

UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

ROUTE 1 - BOX 220 • PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U. S. A. EDITOR/PUBLISHER: LUCIUS FARISH

December 1995
Number 317

JOURNAL, Alexandria, VA - Nov. 8, 1995 CR: L. Bryant

Surgeon, a UFO buff, operated and found . . .

By STEVE CHAWKINS
Scripps Howard News Service

VENTURA, Calif. — He didn't want his name used. He's a California surgeon and he's scared of repercussions.

"I'd probably be ostracized, I'd be criticized, maybe I'd even lose my license," he said. "People with credibility who put themselves forward in this field could wind up dead, in jail or out of business."

He performed the operations anyway, before witnesses and a video camera. He cut into the big toe of a woman and into the back of a man's hand. Both believed they'd been abducted by aliens. From both, he extracted small foreign objects with some unusual properties.

"No one has the answers," he said. "But we all know something's going on."

The doctor has been active in UFO groups for five years. Through them, he met a Houston UFO researcher who sent the purported abductees here for surgery last August.

The patients didn't know each other. Nei-

"We haven't heard of anything that, without the shadow of a doubt, couldn't have been made here on Earth. Let's see the evidence."

Barry Karr
Center for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal.

ther had been aware of the objects they carried. Neither bore any nearby scars or punctures. In both cases, the objects came to light in x-rays for minor, unrelated injuries.

The doctor was prepared for ingrown follicles or shards of plastic.

"I was as doubting as anyone else," he said.

But in decades of practice, he'd never seen anything quite like what he fished out.

The objects were encased in a thick, dark membrane. But these weren't cysts, he said. They were so tough, his scalpel couldn't cut them.

The object in the man was the size of a cantaloupe seed; one of the woman's two was T-shaped. Both patients jerked back when the doctor touched the objects — an unusual reaction for people calmed by hypnosis and placed on local anesthetics.

Back in Texas, the membranes were dried out and cut open, revealing tiny, highly magnetic pieces of a shiny black metal. Under ultraviolet light, they glowed a brilliant green — same as the "fingerprints" on the thighs and backs of some who claim to have been abducted, the doctor said.

Samples of the normal tissue surrounding

the objects were sent to pathologists. The odd verdict, according to the doctor: No indication of a foreign body, no concentration of white cells, no evidence of inflammation.

The hard membrane — the likes of which the doctor said he'd never seen — was composed of substances naturally occurring in the body.

Strange items have been pulled from "abductees" before but many somehow have disappeared before independent scientists could examine them. The skeptics remain skeptical.

"We haven't heard of anything that, without the shadow of a doubt, couldn't have been made here on Earth," said Barry Karr, director of the Center for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal. "Let's see the evidence."

Perhaps they will.

The objects are in Houston for electrical, chemical and microscopic analysis. The patients who unwittingly carried them say they feel liberated. The doctor figures he'll be called on to perform more operations before long.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO - Oct. 19, 1995

Base chosen for Bosnian talks linked to UFO controversies

By Charles Aldinger
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Sprawling Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, where critical Bosnian peace talks will begin Oct. 31, is more noted for its alleged dealings with space-tripping aliens than for international diplomacy.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced Wednesday that the base had been picked for talks involving the presidents of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia.

Christopher and other officials said Wright-Patterson was picked for three reasons: well-guarded gates to keep reporters away, good housing facilities for heads of state and being located only an hour's flying time from Washington.

The base has been associated in myth and fact with Project Blue Book, an Air Force investigation

into Unidentified Flying Objects.

Despite denials and an official report issued by the government in 1994, reports circulated by UFO fans continue to hold that the Air Force has bodies of extraterrestrial visitors stored in tunnels or frozen in lockers at the base.

The reports circulate on the Internet and have been fodder for books, Hollywood films and TV.

Much of the speculation involves a 1947 incident at Roswell, N.M., in which a supposed "flying saucer" crash was investigated. The Air Force issued a 25-page report in 1994 saying an analysis of photos showed it was nothing more than wreckage from a balloon used to check the atmosphere for possible Soviet nuclear tests.

But rumors have persisted that bodies of aliens were retrieved at the site and brought back to Wright-Patterson.

Space aliens didn't crash as far as Clinton knows

The Associated Press

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — President Clinton weighed in Thursday on a 1947 incident UFO buffs believe was proof of life in space. It wasn't a spaceship, he said, "as far as I know."

Looking for a funny line in a Christmas service speech, Clinton said he received a letter from a 13-year-old Belfast boy.

"Ryan, if you're out there in the crowd tonight, here's your answer," Clinton said. "No. As far as I know, an alien space craft did not crash in Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947."

The crowd of more than

50,000 roared with laughter.

For nearly half a century, the mysterious crash has fueled speculation about aliens in the New Mexico desert, Cold War secrecy and a government cover-up.

The Air Force says the wreckage was probably a balloon launched as part of Project Mogul, a highly classified effort to detect Soviet nuclear weapons by using balloons that carried radar reflectors and acoustic sensors.

"If the U.S. Air Force did recover any alien bodies, they didn't tell me about it either," Clinton said with a laugh. "And I want to know."

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Nov. 1, 1995

UFO



BY CAROLE BAKER

Huge light configuration sighted

By Carole Baker

Significant sightings have occurred this week on two consecutive nights at Shoreline Park in Gulf Breeze.

On the night of Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 7:55 p.m., a group of eight witnesses saw a very large configuration of lights appear in the sky over Pensacola Beach. The four witnesses that I was able to interview all concurred about what was seen. "It was a large curved row of lights," Judy told me. "I had seen an oblong shaped glow, blue and red, in the sky just before it came on."

Judy's sister Pat confirmed the account. "I was trying to take a photograph," Pat said. Even viewing it through the lens of her camera, Pat could tell it was a large configuration in the sky. "It looked as though it was turning, or, that the lights were coming on in sequence along from the east end of it to the west. They changed from amber to red and it was very clear and really big," Judy told me. "It seems to tilt back and forth in the sky."

The configuration was seen in the sky over Pensacola Beach near the Little Sabine Yacht Club. "It was at an elevation of approximately 10 degrees," another witness and regular skywatcher, Tom, told me. "The whole thing was about an inch and a half long at arm's length." The lights appeared to progress along from east to west and there was a definite curvature visible. "The row configuration progress from east to west. At first I saw a row of individual red lights, very closely spaced," Tom stated. "There seemed to be some white light in there somewhere too, then the lights changed to an amber color, in progression from the east side of the configuration to the west. It lasted for roughly 20 seconds." Ten minutes later at approximately 8:05 p.m. a similar configuration appeared in the sky close to where the first had been seen. "This time it was for a shorter duration and this time it was primarily red in color," Tom said. "I would guess there was a minimum of 12 lights, closely spaced. It was further to the west

about 6 or 7 seconds." A similar account was related to me by Gene McDonald from Arcadia, California who also witnessed the sighting.

The following evening, Thursday, Oct. 26, a group of 9 skywatchers saw a very similar configuration appear in the sky to the west of Shoreline Park, over Deer Point. At 8:45 p.m. a curved row of amber lights appeared. The lights progressed across the sky in a northeasterly direction. "It was either rotating, or it was extremely large and the lights were coming on along one edge of it," Marie, a regular skywatcher told me. All 9 witnesses, myself included, saw the entire sighting which lasted about 15 seconds. Through my binoculars I could see clearly the individual lights, but there seemed to be something between them, connecting the whole thing together. At arm's length at its longest point, the configuration was 2 inches long. It seemed that there were about 15 lights lit at any one time. "The lights appeared to form a semi-circle," Ken told me. "It appeared like some of the last lights in the configuration turned red before going out," Ken stated. The semi-circular shape was noted by all of the witnesses. "There was definitely some red light in there toward the end," Vicki Lyons, co-director of Project Awareness, who witnessed the sighting, stated. All 9 witnesses were in agreement that it was a large and significant sighting, particularly in view of the events of the previous evening. It should be noted that no aircraft were visible in the sector of the sky where the sighting occurred, either before, during or after it and binoculars were used to scan the sky to confirm this fact. After the sighting was over, two separate occurrences of bright, short-lived, amber, ball-shaped flashes were witnessed in the same sector of the sky where the sighting had occurred.

If anyone else witnessed either of these events, please let us know by calling the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline.

To report a sighting, call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261. Keep Looking

WEIRDNESS SQUARED

Triangular mystery on SR hill

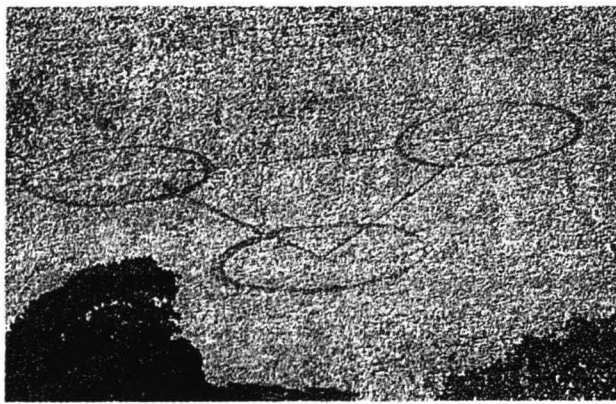
By CHRIS SMITH
Staff Writer

Maybe there's a logical explanation for how a great, geometric pattern came to be branded onto a grassy hillside on Dr. Ted Stashak's ranch in east Santa Rosa.

If so, Stashak would like to hear it.

"It has us bewildered," said the retired obstetrician and gynecologist.

Though a relative who lives on the Los Alamos Road horse ranch recalls being awakened by a flash of light about the time the sign appeared, the conservative-minded Stashak resists thinking that something extraterrestrial or otherwise non-human might be involved.



MARK ARONOFF/PRESS DEMOCRAT

Odd symbols have been branded onto a hillside on Ted Stashak's ranch in east Santa Rosa.

He prefers to believe someone sneaked onto his 200-acre ranch in the dead of night and used a quick-acting substance of some sort to burn the outline of a shape into the grass on a steep slope overlooking Rincon Valley.

But he's confounded about why anyone would go to the trouble. Though he resents the fact someone would trespass, he's impressed with the quality of the work. "Whoever did it, did a

magnificent job geometrically," said Stashak. He said it boggles him to think somebody working in darkness on a steep, uneven slope could etch mathematically precise shapes in the grass.

The pictogram is about 150 feet high. At its center is an upside-down, equilateral triangle. Each point of the triangle is the center of a circle about 50 feet in diameter.

Stashak said members of his family found about a handful of crystals or crystal-like glass at the center of each circle. He said he can't imagine who would create such a thing, or why.

"We have no children on the ranch who could have done this, even if they were devilish," he said.

Stashak's family first noticed the symbol earlier this year, when the grass was still tall and green. Stashak said that following the discovery of the shape, a relative who lives in a house near the hillside recalled being awakened late at night by a brilliant flash of light.

The pattern wasn't clearly visible from Sonoma Highway, west of Los Alamos Road, until more recently, when the grass turned brown.

Stashak said it seems to him there was nothing on the slope one evening, and the next morning there was the shape, outlined by a three-foot swath of dead grass. He can't figure out what sort of substance could have been used to kill the wild grass.

"It couldn't be a chemical because a chemical couldn't work overnight," he said.

A teen-age grandson who tells of being the first to notice the formation said he can't be sure it appeared overnight and did not emerge over the course of days.

At Prickett's Nursery, just up Sonoma Highway from the enigma on the Stashak ranch, saleswoman Pamela Gnat said it's possible someone could have walked the outline and sprayed the grass with a pressure sprayer loaded with the herbicide Round-Up.

"That takes about a week to kill the roots," she said.

At Crystal Channels, a New Age gift shop in Santa Rosa, manager Sis Roux was doubtful the phenomenon was the work of a human being lugging a bucket of weed-killer — along with many others that have appeared in fields and on hillsides around the world — are an attempt by inhabitants of another planet to communicate with Earth.

"We're not the only intelligence in the universe," Roux said.

Roux is far from alone in imagining the large-scale, generally circular shapes that sometimes appear in fields are some sort of messages or warnings from extraterrestrials or some other, greater intelligence. Since such symbols — usually a circle or multiple circles, often arranged in sophisticated geometric patterns — began turning up in great numbers in southern England in the early 1980s, they've been called crop circles.

Sharon Warren, a dream interpreter from Arizona, wrote her master's thesis on crop circles. Warren wrote in 1993 that the phenomenon "appears to be a mysterious alphabet of sacred geometry and ancient shapes that have a purpose."

Though she can't say what that purpose is, Warren proposes the symbols "may potentially awaken us to a new language of frequency formed by an unknown intelligence circling our whole planet."

Other, less mystically inclined students of crop circles have reached different conclusions.

One theory holds that at least some of the great circles are etched into corn or grain fields by strange, tornado-like winds that flatten the grain. Others intrigued by the phenomenon have proposed that a plant mutation causes stalks of grain to lie flat spontaneously, or that they are pushed over by a form of ball lightning generated by atmospheric microwaves.

A great many others are satisfied that the circles are man-made and the only significant question surrounding them is why anyone would bother spending some portion of a night furtively imprinting

a geometrically precise symbol onto a field.

"The phenomenon is indeed mysterious," wrote skeptics Joe Nickell and John Fischer of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, "but the mystery may be only the ever-present one of human behavior."

Circular cut-outs

The thing on Stashak's ranch is not a classic crop circle.

"They originally appeared as circular, swirled-flat cut-outs in various crops of growing grain, including wheat, rye and barley," says the Encyclopedia of Strange and Unexplained Physical Phenomena.

It was the summer of 1980 when grain farmers in south England began scratching their heads at the discovery of great circles and ellipses — often 60 feet across or larger — in their fields. All of the grain within the generally circular shapes had been bent flat in a clockwise direction.

The crop circles became magnets for journalists, tourists and investigators into the bizarre. As more and more circles appeared around the globe — in 1990, about 1,000 showed up in England alone — and then elsewhere around the globe, they spawned a new science, cereology, named after Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture.

Believers in an extraterrestrial connection were crestfallen when, in 1991, a pair of retirement-aged British artists gleefully claimed to have conned the world.

Doug Bower, 67, and David Chorley, 62, demonstrated the crude tools they said they used to press about 250 of the grainfield circles that some researchers proclaimed to be the work of crews of alien spaceships or of meteorological anomalies.

Bower and Chorley said they slipped onto fields at night and used a ball of string to make the circles round. They said they used a crude wire sight attached to a baseball cap to keep the lines straight, and used two long wooden planks to flatten the grain.

The jolly conspirators said they sat back and laughed as so-called experts declared their circles to be the handiwork of "superior intelligence." Subsequent hoaxers have confessed that they pressed grain into huge, circular shapes just to fool people and see if their creations would make it onto TV or into the newspapers.

Couldn't do them all

Since Bower and Chorley claimed to be the jokers behind Britain's run of crop-circle hysteria, some who believe a more potent source is behind the circles have insisted the pair lied.

Advocates of an extraterrestrial or atmospheric answer to the mystery insist Bower and Chorley were incapable of creating complex, precise circles and at best could have made only a fraction of the circles that popped up in England through the 1980s and into the 1990s.

To date, more than 2,000 classic crop circles have been found, most of them in England. But discoveries also have been reported in the United States and nearly 30 other countries.

The debate over their origin endures: Are they the work of man, of aliens from outer space, of strange atmospheric phenomenon, or of some other powerful, as yet unrevealed force?

Within the voluminous literature on the mystery is agreement by researchers of all stripes that some portion of the circles certainly are man-made. Some believe that the classic swirled circles were cut by forces unknown but that lesser-quality shapes — including those that contain lines as well as circles, and those in which the clearing is made by any means other than the folding over of stalks — are the work of hoaxers, artists and people with too much free time on their hands.

Members of Stashak's family said they'd love to know who trespassed to burn the symbol onto their property, and why in the world they did it. More so, they're anxious for the winter and spring to grow a new crop of grass and erase the darned thing from their hill.

SPIRIT, Jeannette, PA - Oct. 25, 1995

Look to the sky

City man snaps
photo of saucers

Melvin James Morgan, 35, of Jeannette, was tooling down Division Street last month in his '79 Olds 98 Regency when a shining glint in the sky caught his eye. For some time Morgan had been traveling with a camera, hoping to capture on film those responsible for repeated attacks on his car with birdshot fired from a small .22 caliber weapon.

The time was approximately 4:30 p.m., and to the untrained eye perhaps a reflection in the heavens would not signify much. But for Morgan, who had an encounter in 1984, the observation was important enough for him to snap the shutter.

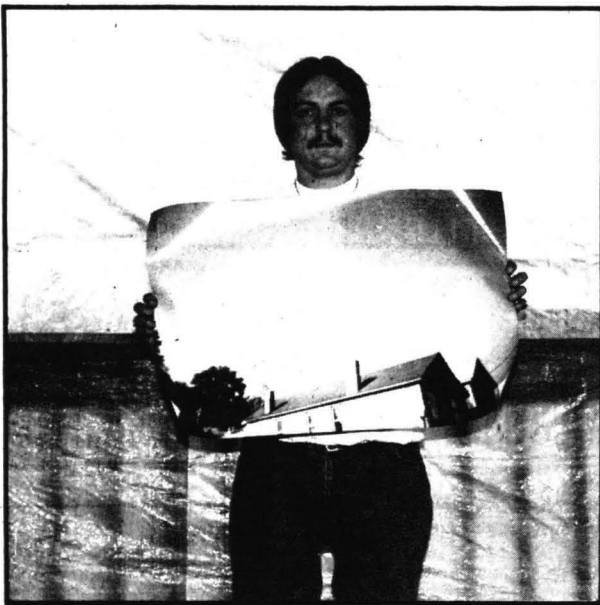
"I couldn't tell much from the photograph, so I had it blown up," Morgan explains. "That's when I hit the jackpot. There were 40 or more objects, and you can see the wavy trails from friction heat as their zooming down. They were playing games in the sky."

Morgan, who insists that the government has extraterrestrial spacecrafts in some hangers out in the desert, described his awakening to beings from beyond this planet in the following manner.

"I was driving back from New Stanton in 1984 at about 3 a.m. in the morning when I became aware of something following me. An object caught my attention like it was following me and so I drove to a remote area. It came real close and appeared to be like a ball of light."

"It sat down on the ground behind some pine trees and gave off a real dim light," Morgan continues. "I observed it for between 15 and 20 minutes. It was trying to draw me toward it through some mental telepathy force, but I had just had a baby and didn't want to leave my wife or baby, but I thought to myself, not this time but maybe some other time."

On Aug. 23 of this year Morgan says he also observed a huge object hovering over the US Steel Building in downtown Pittsburgh on an overcast, gray day, which suddenly ascended and disappeared. He theorizes that such alien vessels may have been responsible for the recent fatal



Melvin James Morgan of Jeannette displays the poster sized blow-up of the photograph he took in September which he claims shows 40 or more space ships playing tag over the city.

Spirit photo

plane crash in Hopewell, and that radiation emitted by the craft are the cause of cancer.

Cindy George of Export has another explanation. She believes that people are to aliens as laboratory rats are to humans, and that beings from beyond our planet need human tissue for some strange purpose.

George's encounter occurred in October of last year, when she and her boyfriend were driving along Route 66 and two spacecrafts appeared in the sky. As she was growing up in Export she had seen strange lights in the sky, but her parents always had an explanation.

"The two craft were chasing one another across the sky," she reveals. "The first one would stop and let the second one catch up in a sort of zigzag pattern. They were real close, and then one of them shot out from in front of a shale pile and crossed the road right in front of me. Less than 50 feet further the second one crossed the hood of my car so

closely that I got out to see if it had hit it. I thought for sure they had gotten me."

George said that her encounter took place at about 3:15 a.m. on Oct. 14, 1994 and that she was cold stone sober at the time. She added that while driving, it is her habit to count the animals she sees along the side of the road, but that while it is common for her to see deer, skunks, raccoons and the like, on that night there were no animals out and about. She added that when she got home her pet pot bellied pig was in an extremely agitated state.

"I was so scared I had hives all over my body. To my dying day I'll swear this was real. They were tubular, shaped with a very small bubble on top with different colored lights that shone in your eyes like a flash bulb, but without blinding you."

"This is the time of year when they start coming around," George reports. "I'm still watching the sky."

UFO



BY CAROLE BAKER

I had arrived early at Shoreline Park on Wednesday, November 15 hoping to get some skywatching in before it became too cold to stay later in the evening. I was joined by two other hardy souls who are also regular skywatchers.

We had just got through layering on our clothing and bundling up in sleeping bags against the brisk southeast wind blowing at 5-10 mph, and setting out binoculars, tape recorders, cameras, etc. It was 49 degrees Fahrenheit and the time was 6:46 p.m. "What's that?" someone shouted. At about 15 degrees elevation in the sky above the Little Sabine Yacht Club on Santa Rosa Island a deep amber/red light was visible. It flared up extremely bright for a few seconds and then faded out. "That's Bubba!" someone else yelled. Our interest piqued, we began to actively scan the sky. A few seconds later in the same

position as the first light, two lights of the same color and slightly smaller size appeared. The distance between them at arm's length was approximately one-half inch, and the lights themselves, at arm's length were about one-eighth inch in diameter. A few seconds after these two lights faded out, a single red light appeared in the same position. It was at the left end of a visible curve of white flowing light, as if one were viewing a dimly lit edge of an object and the red light was located at one point on that edge. This was visible for about ten seconds and was replaced by two distinctly amber lights, close together, in a horizontal formation. These faded out, and finally at 6:47 p.m. another single red/amber light appeared in the same position, staying lit for approximately five seconds, and then fading down until it was no

longer visible. There was no sound associated with these sightings, and it should be noted that no aircraft, either commercial or military had been seen in the sky prior or during this event. There was some commercial traffic shortly after it, coming in east of the Bob Sykes Bridge on a usual flight pattern, turning north towards Pensacola Airport. No aircraft activity was noted over Santa Rosa Island west of the bridge for the whole evening until the skywatchers departed at approximately 9 p.m.

To report a sighting, please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261. For information on the Project Awareness 1006 Gulf Breeze UFO Conference to be held March 15-17 at the Clarion Resort on Pensacola Beach, please call Project Awareness at 432-8888. Keep Looking Up!

This Week In UFO History

Compiled by Carole Baker

The following are reports of sightings from around the country and around the world that took place during the week of November 19-25

UZES, GARD, FRANCE - 19 NOVEMBER 1974, 6 P.M.

