

UFO

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DISPATCH, Blairsville, PA - Feb. 9, 1996 CR: S. Gordon

Flying Saucers Pay A Visit, But What's Become Of Bigfoot?

UFORIA--Checking with with his annual roundup of flying saucer sightings, Bigfoot visitations, the weird and wacky from around the area is our old friend Stan Gordon of Greensburg, and a pretty quiet year on the paranormal front it's been.

Ordinarily Gordon reports plenty of UFOs buzzing around the cooling towers of area power plants--it seems that aliens are drawn to power plants like flies to a road apple--but 1995 was quiet for Indiana County. Only the July to October period saw significant sightings reported in southwestern Pennsylvania at all.

"Most of the calls I received from Indiana County last year were explainable phenomena," said Gordon. "For example, we received a call from a man reporting strange markings in a field. But we determined that the markings were meteorological--caused by the wind."

As always, many of the sightings can be explained away, Gordon emphasizes, as bright stars or planets, meteor showers, search lights, aircraft, even a laser light show. On Aug. 25, many people in Pennsylvania and elsewhere witnessed a meteor flash through the sky and smite the earth in Canada.

Nevertheless, Gordon--who has been at the UFO-hunting game for 36 years--adds that the year wasn't without in unexplained sightings, which began Feb. 13 at Westmoreland County's Beaver Run dam, when a pilot noticed an unusual pattern of lights outside his home.

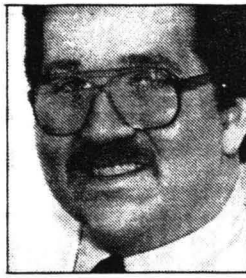
"He went outside for a better look," Gordon reports, "and observed two huge solid triangular objects passing silently across the sky. The colors and lighting pattern of the objects were unlike that of conventional aircraft. Other sightings of strange objects were reported that same night within a short time."

People from Allegheny to Cambria County reported strange lights in the sky on March 2 and called news rooms to ask about them. Said Gordon, "numerous beams of light made a complete circle around the horizon. Local meteorologists were unable to find an explanation."

The best UFO sighting came Sept. 1 in Penn, just outside Jeannette, when a man traveling through the area at 3:30 a.m. snapped a Polaroid of "what can best be described as a W with an extra extension," Gordon said, about 20 feet

Dispatches

by John M. Jennings



high, which seemed to be touching down on some railroad tracks.

The flying W emitted a bright yellow-gold light that appeared stationary. Gordon said the man's snapshot confirmed what he had reported. "Other UFO sightings had been reported over the last several months in the Jeannette, Irwin and Harrison City areas."

Gordon received one such UFO call from the Saltsburg area in March. The caller and another witness said they watched a cylinder with a glowing dome moving slowly through the sky, dipping low towards some woods before disappearing.

So bright was the dome and the lights around the cylinder--a celestial 18-wheeler festooned in red, white, amber and blue-green lights--that they could see its glow after it passed over the horizon. "About an hour later I had another such call from Ohio with a very similar sighting."

Something the size of a destroyer flew over a Centre County woman's home on Columbus Day. She told Gordon that she felt her whole house shake from "an intense roaring sound" and went out with her son to have a look at the ruder.

"They were amazed to see a huge solid object passing slowly only about 100 feet overhead," Gordon reports. "The object was described as being roughly a rounded rectangular shape, grayish silver and had eight lights of various colors on its surface."

That noise make the sighting unusual, said Gordon. Most UFOs are silent, or nearly so. "Even after the object was out of sight, the loud vibrating sound could be heard. Unusual electrical and animal disturbances were noticed during the observation. During the evening, other similar reports were received from that section of the state."

But very few Bigfoot sightings this

year, which puzzles me, and saddens me a little, too. Chestnut Ridge has long been one of the hot spots in all the eastern United States for Bigfoot sightings. Has the hairy hunk moved away and left no forwarding address?

Gordon demurs. "We had some second-hand reports of Bigfoot sightings, and some reports of people hearing unusual screams on Chestnut Ridge," he said. "My understanding is that someone in Butler County has a good quality photograph of Bigfoot, but we haven't been able to locate him."

OBSERVER, Charlotte, NC
March 7, 1996 CR: G. Fawcett

PBS misrepresents UFOs in bid for donations

To raise money for PBS, this week's "Nova" episode "Kidnapped by UFOs" took advantage of growing public interest in UFOs.

But in doing so, it did a hatchet job on the abduction enigma by leaving out mention of surgery marks, landing marks, independent eyewitnesses, etc. "Nova" topped it off with Carl Sagan, a man who has never investigated one abduction case, arguing that such encounters come from inner space, not out there.

Anyone interested in the truth must care about such misrepresentations.

GEORGE D. FAWCETT
Lincolnton

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - Oct. 25, 1995

Close encounter with a visitor?

The program that was run on the FOX network Sept. 4, "Alien Autopsy: Fact or Fiction?" discussed the controversy surrounding the possible crash of a UFO in Roswell, N.M., in 1947. The program revolved around alleged film footage taken by a top-secret government photographer of an alien autopsy.

I have a hard time understanding how the general public cannot accept the possibility of the existence of other life forms on planets other than our own. With countless other planets in our galaxy alone, how can we be so self-centered as to think that we are the only ones?

Can we readily accept the existence of God and completely disregard eyewitness accounts of the Roswell incident? Can we ignore potential government film documenting the autopsy of a visitor from another world? Somebody here is not telling the truth.

The film is either a hoax and the witnesses are not telling the truth, or the incident happened and the government is covering it up.

Why would the government cover up such an incident? I can think of two rea-

sons. The government does not want to cause a panic in the general public. The military can further its technological advantage from the information gathered from such an event. Both of these items could fall under the category of national defense.

A lot of information has been released lately about activities the U.S. military was involved in during the Cold War. The most recent event was the release of a possible carcinogenic chemical agent in several U.S. cities to study the effects of biological warfare.

This event and many similar others have eroded our trust in government officials and the military. We may never know the complete truth.

I can best sum up the situation by paraphrasing what a special effects film producer said about the alien video: Either that's one great hoax or that's one dead alien.

DARRELL D. GLANTON
Benton

"UFOs in Cyberspace Class" to debut at March UFO Conference

Michael Lindemann of Santa Barbara, California and one of the featured speakers for the March Gulf Breeze UFO Conference will debut a new event, presented for the first time ever call "UFOs In Cyberspace".

Lindemann will teach class members to find on-line UFO and metaphysical information. There are now hundreds of new groups and web sites, IRC chats and other places in cyberspace where the newest and the latest information turns up everyday if one

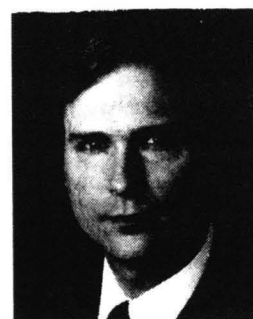
knows where to look.

Lindemann received his BA in Psychology at Antioch University, followed by two years of study at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley and is the author of *UFOs and the Alien Presence: Six Viewpoints*.

Lindemann founded the first on-line organization devoted entirely to UFOs and unusual life-forms in 1994. Having spent thousands of hours on-line, Lindemann is always up to the minute on the latest happenings in

the UFO field. The class is \$15 and lists two hours and is open to the public. Lindemann will also present a lecture on "UFO Current Events".

The public may attend one or more separate events or the whole weekend. For a complete free program guide, contact Project Awareness at (904) 432-8888 or write to PO Box 730, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562. You can also request by FAX at (904) 438-1801 or E-Mail at: UMBR73A@Prodigy.com.



Michael Lindemann

UFOs

Some people know more than they're telling us

Academics gather in Minnesota for annual extraterrestrial confab

By Geoff Olson
Contributing writer

IT WAS A CHILLY NIGHT in Minnesota—home to the Mary Tyler Moore sitcom and the rock star Prince (or the unpronounceable whastis he calls himself now).

There I was, sitting in a hotel room in St. Paul with Glen Campbell, watching *The X-Files*. Really.

This, however, was not the Glen Campbell who sings "Rhinestone Cowboy" for his supper. This was anti-secrecy activist Glen Campbell, whose investigations touch peripherally the topic of flying saucers.

The mainstream media offer a smorgasbord of choices on the question of UFO reports. There's the pop culture interpretation: they're the stuff of supermarket tabloids, about as reliable as Elvis sightings. Or the anthropological view: they're fantasies of otherworldly contact.

Then there's the most intriguing interpretation of all: a small percentage of the reports involve real craft not originating from Earth.

Academics from across North America gathered recently to present papers on the evidence for UFOs. It was the Science Museum of Minnesota's second annual conference, *The Science and Politics of UFO Research*. Moderated by Seattle science writer Terry Hansen, the event was a sober litany of anomalous radar reports, photographs and video footage from around the world.

Is there a government cover-up? Those in attendance were in consensus that the American intelligence community knows far more about UFOs than they're willing to admit. In particular, rumours of recovered alien technology in Roswell, N. M., in 1947 convinced many "ufologists" that the smoking gun—or guns—is now warehoused somewhere in the United States.

Campbell, however, is more concerned with what UFO rumours "say about us" than they do with purported craft and their pilots. His interest is more of the "human parade" that attends the acrimonious UFO controversy. Unlike the scientists in attendance, Campbell's in this mostly for the pop culture angle.

Campbell—known on the Internet as Psychosp— is a balding 36-year-old former software developer who makes his home in Las Vegas, 90 miles due south of a top-secret military test facility in the Nevada desert.

He's published the testimony of a man he identifies only as "Jarod 2"—a retired, 70-year-old mechanical engineer who claims to have worked at an unidentified facility from the 1950s into the '80s. According to Campbell, his source claims to have spent at least a decade working on a top-secret project involving flight simulators, which "Jarod" later learned were based on recovered alien technology. He told his story, says Campbell, only after checking with his old supervisor, who gave "Jarod" the go-ahead to relate some, but not all, aspects of his work.

Not only was alien technology recovered

The Groom Lake Desert Rat

An on-line newsletter.

Written, published, copyrighted and totally disavowed by Psychosp.
Direct from Las Vegas, the Center of Human Civilization.

Issue #31. October 30, 1995

"The Naked Truth from Open Source"

Area 51/Nellis Range/TTR/NTS/S-47

In this issue...

- Flying Saucer Crash-O-Rama
- Kingman Landing Site
- Kingman Points of Interest
- Socorro/Zamora Landing Site
- Presidential Exemption Granted
- KLAS Revealed
- Intel Bittles
- Our Readers Respond

Flying Saucer Crash-O-Rama

Introduction

Life on earth could not
of lead than find the right
reproduce. Proposing
channels and nuking up
laugh at those alleged sci-
the odds because we never h
this is real.

Psychosp is not afraid of the in-
what the heck, we'll give it a shot.

Known to locals as Dreamland, Area 51 and Groom Lake, the test area's existence is denied by the U.S. government, even though it's the size of Connecticut.

In 1992, Campbell sold his shares in the Boston-based software firm he worked for and headed west to investigate the strange rumours buzzing around the mysterious area, where U.S. Stealth technology is tested.

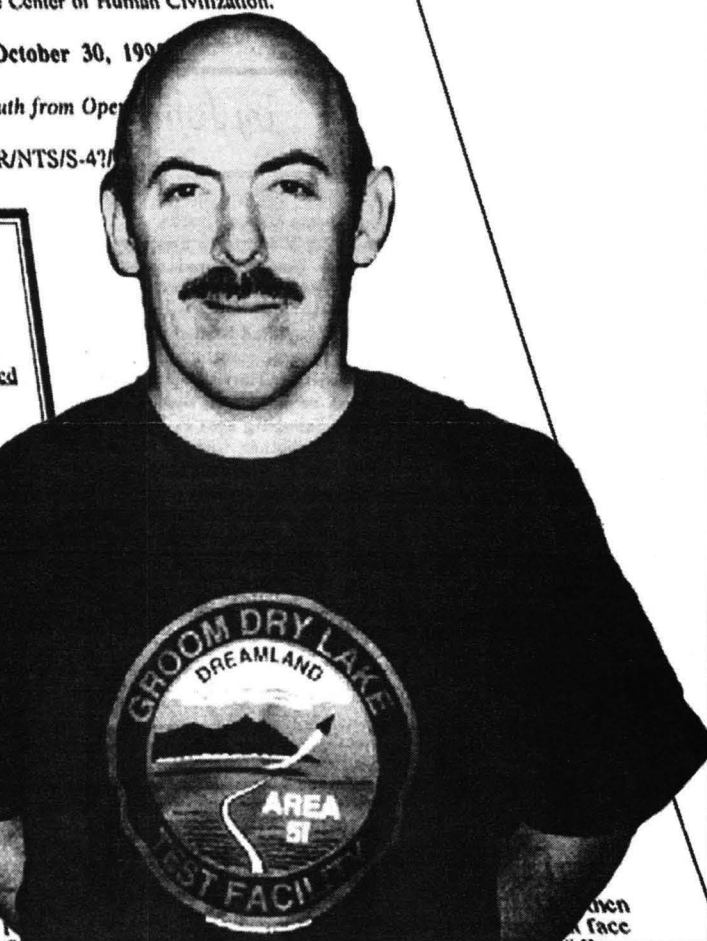
Campbell has been a civilian fly in the official ointment ever since, drawing public attention to quasi-illegal land grabs by the military. The result has been that both he and Area 51 have received coverage in everything from tabloid TV to the New York Times. (Those with access to the World Wide Web will find Campbell's adventures and misadventures with the base's security forces in the electronic pages of his newsletter, *The Groom Lake Desert Rat*. Point your browser to The Area 51 Research Center.)

Stories from the Nevada desert are legion, of craft performing impossible aeronautical manoeuvres and technology literally "out of this world." Campbell's heard it all, and is familiar with the more enthusiastic element that comes to the fringes of the not-so-secret base:

decades ago in New Mexico—in 1953, according to this tale—but alien bodies as well. Some, according to "Jarod," were alive.

"Do you believe his story?" I asked Campbell. "I don't know whether to believe it or not," he replied. "All I know is that it's a story from an old guy I'd trust with my life." Campbell adds that after interviewing "Jarod's" family members, he's satisfied the man is genuine.

It's not a story that satisfies all the protocols of who, what, when and where. Campbell won't identify "Jarod" yet, citing unwanted attention from the fringe element. Only one person has gone on record with a similar tale: the



"It would be just our luck that the aliens visiting earth are the drunk drivers of the universe, sent here to complete a 12-step program but taking the wheel again while still in denial." — Glen Campbell, alias Psychosp

those who see extraterrestrial landings in signal flares and landing jets.

Campbell—a sardonic observer of human folly, with a Pythonesque sense of humour—has long taken the UFO folklore about Area 51 with a grain of salt. So I found it surprising to find him entertaining "extreme possibilities"

when I met with him.

Sitting cross-legged on his hotel bed, with *The X-Files*' Scully and Mulder debating in the background, Campbell soberly told me, and a few others, a tale that would test the credulity of any reporter.

legendary Bob Lazar, who began the Area 51 craze. Lazar has pretty much gone underground, apparently tired of the fickle opinions of the UFO subculture.

On the face of it, the story sounds ridiculous. Campbell would be the first to agree, and simply shrugs and says his role is simply that of a "collector of stories." He remains agnostic about the tales of crashed saucers.

"If this civilization is so advanced," he writes in *The Desert Rat*, "why can't they keep their craft in the air? It would be just our luck that the aliens visiting earth are the drunk drivers of the universe, sent here to complete a 12-step

program but taking the wheel again while still in denial."

Another collector of stories is George Knapp, a burly, bearded investigative journalist and Las Vegas TV reporter. Knapp has said he's found greater fear in current and retired military personnel with UFO information than in any Nevada residents with information on organized crime.

I asked Knapp if anyone with a military background has told him anything similar to the "Jarod" tale. "About 12 people," he said,

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2 -
COURIER, Vancouver, B.C.,
Canada - Nov. 12, 1995)

adding that none is willing to go on record.

In his opening remarks to the conference, moderator Terry Hansen drew parallels between the reluctance of establishment science to deal with UFOs and similar diffidence throughout scientific history. He gave such examples as meteorites (rocks can't fall from the sky) and continental drift (countries stay put, for good).

Add to this an official program of UFO-debunking started in the '50s, Hansen stated, and you have the necessary conditions to create more than an academic chill. It's resulted in a scientific deep-freeze for the UFO topic, although there are recent signs of a thaw.

Michael Swords, a Western Michigan University professor, is chairman of the *Journal of UFO Studies*, the only peer-reviewed scientific journal in the field. UFO research isn't especially good for career advancement Swords said in his talk, and funds are hard, if not impossible, to come by.

Richard Haines, a PhD psychologist formerly with NASA, discussed the film evidence for UFOs, as did Bruce Maccabee, a U.S. Navy optical physicist.

The second part of the conference dealt with the claims of so-called alien abductions. Here there was less consensus.

David Jacobs is a Temple University associate professor of history who wrote his 1973 PhD thesis on the UFO controversy in the U.S. In recent years, he has hypnotically regressed "abductees" to disinter traumatic memories of capture by the "greys," spindly beings with large black eyes. Jacobs is adamant that these are "real events taking place in real time to real people, really," but others on the panel were more circumspect.

Don Donderi, a McGill University associate professor of psychology, spoke of the problem differentiating between the signal and the noise in stories of this kind, but asserted that some reports aren't reducible to dreams or fantasies. Richard Haines suggested that UFO entities may not be material beings in a typical sense. UFO researcher Ann Druffel expressed her opinion that abducting entities are more "dimensional" than "extraterrestrial" in nature.

According to the evidence presented at the conference, UFOs—that is, anomalous structured objects—have been caught on film, radar and video. Have they also been caught in more overt sense, as well?

UFO researchers, like Sisyphus, are engaged in an uphill battle, pushing a growing weight of evidence toward some definitive answer.

UFOs

Dear Sir:

Like most people growing up I was always very skeptical of the news stories of flying saucers, spaceships and especially aliens. In school I was always taught that adults who believed in their existence were crazy and had watched too many cartoons.

After studying Astronomy and the vast distances of the universe it was easy to dismiss the possibility of a spaceship traveling 400 million light years to reach the planet Earth.

In high school I even sent up fake UFO's made out of huge bags of plastic and lighted up with birthday candles. They lit up the sky in huge fireballs which made the front page of the local newspaper, but confirmed my belief that real UFOs did not exist.

My first encounter with a UFO happened in the Sinai Desert. I had been working on a kibbutz and was traveling around Israel with two other students. We were camping in the desert when a bright intense light moving among the stars caught my eye.

Suddenly it stopped and zoomed straight for us. Hovering 350 feet above us it was awe inspiring. Then flying a zig-zag pattern it went from horizon to horizon in 3 seconds. In the Air Force I was considered an expert on military aviation and I could identify anything flying, but I could not identify this. Nothing on the planet could fly that fast and maneuver in such an erratic way. It came back again and hovered and then it shot away and was last seen disappearing amongst the stars.

Shoshanna and Jerry who had been watching, being both Israeli students, warned me not to go to the authorities because as

Jerry said, "They will interrogate you for two weeks and write up endless reports on you".

So I stayed quiet. The memory however of your first UFO sighting will always be very incredible, because it reminds you that the universe is still largely unknown.

James Sterling Newsom

VALLEY COURIER, Alamosa, CO - Feb. 8, 1996



-Photo by Mark H. Hunter

James Armijo points to a mysterious object flying over Greenie Mountain he videotaped two weeks ago. His several minute video shows three white, disc shaped objects flying around the San Juan mountain tops just after sunset on Jan. 25.

Center man shoots UFO video

San Luis Valley getting 'Mysterious' reputation

By MARK H. HUNTER
Rio Grande County Editor

CENTER - James Armijo has been seeing unidentified flying objects in the San Luis Valley skies his whole life, but two weeks ago he caught three objects on videotape flying over the San Juan mountains.

The silvery, disk shaped objects were moving up and down and sideways just above the horizon of Greenie Mountain a few minutes after sunset on Jan. 25. "These things were moving all over the sky," he said.

