

# UFO

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**MESQUITE, NEV.**

## Colorado man and his films bring UFO meet back to earth

*Footage of sighting is big hit amid flock of far-out theories and postulations.*

**By Zack Van Eyck**  
Deseret News staff writer

MESQUITE, Nev. — UFO researchers can postulate and theorize all they want, as they have done all week here at the fifth annual International UFO Congress convention.

But the vortex of the UFO phenomenon, in America anyway, continues to form around people like Tim Edwards — average, everyday citizens who experience something incredible that they can't explain.

After a day of lectures rife with weird science and unconventional explanations for the creation of the universe and the origin of Homo sapiens, the mild-mannered restaurateur from Salida, Colo., brought conventioners back to Earth with extensive home video footage of a UFO.

Taken in daylight on Aug. 27 outside the Edwards home, the video shows a disc- or cigar-shaped object hovering — then darting about — in the skies above Salida. A series of ripples or moving lights are seen to rotate from left to right on the object, which stayed just above the morning sun while Edwards, his daughter and four construction workers watched in amazement.

Other footage Edwards took on Sept. 25, and subsequent videos, shows small, white spheres emerging from the object.

Edwards told an audience of about 300 here Wednesday night that the sighting was the most profound experience of his life. He said he is convinced the intelligence behind the moving objects is of extraterrestrial origin.

"I never gave much thought to UFOs before this happened. When something this unusual happens, your life is completely changed in a moment," said Edwards, 42, who runs the small cafe his father started 18 years ago. "It's been a very emotional and stressful time, but I've never felt better about life. I'm totally honored to be a part of what's transpiring."

The entire San Luis Valley of Colorado has been a hot spot for UFO sightings and mysterious cattle mutilations for several years, and Edwards said he had been remotely aware of the reported activity. Since Aug. 27, Edwards said, he has been driven to learn more about the phenomenon and tell his story to anyone who will listen.

Edwards said he has talked with another Salida-area man who can't account for 35 minutes of his life and has "physical evidence" that he has been abducted by apparent aliens.

With the help of his father and friends, Edwards said he has accumulated more than 16 hours of UFO video footage, some of which was featured on the television program "Sightings" earlier this month.

Edwards said a similar object has been seen recently by residents of Grand Junction and Lamar, Colo., and Las Vegas, and has been videotaped in the skies above Phoenix.

Edwards said the object is always seen near the sun, where most people wouldn't choose to look. He was able to record the UFO only by positioning himself under the eaves of his house to block the sun.

Michael Heseman, a German documentary filmmaker attending the convention, has studied dozens of amateur videos of UFOs. He said Edwards' video depicts a craft similar to one captured on tape in Russia in 1990.

"I'm highly impressed with

this," said Heseman, echoing the statements of other UFO researchers assembled here. "I can say for sure this is an authentic film of a UFO."

Edwards' video was the hit of the day, despite intriguing presentations in which a retired professor said an advanced Martian civilization left an encoded geometric message on that planet's surface; a farmer said he believes ingesting something called orbitally rearranged monoatomic substances may be the key to travel through space and time; and an American Indian revealed secrets of the universe passed down to him from his grandfather, who rescued an alien from a crash landing in New Mexico.

REGISTER, Mobile, AL - Oct. 22, 1995

**Jay Grelen**



Staff Columnist

## Close encounters of the Fyffe kind

FYFFE — The moon is full over the Fyffe Diner, formerly the UFO Diner, when I ask Brenda Bryan if she had seen the UFOs.

She laughs. But she doesn't just laugh. She's out of control. "I didn't," she whoops, "see nothing!"

Then she goes over to a tableful of customers who are eating in her restaurant in this tiny mountain town near Fort Payne in northeast Alabama. She asks, between gulfs, if any of them had seen the UFOs.

But Phillip Green, at the next table chomping on a burger, French fries and onion rings, doesn't laugh.

"I was standing in my yard," he says. "I just happened to see it. There was something up in the sky going 'round and 'round with red lights on it."

By this time, Brenda is back in the kitchen, her hysterical cackles riding the wind with the fragrance of frying beef.

But that doesn't inhibit waitress Shirley Rollins, who saw the UFOs several times in February 1989.

That was the month that Fyffe — population about 1,400 — temporarily became the UFO capital of the world.

It all began Feb. 10, 1989, with a telephone caller reporting a UFO to Fyffe's four-man police force.

Chief Junior Garmany and his assistant, Fred Works, drove into the countryside and saw it for themselves.

Then others began to report sightings, and that was all it took. UFO watchers and reporters from all over poured into town. On the biggest night, 4,500 people flooded Fyffe's streets.

Squirrelly-Shirley, as Brenda calls her, remembers it well. "I heard there was a banana floating through Fyffe," she says. "This neighbor and I went riding. We was riding on a dirt road way over in the country when we saw it."

"People had been talking about it, and there it was, and we were out here in the woolly boogers."

"I turned the lights off. I didn't turn the motor off. I was scared to. I couldn't really tell the shape, but different-colored lights circled around it. We watched it about 10 minutes. It was as big as a football field or a chicken house."

Another night, Shirley watched it from her living room window for 15 minutes.

"I've seen them since," she says. "They're still up there. I saw them above the store about a year ago."

Dean Mitchell wrote and recorded a song about the UFOs, titled, "Scared the Life Out of Fyffe."

And another fellow made a video documentary ("UFOs: A Need to Know") that included interviews with townsfolk, including the police chief, his assistant, the Rev. David Martin, and newspaper editor Carrey Baker.

DAILY REPUBLICAN REGISTER, Mount Carmel, IL  
Oct. 19, 1995

## 'UFOs' may have been area Air National Guard

**By Bob Livingston**  
DRR Staff Writer

Apparently what is a routine training exercise for the Indiana Air National Guard unit based at Hulman Field in Terre Haute, Ind., has some Wabash County residents believing that Unidentified Flying Objects are visiting the area.

"We are flying this week in the Olney-Red Hill area," said Master Sergeant Fran Misner of the Indiana ANG unit. "We do it periodically; we do it once a month in the evenings."

"It's air-to-air exercises in a block of air," he added. "It probably does seem a little strange." Unconvinced?

Some county residents, however, may remain unconvinced.

"I saw about seven big, bright orange lights, stationary. Then, after four or five minutes, there were five more, then after 5-10 minutes, I saw six more, three in each bunch," said Bill Rodgers, who lives in northwest Wabash County.

Rodgers said he saw them from approximately 6:45 p.m. to

7:05 p.m. Wednesday. "I saw them while standing outside my shop," he said.

He added that other people in the county that he has talked to saw the lights also, and described them as he did.

"I reported it to the police, and Channel 7 (in Evansville). Channel 7 had other reports and said they would investigate it," Rodgers said.

"No sound"

"They did not move in any direction and were about 30 or 40 feet across," he added. "There was nothing going up, they were just there. Then they went out, at about two or three at a time, then they reappeared to the northeast. And there was no sound."

"We saw a light go across the sky in the same general direction and it was not an airplane; there were no blinking lights," he said.

Rodgers said he did see some jets criss-crossing the sky. "They were obviously looking for something; they were going

all directions," said Rodgers.

"I just wonder if the government might know more about what's going on than we do, but if they do they won't tell," he continued. "It would be kind of strange that there would be that many aircraft."

Rodgers said his wife also saw the lights as she was driving home.

"I'm going out again, with a camera, and when I get the pictures developed I'll send them to a magazine," Rodgers said.

"There are other people that had to have seen them," he said. Calls to Sheriff

A check with the Mt. Carmel Police Department revealed no calls to that office, but a spokesperson for the Wabash County Sheriff's

Office said they had received several calls. That person said the Army National Guard unit out of Lawrenceville was conducting some type of exercise.

However, Sergeant First Class Jerry Rigg of the Lawrenceville unit said, "We haven't done anything at night since last spring."

Sgt. Rigg did say that the ANG unit from Terre Haute was "shooting test shots."

"It's kind of a rocket. I saw it Tuesday night while I was walking with my wife," he said.

The Rigg family resides in Belmont.

"They have a range they fly over near Red Hill," Rigg continued. "I've seen this stuff before; it's strictly routine. They do it quite often."

## Deaths

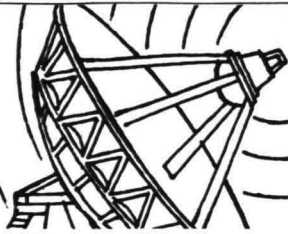
**BIGELOW** — Karla Kandace Turner, Ph.D., age 48, of Bigelow, Ark., died Tuesday, January 9, 1996. Born at Bentonville, she was an author, lecturer and teacher. She received her Bachelor's degree from the University of California in Sacramento, a Master's degree from the University of Nottingham, Nottingham, England, and her Ph.D. from the University of North Texas in Denton. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

She is survived by her husband, Elton Turner; a son, Daren Wilson of McKinney, Texas; her mother, Charlene King; two granddaughters, Sarah Wilson and Elizabeth Wilson; a brother, Marion Morrow; and a sister, Tracey Winters.

The funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Clement-Keel Funeral Home Chapel in Gainesville, Texas. Local arrangements are by Roller-Chenal Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Leslie Medical Center, Leslie, Ark.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE,  
Little Rock, AR  
Jan. 11, 1996

# LIFESTYLES



## The Sewickley-Roswell Connection

### William Moore devotes his life to solving UFO mystery

By Frank Tiboni  
Herald Editor

**O**n July 2, 1947, in Sewickley, the Board of Trade decided rehabilitation of the town clock in the Methodist Church steeple was in its scope and began to raise money for the clock's repair.

But on that same dark, stormy night far off in a remote section of the central New Mexico desert near a town called Roswell, an event occurred that has captured the attention of Sewickley native William Moore for the past 18 years.

"Something crashed to the earth or had to have happened," says Moore, 55, a 1961 graduate of Quaker Valley Senior High School. "But what it was has been a matter of conjecture for 48 years."

A former high school teacher, Moore has focused his energies full time since 1979 to research and writing trying to figure out why elements of the U.S. military and federal government exhibited such bizarre behavior concerning what is now the most famous UFO case in the nation's history, "The Roswell Incident."

#### UFO crash?

On that July 2nd evening, a bright, disc-shaped object passed low over the city of Roswell, traveling in a northwesterly direction. More than a 100 UFO sightings were reported that week.

But 75 miles northwest of Roswell, a flying object, very possibly the same one, seems to have suffered a huge explosion which resulted in the crash of a strange device.

The wreckage was discovered the following morning by a local rancher, "Mac" Brazel, in the company of his two children.

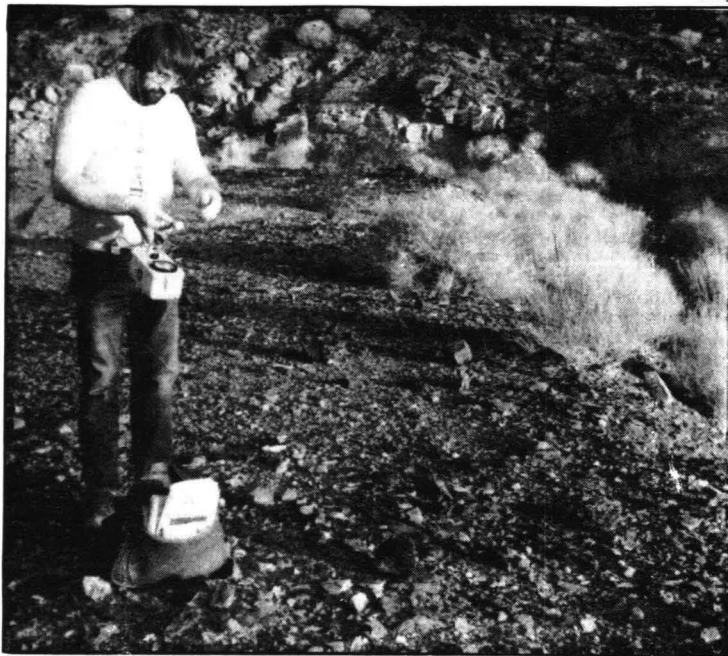
Brazel had no means of communication, so he did not report his discovery until days later when he went to Roswell.

A preliminary investigation was undertaken and a quantity of the wreckage was subsequently recovered by Maj. Jesse Marcel, in company of counter-intelligence corps officer "Cav" Cavitt.

Upon their return to the airbase, an official press statement was released by Lt. Walter Haut, a base public information officer, to the effect that the wreckage of flying saucer had been discovered by the Army Air Force north of Roswell.

Marcel was then ordered to load the debris on a B-29 and fly it to Wright Field in Ohio for examination, but first with a stop at 8th Air Force Headquarters in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Upon arrival in Ft. Worth, Gen. Roger Ramey took charge of the wreckage, ordered Marcel and



INVESTIGATING AN alleged UFO landing site in the California Mojave Desert with a Geiger counter is William Moore.

others who had been on the plane not to talk to reporters, and issued a press release stating that everything was a misunderstanding and that what had been recovered was nothing more than a weather balloon with an attached tinfoil radar target.

However, the real wreckage was believed to be on its way to Wright Field under armed guard. Brazel, the rancher who had discovered the crash, was picked up and taken out of circulation for a week and the ranch site was picked clean of every shred of debris and other evidence.

A news leak out of Albuquerque via press wire to the effect that this was going on was plugged by interrupting the transmission and then warning the radio station in question, and one another, not to broadcast the item.

Ramey quickly diverted attention to himself in Ft. Worth and quickly convinced reporters that what was discovered was - in fact - a weather balloon. The newsmen bought his story without much questioning and all was secure by the next morning.

#### UFO or balloon?

The question still remains 48 years later. Did a UFO crash near Roswell in the summer of 1947? Has the wreckage and possibly the remains of recovered alien bodies been concealed by the U.S. government beneath a heavy blanket of

secrecy ever since?

So what has Moore concluded?

"Something crashed in July of 1947 near a remote ranch near Roswell, New Mexico," says Moore. "The military knew of the crash. It became involved. A series of statements were made to the press."

And that's when Moore, over a pizza one cold Minnesota night with Stan Friedman, a lecturer at a local university, decided to piece



A SKETCH of an alien believed to be found at the Roswell crash site.

together the story.

They conducted a series of interviews with more than 200 people over the telephone who provided information about the incident. More than 30 of them had first-hand involvement.

Then in 1979, Moore and Friedman made the first of literally dozens of

trips to New Mexico to interview witnesses first hand. What they learned through the interviews was that all of the people recall the same event and that pieces of the puzzle obtained through these interviews fit together very nicely.

Something did crash in Roswell in 1947. But even Moore, like other investigators, concede they lack one very significant element: physical evidence.

He says talk of a crash of a weather balloon is "covenant."

Moore is quick to cite that the NYU and Cambridge MIT projects were based 80 miles south-southwest of the crash site and launching of research balloons were held from Ft. Bliss/El Paso, Texas, but they all "hold no water."

#### Wreckage and aliens?

Moore and Friedman interviewed Marcel in 1979, and they asked him if he had personally seen a crashed UFO? Marcel replied that he saw wreckage, but no complete machine and contends that it must have exploded in the air.

When asked if it was a weather balloon, Marcel said "It was not."

He described the wreckage "as all kinds of stuff" with small beams with some kind of hieroglyphics on them that could not be deciphered. Marcel said it looked like balsa wood - very hard, although flexible, but would not burn. The metal that was found resembled tinfoil in a pack of cigarettes, but it would not bend.

As for accounts of alien bodies being found, according to Gray Barker of "UFO Report, May 1977," a Baron Nicholas von Poppen was employed by military authorities to photograph the damage saucer.

Von Poppen said still strapped in each of the four seats was a dead body, varying in height from 2 to 4 feet. He said the faces of all four were white, they wore shiny black attire, one-piece outfits without pockets and closely gathered at their feet, and their hands were human-like soft, complete with five digits and normal looking joints.

#### To believe or not believe?

So after all his years of investigating Roswell and other encounters, does Moore believe in UFO's?

"It is not a belief system," he counters.

So why is Roswell's lure continues to be its mystery? Says Moore: "Direct examination of psychologically healthy people shows pretty clearly that they are positively attracted to the mysterious, to the unknown, to the puzzling and unexplained."

(Background information for this story was derived from Moore's "Reflections of the Roswell Incident: 15 Years of Research and Controversy," and "The Roswell Incident.")



## Encounters will occur, ufologist says

By Zack Van Eyck  
Deseret News staff writer

MESQUITE, Nev. — To some, people who believe in UFOs are freaks and nut cases.

To others, like former Air Force pilot and staff scientist Donald M. Ware, they are enlightened souls who must serve as harbingers of a dramatic shift in global consciousness.

Ware is convinced extraterrestrials have made repeated contact with earthlings over the centuries and that the frequency and magnitude of that interaction is increasing rapidly in the 1990s.

He told participants at the fifth annual International UFO Congress convention here Tuesday they have a responsibility to help prepare others for worldwide close encounters.

"It's a transformation of consciousness from thinking of ourselves as a member of a nation on planet Earth to thinking of ourselves as a member of planet Earth, equal partner in an association of worlds," Ware told an audience of several hundred in an afternoon lecture at the Oasis Resort. "That is a big jump in consciousness, and some of you have already made it."

Ware said the UFO phenomenon is not simply about extraterrestrial life forms from other planets that use advanced technology to travel to Earth and check it out. The alien presence, he said, has more to do with cosmic evolution, reincarnation and spiritual growth than it does with some science fiction invasion scenario.

However, what at least one alien species is doing, according to Ware, has a discernible sci-fi twist. Years of research, he said, have convinced him that skinny bug-eyed aliens are abducting humans and, through genetic engineering, creating a hybrid species.

Ware believes these half-human, half-alien bodies become vehicles for reincarnated human souls who need whatever the new bodies might provide — like increased brain capacity, perhaps — to further evolve.

"I think many millions of these new, larger-brained hybrid bodies already house human souls," Ware said in concluding his speech. "I hope 'Star Trek' has conditioned us to accept people who look different than us."

"I hope we allow the hybrids to inhabit this planet before it becomes too late to save it from human selfishness. . . . Perhaps this is what is needed to bring to light a new world order that resembles heaven on earth."

To the uninitiated, Ware's theories may sound like a bunch of New Age science fiction nonsense. But in the UFO community — and it is a growing one both here and abroad — the existence of aliens is a given, and nearly any attempt at explaining their presence merits consideration. Ware's talk, not surprisingly, was well received by this crowd.

And unlike some armchair ufologists, the Arlington, Va., native has followed a life path that conceivably could give him the information needed to reach some conclusions about the UFO mystery.

As a young boy in 1952, Ware said, he witnessed a squadron of seven illuminated UFOs flying above northern Virginia. The sighting and others like it were shared by hundreds in the Washington, D.C., area and reported in local newspapers, he said. His interest was piqued.

In a long Air Force career that included two tours of Vietnam, an education in nuclear engineering and exposure to top secret in-

# UFO



By Carole Baker

### Mysterious Light "Lands" on Deer Point

On the night of November 21, 1995 a group of skywatchers assembled at Shoreline Park. I arrived with a companion at approximately 7:25 p.m. and another skywatcher arrived just a few minutes later. One skywatcher was already there and as we were getting our gear from our cars, we were approached by another, Gene McDonald, from Acadia, CA who had been at the Park for some time. He told us he had just seen an extremely bright amber light out over the bay between Deer Point and Santa Rosa Island. "I thought it was a light on a boat at first, although it seemed far too bright," Gene stated. "Then it rose straight up in the sky, moved left then right and just blinked out! Then I knew it was not a light on a boat!" The other skywatcher who had been present did not see what Gene saw, probably because it was low to the horizon and obscured from her viewpoint. "It was gone before I could get her attention," Gene said. Agreeing to keep a close watch on the sky, we took up our positions, Gene returning to his spot on the boat dock. A few minutes later, the group was joined by two other skywatchers.

At 8:11 p.m. an extremely bright and intense amber light appeared over Santa Rosa Island,

level in our line of view with the tip of Deer Point. We were all struck by the intensity and brightness of this light. It burned so brightly, like magnesium, only it was a very definite amber color and about a half-inch across at arm's length. It was located just about a degree above the horizon, if not less, and was pulsating regularly. Through binoculars you could clearly see some sky beneath it and then the land and water. I was also able to discern some shape, it seemed to have a rounded top and an uneven but rather flattened bottom. It sat, motionless, as we all watched in amazement for about three minutes. Then, another, similar light appeared over the south end of Deer Point. At first, we all debated whether it was beyond Deer Point, over the water, or over Santa Rosa Island, further west. As we watched both lights, the first one, over Santa Rosa Island faded out. The second one over Deer Point remained, strong and steady, pulsating like the first. As we watched through binoculars, it began, almost imperceptibly to descend and move to the left. The descent was very slow and extremely steady. We watched as during approximately two and one-half minutes the light came down, seemingly to the ground, and then went out. During the last of the descent, through binoculars

one could clearly observe tree trunks and the outline of bushes in front of the light itself. This led the group of observers to believe that the light was over Deer Point proper and not beyond it over the water or Santa Rosa Island. This would appear to be confirmed by a later observation of a barge, brightly lit travelling west. As the barge proceeded past Deer Point, behind the trees, the lights on it were almost completely obliterated by the undergrowth and trees. The total duration of the sightings was between five and six minutes.

As an interesting adjunct, about five minutes after the sighting was over, two military helicopters in very close formation came from the direction of the Naval Air Station, flying low over Deer Point and shining their search beams down on the exact spot in the woods where we had seen the light disappear. Could it be that someone at Naval Air Station has also witnessed these strange lights? It seems odd that these helicopters would search the exact spot otherwise. No other aircraft or water craft arrived to investigate the scene and the two helicopters headed east along Santa Rosa Sound, circling back over Gulf Breeze and out into Pensacola Bay toward the Naval Air Station.

After the Thanksgiving Holiday, I made a call to Naval

Air Station, Pensacola and the Air Operations Duty Officer told me that Search and Rescue had been in the area looking for the crew of a capsized boat. The capsized boat was ten miles out in the Gulf of Mexico, not in Santa Rosa Sound, or on land at Deer Point.

A cursory physical investigation of the area of the woods at the end of Deer Point was made on Wednesday, November 22 by one of the skywatch group, but no obvious physical traces were visible. It should be noted that there was no equipment available at the time to measure possible magnetic or radiation anomalies and that parts of the woods are rather dense and impenetrable. Two residents who live adjacent to the area were also interviewed but had nothing unusual to report.

The Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON group would welcome any further information anyone can provide regarding this sighting. Please call the hotline number shown below.

To report a sighting please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline 438-5261. For information on the Project Awareness 1996 Gulf Breeze Conference to be held at the Clarion Resort on Pensacola Beach, March 15-17, 1996, please call Project Awareness at 432-8888. Keep Looking Up!

## Multiple triangular configurations over Santa Rosa Island

Jane Maney, a Gulf Breeze resident had no idea what the evening of Friday, November 17th would hold when she went to visit family on the 6th floor of Tristan Towers on Ft. Pickens Road on Santa Rosa Island.

She, her son and her parents were on the balcony looking east at 6:45 p.m. when they noticed a triangular configuration of five red lights over Alvin's Island. "It was probably further away than that, but we used that as a point of reference," Jane told me. The lights formed a triangle, point down about two degrees above the horizon. Each side of the triangle appeared to be approximately one half inch long at arm's length. "There was nothing visible between the lights, but you could tell they were fixed in the triangular shape, like they were joined in some way," Jane stated. This configuration disappeared after about seven seconds. Little did Jane and her family know that this first triangle was a precursor to eleven more occurrences of triangular light patterns that the family would witness that evening. "We stayed on the balcony looking to

see if anything more would happen," Jane said. "I got my binoculars out, but you know, it was so amazing, it was towards the end of it all before I used them!" At 8:00 p.m. two red triangles appeared, again in roughly the same position in the sky, point down. "These two came in a little further north than the first one and slightly higher," Jane said. "The left triangle came in first and the one to the right of it. They were about the same size as the first one, but these two triangles were pulsating alternately. First the left one, then the right one, back and forth," Jane states. They watched this display for about ten seconds before first the left triangle, then the right triangle faded out.

This pattern was repeated at 8:03 p.m., 8:06 p.m., and 8:10 p.m. "They just kept coming and going. Coming on, pulsing back and forth, then fading out, Jane told me. At 8:13 p.m. two more triangles appeared, but this time the point of the triangle was up. "You could see the lights very clearly, the patterns were very steady in the sky and there was no drifting around, just very steady

until they faded out," Jane said. At 8:17 p.m., Jane's mother was alone on the balcony when in the same general area of the sky she saw one huge white "star" that glowed up to extremely bright intensity and then just blinked out.

Jane took over the watch on the balcony and at 8:20 p.m. two more triangles, again with the point up appeared and followed the same pattern as previously. "The way they pulsed back and forth was amazing," Jane said. "Very regular, as if they were talking to each other." The same two triangles reappeared again at 8:24 p.m. At 8:27 a single red triangle made up four lights, one on top and three along the bottom appeared. "I looked at this one through my binoculars," Jane said. "It was very clear and the lights were so distinct."

At 8:29 p.m. a commercial aircraft was seen to fly through the area of the sky where the sightings had been occurring. "You could see it was a plane, you could tell by the lights and the way it turned to go into Pensacola Airport," Jane said. "It went in and out of the clouds and it was much small-

er looking than the triangles had been."

The final sighting was at 8:30 p.m. when one single red triangle appeared, point up and then faded out.

All of these sightings lasted between five and ten seconds. When it was over Jane and her family drove to Shoreline Park to make their report to the skywatch group there. "I used to skywatch some at the foot of the bay bridge a few years ago," Jane told me. "I was really excited to see this display tonight though." The group at Shoreline Park had not witnessed any of these sightings since their low orientation to the horizon blocked them from view at Shoreline Park.

"It was the pulsing back and forth that really was the most amazing thing, and the way they just kept coming and going every few minutes - it was really amazing," Jane told me.

To report a sighting please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-5261. Keep looking up!

formation, Ware said he learned enough to know "somebody in the government has known for some time that some UFOs are controlled by a non-human intelligence."

The day after he retired in 1983, Ware joined the Mutual UFO Network, one of the oldest and — critics within the UFO community say — most conservative American organizations dedicated to UFO research. Later that year he became MUFON director for the state of Florida. He was the organization's lead investigator of the Gulf

Breeze, Fla., sightings and alleged alien abductions, which began in the mid-1980s and reportedly continue today.

It was through interviewing countless Gulf Breeze UFO observers and more than a dozen alleged abductees that Ware began developing his theories. At the same time, he said, he was compelled to research such seemingly unrelated subjects as reincarnation, telepathy, out-of-body travel, near-death experience and spiritual healing. The more he studied, the more he saw a connection between

it all.

During a sighting on Nov. 17, Ware said he was given the impression that aliens soon would make more direct contact with him. Perhaps to the disappointment of some, that did not take place here Tuesday.

## Sightings of strange objects near Salida continue

By Christopher O'Brien

Tim Edwards continues to videotape strange aerial objects from his Salida yard following the spectacular six minutes of footage he shot on August 27, 1995.

Portions of the original sighting footage has already been broadcast on several Colorado TV stations, and this reporter was interviewed by the Paramount TV program *Sightings* for a segment which will air Friday, November 10. *CBS News*, *Hard Copy* and several other programs have also contacted Edwards about his impressive videotape.

Photographic evidence of the many objects reported in Southern Colorado is extremely rare, and this daytime footage is especially hard to argue with. Expert photo analyst Jim Delatoso in Arizona has determined that the Edwards footage is of a genuine nature.

Other unusual events may be taking place to the north as well. Edwards' subsequent sightings have been shared by many others since his original sighting on August 27.

Two women reported seeing a "huge cigar-shaped" craft over Poncha Pass, Monday August 28, 1995, and a motorist on Highway 285 reported to Saguache Sheriff Al King of seeing a "giant cigarette-shaped object" hover, then streak away at "fantastic speed," that same Monday.

### What Was That Thing?

The last weekend of September seems to have had its share of aerial excitement as well. I received a call from La Veta investigator Barbara Adkins "with someone who needed to talk with me." Friday, September 22, 1995, at 8:45 p.m., Huerfano resident Jeannie Shaw, her 52-year-old sister and two grown children in their 20's were finishing up dinner when she claimed they began to hear a "low humming sound" over their house, which sits on a ridge just east of Silver Mountain and La Veta Pass. The four rushed out on the porch and were astounded to see "a 100-yard wide rectangle" flying west-to-east "60-80 feet over the house."

"My legs buckled; I couldn't believe it," said Shaw. "There were yellow and white lights oscillating around the front which was rounded, and my son ran down the driveway underneath the object and kept up with it... that's how slow it was flying." They watched it fly east, then loop around to the west where it disappeared behind a ridge. A bright white light then rose over the ridge, flared and went out. Eight-to-ten blinking lights were immediately seen flying in a criss-crossing pattern over the ridge.

"As it moved away from us, we could see red lights on the rear. They looked just like giant Cadillac tail-lights," Shaw said. Shaw estimated the object sighting at about "8 to 10 minutes" before they lost sight of it.

### Her Animals Went Nuts

The Shaws were apparently not the only witnesses. She rattled off names and numbers of other

witnesses who saw the strange giant rectangle.

One woman claims her "animals went nuts" upon hearing the low humming sound the craft made as it lumbered overhead.

Shaw immediately called the Huerfano County Sheriff's office to report the object and was told they had heard the sound (it had apparently rattled the Sheriff's office windows), but they claimed it was "a helicopter." She also contacted the *Huerfano World* newspaper and was told the police had told them "it was two helicopters." Shaw has a hard time believing this explanation. "This looked like the mothership," she told me.

Shaw has since found out about even more area residents who saw and/or heard the giant craft that moonless Friday night. She and others have had several sightings of "large helicopters" and a military convoy during this late summer time period.

This area of the Huerfano is where the five Andrietta unexplained animal deaths (UADs) were discovered last November. It coincidentally sits in the heart of the La Veta low-level military flight operations/training area. Maybe another call to Colorado Air National Guard commander "Buck" Buckingham is in order. The last time we talked, seven months went by with hardly a UFO sighting report.

### Salida a New Midway?

The Escamillas of Midway, NM claim to have captured "thousands of hours" of odd aerial phenomena on video tape since March of 1994 from the front yard of their property. Spheres, rods, weird objects with protuberances...you name it, they seem to have videotaped it.

Since his initial sighting on August 27, Tim Edwards claims he has captured "thousands" of small, fleeting aerial objects flitting in the sky over Salida. In just one thirty-second clip, Edwards has taped literally hundreds of these anomalies zipping merrily about. Local skeptics have scoffed at the claim saying he's just filming "cottonwood" particles floating in the air, but this investigator is not convinced of this explanation. I have myself seen these perplexing displays several times. Sure, I did notice some particulate matter floating by, but what about the tiny spheres that hover, reverse course, or dash away against the wind? Or the ones that break into several, then reform?

### The Sheriff's a Believer

On Monday, September 25, 1995 at 9:30am, Edwards' mother was the first to spot them. "My mother Jean Edwards spotted it first. She noticed it at 9:30am just after KVRH radio lost its (FM) signal. She looked up at the sky and observed a tiny silver object near the sun."

Edwards called the Chaffee County Sheriff's office and deputy Chester Price was dispatched to the Edwards house, joining a group of about 10 people who were already watching the objects in Edwards' yard. Officer Price later

described the craft as "10 bright and shiny silver objects traveling from north to south around the sun." KVRH received four additional calls from listeners who also were observing the objects and reported them to the radio station. Edwards claimed that Price, upon leaving, was concerned about getting into a wreck in his squad car because "he would be looking up at the sky at the craft while driving."

### Transmitters Blink Out

During the forty-five-minute morning sighting, the KVRH transmitting tower inexplicably ceased to function. That afternoon, at 1:00 pm, the nearby Cellular One phone tower was "knocked out" for over four hours.

No explanation for the mysterious downtimes have been put forward by KVRH and Cellular One. Nedra Swopoe, manager at Cellular One is baffled by the incident. They still don't know why it happened. Coincidence?

### Vehicles of the Air

I have noticed a complete lack of sighting reports from the upper Arkansas River Valley area over the course of my on-going four-year investigation. Why these reports now? I did a little research and found that *Salida Mountain Mail* reporter Arlene Shovald had uncovered a curious report all the way back on September 7, 1917.

According to the article "vehicles of the air" had been sighting at night during the entire first week of September. Nearly every night some kind of report was filed by witnesses of strange lights that were observed in the "blue depths." One report by a Rev. Oakley described a multi-colored wheel about three-feet in diameter which appeared to revolve in the night sky. The article posed a rhetorical question at the end of the article.

"Is it then some genius who has discovered some new principle of flight, and is trying out his new invention? It's your guess. What is it?"

Well, whatever they were observing back in 1917 certainly wasn't secret military craft, or cottonwood fluff.

### UAD Surgeons Back?

After almost an eight-month lull in UAD reports our mystery perpetrators may have returned to the greater San Luis Valley. Investigator David Perkins related to me the following report:

On Tuesday, September 26, 1995, Huerfano rancher Larry Chacon found his old horse "Whiskey" dead with a six inch diameter perfect circle rectum coring; half the tongue had been removed with a clean diagonal slice; the upper eye was sucked out; hair and hide were "blackened and stiff" as if heat had been applied. As per usual, no tracks, footprints, or signs of predator, or a struggle, were noted.

Deputy Dave McCain of the Huerfano County Sheriff's office investigated the report, which occurred about 15 miles north from where the 100-yard rectangle was seen by Huerfano residents four days earlier on September 22. "Whiskey" was found in the same area where I happened to find a UAD horse last March.

### Blinded By The Light

Chacon has been renting pasture for his animals from an old

"hermit" who had told him of strange activities on the remote ranch land on the eastern slope of the Sangre de Cristos.

The old man told Perkins he has also seen ships in the sky over the ranch, and even claimed one had landed near his mountain cabin a couple of years ago. He said two human-looking beings had appeared from the craft and began walking toward his cabin shining a very bright spotlight. The man claims that when they pointed the light at his cabin, "the light went through the wall." He says he was blinded and paralyzed by the light as it illuminated the inside of his cabin.

### More Mystery Fires

A spectacular sighting and possible landing, on October 19, has the whole town of Sanford buzzing. Several large brilliant white lights on the hillside west of Sanford were observed by two Capulin workers driving ten miles west town. They drove toward the five huge "landed" lights, which appeared to blink sequentially, until they were 1/4 mile away. "The largest one looked like a big football field all lit up. But there's nothing up there!" The driver became very reluctant to get any closer, and decided to turn around and "get the hell outta there." His cousin wanted to get closer so he could "throw rocks at it to see if they could here them hit metal." He is positive others saw the light displays because nine or ten cars were headed toward the site as he and his friend left. "The whole town must have seen them," he told me that night.

Well, it looks like the mysterious San Luis Valley flap is back in full swing. Please report any unusual aerial activity to this reporter at (719) 256-4128.

Next month: A complete report on "Crestone III" a paranormal conference with participants from all over the USA.

DAILY NEWS, New York, NY

Dec. 15, 1995 CR: S. Fensten

## Space invaders

Wanna know how to send a government man into a conniption fit? Mention "Area 51." The Nevada block of government land is a military base, but there have always been stories spun about UFOs being housed there. And that's why the inclusion of Area 51 in the upcoming alien flick "Independence Day" caused some grief for the film makers when they approached the government for consultation.

Writer/producer Dean Devlin tells tonight's "Inside Edition" that the government said, "We love the script. . . . There's one little thing. Take out all references to Area 51." Devlin refused and that's why they had less help than they expected.



# Crop Circles

By Helen M. White

As early as 1678 crop circles accompanied by strange light effects were reported in Salisbury, England. According to a March, 1994 interview on the Canadian radio program "As it Happens," (heard on Minnesota Public Radio) a used book dealer told of finding a pamphlet of that date in the walls of an old house. The pamphlet described the sightings which are today called crop circles.

The first midwest report that the editor has found describes a formation in a field of soybeans on a farm near Van Horn, Iowa, July 12, 1969, (see Dalles Visitor, 1994). Such formations, in a great variety of simple and complex shapes and

Great Crop Circle Mystery," in *Body, Mind & Spirit*, May/June, 1992, one of the best recent summaries in print of the crop circle phenomenon).

Two recent midwest formations are described below.

## The Milaca Circles

On October 1, 1994, Perry Smith, a private pilot, took his sister for a plane ride over their father's farm in rural Milaca County and saw three circles in a corn field. Later Perry took his father, Harold Smith, into the field to see the strange formations, the largest one 65 feet in diameter, the two smaller ones on either side 29 feet in diameter. The corn stalks in the large circle were laid down in a

two Twin Cities television stations who came and looked, reported on October 6 and were—more or less—amused. Someone said kids must have done it but a wiser local woman said she didn't know any local kids smart enough to do the job.

Bob Schultz, pilot, retired 3M scientist and investigator for the MUFON network, visited the site, flew over it, took photographs and collected samples of the corn which he sent to a laboratory in Michigan for analysis. He was then referred to a neighbor three miles north of the circles who reported that she and her husband had seen a large blue-white globe "descending to the ground in the direction of Harold (Smith)'s farm" a few days before the circles were discovered.

According to Schultz, preliminary results from the Michigan laboratory indicate that some kind of energy had been absorbed by the corn cob, similar to that which could be obtained "if one were to radiate a corn cob using a microwave oven."

Later in the month Schultz heard about another crop circle at Blaine, Minnesota. His report to the *Minnesota Mufon Newsletter* 51: Jan.-Feb., 1995, is reprinted here with his permission.

## The Blaine Circle

By Robert Schultz

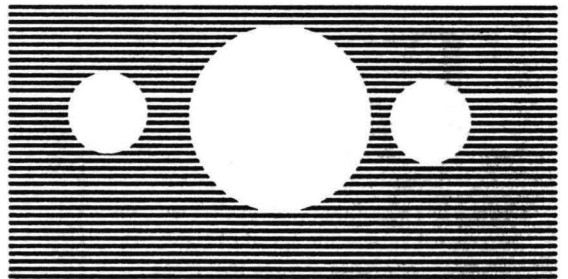
I heard about this crop circle on Thursday, October 27th. The next day I checked it out and interviewed the owners of the farm. . . (who) did not want any media attention and therefore, no newspaper or TV coverage was made.

This formation was a perfect, 47 foot circle in the corn.

Unlike the stalks in Milaca which were laid down with precision, these stalks were laid down in an erratic clockwise direction. If I were to jump to a conclusion, I would say this circle looked as if a saucer had actually landed! The farm is the only one left in the center of urban development. If we had the resources, the next obvious step would be to interview all the neighbors to see if anyone

although there are no pines in the area. Corn, dirt, the white material and weed samples were sent to Dr. (W.C.) Levengood (at the Michigan laboratory). We also dragged a magnet through the dirt and collected magnetic material for analysis. Dr. Levengood has not yet had time to evaluate these samples.

I talked to George Wingfield (English scientist and astron-



Crop Circles, eight miles east of Milaca, MN, 10/1/94, drawn by Robert Schultz.

had seen anything unusual. No sightings have been officially reported.

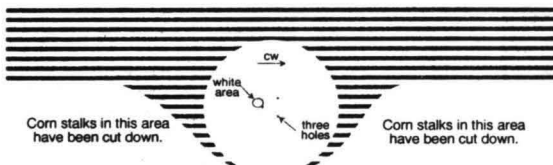
When . . . (one of the owners) first investigated the circle, she saw no indication of anyone being in it. We took ground and aerial photographs and discovered three 6 inch diameter holes near the center of the circle, spaced about 6 feet apart. The stalks in the center were smashed to the ground. Many of the stalks near the edge of the circle were bent at an approximate 20 degree angle with the ground.

There were perhaps ten velvet leaf cockle burr weeds standing within the circle. The stalks of these weed appeared to have been scraped. Near the center of the circle, a strange white layer of material lay on the ground. The material smelled like pine tree sap

omer who has investigated European and American circle formations) about this circle and he remembered a similar formation. He gave me an article which had appeared in a 1990 issue of a Milan, Illinois, newspaper. This circle had also been 47 feet in diameter, clockwise, in corn.

When the lab reports are returned we'll publish a final report in this (*Minnesota Mufon*) newsletter.

For anyone interested in following crop circle and other UFO events, Schultz, net control operator of MUFONET can be reached on Saturday mornings at 7:00 CST at 7.237 MHZ. The Minnesota Mufon organization meets the second Saturday each month at 1:30 pm at the Irish Well, University at Prior Avenues, St. Paul. It should be noted, no drinks are served for the duration of the meetings. Those who attend are cold sober.



Crop Circle, Blaine, MN 10/24/94, drawn by Robert Schultz.

various fields, and even more recently on snow and ice, have been reported from around the world. Numerous books have been written about them and many photographs taken, but no one has seen them being formed. "While numerous scientists, dowseers, engineers, channelers, military experts and other interested individuals have expounded vastly differing theories as to how these agriglyphs are formed, to date not one single cause has been proven." (P. J. Birosik, "The

counterclockwise direction. Those in the smaller circles fell in a clockwise direction. The Smiths saw no footprints or other impressions in the area where the corn stood. They could not explain what they saw and neither could the sheriff's deputies from Kanabec and Mille Lacs counties who responded to Smith's call. Nor could Jeffrey Hage from the *Mille Lacs County Times* who wrote about the mystery in his paper on October 5. Neither did reporters and photographers for

DAILY NEWS, New York, NY - Dec. 18, 1995

## RUSH & MOLLOY

BY GEORGE RUSH AND JOANNA MOLLOY



LAURANCE, ALIEN AND BILL

## FAR OUT!

President Clinton said last month that, "as far as I know, an alien spacecraft did not crash in Roswell, N.M., in 1947. . . If the United States Air Force did recover alien bodies, they didn't tell me about it either, and I want to know." Laurence Rockefeller wants to tell him. The 85-year-old philanthropist has funded a 150-page study of "the

Roswell Incident." This month, he's due to send it to White House Science adviser John Gibbons, as well as every U.S. congressman and senator.

"The Best Available Evidence" features testimony from former military officials and astronauts that contradicts Air Force denials of an alien landing, says Michael Luckman, director of the New York Center for UFO Research. Last summer, Rockefeller

reportedly tried to get Hillary Clinton aboard the UFO issue when the President was vacationing in Wyoming.

While he waits for some answers, the Commander in Chief can satisfy his curiosity by ordering a 4-foot long "replica of the Roswell alien" from the Sharper Image Christmas catalogue. The spaceman, who sleeps in his own lighted chamber, is just \$1,695.

1993, Fall, Osceola, WI, Charles Jackson was driving his charter bus on HY 35 about 2 miles south of town when he saw a blue-green object 2 1/2 to 3 feet across, bigger than a bushel basket about 50 feet above the ground. It passed in front of the bus going in a straight line from west to east directly toward a farm. He thought it would hit the barn, but there were sparks and it appeared to hit the ground. In memory of the event Jackson had a scene of a UFO over the Dalles painted on the back of his bus. "Green Fireballs" similar to that seen by Jackson, have been a subject of special study by Dr. L. LaPaz of the Department of Meteoritics, U of New Mexico. Steiger, 251, 278; (Author interview; they are also mentioned in Timothy Good, *Above Top Secret*, 121, and may have been seen in New Jersey in 1866).

# Alien lights and black helicopters

By THOMAS WILLS

**T**he grey haired man with the cane phrased his question carefully:  
"Given the fact that the nearest star to our own is 4,000 light years away (actually only 4.2) and given Einstein's work that tells us that we cannot travel at near the speed of light, has it ever occurred to anyone that these UFOs and aliens may be coming from an entirely different dimension?"

Davina Ryszka, local representative of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), and the speaker of the day at this special meeting of the Paonia UFO Contact Center, conceded that the possibility had indeed been put forth by other people interested in UFOs.

That such a question had been posed in all seriousness — and received and answered in the same spirit — is the benchmark of meetings of people who believe that our planet is being visited by beings from other worlds (or other dimensions).

One might even describe such meetings as support groups for folks whose views aren't taken very seriously by the public at large. If you were to expound on your other-dimensional views down at the convenience-store coffee shop, for instance, you would probably be greeted with blank stares and a quick change of subject. And then after you left, you would become the main topic of conversation.

Ryszka is a relative newcomer to the area, having moved to Delta from South Dakota early in 1995. She is an official field investigator for MUFON, one of the largest UFO groups — with chapters and members all over the world. According to Ryszka, the group's focus is on the scientific investigation of UFO sightings and actual contacts with aliens. It also studies crop circles, cattle mutilations and the newest phenomenon — silent, unmarked black helicopters. Over the course of the three-hour meeting, Ryszka gave the 30 or so people at the Paonia Town Hall a comprehensive update on local, regional and international news relating to these subjects. A lot of it was news to me.