While looking out a window of his house, a witness reported seeing a UFO in the early evening of November 19. The UFO was described as being a round, luminous sphere with smaller patches of darker colors revolving around its surface. It appeared to be hovering just above his house. Although the object was bright, it did not illuminate the area around it. A few minutes later, the object rose about 15 feet above the ground. A brightly lit cylinder

about three feet long came out from underneath the craft and the UFO shot straight up and out of sight in seconds. (Charles Gouliarian, "Report on a Landing at Uzès," Flying Saucer Review 24, #4 (1979) pgs. 3-7.)

VISTA, CALIFORNIA - 22 NOVEMBER 1994

On the evening of 22 November, a witness reported seeing a triangular shaped configuration of red and bright yellow lights coming from the west heading due south at about 45 degrees above the horizon. The object made no sound and after hovering for about one minute it changed into a diamond shape. A bright yellow gold light dropped from the object shortly after. This light appeared to bounce for a short distance before it and the UFO disap-

peared. The sighting lasted approximately two minutes. (Copyright Mutual UFO Network, Sequin TX-MUFON Journal April 1995.)

HURLBURT FIELD, OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA - 25 NOVEMBER 1957, 10 P.M.

Crewman of a B-66 jet bomber reported seeing three UFOs flying over the Gulf of Mexico, south of Hurlburt Field on November 25. Captain Sheppard of Eglin AFB reported the crew saw the objects at about 10 p.m. upon returning from a training mission to Atlanta. Sheppard was cautious, saying they might have been stars. The objects, however, were reported on radar at nearby Eglin AFB. (Pensacola News Journal 26 November 1957.)



JANNA BLETZ

Today is "Halloween Eve" — an amusing thought. Why? Because the word "Halloween" stems from All Hallow's Eve (or something similar), the night before Nov. 1, which is known as All Saints Day.

As I promised a few weeks ago, I'll share with you a spooky tale or two to put you in the mood for this frightening holiday.

Several days ago, I came across a young man who said he had spent the afternoon archery hunting. He had gone to his mother's house for dinner, then departed for the mountainside in the hopes of bagging a deer.

He found a suitable spot, and decided to perch there to see if he could spot any action. Things were quiet for some time, and he was thinking about things other than hunting.

All of a sudden, a small bright light came at him out of nowhere. It whizzed by his head, and he could feel the hair and his arms and neck stand. When he turned to see what exactly it was, there was nothing there.

He is still wondering — was it his imagination? Or was it something else, perhaps an angelic being or a UFO?

There is also the tale of a couple heading home along Route 220. It was a cloudy night, with no moon, no stars. As the exited the road at Pine Creek, they looked out across the fields and noticed a bright light. They waited at the stop sign and continued to watch the light hover. Suddenly, it shot across the sky at an amazing speed and disappeared from sight.

Perhaps another UFO sighting?

And another story, this one about the legendary Bigfoot. If you thought sightings of this large, hairy creature were confined to sparsely populated western states, you are mistaken. The creature has been sighted right here in Pennsylvania.

Last summer, two young men were hiding in the woods in Lebanon County. As they walked along a stream, they heard a groaning sound above them. They looked, and saw a hairy creature on a cliff above them, pushing a large rock.

This past summer, there was another sighting, this time near Ebensburg in Cambria County. Two men were driving on Route 422 in the middle of the night when their headlights picked up a figure on the road. At first, they believed it was a deer. As they got closer, however, it became clear that it wasn't a deer.

They described an upright creature completely covered with hair. It walked into the woods and disappeared. The two men turned their vehicle to shine the headlights into the woods, but were unable to see it again.

Apparitions on roadways in the middle of the night seem somewhat common.

Back in 1923, Fred and Ben Dingman were traveling up the Kettle Creek Road. As they approached Indian Camp Run, they saw a young girl running down the hill through the woods. She wore no shoes, and her clothing was torn and tattered.

When she reached the road, she ran in front of the car in its headlights. Suddenly, the girl vanished. The Dingman brothers grabbed a flashlight, searched the area, but found no trace of the girl.

So next time you hear a bump in the night, or are out for a walk in the woods and catch a glimpse of something in the distance, don't be so quick to blame your imagination.

Until next time, take care and we'll talk again soon.

(Janna Bletz is a staff writer at The Express.)

UFO 'experiencers' most want understanding

► Meetings focus on phenomenon

By JAMAINE A. DICKENS
Staff Reporter

Just as some flying objects remain unidentified, so do many of their followers.

She said she felt the terror when she "awoke" and felt the being crawl across her, open her squeaky bedroom door, walk through the library and halfway down the stairs — and then stop.

She hasn't been able to explain the experience as anything but a close encounter because it has happened more than once. Over the years, she recalled experiences of not being able to remember certain occurrences in her life and waking up afraid in the middle of the night.

"The frustrating part about living with it is constantly not knowing what is about to happen next," she said. "They are not 'bad' experiences, but you just can't remember everything about them — but you remember enough to know that something happened."

She said about 10 years ago, few claimed even to closest friends to have had such experiences, including herself.

Barbara, one of the hundreds who converged on Mobile for the annual UFO Conference this weekend, at one time told no one about how she was abducted by aliens.

Over the years, the Mobile woman has gradually begun to share her story, but she still asks that her last name not be published for fear of losing credibility in

society.

The soft-spoken 46-year-old spoke up Saturday, however, with others who have experienced close encounters in an "experiencers' meeting."

She said it happened about 12 years ago. Although she thought it was a dream at the time, she remembered being pulled out of bed one night and toward

She said holding the stories inside, "you are forced to find a way to live with just yourself; it's very lonely because you can't open up to anyone."

Barbara said she attended the conference to find people with high intellect who can help her to understand what she is going through.

"It is comforting to know that there are others who have come to the same realizations," she said.

She said she has never seen anything other than a silhouette of a male extraterrestrial. The most common experiences related Saturday were with hooded and cloaked reptilians resembling the grim reaper.

Whitley Strieber, author of the bestseller, *Communion*, and other books detailing the closest of extraterrestrial encounters, asked those who have not had such an experience to "be kind to us."

He said he does not try to explain his contentions to doubters; he urges them to "keep the whole thing in question until you have had the experience."

"But it is important to listen to the skeptics because without questions we will never understand," Strieber said.

As Strieber signed autographs after his lecture, he spoke about such experiences to a crowd that gathered. After that, he was approached by a Memphis woman who asked him: "Did you notice them behind you while you were talking?"

The woman, who would identify herself to a reporter only as Toni, said "they" were spiritual beings that "just come from another planet; we are all spiritual beings that God created."

When it comes to creations, others at the conference heard explanations about what creates

the window. Despite how she tried to fight the tugging force, she couldn't move.

"Someone was doing something to me," she said. "They told me that 'It is OK,' and that it had something to do with reproduction."

"crop circles," those mysterious circular areas in otherwise untouched, open fields in which vegetation has been bent — but not damaged — in a spiral pattern.

Colin Andrews, England's foremost expert on the topic, discussed for the first time his involvement in confidential discussions with the British and U.S. governments about the crop circle phenomenon.

Andrews said he produced enough evidence to the British government that he persuaded them to conclude that they were faced with something that science could not explain.

He is said to have sanctioned the Minister of Defense to say that the circles are real.

He said crop circles do not necessarily prove that a UFO landed, but that "there is the manipulation of energy constructing patterns that science does not understand."

THE MAKING OF A LEGEND

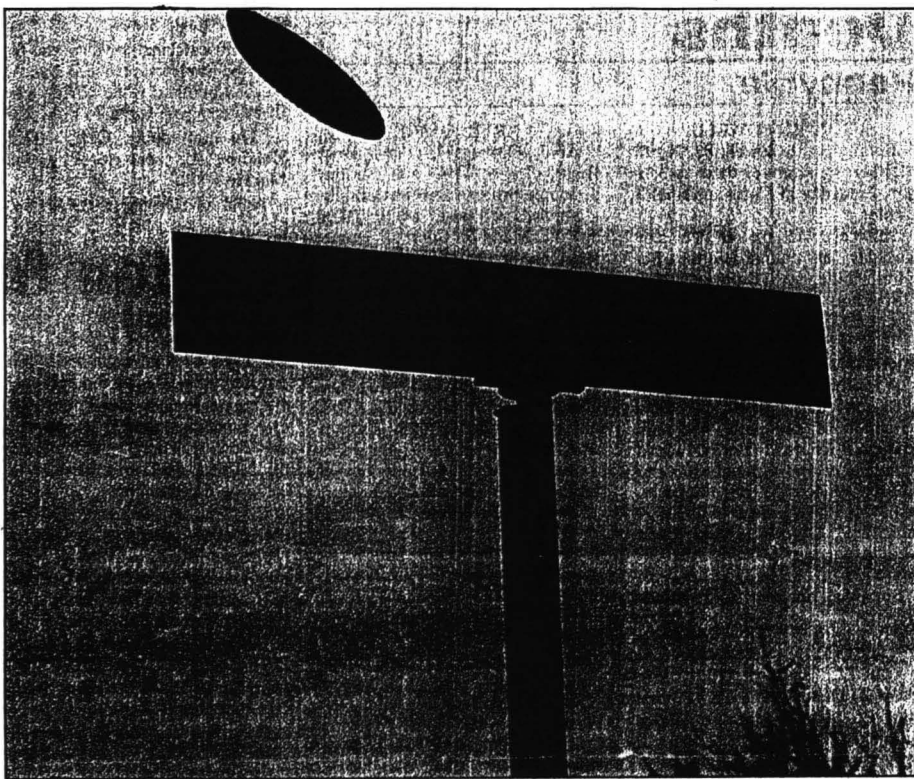


Photo illustration by D. Patrick Harding

A farm family in the Kelly community claimed to have had a shootout with space creatures who landed their

flying saucer on their property more than 40 years ago. The incident still generates publicity to this day.

World won't let community forget Kelly space creatures

By JENNIFER P. BROWN
NEW ERA Staff Writer

On a hot summer night 40 years ago, Raymond McCord was sleeping soundly in his Kelly home while a neighboring farm family said they were shooting it out with space creatures.

"I didn't hear anything. And I didn't know anything about it until about 8 o'clock the next morning," said McCord, 70.

Now the world won't let McCord and the rest of Kelly forget the story.

It was Aug. 21, 1955. Sharecropper Cecil "Lucky" Sutton raced his family to Hopkinsville around 11 p.m. to tell Police Chief Russell Greenwell they had just escaped an invasion by a dozen creatures who landed in a spaceship near their home.

Greenwell, now deceased, would recall in a magazine article some years later that Sutton pleaded with him, "For God's sake, chief, get us

FERGUSON
some help. We've

been fighting 'em for four hours."

As the family told it, a visitor to the Sutton house, Billy Ray Taylor of Pennsylvania, had been in the back yard earlier that evening getting water from the well. He noticed a colorful light streak across the sky and descend into the trees along a ravine about a quarter of a mile away.

A short while later, Sutton's mother, Glennie Lankford, saw a creature with long arms and talon hands raised in the air approaching the back of the house.

Sutton, 25, and Taylor, 21, armed themselves. A shot was fired. The alien flipped backwards, then seemed to raise up and float into the cover of underbrush, witnesses said.

The siege continued through the night, they said, as the little creatures approached the house from the surrounding darkness and retreated with each gun blast. Taylor said he was tapped on the head by one of the aliens perched atop the porch roof.

According to the family's descriptions, the aliens were 3 to 4 feet tall with spindly arms and legs. They had big flapping ears much like an elephant and yellow lumi-

nous eyes positioned on the sides of a large head.

The creatures seemed to float just above the ground on feet that resembled suction cups, they said.

They were silver in color, not green as newspaper accounts had them in the days that followed the incident. Apparently, "Kelly Green Men" was too irresistible for headline writers, and that description survives today as the most common tag of the story.

Sketches of the creatures, based on the family's recollection, were created by an Army artist from Camp Campbell and by an unnamed amateur artist from Hopkinsville, according to accounts in the Air Force's "Project Blue Book."

The Suttons, Taylor, Lankford and a few children in the house that night said they finally made a break and piled into a two cars for a frantic run to Hopkinsville. Their amazing story brought a parade of lawmen to Kelly, a remote town of about 150 people eight miles north of Hopkinsville.

Retired State Trooper R.N. Ferguson remembers he thought a police dispatcher was playing a joke on him when he got the call at home.

"I told him it really wasn't the time to be playing games," Ferguson said. "He said, 'I'm not kidding. I'm not kidding. This spaceship is supposed to be up in Kelly.'"

City, county and state police, along with military personnel from Camp Campbell, stayed at the Sutton place until about 2 a.m. They searched the house, the yard, surrounding fields and a wooded area.

"We found absolutely nothing," Ferguson said.

The biggest excitement of the night occurred when someone stepped on a cat's tail. A frightened military policeman pulled his weapon and sent everyone else scurrying for cover.

The next morning, the family claimed the creatures had returned around 3 a.m. and didn't retreat until daylight.

Within hours, curiosity seekers were lining the old Madisonville Road outside the house.

McCord first heard about the reports of an invasion from a neighbor.

"I didn't believe it then, and I still don't believe it," he said, laughing. "They said they were shooting all night. Well, I lived about 1,000 yards away, and I never heard a thing."

Sutton admitted as much to him years later, McCord said.

"I bought that place up there where they lived about six years later. (Sutton) was down here one day and he said to me, 'You remember them green men? Well, there wasn't nothing to it at all,'" McCord related.

True or not, the story still attracts worldwide attention.

"I have on my desk right now from a professor in Tokyo, Japan, a request for information, and I have a request from a citizen of Sweden," Ferguson said.

McCord's son, Dorris McCord, who lives in a mobile home on the old Sutton place, still can't believe the number of strangers who knock on his door and ask to look around.

Kelly invasion classic chapter in 'Blue Book'

By JENNIFER P. BROWN
NEW ERA Staff Writer

The Air Force investigated no less than 12,000 UFO reports in its "Project Blue Book" from 1952 to 1969.

The so-called Kelly incident of Aug. 21, 1955, is considered one of the classic chapters in the government catalog of supposed flying saucer sightings across the United States.

The chapter in "Project Blue Book" on Kelly contains about 75 pages of information, making it one of longer studies by the Air Force on UFOs. Among other things, the chapter includes an artist's rendering of one of the space creatures that sharecropper Cecil "Lucky" Sutton and his family claimed terrorized them that night at their house.

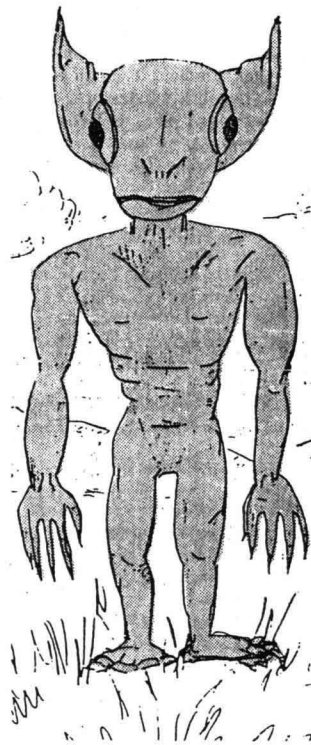
Here are some of the more interesting points about the Kelly incident in "Project Blue Book":

■ The Air Force officially didn't begin its investigation of the Kelly sighting until about two years after the incident, when writers began asking the government for information.

■ Maj. John E. Albert, an Army reservist who happened to be in the area for training at Camp Campbell on the weekend of the incident, apparently was the only military official who went to the site and documented an interview with members of the Sutton family. Albert obtained a one-page statement from Sutton's mother, Glennie Lankford, 50, whose name is blanked out in the report.

Lankford told Albert, "I was walking through the hallway which is located in the middle of my house and I looked out the back door south and saw a bright silver object about 2½ feet tall appearing round. I became excited and did not look at it long enough to see if it had any eyes or moved. I was 15 to 20 feet from it. I fell backward and then was carried into the bedroom."

In his report to the Air Force two years later, Albert concluded Lankford was the victim of an overactive imagination. She had been "worked up into a frenzy" at a Holy Roller



"Project Blue Book" contains this drawing of one of the space creatures that supposedly invaded Kelly.

church meeting earlier that evening and had recently seen an illustration from a story about a monkey painted silver to look like a small man.

Although Albert didn't believe aliens had actually landed at Kelly, he did not discount the possibility that the family sincerely believed they had seen something bizarre.

■ Several months before the Kelly incident, Camp Campbell officials did investigate a UFO sighting in the southern end of Christian County, according to a letter written by Air Force Capt. Robert J. Hertell, who was stationed at Camp Campbell in 1955. The South Christian sighting was reported by a prominent attorney and his farm hand, who said an object streaked across the sky and then made several "abrupt changes in course" before disappearing to the east.

Although the attorney's name is blanked out in the letter, Hertell noted this sighting was given some "credence" because of the attorney's prominence in the community.

■ The Kelly chapter contains several news reports and magazine articles critical of the Air Force for not giving the Sutton-Lankford account more credibility.

■ The Air Force found no physical evidence to substantiate reports that a flying saucer and space creatures had been in Kelly on Aug. 21, 1955.



IS THIS WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE? — Pictured above is the area where Officer Sam Huff of the Chase City Police Department encountered an unidentified flying object fifteen years ago, and an image that we superimposed over the photo. (Our apologies to the World Weekly News). Also seen by Police Department dispatcher Marion Owen and other witnesses, the object is said to have hovered in the area for several minutes before flying off into the night. Producers of the X-Files, take note. (Keith Weston Photo)

Strange Skies

Fifteen Years Ago, Area Residents Swear They Saw A UFO

By Keith Weston
Sun Staff Writer

Several months ago, the appearance of a large military aircraft flying at treetop level in the Chase City area scared a number of residents who assumed that the pilot was in trouble and looking for a place to land. Members of local fire departments and rescue squads were dispatched to the Chase City airport to respond to a possible disaster. And even though the plane did not return, the incident was the talk of the town for several days.

Some years ago, though, an even stranger sight occurred in the skies over Chase City.

About 15 years ago, witnesses say, an unidentified flying object appeared quickly and hovered above the bridge on Second Street for several minutes before disappearing back into the night. Despite the fact that the object was seen by several citizens and two members of the Chase City Police Department, few people have heard the story of Chase City's "Close Encounter."

Police Dispatcher Marion Owen was on duty the night the sighting occurred. According to Owen, it had been a quiet night in Chase City. At around 2:00 a.m., he noticed a bright light outside. Thinking the light was just a passing car, Owen paid little attention at first.

However, as the light continued to get brighter, Owen said he got up and looked out the window. Instead of a car, Owen saw an object hovering at about the same height as the steeple of the First Baptist Church directly across from the police station. Owen estimated the size of the object to be about 20 feet across and said that it gave off an extremely bright light.

"I got on the radio, called Sam (Huff) and asked where he was," explained Owen. "He said he was about to turn around at the country club and I asked him to look back toward town and tell me if he could see anything."

Officer Sam Huff, a World War II veteran and long-

time police officer, was on patrol, making his usual rounds when Owen called on the radio. Looking back toward town, Huff said he saw the object hovering over the area.

Huff turned his patrol car back toward Chase City and rushed back into town. As he approached the scene, the two-way radio in his car went dead.

"I wasn't really scared," Huff recalled last week. "Maybe a little excited. It came right down the railroad tracks and hovered over the bridge."

Huff also described the object as giving off a very bright light. "It was too bright to really see any details," Huff added that the object made no sound. "It didn't make any noise at all. I wasn't more than 100 yards from it."

Huff drove his vehicle directly under the object, stepped out of his car and watched the object for "two or three minutes." Despite having the best opportunity of any of the witnesses to observe the object, Huff is still unable to say what it was. But Huff is fairly certain of what the object was not.

"It was not a plane or a regular helicopter. If it had been a regular plane or a helicopter, I'd have heard the motor noise."

The question "did you think of shooting at it?" brought a laugh from Huff.

"No, I never thought of shooting at it. It didn't shoot at me first," Huff laughed. "If I had shot at it, imagine what the people would say ... 'What's that fool shooting at?'" Turning serious, he added, "I think that shooting it would have been the wrong thing for me to do."

Suddenly, the object shot up and moved out of sight, Huff recalled. He added that as soon as the object left, the radio in his car came back on. Huff went back to the police station and discussed the incident with Owen. Both men agreed that they'd seen something but neither of them knew just what it was. Later, according to standard procedure, a report on the incident was filed with the department.

Former Chase City Police Chief Fred Parsons was

aware of the incident and the incident was duly reported on police logs. Asked if he believed the two men, the former chief replied, "I didn't have any reason not to believe them. Besides," he added, "they weren't the only ones who saw it."

Another witness who wished to remain anonymous verified that a UFO was visible over town skies. The anonymous witness went on to say that the object was clearly visible to almost anyone in town who was up and about at that hour. "It was maybe a thousand feet up when I first saw it," said the witness. "I watched it come down and just sit there in the air."

Asked if he had any idea of what the object might

have been, the witness replied, "I just didn't know. I couldn't explain it and still can't." The witness did say that the way the object moved, avoiding power lines and other objects, left the distinct impression that the object was "being maneuvered." The witness also echoed the descriptions of the other witnesses.

Officer Huff summed up the opinions of all the witnesses who admitted to seeing the object. He still has no idea of what the object was and admits that he's tried to forget it over the years.

"I've heard all kinds of spooky things in my time," said Huff, "but I'd like to know what it was."

UFO network trades theories in Fairfield

By ROBIN DENARO
Correspondent

FAIRFIELD — Bruce Tilden, 45, of Springfield, Mass., is neither a hysteric nor a crackpot.

He is a retired U.S. Army major and National Guard division-level operations officer who happens to believe in UFOs.

In his spare time, Tilden investigates the phenomenon for the Mutual UFO Network, a worldwide organization dedicated to the scientific study of extraterrestrial sightings and alien abductions.

Tilden was one of more than 40 members of MUFON's Connecticut chapter to attend a quarterly meeting of the organization Sunday at the Fairfield Public Library.

Rhodes scholar Roger Williams Wescott of Southbury, a linguist, anthropologist and president of the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, presented the findings of a recent international conference on UFOs.

Fantastic though it might sound, Wescott explained, we have never been alone. "The consensus in Switzerland was that we are not exclusively the product of natural selection," Wescott said.

A theory with growing support in research circles is that the evolution of man was less happenstance and perhaps even planned, possibly by extraterrestrials, he added.

Also, artifacts and recovered writings like the Sumerian cuneiform add support to the theory that ancient builders like the Egyptians were given a technological hand by some form of "being." The pyramids were too advanced to have been engineered by humans of the time, Wescott asserted.

