used to seeing helicopters and gunships fly over, but not jets.

Skywatchers at Shoreline Park saw an amber light UFO in the southern sky between the Water Tower and Holiday Inn at 8:45 p.m. On Tuesday, June 13th the sighting lasted two seconds and was followed two minutes later at 8:47 p.m. by another amber light appearing for two seconds, further west near the Holiday Inn. The lights appeared at five degrees elevation and the second light flared up brightly before fading out. It was a clear evening with a full moon in the sky and stars clearly visible.

To report a sighting, please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261. For information on the Project Awareness 1995 Gulf Breeze UFO Conference to be held October, 20-22, call Project Awareness at (904) 432-888. Keep Looking Up!

RECORD-HERALD, Waynesboro, PA - July 14, 1995

## Police at loss to explain flying object

By ROSCOE BARNES III

Staff writer

**WAYNESBORO** — For the second time in two months, Mary Geiser of 54 Clayton Ave. has seen a slow-moving bright light in the sky. As before, she called the Waynesboro police.

Standing on her side porch around 9, she said she saw a light in the sky.

"I tried to get an impression of the shape of it," she said this morning. "This one did not have as many lights on it as the first one. It had three or four points of light on the top that made an arc."

A spokesman for Waynesboro police confirmed there was a bright light in the sky.

"It was moving very slowly. That's all I can tell you. I told her I didn't know what to do about it," he said.

The spokesman said he was at Geiger's home for a couple of minutes.

"There was definitely something there, but I don't know what it was," he said.

Geiger, 79, said the object resembled a unicycle.

"Two squad cars came," she said. "They saw it, but they didn't

know what it was."

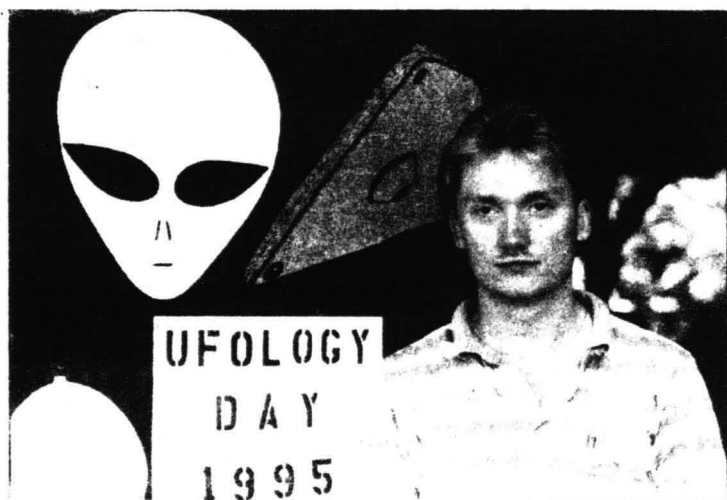
Geiger said she does not know what the light might be. She wonders whether it could be a foreign plane taking surveillance.

She was concerned it could have been a plane from a foreign country on a flight to determine where a bomb should be dropped, according to police reports.

"A helicopter went through the sky before that," she said. "It was going in the direction of Hagerstown Airport. This one had no flashing lights and no sounds or colored lights."

It was moving to the east very, very slowly, she said.





Stacey McGee, who founded the United States UFO Information and Research Center about two years ago, says, 'I've been obsessed with UFOs and abduction phenomena since I was a child.'

## UFO enthusiasts gather for annual conference

By CHRISTOPHER SCHNAARS  
Times-News Staff Writer

If you've seen a UFO, Stacey McGee wants to talk to you. Yes, UFO. As in Unidentified Flying Object.

McGee hosted the second annual UFOlogy Day Conference and Skywatch at the Davy Crockett Birthplace State Park near Limestone on Saturday.

"I've been obsessed with UFOs and abduction phenomena since I was a child," said McGee, who added that the idea to form a national organization concentrating on UFO sightings and alien encounters came to him about two years ago.

Since then, he's formed the United States UFO Information and Research Center, a group that boasts 1,000 members around the world.

"It's important that people realize that this is not fiction and that this is something very real that's

UFOlogy is a chance for us, as an organization, to bring people together from across the nation. ... It's a chance to have some fun with an otherwise uncomfortable issue, to try to lighten the stress that some of these abduction experiences have caused.

— Stacey McGee

going on," said McGee.

About a dozen people attended the conference, which included guest speakers, videos and a pinata constructed to look like an alien head.

One speaker who shared her beliefs that she has been kidnapped both by aliens and the U.S. military was Leah Haley, who said she has encountered at least six different kinds of aliens.

Haley said her experiences with the military convinced her she'd been abducted by aliens because the military has followed her and bugged her house and phones. They've also kidnapped her and given her drugs and shock treatment to make her talk about her alien experiences, then drugs to wipe out her memory. Haley believes.

She said she once got a suspicious invitation to tour the space shuttle alone and take as many pictures as she wanted. She said she declined the invitation, fearing she'd be killed.

Haley, like McGee, discussed the emotional trauma that people abducted by aliens face before being ridiculed by other people.

"If people understood what abductees go through, they would never laugh at them," said Haley.

Haley also talked about the time she wandered along the beach outside Eglin Air Force Base in Florida where she took pictures of what she called an electromagnetic pulse device, a non-lethal weapon that is used by the military to knock down UFOs.

Haley believes she was able to gain access to the beach and photograph the weapon 13 miles away because good people in government, who want the truth out, took actions to make sure she was able to get to it.

She also believes the O.J. Simpson trial is a plot by the bad guys in government who want to cover up the news about UFOs by flooding the media with O.J.

"That's an example of the kinds of control that the bad side is doing," she said.

McGee said the USUFOIRC gets about 20 to 25 reports of close encounters each year as well as hundreds of reports of nocturnal light sightings.

The organization also puts out a monthly newsletter, which includes verbatim accounts of UFO encounters. For more information, call (615) 283-0737.



## Fireball lights up night sky

Police think meteor burned Canada trailer

The Associated Press

A tremendous bluish-green flash of light, apparently from a blazing meteor, illuminated the night sky over a 400-mile area from Michigan to New York state early Friday.

Police in Windsor, Ontario, right across the border from Detroit, said they believe a chunk of the meteor slammed into a vacant mobile home, burning it to the ground. No injuries were reported.

But officers Friday morning scoured the charred remains of the trailer looking for evidence but couldn't find so much as a rock, Windsor Police Sgt. Joseph Monteleone said.

"We have nothing to indicate that a meteor hit the trailer," said Staff Sgt. Lloyd Grahame. "We believe it did because it disappeared in that area, but we can't verify it."

Peter Brown, a researcher with the University of Western Ontario, said he would be surprised if the fireball caused the trailer fire, citing the lack of reports of residents hearing a sonic boom and the fact that meteorites are no longer hot when they strike Earth. But he said it was too early to tell for sure.

"It's not impossible, but it's highly unlikely," he said. "There has never been a substantiated case when a meteor lands and causes a fire."

The trailer Friday morning was a charred frame, with evidence that something had hit its tin roof and gone through. Two empty trailers next door were burned slightly, as was a small area of grass and weeds around the trailer.

Connie Mazza was returning home from work in Kitchener, Ontario, when she turned and saw "a beautiful sparkling" light.

"It was like a rocket, long and sharp," she said. "I loved it, it was beautiful, but it was gone."

Reports placed the time of the flash at between 12:30 and 1 a.m. EDT. Shortly before 1 a.m., a Windsor patrol officer sighted "a flaming object moving southbound over the skies of Windsor... glowing red with a trail of gases behind it," police Sgt. Ken McFarland said.

"It was about the size of an airplane, with an orange tail behind it, and at the top it seemed to have a crown of greenish light," said Joe Stocco of Liverpool, N.Y., near Syracuse. "I'd never seen anything that had an orange color like this before. It was pretty interesting."

The fire at the mobile home — used for storage and located away from occupied homes — was reported shortly afterward, Detroit radio station WWJ-AM reported.

MOJAVE DAILY MINER, Kingman, AZ - June 25, 1995

## Legend has Kingman as alien crash site

By Kim Smith  
Miner Staff Writer

Walt Andrus Jr. was just killing time, waiting for a plane back to Illinois from Phoenix when his life was suddenly changed, irrevocably. He saw four UFOs.

Since that sunny, hot day in 1948, Andrus has been obsessed with the idea that there are alien life forms out there. He became so obsessed, he helped form the Mutual UFO Network, or MUFON in 1969.

When Andrus first heard about strange objects in the sky it was one year before he had his experience and they weren't called UFOs. They were called flying saucers. What he and his wife and son saw were four silver balloon-shaped objects that popped in and out of the cloud-free sky. They made no noise, they had no vapor trails and they were flying in formation.

The retired Motorola executive and a handful of people who had had similar experiences decided to form

MUFON in 1969 when they realized the government was giving the public "silly answers" in an attempt to explain away the sightings.

MUFON now has 5,200 members worldwide.

The UFO movement has gotten so large, Andrus is hoping the government will soon be providing answers for the infamous Roswell, N.M. incident.

Andrus said Albuquerque State Rep. Steven Schiff demanded to know if it was true that five dead aliens were retrieved from a crashed UFO from the Roswell area in July 1947. When he was "given the heave ho" by the military, he put the General Accounting Office in charge of doing an independent investigation, Andrus said. The results of that investigation are expected to be revealed next month.

"If the report comes out that there was nothing to it, then we'll have to start the fight over again," Andrus said. "At this point we're racing

with the undertakers, though, because a lot of the original witnesses have died."

Roswell isn't the only desert community which claims to have links to the outer limits. Although it's not well documented, several book writers have written about a Kingman area UFO crash that reportedly took place in May 1953.

Andrus down played the possibility of a Kingman crash, because, unlike Roswell, there isn't much collaboration between witnesses or any documentation.

According to a report published by MUFON in 1980, a MUFON member was approached in 1977 by a pilot who claimed he saw the bodies of three aliens at Wright-Patterson, a U.S. Air Force base. The bodies, the pilot said, had been retrieved from within a space craft that had crashed in the Arizona desert.

"He recalls that their heads were hairless and narrow and by human standards were disproportionately

large, with skin that looked brown...The eyes seemed to be open, the mouth small and the nose, if any, was indistinct. The arms were positioned down alongside their bodies, but their hands and feet were indistinct," the MUFON investigator wrote.

Two other people, who described similar events, were interviewed by the MUFON investigator. At the end of the MUFON report, the writer indicated that "1953 was either an active year for several UFO crashes, or, all three were describing one event. All three describe the area of impact in a desert region and two named Arizona as the site."

Andrus said he believes 80 to 90 percent of UFOs can be explained away by "mundane" things like planets, aircraft, space rocket debris or weather balloons.

One day, people will have the answers they want, Andrus said.

"This is the most important scientific enigma of the Space Age and the 20th Century," Andrus said.

# To some, there's nothing alien about UFOs

By **BOB SOKOLSKY**  
Riverside Press-Enterprise  
Associated Press

YUCAIPA, Calif. — The Bejorans are coming! The Bejorans are coming! Or maybe it's Klingons, Romulans or possibly Vulcans.

Don't laugh if you discuss this with Dave Aaron. He is very serious about such matters. He says he has been since 1964 when he was zapped by some alien creatures.

Aaron is owner of UFO Audio-Video Clearing House, distributor of film footage dealing with UFOs and the beings who fly in them. He has made some footage available to Showtime cable network for its "Roswell" movie. He has also supplied shows like "Hard Copy" and is now working on something for the Arts & Entertainment cable network. Fox got film clips for the "Alien Autopsy: Fact or Fiction?"

As far as Aaron is concerned, there is no fiction involved.

"Within the next 90 days, there is something that is going to blow on the whole UFO situation," he says. "I think a lot of people are going to be very surprised."

They may be even more surprised early next year, he adds.

"By January or February of 1996 a lot of top-secret documents are going to be released. All of this is coming to a head. This is going to be the story of the millennia."

Fox received footage from Roswell, N.M., where the government has been accused of cov-

"Within the next 90 days, there is something that is going to blow on the whole UFO situation. I think a lot of people are going to be very surprised."

**Dave Aaron,  
UFO Audio-Video  
Clearing House**

ering up details of a crashed UFO for 52 years. The Clearing House also provided clips supplied by sources around the world. Much of it came from British documentary producer Ray Santilli, who was not available for comment.