For example, I'd missed the story of the flying saucer that passed over the central Colorado town of Salida on August 27th ... and the UFO that appeared several hours later on the same day over the Grand Valley and shot several objects into the Bookcliffs. Also, on September 12, an object was sighted over Leadville, and another about that time over Colorado Springs. Some unexplained lights were also seen in the sky over Glenwood Springs. And a man traveling over Lizard Head Pass reported that he had been followed part way by "silver discs" in the sky.

On other subjects: The continuing occurrences of crop circles in Great Britain, the rash of sightings and cattle mutilations over the last year in the San Luis Valley and the problem of Black Helicopters appearing nearly everywhere.

I'd heard bits and pieces about these phenomena from various sources, but nothing with as much detail as Ryszka put forward at the meeting.

During the nearly three-hour talk Ryszka presented videotaped news stories and passed around photocopied pictures and articles that have appeared in various newspapers and magazines. Most impressive was a clip from a Denver TV station's news broadcast that contained about 30 seconds out of more than three minutes of video taken by a guy in Salida of a disc-shaped object hovering in the sky above his house.

Ryszka claimed that close examination of the video showed tiny balls of light leaving the disc at high speed. Pods? Remember Invasion of the Body Snatchers?

Thomas Wills is an artist and owner of Wills' Gallery and Books in Hotchkiss.

It seems to be a question of which came to the valley first, the Crestone-based UFO lovers, or the UFOs? I guess it doesn't matter because they appear to have both been there in force for the last few years. Recently the whole thing has taken an especially ugly turn with several dozen reported cattle mutilations. I never thought of cattle mutilations as having much to do with flying saucers, but the UFO folks have added cattle mutilations to their list of possible dastardly doings by aliens. In the past the standard line I've heard is that this sort of thing is the result of Satanic Cult Rituals. My personal view is that cattle are being mutilated by immature medical or vet stu-



dents out to commit particularly bad practical jokes. One rancher from Monte Vista, said Ryszka, is said to have lost 35 head of cattle worth \$30,000 to mutilators this summer. That's beyond being funny.

## Black helicopters

There have been so many reported UFO sightings over the past year that the San Luis Valley is now nationally known (among UFO enthusiasts) as the hot area in the country. This is being further fueled by Crestone resident Chris O'Brian, who has started publication this year of *The Mysterious Valley Report*, in which he documents

There apparently was something in the sky over Salida on Aug. 27th, and quite a few people reported seeing it.

Then there is the case of the appearance of an object the same day over Grand Junction and the Grand Valley.

Several hours after the sighting at Salida, a man employed as a DJ at a Grand Junction radio station was hiking in the Colorado National Monument when he looked across the valley and saw a ball of light in the sky. While he watched, several much smaller balls of light broke off at high speed from the main object and impacted on the face of the Bookcliffs to the north. There was no audible sound from all of this. On his radio show the next morning the DJ related over the air what he'd seen and asked listeners to call in if they had also witnessed it. There was no word on whether anyone else had.

Then there were the mysterious lights that appeared near Glenwood Springs. These apparently appeared for several consecutive nights near a remote ranch so regularly that the ranch inhabitants began to invite company out for a look. The lights disappeared right before (or right after ... the story was unclear) a reporter from the Glenwood Post came out for a look. Another account described a "Mothership" that was sighted in late summer moving silently across the sky over Colorado Springs. Despite its size, the ship was inexplicably spotted by only a couple of UFO enthusiasts.

...

During a short break in the meeting we all had coffee and cookies (including some of the best homemade soft oatmeal cookies I've ever eaten). I looked at the free UFO literature arranged on the piano — some of which was not UFO-related at all but appeared to have a new-age spiritual slant. The most interesting of the papers and proslizing pamphlets were the various UFO newsletters from around the country. On an adjoining table were Paonia UFO Contact Center publications, including recent issues of *The Star Beacon*, its monthly newsletter. Say what you will about UFOs, but there are a bunch of people out there whose lives are centered on the idea of visitors from out there.

Above the table was an interesting map of the area, which I examined for several minutes trying to decide if the various shadings were alien landing zones or something. Then I realized the map was one being used by Paonia's planning commission ... oh.

I stood behind Ryszka and munched my cookie, looking over her shoulder as she showed people some alien autopsy photos. The photos are part of an article in the current issue of MUFON's own magazine, and were taken from a film purported to have been made in 1947 of an autopsy of aliens who crashed their flying saucer that year near Roswell, New Mexico.

Ryszka said the current wisdom among ufologists in the know is that the film is probably a hoax. The pictures show naked human-looking bodies with bulbous bald heads resembling many a science fiction movie alien. At the very least it appears that somebody did a major make-up job on some corpses in a morgue somewhere. A couple of the UFO newsletters carry advertising offering the Roswell autopsy film on video. Now there's a Christmas gift idea!

## Hot Zone - The San Luis Valley

While it seems that Colorado in general has had a lot of UFO activity over the past year or so, one area seems to have gotten more than its share. The San Luis Valley. When Ryszka started in on the San Luis Valley, I woke right up. I was born in the San Luis Valley, or more accurately, I would have been born in the valley if there had been a hospital closer than Alamosa, in the southern end of the valley.

As it was, I ended up being born at the D&RG Railroad Hospital in Salida; in the Arkansas River Valley, just over Poncha Pass. It doesn't matter, I still claim the San Luis Valley and the tiny North Valley town of Villa Grove as my birthplace.

And now aliens are apparently running rampant there.

the various occurrences within the area.

One of the more interesting phenomena that O'Brian has come across is "silent black helicopters." These are apparently a variation on the conspiracy theorists' black helicopters — which are supposed to be part of a United Nations takeover of the country. The alleged UN helicopters are just regular helicopters painted black, while this new UFO-type black helicopter is totally noiseless and is reported to behave much like a standard flying saucer (quick darting movements etc.) Maybe some really sharp

(continued on page 7)



(continued from page 6 - VALLEY CHRONICLE, Hotchkiss, CO - Dec. 1995)

cattle-mutilating aliens have figured out that if you make scout ships look like helicopters — particularly black helicopters — then even if they do get seen and reported, no one will believe it.

The Paonia UFO Center's *Star Beacon* in fact had a cover story on such a black helicopter sighting right here in the North Fork. One explanation for some of the local sightings, especially in late summer, comes from the Delta County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Bill Blair announced proudly awhile back that he had formed a sort of partnership with the Colorado Air National Guard. The Guard boys have been doing quite a few "dope" sweeps over the valley this past summer while flying very dark colored helicopters that — being military owned — do not have conventional commercial markings. They do, however, make just as much of a racket as any other helicopter.

In an even more bizarre San Luis Valley vein, O'Brian also reports (according to Ryzka) that white vans and trucks with no license plates have been seen cruising the valleys' roads. Meanwhile, here in our own valley, there do seem to be an awful lot of black four-wheel-drives with dark tinted windows ...

When questioned about any local field investigations that she's undertaken since relocating to Colorado, Ryzka said she's only done one so far, but is hoping people will call her more often once they know that she (and MUFON) are here. (The single call was from the Olathe area, where a possible crop circle was reported.

Crop circles are a mostly English phenomena where circular, sometime very intricate, patterns appear mysteriously in farmers' fields overnight. The patterns are made by the crop (usually rye or wheat) being bent neatly over to the ground. Alas ... Ryzka was disappointed to find that the Olathe crop circle appeared to be the result of a lightning strike. Dang!

#### Our own alien light

During the week after the UFO meeting in Paonia, I casually mentioned to friends and customers in my bookstore some of the stuff that Davina Ryzka had talked about. What I got in return was not what I had expected. Not a single person said "Boy! That's pretty weird!" Instead, almost without exception, everyone had an unexplained encounter story to tell. These ranged from strange lights in the sky to having an object hover over their car out in the dunes on the way to Delta. These also weren't the sort of people who'd feel comfortable going to a UFO meeting or even to be quoted by name in the newspaper.

The most often-repeated story concerns the Crawford Light. This, according to the people who told the stories, is a good-sized ball of light that appears fairly often over the mountains to the east of Crawford. People who have seen it say it's not the moon or the planet Venus. Maybe if somebody could figure out its schedule, the Crawford Light could be turned into a tourist attraction. Crawford Light T-Shirts, posters, books and maybe a micro-brewery selling — what else — Crawford Light Beer.

The small West Texas town of Marfa has turned a similar mysterious light into a major tourist attraction. Skeptics say their light is probably just the reflections of car headlights coming up from the Mexican border, but that hasn't slowed down the annual Marfa Lights Festival one whit!

DAILY RECORD, Roswell, NM - Nov. 28, 1995

## Government publishes Roswell Incident report

The United States Government has decided to cash in on the UFO craze by releasing an official United States Air Force document, "The Roswell Report: Fact vs. Fiction in the New Mexico Desert."

The mammoth 996-page report addresses the alleged crash of an unidentified flying object in Roswell in July 1947. A synopsis in the report unveils project MOGUL, formerly a top-priority classified project of balloon-borne experiments. Twenty-five appendices and photograph and photograph sections are included in the document.

And it is now available for \$52. Copies may be purchased by sending a check or money order to United States Government Bookstore, 201 W. 8th St., Pueblo, Colo. 81003 or by calling or faxing a credit-card order to 719-544-3142.

John Price of the UFO Enigma Museum said he wasn't aware of the book but remains skeptical.

"That was their best assessment at the time, but they didn't provide any documentation or trail to prove that's exactly what was at Roswell, so I'm con on it." Price said of the government's explanation.

Price said that because of the hefty pricetag and the fact that every Roswell Incident video and book coming out goes into depth on Project Mogul, he would probably only stock a few at his museum.

"They've almost beat that to death," he said.

REGISTER, Mobile, AL - Oct. 21, 1995

## Close encounters



MARY HATTLER/Staff Photographer

An extraterrestrial-crossing sign caught Brenda Denzler's eye Friday during the opening day of the Project Awareness UFO convention at the Mobile Convention Center.

## UFO believers find a place to bond

► Tales of abductions and sightings heard as meeting in Mobile begins

By RENEE BUSBY  
Staff Reporter

Michelle Guerin was smiling and relaxed. She was finally in a place where she could talk openly about her alien abductions and UFO sightings without being ridiculed.

"You get the bonding that's necessary," said Ms. Guerin, who traveled to Mobile from Point Lookout, N.Y., to attend the Project Awareness UFO convention

at the Mobile Convention Center.

Relocated to Mobile from Gulf Breeze, Fla., by Hurricane Opal, the convention, which ends Sunday, is expected to draw 1,000 people who have either seen, been abducted by or are just generally interested in unidentified flying objects.

The exhibits are open to the public, but there is a charge for lectures.

Ms. Guerin didn't want to talk to outsiders about her abductions. "It's hard to talk about," she said.

She said she felt much easier, however, describing her last UFO sighting in July.



MARY HATTLER/Staff Photographer

Bob Hill shows a scar he says resulted when aliens abducted him as a child.

"There were two spherical-shaped objects. One red. One white. They were traveling at different speeds," she said. "When I looked through the binoculars I could tell they were spinning like tops."

Others attending the convention were willing to tell of their experiences, but insisted on remaining unidentified themselves.

Two women from Fort Walton Beach, Fla., said their husbands wouldn't approve. "They are in the military," one of the women said.

The conference mainly focuses on lectures from noted authors, but participants also can browse through exhibits.

In a viewing area, participants can watch a video of UFO sightings and look at photographs that depict UFOs.

Before entering meeting rooms for the lecture sessions, participants have to walk past an array of vendors selling T-shirts, mugs and books.

"This is our sole support," Jim Greenen of Yalaha, Fla., said of his souvenirs, which include alien and spaceship crossing signs.

But, as one might expect at a UFO conference, there are unusual items for sale.

For example, Kay Simon's aura photographs.

"The camera reads aura, a lot the same way as people who see aura," said the Tampa woman.

Displaying a photograph that contains the face of a person sur-

rounded by various colors, she explains that the colors in the photograph depict a person's aura.

"This person is a very spiritual person," she said of the woman in the photograph who has violet colors outlining her face.

At another booth, author Leah A. Haley is selling books detailing her alien abductions. She said she was first abducted when she was 3 years old while vacationing in Alabama with her family.

Her book, "Ceto's New Friends," is a fictional book loosely based on that abduction.

Mrs. Haley, who now lives in Tennessee, said she and her brother were standing at the edge of a lake when she looked in the woods and saw an alien.

"It didn't talk through its mouth, but spoke telepathically," she said. "It asked if we would like to go for a ride in a big silver ball."

Mrs. Haley said when she responded that her mother would get angry, the alien replied, "I'll make things OK with your mother."

She said they were taken to a round, silver object hovering in the sky.

"I know this sounds crazy, but a light beam came down and took us up."

Once inside, she said, they were free to explore.

"The panel had pretty-colored buttons. The alien asked if I wanted to drive the craft and I was allowed to push the buttons," she said. "I don't know if I was actually driv-

ing."

She recalled telling the aliens she was sleepy and when she woke up she was on an examining table and her brother was across from her on another table.

"The creatures told us not to tell anybody before they released us."

She said there were other abductions, but she didn't realize she was actually being taken by aliens until she was hypnotized a few years ago.

"I tried to convince myself it was a dream," she said. "I had never heard about abduction experiences, even though what was happening to me was so real."

Going public with her story caused her to lose her marriage and her job teaching accounting to college students. "One of my daughters rarely talks to me anymore and my mother's totally against it."

Sitting at a booth across the aisle from Mrs. Haley was psychic Robert E. Hill Sr.

Hill, who has appeared on singer Dionne Warwick's "Psychic Friends Network," pulled up his pant leg and displayed a round, discolored patch of skin on his leg. He said it was caused by aliens who abducted him in 1937.

He said he has no memory of what actually happened. But, he added, "I remember the bloody noses I got for about 15 years every time I told that story."

# From the **O** Files: the Great Ball of Fire

by Bill Stevenson  
Staff Writer

OKANOGAN COUNTY - Bigfoot, UFOs, phantom invasion forces and Ogopogo, the famous lake monster are all part of the Okanogan County legends that seem to be required learning to live here.

To keep up with our yearly doses of unexplained mysteries, we have started our very own "O Files".

The files will someday contain documented evidence, photos (if they are ever provided) and notes on the investigations into the unexplained phenomena that are told to our newspaper staff.

Since the beginning of the year we have sought the truth concerning a greedy Bigfoot, that wants to keep its gold, a phantom military invasion force, that was to invade our county, mysterious black spy planes, that were keeping track of our every move, and most recently a UFO that came down somewhere east of Tonasket, yet south of Republic.

But of all of the unexplained phenomena that have occurred in our county, the closest to being proven is the "O File" entitled *Great Ball of Fire*.

On Wednesday, September 13, around 7:00 p.m. a ball of fire was spotted descending towards the ground leaving behind it a trail of smoke and being chased by several planes.

On Thursday, September 14, several people claim to have seen white

trucks marked NASA (National Aeronautical and Space Administration) travel through town and turn on Highway 20, heading towards Republic.

I followed my sources instructions and headed to Republic to find the NASA trucks and to see if they had permission to be in Okanogan County.

My source said that it had reportedly landed approximately three miles south of Republic and was in an area near Mill Creek. There is no Mill Creek near Republic, but I attempted to locate anything close to that.

Not having any success, I talked with local people in Republic's business community and was unable to find the trucks or the ball of fire.

A dispatcher for the Ferry County Sheriff's Office, lets call him Bob, told me of a complaint registered by a resident that lived south of Republic. The resident had reported seeing a large trail of smoke in the sky and that it ended beneath the tree line.

This gave me hope and I asked him if he could give me the road that the person lived on. He agreed and asked me to stop by the Sheriff's Office to pick up the information.

When I arrived, the Undersheriff of Ferry County was there to greet me and inform me that the information was unavailable and that I would need a court order for any information that he could give me.

Frustrated and tired, I didn't feel like having a discussion with him on the laws concerning public information and what was to be made available to the public, so I left Republic and headed back home.

To say that the trip was useless, would be wrong. I found a possible explanation for the phantom military troops, in that U.S. Army reserve troops are building a fence along the Canadian border and that some of them are staying in Republic.

When I returned to Okanogan County I contacted the Okanogan County Director of Unexplained Phenomena Mike Murray (ok, he's actually the Okanogan County Undersheriff).

Murray said that he had also heard of the smoke trail and put me onto several other sources.

A Washington State Patrol Trooper had reportedly been one of the witnesses to the ball of fire and I was told that an off-duty Tonasket Police officer had seen the NASA trucks roll through town at roughly 3:00 p.m. on Sept. 14.

From there I tried to find and talk with the officers, but that came to a dead-end. I began making calls to NASA installations around the country in effort to find if the trucks had been in the area and what might have caused them to be here.

Spokespeople from Washington D.C., Edwards Air Force Base, Jet Pro-

pulsion Laboratory, Fairchild Air Force Base, McChord Air Force Base, Whidbey Island Naval Air Station and a NASA research center in San Francisco all denied that there was any planes in the area on the night of Sept. 13 or that any NASA trucks had been in the state of Washington.

An Associated Press story later informed me that they had given me misinformation and that there have been NASA personnel, in the Columbia Basin, that were working on experiments.

As to the ball of fire, none of them could explain it or what a possible cause could be.

A meteor maybe? A piece of satellite? A test model of a rocket engine? According to the NASA personnel I talked with, none of these are possible answers.

The public relations officer from Washington D.C. said that a meteor or a piece of satellite would, 99 times out of 100, burn up before hitting the Earth and that if it didn't burn up, then 3 out of 4 times, it would land in an ocean.

The lack of witnesses and information concerning the *Great Ball of Fire* wasn't a total loss.

I did manage two stories from the experience. We now know about the SR-71 Blackbirds and the Naval jets that fly over our heads.

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Nov. 8, 1995

**UFO**



BY CAROLE BAKER

Sightings from around the country and around the world that took place during the week of November 5-11.

**GULF OF MEXICO - 5 NOVEMBER 1957, 5:37 A.M.** Four coastguardsmen watched a brilliant object like the planet Venus dart across the Gulf of Mexico for between three and five seconds early on November 5. For 11 minutes before the object was seen and for 16 minutes before the object was seen and for 16 minutes after the sighting, the UFO was being tracked on radar by the Coast Guard Cutter SEBAGO. Then at 5:37 a.m. the cutter lost radar contact. A witness described the object as being "a brilliant white object of no distinguishable shape". This sighting occurred about 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River in the Gulf of Mexico. (Pensacola News Journal 6 November 1957).

**KUWAIT - 10 NOVEMBER 1978** In an oil-field in northern Kuwait, seven oil company workers observed a UFO that was described as being "larger than a 747 Jumbo Jet" land nearby. When it landed, automatic drilling equipment shut down. Normally,

to restart the machinery, it needs to be manually started, however, after the UFO flew off, the drilling equipment restarted on its own. (Unsolved UFO Sightings, Fall 1995, pgs. 40-42).

**GULF BREEZE, FLORIDA - 11 NOVEMBER 1987, 5 P.M.** Local Gulf Breeze resident, Ed Walters, was working in his office at home around 5 p.m. on November 11, when he noticed an unusual glow behind the trees across the street. When he went to investigate he saw a bluish gray craft gliding through the air. He took his Polaroid camera and was able to take some of the most famous UFO photographs to date. These and future photographs have been analyzed by many people including Dr. Bruce Maccabee, an optical physicist. The object photographed was described as being "crown shaped" with a light on top and a bottom ring of lights. Dr. Maccabee concluded that the diameter of the bottom ring was about seven and one half feet, the midsection of the craft was 13 feet across and the height from the bottom to the top of the top light was estimated to be 9 feet. (The Gulf Breeze Sightings, Ed & Francis Walters, Avon Books 1990, pgs. 1-4, 275-28).

## Recent UFO sighting at Shoreline Park viewed by many

By Russel K. Bunge

DATE OF SIGHTING - 22 OCT 1995 AT 9:43 P.M.  
Shoreline Park

Persons present: Mr. Kelly Quiros from California; Mr. Richard Harvey, California; Ms. Susan Byrne, Illinois, and Mr. Russell Bunge, California.

Viewing conditions: Very good. Clear sky. Stars, and planets visible. No moon. Warm soft breeze from the south off the Gulf of Mexico. Quiet, except for water lapping the shore and an occasional breeze in a nearby white pine. Some light pollution from sodium lamps lighting the parking lot.

Description: First spotted by K. Quiros, then myself, R. Bunge, and S. Byrne. Standing on the beach at South Shoreline Park, facing toward the water and Santa Rosa Island beyond (south) - and the bridge to Santa Rosa Island is to our left (east) - Gulf Breeze and Pensacola are behind us (north).

While facing due south I saw a large dark triangular-shaped object silently moving from east to west across the night sky and then disappear. The two leading edges of the object has very faint amber-wine colored lights. The lights are as faint as some of the faintest stars. There are approximately four lights

on each edge. The third edge, the trailing edge, has no lights. The surface of the object is solid dark gray, nearly as dark as the sky. The trailing edge is discernible by the contrast between the color of the object and the color of the night sky. Stars are blocked from view and reappear as the object passes by my line of sight. The sighting lasts approximately 4-9 seconds.

There is no sound of an engine or of anything else. There is no contrail or exhaust. If a person doesn't see the object, then there is no other way to be aware of it when using the ordinary five senses.

The relative distance and size of the object is of course very difficult to estimate. My impression is that it is very large. The shape of the object is triangular with the leading angle being approximately 40 degrees.

The object first appears at 50 degrees above the southern horizon (above the water and toward Santa Rosa Island).

Relative size: the object is 1.5 times as large as the angled space between my extended thumb and index finger with my right arm fully extended. I am 73 inches tall. The length of my index finger to the base of my extended thumb is 5.75 inches.

## CONVENTION

# U.S. trying to cover up UFOs, researchers say

By Zack Van Eyck  
Deseret News staff writer

MESQUITE, Nev. — Are UFOs real? Are extraterrestrials visiting earth and abducting humans? Is the government harboring knowledge about alien contact?

Those questions might spark debate at the dinner table of the typical American household, where — according to recent opinion polls — about half the adults would say they believe UFOs are something more than hoaxes, hallucinations and strange weather patterns.