"The ancient literature of India talks about strange craft called 'vimanas,'" Wescott said. "They were fueled by mercury ... And there are ancient texts, the 'vimonka shastras,' elaborate manuals for operating vimanas."

"It's hard for people to believe that there would have been such elaborate, lengthy and detailed texts created if there had been nothing to operate," he said.

Wescott is one of hundreds of scholars and scientists studying the phenomenon. "Most people don't know there is a science studying this phenomenon — UFOlogy," said Anastasia Wietrzykowska, a senior field investigator and director of the Connecticut chapter.

DAILY HERALD, Bartlett, IL - Sept. 28, 1995

Wow! UFO convention lands in Chicago suburbs!

The tabloid columnists from the Enquirer, Globe and Weekly World News probably are pounding out think pieces about the '96 political conventions.

The subject of this column is old hat to them. But how often do I have a UFO (convention) land in my own back yard?

National UFO Awareness Week kicks off its lecture series Oct. 6 at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn with some of the biggest names in UFO research.

Credit for luring the conference here goes to Mary Kerfoot, of the Mutual UFO Network. As a member of Operation Right to Know, the 53-year-old Schaumburg woman once marched on the White House to protest what she says is a cover-up of interactions with beings from other planets.

This year's convention theme is "The UFO Abduction Phenomenon," which naturally leads to my opening question:

So, what about the widely held theory that people abducted by UFOs are really just nuts?

"There are some eccentric, very unusual people," Kerfoot admits of her UFO-believing brethren. "Generally, they are like that because they are preoccupied with the subject."

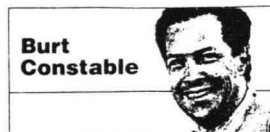
"The majority, even if they seem very wacky, have had some kind of experience," she says, struggling to make a skeptical columnist understand. "The reality for us is so unreal."

Kerfoot's story begins in the innocent little town of Ottumwa, Iowa, where she grew up. She was just 2½ and in bed when "an intense white light" appeared and left her "frozen in fear."

Throughout her childhood, she was aware of visits from aliens. One time it appeared to her as "a raggedy old man holding up a lantern with a pale yellow glow," she says. "But I knew that wasn't really what I saw."

As a child, she was visited by dark, shadowy figures "almost like an absence of matter," and recalls being frightened by a boy and girl she called "the wooden people" because they had not learned "how to be human."

But other close encounters of the third kind were "incredibly uplifting" and led to "a sense of



love and all-encompassing belonging," Kerfoot says.

She had gone 25 years without a UFO visit until one August night in 1991 when a bright light entered her Schaumburg home.

"It was almost like a wake-up call ...," she says. "Like they came and said, 'Remember?'"

Her husband and dog didn't see anything, making the event seem like a scene from that old TV show "Bewitched" in which Samantha would freeze time for everyone but her.

"It sounds cartoonish, but it is like that," she says. "Even the dog looked deadlier than dead."

Since then, she says she's had dozens of visits from aliens who appear as "glowing lights."

"This sounds so bizarre, but it was like a blue, wispy gauze with just a suggestion of pink flesh behind it," Kerfoot says of one.

She starts many sentences with phrases such as, "I know this sounds crazy" or "This sounds so goofy, but..."

(That common reaction is why we're not naming the company where she has worked for many years as a systems analyst.)

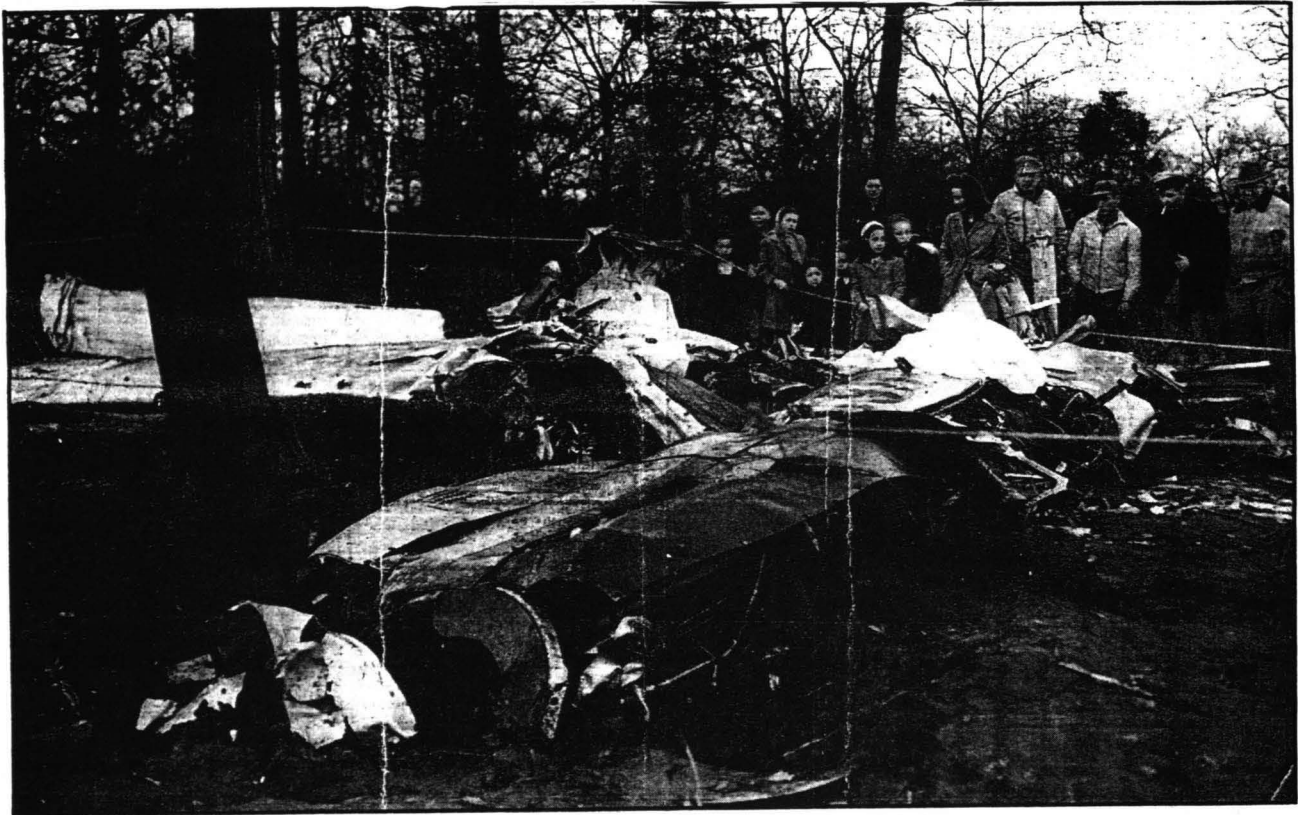
But some suburbanites have reported odd objects in the sky from Busse Woods to Palatine to Keeneyville. A crop circle in DuPage County even "flattened a skunk," Kerfoot says.

Why superintelligent beings from other planets would travel all that way to buzz Keeneyville or flatten a skunk I can't tell you. But I can tell you the logic voiced by my old astronomy professor, J. Allen Hynek. A leader of the UFO movement, he hadn't seen one but figured there had to be intelligent life somewhere else in our universe.

Getting folks to acknowledge that possibility is all the UFO convention sets out to do, says Kerfoot, who hopes information will show us that leaders of the UFO convention are not nuts.

Those '96 political conventions should be so lucky.

Was a UFO involved in mystery crash?



This picture, which belongs to Lee Trail, shows the plane which crashed on the Joe Phillips farm in south Simpson County on Jan. 7, 1948. The plane exploded in mid-air before crashing to

the ground. The pilot, Captain Thomas F. Mantell, was following an unidentified flying object at the time of the explosion. It was reported that the explosion was heard as far as 15 miles away.

This article appeared in the Franklin Favorite newspaper sometime around 1975. We obtained a copy of the article, but the date was unavailable.

by David Powell

Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1948, began as a normal day in the Franklin-Simpson community. The weather was pleasant with light southerly winds at 9 mph. Many farmers were taking advantage of the weather to prepare their tobacco crop for market, unaware that in a few hours an event would take place in Simpson County which would make national news.

At 1:20 p.m., a bright disc-shaped object was sighted near Godman Field at Ft. Knox, Ky. Although there were several

attempts made to identify the object, they were to no avail and the object remained a UFO (Unidentified Flying Object).

According to a report issued by the U.S. Army, "At 2:45 p.m., a flight of five P-51 fighter planes flew over Godman Field. The object was still visible, and the Flight Commander was requested to investigate and attempt to determine the nature of the UFO if his mission allowed. The Flight Commander, Captain Thomas F. Mantell Jr., stated he was on a ferry mission, but would investigate."

Captain Mantell was an experienced pilot and a veteran of WWII. Having flown in the Normandy invasion, Mantell won the Distinguished Flying Cross among various other decorations. He was discharged from

the Air Force in 1946 and was training pilots for the Kentucky National Guard at the time of the incident at Ft. Knox.

The P-51s began a climb to the south in the direction of the UFO. At this point it is not certain as to how many P-51s actually took part in pursuit of the object. A newspaper account of the incident stated that one of the P-51s continued on to its original destination because of low fuel.

When the planes reached 15,000 ft. the wing men turned back because they were not completely outfitted for high altitude flights requiring oxygen. Captain Mantell, however, continued the chase and made a radio transmission to the effect that he had the object in sight and was "closing in to take a good look." What happened to

Mantell after the transmission remains a mystery for the most part.

It is known that Mantell's plane exploded at least once before crashing on to the Joe Phillips farm south of Franklin. The Army maintains that Mantell had climbed too high and blacked out for lack of oxygen. "The aircraft continued to climb until the increasing altitude caused a sufficient loss of power for it to level out. It then went into a tight spiralling dive. The uncontrolled descent resulted in excessive speed causing the aircraft to disintegrate."

Although it has not been verified, it is thought that before Mantell blacked out, he made another radio transmission.

In the transmission, it is believed Mantell stated that the object was "directly ahead of me

and moving at about half my speed." Another report says that Mantell referred to the object as being "metallic and tremendous in size."

Perhaps the most important question is, what was Mantell chasing? The military says that "there were two conceptions as the identity of the object; Venus, one of the brightest objects in our heavens, or a large balloon used for high altitude experimental flights and known as sky hooks." These balloons were classified as top secret at the time and were not known to the personnel at Godman Field.

On the date of the sighting, one of these balloons was released by the Navy from Clinton County airport in Ohio. A wind pilot for that date revealed that the balloon would have been in the area of Godman at the time of the sighting.

Plane explodes in mid-air, crashes killing pilot on Joe Phillips farm

The following article was published in the Jan. 8, 1948 edition of the Franklin Favorite.

A P-51 Army fighter plane exploded in mid-air and crashed on the farm of Joe Phillips about 5 miles south of Franklin yesterday afternoon about 3:30 p.m., killing the pilot, wearing identification tag of Thomas F. Mantell, 3533 River Park Drive, Louisville. The wrecked plane bore the No. Ky. NG 869.

Mrs. Joe Phillips said she was sitting by her fire when she heard the plane, with the engine apparently in trouble, flying over her house. Almost immediately there was a loud explosion. Startled, she glanced out the window and saw the disintegrating plane hit the ground in a woods lot about 200 yards away from her house.

Pieces of wreckage were seen a quarter of a mile from the point of the crash. Several peo-

ple in Franklin reported they heard the explosion.

A vapor trail still floated in the sky an hour after the crash.

Another eye witness, Barbara Mayes, a student in the Franklin Grade School said she saw the plane explode while high in mid-air. She was waiting at the Lake Springs school for her bus to take her home when she witnessed the explosion.

The plane crash marked the second in the past few months. The point of the explosion was perhaps three miles as the crow flies from the spot of the crash which took the lives of Ed Snow and Richard M. Thomason on April 29, 1947.

Mrs. Joe Phillips said she called the telephone operator and asked that an ambulance and aid be called to the scene.

The remains of the dead flyer were removed from the scene by ambulance and carried to the Booker Funeral Home to await instructions from the next of kin

who were to be notified of the tragedy by Fort Knox officials.

A veteran of World War II, Captain Mantell participated in the Normandy invasion, winning the Distinguished Flying Cross among other decorations, his family in Louisville stated. He was discharged from the Army a year ago. His wife and two children survive.

He left Louisville yesterday morning for Atlanta and was enroute to Louisville on the return portion of a training flight when the accident occurred. Authorities at Fort Knox reported he left Atlanta at 2 p.m. yesterday.

Reed Shoulders, assistant chief of police, said Bill Horn, local constable, was standing guard last night over the wreckage, pending arrival of proper authorities to assume custody of the wrecked plane.

The plane was operated by the Kentucky National Guards.

In 1948 Captain Thomas F. Mantell died when his plane crashed in a field in Simpson County. It was reported that the plane exploded and then fell to the ground on the Joe Phillips farm about 5 miles south of Franklin.

Reports claimed that the pilot was investigating an unidentified flying object that had been observed. The object was described as everything from a flying disc to a balloon released at the Orange Bowl game.

According to reports Captain Mantell was a decorated pilot that flew in WWII and won the Distinguished Flying Cross. Stories of the crash made national newspapers and has been the subject of much debate over the years.

Lee Trail, a resident of Louisville, has been gathering information about the incident and is searching for anyone who might remember the event. Trail can be contacted at 7901 Sherry Lynn Court, Louisville, Ky. 40228-1837 or (502) 968-6750.

Although the balloon theory seems to be the most accepted explanation, eyewitness accounts seem to contradict it. Addie Wilson, the first man who sighted the object at Godman Field, described the object to this reporter.

"It seemed to be at a high altitude and having an aluminum-like surface. It didn't look like any balloon I've ever seen. But I've never seen a sky hook balloon."

There are still several questions left unanswered. At the time of this writing, it seems unlikely that the Mantell case will ever be completely solved. More than likely, we'll never know for sure, what happened to Captain Mantell.

(continued on page 7)

"Mysterious Object" pursued by Mantell probably balloon from Orange Bowl Game

This article appeared in the Jan. 15, 1948 edition of the *Franklin Favorite* as a follow-up story to the Jan. 8, 1948 article.

The "mysterious object in the sky" which Captain Thomas F. Mantell reportedly was chasing when he fell to his death in a plane crash on the Joe Phillips farm last Wednesday, may have been nothing more than a helium filled balloon, the associated press reported Sunday.

F.J. Routon, a Miami real estate dealer, reported receiving a clipping from a Nashville newspaper headlined "Comet over city is just a balloon." The article underneath went on to describe the flurry among citizens caused by the appearance of "a round object apparently made of glass."

"Flying Disc?"

The story told some thought it looked like a gold star," others said it looked like the planet Venus and some astronomers guessed it was a "daylight comet." One observer, the story related, said it "unquestionably was a balloon," and described a rope hanging from it, with knots or small objects attached to the rope.

The description fits that of the five 10-foot balloons released between the halves to the football game at the Orange Bowl on January 1. Long streamers of crepe paper, with smaller balloons hooked on, were attached to the large balloons when they were released.

Pilots Chase Object

At Fort Knox, Ky., National Air Guard planes chased a "flying saucer" which was reported at an altitude higher than 20,000 feet and going at a speed of 180 miles per hour. Captain Mantell, whose plane crashed here, was one of the Fort Knox fliers who gave chase to the "mysterious object."

As threads of the story begin to knit together, Routon believes the objects causing such excitement are no more than Orange Bowl balloons.

Mrs. Sydney Davis of Detroit, Mich. formerly Miss Christine Harris, this city, writes that she was astounded when she bought a *Detroit News* of last Thursday to find "Franklin, Ky. in the headlines." Continuing she writes: "all through the papers here (Detroit) related that the pilot was killed searching for a 'flying disc.'"

CARTOON VIEWPOINT: MIKE PETERS



MOUNTAIN MAIL, Salida, CO - Oct. 30, 1995

Edwards' UFO 'definitely not one of ours'

by Arlene Shovald
Mail Staff Writer

Tim Edwards of Salida appeared Friday on the 5 p.m. news on the Denver CBS affiliate, Channel 4 (KCNC-TV), regarding his UFO sighting Aug. 27 and subsequent sightings of different, smaller craft between Sept. 25 and Oct. 2.

The TV newscast was prompted by a news release from Village Labs in Tempe, Ariz., which analyzed the first tape and is working on the subsequent tapes.

A Village Lab staff person has classified the first video as an "alien visitation craft, definitely not one of ours." Re-

ports of subsequent sightings Sept. 25 - Oct. 2 have also been received from other areas.

Since Edwards experienced his first sighting of a large, single craft on Aug. 27, he has been deluged with media attention.

Michael Tanner of Village Labs has been Edwards agent since then.

"I tracked Tim (Edwards) down after the first sighting appeared on CBS News, because it looked similar to what I and Jim Dilettoso (founder and president of Village Labs) saw in 1979 over Phoenix, Ariz.," Tanner said. "I've been compiling informa-

tion on this for years."

Tanner is a marketing and business developer in consumer electronics and media technology.

While Edwards has received a lot of media attention, the attention hasn't embellished his pocket book.

"This is a truth venture — not a money ven-

ture," Tanner said. "Shows specializing in these subjects have typical production budgets, and only

pay in the hundreds of dollars, if at all. Nobody pays large dollars. That's why UFO research has to rely on donations and grants. The only way to make an appreciable dollar amount is do a documentary

More from Village
Labs in tomorrow's
Mountain Mail

which might possibly make money in the video market."

As Edwards' agent, Tanner says his hopes, at best, are to get Edwards reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses he has incurred in long-distance phone calls, video tape, copies of newspaper articles tapes and travel, etc.

Village Labs is currently analyzing Edwards' second set of tapes, taken Sept. 25 - Oct. 2, and will release information as it becomes available.

'This is a
truth
venture —
not a money
venture.'

— Michael
Tanner

ENQUIRER, Cincinnati, OH - Nov. 4, 1995 CR: J. Fry

UFO buffs: Otherworldly leaders also at talks

BY CAMERON McWHIRTER
The Cincinnati Enquirer

Richard Hoagland is watching the Dayton peace talks with keen interest this week — but it's not the Bosnian war he's worried about.

Hoagland, a former NASA consultant, and other UFO buffs are wondering what the extraterrestrials are doing at the talks.

That's right, it's conspiracy time: spaceships, aliens, advanced technology and, of course, a government cover-up.

"These three leaders are being brought to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for a reason," said Hoagland, founder of the New Jersey-based

Mars Mission, an international group convinced that evidence shows human civilization once existed on Mars and the moon. "How can you get these guys to see the bigger picture? With a bigger stick. You show them you have a greater power than they could ever imagine."

Operation Blue Book

For years, Wright-Patterson has been the focus of UFO conspiracy theorists. The base is the headquarters for Air Force research concerning new and foreign technologies. It was home to Operation Blue Book — the Air Force's investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects from 1947 to 1959.

— after the Serbian, Bosnian and Croat leaders had seen "them."

"We're being prepared for an interplanetary war," Hoagland said. "Events are coming to a head."

Reached at the base, air force officials had no comment.

Hoagland is not without his detractors.

Joe Nickell, senior researcher for the Buffalo-based *Skeptical Inquirer* magazine, said of Hoagland, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste."

Nickell, who has spent years working to debunk what he calls "the Roswell myth," said the idea

that aliens are stored at Wright-Patterson is absolutely ridiculous.

"Oh sure, they're on ice in Hangar 18, or is it Hangar 9," he said. "Little pickled humanoids. Peace talks. I don't know how you could ever link the two."

A greater connection

Nickell said the UFO idea in our culture expresses a psychological need for humans to feel a greater connection, to feel that something greater is watching over them.

"But the point is, there is no credible evidence that extraterrestrials ever visited this planet or ever crashed at Roswell, N.M., or,

Most important, UFO watchers believe the base is home to what they call "Hangar 13," a facility where aliens' bodies were stored after an alleged 1947 crash of an alien spaceship in Roswell, N.M. The alien ship and bodies, they believe, were taken to Wright-Patterson for secret research and storage. The military maintains the crash was in fact a spy balloon.

But for many UFO enthusiasts, the peace meeting at the remote air base is not a coincidence, it's a sign.

"Think of all the centers of world government," Hoagland said. "The Hague, Geneva, Camp David

least of all, are stored on ice in Dayton, Ohio," he said.

Kevin Randle, author of two books on the Roswell incident, said he does not go as far as Hoagland to draw a connection between the talks and aliens, but he is convinced extraterrestrial research is being conducted at Wright-Patterson.

"We've got a chain connecting Roswell to Dayton, Ohio," said Randle from his Dubuque, Iowa, home. "It's clear the base is important in the history of UFO phenomenon."

'The Roswell myth'

He predicted the talks would soon result in a peace agreement

Joe and I ate UFO Pancakes

By Harold R. (Bud) Meier

In the Dalles Visitor, 1994, a chronology of phenomenal events, listed a 1961 UFO encounter at Eagle River, Wisconsin. Journalist Meier was one of a number of readers who read the paper and provided us with more news of this and other UFO incidents. Here is his first-hand account of the 1961 story. The boldface sections are taken from Simonton's own autobiographical pamphlet, "The Story of the Flying Saucer as it was seen by Joe Simonton" which he himself published.

In 1961 as director of the top-rated, never-a-boring moment KSTP-TV news operation in Minneapolis-St. Paul, I didn't need much prompting when the AP newsprinter clattered out a fascinating account of Joseph (Joe) Simonton and his marvellous UFO experience. According to the story, Joe welcomed a flying saucer to the yard of his rural homestead near Eagle River, making a hospitable trade of a gallon or so of the family's drinking water to three handsomely bronze humanoid for four irregular, overdone wafers destined to live forever in UFOlogy as planet Earth's first "space pancakes."

When we picked up the story at KSTP almost automatically I dialed Dr. J. Allen Hynek, professor of astrophysics at Northwestern University, who was also head of the university's Dearborn Observatory and chief investigator for the U.S. Aero-Space Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Field in Ohio. We often called him when we heard of UFO sightings around our five state area.

The sighting had occurred on April 18 but we did not get the story on the AP wires until several days later. By then Hynek had already gone to Eagle River to investigate and he vouched for Simonton's story as something clearly more than hoax or fantasy. That was enough for us. Hastily saddling a KSTP station wagon with electro-photographic recording equipment, I set out with radio reporter, Phil Schrader and photographer Ken Espy, on an almost 250 mile, mostly overnight drive to Rhinelander, closest neighbor to Eagle River.