But in an Internet message, Santilli stated that he first heard of a 1947 Roswell film in 1993. He said it was shot by a cameraman whose name he has not revealed. After several unsuccessful efforts, Santilli said he was finally able to obtain a copy of the film which highlights, among other things, an alleged 17-minute autopsy of an alien creature.

Aaron says he first became interested in obtaining UFO information in 1964, when he claims to have encountered an unidentified craft that landed in Hacienda Heights.

"It zapped me with a white light," he says, adding that he still carries a scar from that meeting.

He created his clearing house in 1986. He says he has 40,000 members in 175 different countries.

Films, photos and other UFO material are constantly sent to him by members. All of it, Aaron says, is tested by Clearing House employee Mark Lee Center.

"He is meticulous in his checking, measuring everything against information we have on hand and exploring logical new possibilities. During this time, he has found only one entry that was not authentic."

Michael Shermer, director of the Skeptics Society in Altadena, Calif., is not so sure about that.

"I've appeared on TV shows with these people. I think most of them are genuinely convinced that they have seen UFOs and that the things they have described have happened to them."

He sees numerous holes in most stories.

"For example, they tell you they were probed by strange instruments. I ask them if they ever succeeded in grabbing one. They never have. They tell of implants in their bodies. Yet, we can never find them."

Shermer believes the government is partially responsible for the barrage of UFO stories.

"Roswell was fraught with so many problems," he says. "And we know the government lied at first in telling us what happened there. But my take is this: Is there life in the cosmos? Likely. But have any of these beings come here? That's unlikely. There's the problem of interstellar travel. It would take so long, you couldn't make it in one lifetime. And, at the speed required, if a ship encountered a meteor or anything in outer space, it would go right through the spacecraft."

Shermer believes it is possible that beings from different planets could eventually contact each other.

"But the most likely encounter involves signals. They can and do travel at the speed of light. For now, though, there has never been any evidence of alien contact."

Aaron disagrees. He points to reported sightings over Fontana, Calif., last week. He says there were sightings over Yucaipa in 1992.

Aaron says he realizes such reports are always greeted by skepticism.

"But the skeptics are people who haven't researched the entire information."

Fox spokeswoman Sharan Magnuson says the network is taking no stand on the UFO argument or the material that was presented Monday.

"We perceive this as an investigative report and are not going beyond that."

DAILY NEWS, New York, NY - Aug. 24, 1995 CR: L. Bryant

## RUSH & MOLLOY

BY GEORGE RUSH AND JOANNA MOLLOY

### Prez' hunt for campaign cash may turn up some UFOs first

**P**resident Clinton may have to hold still for a lecture on UFOs if he expects to squeeze campaign money out of Laurance Rockefeller.

The 85-year-old philanthropist was among the VIPs at Clinton's 49th birthday last weekend in Wyoming. And it's safe to say that the venture capitalist has the President's ear — at least while Clinton is vacationing on the Rockefeller spread.

Chances are the two men have, or will, talk about the environment, since Laurance has been a conservation adviser to every President since Eisenhower. It's also likely that Rockefeller will bring up the alien issue.

Immigrants from Mexico? No, from outer space.

Rockefeller has been pressing the Clinton administration to open the government's UFO files.

Correspondence we've obtained shows that Rockefeller has told White House Science Adviser John Gibbons that the government must put an end to "40-plus years of denial on the subject" of UFOs, particularly the rumored crash of a spacecraft in Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

Rockefeller said he has been "encouraged" by Gibbons' suggestion that he make Roswell "a test case."

A Rockefeller-funded study on UFO activity — conducted recently with the help of three former astronauts — should be presented to the White House this fall, according to Michael Luckman, of the New York Center for UFO Research.

Rockefeller is also said to have financed a group trying to contact extraterrestrials with lasers.

What makes Rockefeller so interested in E.T.? Some say the octogenarian hopes the aliens will share their secrets of longevity.

"I don't know about any anti-aging cure," says Rockefeller spokesman Frasier Sietel. "But Laurance's interests are broad. He's a real eclectic fellow."

JOURNAL, Alexandria, VA

Aug. 31, 1995 CR: L. Bryant

### CIA hindering UFO requests

Can the Central Intelligence Agency deny a citizen's freedom-of-information access to CIA-owned records if that citizen happens to be contesting as "unreasonable" a 17-year-old records-search fee levied by the agency?

That question forms the core of a dispute headed toward U.S. District Court on the grounds that the U.S. Freedom of Information Act disallows federal agencies from taking into account the identity of an FOIA-using requestor — whether that person be a priest, a prisoner or a political activist.

As a member of the third category, I had sought a copy of any CIA dossier maintained on the late "UFO contactee" George Adamski (who had been surveilled by the FBI and the State Department). Proceeding to ignore my inference of \$10 as being a reasonable fee, the agency billed me for \$60.67 for its (incomplete) 1978 search.

When I filed an appeal to waive the search fees — citing the public's interest in knowing how and why U.S. intelligence agencies spy upon the activities and associations of UFO-related personages — the agency fell upon its sword of denial.

Now, its FOIA manager insists that unless I pay the outstanding bill I shall be barred from having future FOIA requests accepted for processing. He also avers that I have no right to appeal the debarment.

If any other readers have incurred a similar denial of FOIA access and would like to join me in a class-action lawsuit to challenge this illegal policy, please let me hear from you.

LARRY W. BRYANT  
Alexandria

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Aug. 16, 1995

## UFO

### PENSACOLA SIGHTING

By Carole Baker

At 12:30 a.m. on July 23rd, Gary Tipton, a Brownsville, Pensacola resident, went to his kitchen for a drink of water prior to retiring for the night. As he looked out of his kitchen window he saw a very bright "star" in the sky to the southeast. Appearing just above the treeline, Gary thought that he was seeing a very bright star which was showing alternate flickering colors of green, red and gold. He watched it for about fifteen minutes, trying to decide exactly what he was looking at. Gary did not feel this was just a star because of the brightness and size of it, and also because of the changing colors and flickering appearance. He

went away from the window, but then decided to come back and see if it was still there. To his great excitement, as he watched, the first "star" seemed to split up into two, both exhibiting the same characteristics as the initial one. The two "stars" now appeared in the sky close together side by side. "Then they just started separating and coming back together again," Gary told me. The "stars" were moving apart and up and away from each other and then coming back into their original positions. Gary watched this maneuvering for about thirty minutes. Although Gary has not been an active skywatcher, he has seen unidentified lights in the sky before. He reported this sighting on the MUFON Hotline and later came to Shoreline Park to describe his experience to the skywatch group personally.

To report a sighting, call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261. For information on the upcoming Project Awareness 1995 Gulf Breeze Conference, call Project Awareness at (904)432-8888. Keep Looking Up!

ORANGE CO. REGISTER, Santa Ana, CA  
Aug. 31, 1995 CR: A. Snow

### 'Alien Autopsy' pumps life into Fox on Monday

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Fox found out Monday night that programming about aliens makes the ratings go, well, up.

Indeed, interest in "Alien Autopsy: Fact or Fiction" was so high that the network has decided to repeat the broadcast quickly. It will air again at 9 p.m. Monday on KTTV/11 and XETV/6.

"Alien Autopsy" examines what's alleged to be footage from an autopsy done on an alien after the crash of a UFO

in Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

Fox generated an 8.1 rating (percentage of the nation's 95.4 million TV homes) and a 14 share (percentage of the sets in use) with Monday's telecast, its best ratings in the time period since the season finale of "Melrose Place" in May. It was the highest share ever for Fox for a Monday special.

Still, Fox was bested in the time period by CBS' comedies "The Nanny" and "Dave's World."





[All foreign clippings courtesy of Timothy Good, unless otherwise credited.]

CITIZEN, Gloucester, England - June 30, 1995

## Is there anybody out there?



## Glos' encounters of the third kind!

In recent months, Gloucestershire has been invaded by armies of mysterious men from outer space – so say the increasing numbers of people who claim to have had an out of this world experience. **Helen Blow** investigates.



■ Derek Newman of the Cheltenham Psychic Research Group.



■ Nick Hunter – setting up a UFO helpline.

**T**OM and Sally, a couple in their mid-20s, were driving along a quiet Gloucestershire road when they saw bright lights in the sky.

It was 10.30pm. By the time they reached their home in Dursley eight miles away, the clock was about to strike midnight.

They cannot explain how they lost more than an hour of their lives. But bizarrely, the only explanation they can come up with is that they were abducted by aliens.

"Between spotting a light in the sky, almost too bright to look at, and getting home, somehow we mislaid an hour we cannot explain," says Tom (26).

"We saw two smaller lights detach and streak towards the car, leaving a trail of light behind them.

"The lights then vanished. They winked out like stars, and after a couple of minutes we drove the remaining eight miles home.

"It was about 10.30 when we set off but when we reached home we realised it was midnight," says Tom.

"There is no way it could have taken us one and a half hours to drive eight miles."

The Gloucestershire couple are not alone. It is just one unexplained incident of many that have been recently reported across the county.

A leading city businessman claims to have been abducted by extra-terrestrials, who subjected him to physical examinations with sexual overtones.

An entire family say they have been used as scientific subjects for alien experiments over a number of years and a woman from the south of the

county claims she was taken forcibly into a flying saucer and sexually examined.

All these people, who have chosen to remain anonymous, have contacted the Cheltenham-based Psychic Research Group (PRG) with their strange tales.

Group member Derek Newman says: "They come to us because they fear they are going insane and need reassurance.

"They want to talk to someone who is going to take them seriously and may be able to offer some explanation to what happened.

"We do not automatically accept these people have encountered aliens, but we do look seriously into their experiences and try to come up with some answers.

"Obviously we do get hoaxes but I think most people really believe they have seen what they claim."

Often, however, their experience is the result of perhaps something traumatic that happened in their childhood or the result of an over-active imagination.

Tom and Sally turned to the PRG after getting a predictably sceptical reaction from work colleagues.

Their experience happened on a car journey from Wiltshire in May, where they had been visiting Tom's mother.

It was as they approached the locally known hill Cam Peak, which stands as a sentinel above town, that they saw the light.

Group spokesman Chris Romer said: "If the light had been as bright as they claim and coming from such a high point, surely it would have lit up the whole of the town.

"We should have other witnesses

hypnosis to uncover the truth behind what really happened that night.

But Chris has advised against it. "Too often hypnosis can bring up false memories because of what the person may have just read about.

"And if they do 'remember' being abducted and sexual examined, it could be tremendously psychologically damaging. That would be terrible, especially if it never actually happened!"

Ever since American George Adamski claimed he met a visitor from Venus in 1952, humans have been fascinated by the idea of alien contact.

Of the thousands of sightings, predictably 90 per cent have come from America. Some meetings are friendly. Others, like the Gloucestershire sightings, are far more sinister.

While the friendly aliens, known as Nordics because of their shock of white-blond hair and tall stature, simply observe and ask questions, the other entities are a different story altogether.

Nicknamed the Greys because of their skin colour, they are far smaller with large heads and wide black eyes. These are the abductors who take people against their will and conduct medical experiments on them.

Perhaps the best known account of

extra-terrestrial contact was told through the book *Communion*, documenting American author Whitley Strieber's alleged abduction and examination by Greys in 1985.

Group UFO expert Nick Hunter has been working with a Gloucester couple who claim to have had a series of terrifying experiences with alien beings.

"The father says he has been visited by aliens since he was a teenager and they have returned several times.

"Both he and his wife report seeing a very bright globe come into their bedroom, followed by a floating object that vaguely resembled a small Post Office Tower.

"They always felt very scared but remembered nothing afterwards until, under hypnosis, both reported being taken away and medically examined," says Nick.

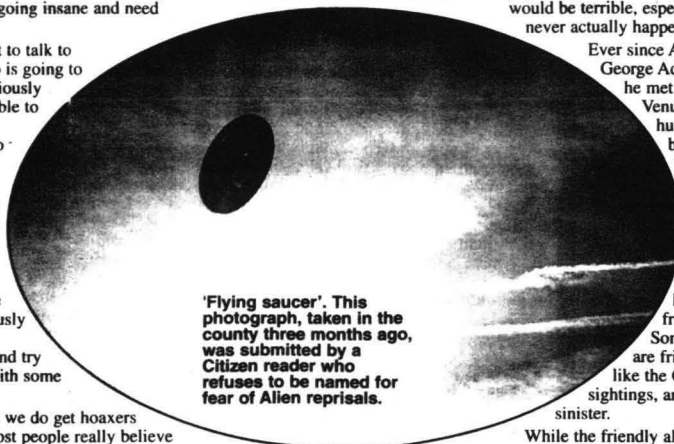
"The man found marks on his body that resembled punctures, and had a sore leg the next day that he had not had previously."