Armijo was out at his cousin's house near Highway 17 north of Alamosa when he videotaped the flying craft. "I saw one right over Greenie. It was sitting right on top of the mountain. When I zoomed in on it I couldn't find it but I saw another one."

On Wednesday morning he showed his videotape to this reporter and Crestone 'paranormal investigator' Christopher O'Brien. O'Brien is nearly finished writing a book, "The Mysterious Valley," and intermittently publishes "The Mysterious Valley Report" newsletter.

The objects can be clearly seen on the television screen. After the first object disappeared and he focused on the second one, a third appears from the right side of the television screen and slowly moves across it.

When he focused in on it a clear "saucer" shape could be seen. It even looks like the object was rotating.

O'Brien will send Armijo's tape to the

"I'd be the last person to say these are space ships from Mars."

**-Christopher O'Brien
'Paranormal Investigator'**

Fox television show "Sightings" for professional examination. Last October, "Sightings" featured the August videotape of a large object over Salida, more recent sightings in the San Luis Valley as well as the January 1994 Greenie Mountain "mystery fire" incident.

Armijo said he has shown the tape to friends and family members in the last two weeks.

"They were all amazed," he said. "There's gotta be an answer to what's going on."

O'Brien was not amazed because he's seen many similar videotapes and has even recorded some strange flying objects himself. He is part of a network of Valley residents who nightly scan the skies for UFO's or other paranormal activity.

"This is consistent with many reports we've been getting lately. This is very credible footage," O'Brien said.

"The objects in this footage are very similar to objects seen around Gulf Breeze (Florida, another UFO hot spot). There is a transparent

quality to these objects. It's almost like they were holographic projections that we've heard the Air Force has been testing. They may be throwing holograms to see if somebody catches on," O'Brien said.

"I'd be the last person to say these are space ships from Mars. Most sightings people see in the Valley are military," O'Brien said. He cited a secret military operation called Project Shining Mountain where three military craft fly over an area in formation and shine strobe lights on each other to make it look like a huge UFO is flying over.

Whether these three objects are military or not, Armijo believes what he sees. Growing up in Center, he said, "I've seen strange objects eight or nine times."

"A lot of people say I'm nuts, or I'm seeing things. They are not sunspots, they move. You can see it spinning," he said as he crouched down in front of his television set and pointed to it. "I know there's something here."

Armijo said he saw another strange sight last week near Alamosa but didn't have his camcorder with him.

"It looked sorta like a boomerang. It was near the big blue water tower in Alamosa. It was just sitting there. It didn't move. Then it disappeared."

O'Brien encouraged Armijo to immediately write down his sightings and call him (719-256-4128) so others can be alerted to watch for objects. Often, O'Brien said, objects can be tracked across the Valley skies by his network of observers.

RECORDER, Porterville, CA - Jan. 26, 1996

HERALD, Boston, MA - Feb. 29, 1996

UFO talk puts 'RKO in black hole

The station's engineers have no explanation. But WRKO-AM must have had some kind of Close Encounter of the Third Kind yesterday because during Marjorie Clapprood and Pat Whitley's discussion about alien abductions, the signal went dead for a full eight minutes!

It happened about 9:45 a.m. during the Clapprood & Whitley show as Marjorie was interviewing Denise Dianni, the PBS producer who debunked Harvard prof John Mack's UFO encounters in this week's "Nova."

"I just got finished challenging her assertion that alien abductions aren't real," Clap-

INSIDE TRACK

GAYLE FEE / LAURA RAPOSA

prood told the Track. "And suddenly there was this loud crack, the entire board went dead and I said, 'We just got blown off the air!'"

While producers and engineers went into warp speed trying to reboot the crashed system, the station's phones began ringing off the hook with worried listeners who feared Pat and Marjorie had been abducted!

Eight minutes after the sudden outage, the signal inexplicably returned.

"It was the weirdest thing," Clapprood said. "Perhaps they were searching for signs of intelligent life in the universe and didn't find it."

Intelligence on talk radio? Now there's an alien concept!

CR: J. Trainor

LOOKING TO THE SKY

for answers

By ROBIN DENARO
Correspondent

Those of us who believe in God wonder from time to time about his or her identity.

"With all due respect, I think the answer is way bigger than conventional religion provides," says Anastasia Wietrzychowska, 45, of Trumbull.

Wietrzychowska, pronounced V-etra-kofsky, is state director and a senior field investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, a national organization for the scientific investigation of unidentified flying objects. There are about 200 members in the state.

How did a girl from Kansas City, Mo., raised as a fundamentalist, get to be an UFO investigator? By taking the long road of self-discovery.

By the age of 17, Wietrzychowska had married. By 20, she had two daughters and was leading the predictable, conservative existence expected of her when two events dramatically changed her life — and altered her perception of life on this planet.

Wietrzychowska was attending an outdoor performance of "South Pacific" when a UFO buzzed the Starlight Theatre in Kansas City on a clear summer night.

"Six-hundred people looked up — including me," she recalls. "The show stopped. Everyone went, 'Aah!' Of course, it was in the newspapers the next day."

Four years later, her grandmother died. A few days after her grandmother's death, Wietrzychowska had an extraordinary experience.

"It was as if she was in the room, talking to me as if you're talking to me," she muses. "Grouching and carrying on about her things. And, the odd thing was that I just responded to her normally."

"I had no place for this in my frame of reference," Wietrzychowska says. "Fundamentalist Christianity does not have a place for it. Yet it was so real . . . From then on, I began really researching the nature of reality even deeper."

And searching for the truth.

Nobody knows the answers. And a problem, according to Wietrzychowska, is that people have stopped looking for them.

"You can't just take the superficial stories like 'people from another planet' at face value — that's the hangover from the '50s," she says. She says that to understand ufology, the study of UFOs, you've got to start at the beginning of history and not be afraid of what you find out.



Connecticut Post/Phil Noel

she says. "I will not be duped again."

Wietrzychowska's mother once told her that it's easier for people to "go to a level of comfort and stop thinking." Wietrzychowska takes pride in the fact that she's a thinker. "There is so much more to reality than most of us know," she muses.

The study of reality is called metaphysics. A speculative branch of philosophy, it seeks to explain the origin and structure of the universe.

Wietrzychowska says it is metaphysics that provides the common thread among her many occupations — singer, actress, hypnotherapist and UFO investigator. She and her husband, Stan, 49, a composer and conductor, own and operate Quick Score Music in Trumbull, which specializes in musical theater education, voice and piano lessons and demo recordings.

They also perform with the Starlight Orchestra, a big band. She has a one-woman vocal show called "Intuition" that she performs on request and is a hypnotherapist certified by the International Association of Counselors and Therapists.

"It's that I approach each discipline on a metaphysical level," she says.

"We can't live like some primitive people, as if something is the devil if it isn't what we've always known. It's not. Grow up!"

Anastasia Wietrzychowska of Trumbull is state director of the Mutual UFO Network.

Her curiosity piqued, Wietrzychowska marched herself over to the library to find out more.

"It's my M-O, it always has been," she admits. "I took out the Air Force 'Blue Book' on UFOs and eight other books. And I began to see a correlation between shining things from the sky and ancient people saying, 'The Gods came in fiery chariots.'"

By reading, Wietrzychowska educated herself "out of fundamentalism."

"I educated myself out of the church group," she says. "And they were very upset by that. But a mind, once it's expanded, can't contract. You can't say, 'That's all just the devil,' and 'Now I won't think scientific thoughts.'"

Like another woman who bit the fruit of knowledge, Wietrzychowska found herself expelled from paradise. "I paid a very dear price for knowledge and I will not stop now,"

for MUFON, since she joined in 1988.

"One I always remember is the case of a woman awakened in the night, around 2 a.m.,"

Wietrzychowska recalls. "She looked out the window and there was a UFO hovering about house level over by the fence."

Oddly enough, the woman closed the shades and went back to bed.

"People do the weirdest things,"

Wietrzychowska says. "She slept — at least that's all she remembers doing. Now, what she really did, we don't know."

The next morning, the woman called MUFON, which is listed in the Bridgeport phone book's yellow pages — you guessed it — under UFOs.

"There was a huge ring of black foam in her yard," Wietrzychowska recalls.

"Samples of the foam were taken and analyzed. And they don't know what it is — but it has a high calcium content."

In the 1980s, Wietrzychowska interviewed 16 security guards at the Indian Point Power plant in Westchester County, New York.

"A UFO had come over the power plant and hovered there for 25 minutes," she says. "It was so big, it didn't even fit on the monitors. But they were all out there with their guns and their rifles and looking at it like they were going to do something about it. Then it zoomed off. This is a very interesting field."

Ah well, another unsolved mystery in MUFON's growing files. Like the discovery of metal "implants" in people.

"Implants were removed from a man and woman in California who claimed they'd been abducted," Wietrzychowska says.

In a news article, the attending physician reported that the patients who carried the implants felt inexplicably "liberated" when the objects were removed, one from the woman's big toe and another from the man's hand.

Pathology on surrounding tissue showed "no indication of a foreign body, no concentration of white cells and no evidence of inflammation."

Odd.

Stranger still, neither man nor woman bore any scars or punctures near the implants, which were the approximate size of a thumbnail.

In both cases, the implants were discovered when the patients were X-rayed for minor, unrelated injuries.

According to the attending physician, who claimed to be "as doubting as anyone else," he'd never seen anything like the objects he fished out of the man and woman.

Like cysts, they were encased in a membrane. Unlike cysts, the thick, dark membrane was so tough, it could not be cut with a scalpel.

The objects were sent to labs in Houston for testing, dried out and cut open to reveal highly magnetic pieces of a shiny black metal.

Under ultraviolet light, the metal glowed a brilliant green, the same as fingerprints on the thighs and backs of people who've claimed to have been abducted, according to Wietrzychowska.

"Other objects have been pulled out of people, but many have disappeared before they could be examined," she says.

"The big picture may be bigger than we think — I KNOW it's so different from what I was taught to believe that I can't begin to figure out how different it is. And somehow, we've got to mature as a species to pass the place that 'only what I can see is real.'"

What should you do if you see a UFO?

"Stay away from it — it could be dangerous," says Wietrzychowska.

If you've seen something and would like to report it, call MUFON at (203) 261-3106. The line is open 24 hours a day.

— ROBIN DENARO

How do you find UFOs?

What does it take to become an UFO field investigator?

Mostly reading. Also, you'll need gas money and a phone. Much of the time, your fingers will do the walking. Unless there's physical evidence at a sight, you'll interview most people sight unseen.

"The criterion to be an UFO field investigator is that you need to be very well rounded and well spoken — there's a whole reading list and tests," says Anastasia Wietrzychowska, state director of the Mutual UFO Network.

Wietrzychowska, a senior field investigator, also serves as a trainer.

While no cases are actively under investigation, there are nine investigators in Connecticut ready to go at a moment's notice.

Southbury, Groton and Trumbull, up the Route 25 connector, are several hotspots for activity.

"Really any site where there's water, a power source or an electromagnetic field — like power lines or a railroad depot," Wietrzychowska says.

Sound exciting? Before you jump in, you should know this isn't a paying job. Still, Wietrzychowska wouldn't give it up. She's been involved in the investigation of some 15 "sightings"

Alien creature guides AJ writer

She tells of trip to secret cavern

By Edythe Jensen
Staff writer

Apache Junction

Kaye Kizzair kept her encounter with a "light being" secret for more than five years. She was afraid people would think she was crazy.

The retired Motorola electronics technician said a visitor from another galaxy — V.G. for short — took her to a secret cavern beneath Fish Creek for about four hours in 1987.

In 1993, she wrote a "fiction" paperback about her real-life experience, paid to have it published and promoted it at local bookstores.

When readers started calling her with tales of their own experiences with extraterrestrials and how similar they were to the ones in the book, Kizzair let her secret out.

"My husband and I were living in Tempe, and it was about 11 at night," she said. "I had just gone to bed, and my husband was sleeping. A beam of light came into the bedroom, and this being stepped out. He put his hand out and took me to these magnificent



Michael Meister / Staff photographer

Apache Junction author Kaye Kizzair says an extraterrestrial took her to caverns beneath the Superstition Mountains.

caverns beneath Fish Creek."

Kizzair said she returned to the bedroom at 3 a.m. Her husband never awoke.

She titled her first book "Eyes of the Superstitions" and sold it as a fictional account about mysterious lights and

disappearing people. She wove her 1987 experiences with the light being into the tale.

"Readers would call me and tell me they experienced the same thing," Kizzair said.

Her second book, published this

year, is called "Beneath the Superstitions." A third book is in the works.

Kizzair said she is no longer afraid of ridicule, and she publicized the second book as an account "based on

fact" of things hidden beneath the mountains.

V.G. helps her write and takes her — telepathically — through the Superstition Mountains, which are close to where she and her husband live in a mobile home park west of Apache Junction.

Multiple sclerosis diagnosed in 1991 prevents her from ever walking in the mountains.

"The mountains are magical; there will be more sightings in them in the future," she said.

Jan Ross, owner of Jan Ross New Age Books and Gifts in Phoenix, said the detail Kizzair has in her books about the mountains make them good sellers.

Jason Meyer, assistant manager of Bookstar in Mesa's Fiesta Mall, said there is a lot of interest in UFO books — including Kizzair's — in Arizona.

"We're told there are more UFO sightings in Arizona than any other state," he said.

The author said she has received calls from readers whose experiences haven't been as positive as hers.

"One woman who was abducted had implants, and x-rays to prove it," she said, adding, "I don't call myself an abductee like many of them. I consider myself a contactee."

A fan of television shows such as *Star Trek* and *The X-Files*, Kizzair said she almost fell off the sofa one day during a *Star Trek* episode called "Transfiguration," when a character identical to her light being appeared.

"That's him," she said, pointing to the videotaped image on the *Star Trek* episode.

Convinced that every earthling has some contact with extraterrestrials, Kizzair said she's not bothered by non-believers. "If they don't believe me, that's fine," she said. "They'll have an experience someday."

BULLETIN, Latrobe, PA - Feb. 1, 1996 CR: S. Gordon

Many UFOs Spotted In Area Last Year, Researcher Finds

By STAN GORDON

The UFO Hotline number for UFO researcher Stan Gordon of Greensburg received many calls during 1995 concerning alleged sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects and other types of unusual occurrences reported from across Pennsylvania.

Gordon, who headed several UFO investigation groups during his 36 years of involvement studying various phenomena, continues to be active as an independent researcher as time permits.

During 1995, Gordon received reports of unusual events from 18 counties across Pennsylvania, as well as reports from bordering states. Most of the incidents reported concerned strange observations in the sky. Besides UFO sightings, other reports included unexplained booms, unusual sounds, para-normal incidents, unusual markings in a field and rumors of Bigfoot sightings.

As in past years, many UFO sightings were found to have a logical explanation. Many of the UFO observations reported during 1995 can be explained as misidentification of bright planets and stars, lights on aircraft, a laser light show, search light beams, and meteors. In the early morning hours of Aug. 25, many people from various sections of Pennsylvania as well as other states observed a fireball, which is an unusually bright meteor, pass through the sky. Some observers claimed that the object illuminated their homes.

During the year, some significant UFO incidents were reported which remain unexplained at this time. Much of this activity occurred from July through October. People

who wish to contact Stan Gordon about their recent or past encounters may write to him at 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, PA 15601. You can report sightings on his 24 hour UFO Hotline (phone/FAX) 838-7768.

Some of the 1995 UFO Highlight events include:

Feb. 13 (Beaver Run Dam): A pilot observed a strange pattern of lights while sitting in his home. He went outside for a better look, and observed two huge solid triangular objects passing silently across the sky. The colors and lighting pattern of the objects were unlike that of conventional aircraft. Other sightings of strange objects were reported that same night within a short time.

March 2 (Allegheny, Westmoreland, Butler and Cambria counties): For over two hours during the evening, a strange light phenomena was reported in about a 100 mile wide area of western Pennsylvania. The strange observation consisted of numerous beams of light that made a complete circle of 360 degrees around the horizon. The local news media received many calls about the strange beams from the sky. Even local meteorologists were unable to find an explanation for the event.

Sept. 1 (Penn): A man traveling through the area at 3:30 a.m. noticed a bright yellow-gold light that appeared stationary and looked as though it was sitting on the railroad tracks. Being curious, as he had never seen anything like this before, he pulled his car over, and he walked to a distance of about 30 feet from the light. He was able to see that the light was emanating from a

strange object which was about 20 feet high, and about as wide as the railroad tracks. The object can be best described as shaped like a W with an extra extension. The man had recently returned from a vacation, and remembered that he had a Polaroid camera in the car. He went back and obtained the camera, then returned near the object taking one picture before departing the scene. The picture clearly details what was described. A computer enhancement of the picture has revealed some details that were not apparent. Other UFO sightings had been reported over the last several months in the Jeannette, Irwin and Harrison City areas.

Oct. 12 (Centre County): At 8:15 p.m., a woman and her son heard an intense roaring sound and felt a vibration that was so strong that the entire house shook. They went outside to see what was creating this disturbance, and were amazed to see a huge solid object passing slowly only about 100 feet overhead. The object was described as being roughly a rounded-triangular shape. The object had a grayish-silver appearance, and had eight lights of various colors on its surface. The object was estimated in size as being 200 feet in width by 100 feet long. The object was observed for about five minutes since it was moving very slowly in a straight line. Even after the object was out of sight, the loud vibrating sound could still be heard. Unusual electrical and animal disturbances were noticed during the observation. During the evening other similar reports were received from that section of the state.

POST, New York, NY - Feb. 26, 1996 CR: M. Luckman

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By RICHARD JOHNSON
with Jeane MacIntosh
and Sean Gannon

Phone home

LAURANCE Rockefeller is about to start lobbying political honchos even harder in his dogged search for extraterrestrial life. The 85-year-old philanthropist, nephew of Nelson, recently commissioned a report on UFOs called, "Unidentified Flying Objects: The Best Available Evidence." To be released today, copies of the 150-page analysis will be given to 1,000 world leaders including **Henry Kissinger, Colin Powell, Jacques Chirac and Walter Annenberg** in an effort to press the U.S. government to release secret files on UFOs. **Michael Luckman**, director of the New York Center for UFO Research, says that Rockefeller — who's already donated more than \$700,000 to a UFO foundation — also wants former government intelligence officers released from their security oaths so they can talk about the supposed evidence.



BOB ALDRICH

CROP CIRCLES, the fascinating and at least partly unexplained phenomena that have been seen in fields in England, Sweden, Ireland and Australia, and less in the United States, were the subject of a slide

WEEKLY TIMES, Los Gatos, CA
Jan. 31, 1996

show and video when members of OPUS (Organization for Paranormal Understanding and Support) met Jan. 22 at the Los Gatos History Club. A networking group for those interested in such matters as close encounters with UFOs, OPUS leaders say they don't conduct research or issue opinions on specific cases. These subjects must interest a good many people because the meeting here was packed. OPUS can be reached at P.O. Box 273273, Concord, 94527, or by email, opus@awaiter.com.

THIS WEEK IN UFO HISTORY

The following are reports of sightings from around the country and around the world that took place during the week of February 4-10th.

PENSACOLA FL, 4 FEBRUARY, 1976, 7:15 P.M. - Two UFOs were spotted by a Pensacola woman while she was driving about five miles east of Escambia Bay on I-10. She noticed unusual flashing lights hovering about five hundred feet above the Interstate. The witness said the flashing lights were green and red and whitish-green and that sparks flew out of one. She stopped her car to watch the UFOs and could detect no sound. Eventually, the lights moved to the east and disappeared. (Pensacola News Journal, 5 February 1976).

LONG ISLAND, NY - 4 FEBRU-

ARY 1990, 11:15 P.M. - While driving south on Rt. 111 at about 11:15 p.m. a young woman reported seeing a UFO. She described it as being a large brightly lit oval object as wide as the four lane road she was traveling on. She initially saw the object in front of her at tree top level. The UFO paced her car and she said that she could feel heat through the windshield of her car, coming from the craft. There was no noise from the craft and after driving several miles, the UFO suddenly rose and headed off to the southeast. A similar report was also filed from a witness in nearby Quogue at about the same time. (Long Island UFO Network, Inc.).