I remember well that frosty night as we toolled along deserted Highway 8, listening to the fading voice of Halsey Hall describe a west coast road game of the new Minnesota Twins. I wondered idly about those radio waves beaming eternally outward, into the absolute zero of an unfathomable space. Could the occupants of Joe's spacecraft be out there now, hearing as we were, about the mastery of Camilo Pasquale's orbital curved ball?

At Rhinelander

In squeaky clean Rhinelander that morning the talk was still all about Simonton. The lively resort hub was aware of the potential tourism value of the tale, so we had instant access to several stalwart residents whose vivid recollections reinforced Joe's story.

Maynard Borgo, an Eagle River insurance agent of the time, had become a seeing believer; six members of the Tony Lorbetsky family, living half-way between Eagle River

and Rhinelander, had witnessed a flashing disc pass overhead with only the slightest trace of a waggle "as though some intelligent beings were at the controls." Also the head of the Rhinelander Wisconsin Employment Security office reported an unimpeded view of what he called a "flying saucer." The morning passed swiftly as we filmed and audio-taped interviews with those now believers and waited our chance to talk to Joe Simonton at his homestead between Rhinelander and Eagle River.

Joe's Story

Wire service descriptions of the day had called Simonton "a middle-age handyman." He was really a skilled plumber/jack-of-all trades and much more: a trusted special deputy of Vilas County Sheriff John Schroeder, a helpful neighbor and frequent Santa Claus at area Christmas parties.

When I asked the sheriff point blank about Joe's credibility he reached for his clipboard and rifled through a well-thumbed sheaf of UFO reports, all dealing with glittering objects like the one described by Simonton. "These are (reports from) all good, honest people," said the lawyer, "and Joe Simonton is as good and honest as any of them."

By the time we sat down at Joe's kitchen table, he had been visited by Hynek and a myriad number of space buffs of varying pedigrees and he had been probed, pumped and pooh-poohed by small-market journalists from as far away as Wausau and Green Bay. His rock-solid story remained the same:

- How he was alone at home (his wife was in Chicago) and had got up from an early lunch to clear away the dishes from the very table we were sitting around. It was a clear, unusually warm day.
- How he then watched the noiseless descent into the dooryard of an immense silvery disc, "which looked like two large soup plates put together," about 30 feet across and 12 feet high. The disc did not land but remained suspended several feet above the ground.
- How from the apparently seamless top of the metallic craft a hatch opened and Joe saw three men. "These men were dressed in black two piece suits which looked like jersey material and it was about 1/2 inch thick, no buttons or zippers or anything. The jacket was like a turtle neck and the suit fit not too tightly and not too loose. I couldn't see their feet as they were below the hatch. Their cap fit real tight and came down almost to their ears and eye brows . . . they were either real smooth shaven or they had no beard at all. They were about five feet tall and about 120 pounds and looked like (someone of) Italian descent. Very nice looking fellows about 25 to 30 years old. Each one very well built in proportion to his size. The man that asked for water had a narrow white stripe down the sides of his trousers and by that I suppose he was the officer on the saucer."
- How Joe had been able to

glimpse inside the object. It was "bright, really beautiful . . . the color of wrought iron, a sort of dull black." Inside he saw three control boards. One man was at one of them and "he didn't even look at me." Neither did a second man who seemed to be cooking at a "grill shaped thing." A third man was looking at Joe and holding up a jug "and made a motion like he wanted a drink."

"Well I didn't know what to say or do so I just took the jug and went to the basement and filled it with water . . . I tried to think what I should do while I was down in the basement for the water. But I didn't come up with an answer. So, I thought, well they wanted water so I'll take it up to them and see what happens."

. . . So I handed the water up to the one man that had given me the jug. He took the jug of water and as he did I balanced myself with my left hand on the side of the flying saucer. There was not any radioactivity for my hand is okay. Then I stepped back a few steps and the man that took the water, gave me a salute with the back of his hand. In return I gave him our salute."

Then he and the man engaged in some wordless banter, a pantomimic dicking and the man handed Joe four cardboard-like hunks of pastry which Joe optimistically called "pancakes," about the size of U.S. dollars." During my interview with Joe he gave me a part of one of



Joe Simonton eating pancake.

them. Nibbling on a corner of it I found nothing alarming about it nor did I suffer any ill effects, although I agreed with Joe that it tasted very much like cardboard.

- How the visitor went inside the craft and closed the hatch and Joe could hear it click shut. "At once the saucer started to rise upward to about 20 feet straight up. Then it tilted to about 45 degrees upward and blasted off at a very high speed. In about two or three seconds it was out of sight." (It sounded like a large generator or electric motor) "It didn't change its sound while it raised up to take off. Now when it blasted off there was not any sign of fire, smoke, vapor or odor that I could see or smell."
- But something happened to Joe's chickens. After the craft soared off, perhaps 20 of Joe's flock of Rhode Island Red chickens lay strewn around his yard dead. Joe attributed their demise to some kind of emission from

the UFO. Later by phone Dr. Hynek confirmed that "government investigators" had taken several of the deceased birds with them, but KSTP was never able to get any further information about them.

Later Developments

Back in St. Paul I took part of my pancake to a food-testing laboratory at the University of Minnesota Agricultural Campus. There, amidst much laughter, an assay was run, with findings similar to those received by Dr. Hynek from a federal laboratory: indications of a common grain (not unlike hard durum wheat) with some kind of fat and a dash of NaCl, or common table salt.

Much later the medical laboratory at Wright-Patterson Field reported on its analysis of a bit of the Simonton pancake: low protein flour, traces of sugar, salt and dry milk solids, plus hydrogenated cooking oil. Dr. Hynek's nonchalant reply to all of that was: "How do we know that they don't have Aunt Jemima pancake mix on Mars?" Simonton accurately pointed out, that "all the commercial mixes I tested for comparison all raised way up but the cakes handed me were truly as flat as pancakes (unlike our mixes). There was obviously no baking powder in them."

About this time another person stepped into the story. He was retired Vilas County District Judge Frank Carter, a good friend of Joe's and an admirer of Major Donald Keyhoe an early figure in UFOlogy, head of NICAP an independent investigative organization and author of the book *Flying Saucers are Real*.

At first the judge didn't believe the story and, Joe said, "probably figuring that if I was a fake, I wouldn't have the courage to let anyone analyze it (the pancake). So I let him send it to Keyhoe." But Keyhoe notified Carter and Simonton that he was returning the pancake untested because he required "evidence of a more concrete nature." To which Simonton snorted that he had already consumed part of another cake and "nothing can be more concrete than that I ate it."

But the pancake never found its way back to Eagle River and when there was no further word from the Major, Judge Carter shot off a blistering 10-page indictment, accusing him of being a turncoat and working for the government. He and Simonton "heard by the grapevine" that the missing cake wound up in a private testing laboratory in New York. As for Joe Simonton, no one ever took up his offer to submit to a lie detector test. In the years after his sighting he gave an occasional lecture in places like Waukegan, LaCrosse or Apple-

ton, Wisconsin, and would always stop long enough to answer the questions of the fatuous, the skeptical and the believers. To all he was polite, and to all who would see he appeared to be a man supremely confident of what he had truly seen and done, one who knew that his singular story had consequences that far transcended Joe Simonton and his community in Vilas County, Wisconsin.

In 1961 the local chamber of commerce named him "Man of the Year" and he remained firmly in his place of trust and affection among local townspeople. Later the same year he published a small pamphlet describing his experiences which he sold for a dollar to a steady influx of curious but uninvited visitors.

I kept in touch with Joe for several years, always giving him the benefit of the doubt on his story. My pre-Simonton skepticism has been long overtaken by events. He died in 1972 but each week, it seems, some new eye-openers occur to make his story more believable. Dr. Hynek, the first person of any real competence to question Joe after his encounter said: "Joe is a solid citizen of good repute who in no sense seems to be perpetuating a hoax." Hynek's finding stands today.

The KSTP Documentary

After reporting the immediate news aspects of the Simonton story, we at KSTP produced a 30 minute television documentary of it that was aired several weeks later in Wisconsin. The show and its subject remained so popular throughout 1961 that we repeated it several times, always with strong advance promotion and gaining a larger audience. A friend who worked as an engineer at Honeywell Aerospace told me that the topic had a large and sympathetic audience there, and for years after we received inquiries about the encounter. The only copy of the documentary kinescope has been lost, but I have never given up the search for it.

Bud Meier is angling editor of the Stillwater Evening Gazette's "Weekender" recreation supplement and is a founding member of Muskies, Inc. He attended Kenyon College and studied journalism at the U of M. and after 12 years at KSTP, served as corporate publicist for Hoerner Waldorf, 3M, Carlson and other companies for more than thirty years. While officially retired, in addition to his outdoor column he freelances magazine articles and publicity assignments for corporations.

UFO expert tips off X Files

FORT McMURRAY, Alta. (CP) — UFO expert Stanton Friedman has mixed feelings about giving an occasional tip to The X Files TV series.

"They used my term 'cosmic Watergate,' although without my permission," says the U.S. nuclear physicist.

The popular science-fiction series has contacted Friedman three times for advice on how to make stories more believable.

"I'm a scientist. I don't think in fictional terms, but you have to speculate on some things. Like, why do they come here?"

"They" are the other intelligent life forms in the universe. And Friedman has speculated plenty on why aliens may drop by. Maybe Earth is a honeymoon destination for some, or a supply stop in the Milky Way.

Friedman recently lectured in Fort McMurray on several aspects of his work, including the alleged flying saucer crash near Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

DAILY COURIER, Kamloops, B.C., Canada
Oct. 18, 1995 CR: G. Conway

'Ufologists' converge on Salida after sightings

by Arlene Shovald
Mail Staff Writer

Has anybody out there seen anything unusual in the sky over Salida recently? If so, investigators from the Colorado office of Mutual UFO Network, Inc. wants to talk to you.

And not to worry about having proof, in the form of pictures of videos. You don't have to be concerned about being identified either. All interviews are confidential. The investigators just want to know anything about unexplained objects folks may have seen in the sky.

If you know something call 303-451-5992, leave your name and number, and someone will call for a telephone interview.

The UFO investigation follows two reported sightings of UFOs, both by Salidan, Tim Edwards, 42. The first occurred Sunday morning, Aug. 27 and involved a disc shaped object of which Edwards has about seven minutes of tape. His six-year-old daughter first spotted the object and called his attention to it. He called the National UFO Observatory in Seattle and learned calls were also reported from Montana and Pennsylvania at about the same time.

At least one Denver TV station aired the video of the first

observation. Edwards also hand-delivered the video to Village Labs in Tempe, Arizona, a digital video technology company whose work has been recognized by the television show, "Sightings," and "UFO Encounters." The lab concluded Edwards' video is legitimate. The object on the tape is real.

This, Edwards said, made him feel "a whole lot better," since he was putting his and his family's reputations on the line.

Analysis

Validation of that tape brought Salida attention from Denver and national media. At least two Denver TV stations have been in town to interview Edwards and his family.

Then the unheard of happened. Edwards, along with family members, and about 10 people in the neighborhood, observed a second sighting, this time of many smaller objects flying about the sun, on the morning of Monday, Sept. 25.

Edwards contacted the Chaffee County Sheriff's Department and Officer Chester Price arrived at the scene. He also observed about 10 bright and shiny silver objects traveling around the sun.

At 9 a.m., about the same time the objects appeared, KVRH's FM signal tower, located on Methodist Moun-

tain, went out. It was restored at 9:45 a.m.

Edwards contacted KVRH to report the sightings and at least two of the employees reported seeing something shiny moving quickly across the sky.

Cellular One's tower, also on Methodist Mountain, lost its signal at about 1 p.m. Monday.

The objects Edwards observed the second time were in the sky until about 2:30 p.m.

This time he took three hours of video tape. That tape has not yet been analyzed.

The national media hit town Wednesday morning, when a crew from the TV show, "Sightings" arrived. Next came Jennie Zeidman, research associate from the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies. Chris O'Brien, UFO researcher from the San Luis Valley, was also in Salida. O'Brien, a former New Yorker, has been studying mysterious activity in the skies in the San Luis Valley since 1992 and is working on a book called "The Mysterious Valley."

About as confusing as the objects in the sky, is who actually is the "authority" on UFOs anyway? At this point we have the National UFO Observatory in Seattle, Mutual UFO Network, Inc., Village Labs, "Sightings," and the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies investigating and/or offering opinions on Salida's

sightings. It seems there are many agencies and individuals interested in this phenomena, all claiming to have expertise in ufology. At this point, there are no solid answers, other than the verification from Village Labs that the object Edwards videotaped on the first sighting was real.

The Mail has also received reports from and about a number of individuals who have seen unexplained objects in

the sky of late, but who prefer to remain anonymous. Given the impact this has had on the life of Tim Edwards and his family, who have proof of the sightings in the videos, it is understandable that others might not want to come forward, especially with no evidence to back up their claims. But those who have seen UFOs of late can report their observations safely to the MUFON investigators. All interviews are confidential.

DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, UT - Dec. 1, 1995
UFO CONFERENCE

CR: Z. Van Eyck

Abducted by aliens — AND by secret military?

Woman says humans have examined abductees after extraterrestrials finished.

By Zack Van Eyck
Deseret News staff writer

MESQUITE, Nev. — Space invaders aren't the only ones kidnapping unsuspecting Americans and forcing them to undergo medical examinations, according to one of three alleged alien abduction victims who spoke here Thursday.

Melinda Leslie, an Orange County, Calif., woman who leads a support group for self-described abductees, said more than three dozen people who believe they have been taken aboard alien spacecraft — including herself — have been re-abducted by apparent military personnel and subjected to physical examinations and interrogation.

Leslie, addressing an audience of about 300 here at the fifth annual International UFO Congress, said humans in a "flying triangle" abducted her and took her to an underground testing facility. There, men in hazardous-material jumpsuits performed an extensive gynecological exam and other medical procedures on her, she said. She was abducted by humans a second time and interrogated by a red-haired "military captain" who demanded that she tell him everything she knew about the aliens.

Men in uniform also have been present during some alien abduction experiences, including one of the half-dozen Leslie has had, she said. She and other abductees have been targets of continued surveillance and harassment by these same people, she added.

"It's the government or a shadow part of the government or a paramilitary organization or even a civilian military program," Leslie said. "I think this says a lot about the UFO cover-up. We are flying discs we built using alien technology with both the military and aliens aboard them."

Leslie said in researching her

experiences she has talked to several people who claim to have been involved with covert government operations. Based on those conversations, she believes humans in some official capacity may be interacting with extraterrestrials in some type of cooperative partnership.

Leslie said these humans either do not trust the aliens and are spying on them, or are curious as to the limits of alien technology — perhaps because the aliens have made threats and the people are searching for a weakness in their apparent control of the situation.

"The cover-up is disorganized and foolish," Leslie said. "It is desperate men taking desperate measures. They don't have control of the situation like they'd like to. There are a number of insiders who want the information out and are beginning to leak it."

Leslie said she is working with Kathy Kasten, who also claims to be an abductee and was not in attendance Thursday, to persuade the federal Health and Human Services Department to investigate the covert research group they believe is behind the alleged re-abductions. The activity warrants an investigation, she said, because federal regulations require human subjects involved in research to sign an informed consent form — something the human abductors are not asking these civilians to do, she said.

Leslie said Kasten received an Aug. 29 letter from Lana R. Skirboll, director of the National Institute of Mental Health's Office of Science Policy and Program Planning. In it, she said, Skirboll said the agency needed more information from the alleged re-abduction victims — including name, address and Social Security number — before it can make any determination. Leslie circulated a letter asking members of the audience who believe they were abducted by both aliens and humans to answer a series of questions for submission to Skirboll.

Field stirs up UFO theories

Farmer sees pattern in corn

By IRVIN L. JACKSON
Times Herald

BAD AXE — John Holz fervently hopes he is the victim of a childish prank.

Otherwise, something strange is happening to the corn in Bad Axe.

About a month ago, the 48-year-old farmer was harvesting beans when he saw that something had happened to his corn field. A 15-foot by 40-foot area had been stamped flat, as if a giant weight had been set upon

them. A little further away, every stalk of corn had been methodically burned two feet down. The burned corn had then been placed over the other corn rows in two piles, making what Mr. Holz called little "huts."

"I was amazed," he said. "There were no tracks leading through the corn to get to them or anything."

Mr. Holz said he tried to keep things quiet and told no one but a few neighbors. However, the story leaked out and since then his field has been a main attraction for UFO enthusiasts, the media and the curious.

One neighbor told Mr. Holz the corn might have been cut

with a laser, but Mr. Holz said he is trying not to buy into the UFO theory.

"I'm hoping it's just kids," he said. "But a lot of people are asking why kids would do that, and would they have the patience to burn every stalk with a torch?"

So far, no one has come forward to confess. Neighbors said they did not see anything the night it happened, and even Mr. Holz thinks the childish prank theory is rather thin.

However, the perplexed farmer said he has no desire for a close encounter of any kind. "I don't think anybody wants them landing next to them," he said.

DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, UT - Dec. 4-5, 1995 CR: Z. Van Eyck

UFO CONFERENCE

Utahn finds agreement on sightings

By Zack Van Eyck
Deseret News staff writer

MESQUITE, Nev. — As Eleanor Sanini walks past a crew of hotel maintenance workers, a UFO can be seen flying by.

But because the otherworldly disc is on the front of Sanini's shirt, and not in the sky above the Oasis Resort, the sighting brings only laughter from the workers, and a "Twilight Zone"-style chant of "Uuuuuu-FFFFFff-OOooooo."

Sanini, who also wears gray alien-head earrings, is hardly phased by the response.

"I get that all the time," said the 71-year-old, who moved to St. George from California three years ago. "It doesn't bother me any."

Sanini is one of a handful of Utahns who have made the journey here to join hundreds of others from across the country and the globe — and perhaps other worlds

— to attend the fifth annual International UFO Congress convention. The eight-day conference ended Saturday.

For Sanini, the Mutual UFO Network's section director for Washington and Iron counties, the conference offers a chance to mingle with like-minded folks who won't think she's crazy when she says she's seen UFOs on three occasions, including once recently in St. George.

"I can't talk to anybody," she said. "I'm so glad to have found these people."

Sanini was referring to Arlene Vavra, 64, and Bernie Leporini, 66, two more of at least six St. George residents who are attending the conference. Leporini and Vavra said they saw six UFOs flying in formation above St. George a few months ago.

Leporini, a retired construction engineer, said his first UFO con-

vention has been exciting because the speakers, including ex-military people who profess to have inside knowledge, have confirmed what he already suspected about the phenomenon.

"These are real people, credible people, who think it's so important the general public knows this," Leporini said, adding that some ex-insiders have been retaliated against since they began speaking out about UFOs. "As this becomes more in the public eye and less ridiculed, people will say, 'Gee, if I tell people what I know, maybe at least it won't hurt me economically and socially.'"

The trio, like many conference participants, are convinced that extraterrestrials are visiting Earth and say they are prepared for the day when that becomes common knowledge.

"A class I'm taking says that we need to get our vibrations as high

as we can," Sanini said.

Vavra said she believes the U.S. government may be partially funding the Fox television network — home of "The X Files" and "Alien Autopsy" — to further expose Americans to the idea that extraterrestrials may be visiting us.

That way the "truth," when it is finally revealed, won't be such a shock, she said.

Leporini said he believes America is ready to accept alien contact, and that the government — or whoever is withholding information — isn't giving the public credit.

"They're open. They can reconcile this stuff," he said of the public.

In the meantime, Sanini will continue to wear UFO shirts and alien jewelry, and keep looking up at the sky.

And if anyone doubts her sanity?

"I say, 'You have a lot to learn,'" she said.

Kecksburg Incident Still Mystery

By STAN GORDON
For The Bulletin

(My many years of investigating circumstances surrounding the controversial Kecksburg UFO incident, has left me convinced that an aerial object of undetermined origin did fall into a wooded area near that rural community in 1965. Many eyewitness accounts confirm a quick military response to that location. It is apparent that our government hasn't told us all it really knows about the Kecksburg incident. A small group of Kecksburg residents claim that the incident was a hoax. The following is a summary of what is now known.)

It was late afternoon on Dec. 9, 1965, when a large fireball was reported in the sky from Canada as well as sections of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania. The bright aerial object caused much excitement as it passed over the Pittsburgh and Greensburg area. At about 4:47 p.m., the object according to a number of observers, dropped slowly into a wooded ravine near the rural community of Kecksburg in Westmoreland County. Many observers thought that an aircraft was on fire. It was later determined by local authorities that no airplanes were missing. It is reported that after the object had fallen, various types of activity began to occur around this village during the next few hours.

Volunteer firemen began to search a large wooded area for a possible downed aircraft. Many witnesses describe military personnel and equipment quickly arriving in the area. Pittsburgh area radio and TV are discussing reports about the sightings, and hundreds of curious people descend on the area to try to see what the strange object might be. The late John Murphy, who at the time was the news director for WHJB radio in Greensburg, reported that he was on the scene when the state police fire marshal and other investigators arrived to check out a report that something had fallen into the woods. They went down into the area with a geiger counter. Later after returning, they were approached by Murphy and when the fire marshal was asked about what was found, among his comments were "You better get your information from the Army."

Firemen drove military officers on a fire vehicle down through the fields towards the wooded impact site, but these firemen were not permitted to go near the object. Various observers claim that the military utilized a small farm house near the impact site, as well as the Kecksburg Fire Department truck station as a command center during the evening of the event.

A narrow country road, overlooking a wooded area which was the target of the search, was jammed with the curious. Among the crowd are reporters and cameramen from area TV, radio and newspaper sources. During the evening, the firemen help state police block off roads around the alleged crash site.

It is dark, and the crowd can only see lights moving about in the woods quite a distance away. As the night wears on, the crowd slowly begins to disperse since it's too far away to see anything from that location in the dark. That evening people report seeing a military flatbed trailer truck moving in the direction of the reported impact location. The trailer goes in empty, but returns later with a military jeep escort, loaded with a large object shaped like a bell, and covered with a tarpaulin.

Word is spread around to those in the area that night, that what was found was a meteorite. Independent eyewitnesses who were able to get into the woods before the military arrived, claim that they came across an object which was constructed and was not a meteorite. They describe a large solid metallic object large enough for a man to stand inside of. The object was shaped like an acorn, was of an odd gold copper-bronze color and was one solid metal structure. Just above the bottom of the object was a bumper-like area, which had upon it unusual markings which were described as looking similar to Egyptian hieroglyphics. The next day the state police reported that nothing was found, and the report from the Pentagon was that what was seen was likely a meteor passing through the sky.