Nick said the couple's children have also reported waking up and seeing 'little people' around their beds.

Nick is in the middle of setting up a special UFO helpline from his Cheltenham base for anyone who thinks they have had an out-of-this-world encounter.

"People need to talk to someone about what happened and especially to others who have had similar experiences. There are a lot of people who have gone through this and it can be terribly upsetting.

"They need to be able to talk to someone who is going to listen and offer help."



'Flying saucer'. This photograph, taken in the county three months ago, was submitted by a Citizen reader who refuses to be named for fear of Alien reprisals.

but no one else has come forward."

In Chris's opinion, both Tom and Sally are reasonable people. Tom is an accounts manager and partner Sally (24) is his personal assistant.

"I asked them if they could have made a mistake over when they set off but his mother has confirmed the time and, as she is an elderly lady, it is unlikely they would have stayed very late."

The couple is considering having



Saucers close to the stars: Philip Mantle, below right, claims the disputed footage is authentic, but UFO expert Jenny Randles, below left, says the endorsement is purely for commercial reasons. Photographs: Peter Lomas. Steve Forrest/Guzelian Ronald Grant Archive

# Hot property from outer space



Insults are flying as livid UFO fans claim film of an autopsy on aliens is faked, and is sabotaging their serious research.  
**Vicky Ward reports**



It happened somewhere around the start of July 1947. Nobody can remember the precise date, but they do know that the winds howled and the thunder crashed. There hadn't been a storm like it in the New Mexican desert for as long as anyone could remember. In his isolated farmhouse 80 miles from the nearest town of Roswell (also a US military base), rancher Mack Brazel sat up in alarm when, through the thunderclaps, he heard another, louder noise, that of a terrific explosion.

The next day, he saddled up his horse and rode out to inspect his land. Scattered around was an array of tinfoil parts and bits of balsa wood. He showed a piece of the debris to his neighbour, Loretta Proctor. "We tried to cut it and scrape it, but a knife wouldn't touch it. We tried to burn it, but it wouldn't burn," she said at the time.

Brazel instantly contacted the Roswell sheriff, who in turn contacted Jesse Marcel, commanding officer at the Roswell airbase. They collected the wreckage and issued a press statement about their mysterious findings. Within minutes, pandemonium broke out. The Pentagon started to receive calls from all over the world. It immediately told Marcel to stop talking. The wreckage was moved to a different military base for examination; there, it was declared to be wreckage from a weather balloon and a press conference was held to show the debris to the world's cameras.

The matter was closed - until, startlingly, 31 years later. In 1978, Jesse Marcel said publicly in his retirement that the debris which had appeared in the newspaper photographs was not the same as the load that he and Mack Brazel had collected.

Since then, the Roswell case has become the most famous UFO mystery in the world and at least four books have been written about it. Discovering the truth of what

happened has absorbed, frustrated and tantalised UFO watchers around the world, but, until March of this year, it had not divided them. Now a war is raging, mainly on computer screens via the Internet, the ferocity of which space-groupies have never seen.

The cause of the fracas is a film allegedly made by a former US military cameraman, who says he was summoned by the US government to Roswell in 1947 and who has kept hold of part of the film ever since. It shows, supposedly, an autopsy being conducted by humans in white radiation-type suits on aliens from the Roswell wreckage. The aliens are essentially human in shape, but they have no hair, a small nose and mouth; they have six fingers and six toes, and swollen stomachs. They appear to be female but have no breasts.

Alone among the world's UFO research groups, the British UFO Research Association, Bufora, headed by Philip Mantle, is making claims for the film. Mantle has shown stills on the Internet and will be screening the whole film at a large ufologists' conference in Sheffield, scheduled for 19-20 August. Channel 4 is also making a documentary based on the film.

"Certainly, I don't have concrete evidence claiming that the film is authentic," Mantle says, "but neither do I have evidence to say it isn't. What is wrong with showing it and letting others decide for themselves?"

Mantle first got wind of the film just over two years ago from a British video producer, Ray Santilli, who encountered its octogenarian American owner while working in the US. "I paid him cash for a music film I needed," says Santilli, "and he asked if I would be interested in this other video, because he said that he wanted money to help to pay for his grand-daughter's wedding. I didn't have the money at

the time and also I wanted to check the film out thoroughly, so it wasn't until January of this year that I actually purchased it." The price is rumoured at £100,000 - it must have been an expensive wedding.

According to Santilli, Kodak has confirmed from markings on the film that it dates from either 1947 or 1967. They cannot be clear which, because the codes are not specific. "Independent US medical experts have seen the autopsy, though, and have agreed the medical part is genuine," Santilli says. "We have checked the owner's credentials and they all fit perfectly. Until someone can prove the film isn't genuine, there is no reason to believe otherwise."

But the reaction among the international community of ufologists is that this film is not only a fake, but is sabotaging their work. They are complaining, in hundreds of passionate e-mail messages to each other, that they themselves haven't been allowed see any proof. For the first time, possible UFO material has been taken out of their circle and into the realms of international bankability.

"They have signed a pact with the devil," says Jenny Randles, who describes herself as Britain's only professional ufologist and is the BBC's adviser on UFOs. "They are endorsing this film for purely commercial reasons. It is undoing all the work serious ufologists have done for 20 years. I resigned from Bufora's council 18 months ago because of this."

Randles' gripe stems from the fact that she and many of her American colleagues believe that in the past 20 years, they have changed ufology from a "crank's pastime" to a credible research programme of great value to the scientific world. "Our research has mostly led not to the discovery of UFOs, but to hitherto undiscovered scientific phenomena, which scientists take extremely seriously," she says. "In Roswell,

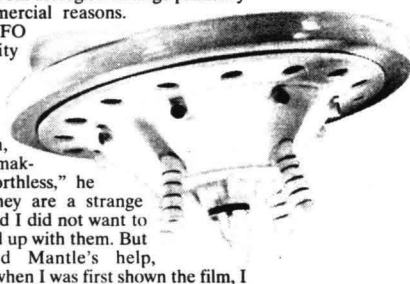
above all, decent research has been done, which shows several reasons why the US government may have wanted to cover up the original wreck. We now know they were testing nuclear missiles with monkeys at Roswell which, had it been discovered, would have caused outrage even then. If this film is authentic, why can't we be shown proof of its authenticity?"

Santilli happily admits that he withheld the film from ufologists at large primarily for commercial reasons.

"The UFO community would have instantly copied the film, thereby making it worthless," he says. "They are a strange bunch and I did not want to get mixed up with them. But I needed Mantle's help, because when I was first shown the film, I had never even heard of Roswell. I needed someone to explain it all to me. I agreed that in exchange for his help, he could show it at his August conference."

Strangely, in view of this dog-fighting, Mantle's August conference, with a capacity of 1,000, is not sold out. "Please publish the address," he says. "I'm sure there are more witnesses who need to come forward." For Anthony Pace, a veteran UFO watcher who works in a Yorkshire post office, it is not the gremlins or hatred which will persuade him to attend. "I shall go, because I shall see friends from all over the world who I haven't seen for years."

For details of Bufora's conference, send a sae to Conference 95, 1 Wood Hall Drive, Batley, West Yorkshire WF17 7SW.



## Psychics probe close encounters of sexual kind

A businessman has told psychic experts how he was abducted by aliens and sexually assaulted on board their spaceship.

The Gloucester-based businessman, who wishes to remain anonymous, is one of a growing number people in the county who claim to have been seized by beings from outer space.

In another recent incident, a woman from Gloucestershire suffered a similar abduction and was "sexually examined".

The cases are being investigated by Cheltenham Psychic Research Group which is setting up a helpline for victims of a close encounter of the third kind.

Group spokesman Derek Newman said: "These are just two of the incidents to have come to us in the past two years. I'm quite happy to accept that their abduction experiences are valid."

He said the businessman was a successful, well-connected man who is well known across the county, who says he was abducted from his car on several occasions.

Mr Newman said: "He was taken onto a UFO by little

grey humanoid figures and subjected to an intimate medical examination in a state of conscious paralysis.

"He's since spoken to trained psychiatrists but I'm not at liberty to tell you about the results. "These stories are consistent in almost every detail."

Mr Newman said the aliens are described as small, gangly humanoids, about 4ft tall with grey skin, narrow shoulders and long, thin extremities, with three fingers on each hand. Facially, they have a wide, domed forehead coming down to a pointy chin, with no nose and just a slit mouth and 2.5ins-wide black eyes.



# Ray's been duped says UFO expert

**TOP UK UFO-ologist Jenny Randles** is one of just a handful of people to have seen the Roswell film. And she is sceptical. Ms Randles said: "No one has seen all of the footage, only 15 minutes worth. "Ray Santilli believes he has footage of alien autopsies. I think he has been duped." According to Ms Randles, film experts claim the footage is on old

film at odds with the 'modern' camera angles. And she went on: "There are some who believe the 'aliens' are paramedic dummies. **Organs** "Others say the organs removed during the autopsy are far too human-like to be alien." "I believe the bodies are organic ... I don't believe they are alien."

That raises a grotesque possibility. Ms Randles continued: "At least one pathologist has suggested the bodies aren't alien, but badly deformed humans. "If that's true, it's horrifying." But Ray Santilli hit back: "I have had the film analysed and it is 1947 stock. "A Home Office pathologist has backed the film and this week I'm

sending it to the Natural History Museum to have their experts examine it." However, Ms Randles added: "I believe the Roswell craft was extraterrestrial. "But the stories of bodies didn't begin to surface until two to three years after the crash. "By that time the witness who claimed to have seen them had died and everything was second-hand."

# NEW TWIST IN ALIEN MYSTERY

## Film claims to have new evidence of the Roswell incident

**SHE travelled through space only to die under the blue sky of an alien world.**

Now her broken body lies ready for a pathologist's scalpel.

But a remarkable satellite sparked a storm and split UFO-investigators around the world.

Does it really show an alien autopsy carried out nearly 50 years ago in the deserts of new Mexico?

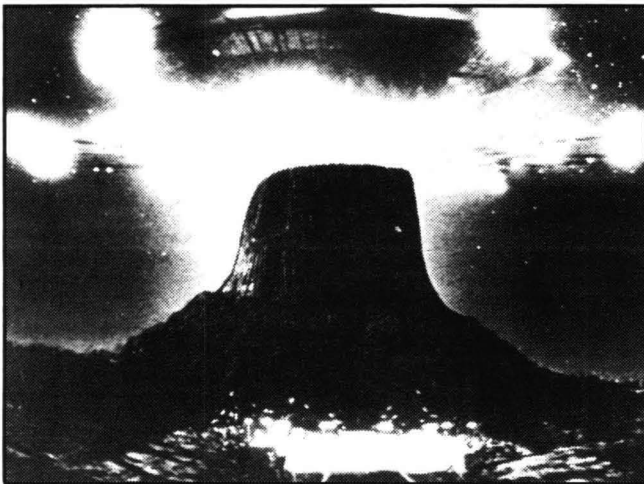
**OR IS IT AN ELABORATE HOAX?**

The 'alien' is one of three bodies allegedly recovered by the U.S. Army after the world-famous Roswell Incident in 1947.

**Operation** The corpse is female and hairless with a large head and gaping thigh wound.

Closer examination shows she has:

- Six FINGERS
- Tiny EARS
- No NAVEL
- A bulbous HEAD
- Pelvic BONES stretching from thigh to mid torso.



**FACT OR FANTASY? . . . Aliens arriving on Earth in the sci-fi film Close Encounters of the Third Kind**

TV picture has

### EXCLUSIVE By SAM CLARKE

In July 1947 a mysterious craft crash-landed on a ranch near the New Mexico town.

After locals raised the alarm the area was sealed off by the army, who scoured the area for debris.