But here at the International UFO Congress convention, where about 600 UFO researchers and information seekers are gathered this week, the answers to those questions are less in doubt. To the organizers and many of the participants in this fifth annual event, alien visitation is a reality, a government cover-up is accepted and there is a feeling that the "truth" about UFOs should become common knowledge.

The speakers invited here are not asking, "Is this happening?" Instead, ufologists such as retired University of Wyoming professor Leo Sprinkle and former U.S. fighter pilot Donald Ware will address such topics as: the personality profile of extraterrestrials; military involvement in alien abductions; past-life regression as therapy for abductees; UFOs and spiritualism; the Incan empire's UFO connection; the "truth" about human origin; interdimensional travel; and the deeper implications of extraterrestrial contact.

Robert Brown, president of the nonprofit UFO Congress, is among those convinced that contact with a variety of extraterrestrial species is taking place throughout the world, including the back yards and back woods of America. Why it is happening and what it all means are what his 5-year-old California-based organization is determined to find out.

"It is an immensely complex question, probably the most complex question ever even thought about by man," Brown said before the start of the weeklong conference, held at the Oasis Resort.

"There is indeed some sort of struggle going on and we, meaning

the human species, are somehow involved in it."

Brown said sightings and incidences reported from around the world indicate many forms of extraterrestrial life, each with a separate agenda, are visiting this planet. And that, he said, should not shock anyone.

"If indeed we consider that the universe is infinite and if we believe that the Creator made life, then in my mind it is only logical to assume that he made life throughout the universe," he said.

Brown believes that while American scientists are pointing huge radio telescopes at the stars listening for a phone call from far-off civilizations, intelligent beings from space — or some other dimension or reality — are knocking on our back doors, and sometimes opening them without permission.

The majority of the American public does not share that belief, Brown said, because the public is uninformed. Those in power fear the existing world structure could collapse if the alien presence is recognized, he said, so the U.S. government and those who control the mass media have made an intentional effort to keep the public in the dark.

Ryan Layton, a Utahn who has conducted his own research into UFO and Bigfoot phenomena, agrees that information is being withheld from the American public.

Layton, a Layton resident and a participant in this week's conference, said Americans are left to do their own reading and research into the phenomenon. But because most don't, he said, the suggestion that extraterrestrials already have made contact with earthlings remains, in the eyes of the general public, a delusion of the lunatic fringe.

"Look at the recent sightings that have been occurring in the 1990s where tens of thousands of Mexicans in Mexico City and the surrounding area have been seeing these craft in really good conditions, and a lot of these observations have been seen on video," Layton said. "That's big news in Mexico and Central America and Europe, but not here."



ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach,

FL - Dec. 13, 1995

**"TRIANGULAR PATTERN"  
LIGHT SIGHTINGS  
CONTINUE**

By Carole Baker

On two consecutive nights recently, a Gulf Breeze resident was witness to amber colored triangular light patterns in the skies over Gulf Breeze.

Driving home from work on the night of Thursday, November 30 at about midnight, he was driving east on 98 near Tiger Point. To his right, or south of Hwy. 98, he saw an amber configuration of lights with an amber configuration of lights with an undefined, cloudy amber light within the triangle. "The lights themselves were very clear, although not real bright. They were definitely not flares, there was no smoke coming from them and they were steady in the sky, not falling or drifting at all," the witness told me. "I just looked at it and then it was gone." Continuing on his drive home, he kept looking at the sky hoping to see the lights appear once more, but they did not. The sighting lasted about 10 seconds and the triangle appeared at about 10 degrees above the horizon, not far above the tree line. The witness described the size of the triangle at arm's length as being "about the size of a quarter."

The next night, the witness was again returning home from work. At approximately 11:30 p.m. on Friday, December 1, he was driving east on 98 close to the junction of College Blvd. when he saw a similar triangular configuration in the sky. "This time it was on the other, north side of 98" the witness states, "it looked exactly the same as the one I saw the night before." This evening, the configuration appeared higher in the sky, at about 30 degrees elevation. "It just blinked on. It was the same triangle of lights, with that same indistinct cloudy glow inside. It just stayed there in the sky for about five seconds and then just blinked off. It did not move in the sky or fade out." The witness stated that on both evenings, he had not noticed any aircraft in the sky before or after the sightings. "The second night, I was really looking as I drove along, noticing the stars and looking for planes or anything. I was really surprised when I saw the triangle again."

The witness estimated that on both occasions he was about five miles the triangles, but this is hard to estimate.

This is not the first time this witness has seen something unidentified in the sky. He was witness, along with hundreds of other people to an unusual "red light" sighting that took place during the firework display in Pensacola on July 4, 1992.

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

For information of the upcoming 1996 Gulf Breeze Conference, please call Project Awareness at 432-8888. The Conference will be held March 15-17 at the Clarion Resort on Pensacola Beach. Speakers will include Whitley Strieber, Dr. John Mack, Dr. Edith Piore, Dr. Michael Grosso and more. Keep Looking Up!

# Unusually Far Out

**Legitimate scientists  
gathered here this week to  
discuss UFOs. Among their beliefs:  
UFOs are a legitimate issue for  
investigation and for public funding.**

By ANNE  
BRATAAS

STAFF WRITER

**R**adical science came to St. Paul earlier this week when some 150 people from around the country met at the Radisson Hotel for the second annual conference on the Science and Politics of UFO

Research, sponsored by the Science Museum of Minnesota. Among their beliefs:

■ UFOs are real — but the nature of the phenomenon is unknown. Are they from outer space? Are they advanced craft made and tested secretly by the United States or other governments? Are they from other dimensions? Are they a combination of these?

■ UFOs are a legitimate topic for mainstream scientists to investigate and the public to fund, just as researchers work to understand AIDS, moon landings and climate change. Only this kind of effort will produce the evidence to ultimately prove — or disprove — their existence and understand their significance.

■ Scientific discussions of UFOs have been subverted by a systematic effort of the U.S. government to debunk UFOs since 1947. Why would a government bother to foil rational debate on the topic? Because policy makers fear the public will lose faith in a government that cannot explain or control this phenomenon.

And it assuredly cannot now; no one can.

That sensible people — many at the conference were scientists and academics working in the mainstream — even attempt explanations is a decidedly radical act; they risk isolation and ridicule.

Says Chuck Penson, director of the Computer Education Center at the Science Museum of Minnesota and one of the conference's coordinators:

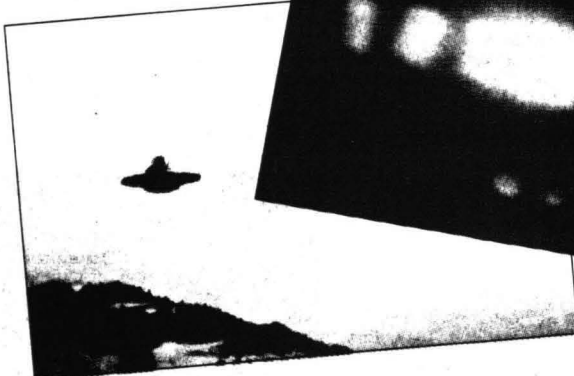
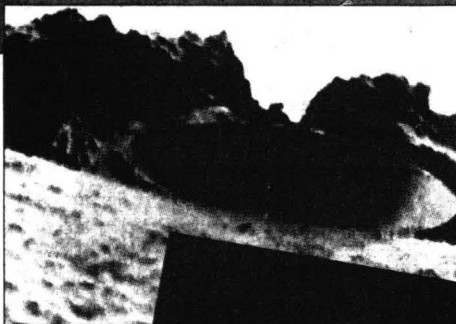
"The goal of this conference was to give people insight into how the process of scientific discovery works in the real world. A lot of people have the notion that science and scientists are open-minded and want to get at the truth at any cost and will stop at nothing to find out the real nature of something. And that's just not the case, which comes as a shock to many people.

The UFO problem is an absolutely ideal model for demonstrating how vulnerable science is to politics because it points out what happens to scientific inquiry when that inquiry moves out to the edges of the mainstream. Because it cannot control UFOs, early on, the government decided to put UFOs in the most ludicrous light possible in a careful program to debunk them and to encourage a lunatic fringe around them — and it has been very, very successful at it."

Consider some of the presentations offered by speakers at the two-day conference as they attempt to explain why the public does not

(continued on page 10)

Above: Many people who claim they have seen UFOs say the objects often look like this. Right: These are some of the photographic evidence taken by people around the world — from Italy to Mexico to Arizona — over the past 45 years that many people believe argues for the existence of UFOs.



**"The UFO problem is an absolutely ideal model for demonstrating how vulnerable science is to politics because it points out what happens to scientific inquiry when that inquiry moves out to the edges of the mainstream."**

CHUCK PENSON  
SCIENCE MUSEUM OF MINNESOTA

(continued from page 9 - PIONEER PRESS, St. Paul, MN - Nov. 2, 1995)

receive rational information about UFOs. Instead, the public learns about UFOs by hysterical tabloid treatment and fantastic movie screenplays.

■ Researcher Ann Druffel describes the work of the late Dr. James E. McDonald, an Arizona government atmospheric physicist who began to investigate UFOs on the side in the 1950s and 1960s.

Reviewing Air Force records — and reports from U.S. Navy sonar logs of underwater UFOs — and interviewing crew members who experienced odd things, McDonald found “hundreds of reports that had been written off as absurd,” Druffel says. “Solid reports of craftlike objects. Many cases were described as metallic objects doing hard-to-believe maneuvers. They were written off as stars, garages, etc.” Most reports consisted of eye-witness accounts, photographs and radar information.

McDonald also compared the Air Force “Blue Book” files — its own internal investigation of UFO sightings — with oral accounts of sightings. He found that the Blue Book files were incomplete. This made him suspicious of a good-faith effort on the part of the Air Force.

When the Air Force named a Colorado researcher, Edward Condon, to take over the Blue Book project, McDonald sent Condon a list of 100 best cases to investigate — only to learn later that Condon had little interest in asking scientific questions about them. Instead, Condon ridiculed them and eventually authored a report concluding — but not proving — that UFOs were not worthy of further study. This became the basis of official U.S. government policy.

“McDonald was dismayed,” researcher Druffel says. “After the Condon report, McDonald became its most vocal critic.”

McDonald did succeed in getting the topic of UFOs scheduled for debate before the U.S. House of Representatives in July 1968. “He reasoned that the hearing could finally bring UFOs up as a scientific topic,” Druffel says.

But with the impending November elections, too many politicians became fearful of the effect discussing UFOs would have on their chances for re-election, and the hearings ended.

“This was the first and last time UFOs were discussed in the U.S. Congress,” Druffel says.

McDonald died in June 1971. It was just several months after he appeared before Congress to discuss a new problem of atmospheric pollution: the emerging ozone hole. Says Druffel: “He was openly ridiculed at the hearings. Not for ozone, but for his UFO work.”

■ Dr. Bruce Maccabee, an optical physicist with the Naval Surface Weapons Lab, has examined hundreds of photographs and videos of reported UFOs. In his analyses, he determines if the images have been doctored — are deliberate hoaxes — or if there are optical anomalies, solar or atmospheric properties that can explain them.

Once they pass the test as reliable images, he uses elements of the photos — such as landmarks, position and angle of the sun and shadows or cloud movement — to mathematically produce characteristics of the craft, such as size, shape, speed and direction of travel.

Patterns keep appearing. One such image is an egg-shaped object about 26 feet wide and 13 feet high with a skirt of spheres — fuel tanks? — ringing it, traveling at speeds and in a man-

ner the laws of physics as now known do not predict or explain.

Says Maccabee: “The point is, when they put the pedal to the metal, they go right through the metal. Good luck — we’re going to need it.”

■ Historian Dr. David M. Jacobs from Temple University studies people who believe they have been abducted by operators of UFOs, then returned to Earth. This is a highly controversial area within the study of UFOs. Not everyone who believes UFOs exist and are deserving of systematic scientific inquiry believes that abductions are real.

Jacobs has studied hundreds of “abductee

from personal experience.” But, he adds, even if the Roper polls are wrong by 75 percent — that’s still about 1 million Americans who believe they have been abducted by UFOs.

“We’re at an odd phase in abduction research,” he says. “The sky is no longer the landscape on which the battle with UFOs is being fought; now, it’s the landscape of the mind.”

Just what kind of minds are these, anyway?

Says Jacobs: “There is a wacko element that’s always with us — it comes with the territory.” But sensationalism can’t detract from the fact that serious scientific questions about UFOs remain to be answered scientifically, he says.

The Science Museum’s Penson remembers his own period of skepticism about the UFO problem. It ended 20 years ago on a November night in Great Falls, Mont., when he listened to a police scanner all night long while a sheriff, deputies and Air Force officials talked about sighting a strange glowing object over a nuclear missile silo.

Reports of the object crackled all night long on ham radios and police scanners, and Penson followed them all. The next day, the newspaper contained a few short paragraphs on it. It called the glowing object “an unidentified helicopter.”

This worried him more than a UFO. “I don’t know about you, but when I hear officials are content with the explanation that unexplained helicopters are flying over a highly secured military nuclear facility, I get pretty concerned. That was an eye-opening experience for me.”

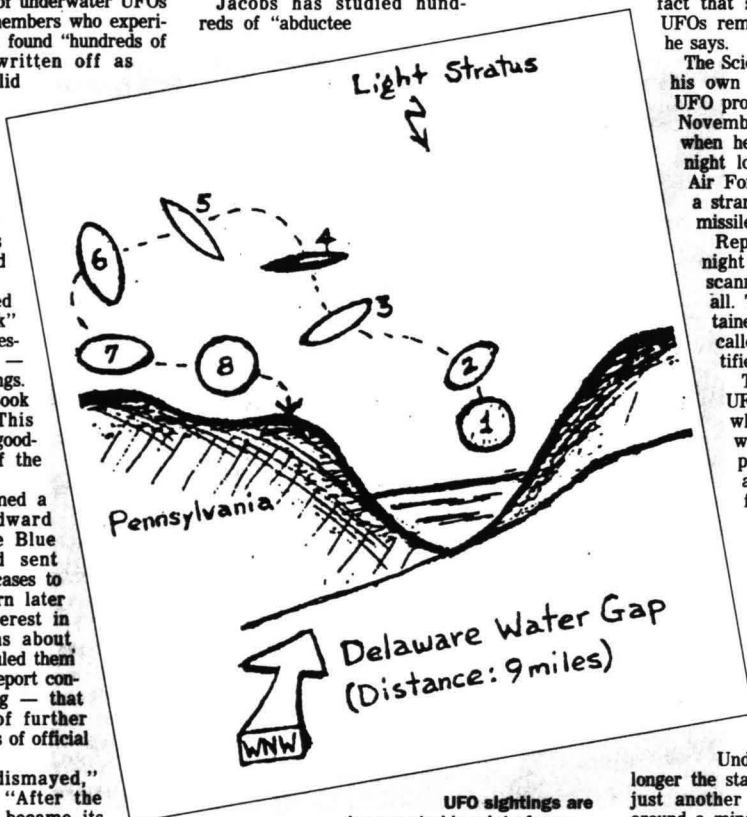
He likens the UFO problem to other great controversies in the history of science. Galileo, for example, in 17th century Italy. Galileo practiced radical science by challenging church authorities for freedom of scientific inquiry and by supporting the Copernican system of astronomy.

Under this system, the Earth is no longer the stationary center of the universe — just another planet among many revolving around a minor sun. This was a troubling view to church officials at the time who believed it diminished humankind’s role and God’s plan. A church commission convened to study the Earth’s motion found the Copernican system and Galileo’s support of it heretical, ordered him to stop teaching it and ultimately imprisoned him for writing about it.

Says Penson: “Imagine if Galileo’s research had been funded by a grant from the Pope with the understanding that anything he learned would be the exclusive property of the church. This is where we are today with Big Science and government policy on the UFO problem. There is tremendous resistance to change in the scientific community.”

But there is also tremendous curiosity that can surmount resistance. Penson encourages people to learn about UFOs by reading about them in sources other than tabloids.

Says Penson: “I don’t understand what the big problem is, why this subject is so untouchable in the mainstream. I personally, would like to know the truth. But the politics of science funding make it very difficult for scientists to study this. As a country, we invested billions of dollars in the space program and can point to things like Velcro that we got from it that affect everyday life. It isn’t like that with UFOs. We might not get Velcro. Then again, we might get better than Velcro.”



UFO sightings are documented in a lot of ways — and quick sketches are common. This one was made by zoologist Ivan T. Sanderson Oct. 2, 1958 in a sighting near Blairstown, N.J. (Courtesy of Center for UFO Studies).

reports.” He also has participated in Roper public opinion polls in which a random sample of 6,000 people were asked if they have ever been abducted by aliens. According to those results, about 5 million Americans believe they have been. Jacobs thinks that something very unusual happened to a lot of these people; he just can’t say what exactly.

A common theme of abduction reports are that sane and sober people suddenly notice they have substantial amounts of time — two hours, say — missing that they can’t explain. After it, they are troubled, but they don’t know why.

Under hypnosis they recount tales of being examined on operating tables by aliens in what appears to be some sort of reproductive or genetic research program. The communication is done psychically with aliens, who erase nearly all memory from the abducted people before releasing them.

Descriptions of the aliens vary. Some are small and gray with elephantlike skin. Others have a pointed, oval face with large, dark almond-shaped eyes and a small nose. No one really knows their motives or goals — or whether they are friends or foes.

Says Jacobs: “Critics say that these abductees just want to be on ‘Oprah’ and that they get their ideas from UFO researchers, not

For a UFO bibliography or videotape copy of the conference speakers, call the Science Museum of Minnesota Education Division at 221-4742.

## UFO Buffs: They Are Not Alone

By Christopher Smith  
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

MESQUITE, Nev. — There is a heated discussion in the hotel lobby about anti-gravity propulsion. In the parking lot, a dozen people are climbing into a white van with a hand-lettered “UFO” sign in the window, off to the Nevada desert to hunt flying saucers. Inside the Oasis Casino, blackjack dealers wear buttons proclaiming: “We Are Not Alone.”

This week, it would be easy to imagine Rod Serling as mayor of Mesquite. The 5th Annual International UFO Congress has landed, and its tractor beam has pulled in throngs of strange-phenomenon aficionados the world over. They have come to hear lectures on “Preparing for Contact” and “The Personality Profile of an Extraterrestrial” from people as diverse as a crew member of Air Force One

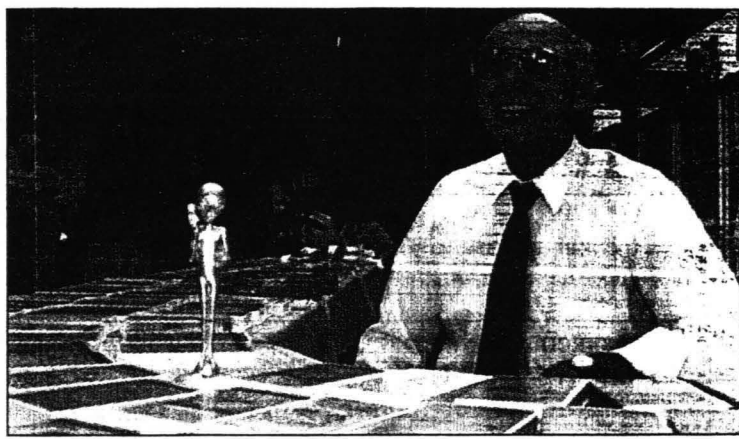
to an American Indian who claims his grandfather rescued an injured alien from a crashed spaceship.

They are here to buy videos like the “UFO-Bigfoot Connection” or “Countdown to Alien Nation”; magazines like *Angel*, with a cover story about “Elvis’ Angelic Connection”; and books on everything from sinister black helicopter sightings that portend a global government to a primer on what will be expected of earthlings from alien invaders.

The estimated 500 participants also are in town to conduct a sort of Outer Limits Academy Awards, doling out a pewter-colored, oval-eyed alien equivalent of Oscar statuettes in such subjects as Best Contactee/Abductee Documentary and Best UFO Documentary/Short Subject.

And a few, like Las Vegas Gary Ed-

(continued on page 11)



Christopher Smith/The Salt Lake Tribune

International UFO Congress President Robert Brown greets convention-goers. On the counter is the statuette awarded to the best UFO filmmaker.



lund, are here to find out if they have indeed experienced a close encounter.

"About 30 years ago when I was a kid at Horsetooth Lake in Colorado, I woke up in my pajamas lying in the driveway and this big bolt of lightning just shot down right next to me," says Edlund, who was waiting for a session with a past-life regression hypnotist. "I've always wanted to know what happened. I told my mom at the time, and she just said, 'Go back to bed.'"

Skeptics might conclude there is no intelligent life in Mesquite this week. But Robert Brown, the Oakland, Calif., man who co-founded the UFO Congress and serves as the organization's president, contends that society's acceptance of aliens existing somewhere in some form is the norm. It is the disbelievers who are now the lunatic fringe.

"With technological advances, our ability to recognize that something has happened is much more prevalent now, and people no longer face the deep pressure and ridicule to talk about it," says Brown, a believer in UFOs since childhood. "No reputable scientist today could deny the fact that there may be other life coming here."

In fact, it may already be here. You may be one of them.

"What's happening is they are exchanging genetic material with us and we don't even know it," parapsychologist Jiles Hamilton explains in an easygoing south Florida accent. "Or in some cases, they are taking our women, impregnating them and using them as incubators for alien cross-breeds."

With a shock of white hair, a cross necklace made of agates, elaborate rings on nearly every finger and his body encased in a navy blue polyester jumpsuit, Hamilton looks like a hip version of "My Favorite Martian." Last year during the convention, he hypnotized a woman who recalled helping military officers unload six aliens — three dead, three alive — from a truck 35 years ago in the Nevada desert.

"She was a pretty big hit," Hamilton says, smiling proudly.

For many of these self-described investigators and researchers, the search for the unknown is a consuming obsession. Manicurist Kathleen Ford regularly spends three weeks at a time living alone in a tent in the desolate Nevada outback, pointing her camera into the dark each night to shoot pictures of what may be water or glare spots or flying saucers.

"There's stuff flying all around out there, but it is invisible to the human eye because they are able to bend gravity to conceal the [space] craft," she says while tugging on a pair of insulated coveralls for a nightlong vigil Ford will lead near Area 51, a classified military testing ground north of Las Vegas. "I was terrified in the beginning, but now I approach it just like a job."