In recent years information has come forth that the object was transported that night to Lockbourne Air Force Base in Columbus, Ohio, for a short stay over. The object then was transported to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. It is at that location that informants tell us the object was sealed up under special conditions inside of a building. Where the object is today is not known.

I have spent years searching for the truth about what happened at Kecksburg, and I have attempted to identify what it was that reportedly fell from the sky that day. We do have confirmation that a Soviet satellite, actually a Venus Probe called KOSMOS 96, did re-enter the Earth's atmosphere at 3:18 a.m. in Canada on that same date. KOSMOS 96 can't be ruled out as a source of this mystery. Some of those who saw the object however are not convinced of a man-made explanation and believe that the object could have been of an extraterrestrial origin. Regardless as to what the origin of this object was, one of the biggest mysteries about the event is our government's position on this occurrence.

I have in my possession a copy of the Air Force Project Blue Book report concerning the Kecksburg (Acme) incident. The contents show a great deal of interest in the sighting from various government agencies. More importantly it verifies that three men from the 662nd Radar Squadron, which was then based in Pittsburgh, were involved in the search for the object. The report states "A three-man team has been dis-

patched to Acme to investigate and pick up an object that started a fire." The report indicates that the search continued until about 2 a.m. and that nothing was found.

I have obtained the records for December of 1965 of the 662nd Radar Squadron. Interestingly even though the Air Force report and newspaper accounts verifies that personnel from that unit were involved at Kecksburg, there is no mention of this activity in their records. This appears to indicate that this mission was classified.

The personnel from that unit would have been Air Force. Many observers at Kecksburg describe seeing Army equipment and soldiers as well. My search for military and government documents that would verify this incident continues. There have been numerous attempts for years to obtain such material. Informants have told me that such documents did exist on the Kecksburg recovery. In 1994 another attempt was made to find out about any special recovery or search activity in the area near Kecksburg.

Among the information received were the facts that a search by combined intelligence center officials of the U.S. Space Command/NORAD intelligence data center revealed no unusual re-entry phenomena which would have triggered a special recovery or search activity in the designated region during the period of Dec. 1-15, 1965. The official contacted indicated however, that the records from 30 years ago may not be reliable.

Personnel from the Military Reference Branch of the National Archives searched the Project Blue Book files which contain records of UFO sightings investigated by the Air Force from 1947-1969. According to the archives officials, the Blue Book files contained only one report of a potential UFO incident in west-central Pennsylvania during the period of December of 1965. That incident was identified as natural in origin and was not associated with the Kecksburg event.

A review of major local newspapers over the period of Dec. 1-15, 1965, conducted by the Congressional Research Service disclosed no reported unusual activities or incidents. Officials at the National Air Intelligence Center (formerly Foreign Technology Division) indicated that the Air Force had nothing on file to indicate any other special recovery operation had taken place in the area on the dates of interest.

In another correspondence from May, 1995, our government's position on the Kecksburg incident is stated as follows "officially the military has completely denied any involvement directly or indirectly with any events surrounding the Kecksburg area on the evening of Dec. 9, 1965."

The military's claim of no involvement at Kecksburg conflicts with multiple eyewitness testimony, national and local news accounts, and

more importantly their own Air Force records which I have on file. Something happened 30 years ago in Western Pennsylvania, and the citizens of this state have the right to know the truth about what really did occur. The Kecksburg incident has attracted a great amount of public interest, and it continues to draw national and international attention.

On this 30th year anniversary of the Kecksburg event, I am making an appeal to the public for information on this case, as well as support in asking your representatives to conduct an investigation on this matter, where witnesses can describe what took place in Kecksburg in 1965, and documentation can be presented. I am asking any person who was at Kecksburg on that date and observed any activity associated with this event, or those who saw the object, as well as individuals who have any information on this event to contact me. Any information about what you saw, no matter how small, is important in solving this matter. If you were a part of the military operation that night at Kecksburg please contact me. If you were at Kecksburg and have any photographs that pertain to this event, or other evidence, or newspaper clippings from that time I would like to hear from you. You may contact me confidentially.

Recently the investigative arm of Congress, the (GAO) General Accounting Office, conducted a record search on a reported UFO crash incident which occurred in 1947 in New Mexico. It is time that a detailed investigation be conducted into the Kecksburg incident by our representatives. This type of investigation should include interviewing eyewitnesses to the event, as well as people who have claimed that the case is a hoax. Military and government informants who have information about the case should be granted immunity so that they can speak freely about their knowledge or involvement with this event. A detailed search should be conducted for government and military files which reportedly existed at the time of the incident.

Among the many eyewitnesses that night at Kecksburg were news reporters who saw and talked with military personnel. The office manager of WHJB radio in Greensburg at the time, has stated that she helped to handle the large number of phone calls that the station was receiving about sightings of the object. She says that among those calling were the military who was asking for information about what was seen, and requesting directions to the site.

Please write your congressmen and senators, and ask them to conduct such an inquiry. Searching for records through the mail has not, and will not reveal the true facts about what happened Dec. 9, 1965 at Kecksburg. After 30 years, the public should demand the truth about this local mystery.

GASTON GAZETTE, Gastonia, NC
Dec. 3, 1995 CR: G. Fawcett

FEEDBACK

Eyewitnesses should be allowed to tell of UFO experiences

In recent months various skeptics have challenged unknown phenomenon, including UFOs, as things that science can't prove.

We have let the scientific community get away with both non-science and nonsense.

Blanket explanations of unknowns by so-called thought police will not whitewash the truth concerning UFOs.

The time has come for the eyewitnesses to speak.

Ask skeptics and non-skeptics alike to step aside and listen to the evidence not yet presented.

Take one case alone as a start — the Rosewell, N.M., crash of 1947 with more than 500 first, second- and third-hand observers.

Let them testify in Congress with immunity from prosecution.

Let's keep in mind that many at that time signed oaths of secrecy or received death threats against themselves or their families by military investigators.

More than eight death bed confessions to the event have been recorded.

This is evidence not yet heard, not even in congressional hearings before the Armed Services Committee, the 89th Congress on April 5, 1966, or before the Science and Astronautics Committee, the 90th Congress on July 29, 1968.

Such an action is long overdue after 48 years. And some of these eyewitnesses live in North Carolina.

George D. Fawcett
MUFON-NC Inc., Lincolnton

NASHVILLE SCENE, Nashville, TN

Nov. 9, 1995 CR: B. Kinnard

I Know What I Saw

I read with great interest the article "Out of This World," by Joysa Winter. UFOs first came to my attention in the 1950s, since they were in the news quite often. I had a sighting myself in 1957 in which a glowing fireball traveled horizontally across the sky for many minutes. It was silent and moved slowly, and the object itself pulsed. It was not natural phenomena or an optical illusion. Many people saw it with me.

I was amused by the remarks of professor Douglas Hall. Most scientists are going to denounce UFOs as natural or earthly in origin. A scientist is even more aware of the devastating consequences of ridicule to one's career and credibility.

If all of the information on UFOs were presented in a court of law, their existence would be validated due to the overwhelming circumstantial evidence alone!!!! It has always seemed odd to me that the scientific community in this country has always turned away from what might be the greatest discovery in human history. Why not really investigate it with objectivity and find out for sure??? I know what I saw!! What are they afraid of?? Ridicule????

Sid Johnson
P.O. Box 128061, Nashville

I can be contacted by writing to 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, PA 15601, phone or FAX 412-838-7768. Names of people contacting me with information can remain confidential.

'A high school for aliens'

UFO enthusiasts describe being lost in space after alien abductions

by Tim Frystak

Somewhere among the stars is an alien being waiting for her first royalty check.

That is if you believe little gray creatures from outer space exist, that they occasionally abduct human beings for experimental research, and, on at least one occasion, that they helped a Portland, Ore., woman with a manuscript on her UFO encounters.

For the majority of the crowd attending a lecture Friday night, Oct. 6, at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, the adventures are not that unimaginable.

About 70 people turned out to listen to Katharina Wilson, author of "Alien Jigsaw: A Fresh Look at an Old Puzzle," relate her numerous abductions by aliens that she has experienced the past 26 years. Wilson was joined by John Carpenter, a director of abduction research for the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), in a nearly four-hour program that concluded National UFO Awareness Week.

Wilson, an attractive, 32-year-old married woman, told audience members her first conscious abduction memory dates back to when she was about 6 years old and living in Alabama. The experience is one she kept quiet until her adult years, but one that never left her imagination.

Wilson told audience members that during her first encounter, she was awakened to find a holographic image hovering above her bed. After flying over a gravel road about a block from her home, she found herself paralyzed, naked and floating "in what I thought was the presence of God." As vivid as it was, she didn't tell anyone for 21 years.

But the adventure did not stop there. When she was 8 she met an alien she called "the doctor," who wore a white lab coat and told her she would have a little sore on her arm. The next morning she did have a sore — one that healed that same day but left behind a small, scoop-mark scar.

"Imagine going to bed at night and falling asleep, and although you don't remember how you got there, you find yourself in an unusual location where you are experiencing the most unusual events.

"You are aware that you are no longer in your bed, and you are also aware that the person you are looking at is not human," Wilson said.

Although she said she has had psychological evaluations, an MRI procedure and a CT scan, nothing could be found to account for the abduction memories.

Even so, the memories continue. She has had "teaching dreams," which she describes as "an abduction of the mind." One of the dreams tested her ability to protect animals and her emotions.

The types of aliens she has encountered on her journeys have been as wide-ranging as the journeys themselves, she said. She has met four different types of aliens she dubbed "the grays" — creatures with gray skin and large black eyes ranging from 3 feet tall to ones with waist-long, yellow-blond hair. Some have been able to change their appearance from an alien to a cat, a dog and a bright, white light.

She also met one she described as "a diplomat."

"I felt very proud to meet him. It was a very special feeling. It was like the equivalent of meeting the president of the United States," Wilson recalled.

"And you weren't supposed to touch him, but I shook hands with him, and he removed my hand with his, and it was, 'You don't touch this person, or being.' Like they all are, it was a real incredible experience for me."

Tan aliens, spotted aliens and "the evil humanoid" — which once attacked another abductee on-board a craft and may have visited her home one day, leaving behind a long, crooked smudge on a dusty table — have also been encountered.

While Wilson described 45 percent of her experience as neutral, 32 percent as negative and 23 percent as positive, she said an abduction with "the blue-eyed being" was most positive. Without her help, Wilson's book may have had some glaring errors.

"This is a female being who actually kind of helped me with my book. It was very strange. She appeared in my guest bedroom — and I don't remember getting out of bed or putting my robe on — but I remember standing there in the guest bedroom, and she told me that I transcribed some dates from my journal to my manuscript incorrectly," said Wilson.

"I remember saying, 'Thank you, thank you, thank you.' The next day I was going through my manuscript, proofing it, and I found five dates that I had transcribed incor-

rectly, and I was able to make the corrections before the first printing of the book. Strange, but it happened."

One abductee told Wilson how excited a group of aliens were to learn Wilson was writing a book.

"This woman saw me on-board a craft, holding a book. She said I was surrounded by a group of female aliens who were very happy and were wiggling their arms and excitedly repeating the statement, 'She's writing a book! She's writing a book!'"

I didn't know her, she didn't know me, she didn't know I was writing a book, and this occurred two years before I even decided to write 'Alien Jigsaw,' " she explained.

'Too much evidence to ignore'

For many in the audience Friday night, the experience was a believable one.

"There's too much evidence to ignore it. Along with the Roswell incident (a 1947 case in which the U.S. government allegedly recovered a crashed alien vessel and alien bodies from the New Mexico desert), the whole cover-up

"This woman saw me on-board a craft, holding a book. She said I was surrounded by a group of female aliens who were very happy and were wiggling their arms and excitedly repeating the statement, 'She's writing a book! She's writing a book!'"

Katharina Wilson,
UFO author and abductee

have our scientific information, and this changes every year, every century. Even though they (scientists) claim to understand everything right now, five years from now they'll change it."

Carpenter said cave drawings and even religious paintings have shown strange, unidentified flying objects in the sky. Fairies and elves in literature are similar to gray beings described by many abductees, he said. And in a theory he said is sometimes controversial, angels may be aliens.

"We call them aliens. Other people may have called them fairies. Some have called them angels. What are they, and why are we monitoring us? ... You wonder why the Egyptians suddenly had all that technology, (why) the Sumerians suddenly had all that technology. It didn't follow the normal evolutionary process. It makes you wonder what kind of guidance there might have been," Carpenter told the audience.

Humans as guinea pigs

As if that were not enough to pique one's curiosity, Wilson told audience members she believes the government may also be tied in to the whole alien affair.

Although she said she did not want to shout "conspiracy," she said U.S. officials have admitted to government cover-ups in the past, including using humans for radiation tests during the Cold War. Watergate and the Iran-Contra affair have also been cited as examples by some UFO supporters.

"I think the government can keep secrets. The government has experimented on humans without their consent, and they have managed to keep those experiments secret for decades. ... I have serious doubts they are anywhere close to acknowledging that UFOs and aliens exist," Wilson said.

"The government isn't going to acknowledge anything unless they're forced to. The question is, will the American public demand to know the truth?"

"The possibility that the government is aware abductions are occurring and may be involved — which is probably the most controversial part of this whole phenomenon — is something I have to consider. I had to come to terms with the fact I had conscious memories of 14 experiences of seeing military personnel with and without alien beings."

She continued: "There's a possibility the military personnel we see in our experiences have themselves been abducted. It's possible the aliens are using camouflage to show us that our government is involved. Or they want to deceive us into believing our government is somehow involved. That's very frightening."

So exactly what are aliens doing on Earth — if they are visiting at all? That is open for debate. They may be tracking pollution levels, or they simply be using humans as experiments.

"Someone asked me why they have to keep examining humans over the centuries. Don't they know what we look like by now? How we operate by now? If they're that brilliant, they should have figured it out after a couple of cases," he said.

"Well, I wonder how many times frogs wonder how many times they have to be dissected in our labs. Look at how many frogs are dissected each year. Maybe we're a high school for aliens. I don't know."

Tara Stevens, a 20-year-old former Naperville resident now living in Estes Park, Colo., doesn't know for sure either — but she still believes.

"There's too much for it just to be a coincidence. Plus, it's kind of egotistical just to think we're the only ones (in the universe)," she said. "I just think you have to open your mind."

Open your mind or shut off your TV set, according to 20-year-old Naperville resident Ben Ko.

"I don't know about their existence, but the fact that they visit us all the time? I don't think so," said Ko. "I think someone's watched 'The X-Files' one too many times."



Countless numbers of people have claimed to have spotted unidentified flying objects. The U.S. Air Force spent 1948 through 1969 trying to debunk UFO claims through a task force code-named Project Blue Book. Most photos of UFOs, like this one taken in Italy in 1960, have been determined to have been retouched. This sighting was ruled a probable hoax.

seems to be coming apart by the seams," said Jim Thornton, an Oak Park resident.

Thornton also said he would not mind being abducted himself. "Oh sure, anytime. Beam me up," he said.

His wife, Susan Thornton, disagreed. "I don't want them to do anything to my body," she said.

Experiments on humans are apparently a regular occurrence. Wilson, who began keeping a journal of her experiences in 1983, said there have been reports of sperm and ovum samples being taken from abductees to create a hybrid being.

Wilson said she has had half-alien, half human creatures "presented" to her, and has even had alien doctors perform a heart operation on her. Although she experienced some tenderness the next morning, Wilson said there was no scar.

"It was totally bizarre," she admitted.

But not too bizarre for the likes of F. Dirks, a Dundee man who believes ancient astronauts visited the planet millions of years ago. Or for people like West Chicago resident Anthony Frelo, who claimed the vast size of the universe and the mathematical probability alone should lead people to believe.

Both points were stressed by John Carpenter during his speech.

"Once you really get out past the solar system and into the universe, we really don't know much of anything," he said.

"We have our best guesses, we have our estimates, we

Hungate history and UFOs

Charles Hungate, born in England, m. Ann. First time name appeared in Virginia history in 1747 when he received patents on land in Montgomery county. He died in 1749.

William Hungate, born she Virginia, married all took down the ~~the~~ Hungate, born ing bees, pie su and after popular at Yale ~~Union~~ Many, many memories

Getting back to me (Es-ther Fay Hungate). We moved to Benton in 1922. Janie and Burrell had moved on Grand Street, Burrell was teaching music in the schools and Janie was working at Brown's store on the south east corner of Benton's square. We moved next door south of them. Everett and I went to the Webster School in the fourth grade. Logan was a freshman in BTHS.

We moved north on

Grand Street when the school was out, May 1, 1923. One evening after supper, we went out in front of our house to play, when we noticed something like a small cloud in the cloudless sky, looking away and then back again, the cloud was getting larger, and I said, "There's something in the sky." My twin ran around the house to hide from it — but, me, I wanted to see what the flying object would do. I was curious. It was coming from the north, not very high in the sky. It slowed down like a top and flew low around the old fair-ground, then came back by the Grant School west to the Electrical poles, stopping before crossing the railroad tracks. It came to a stop about the height of the tree tops, when the lights came on around the bottom edge — red, blue, green and ecru. The ecru light

or spotlight was very bright on me, about a block away. I put my hands over my closed eyes. It seemed like a few minutes before the spotlight was turned off. When I looked, it had moved near the electric poles. Then it rose up high in the sky, then began to descend slowly until it landed across the railroad tracks. I started to run towards it and then it began to rise a little above the ground and move about a block south. It was about as high as a telephone pole when the bottom moved, and four lights came on, then a pillar of light came out of it. I looked away a minute and when I looked back to it, it was gone. No one believed me, and it was years before I saw in the Sunday paper a picture of a UFO, and then I knew the mystery object I had seen was a UFO. I have not seen another one since.

DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, UT - Dec. 3, 1995

OUT OF THIS WORLD

Alien wares for sale — but the stories are free

Vendors at Mesquite UFO convention offer cards, guitar picks and videos.

By Zack Van Eyck
Deseret News staff writer

MESQUITE, Nev. — You can't play cards with extraterrestrials — not yet, anyway — but you can play cards with an alien card deck.

You can play guitar with an alien-face guitar pick. You can wear a T-shirt promoting human-alien interaction. You can buy a videotape that purportedly reveals the location of secret alien bases on earth, and another that asks that nagging question: "Are you a UFO abductee?"

You can buy alien jewelry, UFO calendars, UFO posters, a photograph and interpretation of your own aura, and cosmically balanced nutritional supplements. You can even get an 8-by-10 glossy of your favorite UFO researcher.

It's all for sale here at the Oasis Resort, site of the fifth annual International UFO Congress convention. And many of the 600 UFO enthusiasts attending the eight-day conference appear to be spending as much or more at the various vendors' booths as they are in the adjacent casino.

But many of the merchants peddling their out-of-this-world products say they aren't getting rich. Some, like Valenya, a northern-California artist with only one name and a table full of alien T-shirts, say they just hope to sell enough merchandise to pay for the

cost of attending the conference.

"It's a labor of love," said Valenya, who sell the screen-printed T-shirts depicting benevolent aliens and flying saucers for \$20 each. "You just get addicted to these shows. There's so much information."

"When you have a booth, people come by and tell you all kinds of things. There was a cowboy in here this morning talking about an experience he had in the desert. They know they're not going to be laughed at here."

Often, though, it is the people behind the tables who tell the stories. Wendelle Stevens, a former military and long-time UFO researcher, who is scheduled to speak at the conference Saturday, shares anecdotes while hawking his videos.

At the table beside Stevens is Bill Uhouse, a retired mechanical engineer and designer of UFO playing cards. Uhouse, a Las Vegas resident, said he spent much of his career working for a secret arm of the U.S. government set up by Richard Nixon. He said he is writing a book about his experience.

"There's two governments in this country. If you look for information about UFOs in the U.S. government, you're not going to find it," said Uhouse, 72. "The extraterrestrials are here. . . . This is bigger than when they built the bomb in World War II."

His playing cards haven't been a bomb. Uhouse has recovered the \$9,000 he invested to design and print them two years ago. He has distributors from California to Florida. His guitar picks, though,

have yet to catch on with any big-name rock-and-roll types.

Chris Toussaint, a former film producer and director from Los Angeles, has one of the more impressive collections of UFO videos available at the convention, including copies of "alien autopsy," seen several times now on the FOX television network. Toussaint said his distribution company is anxiously awaiting the public release of three videotapes, previewed here during last year's conference, that purportedly showed not only UFOs

but their occupants as well.

"We're now making a living at this," Toussaint said. "Since 1992, it's really been starting to explode. A lot of people are coming forward. A lot of ex-military people, for instance, and there seems to be more and more footage coming out."

For anywhere from \$20 to \$40 per tape, conventioners can take the videos home and watch them again and again — perhaps while playing cards with an alien, or at least an alien card deck.

CR: Z. Van Eyck

Edwards offers advice on viewing Salida's UFO activity

by Chris Hunt
Mail News Editor

Tim Edwards, the Salidan who first videotaped an unidentified flying object Aug. 27, has added significantly to his extra-terrestrial video library over the past week.

"They've been up there every day since last Tuesday," Edwards said. "They're up by the sun."

Yesterday, a group of out-of-town media representatives and a curious ufologist showed up on Edwards' front door wanting to talk about the UFOs, but he wasn't there. He was out back taping more UFOs darting about the skies over Salida.

Edwards also got a visit from KVRH radio, who showed up to watch the other experts watch Edwards. Regardless of motive, all apparently got a look at the infamous UFO video that spawned what has become an almost commonplace event in Salida today. We're all looking for UFOs.

But, Edwards said, don't just look up at the sun, and don't look up at the sun with binoculars.

"Get under the north face of a house or an awning, and then walk forward until the sun hits your eyes," Edwards said.

"Then back up until the sun is shielded, but you can still see the area right around the sun. That's where you need to look to see them."

According to Edwards, the best time to watch for UFOs is between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on clear days. If there are any clouds between you and the sun, there's no point in looking. "There needs to be a clear sky around the sun," Edwards said.

Then, right around noon, the UFO activity in the sky begins to escalate, Edwards explained. "Look way up in the sky," he said. "Try to filter out all the cotton and everything else. Then you'll see them."

What exactly will we see?

"Crafts of all shapes," he said. "I've seen globes, square crafts, triangular crafts, and they all have a silver metallic look to them."

Some of the objects apparently leave behind spider web-like trails as they spread out from the sun. "You can follow them across the sky for what looks like five or six miles, then they just dissipate," Edwards said.

Another thing he's noticed, he said, is the lack of commercial aircraft flying over the area in the last week or so. Instead of 747s, Edwards said he's been seeing what looks like military aircraft buzzing the mountains and the skies above the valley. In fact, he said he's captured many of the planes on videotape.