Eyewitnesses described finding extremely tough but light metal foil and strange rods covered in hieroglyphics.

And Major Jesse Marcel, the officer who recovered the first of the wreckage, said he had discovered UFO debris.

But, in an astonishing turn-around, the army changed its story - and the craft became a weather balloon.

In the 48 years since, campaigners have battled against

what they regard as a U.S. Government cover-up.

Now a film bought by video producer Ray Santilli has reopened the controversy.

It claims to show, for the first time, footage of the operation to clean up the wreckage and post mortem examinations of the three bodies.

TV stations around the world will show it on August 26.

#### Split

Mr Santilli said: "I came across the film by accident 2½ years ago.

"I was in the States to buy some rare rock footage. The cameraman, who was 80-years-old by then, asked if I was interested in some other film.

"He told me it was of Roswell. Frankly, I hadn't a clue what he was talking about and had to make some calls to find out.

"I had to raise a six figure sum to buy the film. The deal was done in Cleveland, Ohio, but I can't identify the seller.

"I am entirely satisfied that the film is genuine."

Mr Santilli is quite clear about his motives . . . he wants to make money from the film.

He said: "Of course it's in my interests not to have the film examined or inspected by the UFO community and they are complaining about that.

"This film has split UFO-ologists right down the middle. "Commercially, it suits me to keep the mystery going.

"There will be two versions released on video. "The retail version will sell for £12.99 and last for around 50 minutes.

"The longer, mail-order version will have all the footage."

## USAF blames 'radar'

**THE U.S. Air Force has wriggled since Roswell.**

Initially, senior officers said the wreckage wasn't from Earth.

Then they claimed it was a weather balloon.

Last year, the USAF came up with another story.

Fed up with accusations of a cover-up, they launched yet another investigation.

The conclusion blamed the wreckage on Project Mogul, a bizarre top secret plan to create America's first airborne early warning system.

At the start of the Cold War in the 1940s, the U.S. was terrified of a sneak attack from Russian nuclear weapons.

Mogul, they said, was a scheme to launch radar devices in high altitude balloons to detect a nuclear launch.

A USAF spokesman said: "the Roswell incident has grown to mythical, if not mystical, proportions."

## How UFOs behave

AS an amateur researcher of 14 years' standing into the same field as Professor Mack (Review, July 2), I applaud the valuable work he has done in trying to unravel why it is that some people who see a UFO suffer amnesia or a time-lapse as part of their experience.

Those who are most vocal in their criticisms of Professor Mack in particular and the UFO phenomenon in general are also the most ignorant of the evidence pointing to the existence of a very sophisticated alien technology that is visiting us.

What has always intrigued me is not just the sighting of a UFO but also, where it occurs in conjunction with such sighting, a time-lapse - that is to say a passage of time during which the witnesses cannot account for their movements. In answer to those who might suggest epilepsy (without any information as to the witnesses' state of health), I would mention that several of my cases include two and three people together in a car when the UFO caused the vehicle to stop, as well as wiping from the witnesses' memories a large chunk of the experience. (No vehicles crashed, nor were they found by police parked with people asleep in them, nor did any of the witnesses feel ill and indeed none have any history of epilepsy.)

Suffice to say that under hypnosis all the amnesiacs report accounts of abduction, being made the subject of some sort of medical examination, as often as not involving the feet rather than genitalia, receiving telepathic communications - they all impersonate the same "mental voice" - and none remember after hypnosis what they have said while hypnotised.

I suspect that there are small cells within each nation's defence department that are aware of the reality of these visitations and that for reasons best known to themselves this information is kept from the public.

Harry Harris  
Sale, Manchester.

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, London, England - July 9, 1995

Mystery of how rings appeared in garden

# Circles in lawn riddle

by CLAIRE HILLS

BAFFLED Gladys Wells woke to find four perfectly formed circles side by side in her garden.

The rings mysteriously appeared in her back lawn during Saturday night.

She said the brown rings - eight inches in diameter - are distinct, with no wavy outlines and were definitely not there when she went to bed that night.

A keen gardener, Mrs Wells regularly waters the lawn at her

home in Walton Road, Frinton, so had not suffered from dry, brown patches - until Sunday morning.

She said: "It is so peculiar. I have never seen anything like it. I had never really thought much about all the other crop circles, but I am starting to wonder if these were made by something from outer space. I certainly did not hear anything.

"They look so strange, all brown against the green grass."

She added: "We are just going to

leave them there - well what can you do with something like that?"

Neighbours' gardens were unaffected by the bizarre phenomenon and were unable to come up with an answer.

● Have you seen a crop circle, or any other strange shapes appeared on your land?

Phone  
newsdesk on  
Info Connect  
01206 845484  
selection  
number 8000



## Mystery lights in the sky near city

**THEY'RE here! - terrified witnesses have reported seeing strange unexplainable lights in the sky over Oxfordshire.**

UFO experts Contact International have revealed details of a strange occurrence, which was witnessed by a terrified Aylesbury couple as they drove down the M40.

Oxford Contact member Michael Soper said: "One of the witnesses was quite distressed. They saw a constellation of white lights, with a blue haze on top and red lights underneath.

"It rose from the field, swivelled 120 degrees and then shot off very rapidly into the sky.

"We checked aircraft movements for that night and found nothing to explain the sighting. We don't believe it was a hoax, although you can never rule out these things, because there is not point in hoaxing something without an audience. This was late at night. There was virtually no traffic on the road."

He said the sighting, made from the M40 near Wheatley, had similar features to other sightings, including the fact that it was near some kind of water.

# Who are sinister visitors?

Sometimes people who report a sighting of a UFO find themselves the unwelcome centre of attention.

Figures of authority approach them and give dire warnings about what might happen to them if they continue to talk about what they saw. Telephones are tapped, mail interfered with and occasionally friends and relatives are questioned. The obvious conclusion to draw is that this is government sponsored but in fact that might not be the case, the truth may be even more sinister.

Mr H had reported a fairly standard UFO sighting to Air Traffic Control at Castle Donington in the hope that they would confirm that what he had seen was picked up by their radar.

In fact, they were less than helpful, so he contacted me in the hope that I could tell him what he had seen. I carried out an initial interview and arranged to see him again after I had checked to see if the object had been reported by anyone else. When I returned for a second interview he refused to discuss his sighting further. Mr H was not a stranger, I had known him for quite some time and after a bit of gentle persuasion he told me why he refused to talk.

Apparently, the day after my interview he was approached by two men in military uniform who talked to him about his sighting. Before they left they told him not to mention it to anyone else or terrible things would happen to him, he refused to tell me what these terrible things were.

He still won't talk and now actually avoids me. I asked him from which branch of the military these people came and he seemed unable to answer. He thought that they might be Air Force but their uniforms

were not quite right. As for their appearance, average height, average build, average looks. Too average, in fact, to be normal.

Intimidation of witnesses by persons unknown dates back quite a long way and really came to the attention of the public with the appearance of the 'Men In Black' or MIBs.

The MIBs were seen mainly in the United States and were repressive individuals who rode round in clinically clean black Cadillacs strongly suggesting to witnesses that they keep quiet about their sightings.

No two MIB stories are identical but some things characterise an encounter with them.

1 The witness is a person who saw and reported a UFO. The MIBs made their appearance soon after, often, too soon after the sighting for it to be credible that they could have known of it through normal channels.

2 The witness is alone when the encounter takes place.

3 The MIBs often appear in twos or threes, often all males, although if there is a female with them there is never more than one and she plays a subordinate role.

4 They arrive in a classy black car. In the USA it's often a Cadillac, in the UK it's a Rolls Royce or a Jaguar. Often it's not the latest model but it's always in pristine condition. If the witness takes note of the registration and checks it he or she is told that no such number exists.

5 They look like a classic image of a CIA or MI5 agent, slightly too well dressed. Their speech is over precise, actual examples are as follows: "Again Mr S, I fear you are not being entirely honest" and "Mr V, it would be unwise of you to mail that report".

6 Their physical movements are still and clumsy.

We must ask the question at this point: "Are these strange authoritative people human at all?"

The real authorities just don't behave like the MIBs. I have dealt with official bodies often enough to state with

confidence that they behave in a much more professional manner and can spend an hour of intense talking without actually saying anything.

The MIBs' choice of vehicle indicates that they have newly fabricated a replica of a car they believe to be appropriate, unaware that it is an out of date model. They also seem to know all the details of the witnesses sighting even though the witness may have not released them.

I personally have known at least three witnesses who have been silenced by strange authority figures.

So what's going on? First of all these MIBs are nothing to do with the real authorities — you upset those guys enough and you'll simply vanish. They certainly wouldn't waste time using empty threats. Also the MIBs seem strangely naive, almost as though they don't quite know how to behave in our society.

I'm not actually saying that there are aliens among us disguised as humans, but then again ....



LEADER, Wrexham, England - May 19, 1995

## 'Laser' theory after UFO is sighted

A COUPLE were stunned as they watched a UFO dart across the skies over Wrexham.

Sandra and Malcolm Armstrong, of Coed-poeth, gazed in astonishment at mystery lights which moved in the night sky.

They claim three other people also saw the lights, which were visible for about 15 minutes.

Sandra, 45, who works in a residential home, said: "It was an amazing sight and we have been trying to think of what it could have been."

"It looked like a giant catherine wheel which was constantly spinning around and giving off what looked like sparks."

### White

"The lights were all white and we can't think what on earth they could have been."

UFO investigators are to meet with the Ministry of Defence at Whitehall to study sightings in Wrexham and Llangollen over the past few months.

A spokesman from RAF Valley in Anglesey said: "It is difficult to say exactly what the lights were, but judging from the time they were seen it is possible they could have been from a laser."

"We have had a number of reports from people in recent months who have seen laser displays and mistaken them for UFOs."

"A lot of companies now use these lasers and they have caused some confusion in the past."

SEVENOAKS CHRONICLE, Kent, England July 6, 1995

## 'I saw a UFO'

A 41 YEAR old woman claims to have seen a UFO leaving 100 yard trails of light above a secluded stretch of Westerham Hill, near Pilgrims Way.

The woman, who did not wish to be named, was driving home to Goudhurst on Wednesday of last week when she spotted the mysterious object only 100 feet in the air.

She said: "I saw terrifically bright lights moving in a zig-zag pattern. They were yellow or white and going along in a snake-like fashion."

"My radio started crackling and I could see the object moving. It must have been about 300 foot long — like the length of a train — and the atmosphere was almost charged."

Radio interference only stopped when she turned into Pilgrims Way at about 12.38 am. The object sped off without a sound.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence put the sighting down to aircraft.

But the woman said: "I know what I've seen. It couldn't have been another aircraft because it was so low it would have crashed."

# It's Shropshire's twilight zone ...



A passing van shows the scale of the crop circle in the field behind.

By Nigel Newman

The most northerly reported crop circle in Britain this year has been found in a Shropshire field. But just who — or what — made it?

The mysterious circle has appeared in a wheat field just outside Shrewsbury. Experts have investigated the mysterious crop ring at Pulley, near Bayston Hill, and are convinced it is genuine.

The circles are most commonly found in southern England in July. Many have been blamed on hoaxers, but there are also claims of UFO and paranormal connections.

Members of the West Midlands branch of the Centre for Crop Circle Studies are sure this one is not man made.

Expert Mike Newark, who investigated the circle, said he had been able to track it from the M6 using special "dowsers" which trace ley and water lines and energy forces.

Mr Newark said the circle was slightly imperfect and at 70ft in diameter a little larger than average. It also has a number of unique features in its pattern.

Samples and data from the Pulley circle have been recorded to help experts build up a database of genuine crop circles.

Visible from the A5, it is also the first reported crop circle in the West Midlands this year.

It was noticed by crop circle enthusiast Ray McCaffrey, of Pontesbury Hill, Pontesbury. He said it was strange the field had come to his attention anyway.

"I looked at this field for months and, even when it was ploughed up, I thought this looked like a spot where it could happen."

"It is almost as if I willed it to happen. I know it seems strange but this does happen," said Mr McCaffrey.

The crop circle phenomenon will be further explained at a meeting in the Civic Centre, Wellington, at 7.30pm tonight.

Speaker will be Ray Cox from the Centre for Crop Circle Studies.

The sighting coincides with further reports of a series of smaller crop circles in a field off the old A5 near Wellington.