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA - 5 FEBRUARY 1978 - Four independent eye-witnesses reported seeing a UFO on the night of

February 5th. All of the witnesses described the object exactly. It was spherical shaped object which was reddish-orange in color. It appeared to leave a vapor trail that disappeared after a few minutes. Witnesses said the object moved slowly, was totally silent and was visible for about forty-five seconds. Some witnesses reported that their dogs were barking and acting extremely nervous during the sightings. (Daily Pilot, Costa Mesa, CA - 9 February 1978).

If you have any newspaper/magazine articles of UFO sightings from the past and would like them to appear in this column, please send them to: Carole Baker, P.O. Box 17152, Pensacola, FL 32522-7152. Thank you!



By Carole Baker

On Wednesday night, January 31st, 1996 at approximately 7:45 p.m. local residents Jan Greco, her friend, her thirteen year-old daughter and her friend (also thirteen) and her six year-old were driving east on Hwy. 98 near Naval Live Oaks.

"I just looked up to the north and saw what I thought was a plane over the trees," Jan told me. "When I really looked at it through, there was no way it was a plane." Her friend and the children also agreed that this was not a plane of the kind any of them had seen before. "It was triangular shaped, kind of elongated and the whole bottom of it was covered in small whitish-yellow lights," Jan said. "At arm's length it was about 4" across when we first saw it, then it came over the highway and appeared closer to us. It looked to be about 6" across at that point." The UFO continued over the road in front of Jan and her friend and the children and passed over the trees to their right. "Once it got over the trees in Naval Live Oaks, it just stopped. Then it either tilted to one side or some of the lights went out, then it just disappeared."

Jan, originally from New Orleans, LA was very interested in what she saw. "Five or six cars passed us while we were observing the object, and I want to know if anyone else saw it," she told me. Jan also described there being two red pulsating lights on the bottom of the craft "not strobing like a plane, but pulsating slowly on and off. You could see dark metal behind the lights, it was not reflective or shiny or anything, just like dark metal."

None of the witnesses had ever seen anything before, although Jan's husband who was in New Orleans at the time, does have an interest in ufology. "We called my husband in New Orleans when we got to the house," Jan said "and he was really upset not to have been with us - he wanted to see it too. Even my six year old described it to her Daddy exactly as I have to you."

Jan described the object as being between two hundred and one thousand feet up. "It seemed to come down lower as it came across the road in front of us, then over the trees to our right before it stopped," Jan told me.

"I slowed right down, almost drove off the road! We turned the radio off and wound the window down as it came in front of us, well almost over us really, and there was no sound at all." I asked Jan if she thought she would have heard the engine noise from a conventional plane on the same path and she said "absolutely, it would have been very loud being so low and close."

Jan said that she felt that there were about one hundred small lights covering the bottom of the object, and added that her thirteen year-old felt that there were more than that.

If anyone else saw this object, please call the hotline so we can let Jan know. The hotline number is 438-3261 and can also be faxed now. Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON would like to extend its thanks to Jan for calling in her sighting and asks that anyone who sees anything unusual would call it in.

For information on the upcoming Fourth Annual 1996 Gulf Breeze UFO Conference to be held at the Clarion Resort, please call Project Awareness at (904)

Presbyterian minister and PhD to speak at UFO Conference

By Vicki Lyons

Barry Downing, PhD, pastor of Northwestern Presbyterian Church, Endwell, N.Y. will be a featured speaker at the March 15-17th 4th Annual Gulf Breeze UFO Conference on Pensacola Beach.

Dr. Downing earned a BA degree in Physics from Hartwick College; a BD degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a PhD from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, where he specialized in the relation between natural science and theology.

The author of the popular book, "The Bible and Flying Saucers," he has been a MUFON consultant

in theology for sixteen years. He is on the editorial staff of the MUFON Journal, a member of the National Board of Directors for the Fund for UFO Research, and is listed in the Second Edition of Who's Who in Religion.

Dr. Downing will discuss his belief based on many years of research, that not only are UFOs real, but they have been around for centuries and played a large role in the biblical religions.

The conference will feature top speakers from all over the country presenting lectures and classes. These events plus exhibits and skywatches are all open to the public. For a complete brochure



Dr. Barry Downing

outlining the weekend, contact Project Awareness at (904) 432-888 or write to P.O. Box 73409, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562.

Winter UFO mystery

As an investigator/researcher (97 abduction cases) you encounter some really strange situations. The Anderson, Ind. case I just finished MUFON is one. The 26-year-old man has been abducted so much he remains in a debilitated state and fears for his health. Those who appear as if by magic induce nearly total mind control so he remembers little of all that has happened to him.

Strangely, his captors are human-looking with two entities adolescent-appearing, long blonde haired, and wearing tee shirts and jeans. Stranger still, the two had approached him several years earlier in a wide awake daylight setting as he worked in a supermarket. They spoke to him in a Sanskrit-like language. Totally puzzled, he thought they must be retarded people. Later Sanskrit (an ancient India language) would be a form of communication once the abductions began in earnest. In a UFO incident he remembers looking up at the bottom of a giant UFO with a group of neighbors. Inside the craft later everyone sat waiting on benches like rigid zombies.

An important aspect of this case is the fact that this man is one of a low percentage of abductees who affect electromagnetic systems. He once had a small battery blow up with part of it sticking on the ceiling after he handled it. It is his constant shutting off of street lights that should confound the disbelievers out there. When he drives or walks by the light goes out. So the crux of the mystery is what is he transmitting and why? He believes cerebral implants inserted into his head are emitting energy. Sinus troubles started with the advent of the visitations and he has awakened with blood in his hair. However, an MRI and other tests revealed nothing. He insists he feels a variable high frequency coming out the top of his head. In checking him, my radiation detector picked up nothing. Nor did a gauss meter or compass show any magnetic deviation. Ionization rays such as Beta, Gamma, or X-rays would be fatal to the host anyway, wouldn't they?

I talked to a supervisor at the local PSI power and light company and learned about the device controlling the dusk to dawn lights. In a solid state cell on top of each light is a silicone disk in sodium gas. Light hitting the disk creates heat and the circuit is made. Energy emanating from the abductee must be affecting the chip or ionizing the gas.

In my Sandra/Georgia case she turns the lights on or off from a good 50 to 100-feet away. With the Alice/Maryland case street lights, turnpike signs and outside store lights go dark, TVs malfunction, computers lose power and radios hiss and crackle.

Meanwhile I continue to help some of the many, many thousands of bewildered souls out there. Alien mind control is so awesome and skilled that many do not realize what has happened to them. In the Albert/Kansas case he knows only too well for they have followed this new English resident to our country. And as often happens, the ethereal ones have also chosen his wife and son. This, too, is insidious.

In 1994 I told you that the Nordic type aliens had told my abductees, Penny Smith/Canada and Percy/New Mexico, that a great quake would devastate California in 1995. This event never occurred. So we now know that this group of aliens are deceivers. Actually, I'm convinced that all aliens should be judged only by their actions and not by what they show you or tell you.

DON WORLEY
1051 Beech St.
Connersville, IN 47331
USA

GAZETTE JOURNAL, Reno, NV - Feb. 16, 1996

Reno residents observe strange object in the sky

A glowing flying object was seen over the downtown Reno area Thursday, several residents told police.

Some said the object was black and glowed as if it had a halo around it or was flying inside of a bubble. At least four people stood for about an hour gazing into the sky near the Gold Dust Casino.

Control tower workers at Reno/Tahoe International Airport said radar showed no unexplained objects during the period of the reports, 5:30-6:30 p.m., police said.

Charles Gilliam of Reno said he saw the object looking south from Second and Keystone. It appeared to be about 1,500 feet above the ho-

rizon before it moved upward and traveled west.

"It hovered in the same spot for about a half-hour and then it juttied up and down and across the sky," he said.

First Interstate Bank released balloons in the area just before the first person called in the strange object to police. But Jason Ruiz, of Reno, said what he saw was not balloons.

"It was black and it looked like it had like a force field around it," he said. "We didn't see any planes for a half-hour and it wasn't a helicopter."

Staff reports

If Roswell wasn't on the map before ... it is now!

Jason Bunch

Record Staff Writer

The desert hides many secrets buried deep in the earth, but no matter how far down some may attempt to bury the one that crashed outside of Roswell in 1947, it continues to resurface, begging for answers to settle the question — are we being visited by UFOs?

As 1995 comes to a close, we are no closer to an answer than we were in 1947, when government troops scrambled to cover up the alleged saucer crash that put Roswell on the map. And yet, the year did see an explosion of documentaries and theories that refused to let the issue die.

The now infamous "Alien Autopsy: Fact or Fiction," on Fox Television was aired as often as Agent Mulder referred to the Roswell incident on the "X-Files."

In spite of all the hype though, the film was regarded by many to be a fake.

"Most everyone I know believes it's a hoax," Hugh Barker of the UFO Museum said. "In the first place, the real greys (aliens) who crashed, they have no genitalia, no sex organs ... they are not a young woman, in other words."

In the film, the subject is shown to have what appears to be female genitals. Barker said there are other discrepancies such as the number of fingers on the being, which were originally reported to be four, but appear in the film as six.

Barker said if it was indeed a hoax, it was a cruel hoax at

that.

"It may be a young woman who died of Turner's syndrome, which is a genetic disease, and somebody is exploiting it," Barker said.

The fact that the film may well be a fraud will only further cloud the search for truth over the matter, said Barker, by disinformation.

"Anything that comes along where they can tear it apart and throw a lot of junk on it, it ends up taking the whole thing with it," Barker said.

Another piece of the puzzle that is muddying the waters was the Air Force release "The Roswell Report: Fact vs. Fiction in the New Mexico Desert." The monstrous volume, which some feel will make a better door stop than an accurate account of what actually occurred in 1947, offers up various documents detailing the Air Force's official version of the crash, which they say was a weather balloon. The explanation given in the book is no different from past attempts by the government to dispel the opinion that what went down in the desert was not of this world, and it is a tale that seems to be wearing thin.

"That whole thing just made them look more foolish," Barker said. "It's the same old explanation and it is no more plausible now than it was in 1947."

Barker pointed out that there has been too much revealed by what happened, as far as materials and eyewitnesses, to return to the belief that what crashed was a balloon. And



Mike Pettit photo

Walter Haut, president of the International UFO Museum and Research Center, examines the charred "body" of a space alien on display at the museum. The body was a prop used in the film "Roswell" and was later donated to the museum. A mannequin dressed as a doctor is in the background.

The Real UFO Story

Your paper did a disservice to its readers by not informing them of critical known facts about the notorious "Roswell Incident," the alleged crash of a UFO near Roswell, N.M., in early July 1947, and the supposed recovery of the alien bodies that were aboard [news story, Feb. 18]. The reporter adopts an attitude of wonderment about the whole incident, and spends most of the article describing the UFO hucksterism that is now a significant part of Roswell's economy. The real story is much more interesting and important to a history of the nuclear era and the Cold War.

Sue Anne Pressley makes a passing reference to the fact that the "flying saucer" may have been "a listening device for spying on the Soviets, as the federal government announced only last year." Unfortunately, that is the last we hear of what is clearly the explanation of the incident. In an effort to put to rest the widespread beliefs of many ufologists about a Pentagon coverup, Secretary of the Air Force Sheila E. Widnall ordered a search of source documents and interviews with participants connected with Project Mogul. The report, and a compilation of documents were released on Sept. 18, 1994, and are now for sale from the Government Printing Office in a 2½-inch thick book: "The Roswell Report: Fact or Fiction in the New Mexico Desert."

Project Mogul was a top-secret U.S. Army Air Forces (AAF) effort to try to detect the first Soviet atomic bomb through monitoring sound transmissions in the upper atmosphere. To detect the sounds, special high-altitude balloons were used. Numerous tests were conducted in New Mexico in 1946 and 1947. One balloon, launched from the White Sands Proving Ground—about 100 miles due west of Roswell—on June 4, 1947, was not recovered. It is probable that it is the crash debris that was found in early July.

It is not surprising that at a time of super secrecy about the atomic bomb—especially anything to do with monitoring



BY JAKE SCHOELLKOPF FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Soviet nuclear developments—the AAF concocted a cover story, claiming it was a "weather balloon." Though the principle on which the project was based was sound, questions of cost, security and practicality led to Mogul's cancellation, and it was never put into operational use. Another part of the U.S. nuclear detection program, namely, air-sampling aircraft, detected radioactivity from the first Soviet atomic bomb explosion of Aug. 29, 1949.

The Air Force has had a long-standing interest in UFOs, but not exactly as one might think. As the records of the day show, in the early years of the Cold War, an Unidentified Flying Object did not mean

alien spaceships but secret Soviet aircraft that might overfly U.S. airspace. The focus for the Air Force was not on visitors from Galaxy X but on potential attacks from the Soviet Union.

At a time of deep suspicion about our federal government I suppose that a forthright report that argues the most logical explanation will not convince the "true believers." Apparently nothing will, as they choose to see it as further evidence of conspiracy and coverup.

—Robert S. Norris

The writer is a senior analyst for the Natural Resources Defense Council.

indeed, the photographs offered by the government of the crash object in the book do little to substantiate its claim leaving the question of what really happened still unanswered.

Also looking for clues to the Roswell incident this year was the international community. Film crews from France, Italy and Japan showed up on Roswell's doorstep to produce documentaries over the crash, and during President Clinton's visit to Ireland a boy there asked him about what happened here so many years ago.

"People all over the world are interested," Barker said. "They are all open to this, unlike here where there is a sort of stigma over the subject."

Along with investigations by foreign media, the Roswell Incident was covered in numerous "Sightings" and "Encounters" television episodes, and was the subject of a two-hour documentary titled "Down in Roswell." The film, which is narrated by Paul Davids, executive producer of the Showtime movie "Roswell," features various news stories over the crash and a lecture given by Davids over what he discovered during the making of the film "Roswell."

The year also saw the city's first annual UFO Encounter. Starting on June 30 and lasting until July 2, the festival highlighted panel discussions, individual lectures, tours of the crash site, arts and crafts booths, and even a parade.

The event was expected to be attended by 20,000 people, but actually only drew 9,000. Organizers said that this year's festival was a learning experience, one which will help them plan better for the next UFO Encounter.

In 1997, Roswell will see the 50th anniversary of the UFO crash and the events to commemorate it at the UFO Encounter are being planned already. Organizers plan to do better next year, and say that the 50th anniversary will "knock your socks off."

Despite all the recent media coverage, 1995 failed to deliver a solution as to what really happened in the desert outside of Roswell 48-years ago.

For the future though, researchers at the UFO museum will continue their quest for answers, one that is currently taking them to the Capitan Mountains, where they believe the real crash site might lie.

"We are looking at the possibility that the crash site, as it is known, is not really the crash site," Barker said. "We think instead that it is west of the Corn Ranch site in the Capitan Mountains."

Barker said due to the amount of controversy and disinformation surrounding the issue now, it will take a lot to uncover the truth behind alien encounters and even more to convince people of their existence.

"I think it's come to a point where you would have to have one of them sit down on the White House lawn, get out and stroll around," Barker said. "Then maybe finally people will believe."



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / WENDY MAEDA

Betty Hill wants 'to get some common sense back into the field of UFOs.'

'UFOs have been flying around here for years'

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. - Betty Hill has said all along that she knows about UFOs. In 1961, she and her husband, Barney, told authorities they had been abducted by extraterrestrials in New Hampshire's White Mountains. Theirs was one of the first "alien abduction" reports, and it caused a media furor worldwide. The Hills were featured in a 1965 book called "The Interrupted Journey." Now 76 and widowed, Betty Hill set out to clear up myths and fears about aliens in her own book, "A Common Sense Approach to UFOs." She spoke about them with Globe correspondent Clare Kittredge. Here is an edited version of their conversation:

If you see a UFO, don't panic. Just relax. Don't be afraid, they don't hurt anybody. But just because you think you might have been abducted is no guarantee you have been.

Voices of New England

BETTY HILL

A lot of people have come to me in hysterics because of something they heard somewhere. They couldn't eat, couldn't sleep, they were seeing doctors for their nerves because they said they'd seen a UFO. They were terrified that the aliens were going to come back, walk through the walls and kidnap them.

So I began explaining that there are two UFO fields: the commercial UFO field in which anything that sells goes, and the real UFO field. Actually, UFOs avoid us if possible.

There have been very few real abductions. You have to separate the real from the unreal. These tales can be lies, hallucinations, fantasies, or memories of things they've seen at the movies.

Most of your so-called abductees nowadays say 'I just suddenly remember that 50 years ago this happened.' Or 'My children were abducted.' To me, this is in the same class as the monster in the closet. As for alien insemination, forget it. I call that the Virgin Mary syndrome.

UFOs have been flying around here for years. If they wanted to conquer us, they could.

I want to get some common sense back into the field of UFOs. To me, they're not aliens, they're UFO people, and they're about 25,000 years ahead of us.

So I decided to write a book. I dedicate it "To UFOs with Love." Why? They're the great hope for our future.

All real abductees do exactly what Barney and I did. They go to the police or the military, or both.

On September 19, 1961, Barney and I were returning from a vacation

to Canada. We were headed down through the White Mountains. The night was beautiful - warm, full moon, clear skies - when I saw a strange light in the sky.

We assumed it was a satellite, so we stopped and got out to look. As we watched, it turned and started coming in towards us.

We got back in the car and started driving south. We were puzzled, but not scared. Just south of Indian-head, this craft came out over the highway in front of us and stopped.

Barney got out of the car with binoculars to try to identify it. He saw men standing in the window looking down at him. Then the craft began to descend, and he got frightened. He ran back to the car and we went speeding down the highway.

We heard beeping sounds. The

car vibrated. Then for some unknown reason, Barney turned off the main highway onto a dirt road. The men stood in the middle of the road blocking our way.

I would say they were human: large eyes, small nose, thin slit for a mouth, no protruding part of the ear, no hair. They wore a one-piece dark outfit. Their skin had a grey tone.

The leader talked in English. He struggled with the words.

They did some testing - physical-type stuff. They checked our eyes, ears, nose, throat. They were interested in our feet. They took samples of our hair and scrapings of our skin. They checked my nervous system, and tried to insert a needle-like instrument in my navel, which caused pain so they stopped. They said it was a pregnancy test - unheard-of at

the time.

They showed me a star map of where they were from, stars unknown to astronomers then. Not until 1969 was the cluster Zeta Reticula discovered, 37 million light years away in our galaxy.

Then they released us. Consciously, we didn't remember anything. But when we got home, we realized our trip had taken longer than it should have. Our watches had stopped. Polished spots on the car trunk made a compass react erratically.

After medical hypnosis, the truth came out. It was the first recognized abduction by astronauts from another solar system.

In the middle of all the newspaper publicity, Barney and I saw our second UFO. We found an area in

New Hampshire where the UFOs came into people's backyards almost every night. That was the beginning of the silent network. We didn't want publicity, we wanted to learn about UFOs.

How do you identify a UFO? They're small, maybe 20 or 25 feet across. Forget what's way up high, watch what's at treetop level where planes can't fly, something that's moving slow.

Greet them in a friendly way if you like. Wave and say, 'Hi.' They might put on a show for you. Never try to walk up to a landed UFO. They're not offensive. They won't attack. But if you threaten them, they'll defend themselves.

NEWS, Taos, NM - Jan. 4, 1996

Flying saucers are real and the feds know it

Did a UFO crash near Roswell in July 1947 and was knowledge of such a crash covered up by the Army and the U.S. Government?

It is hard to believe that an event of this importance could be kept secret for so long, but evidence continues to pile up proving that just such a crash occurred. Aspects of this case were examined at the first annual Roswell Encounter '95.

Early in July 1947, possibly during a violent thunderstorm, an aerial vehicle of some kind crashed on or near the Brazel ranch between Corona and Roswell.

Ranch owner Mac Brazel went out the morning after the storm to inspect the ranch. He observed a field of debris three-quarters of a mile long, a couple of hundred yards wide. After collecting some of the strange lightweight material, and after conferring with friends, he notified the sheriff at the Roswell Army Air Force Base. Maj. Jesse Marcel and a Counter-Intelligence Corps man named Cavitt drove to the debris field, collected debris and showed it to Col. William Blanchard.