Perhaps even more interesting, he said, is the fact that these sightings are now being reported all over the west. "They're seeing them in Las Vegas and in Baja," he said. "I think the UFOs are following the sun around the world."

JOURNAL, Alexandria, VA - Oct. 4, 1995 CR: L. Bryant

UFO inquiry garnered only a form letter from Sen. Warner

When I alerted *Journal* readers to the growing controversy over the emergence of an alleged "alien autopsy" film (Letters, April 14), I also felt obligated to help resolve questions about the film's authenticity, origin and socio-political impact.

In pursuing that obligation, I sought the help of Sen. John Warner. My letter to him of Sept. 14 proposed that he "seek from the secretary of the Air Force a written secrecy-oath waiver for the photographer responsible for the autopsy film. With that waiver in hand, the photographer can feel free to step forward with his complete story for corroboration and evaluation via a federal special grand jury and/or via a full-scale congressional inquiry into [the incident at Roswell, N.M.]"

I offered ample precedent by which to approach the secretary: "In the course of responding to Ros-

well-related [Government Accounting Office] inquiries, the secretary of the Air Force granted at least one alleged Roswell-retrieval principal a waiver of any secrecy oath by which he may have been bound during Roswell's aftermath."

My request made it simple for Virginia's senior senator to relay this message to the secretary: "If, as the Air Force says, 'flying saucers,' retrieved UFO occupants, and the worldwide governmental cover-up of UFO reality have no more substance than Santa Claus, then the secretary should have no qualms in granting the requested waiver."

Unfortunately, my appeal fell as flat as a computer chip. Indeed, my request must have contained more than enough key words (UFO, alien and cover-up) to trigger his staff computer to respond with a form letter dated Sept. 22. Over his signature, the letter recounts the events

surrounding Rep. Steven Schiff's search for official Roswell-related records. It closes by saying, "Please be assured that I will keep your views in mind should matters concerning the Roswell incident come before the Senate."

The history of the UFO crash-retrieval case at Roswell almost 50 years ago overflows with lost opportunities. Not one to tamper with the flow of history, Warner thus has added his own measure of lost opportunity — by ignoring my request.

Perhaps the only way Roswell (and the crash-retrieval case of December 1950 near Del Rio, Texas) will ever "come before the Senate" lies in the electoral process. Namely, a (hopefully) soon-to-be-elected freshman senator with enough nerve and clout to start asking the right questions of the right people.

LARRY W. BRYANT
Alexandria

TRIBUNE-REVIEW, Greensburg, PA - Nov. 25, 1995

Radio station to broadcast show on Kecksburg UFO

By The Tribune-Review

WHJB radio (AM 620) in Greensburg will present a two-hour broadcast Tuesday commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Kecksburg UFO incident.

The call-in talk show, hosted by Joe Gearing, will run from 1 to 3 p.m. Featured will be several people who say they were at the scene that night, and some who say they saw military personnel haul away a metal, acorn-shaped object on the back of a flatbed truck.

Bill Bulebosh and James Roman-sky, area men who say they saw the craft on the ground that night, will be among the guests.

Another witness, Pittsburgh jazz great Jerry Betters, said he was in

Kecksburg that night and saw the object as it was driven away on the back of the truck.

Mable Mazza, WHJB office manager at the time of the incident, answered dozens of calls that night from area people who said they saw the object passing overhead. She said she received calls from military personnel seeking information on what callers were telling her about the incident and asking for directions to the crash site.

The military's official position is that the object was a meteor that disintegrated.

Excerpts from the 1965 broadcast will be played during Tuesday's broadcast.

Listeners with knowledge of the case are invited to call in.

CR: S. Gordon



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

EVENING POST, Reading, England - Aug. 18, 1995

IT COULD BE U-FO!

KENT TODAY, London, England - Aug. 24, 1995

Flying lights spectacular was UFO says man

A KENT man claims he saw a spectacular UFO above his home.

Peter Hadden, of Gladstone Road, Deal, said he watched the mysterious lights for 15 minutes.

"They were pinpricks of light moving around at high and low speeds," he said.

Mr Hadden, 61, was in his back garden just after 9pm on Sunday when he saw the UFO coming from the east.

"It was a dim light, high up and speeding almost towards me," he said. "My next door neighbour was in her garden and I pointed it out to her."

"The object kept coming towards me until it stopped, moved left and right for a few moments and then came back up to a terrific speed, with a small wake of vapour behind."

"It went in a large, left-handed arc where another object, of the same dimness, joined it. At one stage the object split into two and flew in different directions."

He watched the spectacle for almost 15 minutes and then called RAF Manston to see if anyone had reported it. But no others had been received.

"The UFOs were definitely not aircraft of the conventional earthly kind," said Mr Hadden.

● If anyone else spotted any unusual lights in the sky, write to our office at 13 Queen Street, Deal, CT14 9EX, or call editorial on 01304 365526.

By JONATHAN CARTER

A TAXI driver claims aliens have told him this week's winning National Lottery numbers - with the help of their spaceship.

Alan Beazley says he was left speechless when a mysterious glowing orange sphere belching flames streaked across the sky a few hundred feet above his cab.

But Alan, 28, reckoned the UFO may have been a lucky omen and decided to use the times of the sightings to pick his lottery numbers.

"It beats reading your stars to make a prediction," he said.

"It was all very weird. When I got back to the office my boss said 'maybe it's a sign that they are coming to get us'. Half an hour later my mate came in and said exactly the same thing."

Alan, from Severn Way, Tilehurst, quickly radioed his cab office to report what he had seen only to be told another driver had reported seeing the unidentified object five miles away just seconds earlier.

And he said that a third witness had been the owner of a Kebab van where he had stopped for a bite to eat.

Shocked Alan couldn't believe his eyes when he saw the bright orange object for a second time only minutes later - heading towards the town centre.

He said: "There is absolutely no way it was an aircraft - it was flying far too low and too fast. It didn't make a sound either - it was really eerie."

Cabbies claim flying saucers hold key to a lottery fortune

Alan jotted down the times of the sightings - the first in Scours Lane, Tilehurst, at 12.30pm and the second just minutes later, at 12.36pm, in Norcot Road.

Alan's mate and fellow cabby Chris says he saw a glowing white ball, which turned orange, for about two seconds as he drove along Waldeck Street, five miles away in Whitley.

Alan said: "I have never seen anything like it in my life - I stayed up all night staring at the sky just in case it came back again."

"I don't suppose I will see anything like it ever again - but I'll have to wait and see whether it brings me any luck on the lottery."

Alan's lucky UFO numbers are 2, 8, 12, 24, 30, and 36.



► **LUCKY OMEN**
— Alan Beazley with a picture of the UFO he saw from his taxi and the Lottery numbers he has accredited to it



EXPRESS, Hemel Hempstead, England - Aug. 11, 1995

THEY SAW THE LIGHT TOO

Now sightings galore, but is it a UFO or plane?

A RASH of unexplained lights has been reported in the sky over Hemel Hempstead during the past week by stunned town residents.

The sightings are part of a continuing series of bizarre phenomena reported in last week's *Express* which has baffled residents over the recent sizzling hot spell.

Danielle Herdman, aged 11, of Cambrian Way, Highfield, Hemel Hempstead, saw the mysterious lights from a garden in Highfield where she was talking with friends and relatives.

She said: "I was in my friend Claudia's garden

By Express reporter Robert Stock

when my sister's boyfriend Gavin pointed to a really bright, yellowish light in the sky."

"It started to move higher and really fast across the roof tops. There was also a buzzing sound."

"It changed direction quite a few times and then it disappeared into the dark sky."

Graham Brooks, an unemployed musician, of Flaunden Lane, Bovingdon, was next to see the lights as he drove home with his wife along Tower Hill at 11.40pm the following night.

He said: "I noticed some very bright lights about 150 feet above us in the air."

"I thought it was a plane going to crash land, so I said to my wife slow down."

He said the lights then disappeared over the fields travelling at an incredible speed.

He added "There was no outline between the two lights, only darkness which was silhouetted against the sky."

Only Danielle had an explanation for the outlandish lights.

She said: "I think it was a

UFO. I have seen an aeroplane and it wasn't one of those."

But others are not convinced. In a letter to the *Express* Mr Lionel Geary, a former aeronautical engineer, of Wood Lane End, Hemel Hempstead, offers different explanations for the strange lights.

He said aircraft with very bright warning lights and comets could have caused the confusion.

But Mike Rogers, an aerospace engineer and secretary of the Crop Circle Society in Berkhamsted, believes other theories need to be explored if light is to be shed on these unexplained sightings.

He said it was possible that radiation leaking from fissures in the earth's surface was made to glow as it came into contact with radio waves, or that these sightings were related to a spate of crop circles that have appeared in the area.

He said there were people who thought these lights may be astro-grams, warnings from intelligences beyond our imaginations telling us to stop treating our planet so badly.

EVENING NEWS, Scarborough, England - June 1, 1995

Teenagers claim to see UFOs on camping trip

TWO Scarborough teenagers abandoned a camping trip after claiming they saw UFOs.

Chris Bunting and Mark Smith did not hang around to investigate after being surrounded by a bright white light near Seamer Railway Station, between 10.30pm-10.45pm on Tuesday.

The 17-year-olds were waiting in a field for a rendezvous with friends when they say they had their extra terrestrial experience.

Chris, of Eastway, said: "All of a

sudden there was a really bright white light all around us and I saw two large rectangular shapes. Mark says he saw four more."

Mark, of Crab Lane, Crossgates, and Chris told their friends and Yorkshire Coast Radio about the encounter. Chris added: "We are both open-minded about UFOs and wondered if anyone else had reported the sightings."

If anyone did see the mysterious lights, contact the Evening News on Scarborough 363636 ext 271.



Editor's Asian TV role

ANDOVER Advertiser, Ken Dykes, is finding a new role as a media star.

He has already appeared several times on Andover's Town TV programmes, highlighting the local scene, but will now appear on screens in Asia.

Crop circle expert, Colin Andrews, now living in America, has returned to Andover, his former home town, to start eight weeks of strenuous investigation of the phenomenon.

For several weeks he is being accompanied by a camera crew from the World College of Journalism sited in Taiwan, along with Professor Hoang Yung Chiang, chairman of the Taiwan UFO Science

Association.

Because of the journalistic connection, Colin Andrews asked for an interview with Ken Dykes, especially as the Editor had expressed some scepticism in a leader column over who creates the crop circles.

Also taking part in the interview was Reg Presley, lead singer of the famous rock group, The Troggs. Reg has been following Colin Andrews' investigations for several years and is a confirmed believer.

There is a massive amount of 'evidence' this year for the investigators. Circles have appeared locally and Colin Andrews feels developments, also involving the head of The

Mars Mission, NASA consultant Richard Hoagland who is in this country with him, could make this a 'make or break year' for unlocking the mystery.

In England Andrews is lecturing at Harwell Atomic Research Establishment next month, in New York in November and in Japan a huge UFO and space museum is opening in a year's time. The Andover Advertiser reporting of five circles appearing at Longstock in 1985 will be featured.

Ken Dykes is pictured welcoming Colin Andrews, Reg Presley and the film crew to the Advertiser newsroom.

The K Files

Tales of the Unexplained

The theme of UFOs appears more frequently than any other manifestation in the files of paranormal investigators. This is because it is an on-going phenomena with fresh sightings pouring in on a daily basis. It can get a little tiresome to continually describe lights in the sky and various aspects of the structured craft that have been seen: far more interesting are contactee reports.

Sometimes people report actual meetings with the occupants of UFOs. Perhaps if we examine a few of them we can gain some insight into the possible motives of why the aliens are here. Let's briefly examine what we know about UFOs before we move into the realm of speculation.

Firstly, I am assuming that at least some of the sightings are of structured craft, although I accept that a fair percentage are probably something to do with a meteorological effect as yet not understood, but not all of them.

Secondly, these crafts are not made using current technology, they are either time ships from our own future or space ships from another star system.

Thirdly, the major governments of the world know all about them and are keeping quiet. They may even have crashed UFOs and alien bodies in their possession.

Fourthly, the aliens have been here a very long time and are running some kind of long-term project involving humans.

Before I speculate on the motives for the aliens' presence I present a few cases where contact and communication have supposedly taken place. Of course, we only have the word of the contactees to go on. I leave it to you to decide about the truth of what they say, but bear in mind that most of the statements were made under hypnosis and whether the statement is actually true or not, the hypnotised subject really believes it to be so.

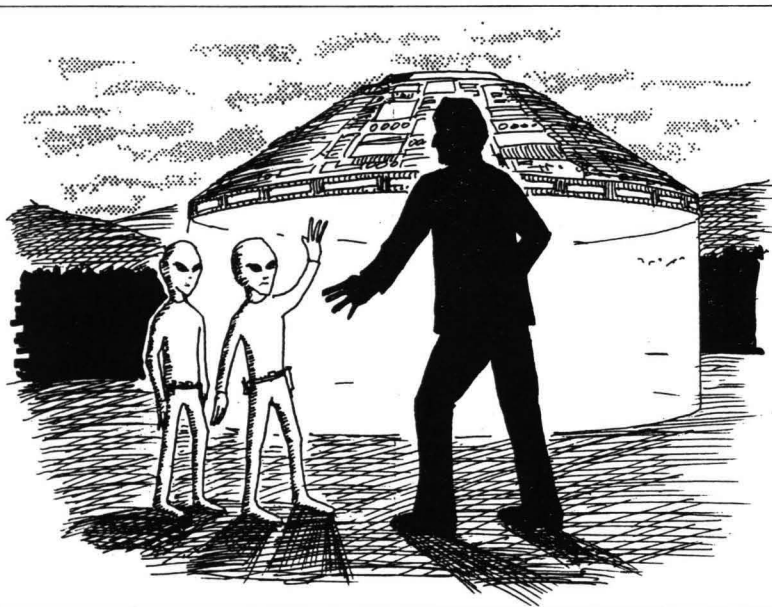
John and Elaine Avis drove into a bank of mist across a road in the Greater London area. They were transported inside a UFO and had contact with aliens. Under hypnosis the content of the communication was revealed. John, when asked why they are here, said: "To observe and lead through observation." When asked where they came from the reply was: "There is no need to say, they have no need to return to where they came from". John also said that they have more than one base on Earth and that genetic experimentation was part of the reason for them being here. When asked where the bases were his replies became incoherent and when brought out of hypnosis he said he had been "blocked"

from saying more.

A witness known only as Julio was abducted by a UFO near Medinaceli, Spain. The aliens told him the Earth is a beautiful oasis in the universe and they were interested in genetic engineering.

Betty Andreasson was abducted from her home in Ashburnham, Massachusetts, and was told by the aliens that "secrets had been locked in her mind". She was then returned home and her family found her apparently paralysed and unconscious.

Jon Hodges and Peter Rodriguez were getting into their car in Dapple Grey Lane, Los Angeles, when they saw two "brain-like" objects about 3ft high on the road.



What's special about us?

Later, hypnosis revealed that communication had taken place which involved concern by the aliens about our lack of environmental awareness and the damage we are doing to our planet.

There are many more cases, but communication with the aliens remains essentially the same. We must ask ourselves (assuming that there is any truth in all of this), are the aliens actually biologists and sociologists who are observing and occasionally genetically interfering with us, and if so why go to so much trouble? The number of UFOs reported indicates a huge investment of time and power on the behalf of the aliens, so what makes us so interesting?

We are a race on the verge of destruction and the death of a complete culture would be of great interest to an outside observer. There are quite simply too many people in the world and it is from this overbreeding that our destruction will come. The resources of our planet cannot support the vast number of humans spreading over the surface of our once lovely planet like a melanoma. Very soon, perhaps within a couple of decades or less, a critical point will be reached and the human race will collapse into extinction. This is not speculation — it's going to happen! Perhaps the aliens are watching and trying to understand how the process works and make sure it never happens to them. — KF

RECORDER, Thurrock, England - June 14, 1995



Lights in the sky! But they weren't blue

A NIGHT-shift for a Tilbury fireman brought with it an experience that was out of this world, when he saw strange lights in the sky.

Pat Davie, 38, was in the station's canteen at 12.30am last Saturday when four rings of light in the sky caught his attention.

Pat, who has worked at the station for 14 years, said: "The rings were above the clouds, and were shaped like pear drops in a spiral."

"At first I thought it was a helicopter, but there was nothing in the sky or on the ground which could have made the lights."

At a neighbouring home in Monarch Close a 12-year-old boy was in a garden with family and friends when he also saw the rings of light in the sky on Friday evening.

Billy Kidd (inset), who is a pupil at St Chads School, Tilbury, said: "It was about 11.30pm when I saw the lights, and watched them for more than 10 minutes before they faded away."

"At first I didn't know what it was, but now I think it was some kind of space ship."

Pat, (pictured), added: "The biggest mistake was telling the rest of the shift about the lights. I'll never live it down."

STRANGE

BUT TRUE...

A look at some of the more bizarre news from around the globe. Compiled by LISA GLEDHILL

THE Roswell UFO crash is a hot topic among UFO-ologists at the moment. But few people have heard of the equally bizarre incident which happened in North Wales in 1974.

Late one winter night an earth tremor shook a mountain near Bala and locals subsequently reported seeing strange lights in the sky.

Personnel from a nearby RAF station immediately sealed off the mountain peak and announced that a military aircraft had crashed.

This satisfied the curiosity of most but, strangely, mountain rescue teams who volunteered their services were turned away.

Also, sheep farmers were prevented from tending their flocks for several

days afterwards by road blocks and armed soldiers who sealed off the mountain peak.

Most strange is the story of a district nurse who was close to the scene of the crash when it happened. She headed for the peak when she heard of the accident to help tend any injured and got almost to the summit before being turned away by armed guards who told her her services were not needed.

However she did get close enough to see an eerie glow around the summit. Her story is supported by her daughter who was with her in the car at the time.

Later, UFO researchers who examined the peak found that even today, radiation levels there are much higher than on neighbouring mountains.

Was this a genuine UFO crash? Had a top secret aircraft gone down? Or was there an accident with a nuclear warhead which could prove embarrassing to the government?

The RAF sticks to its downed aircraft story and locals are very reluctant to talk about what happened that night.

HAVE YOU EVER EXPERIENCED ANY STRANGE PHENOMENA? If so, contact me at The Herald And Post, 191 High Street, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE8 1AS, 0191 477 3245.

UFOS LIGHT UP SE ESSEX

ENTHUSIASTS from around the country are taking a special interest in south-east Essex after a spate of unexplained sightings in the night sky.

The latest and most spectacular comes from Rayleigh couple Susan and David Wright in the early hours of Monday morning.

They claim they saw a triangle of white light sweep down from the sky to hover just a few feet above bushes over Hockley.

High in the sky was a large red light from which other lights swished down to the hovering one and then back up again. Tiny lights also fell from the hovering

one behind bushes.

Five-months pregnant Susan, 36, said: "We were watching for nearly two hours from just before 3am after waking up in the night. We are not cranks — just ordinary people — it was weird."

Stranger still is that the couple saw another UFO in the same spot in March but were too scared to go public because they feared ridicule.

Mechanic David, 31, said: "We made inquiries with airports and everyone we could think of. I even wrote to the MOD at Whitehall demanding to know



MYSTERY:
David and Susan Wright search for clues at Galsted Hall, Hawkwell

what was going on but they just said there were always lots of lights in the sky.

"I am convinced we saw spaceships. This time we are determined to get an answer."

Despite lack of sleep yesterday Susan, who has two children of seven and nine, and David went out to the farm area off Main Road, Hawkwell, to see if they could find any evidence.

A manor house near the spot is unoccupied and they could find no one else who saw it. They are trying to find out if any tractors were being used late at night.

Royston Dean, who runs the Astronomy Resource Centre, in Main Road, Hawkwell is intrigued. He and other stargazers have been watching the August meteor displays but he was asleep at the time the Wrights saw the UFO.

Royston said: "It was the right direction and colours to be meteors but some of the things they say certainly don't tie up. Other aspects are like a satellite but not everything."

"What it needs is a tele-

scope to see the shape of the thing the light is coming from."

Royston wants anyone who sees anything like it in the area in the next few days or nights to contact him at once on 01702 206244 so he can check with a telescope. He hopes taxi drivers or other night workers could come up trumps.

The sighting comes a week after the SR last week reported that five policemen saw a UFO over Westcliff after being called out by a couple on Friday August 4. The Essex police helicopter even went to investigate.

Since then Barry King, of the Chelmsford branch of London UFO Studies, says he has had 39 reports from south-east Essex.

And a Bristol-based UFO studies group called our newsdesk to say the same Friday night there was a similar sighting at Knapp Hill, near Southampton, Hants, and again a police helicopter was involved.

Ian Harling of Envision said he was "extremely excited and intrigued" by what the Wrights saw and wants to get in touch.

CITIZEN, Gloucester, England - June 22, 1995

'Aliens molested me' claims businessman

by Christian Otton

A CITY businessman has told psychic experts how he was abducted and sexually molested by aliens in a spacecraft.

The businessman, who wishes to remain anonymous, is one of a growing number of people in Gloucestershire who claim to have come face to face with creatures from outer space.

Now a group of county psychics are setting up a helpline to deal with people who have had close encounters of the third kind.

The Psychic Research Group will meet at Cheltenham tonight.

Spokesman Chris Romer said: "We will be setting up a UFO contact service. If you have had an unusual experience we have trained experts and councillors who can help people work through their experience."

Mr Romer said there had been three recent cases where people from Gloucestershire had encountered aliens. The first involved a "well-known businessman".

Mr Romer said: "He is a successful local businessman based in Gloucester. He is well

known throughout the county and has very good connections throughout society.

"He claims to have been abducted by tall grey figures who have subjected him over a number of years to physical examinations which have sexual overtones.

"Trained psychiatrists who have spoken to him say this certainly has some root with a real event.

"We also have a lady from Gloucester who claims she was taken into a flying saucer and sexually examined.

"And a couple from the south of the county say they saw an alien spacecraft as they were driving along and cannot remember what happened for the next two hours.

"All these stories are very consistent in their detail. We have been working with respected academics to see what is going on."

The meeting will take place at the St George Hotel in St George's Road, from 7.30pm. Entrance is £2.

EXPRESS, Derby, England - Aug. 17, 1995

Alien ship visits city?

By OLIVER NIESEWAND

A FIFTEEN-year-old schoolgirl was frightened after she claims she saw a UFO fly over Breadsall.