SOUTHERN DAILY ECHO, Southampton, England - May 31, 1995

## Light show sparks UFO alert

A UFO scare was sparked when a couple spotted strange revolving shapes in the skies above their Hampshire home.

Janine Atkinson feared she was witnessing extra-terrestrial craft when she looked skyward as she let her dogs out for late night run in her Bishop's Waltham garden on Saturday.

"You could see a ring of small lights revolving from side to side.

Inside there was a larger disk moving very slowly from side to side. I just couldn't believe what I was seeing."

But the mystery sighting may have a more terrestrial explanation according to Havant based UFO expert Chris Harrison: "We had four other reports of UFOs on Saturday night in the Portsmouth area which we eventually tracked down to a light show at Southsea."

HERALD-SUN, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia - July 21, 1995 CR: P. Norman

## UFOs spook small town

UNIDENTIFIED flying objects have spooked the northern South Australian city of Whyalla.

Six police officers, a Metropolitan Fire Service crew and 100 Whyalla residents said they saw a four-hour "light show" of UFOs on Wednesday night.

The six night patrol officers saw a series of "very, very large red stars" hovering in the air and then rising 1.5km in the sky.

Police investigated the UFOs when more than 100 callers reported lights "coming together, flying in opposite directions and lifting off the ground".



STAR, Windsor, Ontario, Canada - June 28, 1995 CR: G. Conway  
MAIL ON SUNDAY, London, England - July 2, 1995

WHITEHALL SHOCK AS ITS CHIEF ALIEN-WATCHER ADMITS: I BELIEVE IN UFOs

# ET lives, says man from the Ministry



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS: UFO convert Nick Pope

IT WAS the week when John Redwood's earthly origins were called into doubt and Mr Spock pointy ears were given away by the thousand.

So it will come as no surprise that one of Whitehall's finest has succumbed to the power of aliens.

Nick Pope headed the Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a office, with a brief to deal with inquiries about flying saucers and other unexplained phenomena.

It was his calm voice which reassured the many members of the public who called to report strange lights in the sky or little green men on the lawn.

But, in possibly the most embarrassing turnaround in Ministry of Defence history, Mr Pope has gone over to the other side.

To the horror of his

**By Nick Fielding**

employers, the 29-year-old civil servant, who now works in another part of the Ministry, has become a convert.

'I think it is fair to say that in my three years as the Government expert on UFOs, I was regarded as a bit of a maverick,' said Mr Pope.

**Menace**

'I came into that job as an open-minded sceptic and I came out a believer.'

As if that were not enough, the errant ufologist is to publish a book based on his experiences as Britain's first line of defence in the undeclared war against the alien menace.

Provisionally titled *Open Skies, Closed Minds: Official Reactions To The UFO Phenomenon*, the book is unlikely to win him

many friends at the Ministry.

In fact, his bosses have already expressed their displeasure at his manuscript, for which he must get permission before publication.

The book examines all the available records in the Whitehall archives, and talks about a number of new cases.

But Mr Pope offers little comfort for UFO buffs seeking proof of a Government cover-up.

'We don't throw open our files en bloc, but eventually most of them filter down to the Public Record Office.'

Mr Pope cannot pinpoint the moment of his conversion, but he rules out an alien plot.

He says he was convinced by the details of a small number of British sightings which have so far defied conventional explanation.

'Probably the best example is the Rendisham Forest case in December 1980 where

some kind of object came down in Suffolk near the RAF bases at Woodbridge and Bentwaters.

'This is now regarded as the best attested case of a UFO crash outside the US.'

Mr Pope's conversion is likely to cause a sensation among committed ufologists.

Graham Birdsall,

editor of UFO Magazine, said: 'I welcome the bravery of a man who must have experienced tremendous pressure from his superiors, but who stuck to his views.'

The MoD refused to comment on Mr Pope.

But surely the men from the Ministry are wishing that someone, somewhere, would beam him up.

AGE, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
Aug. 3, 1995 CR: P. Norman

## Argentinian plane buzzed by a spaceship, says pilot

**Buenos Aires, Wednesday**

Argentina was nervously watching the skies yesterday after an airliner narrowly missed hitting a UFO that darted in its path.

Jorge Polanco was piloting an Aerolineas Argentinas jet headed for the south-west winter resort town of San Carlos de Bariloche about midnight yesterday when he was forced to take emergency action to avoid what witnesses described as a spaceship.

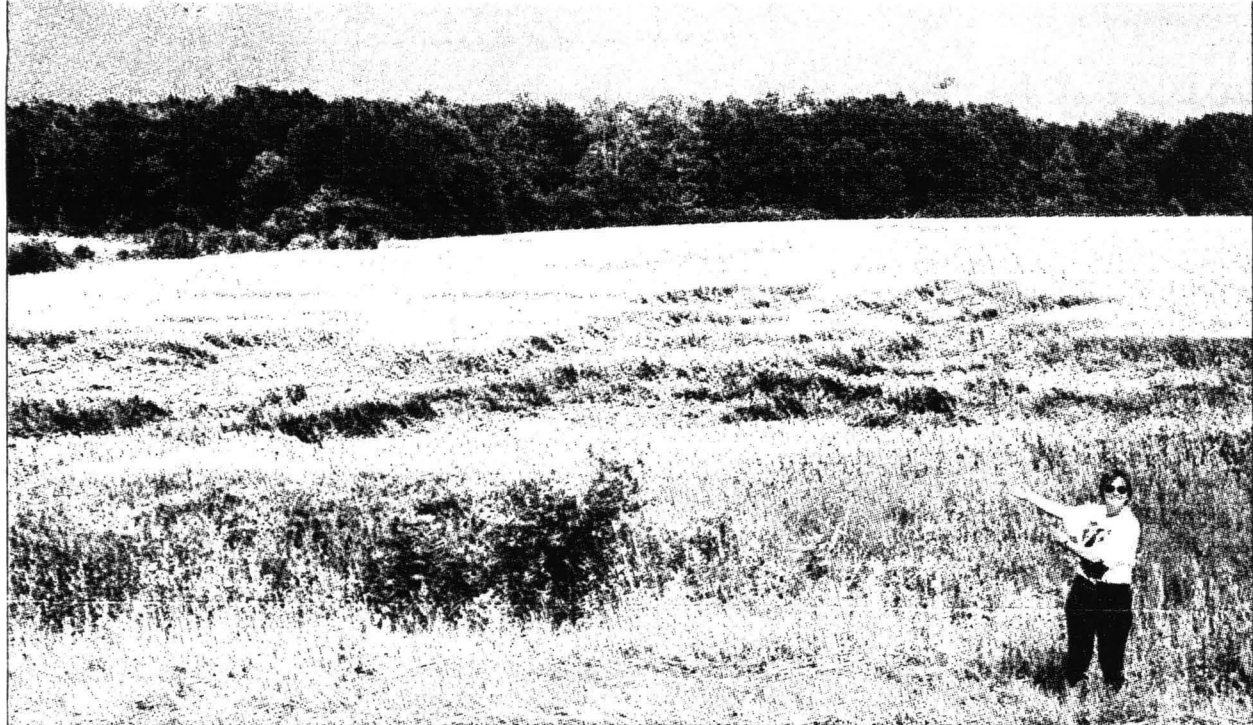
"As I was making the final approach, I suddenly saw in front of the plane a white light which was bearing right down on us really fast before it halted about 100 metres away," he said.

He said that as he frantically manoeuvred his plane, carrying 103 passengers, the UFO took a bizarre turn so that it could follow the airliner and flew in tandem with it for about 100 metres.

Air Force Major Jorge Oviedo said he and several others also saw the UFO and that there was a simultaneous power cut throughout the entire city.

The pilot said the object was about the size of a jetliner. Officials are investigating the sighting.

— AFP



Brenda Keen says she believes aliens created crop circle in Anderdon Township field. The local weather office suggests a more down-to-earth explanation.

ANDERDON TOWNSHIP

## Crop circle called out of this world

**Story and photo by Dave Battagello  
Star Staff Reporter**

With all due respect to any aliens who may be reading this — and the appreciation for the bodily harm you are likely capable of inflicting — it really just looks like crushed wheat.

But is it the latest in mysterious sightings of crop circles?

A wheat field off Con. 8 near Middle Side Road has a cleared opening that at various points measures about 75 metres in width and length near the edge of the property.

"Me and this boy we were taking a (horse) ride down the road and he

said 'What's that?'" said teen Amanda Gagnon, who lives nearby. "He said it looked like a question mark."

Gagnon, who rides by the wheat field nearly every day, noticed the change in appearance Monday.

"Everybody else was stopping and checking it out," Gagnon said. "I don't know, it's pretty weird. There is no ending to it and no beginning. It's just kind of in the middle of the field."

Later in the day another nearby resident, Brenda Keen, also rode by on her horse and was convinced.

"I think it's crop circles just by the way it's laid out," Keen said.

"I firmly believe in aliens. I think it's been the biggest secret kept in

Canada for years and years."

But if it was indeed aliens landing wouldn't Keen and other neighbors have heard noise?

"From what I know, alien spaceships don't make no noise at all," Keen said.

**No footprints**

Keen also said she is convinced because there is a deep ditch separating the road from access to the property and no footprints in the wheat around the opening.

On the other hand, there may be a more a terrestrial cause behind the phenomenon. When thunderstorms rolled through parts of Windsor and the county Sunday they generated

winds and heavy downpours that just could have knocked down a lush field of winter wheat.

"It's certainly a strong possibility that they could have had a thunderstorm through the area," said Environment Canada weather service specialist Mike Adamson. "We had 14 millimetres at the airport, all in one downpour... That's the nature of a thunderstorm. If you're right under them you get a big dousing."

This year's crop circle looks different than last year's more elaborate effort, which mysteriously appeared in a wheat field in Malden Township. It provided fodder for those who believe in both aliens and crop circles.

"It's real," Keen said.

DAILY TELEGRAPH,  
London, England  
June 3, 1995  
**Royal Society  
disowns flying  
saucer lecture**

**By Adrian Berry  
Science Correspondent**

NOTICES will be pinned up at the Royal Geographical Society's London headquarters this afternoon disclaiming any responsibility for a lecture being given there entitled "Flying Saucers Are Real."

Stanton Friedman, a Canadian, will claim that alien beings continually visit Earth in spaceships and kidnap people, and that governments are conspiring to suppress the information.

John Hemming, the society's director, said: "We do not endorse this non-scientific rubbish. It could do serious damage to our reputation as a learned society."

Mr Hemming, who first heard about the lecture yesterday afternoon, said his first impulse was to cancel it. "But it is too late to do this. All we can do is to disclaim responsibility."

The society's lecture hall is available to anyone who wants to rent it. But staff had a responsibility to ensure that anyone wanting to give a lecture was "intellectually respectable."

He said: "Our staff clearly failed to do so in this case, presumably because of carelessness. I will be having stern words with them on Monday."

The hall was rented by MCP, a London concert promoter, on behalf of Mr Friedman.

Its director, Paul Flower, said about 300 tickets for the lecture had been sold at £10 each.

He chose the society's lecture hall rather than a London hotel because it "had better lecture facilities".

# Circle experts to explore phenomena

FANS of the supernatural in Wiltshire are being invited to attend a national conference on crop circles and UFOs.

The organisers are particularly keen to attract people from this area - because of the frequency with which the obscure markings have been discovered in the county.

"Wiltshire is the best place in the world for crop circles," said conference organiser Paul Anderson.

The get-together will be held on July 22 at the Harwell Conference Centre, near

Didcot. Topping the bill are talks and films from Colin Andrews - "the world's number one expert on crop circles" - and Reg Presley, former Troggs member and UFO fanatic. The conference is called Crop Circles - The Latest Evidence.

"Crop circles are becoming more complicated. We believe they are a code and if they could be translated it would be great," said Paul, 30.

"And we don't believe the circles are caused by aliens actually landing but by some kind of reaction between the earth's

energy and some outside energy."

Paul also dismisses claims that all the circles are caused by hoaxers, even the hoaxers themselves acknowledge this, he says. So far this year there have been few good crop circles in Wiltshire but Paul puts this down to late crop development.

"There have been about ten formations so far but there has been one near Avebury," he said.

For more information ring Paul on 01235 531018. Conference tickets at £4 should be booked in advance.