After discussion, Blanchard authorized a press release stating that the Air Force had recovered a "flying disc." The *Roswell Daily Record* of July 8, 1947, was headlined: "RAAF [Roswell Army Air Force] Captured Flying Saucer on Ranch in Roswell Region."

Every aspect of the case is controversial and remains classified top secret. However, in recent years key witnesses have come forward to substantiate the case as presented in the books, "Crash at Corona" (1992) and "The Truth About the UFO Crash at Roswell" (1994), "The Roswell Declaration" and "Roswell Revisited" by Stanton Friedman.

For example:

- A civilian camper and his lady friend watch an object fall from the night sky July 4, 1947, and appear to crash

a mile away. The next morning they locate the site. He describes an aerial vehicle half buried in the ground, two bodies "like midgits" nearby. The Army appears. He tells of being sworn to secrecy carrying extreme penalties.

- The actual crash site is described as on the Corona ranch a few miles south of the Brazel debris field. Friedman theorized bodies were found near the Brazel ranch, but that the craft flew on to the Plains of San Agustin, west of Corona, where it crashed. The possibility of a mid-air collision and two crashes is mentioned.

- Former Provost Marshal Maj. Edwin Easley, prior to his death in 1992, reluctantly confirmed he was in charge of military police at the crash site. Easley told researchers that the crash was "extraterrestrial" and that bodies, which he called "creatures," were recovered.

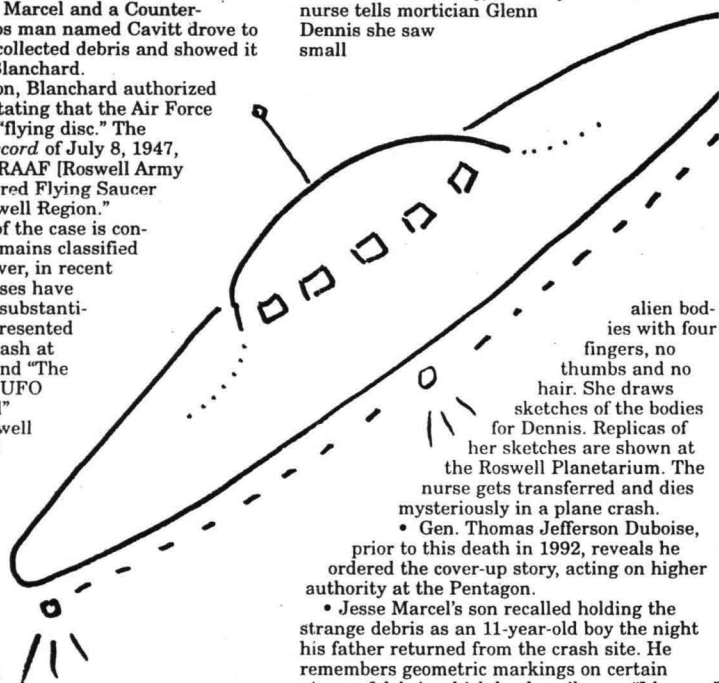
- Mac Brazel's son, Bill, collects debris missed by the Army troops. Months after the 1947 event, Bill Brazel's personal collection of debris is confiscated by the Army.

parallax

by James Parsons

- An archaeologist and students stumble upon the crash site shortly after the crash, before the military police were in place. Like all eyewitnesses, they are sworn to secrecy using National Security laws.

- Alien bodies from the crash taken to the base hospital at Roswell. An autopsy is performed. The next day, an Army Air Force nurse tells mortician Glenn Dennis she saw small



alien bodies with four fingers, no thumbs and no hair. She draws sketches of the bodies for Dennis. Replicas of her sketches are shown at the Roswell Planetarium. The nurse gets transferred and dies mysteriously in a plane crash.

- Gen. Thomas Jefferson Duboise, prior to this death in 1992, reveals he ordered the cover-up story, acting on higher authority at the Pentagon.

- Jesse Marcel's son recalled holding the strange debris as an 11-year-old boy the night his father returned from the crash site. He remembers geometric markings on certain pieces of debris which he describes as "I-beams."

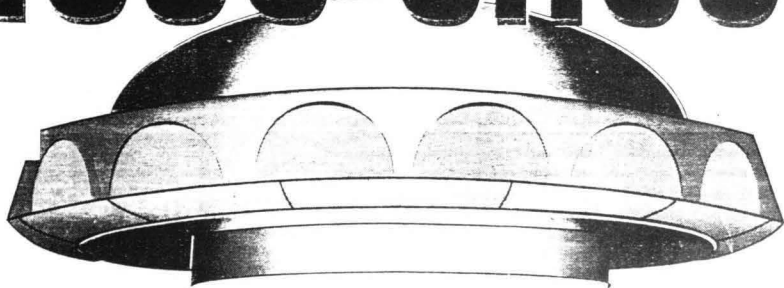
- According to eyewitnesses, at least two photographers took pictures of the crash sites and bodies. An alien autopsy film shown on television in November 1995 may be related to the Roswell Incident, but the film has not been authenticated. Debris and I-beams with symbols were shown in conjunction with the autopsy.

Congress should pass a law relieving all persons with knowledge of the event from their National Security Oaths of Secrecy. Then the photographer and others can speak freely about one of history's most significant events.

Flying saucers are extraterrestrial spacecraft and have visited Earth.

James Parsons is an art appraiser and dealer living in Taos. He served as a flight navigator in the U.S. Air Force in the 1950s.

Close encounters



By Linda McCarty
Edition Staff Writer

To Lina Whitewolf it's no joke. The Stephens City area resident is as serious as a heart attack when she talks about her experiences with UFOs and extraterrestrials.

The first such experience that she remembers, Whitewolf said, occurred 35 years ago when she was 8 and living at Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands in Wytheville in southwestern Virginia.

Whitewolf, who has lived in the Winchester-Frederick County area for the past two years, said that the first time she recalls seeing a UFO she was sitting on the sidewalk outside the children's home playing jacks. Her concentration on the game was broken when the house mother started screaming for the children to come inside the building. Whitewolf looked up and saw a very large disk-shaped object hovering over the building.

"Our house mother... was making everyone come inside," Whitewolf said. "I didn't want to go inside because I was fascinated by this thing hovering over the house. As best I remember, it stayed there about five minutes."

Whitewolf said that all the children, including herself, wanted to look out the windows, but (the house mother) wouldn't let them and closed all the curtains. "(She) would look out the windows," Whitewolf said, "but she made us all sit in the living room and wouldn't let us go back outside the rest of the day."

That night, Whitewolf said, she lay on her bed and sang, while her roommate slept. "I felt very happy and couldn't go to sleep," she said. Then a "ball of white light" came through the ceiling of the room. "It floated down very slowly, and I saw it come across the floor. I got scared and hid under my covers. Then the light manifested itself into a being, a very tall woman in a long white gown. She had no hair, but she had beautiful blue eyes. She put her hand on my shoulder and said, 'Do not be afraid, for you are one among us.' She told me that they would be back."

Two years later, Whitewolf said, she had her first experience aboard a space ship, at least the first that she remembers. "I don't remember how I got there, and I don't remember how I got back to my room, but the room on the space ship was filled with other children playing with each other, while the extraterrestrials, who I call my brothers and sisters of the sky, watched us play."

Whitewolf recounts that those extraterrestrials looked different from the woman who appeared in her room two years earlier. "These people were only about 4 feet, 3

Lina Whitewolf of Frederick County claims she has been repeatedly visited by aliens and taken aboard their space ships.

inches tall and had no hair. They had big black eyes that slanted to the side, had no ears, and very, very thin lips that never moved. We spoke through telepathy."

It was during that journey, Whitewolf believes, that the extraterrestrials performed the first of many surgeries and examinations of her body. "They took me to an operating room and put me on a silver table," she said. "They kept telling me that they were not going to hurt me and for me not to be afraid. It didn't hurt. They just used a machine to scan my body. There were other times, later on, that it did hurt."

During this period of her life Whitewolf realized that she also had special gifts, including psychometry (the ability to determine facts about an object or its owner simply through contact with or proximity to the object) and being able to see into

the future.

Her first experience with psychometry occurred when she was 8 years old and several women came to the orphanage in the summer to take children to their homes for a two-week vacation away from the facility.

"One woman came up and had a picture in her hand of five or six women," Whitewolf said. "I looked at the picture and zoomed in on one of the women in the picture and started telling the person who was holding the picture all about the woman I was looking at, and I had never seen her before."

The woman's reaction scared Whitewolf. "She freaked out and said: 'How do you know that? That's the work of the devil.' (The house mother) made me stop and told me I couldn't do that," Whitewolf said.

During that period in her life, Whitewolf said, she also began seeing spirits or guardian angels hovering around people.

"I tried to talk to people about what I saw and what I felt, but (the house mother) said that if I didn't stop the 'non-sense' that men in white coats would come and take me away," Whitewolf said. "She would also wash my mouth out with soap when I talked about it. That's when I started suppressing everything and stopped talking about any of my experiences or thoughts."

Whitewolf believes that the suppression of her thoughts caused her to become a very sick child. She had one illness after another until a mysterious woman visited her in a hospital in Wytheville.

"A woman with long blond hair walked in my room and touched me and told me that I was healed," Whitewolf said. "I felt immediately well. The woman left, and a nurse walked in, and I asked her who that woman was who had just left my room, and she told me that no one had been in my room."

Later, through hypnosis, Whitewolf said, she became aware that the blond woman was an extraterrestrial.

Whitewolf began her life in Cincinnati as Lina Burton. She received her Indian name from a Hopi Indian medicine man in 1983.

When Whitewolf was 6 months old, her mother moved to Virginia, where state welfare workers took Whitewolf and her sister and two brothers away from their mother, who, according to Whitewolf, was addicted to alcohol and drugs. The state placed the children in an orphanage. "We lived in several different orphanages until my (sister and younger brother) and I went to Wytheville. We were there six years," she said. "My older brother was in another home."

When Whitewolf was 10 years old, she and her siblings moved back with her mother.



Graphic by Peyton McMann

Photo of Lina Whitewolf by Ginger Perry

(continued on page 10)

Her mother, who today lives in Florida, had remarried, and she and her husband moved the family to Norfolk, where Whitewolf's step-father was stationed in the Navy. "We moved around quite a bit, but spent most of our time in Virginia," Whitewolf said.

She was attending high school in Virginia Beach when she dropped out in the 10th grade to become a beautician. "All I wanted to do was help people, and I thought being a beautician would be a way to help," Whitewolf said. "I thought that that would be the thrill of my life, but I was wrong."

She discovered, while in beautician school, that it wasn't the career for her. So she gave it up and got married. She was married for five years and had one child, a daughter she named Sunshine with whom she now lives. She also has two grandchildren.

To support herself over the years, Whitewolf said, she has worked primarily in sales.

Throughout Whitewolf's youth and teen-age years she was aware she was spending time with extraterrestrials on space ships, she said, but she continued to suppress the memories and her knowledge of her "special gifts."

"I'd wake up and realize that

ing in Richmond, I looked at myself one day and realized how fat I was and decided I was going to lose weight and bought an exercise machine."

Whitewolf said she exercised too strenuously and collapsed on the bed. She believes she suffered a heart attack during the night and died but was visited by Jesus, who told her that her time to die had not yet arrived.

"I remember seeing a white light and went out of my body," Whitewolf said. "I saw Jesus. He had a long white gown on, long brown hair, and had a tremendous love-force around him. I wasn't afraid or anything. . . . He told me it wasn't my time to die yet, that I had lots of people to help, and I remember seeing my soul coming back to my body. After that experience, everything was different. Through Jesus, the burden was lifted from me, I didn't suppress my experiences anymore, and I started changing my life. I got off the drugs and got off the alcohol."

Several years after her near-death experience, Whitewolf went to Sedona, Ariz., which she said was a "very, very spiritual

When the experience ended and the light had vanished, Whitewolf left and came back with a camera and took photographs of the circle. "I believe that the purpose of that encounter was to see if I would listen and follow directions," she said. "I know there will be a UFO landing, and I am to take some people to that place. I don't know where or when it will be. I have no idea."

The last time that Whitewolf remembers an extraterrestrial experience was last May, when she saw a triangle-shaped space ship near her daughter's home in the Stephens City area. "My grandson, who is 2 years old, was very sick," she said. "They came and got me and my grandson. He was healed when we got home a few hours later. That's the last trip that I remember taking."

Whitewolf says she believes without a doubt that the experiences she describes actually happened, and she conducts seminars and gives talks on the subject. And she believes that she's not alone in her knowledge about beings from outer space. "A lot of people say they have dreams about UFO experiences, but they are not dreams," she said. "They actually happened, and they remember them as a dream."

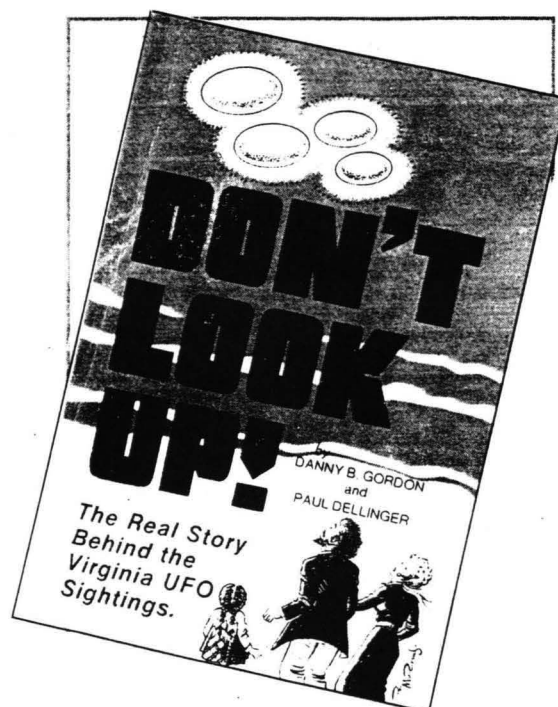
Whitewolf said that she's met others here on Earth whom she's spent time with in outer space. "I was at a UFO symposium in Richmond in 1993 and saw a man there that I was on a space ship with," Whitewolf said. "He saw me, and I saw him, and I said, 'You drove the UFO that we were on.' And he said that he had. It was nice making that contact with him because I realized that we were good friends."

There are hundreds of different types of extraterrestrials living in outer space, Whitewolf said. And, she said, there are some living on earth, called Humanoids, who have bright blue eyes and blond hair. She also said there are underground extraterrestrial bases on Earth that the government is aware of and studies.

Does it bother her to talk about her experiences? "You mean does it bother me when people think I'm crazy?" she asked. "No, not a bit, because I know my purpose is to be here and help people, and that's what I try to do. All of my experiences have been good for me because they have opened up my heart. I try not to judge people. I know that everyone is here for their each individual Earth walk."

Whitewolf has started research for a book she hopes to publish in 1997. She will do most of her research in the Wytheville area, where she plans to search for people who remember some of the UFO sightings she experienced while living there as a child.

In the future, Whitewolf said, "there will be more and more UFO sightings in daylight because they are wanting to open the consciousness of man."



Whitewolf is far from alone in claiming to have seen UFOs in Wythe County.

By Linda McCarty
Edition Staff Writer

Lina Whitewolf isn't alone in her experiences with UFOs in Wythe County.

Linda Spiker, community news editor for the Southwest Virginia Enterprise, a weekly newspaper in Wytheville, said she and many other people have also seen UFOs in Wythe County over the years. Spiker supplied articles that appeared in her newspaper in October and November 1987, which was 27 years after Whitewolf's first alleged experience with UFOs at an orphanage in Wytheville in 1960 (see accompanying story).

In November of 1987, according to the newspaper, people crowded the Bland Auditorium at Wytheville Community College to hear accounts from witnesses who had observed UFOs in Wythe County and listen to a panel of UFO experts. Leonard Stringfield, whom the newspaper called a leading UFO researcher from Cincinnati, Ohio, told the gathering that night that what they had been seeing during the past month were "extraterrestrial in origin."

Danny Gordon, an 11-year veteran news director for WYVE-AM Radio in Wytheville, said during a recent telephone interview that since 1987 he has seen 50 UFOs — 49 in Wythe County and one in the Great Smoky Mountains in Tennessee.

According to the 45-year-old Gordon, there were as many as 3,000 UFOs sighted in Wythe County within a three-month period in late 1987 and early 1988. "We have sightings (in Wythe County) on a regular basis, about 50 a month," Gordon said. "My last sighting was a year ago over the town of Wytheville in December. But I have never had contact with extraterrestrials."

Gordon said that during all of his sightings he has been close enough to see the crafts' windows and inside. "I was close enough that I could have thrown a baseball and hit one," he said. "One night I was in my car when I saw one and flipped my lights at it, and it did the same."

The space crafts that Gordon have seen have varied in shape, including rectangular, triangular, and saucer, box, and cigar shape.

"In February 1992, (the television series) 'Unsolved Mysteries' ran a segment on the UFO sightings in Wythe County," Gordon said. "Now the (series) is syndicated, and that program runs about every two or three months, and every time it does people call me who have seen UFOs in other places."

Gordon has written (with Paul Dellinger of The Roanoke Times and World News) a book on UFO sightings in his area. The book, "Don't Look Up," was published in 1988.

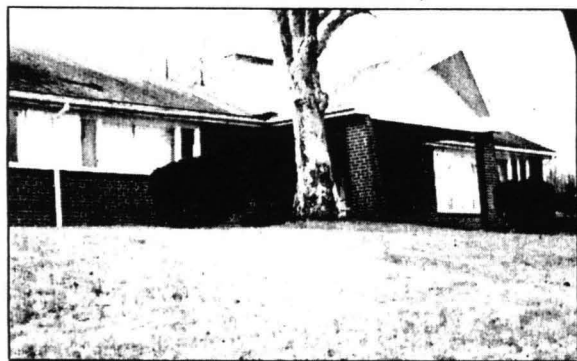


Photo courtesy of Lina Whitewolf

This recent photograph shows the site in Wytheville where Lina Whitewolf says she saw her first UFO 35 years ago.

I'd been on a trip," she said. "I'd notice that my stomach hurt, and I'd look and there would be a red mark from some kind of surgery. I also saw indications that surgery had been performed on my left knee. I still have some of that scar, and I have an indentation on the lower part of my abdomen."

She also said that then, as now, she doesn't remember how she got to the space ships or how she returned. She does, however, know that she has never been gone more than an hour or two. "A lot of times, I'll wake up and realize that I've taken a trip." She said the incidents always occur at night and she's not aware that anyone has ever noticed her absence while she's gone on an extraterrestrial trip.

Whitewolf turned to alcohol and drugs and gained a lot of weight when she was a teenager and young adult, she says, largely because she still felt uncomfortable talking about her experiences and was frustrated by her inability to communicate them to others.

"(The drinking and drug use was because) I had no one to talk to, and I thought I was going crazy myself," she said. "When I was in my 20s and liv-

town," and spent time with a Hopi Indian medicine man, who gave her her Indian name. "I have Cherokee Indian ancestors," Whitewolf said. "The Indian medicine man said he always saw white wolves around me. White, he said, represented my spiritual side, and the wolf was a symbol of a teacher — a spiritual teacher."

Whitewolf said she continues to see UFOs and have contact with extraterrestrials. She also has photographs of a circle formed by the light coming from a space ship that hovered above her.

"In 1985, I was in Richmond and was in bed when I was awakened at about five in the morning," she said. "It felt like someone was shaking my shoulder and telling me to get up. Telepathically, I was told to go to this field in a park where I have had most of my contacts with star ships," she said. "I stopped by a 7-Eleven Store and bought a small cup of coffee, drove to the park, and walked to the field. All of a sudden there was a ball of light floating to my right, and I sat down and drank my coffee. Then I realized I was in a circle, and the grass was burned around the edge of the circle."