Others are less candid about their discoveries. After relating a UFO story that would make Arthur C. Clarke envious, an Englishman discovers that his audience includes a newspaper reporter.

"For God's sake man, you can't print what I've just said," he worriedly tells the journalist. "It's just too soon. People are not capable of understanding yet."

Indeed.  
"Even among the people here, there is tremendous division over what constitutes the truth," says UFO Congress President Brown. "Everyone concurs with the statement, 'We Are Not Alone.' After that, it gets wild."

# Magazine features crash story

SANTA FE — Omni magazine devotes 25 pages of its fall issue to an investigation of the much-reported UFO crash near Roswell.

The trendy science maga-



Jay Miller

Inside the Capitol

zine sent one of its reporters to Roswell to see for himself if there was credible evidence of a government coverup of the 1947 incident.

The author read the literature, then went to Roswell and talked with the principals in the case. In the article, Dava Sobel reviews the writings of ufologists Stanton Friedman, Kevin Randle, Donald Schmitt and Karl Pflock from whom the Roswell scenario has unfolded. He talked with some of their star witnesses and with other Roswell residents.

Sobel also talked with Lt. James McAndrew, the military historian whose research was

used by the Air Force in its most recent explanation of what didn't happen at Roswell. Sobel's conclusion: "The Air Force report was clearly written and internally consistent. McAndrew had more knowledge at his military fingertips than in all the books by Friedman, Randle and Schmitt."

In a companion article, author Paul McCarthy details his efforts to contact the five nurses who worked at the Roswell Army Air Field at the time when alien bodies were reportedly taken to the base infirmary for autopsy and embalming.

Randle and Schmitt claimed in their most recent book on Roswell that there are no military records to show that the five nurses ever existed. They implied their failure after five years to locate anything on the women was evidence the government is covering its tracks in a high-level conspiracy to erase any evidence of what happened at Roswell.

McCarthy reported that in three days of work from his home in Hawaii he was able to locate information on all five nurses through the St. Louis Records Center, the repository for all military personnel data. McCarthy is not pleased that

Randle and Schmitt were about to lead him into publishing their coverup claims in a national magazine.

The tone of the Omni articles is that extraordinary claims require extraordinary proof. And that has not been presented by anyone writing or talking about Roswell. All we know for sure is that on July 8, 1947, the Roswell Daily Record ran a front page story reporting that the intelligence office of the 509th Bombardment group at Roswell Army Air Field announced that it had come into possession of a flying saucer it recovered from a ranch in the vicinity.

The following day a general in Fort Worth said closer examination revealed it to be a common weather balloon. And 47 years later an Air Force investigation prompted by a comprehensive records search at the request of U.S. Rep. Steve Schiff, R-N.M., resulted in a further clarification that it actually wasn't a common weather balloon, but an uncommon top-secret spy balloon.

The information officer who notified the Roswell media, the intelligence officer who identified the "saucer," and the colonel who ordered the press

release, neither disappeared nor were they reprimanded for the whopping mistake. They all continued their advancement through the military until their retirement.

Was it just a balloon designed to detect Soviet nuclear testing — combined with overactive imaginations on the part of about 50 Roswellites? Or was there something more there? As time passes, evidence gets harder to collect.

Omni magazine offers a partial solution. Physicist and science-fiction writer Gregory Benford proposes that UFO enthusiasts establish a foundation to fund scientific research into alien presence. The only research now done looks at reported encounters and alleged government coverups.

Benford suggests looking for alien footprints in our solar system, such as a computer analysis of the high-resolution mapping of the moon's far side acquired by the Clementine spacecraft in 1994 or a search for hot spots in the asteroid belt, long thought to be a favorite alien hideout. He doesn't think it will produce anything but he says it will gain the UFO folks some respect.

## UFO

BY CAROLE BAKER



### UFO Conference

Despite having to be held in Mobile, Alabama, the 1995 Project Awareness "Gulf Breeze" Conference was a resounding success. "I am extremely pleased with the response to this year's conference" Co-Director of Project Awareness Vicki Lyons told me after the event was over.

The large facility at the Mobile Convention Center was crowded for three full days with those eager to know what is occurring on the cutting edge of UFOlogy, as well as other closely related subjects. Attendance was estimated at over 1000 people. Speakers included Whitley Strieber, author of the worldwide bestselling books "Communion,"

"Transformation" and "Breakthrough" in his first speaking appearance in 6 years. Mr. Strieber addressed the expanding contact forum of "the visitors" and gave a great deal of insight into how to approach personal contact including a meditation that opens one up to contact. Dannion Brinkley, dynamic speaker and "awesome and powerful spiritual being," author of "Saved by the Light" and "Peace in the Light" shared his unique understanding of the experience we call death and the true nature of us all. Zecharia Sitchin spoke of our ancient origins and the twelfth planet, Nibiru. Colin Andrews, crop circle expert from England showed some wonderful new patterns from the 1995 season and

related information about film from a crash autopsy (not the Roswell film) that will be released shortly. George Knapp shared some interesting information gained during a recent trip to the former Soviet Union; Dr. Bruce Maccabee showed new video by Ed Walters from Gulf Breeze and Dr. Fred Alan Wolf of Discovery Channel's "Know Zone" fame spoke of the potential we all have to interact with the "dreaming Universe." Each speaker brought a unique perspective to the Conference, but there was an underlying thread that seemed to run throughout, pulling everything together to make the weekend a whole and wonderfully uplifting and informative experience. "This is the best Conference I ever attended" Whitley Strieber said. He was impressed with the quality of the research and information presented by the researchers and by their respect for each other's viewpoints.

Vendors selling everything from UFO t-shirts to books and jewelry were present from all over the country and psychic readings and aura photography were available as well. The media was well represented. Reporters from the Mobile Press Register were present and ran articles in their newspaper each day about the Conference. Film crews from local public access television stations and CNN were present. A producer and her crew from England were there as part of their

work on a documentary for the Discovery Channel concerning "Unexplained Phenomena." Liz Brown, from London and her crew spent Saturday at the Conference after having spent a few days recently at Shoreline Park in Gulf Breeze. "There are more people here than I expected" Liz told me "It's quite wonderful really, isn't it?" Liz Brown worked formerly for the BBC in the United Kingdom and is now a freelance producer working on this project for the Discovery Channel. She and her crew spent the day filming and interviewing both attendees and participants in the conference. "I'm glad we came to Shoreline Park in Gulf Breeze first and spoke to the skywatch group there, it helped us to get a good perspective on the subject before coming to the Conference", Liz told me. They also filmed at the skywatch that was held on Saturday night on the Brookley Field campus of the University of South Alabama. About 75 people, including Whitley Strieber and his wife Ann, and Dr. Bruce Maccabee, as well as one of the Directors of Project Awareness and several members of the regular skywatch group from Shoreline Park attended. As far as is known, no sightings were experienced on that evening.

During the course of the Conference, many of the speakers including Whitley Strieber and Dannion Brinkley made them-

selves available to speak with the attendees by being around in the Convention Center so that people could have personal conversations with them. There was also an opportunity for each of the speakers to sign their books after their lectures and classes.

People attending the Conference were in general very pleased that they came, although most people were disappointed that it had to be moved to Mobile. "We had looked forward to skywatching at Gulf Breeze" Rita Rohrs of Bradenton, Florida told me. "It's not the same here." However, many attendees stopped by Shoreline Park in Gulf Breeze for an evening or two of skywatching on their way home from Mobile.

Project Awareness expects to hold a mini-Gulf Breeze Conference on Pensacola Beach in February or March of next year. "People just want to go to Gulf Breeze so they can say they were actually there" Pat Crumbley, Co-Director of Project Awareness told me.

The Directors of Project Awareness, Pat and Buddy Crumbley and Vicki Lyons should indeed be congratulated for pulling off the switch to Mobile at such short notice, courtesy of Hurricane Opal, and for giving everyone the opportunity of seeing and meeting such a wonderful line-up of speakers.



## SIGHTING RECALLED

Mabel Mazza (left), Stan Gordon and Bill Bulebush remember the object that has become their common bond during Tuesday's radio broadcast as the 30th anniversary of the event draws near.

# UFO witnesses say something WAS in the air that night

By Sharon Santus  
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Four people huddled over microphones in a cramped broadcast booth at a Greensburg radio station Tuesday and spoke of an unidentified flying object they insist glided to earth near Kecksburg 30 years ago.

During the two-hour broadcast hosted by WHJB's Joe Gearing, the witnesses said because of their experiences, they've been disbelieved, insulted and ridiculed.

"I'm not asking anyone to believe me," said Jim Romansky, a Derry Township machinist.

"I can only say what I saw."  
On Dec. 9, 1965, a fiery, orange ball streaked across the skies over Canada, Michigan, Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

Witnesses said the object appeared to make an S turn and head toward Kecksburg, where it glided to the ground in a wooded area.

Stan Gordon, Greensburg UFO researcher, has been investigating the alleged landing from the onset.

He said witnesses reported seeing military personnel at the scene who cordoned off the area and commandeered the Kecksburg Firehall.

Many people report seeing a military flatbed truck drive to the site of the alleged landing and haul away a tarpaulin-covered object.

Truckers on citizens band radios tracked the truck as it headed west to its alleged destination: Ohio's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

At first, military officials said the object that landed was nothing more than a meteor.

Soon after, they changed their story, saying nothing fell to earth, that the meteor disintegrated before it hit the

ground, and no military was in the area that night.

## 'LIKE A BIG ACORN'

During yesterday's broadcast, Bill Bulebush of Mammoth said he was at home working on his Corvair when he saw the object streaking across the sky.

"I looked up and there it was," said Bulebush. "It seemed to make an S turn over Laurelville and come back again to Kecksburg."

Bulebush said he went to the scene where he saw an electrical arch in a wooded area.

"I went down into the woods and there it was," said Bulebush. "It looked like a big acorn with writing on it. I stood behind a tree and watched."

Romansky said he and a carload of other Lloydsville firemen raced to the scene for what they thought was a search-and-rescue operation for a downed plane.

"I was totally shocked by what I'd seen," said Romansky. "There was no propeller, no wings. It looked like a giant, metal acorn."

Romansky said the object was 12- to 15-feet high and 8- to 12-feet in diameter.

"For about 20 minutes, I stood about 10 feet from it," said Romansky. "There were no win-

dows, no portholes, no rivets, no openings of any kind. I think all of us were in a state of shock because it wasn't what we expected.

A Pleasant Unity caller disputed Romansky's account saying no firemen were dispatched to the area that night because her husband belonged to a local department.

Romansky said he is no longer upset by skeptics.

"I've been called a liar, a fraud, every name in the book," he said. "People can



**'I've been called a liar, a fraud, every name in the book. People can say what they want. I was there.'**

— Jim Romansky  
DERRY TOWNSHIP MACHINIST

say what they want. I was there."

Also featured in the broadcast was the original radio program prepared by WHJB newsmen John Murphy. He reported seeing several military personnel at the scene, hundreds of spectators and said portions of his broadcast were censored by authorities.

## 2,000 CALLERS

Mabel Mazza, WHJB office manager at the time of the alleged sighting, said there can be no doubt something landed in Kecksburg that night.

"We must have taken 2,000 calls at the station," she said. "People said they saw an object streak across the sky and land near Kecksburg. One woman said it was a UFO. Several military people called for directions to Kecksburg. John



Murphy got several calls from the Pentagon the next day."

One of the callers was Clifford Stone, a UFO researcher from Roswell, N.M., and 22-year veteran of the U.S. Army. He said he has uncovered military documents proving that the government retrieved an object from a wooded area in Kecksburg the night of Dec. 9, 1965.

"I believe it to be some kind of craft, not of this world," said Stone.

Another caller, Pittsburgh jazz singer Jerry Betters, said he owned a farm in Murrysburg, at the time of the alleged landing.

"When I heard about it, I called my neighbor and we went over," said Betters. "There were Army people all over the place. I saw the object on the back of the truck. It looked like a big acorn."

A Kecksburg skeptic said he talked to the property owner where the object allegedly landed.

"He said if a military truck hauled something from the scene that night, why wasn't there any tire tracks? Why were no fences taken down? I haven't talked to one property owner who saw anything."

Gordon, who believes the object might have been a secret Soviet space probe, said so many other witnesses have described the same scene that night, they cannot be ignored.

Bulebush said many skeptics, including several he's known all his life, have turned their backs on him.

"If they see me on the street, they ignore me," said Bulebush. "It doesn't bother me. I know what I saw."

## VALLEY COURIER, Alamosa, CO - Nov. 7, 1995 Seen any UFOs?

### Seen any UFO's lately?

DEL NORTE - The Rio Grande Sheriff's office received three telephone calls over the weekend asking if anyone had seen any UFO's or weird lights over the San Luis Valley.

According to Capt. Bobby Pino, the first call came at around 4:30 a.m. Saturday from a resident reporting a "big light" before sunrise flying east to west. The caller declined to provide any more information and quickly hung up.

Two other calls came in Sunday morning to inquire of any lights or UFO sightings.

They asked 'did anyone see a UFO?' and when they were told one caller had reported something strange the day before they hung up, Pino said.

# UFO



BY CAROLE BAKER

## TRIANGLE SHAPED OBJECT SIGHTED OVER GULF BREEZE

A dark triangular shaped object was sighted by Vicki Lyons while skywatching at Shoreline Park on the evening of Thursday, September 14, 1995. The sighting was witnessed by two other people who were in the park at that time, although they did not see it for as long a time as Vicki did. They were, however, able to describe an object very similar to that which Vicki described. Vicki is a veteran skywatcher and has had many sightings during the last ten years, some of which have

been documented previously in this column. She is also a veteran investigator who has been involved with many local cases.

Looking to the west from Shoreline Park over the treeline on Deer Point at about 8:27 p.m., Vicki saw, silhouetted against the billowing clouds that were prevalent that evening, a dark, shadowy triangular shaped object. She was able to observe the object for 15 to 20 seconds, during the last few seconds of which, she was able to attract the attention of two other

people close by. They too were able to observe the object before it slipped from view over the horizon. "It was a perfect equilateral triangle" Vicki told me. "The edges of the triangle seemed to flow, not brightly, but there was a distinct glow along each edge." The object was travelling in a northerly direction over Deer Point towards the north shore of the Gulf Breeze peninsula. "I lost sight of it over the swamp at the west end of Shoreline Park" Vicki stated. If it had not been for the

cloud which the object passed in front of, Vicki doubts if it would have been visible at all against the dark night sky. "It was just a dark shadow with glowing edges" Vicki told me, "very unusual looking and very interesting. If it had not passed directly across my field of vision, I would probably not have noticed it at all." The equilateral sides of the triangle appeared to be approximately an inch and a half long at arm's length, and the object was completely silent.

There have been a number of sightings in recent months in our area of triangular shaped objects and as far as we can ascertain, this is unusual for our area. There are a few, if any, reports of triangular shaped objects being sighted in this area in the past. However, the shape is very prevalent in sightings in other areas of the country, particularly in the Hudson Valley in New York State and also in the

well known sightings in Belgium.

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





HERALD, Hinckley, England - Oct. 5, 1995

# UFO spotted flying over village

LICHFIELD POST, Staffs., England - Sept. 7, 1995

The Chase's very own X FILES

## Shaun's triple UFO sighting

A Chadsmoor man still vividly remembers his childhood encounter with aliens.

For Shaun Maybury, it really was a case of Close Encounters of the Third Kind.

For Shaun saw two other saucers years later - only a short distance from the first sightings.

Shaun was with Darren Green when the two of them, with another friend, spotted a UFO over Benion Road in 1979.

The three watched for over 10 minutes as the craft hovered above their homes.

Shaun said: "I don't remember what we were doing at the time, but I remember we stopped to watch the craft go over. The next thing I knew, my mother was calling me back in."

Shaun, now aged 27, was just a fresh-faced schoolkid at the time. He said: "When I saw Darren the next day, I asked him if he recalled

seeing the UFO as I thought I may have dreamt it during the night. He said he did."

The sighting was a sign of things to come for Shaun, of Cannock Road, Hednesford. He saw another craft just six months ago, across the road from his home.

He said: "I was taking the dog for a walk when I saw a triangular ship with about six different coloured lights. There was a red, a white, a blue and green light. It was about half past ten at night. All of a sudden they just disappeared."

Shaun's girlfriend had doubts about the sightings - until she shared a UFO moment with her boyfriend. This time, the aliens had descended on Littleton pit.

Shaun said: "My girlfriend never believed me until she saw one as well. It was by Littleton Colliery on our way home from Penkridge. It was like a ball of light, the size of a football, coming towards us."

**Seen a saucer? If you've got some UFO info, then contact our star gazer Mark Shipp on 01543 574141**



Astonished by their sighting which they quickly drew are James and Kevin Bedwell.

A UFO has been sighted in Stoney Stanton.

James Bedwell, 57, and his family, say that they spotted the incredible saucer shaped craft from their home in Alexander Avenue, Earl Shilton.

Mr Bedwell said: "We first caught a glimpse of it at 9.15pm on Wednesday. It was saucer shaped and had blue and red lights beaming down from it. It was quite beautiful. It seemed crystal like and strangely hollow. It was patterned rather like a snowflake. It was about five miles away, towards Stoney Stanton."

"We were all gobsmacked. We thought at first that it was a police helicopter or a plane, but it moved much too fast. It raced off at a terrific speed."

"We glimpsed it through binoculars but couldn't make any more details out."

"My son Kevin, 16, went to his room and shouted that it had returned. This time, the light it was beaming was white. It soon turned and went as before. In all, the

encounter lasted about half an hour."

Mr Bedwell says that he has always believed that there might be other life forms in the galaxy.

He said: "It is such a huge expanse, it would be more peculiar if there was only us. However, I hadn't bargained for seeing anything like this. I always thought there might be something up there in all that vastness."

PC Stuart Dickinson of Hinckley Police confirmed that the police helicopter had not been in that area.

He said: "I was on duty until 10pm and there were no call outs in that region."

However, villagers in nearby Croft said that a police helicopter had been out their way that night and perhaps it was the object sighted.

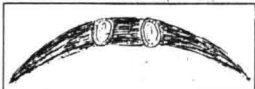
Mr Bedwell now intends to speak to the UFO Society in Hinckley and ask them to investigate his case.

## UFO SIGHTING OVER ST MARTIN'S?

# 'Squares of silver in the sky'!

### SOMETHING OUT THERE?

Following the recent interest in the X-Files and the Roswell incident, there has been a sudden spate of UFO sightings, so this week the Review in collaboration with London UFO Studies welcomes you to our new feature dedicated to your paranormal experiences.



Above: This spacecraft was recently witnessed by two middle-aged sisters

Our first case concerns two sisters in their 50s who were travelling in the Orford Road and Hoe Street, E17, area on August 8: "It was approximately 10.25pm and we stopped at the traffic lights. We saw a big thing that I thought was on the top of a block of flats. It was approximately 20 floors up but when we went down Queen's Road we saw it was not on any flats. It was just still and there was no sound. The two big lights were bright but had no beam that I could see. On the wings were two lights that flashed all the time. It was a dark colour. It wasn't a plane or anything else that we had seen before and there were other people looking at it too. Then we drove away and thought no more about it until I read in the paper that some one else had reported seeing it."

If you have had a UFO experience and you want to report it contact Roy Lake at London UFO Studies on 0181 594 4797. All calls will be treated in the strictest confidence.

THE object shining in the skies over St Martin's was probably an aircraft, thought Rose as she stood on her back doorstep, and she paid little attention to it.

But when it did not fly off, she looked again - and what she saw stunned and thrilled her.

"It was a big square of silver, coming towards me," she says. "Then I saw another one, coming over from the right." She says that both objects, although being mainly silver in colour, contained elements of brown and black.

Rose (this is not her real name) watched entranced as the two bizarre objects came towards her, moving silently through the clear blue summer sky.

She could not estimate how high up the objects were, but says the larger of the two passed by almost directly over her head, and on one edge it looked to be about the same relative size as her kitchen window - about 3ft square.

Each object's face was not flat, but seemed to be made up of what Rose refers to as a 'mosaic of silver crystal', containing various shapes within the square.

As she continued to watch, fascinated, she noticed that the objects seemed to be pulsating as they moved.

Any fears that her eyes were playing tricks were allayed some weeks later when she went for a routine eye test, and was told that despite her age - she is nearly 80 - her eyesight would pass the test for a pilot.

One of the objects ended up passing overhead, while another moved off towards the south. Rose watched this second object until it

disappeared, and then turned her attention back to the larger object closer to her.

by Mark Ogier

She was astonished to see that the second one appeared to have rejoined it, and both were now heading away from her.

The back of the objects was black, and she noticed that at the bottom of the square was a strip of light, while the top corners could have been slightly curved.

There was also a slight 'trail' of a black substance left by both of them.

It took some 10 minutes for the two objects to fly off into the distance, leaving Rose stunned by what she had seen: "I was absolutely exhilarated," she says. "I've never given thought to them [UFOs] before, although I suppose I thought it was possible."

Unfortunately, she did not have a camera and so had to be resigned to watching as the odd pair of objects disappeared into the distance.

She later contacted an astronomer friend, who told her that she should fill in a report of her sighting: "He told me it was the finest sighting he had heard of," she says.

Air traffic control was also contacted, but said that nothing unusual had appeared on their radar screens at that time.

Throughout her sighting, Rose says she did not notice if any cars passed on the road nearby, although she cannot recollect hearing any, and she was not aware of anyone else seeing

the same thing: "How many people are going to be looking at the sky at 5.45 on a sunny day?" she wonders.

In an effort to find others who had seen the strange objects, she placed a personal advertisement in the Evening Press. Unfortunately, this did not lead to anyone coming forward who had seen the same objects on the same day.

But two people who had had UFO experiences in the past contacted Rose, and she was able to telephone one of them to discuss her experience. Although the other witness had seen a UFO it emerged that the object was rather different to the one seen by Rose.