Circle mystery... this one was near Avebury

HERALD, Hinckley, England - July 13, 1995

# Couple claim UFO chased them home

HINCKLEY people have come forward to say that they too saw the UFO that was said to have chased a Burbage couple home.

Clive Richardson, of Royal Court, Hinckley said: "I was in my sister's flat Friday two weeks ago when I saw it."

"I was sitting down watching television and I got up to go to bed when I saw this thing through the window."

"It was a shimmering bright light and it seemed to be coming closer towards me. I got my binoculars out and watched it for about 15 minutes. It was like looking at the

by Vicky Wayman

sun, it was so bright. It was about as big as an orange. In the end it started to move away.

"I am a very sceptical person, but this really struck me as something out of the ordinary. I have looked out for the light since, but I have never spotted it again. I believe that there is something out there, but I don't know quite what."

John Degrange of Hinckley told of another close encounter.

He said: "My sister was returning home from babysitting to her house in Newbold Verdon when she saw

this flying object above her house. It was about quarter to 11 and it was dark and drizzly. The hovering object had amber, green and red lights. She ran inside and asked her husband and daughter to come and see. They ran out the front and it had gone, but they could see the flying object from the back garden, where it flew off across the fields.

"There is definitely something out there. Everyone who sees them can't be barmy. There are some things flying about in the skies that we just can't explain. Who knows, there could be completely different time zones."

EVENING NEWS, Scarborough, England - May 19, 1995

# More see mystery UFO light

REPORTED sightings of a UFO over Scarborough are continuing to grow.

At least six people now claim to have seen an intense mass of light moving rapidly across the sky on Monday.

RAF Staxton Wold says that it had no aircraft in the area and that there were no reports of any unusual aircraft around that night.

A number of people have come forward after the Evening News reported that a Scarborough man had spotted the light on his way home from work on the Esplanade.

Since then, sightings have been reported all over the Scarborough area, including Barrowcliff, Albemarle Back Road, the North Bay and by a taxi driver on the Scarborough-to-Filey road.

Andrew Whittaker, 37, a driver for Atlas Private Hire, said that he saw the light near Boak End Garage.

"I saw what I thought was an aircraft light, but I realised it was too bright," said Mr Whittaker, of Larch Grove, Filey. "Then the way the thing started to move, I knew it wasn't a plane or helicopter."

"It's the first time I've ever seen anything like this. I'm interested in aircraft, but there is no way this was any aircraft I know could have moved like this."

Paul Gill, 42, a security guard for Instore Security, was working at Atlantis, in the North Bay, on Monday night.

"I heard this strange noise first and then I saw this light flying overhead. I was on my own there so it was a little bit scary," said Mr Gill, of Sweetbecks Close, Eastfield.

Civil servant Dale Hepples, 19, had just returned to his parents home on Gilderscliffe when he saw the mystery light over the Castle.

"I was talking to my parents. My dad, Brian, noticed this really intense white light," said Mr Hepples. "I went outside to look, and this light seemed to fly straight at the house."

"There was definitely something there and it was something more mysterious than a plane."

A couple from Albemarle Back Road have also reported seeing the light.

A Scarborough police spokesman said that they had had one sighting reported.

SURREY NOW, Surrey, B.C., Canada - Aug. 9, 1995 CR: G. Conway

▼ UFOS

# TV program lured to Surrey by strange, flying Sightings

Bright white triangles spotted over Green Timbers neighborhood.

By Tom Zytaruk  
STAFF REPORTER

Video footage of bright white triangles flying over Surrey has drawn a California-based television crew here.

Green Timbers resident Bill Oliver, 44, and about a dozen neighbors have seen the UFO zig-zagging high above their neighborhood several times since early May. One neighbor reportedly saw the object again last Friday.

Oliver, a Vancouver school board employee, has seen it about four times himself. He's even videotaped the object as it pulsates, zooms around a bit then appears to fly behind a tree.

The video attracted the attention of *Sightings*, an American program which explores the paranormal. Oliver and his neighbors were interviewed by the program Sunday, and are expected to appear on the prime-time program in October.

"I just basically said I don't know what it is."

— Bill Oliver, in discussing his interview with a television crew

"I just basically said I don't know what it is," Oliver said he told the *Sightings* crew. "They (the crew) were really laid back."

This isn't the first time Surrey UFO sightings have drawn attention from across the border. Last summer, a Fox network film crew came from Los Angeles to interview local residents for an episode of *Encounters*, another program exploring the paranormal.

More than 40 UFO sightings have been reported in this area over the past two decades, resulting in the area being dubbed the Surrey-Delta UFO corridor.

Most sightings occurred in the area bounded by Scott Road to the west, King George Highway to the east, Mud Bay to the south and the Fraser River to the north.

EVENING POST, Wigan, England - May 9, 1995

# Pair report UFO mystery light



Angela Duddle who with daughter Annette saw a UFO over Platt Bridge

WIGAN may have had a visit from aliens.

A mysterious shape was spotted in the night sky hovering over the town, by Annette Catterall of Southfield in Platt Bridge, near Wigan, who was joined by her mum Angela Duddle to watch the UFO at about 1.30am on Sunday.

They claim the dull light flew towards them from Wigan and glowed orange before returning and disappearing into nothing.

## Object

Police in Wigan said no other sightings of the UFO had been reported.

Air traffic controllers at Manchester Airport also said they had no record of anything "out of this world" in the area.

But the two are convinced they saw something flying high in the sky for about three minutes which they cannot explain.

Mrs Duddle said she was in no doubt about seeing the object and was unable to sleep following the sighting.

She had never believed in UFOs before but now

was at a loss to solve the disturbing mystery.

She said: "It was a dull white light and when it came nearer it was bright orange at the bottom."

"It was hovering and then came nearer and nearer and all of a sudden went back and just disappeared into nothing."

"I definitely saw it. I don't normally believe in anything like that and I don't drink."

"It wasn't an aeroplane or anything like that - it really looked like something different. I was really frightened by it and couldn't get to sleep that night."

Expert ufologist, Steve Ballon from Leigh, said the triangular shape had been seen on a number of occasions.

Police and the army had picked it up in Belgium and there had been regular sightings captured on film by people in Ilkeston, Derbyshire.

He said: "There seems to be a lot of activity across the whole Wigan area but it is all in the very early hours of the morning."

# 'Burbage family's car was chased by UFO'

A BURBAGE family have claimed that their car was chased home by a glowing, flying object.

They were returning home from Leicester when the close encounter was said to have occurred.

One witness told the Midlands Unidentified Flying Object Society that: "We first spotted the object hovering over fields near Nailstone Village, but gradually it came lower until it was only about 50 feet up."

"It followed us for about a mile before suddenly glowing very bright and shooting away towards Hinckley."

"We heard a loud crackling noise as the object disappeared."

The Leicestershire branch of the Midlands UFO Centre are currently investigating the claim.

The branch has been up and running since 1971. In that time they say that a lot of the reported sightings that they have been informed about are still unexplained.

However, many so-called close encounters have found completely rational explanations, with the likes of the strobe lighting of the nightclub, Le Venue, leading to all sorts of confused claims.





# But you can't kill a myth with a government report

It may have been dismissed by the ministry experts, but the Beast of Bodmin is unlikely just to slink away. As ALLAN MASSIE explains, there's a need to believe in the unbelievable

**T**HE MEN from the Ministry have found no evidence that Big Cats roam Bodmin Moor destroying sheep and cattle. There is, they say, "no serious threat to livestock in the area". Predictably their findings have already been discounted and derided. A farmer, John Goodenough, who has lost 10 ewes and three calves from his 600 acre farm, has dismissed the report as "a farce". "We are in a hell of a position because they" (the Big Cats) "are breeding fast."

So there you are. Do you believe the Men from the Ministry or the men on the spot? For many this is almost a non-question. Big Cats have after all been "sighted" in 26 counties of mainland Britain.

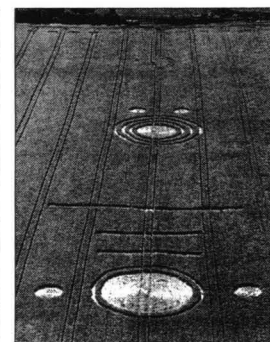
Now there is nothing in itself improbable about the reported sightings. There are after all many zoos and wild life parks in the country, and the possibility that animals might escape and be able to fend for themselves in the wild is not ridiculous.

Yet it remains true that people are ready to believe in their existence, even without firm evidence. They do so because they want to. The idea of leopards stalking the moors of Cornwall, or prehistoric monsters lurking in Scottish lochs, or aliens leaving their call-signs in crop circles, is deeply attractive. Believing in them is a sort of protest against confined, denatured urban and suburban life.

On any scale of improbabilities, the belief in Big Cats on the prowl in England rates pretty low. It wouldn't have satisfied the Red Queen who advised Alice to believe six impossible things before breakfast. But the Red Queen is not short of disciples today. A look at best-seller lists confirms this.

In recent weeks Graham Hancock's *Fingerprints of the Gods* has been riding high. Sub-titled 'A Quest for the Beginning and the End', this advances the claim that the most impressive monuments of the Ancient World were the work of a master race, flourishing before the Egyptians or the Incas, before disappearing in the last Ice Age.

People are apparently gobbling this up, just as they are ready to gobble up any way-out theory that assures them that the world is not what orthodox science tells them it is, or which offers an occult history



Men from the Ministry vs Men on the Spot: The 'Beast' on the moor (left) and the Goodenoughs (top) who, despite yesterday's report, still believe there are big cats out there. Other favourites — Nessie and the crop circles

**In a society in danger of stultifying itself through boredom, it's no surprise that people reach out to believe in anything that makes life remarkable**

regret, they obligingly returned her to her bed.

Such people, Mack says, "suffered from no psychiatric disorder, and were reporting with powerful emotion what to them were utterly real experiences. I was dealing with a phenomenon that I felt could not be explained psychiatrically, yet was simply not possible within the framework of the western scientific worldview."

Quite so. Next month the BBC will screen a film allegedly shot in the New Mexico desert in 1947 by military cameramen after a flying saucer crashed there. The film is said to show scientists examining a dead alien, and also part of the alien wreck which is made of a material that could not be burned, dented or cut. There can be little doubt that thousands will eagerly accept it as authentic.

There is nothing new in the sort of credulity so widely manifest today. Belief in magic is probably as old as man. In the Ancient World

astrology was a science, and astronomy no more than a hobby. Belief in witchcraft was common in Europe till at least the 18th century. The Devil walked among men and danced and had intercourse with women. There were fairies in every glade and dell, and countryfolk left out bowls of milk for Robin Good-fellow (probably drunk by hedgehogs). Little People and Little Greys — there is not, perhaps, much difference between them.

In the 19th century it seemed to rational, forward-thinking men and women that credulity and superstition would wither away and crumble before the advance of science. This hasn't happened. Indeed they have made a comeback in which only the form superstition takes is new.

This may be explained partly as a reaction. The more that science seems capable of explaining the world, the more we live in a uniform and materialist civilisation from which mystery has been excluded, the greater is the need

felt for whatever goes beyond this, and challenges it.

So we have seen successive vogues for spiritualism, esoteric cults, Eastern religion, magical interpretations of existence: all representing a search for some Meaning of Life that tells us that nine-to-five office life and daily commuting is not all we have, or can know.

At the same time, for those who probe a little deeper, it seems that the more science discovers, the greater and less knowable the ultimate mysteries are.

**A**DD TO this the decay of traditional religious faith, and you find a world hungry for understanding, crying out for the restoration of a sense of wonder. In a society that is in danger of stultifying itself through boredom, it is no surprise that people reach out to believe in anything that makes life remarkable.

It is ironic that a world in which bishops can no longer believe in the Resurrection easily finds believers in Aliens on day release from Outer Space; but then, as Chesterton used to remark, "when men no longer believe in God, they don't believe in Nothing; they believe in Anything". And that is the case of the world today. In the looking-glass world of the late 20th century, men will believe in anything, except, possibly, common sense.

## Mutilated cattle found on ranch

Rocky Mountain News Staff

**DOUGLAS COUNTY** — Ranch hands discovered a pair of mutilated steers on a Douglas County ranch this week.

Each of the cattle had a right front leg removed as if a razor or sharp instrument had been used.