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

NORTHERN TERRITORY NEWS, Darwin, N.T., Australia - Feb. 5, 1996 CR: P. Norman

UFO spotted at NT party: 14 stunned



UFO witness Neil Veavea yesterday ... 'We all just sat there like stunned mullets.' Picture: DANI GAWLIK

By NIKKI VOSS

A UFO left 14 Darwin people stunned after appearing directly in front of them, they said last night.

Jingili father-of-four Neil Veavea, his wife Aloha and a group of friends and their children saw a large orange light move slowly across the northern suburbs skyline on Saturday night.

Bright

Six adults and eight children saw the UFO during a quiet barbecue at the Veaveas' family home at Jingili about 10 pm.

Mr Veavea said the bright, round orange light appeared in the north-east over Casuarina and moved south toward Wagaman.

He said the bright light moved across the sky, just below the clouds, for about 30 seconds, dimmed for a few seconds, blinked twice and disappeared.

Mr Veavea said: "We all just sat there like stunned mullets."

He said: "I noticed the light while we were sitting in the front yard talking."

"We ran out onto the road and yelled for the kids to come outside."

"When they saw it they started jumping up and down pointing — so we knew we hadn't had too many drinks; it was really there."

"Some of the younger kids started getting a little frightened when it just disappeared into thin air."

The Veavea children, Rheannon, Yazman, Chonnel and Neil, grabbed torches and flashed them at the UFO.

Mr Veavea said: "That's when I ran inside and rang the police to report the sighting."

Mr Veavea said there was no engine noise or constant flash like a plane light.

Confirmed

He said: "It definitely wasn't a plane — I've never seen anything like it in my life."

Family friend Stephanie Motlop, of Wulagi, was also with the group at the barbecue and confirmed the sighting, saying they were all aghast when they saw the UFO.

GLOBE & MAIL, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - Feb. 3, 1996 CR: G. Conway

Close encounter of the weird kind baffles British aviation authority

Year-long inquiry finds no explanation of UFO that buzzed airliner

BY DAVID WALLEN
Special to The Globe and Mail

LONDON — After a year-long formal inquiry, British aviation experts admit they are baffled by a close encounter between a passenger jet and an unidentified flying object on an approach to Manchester Airport.

The Civil Aviation Authority said yesterday it can find no logical explanation for the UFO, which apparently buzzed the British Airways Boeing 737 with 60 people on board last January

at the 4,000-foot level of its descent on a flight from Milan.

Captain Roger Wills, 35, said a wedge-shaped UFO, emblazoned with small white lights, came so close to his jet that co-pilot Mark Stuart ducked.

The object also was spotted from the ground, yet never appeared on radar screens. It made no attempt to deviate and passed very quickly down the right side of the aircraft. It made no sound and created no wind turbulence. The incident happened at 6:48 p.m.

on Jan. 6, 1995, with the aircraft just above the clouds and visibility at least 16 kilometres.

Air traffic controllers had the following conversation with Flight 5061:

B737: "We just had something go down the right-hand side, just above us, very fast."

Manchester ATC: "Well there's nothing seen on radar. Was it an aircraft?"

B737: "Well it had lights, it went down the starboard side very quick."

Mr. Lloyd said yesterday he was relieved that the official report backed his version with the words of the air crew.

While the incident has baffled aviation experts, it has delighted UFO enthusiasts. The word of pilots, they said, might give some credibility to their favourite subject.

"Now that the CAA have actually come out with a statement saying it was unidentified, we shall go straight back to them and try and get them to say more," said Eric Morrison, one of Britain's leading exponents of UFOs and extraterrestrials.

One of the best authenticated UFO sightings was made by the crew of one of the Apollo space missions, when an object tracked the spacecraft for some minutes before moving off at high speed. The astronauts told Houston they were being tailed, adding: "We'll assume it's friendly."

"It's all a bit of a mystery," a Civil Aviation Authority spokesman said. "There was a similar case about three years ago involving Alitalia and it was not possible to explain that one, either."

On the ground, Mark Lloyd was near the airport and says he saw the object, too.

"There was like a glint in the sky and, as I looked, I could see this triangular-shaped object hovering quite high up and it had depth to it," he said. "It was rounded off at the back end and appeared to have something like back burners." He described a black line down the side and a triangular-shaped window.

When Mr. Lloyd told his girlfriend what he had seen, she said he was "talking a load of codswallop."

Later, he telephoned the airport and was put through to the control tower.

Police probe UFO sighting

POLICE and ufologists were this week investigating a UFO sighting reported on the Quantock Hills by a West Somerset family.

It happened at about 10.15 pm on Tuesday as David and Greta Thrush were driving home along the A358 from Taunton with their daughter-in-law Ruth Thrush.

As they passed the Crowcombe and Halsway Manor area they saw a brilliantly-lit object hovering above trees at the foot of the hills.

Mrs Greta Thrush, a former chairman of Dunster Parish Council, said she telephoned the police to report the matter as soon as she reached home.

Mrs Thrush, of Hill Lane, Carhampton, told the Free Press: "I have never believed in these things before, but when you see something like that it takes your breath away. It was absolutely fascinating and weird."

"It was very low and gave the impression it was going to land. It was absolutely still, no rays, just this bright, brilliant oval yellow and red light."

"My daughter-in-law thought she could see it flashing in the middle."

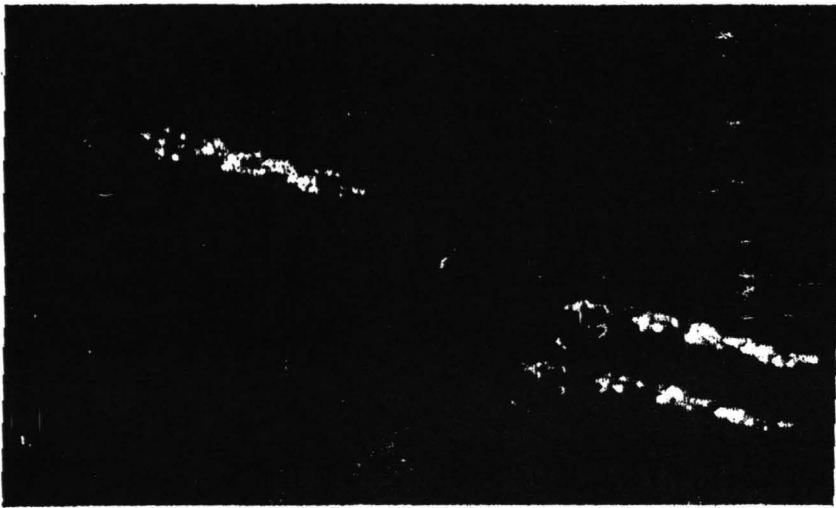
Mrs Thrush said they saw the object for about five minutes and although there were no other cars on the road at the time she hoped to hear if anybody else witnessed it.

WEST SOMERSET FREE PRESS, Williton, England - Sept. 29, 1995

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada Feb. 5, 1996 CR: G. Conway

Somaland Mystery

Officials in the self-declared republic of Somaland asked the international community to help them unravel the mystery behind two explosions from unidentified flying objects seen over the Gulf of Aden state Dec. 5 and 7. "A few days after the explosions, inhabitants came down with various ailments such as coughing, diarrhoea, breathing difficulties and headaches," a government minister said. Children were worst affected; several died. Animals were seen "running wild and uncontrolled" afterwards. The low-flying objects were seen by many as they exploded. No debris from the explosion has been discovered on the ground.



Mystery ... a time exposure photo of lights seen over Palmerston on New Year's Eve

UFO sighted by NT couple

Two more Territorians have reported seeing a UFO.

Melville Island baker Michael Benton and his wife Kerri saw "a strange light" from their Garden Point home.

Mr Benton, 28, said: "There have been too many UFO sightings for them all to be written off as burning garbage or Min-Min lights."

The report follows UFO sightings at Palmerston and Ruby Downs Station, 200 km southwest of Darwin.

Mr Benton said he was woken just after midnight by his wife

after she saw the light just above tree height.

He said: "The light was orange and dashed from side to side."

"There was a reddish light inside the orange glow, towards the bottom."

Vanished

"I couldn't compare it to anything I've ever seen; it moved like no earthly thing could."

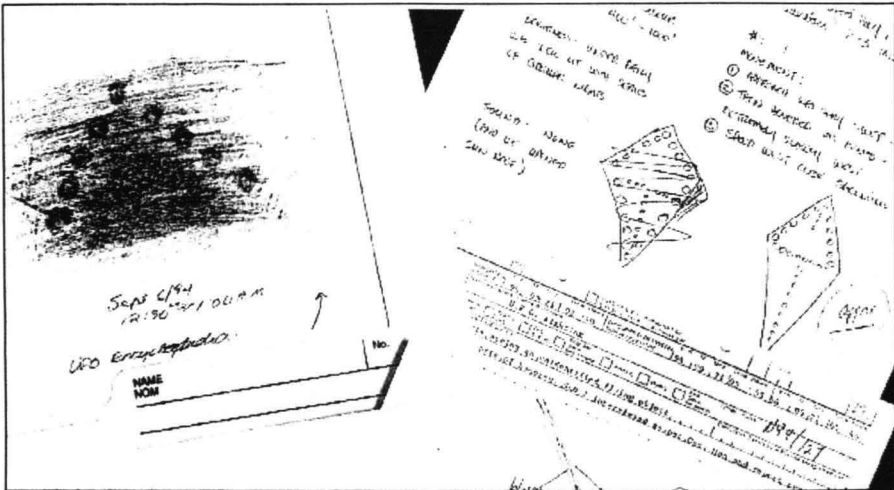
"It moved about for half an hour and then just disappeared. "When it went, there

was glow in the sky for a split second, almost as if there had been a great burst of energy."

Meanwhile, salesman Peter Jacobs has enlarged the photographs he took of a UFO over Palmerston on New Year's Eve.

Troy Horton, Darwin head of the UFO watch, believes the lights were blazing garbage put up by pranksters.

But Mr Jacobs said: "Burning bags wouldn't give off identical lights."



ANDREW WALLACE/CANADIAN PRESS

Police reports, handwritten letters, drawings and transcripts of interviews detail UFO reports

MYSTERIOUS

Year of UFO sightings make glowing reports

By Jim Bronskill
The Canadian Press

Dean was driving west late one Alberta night when he spotted strange lights in the sky.

The bright lights — forming a green, red and yellow triangle — dimmed as they passed over the stretch of road just east of High Prairie.

They regained their luminous glow before darting off at a rapid clip — too fast for a normal aircraft.

Dean is among dozens of Canadians who reported seeing an unidentified flying object last year.

His description of the eerie encounter is one of 186 official UFO reports filed with the police, military and federal scientists.

Call them Canada's X-Files — something like the popular TV tales of two FBI agents who investigate paranormal phenomena.

The sighting reports, tucked away in cardboard boxes at the National Archives in Ottawa, would make fine fodder for the spooky series.

The reports, kept in folders labelled Non-Meteoritic Sightings, include neatly typed police files, handwritten letters, drawings and interview transcripts about celestial oddities across the country. The files were released with most names deleted.

A veteran North Vancouver stargazer reported seeing a dark, arrowhead-shaped object — three times the size of a jumbo jet — with orange-yellow lights at the tips.

"There was absolutely no sound and the speed was incredible. This was certainly no aircraft or weather balloon," the witness said in a letter

There was absolutely no sound and the speed was incredible

Veteran North Vancouver stargazer

to the federal Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics.

"I found the experience a little disturbing, to say the least."

A Langley, B.C., woman told police two star-like objects came down from the sky and followed her car one spring evening.

She became scared, pulled over and turned her lights off in time to see the "stars" take off with three airplanes in pursuit.

RCMP in Gimli, Man., received a report from two people who saw "a large donut-shaped object" flying toward Lake Winnipeg. The white object, about 100 metres in diameter, had as many as 12 pulsating lights running evenly around its rim.

A father and son were walking around Taharti Lake near Quesnel, B.C., one summer day when they saw a clear, oval-shaped object about the size of a car. It hovered above the water for three minutes, then sped off.

They returned to their cabin and told three companions of the sighting.

Oddly, all five later realized they had "lost" a day.

Two who left the site on July 22 discovered it was really the 23rd.

The others left on the 23rd, only to hear on the car radio that it was the 24th.

"We were somewhat surprised," the son told an RCMP constable. "When we stopped for gas we confirmed that it was actually a day later."

A Nova Scotia woman was driving to Halifax one autumn night when she and her passenger saw a dark, diamond-shaped craft featuring a detailed pattern of white lights.

It hovered noiselessly overhead for a couple of minutes before speeding off to the west.

Some sightings took place high above the Earth.

The pilot of a Boeing 767 travelling from Vancouver to London reported seeing an object fly parallel to his plane. It was so bright at one point that it lit up the cockpit.

Some UFOs seem more easily explained than others.

Two observers told an RCMP officer in Lynn Lake, Man., of a green fireball falling slowly from the sky.

In his report, the constable noted meteorites and the northern lights had been seen in the area recently.

That's not all. While taking the witness statements, he detected the unmistakable odor of marijuana.

HERALD, Glasgow, Scotland - Oct. 9, 1995

Invasion of the UFO watchers

THE skies above a Scots town were being eagerly scanned yesterday as locals prepared themselves for the coming of a trio of beings from another place.

The threesome are set to reveal the reasons for the baffling number of UFO sightings in the Falkirk area in recent years.

Their revelations will emerge at a meeting in Falkirk Town Hall tonight.

One of their number, an American psychic, has promised to reveal the secrets of the universe through her contact with a shadowy group named the Council of Nine. It is claimed the Council of Nine is a group of superbeings said to watch over mankind making sure it does not destroy the planet.

Nearly 1000 people are set to cram into the hall, searching for an explanation to strange sightings in their skies.

The village of Bonnybridge nearby has been dubbed Britain's UFO capital after hundreds of sightings.

The Cosmic Agenda Lecture is the brainchild of local councillor Billy Buchanan.

There was worldwide publicity for the conference when he was reported to have said an alien called Zal-us would be the star guest. He later denied he had been in contact with the alien.

However, greatest interest should be aroused by the lecture to be given by psychic Phyllis Schlemmer.

A friend of Star Trek creator, the late Gene Roddenberry, she is due to divulge revelations told to her by the Council of Nine.

Edinburgh UFO researcher Geri Rogers will also be

beaming in to speak to the capacity crowd.

Extra-terrestrial hunter Mr Ken MacFarlane from Cheshire, England, is the third speaker.

Interest in the bizarre meeting has spread all over the world with UFO fans from as far afield as Canada due to fly in.

There has also, of course, been a great deal of local interest.

One teenager, who claims to have seen a UFO soaring in the skies above her home town, said she was hoping for answers.

Lisa Carr, 16, of Grangemouth, said: "I saw strange lights hovering in the sky about three months ago."

Not everybody in Falkirk was convinced by the independent councillor.

Mr Joe Margiotti, 31, who works in a Falkirk camera shop, claimed the lights spotted in the skies above were only model airplanes, not alien space craft. He said: "What these people don't realise is that there is a model club in the area and they fly their planes at night."

Ms Agnes McKay, 23, admitted she thought there could be something out there but was baffled as to why alien visitors would want to come to Falkirk.

Local UFO hunter Mr Malcolm Robinson of Strange Phenomena Investigations says he would be attending the meeting but remains sceptical as to what will be revealed.

Last night, Councillor Buchanan, who has spent months organising the meeting, defended the controversial event.

"I'm delighted that the speakers are still prepared to come after all the rubbish that was printed about this alien called Zal-us."

INDEPENDENT, Cheltenham, England - Sept. 28, 1995

Jenny keeps UFO secret for more than 20 years

A CHELTENHAM woman has come forward to give an account of a UFO sighting in the town after reading of a similar sighting in last week's Independent.

Jenny Scanlon (33), of Leckhampton, has kept her UFO sighting a secret for 22 years for fear of being ridiculed if she came forward.

But after reading of librarian Mag-

gie Wheel spotting a UFO over a Cheltenham street, Jenny was inspired to give an account of her run-in with a flying saucer.

She said: "I was about 11 and walking to school, near the Bafford Industrial Estate in the Moorend area of town, with a group of friends, when we spotted this jet black object with a flat bottom and a semi-circular dome above what I believe was a plastics factory."

"It was silent, rose into the sky and then disappeared out of sight behind some buildings. We were absolutely scared stiff."

"I have lost touch with the people I was with that day but if they were still in the town and remember seeing it I would love to speak to them."

● If you were there call the Independent on (01242) 260445.

Out of this world meeting

THIS extra-terrestrial visitor may or may not turn up at a meeting in Walthamstow this Friday — to encounter a woman who claims she was abducted by egg-shaped aliens.

Not quite as facially-challenged as ET, the statue of a 'Grey' creature stands as the mascot of UFOlogist Roy Lake's London UFO Studies Group.

The group has organised Friday night's event (Unity Hall, Bramley Close,

Walthamstow from 7.30pm) offering the curious and the open-minded the chance to hear abductee Maria Ward's story.

Maria, from Dartford, Kent, gave YA readers a foretaste of the story she'll be telling: "I was driving along a country lane in Wiltshire in November 1990. A patch of mist came upon me and I drove into it. The car just stopped," she explains.

"There was an orange light 75 feet away, an egg-shaped object spinning clockwise and

giving out a brilliant orange light," she went on.

"I walked towards it. My hair was standing on end with the static and my nylon jacket was bristling. I managed, thankfully, to take some photos."

And then nothing. Over an hour later she was a mile and a half away watching the morning sun come up.

Maria has agreed to send a photograph of her abductor to the YA. Watch this space.

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada

Jan. 6, 1996 CR: G. Conway

Korean UFO

South Korean air force personnel monitored a doughnut-shaped object that hovered over a provincial park in Taegu. According to the news agency Yonhap, the strange object glowed with a luminous red light and passed silently over the hilly park. Radio and television stations were swamped with reports of the unidentified flying object, and a large crowd gathered to watch it move across the evening sky.

The truth is out there

Hundreds of people each year believe they've been abducted by aliens — and Michael Strainic is there to investigate

MIA STAINSBY
Vancouver Sun

Like the cult hero FBI agent Fox Mulder of *The X Files*, he has his own "X" file. Like Mulder, his belief in UFOs and aliens gets no respect from officialdom. And like Mulder, he could be nicknamed Spooky.

Michael Strainic, 48, is the national director of MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network, which spans 54 countries and was even mentioned on a recent episode of *X Files*. He has been fascinated by the subject of alien life since the age of three.

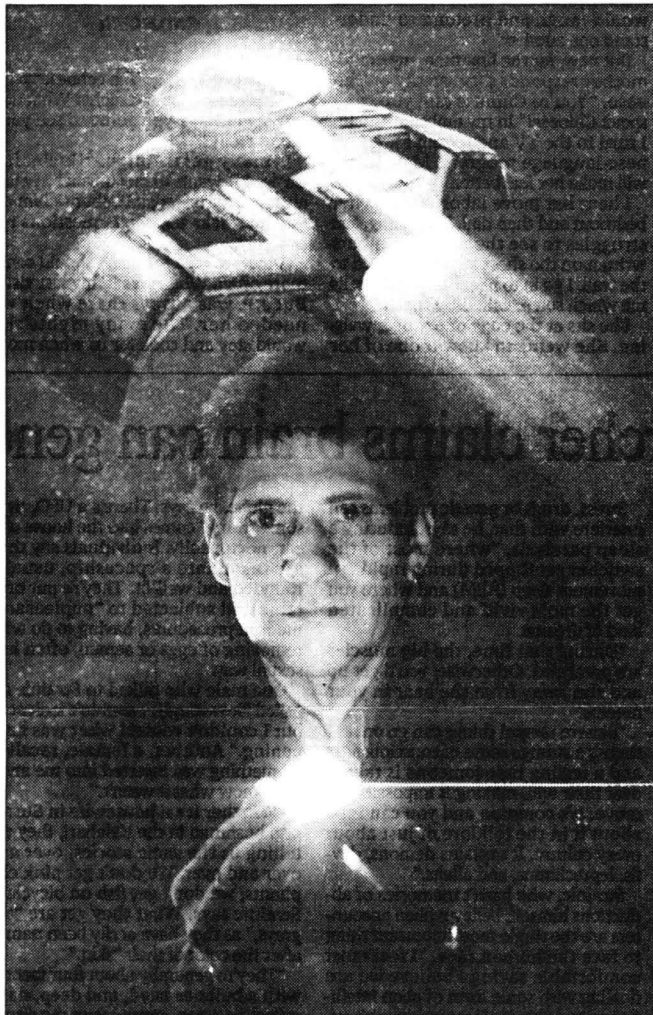
The MUFON office, in Strainic's West End apartment where he also works as a freelance technical writer, is crammed to the ceiling. MUFON's budget amounts to a big fat zero. MUFON (pronounced myu-fawn) investigates reports of UFOs and, increasingly, alien abduction. It has 55 members in the Lower Mainland, 350 in Canada.