Kelly McGrath, of All-estree, was being driven



home by her parents when she said she spotted the craft hovering over a housing estate on Lime Lane.

Kelly said: "I felt quite scared. I had butterflies in my stomach."

"The ship was oval and

pointed at the front, with a dark purple colour underneath.

"The underside was lit up, as if there was a light being shone up from the ground. Although, it was dark on top.

"There was a flashing light at the front and it was moving quickly over the trees.

"I looked away for a moment and when I looked back it had disappeared."

OBJECT

The Woodlands School pupil insists the object made no sound and was not a plane. Her mother Carol said: "We didn't see it because the car had gone

past."

UFO investigator Omar Fowler, of the Derby-based Phenomena Research Association, said: "This sighting has some striking similarities with some in Yorkshire I have been investigating."

"Over the last few months there have been several sightings of these objects, one by more than 30 people."

"I'd be very interested to talk to Miss McGrath."

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Derby, England - July 11, 1995

Flying saucer man faces unbeliever

by Damien Gaffney

DERBY UFO expert Omar Fowler was facing a television grilling today from a university boffin over claims that alien craft have been spotted over the city.

Mr Fowler, of The Circle, Sinfon, will face Professor Charles Leonard, of Coventry University, whom he describes as "an unbeliever" on BBC1's Pebble Mill.

"The BBC asked me to come along and air my views," he said.

Reported UFO sightings were common

over Derby between December and May, and Mr Fowler has sent details to American skywatchers.

He said: "The sightings reported over Derby were similar to those observed in Hudson Valley, New York State, last year."

"The crafts were similarly shaped and behaved in a similar manner. While the

sightings have stopped now, I believe they will return to Derby during the winter months, as has been the case in other areas."

"Similar reports we have had from other groups around the world suggest that when UFOs appear in an area over a sustained period of time, they will usually return."

"These sightings traditionally take place in the winter months when the sky is dark — UFOs are rarely sighted anywhere during the summer months," he said.



● TV SPOT: UFO man Omar Fowler.

DAILY EXPRESS, Paisley,
England - Sept. 5, 1995

Military chief backs UFO alert claim

ONE of Britain's highest-ranking military officers is backing a claim that the Government is concealing evidence of an unidentified flying object being tracked by radar as it approached the South Coast.

In a book to be published next year, author Derek Sheffield tells how on March 30, 1990, four Nato air defence radar stations - three in Belgium and one in Germany - tracked a fast-moving triangular craft across Western Europe.

At one stage, it came within six minutes of entering UK air space, he claims.

Two F-16 fighters from the Belgian Air Force were scrambled to intercept the target but could not keep up with it.

Incident

Mr Sheffield, of Rolvenden, Kent, says the Ministry of Defence denies any knowledge of the incident, despite his claims that British-based tracking stations which make up part of the Nato air defence system would have automatically have been alerted by their counterparts in Belgium and Germany.

That view is shared by Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, who between

1974 and 1977 was the chairman of Nato's Military Committee.

Lord Hill-Norton said: "There is no dispute about the facts of what happened. They have been documented and confirmed by the Belgian authorities.

"The fact is that if these European tracking stations detected a UFO, two fighters were sent up to intercept it and it came to be six minutes from British air space, there is no doubt in my mind that the UK air defence organisation would automatically know about it."

Documents

Mr Sheffield says he has been given official documents by the Belgians, including 12 pages of transcripts of the conversations between the pilots and their control tower.

He plans to publish them in his book, *A Deadly Concealment*, and says they indicate that the object was tracked travelling at speeds of up to 1,000mph and that at one point it manoeuvred and changed course 12 times in 22 seconds.

Mr Sheffield said: "The MoD says it has never detected anything it cannot identify, but I believe they are concealing what they know."

WELLS JOURNAL, Somerset,
England - Aug. 24, 1995

Low-flying object reported over field

'UFO' fright for family

UFOs in formation filmed by S. Korean

Seoul, AFP

FOOTAGE purportedly showing unidentified flying objects (UFOs) in formation was aired on an evening prime time television newscast on Monday that riveted viewers across South Korea.

The film, allegedly taken on September 4 by a local cable television cameraman north of Seoul, showed a clear image of white, luminous saucer-shaped objects flying in formation against a blue sky.

The footage, aired for four minutes and 44 seconds, showed a big brilliant cluster comprising 10 small saucers that flew in parallel, in a vertical formation.

"The flying objects were accidentally taken by my TV

camera while I was on a trip to scout out locations," Lee Hee-Hong, 33, a cameraman for Kangwon Cable News, said in a televised interview shown with his film.

Kang said he had been reluctant to publicise the film for fear of ridicule.

MBC television said it was the first UFO film footage taken in South Korea and shown unedited.

Kang said the UFO film was taken in Kapyong, some 50 kilometres northeast of Seoul, the same place where a newspaper photographer allegedly took a picture of what UFO experts described as a typical flying saucer on September 3.

That photograph, taken by Kim Sun-Kyu of the Seoul newspaper *Munhwa Ilbo*, was selected as one of the nation's best five news pictures for September by an association of South Korean photographers.

In the first week of September, UFOs were witnessed by many people in the area, newspapers said, although scientists remained sceptical about the alleged sightings.

A triangular object hovering at tree height over a field frightened a family travelling to their home in Glastonbury.

According to Sue Hembury-Kellow, of Somerset UFO Research and Investigation Network, the incident happened at Butleigh Wootton, near Glastonbury, at 10.45pm, on August 17.

She said: "Two children and two adults were in the car when they saw the object, which they said was bigger than a Hercules transport plane. They pulled into the side of the road.

"It had three or four bright red lights, and was very close across a field.

"It began moving very slowly, but they heard no noise and were quite frightened," she added, and pointed out that reports of a similar nature come in weekly to the organisation.

Farrel Brimacombe, watch manager at Bristol Airport, said that no sightings had been reported that day.

"If anyone rings us up, we fill in a form and send it to the Ministry of Defence which logs them all," he said.

"The last one we had was reported by two schoolboys, who saw something on the Mendips five years ago."

Mr Brimacombe and his colleagues did spot something strange in the sky at the end of August last year.

"Three of us saw something glinting in the sun. It stayed there for about two hours, but we think it was a space station," he said.

Anything in the air would be tracked by RAF West Drayton, which used to be a military base but is now the national air traffic centre.

A spokesman there said that nothing was logged for the night in question.

"We control all the radar for the whole of the UK. It is all piped through here."

"We see everything," he added.

● Ms Hembury-Kellow wants anyone who saw anything to ring the 24-hour hotline on (01823) 491068.

POST, Bangkok, Thailand - Oct. 12, 1995

UFO sighting claims draw many to Malaysian village

Kuala Lumpur, AP

HUNDREDS of people were flocking to a Malaysian village after hearing reports that a gigantic unidentified flying object had been sighted there four times in the past month, newspapers said yesterday.

But the reports were dismissed by the Malaysian air force and a US-based organisation that studies UFOs.

The latest reported sighting was on Tuesday by staffers of *The Star*, a prominent Kuala Lumpur newspaper, which published a front-page colour picture showing a streak of light above a canopy of trees.

People who claim to have seen the UFO at Tanjung Sept Laut, about 100 kilometres southwest of Kuala Lumpur, say the

spaceship is as big as a soccer field, several stories high and has flashing red, green and orange lights, the *New Straits Times* reported.

A *Star* reporter, David Rajah, who was at the site on Tuesday, said that at about 2 a.m. he and his colleagues observed lights in several straight rows.

The lights moved slightly, but mostly stayed in one place, he wrote in a report published yesterday. After dawn, nothing could be seen, he wrote.

Maj Gen Ahmad Saruji Che Rus, deputy chief of the air force, said such a UFO would have been picked up by its radar.

The National Planetarium said it would study the reports. The director of space research, Mazlan Othman, added that the planetarium also would look at the positions of

stars and planets to see if people had mistaken them for a UFO. *The Star* reported.

Mazlan and Rajah were not available for independent comment.

The Star quoted an official of the US-based Mutual UFO Network as saying he did not believe that the Malaysian phenomenon was a UFO.

Based on previous reports, UFOs appear to move at high speeds, make fast right-angle turns, stop, hover and start again, *The Star* quoted international director Walter Andrus as saying.

He said the object hovering for several hours was more likely to be astronomical in nature, and that 90 per cent of sightings turn out to be something mundane or explainable.

"It just floated across," he said yesterday. "There was no noise."

It was spherical, dark brown and about 10 metres in diameter, and it floated about 100 metres off the ground. It had rods sticking out from its equator.

"I was startled, excited seeing something like that," said Wells. "In my 60-odd years I've

seen a lot of things, but I've never seen anything like this before."

Wells' wife, Elsie, said her husband was frightened after seeing the saucer.

"He used to say he wished they'd pick him up, but now he doesn't," she said. "I definitely believe him. He was too excited about that. He's not a joker, he's definitely not."

UFO sighting in UAE reported

DUBAI, Nov. 27 (DPA)

TWO triangle-shaped unidentified flying objects (UFOs) have been sighted by five men in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the English daily *Gulf News* reported today.

The UFOs, a little smaller than fighter jets, appeared for seconds in the sky over Dubai and emitted strong laser beam-like blue rays splashed with red, Mohammed Ahsan, 24, was quoted as saying.

The air-conditioner technician was on his way home from work yesterday together with four colleagues at around 6:20 pm when they spotted the UFOs flying in from the direction of Hamriya Market taking off for Dubai International Airport.

"I first thought the object was a plane; but then it made no noise at all. As it skimmed over us, I thought it could well be a UFO," the excited Ahsan told the paper in a telephone call.

UFOs have been sighted earlier in the UAE, with the last sighting reported 1989 in Dubai, the report quoted UFO researcher Anton Makk as saying.

CR: C. Hart

SAUDI GAZETTE, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia Nov. 28, 1995

SUNDAY PEOPLE, London, England - Sept. 10, 1995

'I believe in aliens' says UFO buster

BRITAIN'S top UFO investigator has boldly gone where no other has gone before - over to the other side.

And now the men from the ministry are wishing that someone, somewhere would beam him up. Civil servant Nick Page, 29, has been at the heart of secret investigations into Unidentified Flying Objects for four years.

He has been entrusted with some of the most sensitive information on the subject, deemed too hush-hush for public consumption.

Now the 29-year-old Ministry of Defence man has declared: "I believe in aliens."

And he has written a book, *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, to be published next June (Simon and Schuster).

Defence chiefs are furious, but Nick is unrepentant. He says he was convinced by a number of British sightings which defy explanation.

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Oct. 15, 1995 CR: G. Conway

His eyes were like saucers

By Gordon Clark
Staff Reporter

Jack Wells says he's always believed in UFOs, but he never thought he'd see one.

But at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, the Salmon Arm realtor says, he watched a flying saucer drift over his town for 10 minutes.



Ottawa County's Spooklight — fact or fiction?

By Kevin McClintock

Miami News-Record

They say if you keep still and quiet, watch the horizon and keep the doors locked, you'll eventually see it.

Sometimes it will appear as a winking light on the horizon. Nothing more. Other times it will show off its wide assortment of colors. Or break into several smaller balls of light.

And once in a great while it will suddenly appear beside a car. Or in one unlucky woman's case, inside the car!

Every town and every county across the United States has their own personal "mystery" — and this area is no exception.

Twelve miles southwest of Joplin, Mo. near the Missouri-Oklahoma border, a gravel road arrows through a canyon of black-jack oaks, not quite four miles long and ending just beyond what was once a border village by the name of Hornet.

This road is no different from other lanes found in either state. Except at night. When the darkness falls. And the mysterious light suddenly appears.

Early pioneers more than 100 years ago called it the "Indian Light." Now, it's more commonly referred to as the "Spooklight." And nobody really knows what it is, or why it does the things it does.

IS IT FRIENDLY?

Although the light has never been known to harm anyone, some observers have reported frightening encounters with this Spooklight.

Gregory Briones, a Seneca, Mo. resident, happened to turn around while driving his Lincoln down that lonely stretch of road and spied the Spooklight on the lid of

his trunk. It chased him for the next four miles before suddenly winking out of sight.

"It threw off a good bit of light. Like an electric bulb close up to you," Briones said.

A man walking along the Devil's Promenade — the most popular name attributed to the four-mile road — said the mysterious light swung past him so closely that he felt its searing heat. Another man swore up and down that he saw a figure of a crone tottering down the road with the light on her shoulders where her head should have been.

fact or fiction?

"I went out there 20 times before I finally saw it," said Miami resident Michael Norman. "It had a blue-white color about it, and it slowly moved from one side of the road to the other. It never got closer or anything like that. It just slowly went back and forth."

Most sightings were reported in the 1950s. The next decade saw such vivid reports peak before declining during the following decades. Now, except for a scattered report here and there, the Devil's Promenade is quiet.

Houses line what was once the spooky, deserted road. Electric lines now splash with light what were once dark shadows along the way.

And lights, noise and people now shatter what was once an eerie silence.

"You've got to treat it with respect," said Miami resident Scott McMinn. "If you do, then it will show up and pay back that respect."

WHAT IS IT?

Generations of residents in the area have come up with a large assortment of theories concerning the ball of light. Three have endured the test of time. They include:

- Two teens from the Quapaw tribe fell in love, but were denied marriage by other members of the tribe. When they fled the tribe, a party of warriors were sent to capture the two lovers. Overtaken on a bluff above Spring River, the two grasped hands and leaped to their deaths.

The light, therefore, are the two Quapaw teens spirits, hand in hand.

- The Spooklight is the ghost of an Osage Chief who was decapitated on the Devil's Promenade. The light is the torch the ghost is using to search for his severed head.

- During Prohibition in the 1920s, a man by the name of Uncle Dick was caught "moonshining" liquor by federal agents. Mounting his beloved still upon a wagon, he evaded the agents on horseback. Some say the light is Uncle Dick's still, jouncing around on the back of the wagon heading for cover... forever.

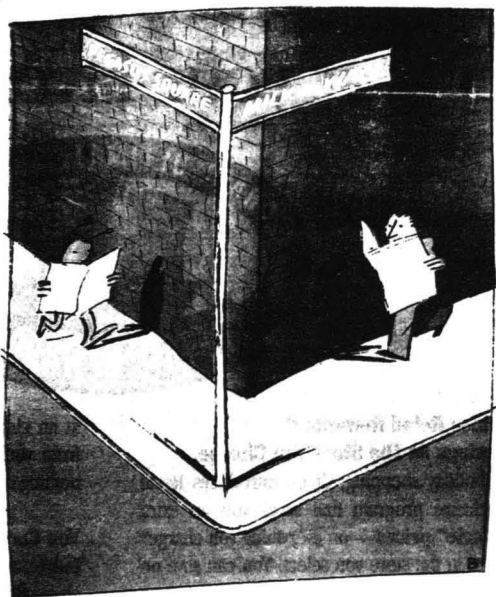
Others have said the light is Marsh gas. A will-o'-the-wisp. A pocket of natural gas. Ball lightning. Glowing minerals. A natural result of tiny "earthquakes" occurring miles below. Headlight reflections from cars traveling on U.S. Highway 66. Lights from houses reflecting off ground fog.

But L.W. Robertson, writing in a famous book, said, "I was coming here in horse and buggy days. And I saw the light then..."

Whatever the Spooklight may be, it attracts thousands of visitors each year. Cars park and drivers wait for the strange light to appear and begin its bouncing dance down the road and through the tree-tops.

It is, as people say, one of nature's unexplained mysteries.

Are We Aliens?



WHEN IT COMES to describing extraterrestrials, science fiction writers have almost all the fun. But astronomers last month took a first piece of the action by discovering a planet orbiting a star in the constellation of Pegasus.

Another planet was discovered three years ago, but in orbit around a dead star. The star 51 Pegasus is like our sun, and its possession of a planet confirms that there are probably billions of stars in the universe with solar systems like our own. Is any likely to support life?

Cosmologists have a rule of thumb called the Copernican principle, which holds that we have no special position in the universe: the sun is just an unremarkable star in an undistinguished suburb of the cosmos. Should the emergence of life be considered equally "ordinary"? Many scientists would probably say yes. If life arose spontaneously from the chemicals available on the early earth (as biologists assume but cannot yet explain in detail), then life is an inherent quality of matter, an exotic flourish on the textbook chemistry of carbon. It follows that the universe probably holds many life-infested planets.

Many of these life forms, it can be argued, would be recognizable. "It is not inconceivable that aliens would

look superficially like us on account of evolutionary convergence, although many biologists insist that this proposition is absurdly parochial," writes the physicist Paul Davies in his recent book "Are We Alone?" The eye has evolved independently some 20 different times — as if evolution, despite its seemingly inexhaustible inventiveness, runs within certain fixed channels.

If intelligent life forms, whatever their planet, are carbon-based creatures that need eyes, a brain, and wings or legs or fins for locomotion, you can begin to understand why all the beings encountered by the starship Enterprise look so familiar. But this gregarious view of a universe teeming with intelligent peoples runs into awkward problems. It took 3.8 billion years for human life to evolve, but the universe is 10 to 20 billion years old — plenty of time for other civilizations to have evolved before ours. So where are they?

We haven't been listening long, but so far there's no hint of anyone but us. Are the aliens maintaining radio silence, too cheap or too paranoid to broadcast their presence? Is earth marked off-limits as the sanctuary of a species too primitive to join the Galactic Club? Or did the aliens all perish long ago, having failed, perhaps, to escape the inevitable death of their

home planet's sun?

Then there's the evidence that more directly contradicts the Copernican principle: the genetic code. With a handful of trivial exceptions, all forms of life have the same, apparently arbitrary code through which DNA specifies protein molecules. If life arises so spontaneously, why don't we see a variety of different codes and chemistries in earth's creatures?

The universal nature of the genetic code implies a one-time event, some narrow gateway through which only a single entity or family of related life forms was able to pass. One possibility is that life evolved independently several times on earth and the creatures with our genetic code destroyed those based on all other codes. But there's no evidence for such a code war. Or maybe the emergence of life is indeed so improbable that it only happened once. Strange, then, that life seems to have arisen at the earliest moment possible, almost immediately after the primitive earth had cooled enough.

There's a third proposal, one which explains the unity of life's genetic code without violating the Copernican principle. It's not a fully scientific explanation, since it invokes a historical event for which no evidence exists. Even its chief proponents, the biologists Francis Crick and Leslie Orgel, hold it at arm's length as a semi-serious conjecture. Their idea is that life on earth is a unity because its early stages took place elsewhere and only one version of genetic code arrived here.

Every civilization faces extinction when its home planet becomes uninhabitable, as ours will in a billion years. Evacuating people over interstellar distances may never be possible. But single-celled organisms can survive for longer and travel farther. Last May a bacterium was restored to life from a spore that had apparently lain dormant in a piece of amber for 30 million years.

Imagine then that a doomed civilization might decide to transmit packets of microbes to colonize young planets on distant galaxies, in the hope they would reinitiate the grand cycle of evolution. Probably many different species would be sent in each packet, to raise the odds that some would thrive in the conditions of their new home.

Is there any evidence for such science fiction? Here's a wisp. Tracing life back to its origin by comparing nucleic acid sequences, biologists find not one but three ancient lineages. They are families of single celled organisms known as bacteria, archaea and eukarya. These three main lines of descent, Crick has noted, "seem a very long distance from their hypothetical common ancestor." Yet there is remarkably little time for such evolution to have occurred: a rain of accreting asteroids probably kept the earth's oceans boiling off into the atmosphere until four billion years ago, but unicellular organisms had emerged by 3.8 billion years ago, just 200 million years later.

Since it took another 2 billion years just for multicellular organisms to emerge, this 200-million-year window looks rather narrow for the most critical stage of evolution, the emergence of the complex, self-replicating chemicals that preceded the protein-based forms of life. That's why Crick's idea, which he calls "directed panspermia," is at the least a useful escape hatch should there not prove ample enough time for all stages of evolution to have unfolded on earth.

The discovery of a single extraterrestrial microbe, writes Davies, "would drastically alter our world view and change our society as profoundly as the Copernican and Darwinian revolutions. It could truly be described as the greatest scientific discovery of all time." In "The Physics of Star Trek," Lawrence M. Krauss says that "the discovery of extraterrestrial intelligence could be... the greatest discovery in the history of the human race."

Well, maybe. Even though the Copernican principle tells us to just yawn, it would be interesting to meet the Klingons. "I want your blood" should be our first demand. Not just because it might be good Klingon etiquette, but to resolve the prime question: are they and we both constructs of the same genetic code? ■



Psychic spies have home at CIA

WASHINGTON — More than a decade after we first told the story, the Pentagon continues to employ a highly classified team of "psychic spies," who use a form of extrasensory perception to help gather intelligence in foreign countries.

It was called "Project Grill Flame" when we first reported this strange story in April 1984. Since then, the program has fought off several external and internal threats to its existence, changing its name to Center Lane and Sunstreak, among other appellations.

But it continues to exist, albeit in scaled-down form. It's also been moved from its longtime headquarters at Fort Meade, Md., which gave the unit a comfortable "hideout" because it was home to a much larger spy outfit — the National Security Agency.

The unit was launched in the early 1970s, when the CIA became concerned about a "psychic gap" with the Soviets, who were heavily involved in investigating psychic phenomenon. The precursor of the current project, called "remote viewing," was put together in part by two respected academics — Harold Puthoff, once with the NSA, and Russell Targ, associated with the Stanford Research Institute in Menlo Park, Calif. For a time, in fact, SRI was under contract to run the program for the CIA.

The group was first called "Project Scantane," which stood for "scan by coordinate."

Program managers recruited subjects who demonstrated psychic abilities and placed them in darkened rooms, where they were given longitude and latitude coordinates and asked what they "saw." The CIA and Pentagon soon found that it could be a useful tool in the intelligence mix, though they have never relied on it exclusively for intelligence gathering.

Its successes have won key converts inside and outside the intelligence community:

- One remote viewer described an airfield, complete with details — including a large gantry and crane at one end of the field. The CIA was impressed, but critical. There was indeed an airfield at the given map coordinates — the Soviet Union's ultra-secret nuclear testing area at Semipalatinsk. But the CIA knew of no gantry or cranes at the site. They were later stunned when the next satellite photos revealed both the gantry and crane, which had recently been moved there.

- Another test involved a Soviet Tu-95 "Backfire" bomber, which the CIA knew had crashed somewhere in Africa. They were eager to find it before the Soviets did, so they could take photographs and perhaps purloin secret gear from the wreckage. So one of the remote viewers was asked to locate the downed bomber, which he allegedly did within several miles of the actual wreckage.