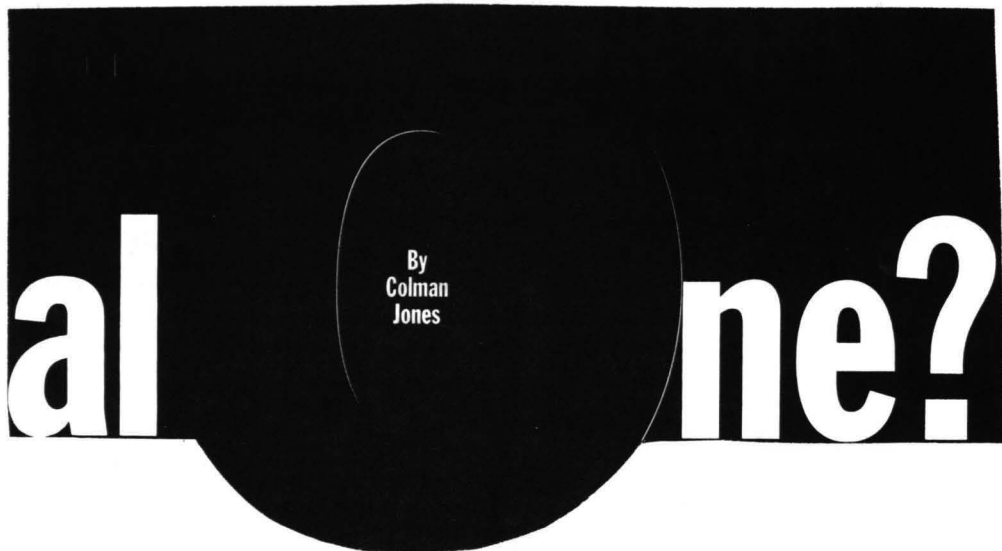
Like many people who have seen such things, she is convinced that the objects she saw were not man made, but nor could she guess at why extraterrestrials would wish to cross light years of space and hover over St Martin's in Guernsey.

This is a debate that continues to rage in scientific and 'UFOlogical' circles. The UFOs' possible origins ranging from the obvious outer space hypothesis to parallel universes and even inside the Earth.

Positive proof has yet to be found - even the recently screened footage of an alleged alien autopsy from a reported UFO crash in New Mexico in the late 1940s has been poo-pooed by experts.

Those of us interested in the subject, and those like Rose who have been impelled to take an interest, can but wait and hope that an answer is forthcoming soon.

# Are we really



**S**T. PAUL, Minnesota—Beings from another planet visit Earth in spacecraft far more advanced than anything we have, observe us and zoom back to outer space so fast that we Earthlings get but a fleeting glance. I could be dealing with the biggest story in human history—or I could be the victim of sci-fi fantasies run amok.

I've come to St. Paul, home of three breweries and the longest stretch of residential Victorian architecture remaining in the U.S., chasing a boyhood fascination and a journalistic curiosity.

Here at the reasonably dignified Radisson Hotel, the Science And Politics Of UFO Research Symposium is challenging my notion that the UFO subculture is little more than a dense fog of fiercely competing beliefs, unverifiable claims, paranoid ravings, hoaxes and mass hysteria.

Investigators at this gathering—many of them scientists and NASA types—want to bring UFO explorations out of the bizarre underworld of cults and into the realm of the rational and measurable world. There is a world of grainy photographs and the frantic search for that one irrefutable piece of hard evidence.

Separating the hocus from the hard data is getting ever more challenging.

In late August, to one of the network's biggest viewerships ever, Fox TV aired a fuzzy black-and-white 16mm film purporting to show an autopsy of a small, apparently female extraterrestrial with a disproportionately oversized head and large black eyes.

The alien was said to have been captured

pushing me into strange territory on a train of thought I would never have anticipated.

Official government explanations suddenly seem thin and wobbly, and I am experiencing a nagging sensation that *something* is going on.

This conference is as good as it gets in the world of UFO proof evaluation. Among the worst is the ESP Psychic Expo, which took place a month ago at the International Centre near the Toronto airport, where a panel of UFO "abductees" and experts traded impossible tales, and psychics and clairvoyants told wild stories of being contacted by aliens every night.

The rather staid gathering here in St. Paul, co-sponsored by UFO Magazine and the Science Museum of Minnesota, is, on the other hand, a surprisingly serious, almost academic affair, reflecting a field growing in respectability. Speakers with PhDs deliver talks on everything from analysis of photographic evidence and the scientific context of abductions to UFO research in the Soviet Union.

## Growing respectability

The two-day event is the brainchild of Terry Hansen, editor of two computer publications in Seattle. The clean-cut science journalist distinguishes this event from many other such gatherings.

"A lot of the UFO conferences are oriented toward true believers, or people who are pretty much convinced there is a phenomenon there," Hansen acknowledges. "We're trying to look at more basic issues. What

existence of these things," he recalls. "Over the years, I started talking to pilots predominantly, as witnesses, and I had to admit to myself that I was wrong. There is, in fact, a very important, genuine phenomenon here that deserves the involvement of multidisciplinary sciences—engineering, physics and so forth."

It's hard to know how to react to this mild-mannered NASA scientist expounding on flying saucers in the night sky. Reserving judgment, I buy his book and move on.

The next presenter, broadcast technician and videotape analyst Jeffrey Sainio, peppers his talk with one-liners—some UFO researchers actually have a sense of humour. Sainio draws upon his skills as a video analyst to expose most of the objects in his video samples as either the planet Venus, meteorological phenomena or hoaxes. He even uses his cat in one video to simulate the movement of a tiny UFO with a string.

But mixed in his little video clip show are a handful of shots that he can't decipher, including a spectacular display of orange lights filmed over a lake near Berlin, simultaneously witnessed by hundreds of onlookers.

It's one of half a dozen tapes he's received and analyzed in great detail, maddeningly inexplicable footage that he says defies conventional interpretation. There is, I've discovered, a mountain of truly anomalous yet so far inconclusive evidence. Largely ignored by North American media, it includes thousands of sightings of bizarre objects in the skies, reported around the world for decades, in many cases by highly credible witnesses—including police, military and civilian pilots, astronomers and meteorologists.

I found these by reading through foreign newspaper clippings, databases on the Internet and U.S. government reports. While most sightings can be easily explained as natural or man-made objects, misidentified for one reason or another, a small percentage remain unexplained.

## Alien autopsy, fact or fiction?

These often exhibit striking consistencies—identically shaped craft that appear to exhibit intelligent control by evading chase, jamming pursuing crafts' weapons and communications control with some kind of electromagnetic interference, and eluding other planes to avoid collision. Judging from the overall pattern, the incidents appear heavily skewed toward sensitive nuclear weapons installations and even uranium mines.

"There are some great stories," agrees Terence Dickinson, one of Canada's leading astronomers, reached at his home in Ottawa. Dickinson was heavily involved in UFO research in the 1970s, when he served as a consultant for the J. Allen Hynek Centre for UFO Studies in Chicago, one of the more respectable of such organizations.

"It all sounds very interesting when you're first exposed to it," Dickinson cautions me,

"I thought at one point that this actually held the possibility of telling us something about extraterrestrial life. However, the deeper I got into it, the more I realized there are dead ends everywhere."

"We've had 50 years of this," Dickinson says, "and there's not one single, solid piece of evidence. If you ask the ufologists, they'll give you a whole list of them, but they are all equivocal."

Conference organizer Hansen admits there's no one discovery that proves extraterrestrial craft exist. "You have to look at the whole broad range of evidence and see what kind of picture emerges," he says.

"Yes, you can pick any one witness or photograph apart, but when you look at the whole picture, the evidence all points in the same direction."

A stalemate, I think to myself. Hard to prove or disprove. What else is new?

## Shocking discovery

Then I discover something that shocks me. This most intriguing bit of evidence I happen upon in St. Paul isn't part of any presentation or any of my interviews. It comes instead from a videotape I buy containing footage shot by a camera aboard the space shuttle Discovery on September 15, 1991.

Originally beamed live from the shuttle over a NASA pay-TV channel, it was recorded by Maryland resident Don Ratsch, who just happened to have his VCR rolling at the time.

The footage he captured depicts a series of strange "events" recorded during that particular mission, known as STS-48.

Most of the controversy has centred around an approximately 15-second sequence dubbed Event Number 2. The camera shows a dark planet positioned in the lower two-thirds of the screen. Above this, dark space is punctuated by a few stars, and several glowing objects float along just above the Earth's horizon.

A small, bright, star-like object suddenly appears just under the visible line of the horizon and quickly travels right to left following the curve of the Earth. There follows a brief flash of light emanating from the left of the frame. The traveling object makes a sudden sharp, right-hand turn, picking up velocity and seemingly speeding off into the darkness of space. There are other hovering light objects in the frame—some appearing to pulse in a regular fashion—also speeding off after the flash.

A split second later, a thin white streak—resembling a projectile of some sort—zooms upward from the direction of the Earth's surface, whizzing past where the bright object had been just before making its sharp turn. A second streak follows, narrowly missing another object.

After capturing this event on tape, Ratsch contacted Vince DiPietro, an electrical engineer at Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland, who works with NASA's data capture facility gathering information from satellites and deep space probes for scientists on Earth. DiPietro retrieved NASA's tape of the event from their files.

The NASA engineer was quite stunned by the footage at first.

"When I first saw this, I thought we had UFOs and this was positive proof," recalls DiPietro in an interview. "and I pursued to investigate. I thought this was it."

## Strange objects

He and Ratsch wrote to their representatives in Congress, who in turn wrote to top NASA brass demanding an explanation of the strange objects captured by the shuttle.

The space agency convened four of its top scientists to look at the footage. They concluded that these specks of light were ice crystals formed from frozen waste water, brought into view by coming out of the shuttle's shadow into sunlight. According to the NASA scientists, the ice particles were then spun in different directions by the brief firing of a booster rocket, which accounts for the sudden flash of light.

James Oberg, who works at mission control in Houston on behalf of Rockwell International (manufacturers of the shuttle) doesn't think the objects seen in the STS-48 footage are different enough from ordinary phenomena to stand out as unexplainable.

"There are lots of tapes of things floating by, things appearing at sunrise, things changing course by jet blasts—but they're not usually together," says Oberg, who has worked on the shuttle program for 20 years, primarily on orbital rendezvous and docking. "This was enough of an unusual coincidence of several different common events that people at the control centre saw it and said, 'Wow, that's neat.' But none of those other things were unusual in themselves."

The once-enthusiastic DiPietro also had a change of heart. "The more I examined the tapes," he says, "and started making some calls, I found what this was."

He wrote up an initial report that he sent to various UFO organizations. "My bottom-

(Continued on page 15)



near the town of Roswell in New Mexico in 1947 and is the latest instalment of ufology's most enduring legend—the widespread belief that the U.S. government retrieved a crashed spacecraft, complete with alien occupants.

While critical UFO investigators think the film is a fraud, they have amassed their own compelling fragments of evidence about extraterrestrial visitors—and I am here to survey the goods. Something about this group's dedication to standards of proof is

Colman Jones was honoured by the Canadian Science Writers' Association for his CBC Radio program on measuring distance in outer space.



photos by LAURENCE AGLAND



Physicist Jack Kasher goes farthest on alien trail.

# NASA evidence strongest yet

•Continued from preceding page  
line finding is that this was either ice or debris from the shuttle and it was not UFOs."

The ice particle explanation won over the hearts and minds of most journalists, and a brief flurry of media activity eventually died down. But a small core of investigators persisted, unraveling more secrets from these tiny images.

## Chief sleuths

Chief among the sleuths is Jack Kasher, a mild-mannered professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Nebraska in Omaha. "I've really tried to do an honest, genuine inquiry into this," says Kasher, who's just completed a 110-page scientific analysis of the footage, submitted last week to the Journal Of UFO Studies, the only peer-reviewed publication in the field.

Kasher's credentials make him hard to dismiss. After receiving his doctorate in physics from Boston College, where he studied relativistic particles and electric charges, he spent nearly 20 years at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, a top U.S. government lab, working on electromagnetic theory. He was eventually assigned to the strategic defence initiative — the Star Wars defence program — and later moved on to NASA, where he studied the surface of the sun. Kasher continues to do consulting

work for the agency.

When sent a copy of the footage, he took it upon himself to scientifically identify those tiny specks of light on the shuttle tape. "I started out my investigation assuming they were ice particles, and trying along the way to prove they were ice particles," Kasher recalls.

He concluded they were nothing of the sort. He used sophisticated computer software to analyze the various objects' movements mathematically. "If you take the data that I've got, the ice particle theory is a completely untenable position. It's really tough to defend it when you get down to the nitty-gritty and analyze the thing scientifically with calculations."

Kasher has correlated the various objects' velocities with what they would have to be if the objects were ice particles close to the shuttle. He says their behaviour is characteristic, not of nearby debris, but of objects out in space, given the way they change direction and their acceleration and brightness.

With eloquent precision he points out that the various objects don't follow the correct paths they would have to if they were being hit, as NASA claims, by a booster rocket. In fact, Kasher has outlined five separate proofs that appear to contradict NASA's official explanation and indicate that these strange specks of light are indeed hundreds of miles from the camera.

But if not nearby ice particles, what are these cryptic dots on the screen zig-zagging through space? "There aren't many options," Kasher says. "Meteors? Absolutely not. They don't change direction. Neither do satellites."

His conclusion? "The only viable alternative is that these anomalous glowing objects are intelligently directed spacecraft that clearly are accelerating and manoeuvring above the Earth's atmosphere. I don't see any other interpretation."

These are unsettling suggestions from someone with Kasher's credentials. However, Oberg from mission control is unimpressed with his analysis. "I'm actually fairly appalled that there appears to be nobody in the UFO community with the mathematical background to find flaws in it," he says.

When asked for a specific response to Kasher's mathematical arguments, Oberg and other NASA officials say they don't have time to write a detailed point-by-point rebuttal. "I'm not going to point the flaws out to them, because I think they should do their own homework."

## Find flaws

I'm disappointed to learn that DiPietro also hasn't responded in writing to Kasher's analysis. "My report was the initial report, which only described the events. It did not go through the detail disclaiming Kasher. I didn't care to write another report. I don't want to get involved in this anymore."

Oberg adds, "People at NASA are so tired of the topic since they see this on a regular basis, they basically have no more patience with people asking about it."

NASA's troubles with the STS-48 mission don't end with the 15-second sequence, however. It's only one of several odd events captured by Ratsch's VCR. The third is a view of the Earth in daylight. Clouds obscure much of the unidentified land mass below. I see a small object streak across the bottom of the frame left to right. Then, another, from right to left.

Eventually, all hell seems to break loose as multiple objects of varying brightness zip through the frame — left to right, right to left, upper to lower, often followed by the same thin white streaks seen in Event Number 2.

Yet I don't see any flashes during this sequence. "I don't either," admits DiPietro. "It looked like something was shooting back at (the objects). I don't know if these are different thrusters on the rocket or what the hell. I really don't know. I have to be honest with you. I haven't analyzed those scenes very well."

Surprisingly, the NASA engineer breaks ranks with his colleagues, raising further questions about other shuttle footage.

Although he dismisses Event Number 2 as just ice particles, DiPietro says, "There are other strange things that go on during that

mission. There was something in one of the scenes where there was a quick view of something that looked like a classical UFO — the disc and bubble-top and bubble-bottom — and it was only visible for maybe six or seven frames and then they switched the camera away, which was very suspicious and I complained about that."

This anomalous event is perhaps the strangest, and of the shortest duration. In the upper left-hand corner of the frame a domed object with flashing lights appears, moving from left to right.

When questioned, Oberg appears unfamiliar with these other events captured by Ratsch.

If there are high-speed crafts manoeuvring in the atmosphere, is it reasonable to assume that NASA shuttle crews and higher-up scientists are aware of such activity? "You'd think they would know that something is going on," Kasher speculates.

DiPietro adds, "There've probably been many instances where the astronauts have actually seen something that may qualify as a legitimate UFO but have been instructed not to say. There are accounts here from people I've talked to that say yes, they've heard these stories, and they've actually listened to the air transmission and the astronauts switched to another channel. They do have private channels scrambled for secrecy."

## Private channels

Attempts to dislodge whatever insights the U.S. government holds have been unsuccessful so far, however. When a group called Citizens Against UFO Secrecy used the U.S. Freedom Of Information Act to access CIA, FBI and other government documents on UFOs in the 1980s, a series of judges denied their requests, citing "national security" considerations.

Similarly, when New Mexico congressman Steven Schiff, at the request of his constituents, directed the U.S. government accounting office, the investigative arm of Congress, to acquire information on the Roswell incident from government agencies, it found that key military documents on the incident were apparently destroyed without authorization more than 40 years ago.

DiPietro says, "I know there is something that inevitably has been going on — it's just not been reported. I think (government officials) have a lot of skeletons in the closet, so I'm very suspicious of everything that goes on."

"There are probably a lot of legitimate UFO sightings. I think the 1947 Roswell case is legitimate. But I don't know how to crack it."

DiPietro continues, leading me into a scenario almost too frightening to contemplate.

"The only way you're ever going to do this," he tells me, "is to do a Watergate. You have to get your intelligence together and find out where the pieces of the spacecraft, or the bodies or whatever else there allegedly is, make sure you know exactly where it is, wait until Christmas Eve or some other holiday, put on a general's uniform and just drive into the base like you own it, pick up the stuff, drive directly to Ted Turner and tell him to air it, because you could guarantee that in 10 minutes they're going to be right behind you and they're going to kill you."

"Do you want to do that? I don't want to do that, but if some brave reporter wants to do that, be my guest — that's the only way you're going to crack it, because the government is going to continually lie about it."

Meanwhile, it's Kasher who's sitting on the most compelling evidence of extraterrestrial visitors. "We need to know what's going on," he says.

## UFO TALLY

Number of UFO sightings reported to the U.S. air force's Project Bluebook until 1969: **12,618**

Number of Project Bluebook sightings that were never explained: **701**

Most commonly reported types of UFOs: **silver discs, black triangles, giant cigar shapes, bright orange spheres**

Notable UFO sighters: **Jimmy Carter, Louis Farrakhan, astronaut Gordon Cooper, Jackie Gleason**

Percentage of Americans who believe UFOs are extraterrestrial: **50**

Number of Americans who claim to have been abducted by aliens: **3.7 million**

Sources: Project Bluebook, the Roper Organization, the Washington Post, the Globe And Mail  
— Compiled by COLMAN JONES

EVENING ECHO, Bournemouth, England - Sept. 21, 1995

## Close encounter with a UFO

A DORSET man claims to have come within 200ft of a UFO similar to one seen by 13,500 people in Belgium.

Britain's leading UFO investigators the Aetherius Society have hailed 59-year-old Geoffrey Feld's account as "quite remarkable."

Hotels group boss Geoffrey Feld has told how he stared for a minute directly up at the giant glowing triangle hovering above him.

"I didn't feel threatened by it at all," said Mr Feld, managing director of the Heathlands Hotels Ltd, Bournemouth.

"It was as big as the average house but completely soundless, that is the amazing thing. If it had been a

helicopter there would have been a lot of noise and movement in the trees."

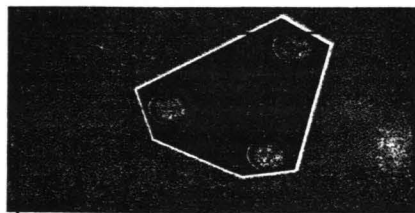
Mr Feld was among two carloads of friends and relatives travelling back through Brockenhurst at 11pm.

Three of the eight people in the two cars saw the UFO.

It was dark in the centre with the outline picked out in glowing white light and red and blue beacons at each corner, said Mr Feld of Bournemouth.

Several campers at Brockenhurst are also believed to have witnessed the UFO.

Mr Feld's account bears striking similarities to the best ever sighting of a UFO which occurred in



An artist's impression of the UFO

Belgium in March 1990.

Police officers and judges were among the 13,500 people who saw the triangular UFO — 2,600 filed written statements.

Hampshire police say they have so far had no recent reports of any UFOs.

# New lights on mystery of that UFO

THE *Gazette* office was inundated with calls on Wednesday from readers who saw last week's story about a strange object hovering in the night sky.

They reported sightings similar to those of Edward Ledger, 75, of Pipers Croft, Dunstable, who described how, on two consecutive Fridays, he saw a disc rotating slowly at a height of about 500 feet.

Mr Ledger said he wasn't sure whether it really was a UFO or just a laser light show from a nearby function.

Mrs Wendy Read, 28, of Kensington Close, Houghton Regis, contacted the *Gazette* to say she had seen a similar object between 9.30 and 10 the previous Friday night.

"We were in the garden clearing up the kids' things when my husband pointed it out," said Mrs Read.

"We couldn't believe it because we had seen it on a previous occasion. We are getting in the habit of looking out for it now. The object

is whitish blue and moves around in the sky," Gareth Hodges, 27, of Paddock Close, Lewsey Farm, said. "I looked out of the bedroom window and saw a dimmish white disc-like object flickering through the clouds. It was rotating in one area."

Priory Middle School pupil Owen Harrison, 11, was standing in Sainsbury's car park when he saw a "weird thing in the sky" at about 9 pm the Friday before last.

He could still see the object when he returned home to High Street South, Dunstable, and said: "There were two circles which were white and moving quite fast. I thought it was a UFO."

Anne Roberts, of Sundon Road, Houghton Regis, added: "My neighbour thought it was a UFO, but I suspect it was a laser light. I looked at it for ten minutes or so and, although the night was very cloudy, you could clearly see the object going round in small circles."

Rita Kaye, 57, of Brookfield Park, Tottenhamhoe, and her husband watched the object for over an hour after their grandson James, 11, spotted it while they were in their car. Mrs Kaye said it was circular with lights on it and was hovering. It was behind a cloud and the lights were shining through.

"I've watched laser shows but this was nothing like that. It was spooky," she said.

## YOUR VIEW: Is ET out there?

SEVERAL people have seen the weird object hovering over Tottenhamhoe.

And some are convinced that the slow-moving disc, which has lights around the edge, is in fact a UFO.

It's not the first time strange things have

been seen in and around the village - remember the mysterious black panther-type creature spotted on the Knolls a few months back?

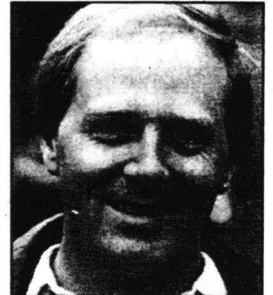
Sceptical reporter Samantha Misson and photographer Mike Pierce went to the Quadrant to ask: "Do you believe in UFOs?"



● Joyce Smith, of Great Northern Road, Dunstable: "A number of years ago my son thought he saw a UFO above the Knolls. It really frightened him. But I think I'd have to see one myself to really believe in them."



● Steve O'Harvey, from Towcester: "I don't think there's enough proof. I would say to people who think they have seen a UFO that they are probably imagining it, but as I don't know I wouldn't be dogmatic one way or another."