"Canadians report more UFOs per capita than anywhere else," Strainic says. "Between MUFON and the National Research Council of Canada, we have no trouble coming up with two to three hundred reports in Canada."

But the commander for the Department of National Defence, northern region, contacted at his office in Yellowknife, says there are "thousands" of UFO reports each year in Canada. Col. Pierre Leblanc confirmed a rash of reports in Fort Resolution, NWT in January.

Unidentified flying object sightings fall to the DND to investigate and file reports to Ottawa. "But to date," says Leblanc, "there's been no hard evidence that UFOs exist."

The recent report includes 15 statements of UFO sightings, confirmed by



GLENN BAGLO / Vancouver Sun

SPOOKY: Michael Strainic of Vancouver researches and investigates what he says are increasing reports of alien abduction and unidentified flying objects

Fort Resolution's mayor, Euan Hunter. "There's no doubt in my mind," Hunter says, "there's definitely something there."

There is a growing fascination with the concept of alien abduction, as a recent "aliens" week on TV's Discovery Channel attests. And the announcement last month of the discovery of two planets with conditions similar to earth

sparked scientific speculation about life elsewhere in the universe.

It is tempting to dismiss Strainic. But he is disarmingly articulate and respectful of science. He speaks of nearing the "cusp of 200 reports," not of sightings, but of actual alien abductions in B.C. — almost doubled in five years.

The reports come directly to him or to MUFON from people who, he says,

are reluctant to report to officials, for fear of ridicule.

Of all the reports in B.C., he says only 20 to 25 of the cases involve evidence, such as independent witnesses, physical scars or mysterious "implants" in the body. Medical opinion is inconclusive in all cases, though, he says.

Only about one out of 10 people report such experiences, he says; most would rather think they're insane than believe they've been abused, experimented on or tampered with by aliens.

Alien talk loses friends, family and jobs. Sometimes it takes 20 years before people even will approach an organization like MUFON to talk about experiences, Strainic says.

Two years ago, Harvard psychiatrist and Pulitzer prize winner John Mack gave the issue more prominence when he wrote a book investigating almost 100 cases of abductions, and took the claims seriously.

"What is the vision of the possible human future that the abductees have brought back to us from their journeys?" Mack writes in *Abduction: Human Encounters With Aliens*. "UFO abductions have to do, I think, with the evolution of consciousness and the collapse of a worldview that has placed humankind at a kind of epicenter of intelligence in a cosmos perceived as largely lifeless and meaningless."

"As we suspend the notion of our pre-eminent and dominating intelligence, we might open to a universe filled with life forms different from ourselves to whom we might be connected in ways we do not yet comprehend."

But Barry Beyerstein, a brain researcher and professional skeptic, says Mack has done a great disservice to more than just the field of science.

"What John Mack did was swallow it hook, line and sinker," says Beyerstein, a Simon Fraser University psychologist and chair of the B.C. Skeptics Society. "Then he got into dangerous techniques that might reveal repressed memories of these experiences. But at the same time the techniques are capable of creating memories."

"I think more and more of the UFO community has come out partly because of Mack. It's something to grasp as a reason for whatever psychological shortcomings people might be suffering."

Beyerstein does not question the hon-

(continued on page 14)

Abduction belief brought woman grief

Let's call her Dana. She won't agree to a tiled photo, blurred photo, back photo — nothing to identify who she is.

She's been harassed and ridiculed and threatened for six years about what she has got to say. Her husband left her, convinced she was losing her mind. Friends were lost in the fray as well.

Here's what we can tell you. She's 48. Lives in Surrey and is an artist. Has two grown children she is close to. Her partner calls her "level-headed" and says she keeps him from becoming overly analytical about life.

Dana is convinced she has been abducted by aliens, not once but twice. She has clear recollections of one abduction, in her late twenties. The second one, she's not clear about, except that a friend, whom she hasn't seen since, saw a UFO hovering over a car that Dana was driving.

Flashbacks, dreams and nightmares plagued her about the experience until

she was in her early 30s, when she heard about MUFON, a group that investigates UFO reports.

After three years of researching, talking to, receiving support from 10 other abductees, and visiting a hypnotherapist, she was convinced the abduction was real. This is what she pieced together, in what she calls an experience that was so vivid to all the senses, she cannot believe it did not take place.

Events unfolded in a manner typical to most alien abduction reports. She was trying to get to sleep when she was taken aboard a craft by a "grey," the alien creature which is well known to the community of believers.

She was among five women and two men put into capsules, taken aboard a craft, 20 to 30 feet long, then transported to a gigantic mother ship.

"I felt paralysed, I couldn't move and felt like a guinea pig. I could only see through pinpoints of light through my eyes." She was jolted back to life from

what felt like being frozen and dead.

"I felt my heart restart and my blood flow again. It was quite painful. Really painful," she says. "It felt like a fire going through my body. It was like a horror movie."

"They took us out of the capsule and took us to different rooms, like cattle. I had a guide. He was tall and always turning around to tell me mentally, 'you come with me' and I would follow. He took me on a tour of the place and there are moments I don't want to talk about. The things that were done to me were too intimate, too personal. But their hands were cold and not warm like ours."

"I felt they were going through the motions of work. There were no feelings of sensitivity or compassion. There were no emotions of any kind. It was very clinical."

There were moments where one laid its four fingers on my forehead and told me mentally that everything would be



ALIENS: are they out there?

all right. "I was the number one skeptic in the world. But the dreams started seeping through. It was too real. I can't imagine people going on a fantasy trip causing all this trauma."

— Mia Stainsby

esty or the perceptions of "abductees." What he questions are the explanations of their "experiences."

"I think," he says, "these people have had a legitimate underlying experience inside themselves. It comes back to the most profound philosophical question: 'Why does anything seem real to you?'"

"There are scientific explanations for alien abductions and UFO sightings, he says, adding: 'I, as a brain researcher, know the brain can generate these feelings as though they were genuine experiences.'"

Alien abduction experiences, he says, probably relate to a combination of sleep paralysis and "a proclivity to fantasy within the current zeitgeist."

The current zeitgeist, or cultural environment, includes our high-tech world, programs such as *Star Trek* and *The X-Files*, and New Age beliefs.

Sleep paralysis probably accounts for many abduction experiences, he says. "Going to sleep and waking up is a very complex thing that goes on in the brain, depending on a complicated set of switches and neuro-triggers that have to be coordinated in split-second scenarios."

Stress, drugs or genetic problems can interfere with that, he says, inducing a sleep paralysis, "where most of the switches get flipped during rapid eye movement sleep (REM) and where you get the most vivid and complicated kind of dreams."

"During that time, the big muscles are paralysed. Otherwise, you'd get up and run away from the bear in your dreams."

"Bizarre mental things can go on and there's a strange sense of consciousness and a feeling that someone is taking over their will, making it impossible to move. It's common and you can read about it in the folklore of just about every culture. It explains demons, devils, leprechauns, and aliens."

Strainic, who hasn't memories of abductions himself, believes alien encounters are the single most important thing to face the human race. "I feel most comfortable saying I believe we are dealing with some form of alien intelligence and they're interacting with us. They may be moulding us, manipulating us or maybe it's something positive in helping us get to the next stage of evolution."

Encounter reports are similar around

the globe, he says. There's a UFO, then some "thing" comes into the house or a car, nocturnally. Individuals say they are taken into a spaceship, usually rounded and well-lit. They're put on a table and subjected to "unpleasant" medical procedures, having to do with removing of eggs or semen, often in a sexual way.

One male who talked to Strainic recalled "it was ugly, I couldn't look at it, but I couldn't control what was happening." Another, a female, recalled "something was inserted into me and I only know what it wasn't."

"Whether it's a housewife in Surrey or a bushman in the Kalahari, they are telling us the same stories, over and over and over. We don't get pink elephants, we don't get fish on bicycles," Strainic says. What they get are "the greys," as they have eerily been named after the color of their "skin."

"They're generally about four feet tall with a bulbous head, and deep, dark, reflective, wrap-around eyes the size of a fist," says Strainic. "That's what seems to fascinate people the most. They feel they're looking right into the mind or soul. Their bodies are emaciated-looking and people say they look like they

could be blown away with a feather."

According to MUFON, 50 to 70 per cent of all B.C. abductees live along the Surrey-Delta corridor which carries B.C. Hydro's high voltage lines. Strainic says one abductee is a retired B.C. Hydro executive, who would never speak publicly about his experience.

"I have heard of UFOs and I have heard of power lines," says Jim Guernsey, an engineer in the transmission and distribution department. "But I've definitely not heard of abductions."

Says Hydro field operations manager Larry Ratzlaff: "I'm trying to keep a straight face." In his 41 years in the industry, Ratzlaff has never heard of such a thing.

Ratzlaff says high voltage power lines give off a bluish-yellow light when there is airborne contamination on the insulators. He's also seen blinding flashes of light when trees fall across lines.

Surrey RCMP Constable Grant Learned is just as skeptical. The one UFO case he did handle, had an earthly ending. An excited radio-phone caller reported a UFO hovering over a lake northwest of Prince George. Pod ships were supposedly coming from a mother ship and spreading out across the lake.

When Learned arrived, a crowd had gathered, and he saw what they were seeing. But as he drove around the lake edge, he saw what the "spaceships" were. It was a combination of moving automobile lights from a lakeside road, sentinel lights from a farm behind a hill, and ice fog over the lake.

If he hadn't figured it out, the people gathered there would have gone home believing they'd seen a UFO. As for Surrey corridor sightings, Learned is not aware of any calls. Other abductees, Strainic claims, are professionals, a lot of people in the communications industry (like television and telephone systems) and in the military. Strainic doesn't believe these reports are an aberration of the mind. "It is external," he says. "I would stake everything on it. The stimulus is external."

"And if this is something psychological in nature in some way, no one is looking at it. They're ignoring it."

Asked why his fascination with extraterrestrials, he replies with an obscure Capt. Kirk quote from *Star Trek*: "I want answers, Mister."

Or in *X-Files* speak, "the truth is out there."

The MUFON hotline is 241-4454.

ADVERTISER, Buckingham, England - Nov. 10, 1995

ALIEN VISITORS: IS THIS THE PROOF?

by Paula Neale

THE SEARCH for an explanation for mystery objects spotted in the sky over the Advertiser & Review area is hotting up.

And this week we publish our baffled readers' first photographic evidence of what they believe are mystery craft.

We are searching for photographs of unidentified flying objects seen in the area.

We are offering a £100 reward for the best one judged by the Editor to be genuine - so keep on sending them in.

This week's photos were taken by Peter Jenkins, of Brackley and Buckingham's Ben Parkinson.

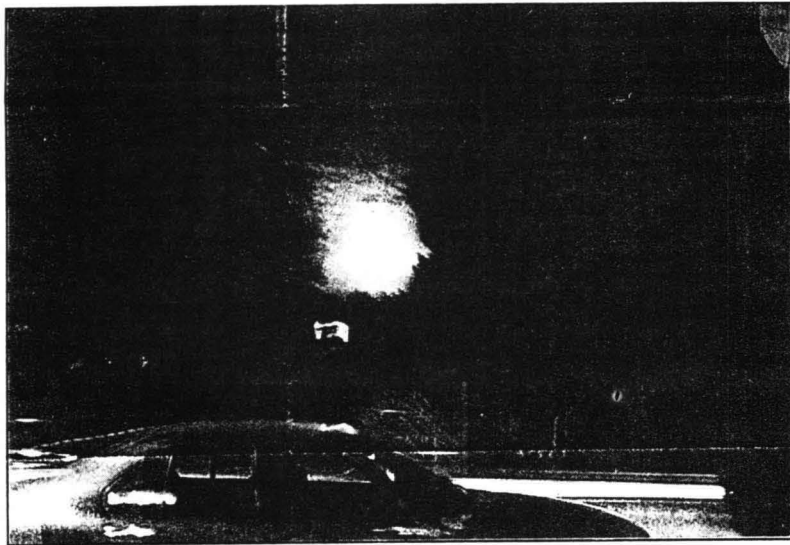
Ben Parkinson grabbed his camera and snapped this mysterious bright orange light on film (pictured right).

Ben, 14, of Chandos Road, Buckingham saw the burning light between 10pm and 11pm back on a late July evening.

He was watching television when he was amazed to see the unexplained object in the distance.

Ben rushed upstairs to his bedroom and captured the incident on film to prove that it really existed to his dad.

The light then mysteriously



● CLOSE ENCOUNTER?: Ben Parkinson took this picture from his bedroom window in Chandos Road, Buckingham

disappeared.

Mr Jenkins, of Beaumont Crescent, Brackley spotted this "cigar shaped" (pictured below) object back in the summer.

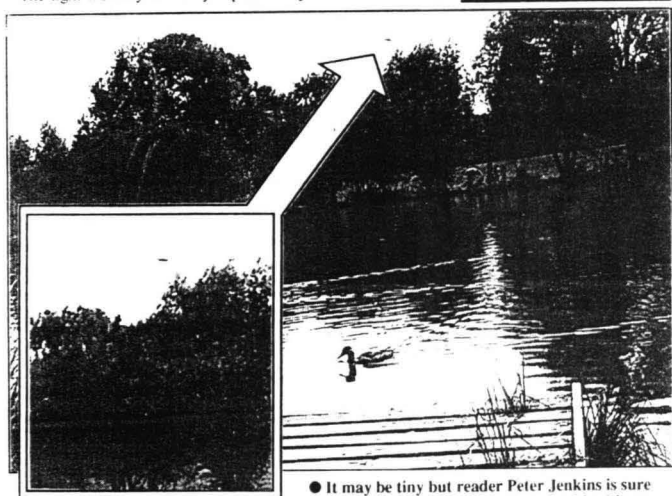
He was visiting St James Lake in Brackley when he saw the mystery craft over the tree tops.

Mr Jenkins says he is "completely baffled" by the unexplained object.

HAVE YOU SEEN A UFO?

If you have had a close encounter or taken a picture of something unexplained 'phone the UFO Hotline now:

(01280) 813434



● It may be tiny but reader Peter Jenkins is sure there is something unearthly about this object

Do UFOs visit Earth for firework fun?

AS FIREWORKS light up the night sky this week during the celebration of Guy Fawkes' Night, take a careful look beyond the kaleidoscopic twinkles for UFOs. Among the M-Files' many reports of alien craft, there are several sightings of UFOs which have taken place on Bonfire Nights of the past.

Sonny Hay, a self-confessed 'opto-sceptic' from Leicester reported seeing a ring of orange stars moving left and right across the city centre, during the afternoon of November 5, 1990.

Coming to communicate

And Neil Emerson, from Ashby, told the M-Files of his sighting on Bonfire Night 1984. While looking towards the Miners' Welfare in Moira, he witnessed a red glowing sphere moving erratically across the sky.

"It definitely wasn't a firework, because it was zooming and banking," he claimed. It would be easy for sceptics to write off such sightings as simply being the vivid rockets and flares of fireworks displays.

But the M-Files is considering a theory that if there are extra-terrestrials 'out there', they may see the colourful flares shooting into the sky from earthly bonfire displays, and come down Earth to investigate or even communicate.

Let us know if you have any sightings of UFO this November 5.

OADB & WIGSTON MAIL, Leicester, England - Nov. 2, 1995

UFO sightings investigated

By GWEN DAMBROFSKY
The Canadian Press

A mystery of paranormal proportions has the Northwest Territories town of Fort Resolution in a kind of trance.

Every evening since Jan. 4, townsfolk have stepped outside and looked up hoping to catch another glimpse of a trio of pulsating, multicolored lights dancing across the cold night sky.

They have rarely been disappointed. "We're seeing exactly the same object every single night," Mayor Euan Hunter said in a telephone interview Thursday.

"Every night, between about five o'clock and eight o'clock. Then it completely disappears."

"It's quite calming actually, especially when all the colors come out from underneath it. Yes, quite a sense of calm."

The unidentified flying object so intrigued a colonel in the Canadian Armed Forces that he and two staff members hopped into a Twin Otter plane last week and flew out for a look-see.

"The witnesses were pretty credible, actually," explained Capt. Susan Gray, public affairs officer for the military in Yellowknife.

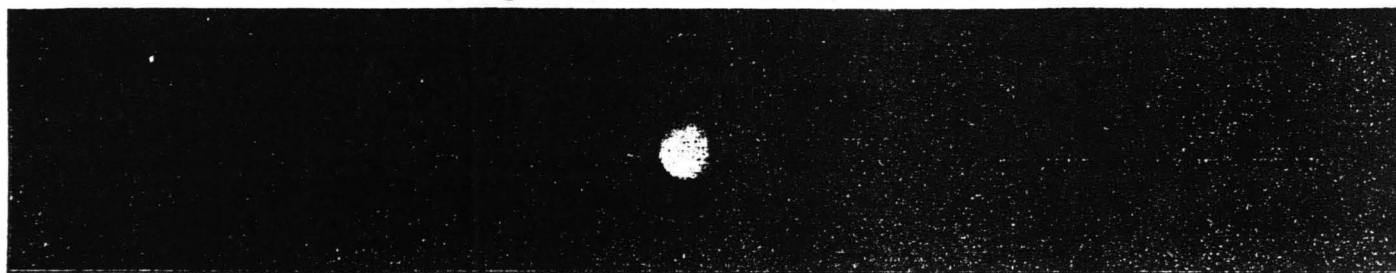
"A few of our Canadian Rangers (Dene and Inuit who serve in a reserve force) had seen it. And the mayor." And the RCMP.

But wouldn't you know it, Gray said — by the time Col. Pierre Leblanc got to Fort Resolution the skies had clouded over and he had to leave without seeing anything.

"I think the general impression was that it was pretty interesting, and we wish we knew what it was," said Gray, who could barely contain her excitement over the phone.

"This the biggest story since I got up here last summer. UFO sightings or paranormal phenomena are not something that Canada's military deals in very often."

REVIEW, [City/Territory Unknown], Canada - Jan. 19, 1996 CR: D. Worley



The Myrree UFO as photographed with an Instamatic camera on Tuesday night. The object, said to be as large as the moon, was photographed from the same spot on which the Simpson family is standing in the picture below.

UFO shocks family

A FAMILY of three have had grandstand views of an unidentified flying object appearing in the skies above the King Valley for the last four nights.

The UFO is providing a summer holiday to remember for Geoff and Robyn Simpson of Brunswick, Melbourne, and their daughter Maree Ross (9½).

They have been camping on a remote paddock in the Myrree farming property run by Carl and Lorraine Monshing.

The UFO was first noticed by Geoff at about 9.30pm on Monday when he took a walk outside the camp.

It appeared above the hills to the west, he said, shining with a brilliant light. Dazzling rays seemed to emanate from its red centre.

Geoff called Robyn and Maree, and they watched the object moving about for more than half an hour until it sank behind the hills, illuminating them with a bright light as it disappeared.

Geoff said the hills were lit up as bright as the MCG.

A dense mist then seemed to flow over hilltops, Robyn said.

By David Newport

Having left their camera at the Monshing's during a New Year celebration the night before, Geoff and Maree committed their impressions of the vision to paper.

Maree said the object looked like a disco ball. She described the centre as being the same color as a Coca-Cola label.

Geoff said the object appeared 4km away and light cloud occasionally moved behind it. It was bigger than the moon and from that distance still looked as large as two cars.

There was no sound from the object.