None of the wounds appeared to have been made by another animal. A nose had been sliced off one steer, genitalia off the other.

The incident occurred between Sunday and Tuesday in the 1400 block of Flintwood Road.

The cattle belong to a Fort Lupton woman and had recently been placed on the property.

On Sunday, the ranch hands found a steer had died from an unknown illness. When they went back to check on the carcass Tuesday, they found the two mutilated animals.

Sheriff's Sgt. Attila Denes said deputies have no suspects.

## AIRBORNE SEARCH

The world's only government-sanctioned search party for Bigfoot is gearing up for a new survey that will link high-tech aerial equipment with observers on the ground. Earlier searches this summer spearheaded by Wang Fangchen, of the 30-strong team from China's Committee for Research into Strange and Rare Animals, failed.

While residents in Hubei

Province have reported 114 sightings and collected hair and footprints from the suspected Abominable Snowman during the past 40 years, no such evidence was found by the team.

They will now deploy balloons equipped with infrared-sensing instruments 2,000 feet above the forest. "Any activities conducted by large-bodied mammals would be recorded by the apparatus," Wang told reporters.



Jill P. Mott/The Coloradoan

**TRACKING:** Walter Lyons talks about sprites at the Yucca Ridge Field Station. Lyons is photographed through a VLF radio antenna used in his research.

## That bright flash could be a sprite

By DAN HALEY  
The Coloradoan

From a wood viewing deck in the rolling prairie northeast of Fort Collins, Walter Lyons watches the most amazing thunderstorms.

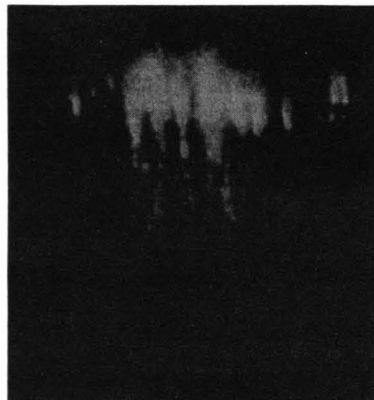
But unlike the rest of us, his eyes — and a cluster of high-tech equipment — are focused on the activity above the storms, not what's below the ominous clouds.

For the past three years, the Fort Collins meteorologist and a team of scientists across the country have been studying sprites — once-ignored blobs of mysterious pinkish-red light that flash above thunderstorms.

For years, pilots ignored the "jellyfish-like" creatures that hover above the clouds, passing them off as a flash from the lightning below or a trick their eyes were playing on them.

Even though the earliest recorded sprite-sighting dates back to 1886, up until a few years ago, reports were considered "on the fringe with UFO reports," Lyons said.

In 1989, a University of Minnesota physicist was testing his low-light video camera when it recorded an unusual flash of light in the otherwise clear air above a thunderstorm.



Courtesy Walt Lyons

**SPRITE:** This is a photograph taken about two years ago from Colorado of a sprite in Nebraska.

Now, Lyons and others are trying to determine exactly what causes the flash and what its role in the atmosphere is.

"We just know they're there," Lyons said, overlooking the vast prairie that stretches

beyond his Yucca Ridge Field Station northeast of Fort Collins.

"It's an entirely new scientific phenomena. This may turn out to be relevant, or it could just be a meteorological curiosity, like rainbows," he said.

Most nights, as many as 16 science teams from three countries will watch the skies from the Yucca Ridge station with 15 sensors, cameras and a bulk of other technology.

Their work is funded by NASA, and part of the research involves trying to determine whether the flashes occur over Florida and what effect they could have on space travel. This fall, scientists will continue their work at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

While sprites remain rather mysterious, they could begin to explain a lot of other phenomena. Once, a weather balloon was believed to have been singed by lightning, even though it was floating well above the storm.

"I suspect it probably accounts for a small percentage of UFO reports," Lyons said.

Sprites, which can be up to 60 miles high and 60 miles wide, can be seen with the

naked eye, but most people never see above a storm so they rarely witness them. Plus, it has to be a very clear night and they happen in the blink of an eye.

From Lyons' viewing deck, scientists watch storms as far away as Texas and see "a couple dozen (sprites) on a regular night."

Their research is continuing and unearths other strange sightings, including what are called blue jets — bolts of lightning that shoot up from clouds and are topped with blue flames.

"I didn't expect anything like what we've seen," he said. "This is the ideal place in North America to watch them. Generally, it's clear at night and we can see storms over the high plains."

"If you want to catch sprites, this is the best place to do it."

## Looking for Mr. Bigfoot? Look no further

By IVETTE MENDEZ

Want to know how to get a decent video recording of a Sasquatch? No problem.

While most New Jerseyans were scurrying around yesterday and partaking in activities that make up the annual "Oh-my-goodness-it's-summer-time!" ritual, a group of about 60 was tackling the Sasquatch issue in a windowless room in New Brunswick.

Hey, don't laugh. These creatures — better known as "Bigfoots" — have been sighted in the forest areas in Sussex County, according to one expert.

If you had been at the discussion at Douglass College, you would have learned the best way to grab the attention of a Sasquatch is to slowly and rhythmically bang two large rocks so the sound echoes into the woods.

If you hear a similar sound coming back at you in, oh, about 10 minutes, chances are you hit the jackpot.

"It's a good idea to keep this calling technique to yourself," advised Matthew Moneymaker, a law student who has been trying to capture the sight and sounds of a Sasquatch back in his home state of Ohio since October.

According to Moneymaker, the rock method is better kept under wraps so that humans don't use it to fool the serious Bigfoot aficionado.

Sasquatches weren't the only, uh, animals that were on the minds of the folks assembled at the Continuing Education Center.

Much time was devoted to Nessie, the Loch Ness Monster, as well as sea serpents and the giant squid.

"In my view, there's nothing supernatural," said Gil Wald of Bridgewater, who works for a family-owned business that reconditions damaged food products. "To my mind, these are animals that have not yet been described by science."

## Cryptozoologists exchange secrets

Wald was attending his second meeting of the International Society of Cryptozoology (ISC).

The group is a 13-year-old non-profit scientific society with about 800 members. Based in Tucson, Ariz., it serves as a focal point for the discussion and investigation of animals of unexpected form or size.

You know, Nessie and Bigfoot.

ISC is also tapped into reports of other "unexpected animals," as the group puts it, that are sometimes labeled as "monsters." They include large, long-necked animals in the swamps of Central Africa said to resemble Mesozoic sauropod dinosaurs and flying animals that resemble Mesozoic pterosaurs.

Then there are giant ground sloths in South America and, closer to home, "lake monsters" in this country.

"Either you're interested or you're not," said Paul Gritis, who sells books on nature and science in Bethlehem, Pa.

Gritis had a display of publications that he described as obscure and having little appeal to the general public. "The Monsters of Loch Ness—Alive After 250,000,000 years" read the cover of one book.

"There's not a big demand. It's a specialized area," Gritis explained.

Interest in cryptozoology is often sparked in childhood, according to adults who attended the day-long meeting.

Wald, 45, said he got hooked in junior high school after reading "On the Track of Unknown Animals" by Bernard Heuvelmans, an ISC officer and president of the Center for Cryptozoology in France.

"To me, there's nothing weird about this," he said.

He said he hopes that one of his dreams will someday be fulfilled.

"I've always hoped I'd see a Sasquatch, but I also have said if I saw one I would never tell anyone," said Wald. He explained he would fear that exposing its location could subject it to danger from members of the public who would not have its best interests at heart.

Richard Smith, a journalist and researcher from the Princeton area, said he became fascinated by lake monsters after reading about them in "Boy's Life."

Smith for the past year has been researching claims made by Christian Spurling, a now-deceased Englishman who said the famous 1934 photograph of the Loch Ness monster was merely an elaborate hoax involving a doctored-up toy submarine that was floating in a small bay and not a Scottish loch.

In his presentation to the group, Smith painstakingly detailed his findings as he displayed two photographs of Nessie. The monster's head and neck are at different angles, which he said contradicts the claim that a neck made of plastic wood was used.

He also said the pattern of the ripples about Nessie is consistent with that of a large animal with paddles or flippers treading water.

Does the Loch Ness monster exist?

Smith said he cannot prove it, but he was "reasonably convinced" there are breeding populations of unknown large animals in Loch Ness and other bodies of water throughout the world.

ISC members at the event, hosted by the Department of Anthropology at Douglass College, also heard presentations by Richard Ellis, a New York author, who spoke about marine cryptozoology, and J. Richard Greenwell, ISC secretary, who focused on the coelacanth, a six-foot fish described as a "living fossil" that was discovered in South America in 1938.



# Reputable sightings of Caddy give glimpse of sea creature's lifestyle

Reviewed by Kathleen Murphy

**Cadborosaurus: Survivor from the Deep** by Dr. Paul H. LeBlond and Dr. Edward L. Bousfield; Horsdal & Shubart; 134 pages, \$9.95

John Steinbeck said that "Men really need sea monsters in their personal ocean." We may need them, but whether the sea monster, namely Cadborosaurus, exists in reality is another question.

Paul H. LeBlond and Edward L. Bousfield have both long believed in "Caddy," the creature named for Cadboro Bay that many believe lives in the waters in and around Victoria.

After years of study, have published the available evidence in an interesting little book, *Cadborosaurus: Survivor from the Deep*. They have collected quite a comprehensive collection of all the reputable sightings of Caddy and from these sightings have tried to put together a picture of Caddy's lifestyle. The book can be a source of interest for the non-believer and a source of affirmation for the believer.

Although LeBlond and Bousfield are serious in their belief, their book is not written in an academic tone. It is filled with many sketches and cartoons and describes the lively rivalry the *Victoria Times* and *Daily Colonist* had over the coverage of Caddy.

It was the *Times* that introduced the name Caddy; the *Colonist's* suggestion of Amy did not stick. LeBlond and Bousfield have not shied away from including false sightings and hoaxes in their book. One very energetic hoax was a floating model of Caddy that was



used to advertise L.E. Mallek's and Sons' furs.

The testimony of witnesses has been for the most part remarkably consistent, describing a rather surprising physique with a camel-like head with large eyes and a mane. LeBlond and Bousfield have also come to the conclusion that Caddy is carnivorous and there are several accounts of it gulping at sea birds as they flew above its head. They also include historical evidence with native petroglyphs found around the coast.

This evidence seems quite plausible and enough to cast a shade of doubt in the firmest disbeliever. However, there seemed to be a large number of unfortunate coincidences: people absorbed in sketching the creature rather than photographing it, the jailer of a captured baby Caddy suddenly sympathizing with his little prisoner and releasing it, and an actual specimen of Caddy which mysteriously got lost on its way to the museum.

LeBlond and Bousfield acknowledge that Caddy is still a cryptic — a species whose existence is in doubt because of a lack of proof — and after providing all the available evidence, they leave the final decision up to the reader.

However, it would be difficult to stand as firmly as before in either the negative or perhaps the positive camp. It perhaps comes down to whatever a person needs in their personal ocean.

Kathleen Murphy is a Victoria freelance writer who has photographs of the Loch Ness Monster.

## SCIENCE Q&A

The New York Times and Boston Globe

**Q.** My family saw what looked like a ball of lightning enter the glass front door, go right past us (or possibly even through us) in the living room and leave by the back window, where it hit a tree, causing some damage. What was it and why weren't we hurt?

**A.** It was a poorly understood phenomenon called ball lightning, said Ronald Holley, a meteorologist with the National Severe Storms Laboratory of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Norman, Okla. "Next time, take a picture," he joked, because it is a comparatively rare sight.

About 1 percent of the population will see ball lightning in a lifetime, he estimated.

Though there have been thousands of reports of ball lightning, it is still very hard to study, because scientists do not know how to reproduce it in the laboratory, Holley said.

As for why it is not usually destructive, he said, "it seems to be some sort of derivative of a lightning flash without the intensity of the flash itself, a phenomenon that splits off from the main channel, not the 50,000 degrees and huge current of lightning."

A lot of trees hit by ball lightning survive, he added.

Ball lightning is also commonly reported to travel through enclosed spaces, rather than in the open field, Holley said.

SUNDAY TIMES, London, England - Aug. ?, 1995

# Astronomers trek to edge of theoretical speed limit

By JONATHAN LEAKE in London

IT is boldly going where no reputable scientific body has gone before.