● Andrew Chillmaid, president of Dunstable College's student union: "I do actually because we'd be pretty narrow-minded to think that the universe is just inhabited by us. I've never seen anything like a UFO though."



● Fred Williams, from Hemel Hempstead: "Yes, I keep an open mind although I've never seen anything myself. Where I live there have been laser beams sent into the sky that look like UFOs."



● Dawn Bacon, of Grove Road, Houghton Regis: "No. I think it's all a bit silly. People who say they have seen a UFO must think they really have but I personally don't believe it."



● Timothy Sheridan, of West Street, Dunstable: "I just don't believe in them. I used to be in the Forces and I never saw anything like that. Other people can believe what they want."

## Cabbies in UFO sighting

THREE taxi drivers claim to have spotted a UFO hovering over Neath before it sped off over the Swansea Valley.

Clive Topper and Ken Jarrett, who work for Neath based Tower Taxis, were dropping off customers at about 2.30am on Saturday morning when they claim they saw the craft.

Mr Topper, of Penybryn, Cyma, said: "It looked like a big green luminous ball and had a vapour trail."

He expected it to burst into bright light like a flare, but the vapour trail disappeared and the object sped away.

"I didn't think much of it and thought it could have been a comet, but it was moving very fast and low and flew off over Swansea Valley," he said.

Mr Topper then returned to Tower Taxis office and told his colleagues about the sighting, who were more than sceptical about it.

"But then Ken came in and said he had seen the same thing and didn't know what it was either," he said.

## UFOs sighted at Stoney Stanton

A FURTHER sighting of the saucer shaped Stoney Stanton UFO has been reported.

Brenda Pratt, 62, of Southfield Road, said that she too spotted the unidentified craft - but this time there were two.

She said: "It was 12.15am on October 29 and I was reading. I saw a really bright light at the window and wondered what it could be. Then I saw it."

"The craft was round and alive with light like a very large and bright star. It just hovered there and twinkled. It had green and red lights underneath it. It was over by the A5 next to the Three Pots."

"While I was watching, another identical craft seemed to appear from nowhere in parallel with the craft."

"It was so strange I couldn't believe it at first. I was going to keep quiet, but then I read about Mr Bedwell and I wanted him to know that he wasn't the only one to see it. I spotted the craft the day after him, so it looks like it came back for a return visit. It all seems very strange."

TIMES, Stockport, England - Aug. 31, 1995

# UFO-spotter asks 'Did you see it?'

TIMES, London, England - July 29, 1995

## British experts caught between scepticism and plain disbelief

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

BRITISH scientists who have seen the film say it looks impressive, but they are unconvinced it shows aliens.

"If it's a fake, it's a brilliant one," said Dr Chris Stringer, of the Natural History Museum in London. "But the trouble is that it's an old black-and-white film and you can't really conclude anything from it. Personally, I've nothing against believing in aliens, but you have to have hard and fast data. If we could get our hands on tissue samples from the autopsies, that would be a very different matter."

Dr Paul O'Higgins, an anatomist from University College London, says the anatomy appears human, though with several deformities. The large skull, he says, could be caused by fluid on the brain, often found together with low-set ears, hairlessness and lack of secondary sexual characteristics. "On an

anatomical and evolutionary basis, I find it impossible to believe these are aliens," he says.

Dr Chris Milroy, of the Forensic Pathology Department at Sheffield University, has produced a written report on the film, in which he describes the appearance of the bodies as "those of a white adolescent female with a humanoid body". There were no breasts, no pubic hair, and no hair on their heads, which were disproportionately large.

Each hand carried six digits, while the eyes appeared larger than normal and the globes were covered with a black material which was shown being removed, his report says. "While the examination had features of a medically conducted examination, aspects suggested that it was not conducted by an experienced autopsy pathologist, but by a surgeon."

For Dr Stringer, the fact that the bodies were so human-like argues against their alien origins. "It's most improbable that aliens could have evolved to look so like humans," he says. "It is my inclination to believe that the bodies are fakes, perhaps modified human bodies."

Dr O'Higgins points out that the possession of six fingers and a very large head can be caused by human abnormalities. Only the lack of a navel and the black membrane over the eyes bewilders him.

Like Dr Stringer, he finds it incredible that an alien evolving on another world would look so human, and extraordinary that the post-mortem examination, "an unparalleled opportunity for science", was apparently conducted so quickly and casually. The filming was also amateurish, with all shots of internal organs out of focus.

A MAN fled in terror into his Hazel Grove home, after he spotted an unidentified flying object hovering over Stockport.

Anthony, who did not want to reveal his surname, was in the back garden of his parents' house, on Bramhall Moor Lane, when his terrifying 10-minute encounter began.

First, he noticed a triangular shape in the sky, filled with red and white lights. Then the shape disappeared and was replaced by two dull red lights.

The pair "danced" erratically, moving up, down and sideways, but always maintaining the same distance between them.

After several minutes, they flew apart and jumped back again immediately, before travelling off into the distance.

### Scary

Anthony, 29, said he was terrified by the experience: "It was really scary. I've been sceptical in the past."

His girlfriend, who was at her own home that night, took some persuading to believe him.

"I did see something and I want to know if anybody else has."

UFO investigator, David Cayton, was impressed by Anthony's account.

Mr Cayton, who has inquired into such sightings for two-and-a-half years, interviewed him for two hours: "I'm sure it's a genuine report."

If anyone else saw the UFO at 1.30a.m. on Friday, August 18, contact Mr Clayton on 483 4956.





## IN SEARCH OF SASQUATCH

ISU primatologist conducts study into whether Bigfoot captured on film recently

By Jennifer Gallagher  
Of The Journal

The videotape begins with friends letting off steam in their camper after a long day of shooting a television episode.

They are laughing, drinking and making faces for the camera while their driver navigates through a dark redwood forest in northern California, near the Oregon border.

"Look, you guys, a bear," the driver says.

The camera swings around sickeningly as the cameraman runs to the front of the 34-foot camper. He aims it out the front windshield, focusing on the animal that startled the driver.

It's not a bear.

"What is that?" the driver asks.

It's a question repeated by everyone who sees the tape. Idaho State University primatologist Jeff Meldrum thinks he knows the answer.

He thinks it's Bigfoot.

"It boils down to this — it's either a man in a fur suit or it's exactly what it appears to be," he said.

Meldrum, who's watched the videotape hundreds of times since he received it Nov. 1, said he is 80 to 90 percent sure the animal is the elusive Sasquatch. It was filmed at the end of August.

Still, he hastens to say he can't absolutely tell, nor does he want to be characterized as a "Bigfoot expert."

"I can't ignore the hardest questions," he said. "Why isn't there physical evidence? Why hasn't one ever been captured or

shot?"

Prior to being called by a former Arizona State University professor to view the tape, Meldrum, 37, hadn't devoted time to Sasquatch research. His expertise is in primate evolution and functional morphology, the biological study of the form and structure of organisms.

"I was very skeptical at first," said Meldrum, who's been at ISU for two years. "I didn't expect anything too important."

He was struck, he said, by the similarities of this video to the 1967 Patterson film, one of the most famous recorded sightings of what appears to be Sasquatch. It was shot in broad daylight by two Washington men, and shows a large, hairy creature walking from a stream into a forest.

Meldrum points out the similarities of features of the creature in this tape to those in the Patterson film.

The animals appear to be about the same height. Meldrum's detailed calculations put the creature at 7 feet 10 inches tall.

Both have sloping foreheads and prominent crowns, and walk with a compliant gait, meaning the knees are slightly bent.

The cameraman on this tape caught a fleeting glimpse of the creature's foot as it stepped into the trees. It appears jointed and flexible, not rigid as the foot of a fur suit would look.

Even the reaction of the animal was similar in both films. It

didn't show any anger or fright, but strode quickly and easily away.

"If this is a hoax, it's very elaborate and sophisticated," Meldrum said.

Other things also point to the veracity of the sighting.

Earlier this month, Meldrum and the former Arizona professor went with the tabloid television show "Hard Copy" to Crescent City, Calif., in the Jedediah Smith State Park where the animal was spotted.

The terrain is rugged, with fallen redwoods 7 feet in diameter littering the forest floor. The road the group was traveling is seldom used by anyone, because it dead ends without a place to

turn around.

"It would be extremely hard for a hoaxer in a suit and possibly a mask to navigate," Meldrum said.

Though he admits the possibility of Sasquatch existence is exciting, Meldrum is also realistic about its significance.

It would be evidence of larger primates existing in North America, something new to primatology. So far, proof exists that lemurs about the size of a small organ grinder monkey lived on this continent. That was 50,000 years ago.

"This would not overturn the rock on which anthropology is founded," Meldrum said with a smile.



Journal photo by Richard Walker

Idaho State University primatologist Jeff Meldrum wonders if the shadowy figure shown on videotape behind him is the legendary Bigfoot.

*If this is a hoax, it's very elaborate and sophisticated."*

—Jeff Meldrum,  
ISU primatologist

## Big interest in Bigfoot, believe it or not

By Molly O'Connor  
Journal American Staff Writer

**BOTHELL** — Are a Tacoma man's photos of a sasquatch in the foothills of Snoqualmie National Forest real or a scam?

The debate is still up for grabs.

At a Bothell Bigfoot Conference yesterday, a panel of the legendary creature's enthusiasts and a photo expert pawed through the photos and examined the Bigfoot's anatomy and the lighting and angle of a handful of the 14 shots supposedly taken on July 11.

One panelist even suggested that the shoulders of the creature looked similar to those of a padded professional football player.

The photos reportedly were taken by an employee of the U.S. Forest Service, who had been hiking off-trail in the Snoqualmie National Forest. The photographer's identity has not been disclosed.

Cliff Crook, chairman of Bothell-based Bigfoot Central, said he's convinced the photos are real, based on what he sees in the photos and the story the forestry employee recounted to him.

"If the pictures were any better, they would breathe," Crook said.

#### He saw Bigfoot, he says

Crook claims he saw a Bigfoot in 1956, and he has been investigating and tracking the creature since. Bigfoot Central bought the forestry



Anthony P. Bolante/Journal American

Nickolas Perales (left), who says he saw a Bigfoot-like creature 30 years ago, and Chris Valerio (center), president of Eastside Photo Lab, study photos yesterday of what some say is a sasquatch. Both were skeptical.

worker's photos for an undisclosed amount and keeps them in a safe-deposit box.

Other members of the panel and the audience were skeptical of the photos.

"I think they're fake," said Chris Valerio, president of Eastside Photo Lab in Bellevue. "They've been

done with digital or electronic imaging."

Valerio said his opinion of the photos could change based on additional information about the camera, film and lens that the photographer used, but he questions some of the shadows and lighting in the pictures.

As for whether he believes Bigfoot exists, Valerio had no comment.

About 30 people — ranging from curiosity seekers to those who say they've spotted Bigfoot in the



*"I think they're fake. They've been done with digital or electronic imaging."*

Chris Valerio

past — attended the conference yesterday. For 2½ hours it was all seriousness concerning the legendary Bigfoot.

#### Intrigued by the 'man-beast'

Ron Fisch of Seattle said he was intrigued by the photos after hearing the howls of what he believes to be the "man-beast" while hunting with his friends last year near Lake Chelan. But he too said he thinks the photos of Bigfoot are fake.

"I think the only way this is going to be solved is if someone brings one in," Fisch said.

## Dead cow is found missing udders, organ, horns

# The weird comes to Weston

By JON M. POMPIA  
C-N Staff Writer

For Weston resident Mike Duran, things in the tranquil area west of Trinidad took a turn for the weird last Sunday afternoon.

Duran, a teacher in School District Number One, discovered that one of his cows had been mysteriously mutilated. The 900-pound animal, which had recently given birth, was found on its back, with its front legs in a strange, bent position. The cow's udders and female sex organ had been removed with surgeon-like precision. A large circular hole in the animal's lower stomach remains an eerie testament to its bizarre demise.

Furthermore, the bovine's horns had also been removed. Duran later found them approximately 20 yards from the animal.

Duran said no tracks or prints of any sort were observed around the animal, and only a minute portion of blood, produced when the horns were removed, was detected. The area where the udders were extracted bore no burn marks or jagged edges.

"I saw the cow on Saturday evening," Duran said. "And then on Sunday, I found it. It gives me a kind of spooky feeling."

While Duran called the incident "puzzling," he could not offer an explanation -- "I just don't know."

Sheriff Lou Girodo, who has investigated a number of cattle mutilations, refused to classify the incident as a mutilation. "I had one of my deputies check it out. It's just an unusual death, possibly by bear or coyote. This doesn't meet the criteria of a cattle mutilation."

Ron Rankin, area biology instructor, said that wounds consistent with a kill by a mountain lion would be "bites to the back of the neck, possibly even the spine." A kill by a bear would most likely be "a crushing blow to the skull."

Rankin, who did not visit the site of the mutilation but observed the removed horns, said he believes the cow was the victim of predators, based on his prior experiences.

"There was no bite on the neck, and no head injury," said Duran.

"This was no predator. I've been around long enough to know a predator attack from a strange incident like this. There were no rips or signs of an attack or struggle."

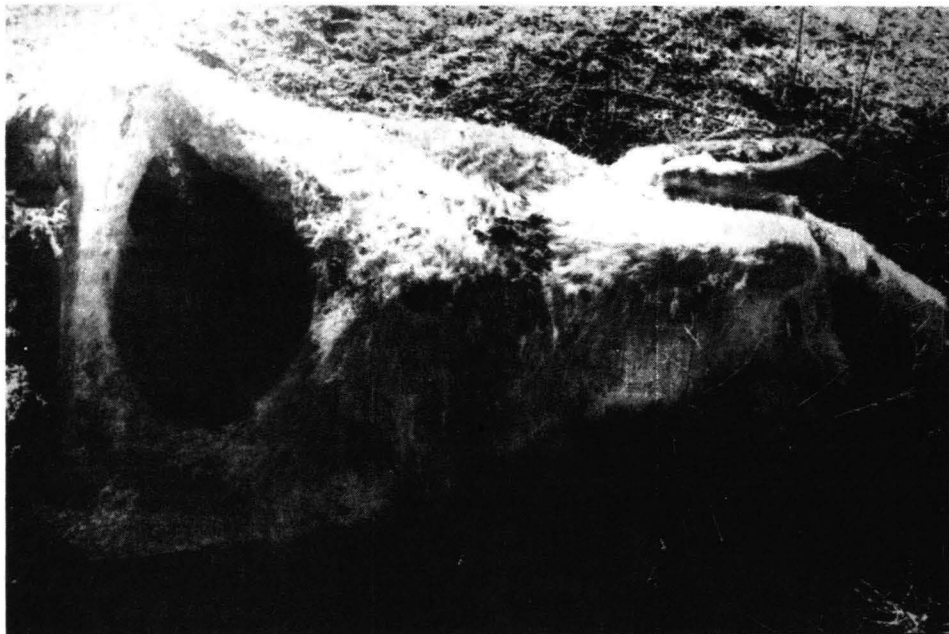
"If it had been a bear or coyote, I wouldn't have called the sheriff."

The horns, Duran said, were in perfect condition, notwithstanding a few chew marks made by a dog which found the horns in a field. According to Rankin, marks on the horns were consistent with the bite of a mountain lion.

"My dad looked all over the area for tracks," Duran said. "Even up and down the river bottom. There was nothing."

Today, Thursday, Robert Philbin, local physics instructor, conducted a Geiger counter test on a portion of the cow's skin. The test uncovered "no radiation beyond what normally comes from living things, such as cows and humans."

Philbin, however, said that "a number of radioactive isotopes with short half-lives would remain radioactive for only a matter of hours." If the cow came in contact with isotopes such as these, "Over a couple of days the radiation would be gone."



CIRCULAR HOLE on cow's underside is remnant of strange incident which occurred in Weston.

WAYNE CO. PRESS, Fairfield, IL - Nov. 6, 1995

## Press Readers Speak Cannot Explain Mysterious Lights

Grand Junction, Mi.

Dear Editor,

Each year we visit an area north of Fairfield just off Route 45. This area is quite a ways north. In fact, in upper Michigan. The main attraction is fishing and the wildlife we see includes deer, otter, beaver, coyotes, eagles, osprey and loon.

For years, people have asked us, "Have you seen the Pauling lights yet?" We have heard the legend concerning a brakeman who had attempted to stop a train by waving his lantern to prevent a wreck. He failed and was killed in the resulting collision. His spirit has supposedly haunted the site ever since.

We were told that the mystery spot has been checked by the TV program, "Unsolved Mysteries," the Army Air Corp and other organizations without a logical

explanation of the eerie lights.

Considering myself a stable, logical and realistic person with some intelligence, I investigated the site at dusk along with a group of friends. The road reached out in a westerly direction and was blocked at one point as the unpaved road led nowhere, was an old logging road and reached into a wilderness area. A power line did reach in the same direction resulting in a cleared area along the power line with visibility at dusk of about 2 miles.

We did see a twinkling yellow light that came and went at irregular intervals. At times, there would be a red light which would appear at or near the same point as the yellow light. At times, there would be no lights for 1 or two minutes.

We speculated over the apparition, read the large placard by the roadside which described the legend. My observa-

tion which I shared with my fellow skeptics was as follows. "I believe this power line reaches a distance of 5 to 10 miles and a road traverses alongside the power line for a short distance or over a hill. WE are observing headlights and taillights on a moderately traveled road."

My companions rebutted by saying, "Aeroplanes and helicopters have flown toward those lights and have failed to identify the source of those lights."

I remain a skeptic but if you go north on Rt. 45, cross R. 2 in upper Michigan and ask at Waters meet, they will tell you where to find the Pauling lights. Hope you Fairfield readers are as amused as I concerning one of many mystery spots to be found at various spots within these United States.

JOSEPH F. MEDLER

# Bigfoot hunter goes high-tech

NEWS, Hood River, OR

Nov. 11, 1995

Both believers and skeptics will find lots to consider when Peter Byrne of Mt. Hood discusses his high-tech Bigfoot hunting methods.

Byrne will speak on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m., at Asbury United Methodist Church, 616 State Avenue.

Longtime locals know of Byrne's Bigfoot book and of the Bigfoot Museum that used to be housed at the Visitors Center.

Then Byrne decided to give Bigfoot a rest and took off for adventures in Africa and Nepal, from rafting wild rivers to filming wild elephants.

Now, Bigfoot reigns again as the former big-game hunter heads a research project that uses computers, night-vision scopes, motion and sound equipment, helicopters and other such niceties.

His Tuesday program is a benefit for the Columbia Gorge Audubon Society. A \$5 donation is suggested.

JOURNAL AMERICAN, Bellevue, WA- Dec. 12, 1995

## Invisible ELVES in the sky

### Scientists studying new kind of lightning

By William J. Broad  
New York Times News Service

Scientists have discovered a new class of lightning that exists high above thunderheads and that flickers in blazing disks on the fringes of space, spreading out laterally for hundreds of miles. The dance of this mys-

terious light joins a number of unusual bolts that scientists have recently found shooting upward from clouds as high as 60 miles above the earth.

The newly observed lightning flashes have been named ELVES, with no Yuletide link intended. The name is an acronym derived from the phrase "emissions of light and very low frequency perturbations due to electromagnetic pulse sources."

Their discovery is being announced this week in San Francisco at a meeting of the American Geophysical Union, the world's largest professional group devoted to earth studies. The color of ELVES is not yet known but is thought possibly (and not inappropriately given the season) to be green.

Remarkably, ELVES are higher, brighter and larger than the other newly discovered types of lightning. They were long overlooked not only

because intervening thunderheads obscured views of their domain but because their flash is so quick — less than a thousandth of a second. In contrast, and regular lightning can scintillate for a second or more.

**Not seeing is believing**

ELVES in theory might be visible to the naked eye, though scientists know of no eyewitness reports to date, and some researchers say it may never be glimpsed directly.

Last summer 16 teams of scientists from three nations set up telescopes and instruments in the foothills of the Rockies. Perched at an altitude of 5,500 feet atop Yucca Ridge in Colorado, they caught glimpses of at least 50 of the ELVES. The disks materialized at elevations of up to 65 miles, the boundary where the atmosphere ends and space begins.

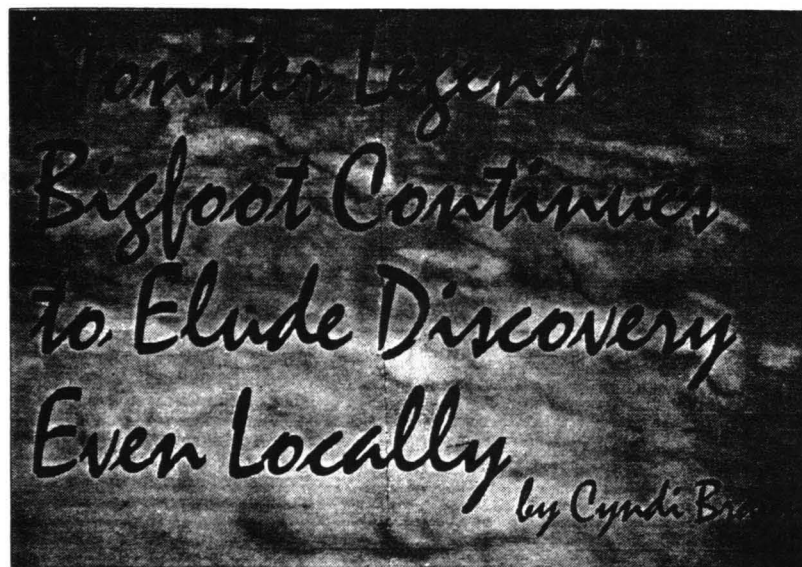
"It's almost like a ring of light expanding outward, thin and lens

shaped," said Dr. Walter A. Lyons, a senior scientist at the Mission Research Corp., in Fort Collins, Colo.

The discovery that electrical storms on earth have repercussions in the heavens is an important one, scientists say.

Among the riddles under study are whether the lightning bolts and the chemical and electrical changes induced by them on the fringes of space might affect global weather, ozone depletion and storm formation or might disable high-altitude spy planes and space shuttles. Another concern is for satellites that monitor the earth's surface for nuclear explosions, which might be prompted to generate false reports. The phenomenon is being scrutinized by NASA, the Air Force and the nation's intelligence agencies.





# Another Legend Bigfoot Continues to Elude Discovery Even Locally

by Cyndi B...