The UFO has been appearing at about the same time each night ever since, although it is now smaller than on Monday night.

Photos have been taken of it during the last three nights, and the Simpsons have been joined by small groups of visitors keen to experience the mystery.

To them, the object - which is in the opposite quarter of the sky to the



Geoff Simpson, watched by Robyn and Maree, points to the hills above which the UFO has been appearing for the last four nights.

POST, Birmingham, England - Nov. 27, 1995

Mysteries in sky help swell ranks of UFO spotters

By KATIE WATSON-SMYTH
The Birmingham Post

It was a large black object with nine arms and globes of pale lights at the end and it hung in the sky over Smethwick for several seconds before disappearing.

Sightings of apparent unidentified flying objects such as that by one Birmingham man have become so common around the region that the city's UFO watchers have been forced to expand their operations.

Birmingham UFO Society organisers Rob and Marilyn Aldworth said they used to hold meetings in their Erdington home but now so many people are interested that they have had to find new premises.

They have also started a bi-monthly newsletter reporting sightings.

Mrs Aldworth, who herself has only had one sighting in Scotland, said: "There is much more awareness of it nowadays and people are more willing to come forward and describe what they have seen."

"Nobody knows where they are coming from but so many of the descriptions are consistent and fit a pattern so we are trying to investigate them all."

The current obsession with UFOs caused many people in Moseley and Balsall Heath to call *The Birmingham Post* after strange lights were seen in the sky last week. Police could not explain the phenomenon.

However, it turned out to be a Sky Tracker laser being used as part of a show during a dinner at the Forte Crest Hotel, Smallbrook Queensway, for the Birmingham premiere of the latest James Bond film *Golden-Eye*.

But Mrs Aldworth is not to be deterred.

"No-one can say for sure what it is but I am sure that the Government has a lot more information on the subject."

"Many people believe that they come for reproduction purposes and I think that perhaps they need energy because they are often spotted near pylons or around airports," she said.

The society says there has been 14 recorded sightings in the Midlands this year and the common factor is that they all move extremely fast and make no noise.

Mrs Aldworth has compiled a list of the sightings which have included silver balls seen floating in the sky and rotating lights.

She even had a call from three policemen who saw a glowing white object turn green and sink down behind some houses.

A helicopter was even sent out the following day to see if there was any evidence on the ground.

And she claims that several people contacted the society after a huge orb was seen hovering over Tally Ho police club in Edgbaston a few months ago.

nearly full moon - appears as a brilliant white star with many sharply defined spikes.

It seems to hover over a small patch of ground, before drifting away at variable speeds into the mountainous forest area defined in CFA map number 19A.

The amount of aircraft traffic in the skies overhead seems to influence the duration of the object's appearance, Geoff said.

On Wednesday night, one independent witness described seeing a shaft of light

shining to the ground from beneath the object.

And another of Wednesday's witnesses said he planned a bushwalking expedition this weekend to the mountain plateau over which he believed the object was floating.

The sightings are beginning to un-nerve the Simpson family. Geoff has been holidaying in those parts for more than 25 years and has never seen anything like it before.

Every evening before the object appears, the family dogs have been behaving

strangely, running around the camp site and barking, he says. Cows in nearby fields can be heard in distress.

When the object appears, the family's battery-powered cameras have been turning themselves on and off.

The family has no idea what it is they are seeing. All they know is that it is something quite extraordinary.

FOOTNOTE: Data supplied by the Astronomical Society of Victoria shows the 'red planet' Mars has been setting at around 9.40pm each day this week.

'All very strange and mysterious'

Chronicle journalist David Newport went to Myrree to see the UFO last night. Here is his report.

.....

THANKS to my unreliable memory, my navigation was slightly off when two friends and I drove the 50km from Wangaratta to see the Myrree UFO last night.

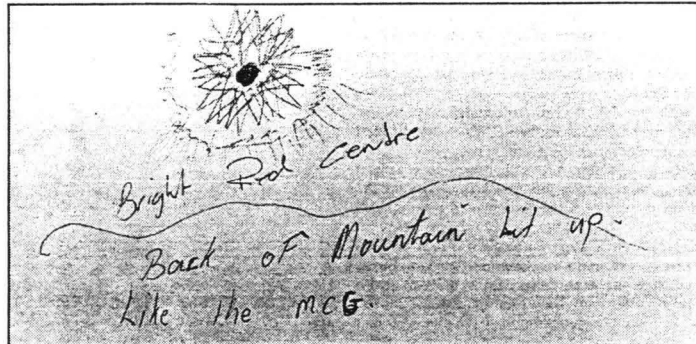
In the dark, we overshot the Simpsons' campsite by about 6km - at first finishing up in a field, following a man on a tractor, and then diverting from the dirt road into someone's back yard, coming to an abrupt halt under their clothes hoist.

The man of the house was most helpful in the event, not reaching for a shotgun as I might have been tempted to do in similar circumstances.

He gave us directions. We became a bit confused by how many hop fields on the right and left we were supposed to count on our way, but we eventually found the spot.

Unfortunately, by the time we arrived the UFO had set behind the hills.

The Simpsons had seen us drive past 15 minutes before, when the UFO was in all its



Geoff Simpson's drawing of how the UFO appeared on Monday night.

glory, and had flashed their 4WD's lights to try to catch our attention.

Even though they failed, there was some consolation. Someone had made a video recording of the object, and we were able to see on replay through the camera's viewfinder what we had missed.

It turned out two of us in the car had seen the object after all, just out the corner of our eyes when we were driving along. Not knowing it was the UFO, we had thought it was simply an unusually bright planet.

The campsite was still and quiet when we got out of the car at a little after 10pm. The dogs had quietened down, the

misbehaving cameras were still again.

Geoff and Robyn smoked constantly to calm their increasingly frayed nerves.

They pointed out where the object had appeared, where it moved and how it vanished.

That night it first appeared at dusk, as a dim point of light in the steadily darkening sky. Then it grew to become larger than the nearly full moon behind us, stayed like that for around 15 minutes and receded just as we pulled up in the Commodore.

Patchy cloud was scudding by, but the atmosphere was clear enough for a panoramic view of the night sky.

Trying to find something

interesting to see, I scanned the heavens through a pair of powerful binoculars. But my unsteady grip distorted the view so much that one suspicious star danced in the lenses, looking like a heart beat traced on a hospital ECG machine.

I gave up on binoculars and resorted to the naked eye. I saw something. "Look," I said, "there's a satellite."

We looked. The satellite traced a slow and elegant path through the sky towards the constellation of Orion. Then, suddenly and inexplicably, it vanished from view.

Was that the UFO? Who knows? It was all very strange and mysterious.

UFO CAPITAL OF BRITAIN



SAUCER CONCERN... local man Ian Macpherson snapped this UFO at a reservoir. We've superimposed it over Bonnybridge

'Flying cigar' swept over us

HOUSEWIFE Katie Swanston can never forget the day she believes she saw a UFO.

Katie, her seven-year-old son Andrew and mother May Higgins, 71, reported seeing a cigar-shaped UFO — a common form of sighting — as they sat in the garden at 9pm one evening last summer. Katie, 32, says: "I'm now prepared to accept there is intelligent life in space."

"There was no noise, no markings or windows and no visible energy source."

"The craft was just a couple of hundred feet up."

"We live on an airport flight path but this was unlike anything I've ever seen."



I'M A BELIEVER... Katie

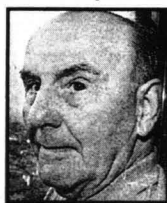
High-rise pair see ship hover

WILLIAM and Mabel Bestall have seen a catherine-wheel shaped craft three times in a year from their seventh-floor flat.

The couple have witnessed the craft fly over the valley and hover over Bonnybridge before turning off its fluorescent white lights and disappearing. Neither local airports nor the police reported any aircraft which could match the Bestalls' descriptions.

William reported their sightings to the local newspaper and over the next few days he was flooded with calls from neighbours saying they had seen the same thing.

William, 73, says: "We're no cranks."



WITNESS... William

9,000 residents.. 2,000 sightings

By JAMES MOORE
A QUIET village has become the UFO capital of Britain.

In the past three years more than 2,000 sightings of unidentified flying objects have been reported over Bonnybridge, which lies halfway between Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Local UFO investigators believe at least 300 of these cannot be explained away by aircraft, weather balloons or other phenomenon.

Nick Pope, the former official UFO investigator for the Ministry of Defence, says that a number of sightings could be extra-terrestrial.

And interest in Bonnybridge, which has a population of just 9,000, has become so great the village is now the centre for

BONNYBRIDGE

STRANGE SIGNS... the village has a worldwide reputation

conferences of UFO specialists from around the world.

Former American nuclear physicist and UFO expert, Stanton Friedman says: "There are several hotspots for UFO sightings like Bonnybridge around the world."

"Maybe they form a part of a group of places being intensively studied. To an alien lifeline one place may be as good as any other to take samples."

Billy Buchanan, Bonnybridge's local councillor, says: "There is something strange

going on in this place. There are level-headed people I have known all my life telling me they have been abducted by aliens."

Billy, 47, began campaigning for an official investigation after he too saw strange lights.

He says: "Hardly a day goes by without someone contacting me about a sighting."

"These are not cranks but people whose opinion I respect. A lot of people are frustrated that they can't get anyone to listen to them. I urge them to go to the police, that's the only

way we are going to get any investigation."

Gary Wood and Colin Wright believe they were abducted by aliens while driving from Bonnybridge to Edinburgh in August 1992.

They claim they lost several hours when power drained from their car after they passed through a curtain of light.

Experiment

After that they believe they were taken into a spaceship to be experimented on by skeleton-type beings.

Under separate hypnosis both recalled exactly the same details.

Malcolm Robinson, 38, from Strange Phenomena Investigations, who has been investigating cases in Bonnybridge since 1979, says: "There is more evidence in this one place that UFOs are visiting Britain than almost anywhere else. Some say it is just planes or weather balloons."

"But the sheer number of sightings makes it difficult to put down everyone's experiences to something like this."

"We are told by the Ministry of Defence that this activity in Bonnybridge does not constitute a threat to national security."

"But it would put a lot of people's minds at rest if they could at least investigate."

CHASED BY SPACECRAFT

ONE of the most chilling stories is told by the Sloggett family.

While walking near their home, Isa Sloggett and children Carol, 29, and Steven, 13, claim they saw a spacecraft that chased them.

Isa, 55, says: "We were all absolutely terrified — and convinced that we had seen a UFO."

"Steven thought he saw a flash of light and something fly over."

"Then we saw this circular craft about the size of a house with two blinding blue lights. It landed in

moorland. I noticed two smaller craft above the first one. Then we heard the sound of what seemed to be a mechanical movement, as if some sort of door was opening."

"I think that's when we began to get really scared. We began to run back along the road. One of the craft in the sky followed us. Eventually it gave up, but we didn't stop running until we got home."

"Our neighbours were sceptical when we told them but now many of them have seen things too."



TERRIFIED... Isa Sloggett

SIDMOUTH HERALD, Devon, England - Nov. 18, 1995

Other sightings of UFOs reported

THE Unidentified Flying Object reported in the Sidmouth Herald recently has prompted callers to contact the Herald's office telling of similar sightings.

Bernard and Margaret Hancock, who visited Sidmouth in May, say they had a similar close encounter to the businessman described to Herald reporters.

And a local milkman phoned to say he regularly sees strange lights in the skies when he does his early morning milk run through East Devon.

The Hancocks were staying in the Fortfield hotel on the

Esplanade in May.

At 3.50 am one night Mrs Hancock was awakened and went to look out the window. She says she saw an object over the sea which had the same oval shape as the one described in last week's paper.

The object was surrounded by a great white light and had red lights at either side but not the blue light at the centre.

It also appeared to have a foot at either side. Mrs Hancock said it was spinning very fast across the sky and disappeared out of their view behind the buildings.

Mr Hancock, who watched the object with his wife said: "We

were both convinced it was a UFO and there's no reason why it shouldn't be. There has to be intelligent life in outer space."

The couple told the hotel manager who asked the police if they knew of anything unusual going on that the Hancocks might have seen, but they did not.

"We were quite sober and everything" said Mr Hancock, who he added that he and his wife had their own theory of why a space ship might have been visiting Sidmouth.

The diggers were working through the night at the time on the sea defences and they think the aliens were curious!

INFORMER, Dartford, England
Sept. 28, 1995

UFO

On the 11th September, while standing at my kitchen window at about 7.30pm, I saw a small yellow object flying about 1,000' in the sky. I carried on with my work looking at it, and after about 10 seconds, I was amazed to see it about a mile away and appearing to be larger. I watched it slowly change into a triangular shape then suddenly it disappeared somewhere over Essex.

HARRY SPACKMAN
Darenth

Did anyone else witness this or a similar incident? Let us know at The Informer.

EVENING NEWS, Scarborough, England - Dec. 4, 1995

Big jump in reports of UFOs

IF there really are aliens from outer space, it would appear from reported "sightings", that Scarborough is proving a popular venue with them.

Compilers of reported UFO sightings say there has been an upsurge in numbers all along the North East coast.

Recorder Paul Upton, of Quest International, Whitby, said: "This year has seen a bumper number of unusual and unexplained sightings across the country and North Yorkshire in particular is registering the highest number."

"It has to be said that the Scarborough area is leading the way."

Activity is being registered north of Bridlington and up the Yorkshire coastline.

Recent sightings in Scarborough include lights flying above Morrison's car park, a grey domed shape above Malton and stationary lights above South Cliff, North Bay, RAF Fylingdales, Scarborough's Spa Complex and Eastfield.

Others have seen activity over Whitby and the village of Egton.

Sightings have increased since early October when dozens of Evening News readers reported a group of lights over Scarborough heading towards the Moors.

Military chiefs said at the time the lights were probably American F15 fighter jets refuelling in mid-air.

But Mr Upton says the sightings were spread across a large area around Scarborough and not everyone could have mistaken the cluster of lights for planes.

"So far this year Britain is going through its biggest ever wave of reported sightings," he said.

"Most of what people are seeing can be rationally explained but there is still a small proportion that defies explanation."

Reports of UFOs can be made to Mr Upton (01947) 602089.



Astronomers narrow the gap between sci-fi and known fact

By David Barton
Scripps-McClatchy News Service

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — For 35 years, Frank Drake has been watching the heavens.

As president of the SETI Institute in Mountain View, he's looking for something extraordinary: signs of life.

"I have to assume there is something out there," he says. "And I'm hoping that we'll have an idea of what or who it is by the turn of the century."

By the turn of this century? As in four years from now?

"It's not out of the realm of possibility," Drake says calmly.

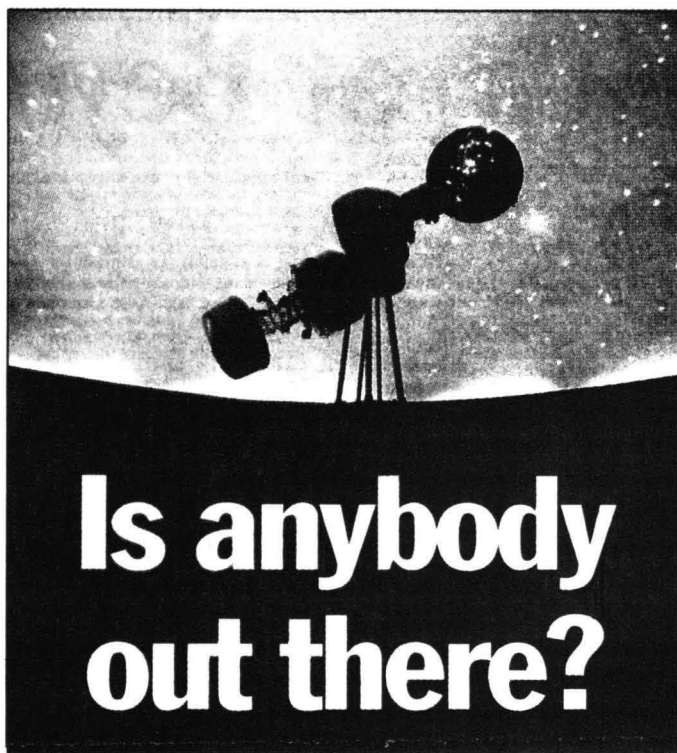
He is not a flake but a trained astronomer, and SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) is not some fly-by-night, UFO-tracking joint, but one affiliated with NASA's Ames Research Center and funded by Intel, Microsoft and Hewlett-Packard.

And although he read science fiction in his youth, his imagination is fired by fact, not fiction. He and his colleagues at the University of California, Berkeley, Harvard University and Carl Sagan's Planetary Society in Pasadena are world-class scientists who are as certain as they can be that there is life in other solar systems. All they need now is some encouraging evidence.

The discovery

They got some last month. Two California astronomers announced they had evidence suggesting that two planets outside our galaxy are orbiting a star similar to our sun. The scientists — Geoffrey Marcy and Paul Butler, both of San Francisco State University and UC Berkeley — say the planets are close enough to their sun to make their surface temperatures hospitable to life.

The recent discovery — along with one in October — confirms what has until now been only theoretical, or the stuff of science fiction: that there are



Is anybody out there?

Chuck Hallas/JA photo director

On a planet far, far away . . . who knows? The planetarium at Bellevue Community College provides a glimpse at the unexplored.

solar systems — stars orbited by planets — other than our own.

If the discovery is confirmed by further research, the impact will be far-reaching. It means our solar system is not unique, which suggests that we may not be, either. It means there could be life out there, intelligent life, searching for us just as we search for it. It could change our view of ourselves and our world. And it could mean a deeper examination of the notions of God and creation.

"If we do find (signs of life), it will be the most profoundly moving discovery in the history of humanity," says Marcy.

He understands these implications, but he cautions that we're not there yet. "We haven't discovered life," he says. "We're actually a long way from

doing that. But what is exciting is discovering the sites, the oases in the universe on which life might arise — on which some chemists would insist life must arise."

That other planets exist — with or without life — is exciting news in itself. "We all see Luke Skywalker dashing from one planet to another (in "Star Wars")," says Marcy. "But (until recently), those (planets) were in the realm of science fiction."

The assumptions

Last month's announcement was a boost to those at UC Berkeley, Harvard and SETI who have made it their mission to monitor deep space, looking for radio signals of distant origin. It confirms some assumptions and encourages others.

"We assume that life isn't very rare, that there is more than one inhabited planet in our galaxy," says Seth Shostak, public information scientist at the SETI Institute. "We've had to assume that planets are plentiful, a dime a dozen. And, now, they're showing that it's true. This is great incentive in the search for life in space."

The existence of those planets was assumed because there are so many stars out there. If there is one other solar system, the theories go, there must be billions of others. Which means hundreds of billions of planets, billions of which could possibly support life.

But what kind of life?

All kinds, presumably, though Shostak says that those we contact will be advanced societies. "The ones we detect are going to be more advanced (since SETI is looking for radio signals). We won't hear from the primitive ones."

The imagination

Beyond that assumption, scientists shy away from speculations about the details of life. That's the role of the science-fiction writer.

Thomas Hanzo, now retired from the UC Davis English department, taught classes on science fiction. He says the forms of life found in science fiction are varied.

"Often times, the books will present the extraterrestrials as a superior race that can give us something that we don't have but at a great price, so we lose something that makes us human," he says.

"Sometimes they're just substitutes for earthly enemies. Sometimes they're like us, but with subtle differences that turn out to be big."

Some science-fiction writers, such as Davis-based Kim Stanley Robinson, eschew that part of the genre altogether.

"I don't write alien stories," says Robinson. "Because I think that they (aliens) would be so alien that we wouldn't even recognize them as such."

Robinson has set his stories closer to Earth. His popular novels, including "Red Mars" — which earned kudos from no less than Arthur C. Clarke, author of "2001: A Space Odyssey" — deal with our immediate solar system,

and for a good reason: That's as far as we're likely to go for a very long time.

That's because the problem of life in the universe isn't just whether or not it's out there — the assumption that it is probably out there is surprisingly widespread, even among scientists — but that it is so far out there.