Contradicting Einstein, the normally conservative Royal Astronomical Society is about to publish a report predicting that mankind will be able to travel faster than the speed of light.

The breakthrough means that Star Trek fantasies of interstellar civilisations and voyages powered by warp drive are now no longer the exclusive domain of science fiction writers.

The report was written by an astronomer at University College London, Mr Ian Crawford, who believes not only that man will one day see the stars at extremely close quarters, but that we had better start preparing ourselves for the consequences, including contact with all manner of alien life forms.

His paper, *Some Thoughts on the Implications of Faster-Than-Light Travel*, has been validated by independent referees in the scientific community and will be published next month.

Its publication coincides with the formation by British and American scientists of the Interstellar Propulsion Society, which is dedicated to finding a means of taking astronauts to the stars.

Mr Crawford argues that modern physics may allow two possible ways around Einstein's longstanding

theory, which says that because bodies have infinite mass at the speed of light, no amount of energy can make them go faster.

The first is to pass through "wormholes", rifts in the fabric of space caused by intense gravitational fields such as those found around the collapsed stars, which are known as black holes.

Mr Crawford says that such fields may allow the traveller to enter a wormhole from one point and then to leave it at another, possibly thousands of light years away.

Previously, scientists have assumed that any astronaut who was caught in such a powerful gravitational field would be pulled into something resembling a piece of spaghetti.

However, Mr Crawford said last week that recent scientific research had suggested wormholes could be stabilised and manipulated to create short cuts between any two points in space.

"The proofs are complex and mathematical, but more and more astrophysicists are satisfied that in theory it is possible," he said.

Should wormholes fail, however, Mr Crawford proposes a second possible route to the stars.

He draws on a recent paper by Mr Miguel Alcubierre, of the University of Wales, in the journal *Classical and Quantum Gravity* to suggest the possibility of propulsion systems which distort space by compressing

it in front of a spaceship while expanding it behind. Such a system would effectively bend space, creating a form of "warp drive" reminiscent of the Starship Enterprise of Captain James T. Kirk in Star Trek.

The theories will boost growing interest among scientists in the possibility of travelling faster than light. The Interstellar Propulsion Society, whose members include several NASA engineers, starts its first conference shortly in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Mr Patrick Moore, the astronomer and presenter of *The Sky At Night*, said he believed interstellar travel would one day be achieved.

"Television would have seemed impossible 200 years ago and faster than light travel is no more outrageous than that," he said.

Arthur C. Clarke, the science fiction writer and futurologist, was equally enthusiastic. His first novel, *Against The Fall Of Night*, published in 1932, presumed that man would be able to travel faster than light.

Speaking from his home in Colombo, Sri Lanka, he said: "That was just a dramatic device which all science fiction writers have to use in space travel, but I have always believed it may one day be possible."

Sir Martin Rees, the astronomer royal and professor of astronomy at Cambridge University, was more cautious, however, saying the proofs were purely theoretical.

## Cattle, deer found mutilated

By Angela Cortez  
Denver Post Staff Writer

Deputies, suspecting satanic cult activity may be moving into eastern Douglas County, are keeping a watchful eye in the area of a 75-acre pasture where two steers and a deer were found mutilated this week.

"We haven't had any real evidence of cult activity in that area recently," said Douglas County sheriff's spokesman Attila Denes. "We have a very active intelligence system for tracking cult activity, and that's why we're interested, but we don't think it's a large problem in that area."

The cattle mutilations happened between July 23 and 25 on the property of Allan and Vicki Dietel inside a fenced ranch near the 1400 block of Flintwood Road, Douglas County sheriff's deputies reported. The owner of the cattle is Jo Ann Wagner.

The first steer's right front leg was cut off with a razor-sharp instrument and its genitals were removed. Two days later, a second steer was found, also with the right front leg severed and its nose cut off.

Vicki Dietel said she and her husband encourage the cattle grazing on their land to keep the grass short. She added that a deer also was shot on the property.

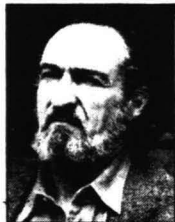
"Whoever did it came on private property ... and one side of hind quarter" was removed, Dietel said of the deer. "It's a fenced area. Somebody had to hike back into where the cattle are, and it was clearly trespassing and whoever is mutilating these animals is very sick."

Dietel said authorities don't know how the cattle died. Ranch hands found the animals.

The owners of the cattle said what happened to the cattle was very unusual, and they have not had any of their animals mutilated before this incident.

Denes said investigators aren't assigned to the case because they lack suspects to track. "I think we're going with the cult school of thought on this," he said, "but the eastern Douglas area is not a hotbed of cult activity."

## W. C. JAMESON'S ARKANSAS



## The Gurdon light

Just north and slightly west of the Clark County town of Gurdon, a portion of the tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad has served as a setting for a mysterious and unexplained luminous apparition. Seen by hundreds of people since 1931, this strange pulsating light is believed to be the ghost of a long-dead railroad employee doomed to walk the tracks forever.

Gurdon, boasting a population of about 2,200, began as a railroad town. Around midnight on a day in December 1931, railroad section foreman Will McClain fired worker Lewis McBride, accusing him of negligence and blaming his careless work for the derailment of a train. After turning away and walking up the track, McClain was followed by McBride, who tearfully begged to be able to keep his job. When McClain refused to talk to him, McBride hoisted the shovel he carried and brought it down on McClain's head, knocking him to the tracks. Bleeding heavily from a head wound, McClain struggled to his feet and, alternately running and staggering, fled from McBride along the railroad bed. Moments later, McBride caught up with McClain, knocked him down, and, finding a spike hammer lying nearby, killed him with it.

McClain was found the following morning after several railroad workers followed his blood trail. McBride eventually confessed to the killing and was executed at Cummins Prison in February 1932.

Not long after McBride was executed, Gurdon residents began reporting a mysterious light which appeared at irregular intervals about three feet above the track at a point where McClain was killed. According to local lore, it was the ghost of the dead section foreman.

The Gurdon Light has mystified people for decades. Though a number of explanations have been advanced (swamp gas, automobile headlights, quartz deposits), all have been dismissed after extensive scientific investigations.

The Gurdon Light sometimes fades in and out, sometimes it changes and sometimes it appears to be revolving. Rarely visible for more than 10 seconds at a time, it will often disappear when one walks toward it only to reappear 10 feet behind!

In recent years, the Gurdon light has been captured on film a number of times. After careful analysis of the glowing images, experts remain confused as to what is causing them. While the investigators are perplexed, the locals are convinced it is a ghost.

During the 1970s, a railroad worker, standing on the rear deck of a caboose, watched the Gurdon Light as it followed the slow moving train for about 100 yards. At one point, the light veered away from the tracks and entered a graveyard only to disappear over one particular headstone.

After reporting the incident, the worker, accompanied by his supervisor and several curious townspeople, walked to the graveyard. On approaching the cemetery, the railroad worker pointed to the marker where he had last seen the light. One of the Gurdon citizens walked over to it and read the name on the face of the headstone.

It was Will McClain!

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Carl Jameson is an associate professor of geography at the University of Central Arkansas and an author. His column appears on Mondays and Thursdays in the Log Cabin Democrat.)

TIMES, Huntsville, AL - Aug. 12, 1995 CR: J. Ballard

## Genesis linked to creation myths

The issue of linkage between the Mesopotamian epics of creation and the book of Genesis continues to be an issue worth discussing.

Thousands of clay tablets were uncovered in modern day Iraq during the 19th century. Found among the tablets were creation stories. The publication of "The Chaldean Genesis" by George Smith (1876) and "The Seven Tablets of Creation" (1902) by L.W. King detailed creation stories that were similar to the book of Genesis.

The creation epics echo earlier Sumerian texts. In his book "The 12th Planet," Zecharia Sitchin describes the creation epics as masterful forgeries of Sumerian texts.

Norman Cohn writing in his book, "Cosmos, Chaos and the world to come," describes the creation epics as a combination of nationalistic writings and cosmology developed from earlier Sumerian texts. The history of Sumerian text reinterpretation provides an argument for a link between the Enuma Elish and Genesis.

The Enuma Elish played a major role in Babylonian religious life. The epic was re-enacted during the New Years festival of Akitu.

Akitu was a 12-day celebration that began on the first day of

## The Readers' Rite



Gerald Franklin

spring. Cohn states that Akitu was celebrated throughout Mesopotamia. This indicates the Enuma Elish was known to most people.

The information presented thus far shows that the Enuma Elish was well known in the region and was revered, as is evident by the role the epic played in Akitu. Many links between the Enuma Elish and the book of Genesis have been proposed. Alexander Heidel's books "The Babylonian Genesis" and "The Gilgamesh Epic and Old Testament Parallels" describe possible links between the Enuma Elish and Genesis. Linkage concepts are also discussed in the note's sections of the Rev. Derek Kidner's book "GENESIS An In-

roduction & Commentary."

One linkage scenario comes from Mesopotamian cosmology. Sitchin has described a link between the Babylonian Epic of Creation and Genesis in "The 12th Planet." According to Sitchin, the Enuma Elish describes the formation of the solar system. This scenario includes the formation of the planets from a primordial cloud of gas and dust. Sitchin's scenario describes the Earth's formation in the aftermath of the "celestial battle."

I would like to end this discussion by identifying several implications of Sitchin's theory. The examples selected relate to the book of Genesis and data collected by NASA spacecraft.

The Enuma Elish contains language in Tablet 1 that can only be interpreted to mean long periods of time. This reference could explain the use of time within the first story of creation (Genesis 1).

The term "firmament" is used on the second day or period of creation in the book of Genesis. Kidner's notes relate "firmament" to the beating or hammering of metal. Sitchin uses the term "hammered bracelet" to describe the asteroids that he asserts are the fragmentary remains of Tiamat. This theory seems to be consistent

with data obtained by NASA space probes. The analyses of meteor impact craters on Mercury and Mars indicate that several catastrophic events took place in the area between Mars and Jupiter early in solar system history.

Sitchin's assertion that Earth was formed in the aftermath of the "celestial battle" could lead to a revised Earth-moon origin hypothesis. This hypothesis would consist of a combination of the double-planet hypothesis and the giant-impact theory.

"The Scientific Legacy of Apollo" written by G. Jeffrey Taylor in the July 1994 issue of *Scientific American* provides a brief review of the Earth-moon formation theories. Under this hypothesis, Tiamat would have had a density much closer to that of the moon, when they formed. As a result of the giant impact, the loss of less-dense crust material would have increased the Earth's density to the current figure.

Gerald Franklin, a software engineer who lives in Huntsville, has been interested in space travel and astronomy for a number of years and developed an interest in archaeoastronomy five years ago.

DAILY NEWS, Anchorage, AK - Aug. 10, 1995

## 3 men claim Bigfoot sighting

The Associated Press

WALLA WALLA, Wash. — A man who has frequently claimed to have encounters with a legendary creature dubbed Bigfoot says this time he's got witnesses.

Paul Freeman, a former U.S. Forest Service employee, said he and two other men saw a tall, hairy creature on Saturday in the Blue Mountains, about 25 miles east of Walla Walla in the Mill Creek watershed.

Freeman, who claims to have spotted a similar creature four other times, brought back part of a tree he says Bigfoot twisted,

some hair samples and two plaster footprint molds.

Freeman went on the expedition with Walla Walla resident Wes Sumerlin and former state game department employee Bill Laughery.

The trio said they first saw signs of the creature's presence: a strong odor, small, twisted trees with clumps of long, black hair, and large footprints, 15 inches long and 7 inches wide.

Then on Saturday, through the dense timber, they saw Bigfoot, nearly 8 feet tall and a hairy tan-brown, Laughery said.

ARKANSAS TIMES, Little Rock, AR - Aug. 4, 1995



## BIGFOOT ON THE PROWL

Word around Monticello is that a Bigfoot-type creature was seen near a medical clinic there recently prowling through the debris of a dumpster that he or she had overturned. Panic and perhaps gunshots allegedly ensued. Authorities aren't commenting, but a source in the Drew County Courthouse tells The Insider they're thinking it might've been a bear. The local paper, the Advance Monticellonian, asked anyone who had seen the creature—or who was the creature—to get in touch, but Editor Beverly Burks Rambo said that so far no one had called.