**T**rudging through a blanket of snow, his boots buried with every step, a trail of slow progress behind him, leading from the woods, he struggles to find his way through the still-falling snow. Looking from side to side, nervous, as if being watched, he hurries to the cabin, where he plans to warm himself beside a fire before retiring for the evening. Suddenly, lumbering towards him, a large figure whistles, strangely, an inhuman sound, a shriek he has never heard before. Frightened, the man cringes, his body frozen in panic. The figure advances, methodically lifting and dropping its huge feet in six-foot long strides, molding deep indentations in the snow. Nearly twice his height, the ape-like creature is covered in brown hair and emits a foul odor. Terrified, screaming, the man wakes up,

and the nightmare ends...

Just as Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley created the eight-foot man-monster-being Frankenstein, so too do we create monsters in our nightmares, or superhuman creatures of legends and ghostly spirits around campfires—all in our love for telling tales that scare our friends.

Monsters, it would seem, are the direct result of hyperactive imaginations, such as we find in children.

Or are they?

In the 1800s, the tale of a 600-pound mountain gorilla seemed to be legend only.

That is, until Oscar von Beringe killed one in 1903 and displayed its hide in Europe. Seventeen years later, in South America, a 5-foot-tall tailless creature resembling both man and ape was killed.

A similar creature was later found to have one less chromosome than an ape

and one more than a man. It would appear that monsters do exist. **Bigfoot Visits West Pike Run**

Seen by thousands of people worldwide, a large ape-like creature continues to elude even modern discovery—or explanation. Called Bigfoot, Abominable Snowman, sasquatch, yeti, Swamp Ape and Skunk Ape, the creature and his footprints have been seen in communities throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania, including Washington, Fayette and Westmoreland Counties.

Just 16 months ago,

Bigfoot seemed to make his presence known in the small community of West Pike Run.

On a snowy day in February, a Mount Zion Baptist Church custodian was preparing to burn garbage in a barrel behind the church when he noticed something unusual.

"I think it was around one o'clock in the afternoon," recalls Cornell Ellis Sr. "As I was getting ready to put the garbage in the barrel, I saw dog tracks running in a circle, and I thought, how strange. Then I saw gigantic tracks near a path. When I walked closer, I saw that they were footprints and there were about six feet in between each of them."

Investigators later determined that the footprints measured 31 inches long and 17 inches wide, with a consistent stride of six feet.

"I thought, well I better call someone else to come look at these tracks. First I called my girlfriend to bring a camera to take some pictures. My brother came up too. My brother and I followed the tracks into the woods. Then, we saw that there were two sets of tracks. One was larger, and across from them were smaller tracks, maybe from a female or a young one."

Ellis is not sure where the tracks ended, although he and his brother followed them for at least 100 yards into the woods.

"We decided to stop (following the tracks) because we didn't want to run into anything. The tracks were very distinct. You could see the heel, the arch, the toes and the space between the toes. I found out later that when people fake tracks, they are usually just flat."

Prior to seeing the footprints behind the church, Ellis was not a strong believer in the existence of Bigfoot.

"I had seen documentaries on TV about Bigfoot. I was skeptical like everyone else. I figured if Bigfoot existed, why hasn't anyone found one, or the bones of a dead one? But then, you don't find bones of bears in the woods either."

## The Elusive Creature

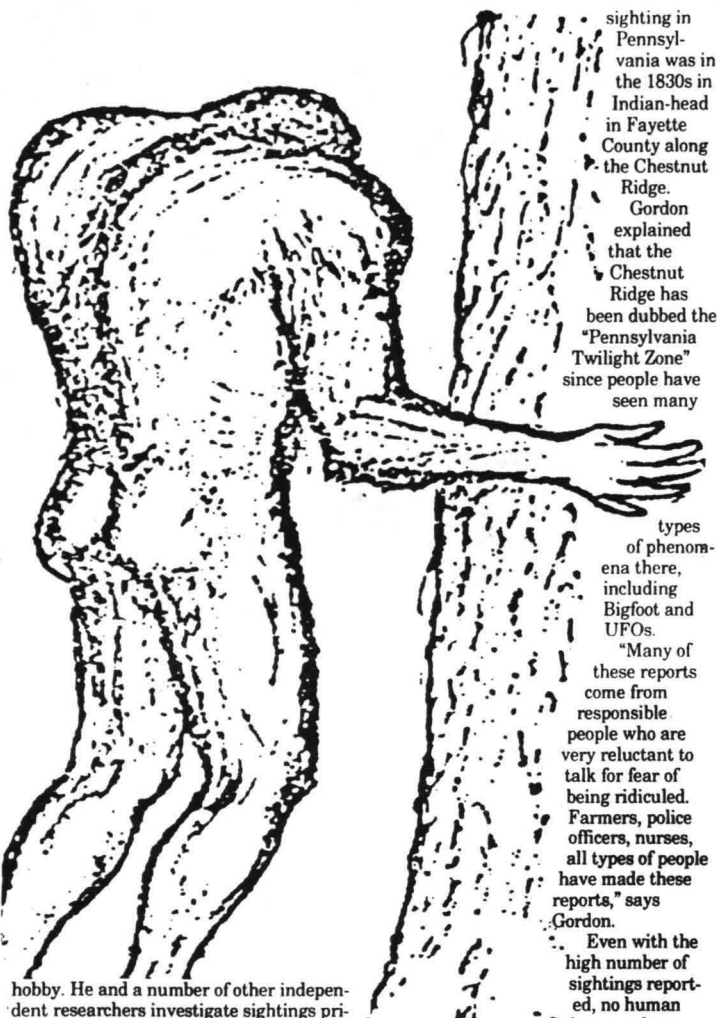
The first discovery of Bigfoot tracks in America was in 1811, when an explorer found a trail of prints measuring 14 inches long and 8 inches wide near Jasper, Alberta. Since then, people across the country have found traces of this elusive creature.

In fact, every year since 1972, someone has reported the sight of Bigfoot in Western Pennsylvania, according to Stan Gordon, an independent UFO and Bigfoot researcher in Greensburg. Bigfoot reports that Gordon maintains generally include descriptions of unusual screams, sounds, large footprints, and a strong odor.

An investigator of unusual phenomena since 1959, Gordon—as a child became engrossed in the supernatural—ghosts, goblins, UFOs and Bigfoot. He buried himself in library research and collected every newspaper clipping that he saw. Over time, this childhood interest became his adult passion.

In 1970, he founded the Westmoreland County UFO Study Group, which disbanded in 1981 when he created the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained (PASU), a volunteer, non-profit scientific research unit that conducted investigations of UFO and strange animal sightings.

PASU disbanded in 1993 when Gordon married. Now, his passion has become a



hobby. He and a number of other independent researchers investigate sightings primarily near Greensburg. However, his interest in the subject remains strong, and he continues to maintain information on local, regional, national, and even international sightings.

"Historically, Bigfoot sightings have been reported all over the United States and other countries, including Australia, Vietnam and Japan," says Gordon.

"In the United States, there are hundreds of reported sightings in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio and Indiana."

The earliest written account of a Bigfoot

sighting in Pennsylvania was in the 1830s in Indian-head in Fayette County along the Chestnut Ridge. Gordon explained that the Chestnut Ridge has been dubbed the "Pennsylvania Twilight Zone" since people have seen many

types of phenomena there, including Bigfoot and UFOs.

"Many of these reports come from responsible people who are very reluctant to talk for fear of being ridiculed. Farmers, police officers, nurses, all types of people have made these reports," says Gordon.

Even with the high number of sightings reported, no human has ever been

hurt by one of these creatures, Gordon explained.

"The creatures appear to be intelligent and curious of human activities. Normally when a human approaches them, they turn around and go away," says Gordon, even though he admitted that he has never seen a Bigfoot.

"We have had a number of incidents in which people shot at them, something that we do not recommend. But, as fast as these things move, it seems it would be easy for the creatures to get someone and

hurt them, but that has not been the case we have seen."

In most cases, Bigfoot is sighted between June and September, but not always. Gordon suggests that heat, humidity and fog make the creature more active. Rural or wooded areas are the most common locations for Bigfoot sightings.

More specifically, Gordon says there have been many sightings near energy sources, such as power plants, high tension power lines, water reservoirs, and radio or TV transmission towers. Although he could not support this claim, Gordon's observation seems to insinuate that power sources may attract Bigfoot.

In the past, Bigfoot tracks found in the eastern United States usually had three toes, while tracks found near the Pacific coast had five toes. Recently, both types of tracks have been found in both the eastern and western United States.

The suspected diet of Bigfoot is apples, corn and berries. No evidence exists that they have ever eaten dogs or other animals, as some people may believe.

## Bigfoot Sightings in Western Pennsylvania

In 1973, a "massive outbreak" of Bigfoot sightings occurred in Pennsylvania.

Sightings were reported in Allegheny, Beaver, Fayette, Indiana, Somerset, Washington and Westmoreland Counties.

According to Gordon, about 250 eyewitnesses saw Bigfoot during the summer months.

In June 1973 near Monongahela, a person reported seeing a large creature with black hair, red eyes and a strong odor.

The creature was digging near a coal area around Victory Hill. That same month in New Eagle, several people told state police that they had seen a large, tall and hairy creature.

On Sept. 27 at 9:30 p.m., two girls in a rural area of Westmoreland County were waiting for a ride. They saw a 7- to 8-foot tall, white, hairy creature with red eyes in the woods. The creature carried a luminous sphere. Frightened, the girls ran home. The father of one of the girls went into the woods and searched for more than an hour. While he was in the woods, there were sightings of a flying object that shone a bright beam of light into the woods. The father later confirmed that his daughter had seen Bigfoot but denied that he had gone into the woods. He said, "Some things are better left alone" and advised that no one go into the woods.

A month later on a farm in Greensburg, another sighting of Bigfoot and a UFO occurred. Two boys and a young man went to investigate a bright red ball that they saw descend toward a pasture.

When they got close to the pasture, they saw two ape-like creatures covered with long, dark-gray hair. One was about 7 feet tall and the other was 8 feet tall, and both had green, glowing eyes.

The young man shot both the creatures with his rifle, but did not appear to hurt them. The alleged Bigfoot creatures went back into the woods, and the glowing bubble disappeared.

Later that night, while the witness was being interviewed by Gordon and other investigators, he began to shake, breath heavily, and growl like an animal. He started yelling, "Keep away from the corner!" Others at the site had difficulty breathing, experienced dizzy spells, and smelled sulfur.

In February 1974, a Uniontown woman heard a noise on her porch at about 10 p.m. Thinking it was wild dogs getting into her garbage, she took her shotgun out onto the porch, where a 7-foot Bigfoot was standing. Frightened, she fired at him. After a brilliant flash of light, the creature disappeared.

In July 1975, a motorist reported seeing a 7-foot-tall upright, stooped figure with a large head. That same month, along old Route 71, someone saw a creature run across the road in Fallowfield Township.

In October 1975 near Monongahela, two eyewitnesses saw two 8- to 9-foot hairy creatures with orangish eyes eating apples.

## To Be Skeptical—Or Not

Witnesses have seen Bigfoot.

Researchers have gathered evidence and made molds of tracks. But Bigfoot has never been captured, and no one has found the remains of a deceased Bigfoot. Why?

Gordon has the same questions. "How do these creatures sustain themselves? Why do only some people see them? If these sightings were not so well documented, it would be hard to believe," he says.

(continued on page 20)

Drawing from the Native American theory that Bigfoot is a spiritual creature closer to nature, Gordon theorizes that Bigfoot may be more than flesh and blood. "We're dealing with something here that we don't have all the answers for," says Gordon. "There are all kinds of theories. They may be unknown zoological animals. Where do they go? What is the explanation? We just don't know."

Some people theorize that they bury their own dead. Others theorize that we may be dealing with something that we, as of yet do not have enough scientific knowledge to understand. The creature may be interdimensional."

Even after 36 years of researching this creature, Gordon remains cautious when he investigates Bigfoot sightings and footprints. For example, about a month after Ellis found the large tracks in West Pike Run, Gordon was asked to investigate similarly large tracks in Westmoreland County.

Gordon's research determined that the

Westmoreland tracks were not made by Bigfoot at all. The quick changes in temperature had caused bear tracks to look like large human footprints—or in some eyes, Bigfoot tracks.

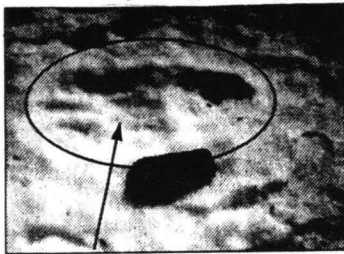
#### Doubting Thomases

As thinking beings, we seek physical, rational evidence to understand our world. Just as Thomas refused to believe that Christ was raised from the dead, so too do we find it difficult to believe that which we have not seen.

Bigfoot researchers like Gordon patiently investigate and record sighting after sighting in the hopes of eventually solving the mystery of Bigfoot.

Eventually we will be able to determine if Bigfoot is a figment of our collective imaginations, the monster we fear in our nightmares, a savage creature like "Pedro" in Conrad's *Victory*, or an intelligent being visiting our time and space to study our world.

Until then, Bigfoot will remain an unsolved mystery.



This photograph, taken in West Pike Run at 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 31, 1994, is believed to depict a Bigfoot footprint. A glove was placed beside the print to show its enormity. The print measured 31 inches, from heel to toe and 18 inches in width.

#### Sources

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For more information contact Stan Gordon at 6 Oak Hill Ave., Greensburg, Pa., 15601 or call (412) 838-7768.

DAILY NEWS, Anchorage, AK

Dec. 3, 1995 CR: J. & L. Nicholson

#### SINGING SANDS

A series of singing dunes has been discovered in the Badainjara Desert in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The Xinhua news agency reported that the find was made recently by the Chinese Academy of Science. The researchers found that in a soft wind, the dunes sing or groan, or make the sound of an airplane in flight. Zu Jiangjun, a young scientist, has deduced that the singing sound may be caused when grains of uniform size rub each other and move together.

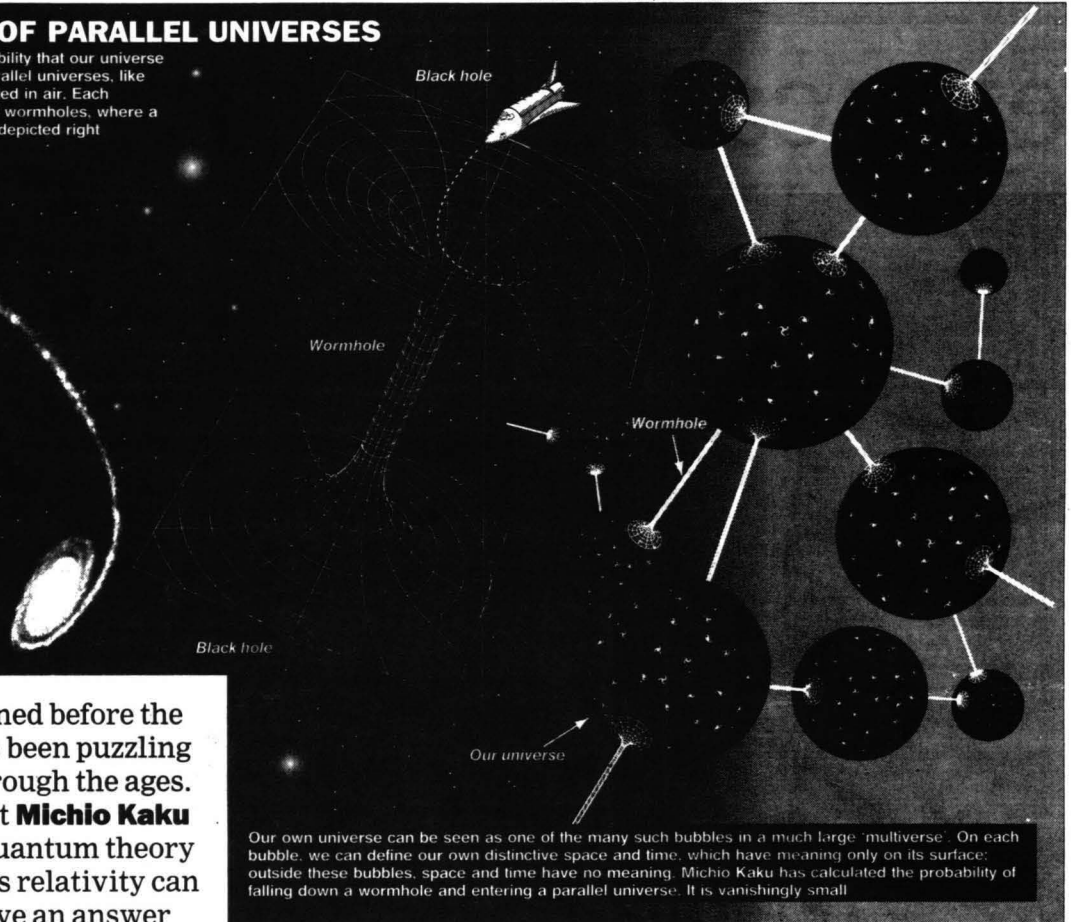
## SCIENCE

Black hole illustration by JULIAN BAUM / SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY. Graphic by GLENN SWANN

### KAKU'S MULTIVERSE OF PARALLEL UNIVERSES

Scientists have proposed the startling possibility that our universe may be just one of an infinite number of parallel universes, like an infinite number of soap bubbles suspended in air. Each universe is connected to others by a web of wormholes, where a wormhole consists of a pair of black holes, depicted right

A black hole is the collapsed remnant of a superdense star which has a gravitational field so intense that nothing can escape from it, not even light. A black hole can be thought of as a gravitational well that acts as a tunnel through space and time



Our own universe can be seen as one of the many such bubbles in a much larger 'multiverse'. On each bubble, we can define our own distinctive space and time, which have meaning only on its surface; outside these bubbles, space and time have no meaning. Michio Kaku has calculated the probability of falling down a wormhole and entering a parallel universe. It is vanishingly small.

What happened before the Big Bang has been puzzling scientists through the ages. The physicist **Michio Kaku** shows how quantum theory and Einstein's relativity can merge to give an answer

# Welcome to the next world

**E**INSTEIN'S theory of gravity, which gives us the Big Bang theory and black holes, has been subjected to the most stringent test yet and passed with flying colours.

In the latest issue of *Physics Today*, astronomers from Harvard, MIT and the Haystack Observatory proudly announced that they had confirmed Einstein's theory to within an astonishing 0.04 per cent accuracy by measuring the bending of radio waves from the quasar 3C279 near the edge of the visible universe. But there is some irony in this announcement. Each success only highlights a yawning gap. Even as scientists hail ever more accurate tests of Einstein's theory of warped space, Einstein himself knew that his theory broke down at the instant of the Big Bang. The theory had feet of clay.

Relativity was worthless, he realised, when it came to answering the most embarrassing cosmic question in all of science: What happened before the Big Bang? Ask any cosmologist this question, and they will throw up their hands, roll their eyes, and lament: "This may be for ever beyond the reach of science. We just don't know."

Until now, that is. A remarkable consensus has been developing

recently around what is called "quantum cosmology", in which scientists believe that a merger of quantum theory and Einstein's relativity may resolve these sticky theological questions. Theoretical physicists are rushing in where the angels fear to tread.

In particular, an appealing but startling new picture is emerging in quantum cosmology that may be able to synthesise some of the great mythologies of creation.

There are two dominant religious mythologies. According to Judaeo-Christian belief, the universe had a definite beginning. This is the Genesis hypothesis, in which the universe was hatched from a Cosmic Egg. However, according to the Hindu-Buddhist belief in Nirvana, the universe is timeless; it never had a beginning, nor will it have an end.

Quantum cosmology proposes a beautiful synthesis of these seemingly hostile viewpoints. In the beginning was Nothing. No space, no matter or energy. But according to the quantum principle, even Nothing was unstable. Nothing began to decay; that is, it began to "boil" with billions of tiny bubbles forming and expanding rapidly. Each bubble became an expanding universe.

If this is true, then our universe

is actually part of a much larger "multiverse" of parallel universes, which is truly timeless, like Nirvana. As Steve Weinberg, the Nobel laureate physicist, has said: "An important implication is that there wasn't a beginning; that there were increasingly large Big Bangs, so that the [multiverse] goes on for ever — one doesn't have to grapple with the question of it before the Bang. The [multiverse] has just been here all along. I find that a very satisfying picture."

Universes can literally spring into existence as a quantum fluctuation of Nothing. This is because the positive energy found in matter is balanced against the negative energy of gravity, so the total energy of a bubble is zero. Thus, it takes no net energy to create a new universe.

Alan Guth, originator of the inflationary theory, once remarked: "It's often said there is no such thing as a free lunch. But the universe itself may be a free lunch."

And Andre Linde of Stanford has said: "If my colleagues and I are right, we may soon be saying goodbye to the idea that our universe was a single fireball created in the Big Bang."

Although this picture is appeal-

ing, it also raises more questions. Can life exist on these parallel universes? Cambridge cosmologist Stephen Hawking is doubtful: he believes that our universe may co-exist with other universes, but our universe is special. The probability of forming these other bubbles is vanishingly small.

On the other hand, Weinberg believes most of these parallel universes are probably dead. To have stable DNA molecules, the proton must be stable for at least three billion years. In these dead universes, the protons might have decayed into a sea of electrons and neutrons.

Our universe may be one of the few compatible with life. This would, in fact, answer the age-old question of why the physical constants of the universe fall in a narrow band compatible with the formation of life. If the charge of the electron, the gravitational constant, etc, were changed slightly, then life would have been impossible. This is called the Anthropic Principle. As Freeman Dyson of Princeton said: "It's as if the universe knew we were coming."

The strong version of this states that this proves the existence of God or an all-powerful deity. But according to quantum cosmology, perhaps there are millions of dead

universes. It was an accident, therefore, that our universe had conditions compatible with the formation of stable DNA molecules.

This leaves open the possibility, however, that there are parallel universes out there which are almost identical to ours, except for some fateful incident. Perhaps George III did not lose the Colonies in one such universe.

However, I can calculate the probability that one day you might be walking down the street, only to fall into a hole in space and enter a parallel universe. You would have to wait longer than the lifetime of the universe for such a cosmic event to happen.

As the biologist J. B. S. Haldane observed: "The universe is not only queerer than we suppose, it is queerer than we can suppose."

□ Dr Michio Kaku is professor of theoretical physics at the City University of New York and author of *Hyperspace: A Scientific Odyssey through the 10th Dimension* (Oxford University Press).