- In yet another instance, a remote-viewer

was asked to focus on a KGB colonel caught spying and being interrogated in South Africa. He "saw" that the spy had been smuggling information using a pocket calculator modified into a communications device, and that the South Africa assignment was his last before returning to Russia. The "suggestion" to question him on this was shared with South African intelligence, and it allegedly caused the spy to break down and cooperate — because of its accuracy.

- Remote-viewers have been employed in most international crisis over the last two decades. During the Gulf War, knowledgeable sources told our associate Dale Van Atta, remote viewers fingered the secret location of Iraq's Saddam Hussein, though this was never verified by conventional means. The unit's two biggest congressional defenders — Sen. Claiborne Pell, D-R.I., and Rep. Charles Rose, D-N.C. — have long since been convinced of the program's effectiveness.

The Achilles heel of the project has been its misses — which have raised the ire of many critics over the years. Remote-viewers have produced as much bad information as good, intelligence sources admit. But the program's defenders say this is no different from the rest of the CIA, where human spies have also been known to make major blunders.

"We were always able to survive," one of the remote-viewers told us, "when we stuck to what we did best: just a guy (or a woman) sitting in a dark room, or even a lit room, focusing on what was happening somewhere else. ... There was no shaking, no big trance, no spirit entities speaking in different voices, nothing hoodoo voodoo. It seems to work enough times to make it valuable as a 'tip,' if you will, to where the CIA's folks, or our satellites, should be looking."

TIMES RECORD NEWS, Wichita Falls, TX - Nov. 23, 1995 CR: E. Benjamin

Livestock mutilations leave officials puzzled

By Sharen Housley and Holly Clanahan

TRN Writers

FREDERICK, Okla. — File this one under "X."

Common fodder for paranormal shows like "The X Files" and "Sightings," livestock mutilations have given Tillman County, Okla., officials some real-life "Unsolved Mysteries."

In the past two weeks, three head of cattle have reportedly been found mutilated in the northeastern portion of the county. Since March, there have been two other reports of mutilation in the same area.

In some of the cases, the cattle's throats, tongues, ears or tails were removed. In the three most recent

cases, the animals' reproductive organs were taken, too.

Precision cuts were made on the cattle and only a small amount of blood was found around the remains.

Could it be someone with a grudge against area ranchers? Is there a more ominous overtone? Or, are the carcasses simply a link in the food chain?

Tillman County Sheriff Billy Hanes wouldn't speculate.

"Yes, we have had three and, yes, they were mutilated," he said. "I'll let the people read into it what they want from that."

Other than that, he said, "I'm not

going to comment."

Hanes cited the fear of copy-cat attacks and the fact that there have been up to 8,000 mutilations across the country over the last few years and "nobody's ever been arrested."

No one at the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association had heard reports of the Tillman County cases, but the lead "cattle cop" there downplayed the preternatural aspects of mutilations.

"I'm not saying it doesn't occur," said Larry Gray, director of law enforcement. But in 15 years in the field, he said he's only seen two legitimate cases. "It doesn't happen very often."

Often, when cattle die of natural causes, "predators will naturally attack the softest tissue." That means the external repro-

ductive organs are the first course.

When it's animals like skunks or opossums doing the dining, "their teeth are sharp enough that it actually looks like an incision," Gray said.

Frederick, Okla., veterinarian Kenneth O'Hanlon agreed.

"Sometimes people don't real-

ize how animals eat up other animals," he said. "I don't believe they're cattle mutilations."

Comanche County, Okla., to the northeast of Tillman County, has had six reports of cattle mutilation in the last six months.

The cases remain under investigation.

REGISTER-GUARD, Eugene, OR - Nov. 21, 1995 CR: D. Johnson

Is killer a vampire — or a pack of dogs?

■ "Goatsucker": Puerto Rico is abuzz over night attacks on farm animals and pets.

By The Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Blood-sucking killer leaves trail of dead farm animals throughout the island! Frightened residents wearing fatigues beat bushes in search of mysterious killer!

Whatever it may be, the creature responsible for a string of animal deaths this year has generated both fear and satire in this U.S. commonwealth.

Goats, hens, rabbits and geese all have fallen prey to the nocturnal killer that reputedly sucks their blood, leaving them lifeless. No one can explain why.

Angela Lajes found her dog and her

sister's two cats dead in the southern city of Ponce earlier this month.

"It sucked out the animals' blood and took out their guts and ate them," she said.

The daily tabloid El Vocero reported that Puerto Rico's Dracula had a field night on Halloween with a toll of five goats and 20 parakeets "sucked dead." It depicted the killer as a pointy-tailed devil.

Mayor Jose Soto of the northeastern town of Canovanas has led two search parties, some of the vigilantes wearing fatigues and carrying guns, to find the culprit since Oct. 29.

Soto plans yet another search soon. He says he knows the creature is close because he can smell it — like a pig farm, only stronger.

"It has killed more than 40 animals in this town. The farmers are worried," said Soto, who is seeking re-election next year.

Residents of this Spanish-speaking U.S.

commonwealth have dubbed the creature "chupacabras," which translates as "goatsucker."

The San Juan Star newspaper dedicated a humor column to the mystery, headlined "Hunting for the Goatsucker." The searchers, it said, found that a political party was killing the animals to divert attention while it registered voters for next year's San Juan mayoral election.

But Police Chief Pedro Toledo wasn't amused. Fearing an accident, he warned people without proper training against arming themselves and searching for the unknown killer.

The only case examined by the government's veterinary services office indicated that the killers were stray dogs, office director Hector Garcia said. His veterinarians studied a pack of sheep in the central town of Orocovis, including about 10 that died and two that had marks in their

necks but had survived.

"It could be a human being who belongs to a religious sect, even another animal," said Angel Luis Santana of the private Gardenville Veterinary Clinic in San Juan. "It could be someone who wants to make fun of the Puerto Rican people."

Similar reports of animals dying inexplicably in Puerto Rico have surfaced periodically since the 1970s. No culprit has ever been found — and rarely has the mystery so penetrated everyday life.

These days, the term "chupacabras" has become common coinage on radio talk shows, in offices, at the car wash, at Winter League baseball.

German Negróni, managing editor of El Vocero, has his own explanation for the obsession among islanders troubled by overpopulation and high rates of drug use and crime. "People are probably looking for something to relieve stress," he said.

It came from the swamp

Lee County's fabled Lizard Man revived on TV, video movie

By ERIKA BOLSTAD
ITEM Staff Writer

SCAPE ORE SWAMP — After a seven-year hiatus, Lee County's most famous swamp creature is back ... at least on the small screen.

No one has reported seeing the "Lizard Man" crawl out of the swamp in at least three or four years, but a North Carolina moviemaker with an interest in the paranormal has made a video about the reclusive Lee County resident.

"I remembered the Lizard Man from the stories in the 1980s," said David Mull of Morganton, N.C. "I didn't think that there was any definitive work on that, so I thought I would be the one to create it."

Mull isn't the only one with an interest in the creature's whereabouts. The Lizard Man will be featured on a two-minute segment of "Extremely Weird," an NBC pilot airing at 7 tonight.

The show — hosted by Jay Thomas from "Cheers" and "Murphy Brown" — is about strange and unusual phenomena, such as spontaneous human combustion, said "Extremely Weird" producer Russ Alexander.

The recent flurry of interest in the Lizard Man just might make the creature rear its reclusive head and flash its red eyes again in Lee County.

And according to most eyewitness descriptions, the Lizard Man is a tall, hairy bigfoot-like creature, not a scaly beast that crawls through the swamp on its belly.

Retired Lee County Sheriff Liston Truesdale — at the heart of the Lizard-Man flap in 1988 — said the creature got its name from locals who claimed they saw the beast.

"They named it the Lizard Man," Truesdale said of the creature that brought national media stomping through Lee County swamps. "I've never seen it and I have my doubts

about the bigfoot, but descriptions match a bigfoot."

Mull even made a model of the creature for his video "Lizard Man." The model — sort of a cross between Godzilla and Bigfoot — is definitely not a scaly swamp creature.

Mull's movie developed from an interest in folklore of the Carolinas. "Lizard Man" includes interviews with Truesdale, an eyewitness, a paranormal expert from North Carolina and a South Carolina park ranger with an interest in Carolina ghosts.

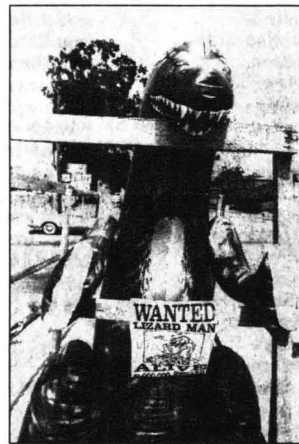
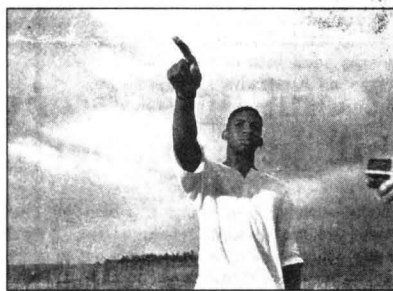
Mull, 43, has spent most of his life in Morganton. He graduated from Appalachian State College in Boone, N.C., where he studied filmmaking.

Mull said his interest in the supernatural goes back to his childhood.

"I've always been interested in the paranormal and the supernatural," he said. "I also had a big interest in video and film. Fifteen years ago I decided to combine those things."

His one-man production company, Crossroads, has produced five videos, including one about the mysterious lights of Brown Mountain, near Blowing Rock, N.C., as well as a video titled "Foothills Folklore."

"I guess I would be considered



These 1988 file photos capture some of the frenzied hype of Lizard Man mania: At upper left, an *Item* photo illustration; at lower left, Eric Davis, the Lee County teenager who said he was attacked by the creature; at left, one of many overblown facsimiles of the Lizard Man seen in Lee County and beyond during Lizard Man mania; above, one of many local merchants who profited from the incident.

an authority on a couple of (paranormal) subjects," Mull said.

Mull's video may lack some of "Extremely Weird's" Hollywood special effects, but what it lacks in

finesse, it makes up for in local color.

Seven years after a Bishopville teen reported seeing the creature, the Lee County Chamber of

Commerce still receives two to three phone calls a month about the Lizard Man.

Lee County Chamber of Commerce director Arie Landrum welcomes the renewed interest. "We're working on some Lizard-Man activities," he said. "We have a Lizard-Man costume."

He's not embarrassed — like some Lee County folks were in 1988 — about Bishopville and Lee County's 15 minutes of fame.

Truesdale said he plans to capitalize on the Lizard Man eventually, probably by writing a book.

At the height of Lizard Man Mania, Truesdale said he tried to strike a fine balance between taking reports of a "monster" seriously and keeping his county safe from yahoo hunters who were after the \$1 million Lizard-Man reward offered by a Columbia radio station.

"We didn't know if it was something that escaped off a circus truck or something that if I turned my back on, not only would I have had to leave the county, but leave the state," Truesdale said. "And I didn't want someone faking it so that I looked like Barney Fife on 'Mayberry.'"

So what really happened out in the swamp seven years ago?

"When you drive by Scape Ore swamp at night and see strange movements in your headlights," Landrum said, you think: "Is it a deer or is it the lizard man?"

Truesdale said he knows there was something out there, but he's not quite sure what it was. He knows it wasn't someone running around in a gorilla suit.

Mull agreed.

"I think the mystery is still unsolved," Mull said.

The video can be ordered for \$22.95 from Crossroads, 1085 Park Lane Drive, Morganton, N.C. 28655.

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Nov. 4, 1995 CR: G. Conway

THE LAKE MAY HAVE FOUR MONSTERS — A KING, A QUEEN, A DOUBLE, AND A SINGLE: Turkish scientists plan to trawl Lake Van in search of a monster some say rivals the famous beast reputed to lurk in Scotland's Loch Ness (below). After an announcement in parliament this week, Turkish journalists and television crews flocked to the vast lake for a first glimpse of the Anatolian Nessie. Provincial governor Bestami Alkan claims to have sighted the creature, whose jagged backbone reminded him of a dinosaur from the Steven Spiel-

berg blockbuster film *Jurassic Park*.

He said he kept quiet about the discovery "in order to avoid triggering panic."

Four years ago a 14-year-old boy from the lake area caused a stir when he said he had "finished off" the monster after dragging it onto the beach. The aquatic leviathan later turned out to be a sodden inflatable mattress.



Bermuda Triangle—

Ceremony commemorates mysterious disappearance

By TONY WINTON
Associated Press Writer

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — A bell tolled once for each of the 14 crew members aboard Navy planes that disappeared 50 years ago near the Bermuda Triangle during a routine mission.

The missing bombers and the lead pilot's radio transmission that his compasses had stopped working have fueled the Bermuda Triangle legend. Among the theories is that the entire squadron was snatched by space aliens. To compound the tragedy, a seaplane, dispatched that night to search for the five missing planes, crashed and exploded in rough seas, killing 13.

Hundreds, including relatives of the crew and aviators, gathered Tuesday to remember the men of Flight 19. Many at the ceremony

near where the bombers took off didn't buy into the Bermuda Triangle mystique.

"I hope that this program ... will put to rest once and for all, the needless innuendoes, speculation, and sensational journalism relative to this event," said Navy Lt. Cdr. Maurice Schmidt, who gave the benediction.

"They are not lost. I repeat, they are not lost. The Lord knows, and it is my hope that they are with Him in paradise," he said.

A color guard stood at attention as a wreath of red, white and blue flowers was placed at a simple concrete memorial, topped by a single propeller facing the ocean. A bell was struck 14 times and the names of the airmen were read aloud one by one.

Retired Navy radioman John Barna dismissed the wild rumors.

He says he was in a plane that took off right after Flight 19 and flew with them briefly before veering off on a separate mission.

"One day, at work, some guy came up to me and said how the UFOs came and gobbled up this squadron of airplanes," said Barna, 69, from Haddon Township, N.J. "And I said, 'You're talking to the right guy, buddy, 'cause I flew with them, and I didn't see the UFOs.'"

The five TBM Avengers left on a practice torpedo bombing run Dec. 5, 1945, to fly 56 miles to a bombing range near the Bahamas.

Flight 19's disappearance became part of the legend of the Bermuda Triangle, a section of ocean between Florida, Bermuda and Puerto Rico where aircraft and ships have vanished mysteriously.

Grays River writer hits the mark with book about Bigfoot

Book Review
by Rick Nelson

Grays River writer Dr. Robert Michael Pyle continues to turn out books that connect everyday human experience with the world of nature.

Houghton Mifflin Company of New York released his latest work this summer, "Where Bigfoot Walks: Crossing the Dark Divide."

Awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to investigate the phenomenon of Bigfoot, Pyle delved into the lore surrounding the creature. He attended gatherings of Bigfoot searchers, spoke with Indians and old timers, and studied the writings and evidence gathered by other scholars and researchers.

Early in the book, Pyle states his purpose is not out to find Bigfoot or prove it exists but rather to explore what Bigfoot means to mankind.

Pyle also recounts his experiences with Bigfeet. Early in the 1970's, he heard strange whistles in the night. More recently, while developing research for the book, he again journeyed into the region known as the Dark Divide, between Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Adams, and again experiences nocturnal encounters and finds physical evidence of his own.

Pyle slips giving his opinion, yes or no, on Bigfoot's existence.

"I have never answered yes or no, and I don't intend to now," he wrote. "Not because I am afraid to take a stand, but because it has never been my desire to finally decide. Bigfoot as beast, or Bigfoot as Rod Serling saw it, 'an apparition walking in the landscape of our minds'? That's up to others. I am content to have walked where Bigfoot walks for a season or two."

Pyle's journeys took him through a variety of topics. He met scientists, hunters and eccentrics who have devoted their lives to serious search and study of Bigfoot. He examined the tabloid reports, "Bigfoot Baby Found in Watermelon: Has Elvis's Sneer." He investigated the conspiracy theories that divergent interests such as the timber industry and Forest Service are trying to cover up Bigfoot's existence.

Finally, he explores the ties and differences, if any, between mankind and the natural world and the mythologic importance of giants and monsters to the development of the human psyche. The search for Bigfoot—"Crossing the Dark Divide"—becomes an examination of the psyche and development of mankind, even a trip back into our own Dreamtime, as Australia's oldest inhabitants call the past when they were part of another world.

Stylistically, Pyle's latest book is his most readable yet. He uses colorful descriptions and exotic vocabulary and stylistic devices effectively but sparingly. He identifies a topic, analyzes it and moves smoothly on from one to another without dallying or overloading detail.

Pyle has written eight books, including "Wintergreen," which focused on social and environmental issues in the Willapa Hills, "The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Butterflies," and "The Thunder Tree," which focused on social and environmental issues in his native Colorado.

He holds a doctorate degree from Yale University and is now editing a book of Vladimir Nabokov's writings on butterflies.

'ULTIMATE SCI-FI GUY'

'Phenomenologist' examines the supernatural on public access program

By Marcy Harbut
Glendale News-Press

"The truth is stranger than fiction," says Franklin Ruehl, as he rattles off tales of tree-dwelling, red-skinned Indonesian leprechauns, "dermal vision" — sensing color by touch — or scientific gains which will allow humans to someday eat sewage.

To Ruehl, these claims are not the stuff of legends but fodder for his television shows.

You may have seen the Glendale native on the hour-long midnight show "Weird TV" on KCOP Channel 13, where he's the in-house "phenomenologist."

Or perhaps you got a glimpse of Ruehl, with his three-piece brown suits, bushy brown eyebrows and Buddy Holly-style glasses, on one of the Sci-Fi channel's endless re-runs of his short-lived show "Mysteries From Beyond the Other Dominion."

His main role, however, is hosting his cable access show of the same name used on the Sci-Fi channel, which just wrapped up its 142nd episode at United Artists Cable in Van Nuys.

Because public access stations are not subject to the capricious whims of Nielsen ratings, just how many viewers Ruehl has is another mystery.

However, dubbed by L.A. Style magazine as the "most unique person on public access," the phone calls and letters to Weird TV's office detect a growing contingent of Dr. Ruehl fans.

"You've heard the evidence, now you decide," quips the diminutive host to his television audience. "And may the power of the universe be with you!"

"He's the ultimate Sci-Fi guy," described Todd Stevens, one of "Weird TV's" executive directors and a long-time friend of Ruehl's. Stevens said he "discovered" Ruehl in a magazine article and immediately tried to book Ruehl for stints on the Sci-Fi channel, guest appearances on Jenny Jones and "The Pat Sajak Show," and most recently with "Weird TV."

"We abandoned the idea of casting someone as host (for "Weird TV")

because (Ruehl) is so genuine," Stevens said. "He's not just a guy standing there talking about strange things, he's excited about phenomena like the two-headed lad from Scotland."

Science fiction shows whetted his fascination for the strange and unexplainable, and after earning a doctorate in physics from UCLA, he began writing about UFOs and extra terrestrials.

"I started writing for UFO publications because I felt the people who were involved at the time were making a joke out of the subject," Ruehl said. "No one had serious, academic support, and evidence was being overlooked."

In 1984, he created the 30-minute "Mysteries From Beyond the Other Dominion." His mom co-hosted for the first few episodes until she grew tired of the role.

The show now airs with five different cable companies in the San Fernando Valley — not in Glendale, he explains, because he would have to pay to Marcus Cable to carry his show.

The lucky few who have access to the show's zany brand of entertainment passed off as scientific fact are treated to the latest news on extra terrestrial and UFO sightings, new and strange inventions and medical mysteries.

In true Ripley-esque fashion, Ruehl expounds on oddities like the fossilized colon the size of a small alligator, or the existence of Tulpas, creatures conjured by the mind power of Tibetan holy men.

He concedes there isn't a lot of scientific evidence to back up some claims, but there's no harm in imagining the possibilities. In other words, he may not be sure if Indonesian leprechauns truly exist — but he sure is interested in talking about them.

Ruehl says he researches each topic extensively and gets ideas from Reader's Digest, various UFO publications and Fate magazine.

He's written more than 600 articles for the National Enquirer and now writes a regular column called "Mysteries and Enigmas" for The Sun tabloid.

IN SEARCH OF BIGFOOT

Bothell man heartened by recent photos

By Herbert Atienza
Journal American Staff Writer

Cliff Crook has spent most of his adult life in search of the legendary Bigfoot. After more than 39 years, the Bothell man believes he finally is on to something.

He claims to possess "conclusive photographic proof" of the elusive creature's existence.

"It's Bigfoot ... if these pictures were any clearer, he would breathe," he said.

Crook, 55, directs Bigfoot Central, a local group devoted to the investigation of the legendary creature, also known as sasquatch. He said he acquired the series of pictures from a Tacoma man who took them on July 11 in the Wild Creek area in the foothills of Snoqualmie National Forest.

Crook said that as the man was hiking near the lagoon, he heard "heavy splashes," looked down and saw a hulking figure in the water.



This photo offers proof that Bigfoot exists, says a Bothell man who has spent years studying the legendary Northwest creature.

"The creature just stood there and looked at him," Crook said.

He said the man then grabbed his camera and took several pictures of the beast as it walked away.

Crook is convinced the photographs are authentic. Two photography experts who examined the snapshots were a bit more skeptical, although neither would declare the photographs as fakes.

"It's hard to create a situation to duplicate it, but it wouldn't be too difficult for someone who knows how to use the camera. The odds are they're not real, but who knows," said Newell Burton, president of Bellevue-based Omega Photo Specialists.

He said the photographs appear to be double exposures, or two pictures overlapping each other.

Gordon Kyle, a photo specialist from Overlake Photo in Bellevue, said it didn't appear as if the figure was cropped from another photo.

"It's seamless, but then again, who can say that this wasn't a posed model," he said.

Crook said the man who took the photos does not want to be identified for fear that possible notoriety would disrupt his life.

"It was a gut feeling that he was telling me the truth," Crook said.

"If you heard the quaking in his voice and the consistency with which he tells the story, then you too will be convinced."

Crook isn't the only one who believes in the existence of the legendary creature.

Last week, researchers at Ohio State University said they will conduct DNA tests on tufts of hair collected from the Blue Mountains of southeastern Washington believed to be that of the creature.

Anthropology professor Gordon S. Krantz of Washington State University also believes the creature inhabits the woods and forests of the Pacific Northwest.

"Just as bears and cougars are able to live in the woods today, so does this creature, which is actually an upright ape," Krantz said.

Krantz said he became convinced of the creature's existence through his extensive studies of evidence purportedly left by the creature, as well as the numerous reports of sightings.

"The evidence is overwhelming," he said. "It's simply not possible that all of them are fake."