"Science fiction has made the universe artificially smaller (in readers' minds)," says Robinson. "(Writers) treat galaxies as though they're the Roman Empire, traveling from Greece to Rome. They talk about shifting into hyperdrive and you're there. But we're talking light-years, distances so enormous that the human mind cannot grasp them, let alone think of ways to cross them."

Shostak agrees. "Even if we found life on these (just-discovered) planets, we can't get to them. And they're relatively close, only 35 light-years away. Even in a rocket that goes our standard of about 10 miles a second, it would take us 700,000 years."

The impact

But even if we don't make actual contact, "in the event that we do detect this society, it's going to be important," says Shostak, "even if we are incapable of understanding any radio transmissions. If we get a signal, we'll know they're out there."

And knowing that they're out

there would shake us just as surely as Copernicus shook the established theological foundations of European society when his theory was published in 1543. In it, he posited that the planets revolved around the sun and that Earth was not the center of the universe.

"I think it would be another thing that makes us not the center of our universe," says Dan Werthimer, head of UC Berkeley's Project Search for Extraterrestrial Radio Emissions from Nearby Developed Intelligent Populations (Project SERENDIP).

"At first people thought that the Earth was the center, then it was the sun, then we found that ours wasn't the only sun. Now we learn that there are lots of planets that could be the right temperature for life. So as we progress, we learn that the Earth is not a special place, and if we find life on another planet, that could be the final blow in the Copernican revolution."

"But," he adds, "don't hold your breath."

That caution comes from a man who has been searching the skies for 20 years with an extraterrestrial radio blip to show for it. But he's not discouraged.

"We're just an emerging civilization," he says. "It's going to take us some time to find them, but the fact that we haven't found them isn't very discouraging. We're just learning how to do it. The instruments are getting so much better.

The stuff we use is twice as good as it was the year before."

He pauses, then makes a claim that is nearly as astonishing as Drake's.

"I think we have a fair chance of finding them in our lifetimes."

The reasons

But the question remains: Why do we want to find "them"?

"There are two main reasons," says Drake of the SETI Institute. "People want to know the significance of their own lives. How sacred are we? How important a product of the universe are we? It's an ageless philosophical question. What's our purpose? What might we become? Seeing what's happened to intelligent creatures of other worlds may answer those questions."

"The other is, it's just a great adventure to meet other creatures. How do they think? How smart are they? What do they eat? That's what gives science fiction its fascination — it's like traveling to foreign countries. And there are lesser reasons, practical benefits, new technologies that might help us."

Charlene Anderson, editor of the Planetary Report, the bimonthly magazine published by the Planetary Society in Pasadena, thinks it is yet another form of our human curiosity about ourselves.

"I think we want to see ourselves reflected elsewhere in the universe," she says. "It's more than just

simple curiosity; it's deeper than that. I think we want to prove there's something out there like us."

The philosophical

Despite the repeated mentions of Copernicus, whose theories wreaked havoc with medieval theology, most contemporary theologians haven't spent much time struggling with the religious implications of life on other planets. But some say that the same questions will probably apply.

"Are the wicked things that we do, the propensity for evil, a universal trait of any free agent?" asks Robert John Russell. Russell is a professor of theology and science at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, and the founder and director of the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences.

"That question of sin leads to the question of redemption," he says. "We definitely need to be healed of our sinful natures, but would that be true for moral agents that have evolved on other planets? You might think that life has evolved on lots of worlds, but only on this planet did it evolve along with the fact of wickedness and evil. You might say God is the creator of all life but only redeems life on Earth. It's an open question."

But Russell doesn't resist the idea of life on other planets. "I believe that wherever we find life, we find it to be the intention of God because God's intentions are

expressed in evolution."

The mystery

Father Jim Murphy, communications director for the Sacramento Diocese, says that life from other planets wouldn't contradict Biblical teaching. "For us as Catholics, God is the creator of the entire universe, it doesn't matter how big it is. And the bigger it is, the more awesome is the mystery."

That mystery of life on Earth and how it began and what drives it have consumed humankind for centuries. We still don't even understand the mystery of life in ourselves, let alone what life from another world would mean.

Says author Robinson, despite all the speculation about life in other galaxies: "It's possible that life is very rare in the universe, that it is a fluke, an accident. It can be common as dirt, or we could be the only ones."

That would be really strange indeed, given the number of stars. But ...

He pauses. "We still don't know. In this immense universe, we really could be all alone. In the religious sense or just in the biological sense, this (Earthly life) could be a miracle after all."

IN TOUCH WITH The Great Beyond

By Bill Briggs
Denver Post Staff Writer

Mark Macy was sitting in his bedroom one cold winter day when, he claims, he got a phone call from a dead man. "Probably just my wife," he thought while reaching for the jingling receiver.

"Hello?" Macy answered. "This is Konstantin Raudive," breathed the voice on the other end.

Macy knew the Eastern European accent and rich tones very well. He had heard the Latvian psychologist speak on tape countless times as part of his surreal research. He also knew Raudive had been dead and buried for 20 years.

"This is the first contact you get from us. We have succeeded in establishing a new bridge to the States. You are the first to be contacted by this means."

Then, Macy claims, the line fell utterly silent, cutting a very long-distance connection. The Great Beyond, it seemed, had reached out and touched someone in Louisville.

Do you believe in spirits?

Mark Macy does. And so did Konstantin Raudive. When he was alive, the Latvian psychologist was fascinated with the notion of contacting the dead. And he is credited — in some circles anyway — with discovering a modern pathway to the other side.

Raudive believed spirits needed white noise, like radio static, which they would modulate into voice patterns strong enough to be captured on audiotape. He collected more than 75,000 voices on tape — voices, he claimed, from the afterlife.

"Using an ordinary tape recorder (Raudive) would sit quietly alone, address departed friends and loved ones, and ask them questions," Macy writes in his new book "Conversations Beyond the Light," (Griffin, \$12.95).

"Then he would let the tape recorder run in his laboratory for several hours, monitoring it. The dead answered his questions."

This was the blueprint for what has become Macy's life work. Since 1991, he has been investigating — and earning a small living from — "instrumental transcommunication."

Through ITC, Macy says he and a handful of other American and European researchers have chatted back and forth with "spirit beings," deceased people who have figured out how to use our technology.

There may be phantoms on the fax and bogeymen on the boob tube.

But before you write this off as some strange spinoff of the old "Scooby Doo" TV show, allow Macy to make a pitch for the legitimacy of his weird science.

"ITC differs from other forms of interdimensional communication, such as prayer and channeling, in that it involves large teams of technically astute spirit beings who

can manipulate electromagnetic energies," says Macy, who has been featured in the Los Angeles Times and on NBC.

By mastering these energies, the spirits "are quickly gaining the ability to manipulate the electronic equipment of experimenters on Earth to deliver long messages and clear images" via radio, TV, fax, phone and computer.

If believed, this is the ultimate ghost story. If believed, there's a whole other world living just beyond the light — a place called Marduk.

"It all sounds pretty fantastic," Macy admits from his home office. "But these are the reports we've gotten" from what we would call heaven.

When we die, most of us enter a "regenerating sleep" then move on to Marduk, a planet with three suns in the third astral plane. It is in another physical dimension but superim-

posed right over our own, Macy and his colleagues contend.

On Marduk, where the sky never grows dark, 60 billion souls live in cities and communities clumped along a single, massive "River of Eternity" and its yellow sand beaches. Wounds and amputations regenerate and residents exist at an average age of 25 to 30, the ITC researchers claim.

All the earthly pleasures exist — lemonade, golf, baseball, even sex, though there are no pregnancies. There are palm trees, colorful hummingbirds and butterflies "as large as soup plates," Macy writes.

Inhabitants include cavemen, Vikings and dead celebrities like inventor Thomas Edison, composer Scott Joplin and actor Michael Landon, who apparently found his own highway to heaven. The most common job is that of rescue worker. For that, ITC researchers believe, Mardukians travel to a lower astral plane.

"This is where the ghosts are, a dark, dismal place where (souls) are kind of lost," Macy says. "This is what the early Christians... interpreted as Hell."

It sounds as if the ITC team has been getting incredibly detailed postcards from the edge. And they have, Macy says. Question-and-answer

'With regard to actually having an e-mail message appear on my machine or on any of our customers' machines that has come from the outerworld or the netherworld, I haven't seen that yet. But I'm looking forward to it when it does happen.'

Guy Cook, CEO of Colorado Supernet

phone calls from spirits have been taped, as have one-way radio missives, he claims. A Luxembourg couple once supposedly received computer e-mail from author Jules Verne, who wrote to say he lives now "in a sumptuous palace" with white marble walls.

Of course, there's a catch to all this: These peculiar communiques don't go to just anyone. Macy says skepticism weakens the contact field. You must be a believer. He acknowledges, however, that it's hard to believe unless it's happened to you.

Apparently, it hasn't happened to any Internet users in Colorado, other than perhaps Macy.

"With regard to actually having an e-mail message appear on my machine or on any of our customers' machines that has come from the outer-

world or the netherworld, I haven't seen that yet," said Guy Cook, CEO of Colorado Supernet. "But I'm looking forward to it when it does happen."

Macy knows how all this sounds. His wife is "supportive" though there are times "she shakes her head and can't believe what's going on."

"My father, before he died a few months ago, he kind of humored me, but he was interested in a distant way," Macy adds. "I have other relatives who are Southern Baptist who don't agree with what I'm doing. . . . We have real good family get-togethers but we just don't talk about spiritual things."

Macy, 46, was raised a Methodist but left those roots for ITC after a battle with colon cancer eight years ago. "I almost died. But once they cut it out, everything was real fine after

that. I changed everything about my life — diet, pattern, outlook, and became more loving in the family," he says, always choosing his words slowly and carefully.

"That's when I started my spiritual quest. I began to explore Eastern religions, and my old Methodist (ties), but nothing really grabbed me. I needed even more proof that there was something more to life than the physical," Macy says. "That's when I ran into (Florida ITC researcher) George Meek and saw hard, physical evidence of these communications people have received from the other side."

Now Macy makes a little money by speaking in person and on tape (he

plays recordings of phone and radio dialogues), and by writing newsletters and books on the topic.

But his search, Macy says, has allowed him to hear the meaning of life — as presented by his "colleagues" from the other side.

"They have a message," he says. "They're trying to convince as many people as possible that life continues after we shed our physical body. Once you accept that, your whole life changes. You no longer climb over people to achieve what you want. "You just become more relaxed about life here."

SUN, Vancouver, B.C.,
Canada - Feb. 13, 1996

Radio signals detected from star with planet

Observer News Service

LONDON — Puzzling radio signals have been detected from Virginis 70, the star that was recently reported by astronomers to have a planet.

The discovery has raised hopes that extraterrestrial civilizations may exist, say scientists. However, those responsible for picking up the emissions have cautioned that there is only a slim chance that an alien broadcaster is behind them.

Nevertheless, the scientists — based at the University of California at Berkeley — say they cannot explain the repetitive nature of some of the signals from Virginis 70, in the constellation Virgo. As a result, they have announced that they are going to begin a new search of space near the star later this year.

The discovery was made by scientists working on a project called Serendip 3, part of Seti (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence), a privately funded program.

The researchers attached instruments to radio telescopes carrying out normal scientific surveys to pick up the alien broadcasts — the equivalent of UHF television transmissions. The devices can detect any unusual, repetitive signals that might indicate an intelligent origin.

When astronomers announced last month that they had found a planet orbiting Virginis 70 — a star very similar to our own sun — the Serendip 3 team searched their records for data that the project might have received from space near the star. They found one "highly unusual" set of signals with a repetitive pattern.

CR: G. Conway

DAILY NEWS, Fort Walton Beach, FL - Oct. 25, 1995 CR: R. Reid

Sony scientist stirs controversy with research in ESP laboratory

By PETER LANDERS
Associated Press Writer

TOKYO — Ever had the experience of getting a call from the exact person you were about to dial? If so, Yoichi Sako has something to tell you: It's not just a coincidence.

The world according to Sako is full of supernatural phenomena that are being ignored by "traditional science." Some people can bend spoons just by rubbing them between their fingers, he believes. Others can guess the contents of containers, so long as the "atmosphere" is right.

Lots of people believe in the supernatural, and a few even claim to study it. But there's something unique about Sako: He's a senior researcher for Sony Corp. — the company that built the Walkman, invented the CD player, thanks to the "traditional scientists" disparaged by Sako.

For the last four years, Sako, a 38-year-old graduate of prestigious Tokyo University, has been director of Sony's ESP laboratory, a special research section directly approved by Sony founders Akio Morita and Masaru Ibuka.

There's something heartening about the fact that a major Japanese company still has the money

■ ■ We need to have a holonic and holographic vision. Our ultimate goal is to discover the 'mind or consciousness' that all humanity, and the whole of creation, must possess. ■ ■

YOICHIRO SAKO
director of Sony's ESP lab

to investigate ESP even as the nation goes through its worst recession since World War II and other top companies study layoffs and cutbacks.

But don't talk about cost-cutting to Sako. He insists he's onto serious stuff, "a new technological revolution."

So far, Sako hasn't come up with any ideas that would lead to actual products Sony could sell. That doesn't seem to bother company executives. Spokeswoman Mika Ishida says "the fact that it's being budgeted" indicates Sony believes Sako's research has potential.

But some outside experts are concerned about the research.

Japan has been shaken by the revelation that some of its brightest young people entered the Aum Shinri Kyo cult, which is accused of the March nerve gas attack on Tokyo's subways.

Many of the nerve gas scientists were graduates of top universities who believed cult guru Shoko Asahara's claims of supernatural powers, such as the ability to levitate.

"I'm furious at Sony, absolutely furious," declares Yoshihiro Otsuki, a professor of physics at Waseda University. By financing an employee who believes in paranormal phenomena, "Sony might as well be denying that its products can be trusted," Otsuki says.

Sako says modern science, with its insistence on repeatable experiments and so forth, isn't getting at the things that really matter — like emotion and "spirit."

"We need to have a holonic and holographic vision," he has written. "Our ultimate goal is to discover the 'mind or consciousness' that all humanity, and the whole of creation, must possess."

Confused? Sako has some specific examples. Recently he and his Sony colleagues took two black film canisters and put a bit of platinum in one while leaving the other empty.

Asked which canister contained

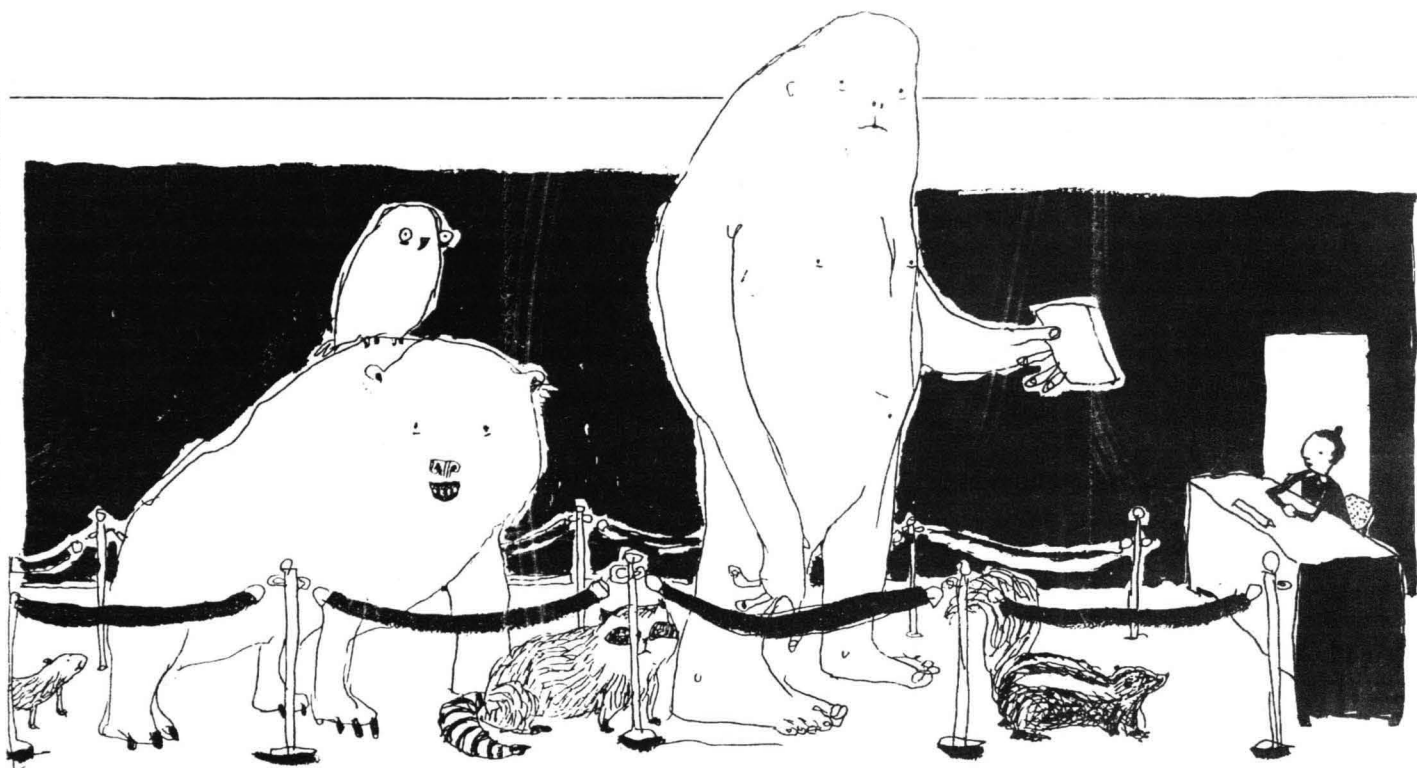
platinum, normal people guessed correctly half of the time, as one would expect. But a certain "supersensitive person" named "T.I." guessed right 70 percent of time, Sako says.

It sounds convincing — but Sako's procedure leaves some doubts. For one thing, he doesn't think highly of the idea that an experimenter should keep an objective distance from his subjects. His goal is to "become friends" with supersensitive types like "T.I."

Also, it seems that only people who already believe in paranormal phenomena are qualified to conduct research into them. The problem, says Sako, is that "these phenomena never happen among the deniers no matter how long you wait."

Then there's the tricky problem of videotape. Sako would love to capture spoon-bending on video, but he says people who can bend spoons suddenly lose that ability when a camera is pulled out.

Sako blames this on "tension" in the "atmosphere" that comes about when supersensitive people know they're being filmed.



Sasquatch-Sensitive Area

Want to develop a King County wetland? Make it comfy for Bigfoot

By Ken Vincent

In the Pacific Northwest, political battles based on development and use of natural resources versus protection of

Wetlands wildlife such as salmon and spotted owls are not new. But King County's official protection of habitat for one particular species of wildlife is a delightful example of a bureaucratic bumble. A Bigfooted bumble at that.

In 1988, Jim Baum bought a long-retired dairy farm on 17 acres of ridge property a few miles west of the Issaquah-Hobart Road in Maple Valley. Baum's plan for buying the place was to supplement his income as a home-remodeling contractor by extending fences over half the property to board horses, and to plant hay on the other half of the property. Baum says all proposed plans checked out fine at the County Courthouse at the time of purchase.

A couple of years later, before he'd managed to do much of anything with his place, Baum came across an opportunity to buy a hay farm in Eastern Washington. Baum found a potential buyer for his Maple Valley spread. The buyer went to the courthouse to check out the records, came back to Baum, told him the deal

was off, and handed Baum a stack of papers showing that the county had designated most of Baum's 17 acres as wetland protected by the King County Sensitive Areas Ordinance (SAO).

"The County Council passed the SAO a year after I bought my place, which means that its restrictions were being developed at the same time I got assurances from the county that I could work my property. Now, it's a class-2 wetland, which means if my dogs run out there, it's illegal."

What can he do with his wetlands property? "I can enhance it as habitat for species present on the 'King County Wetlands Inventory Species List,'" Baum says, as he pulls a multipage county document out of a notebook. The document lists the Latin and lay names for hundreds of species of plants, birds, and mammals that the document states have been observed during wetland field visits. "I can enhance it as habitat for, say, Sasquatch," he says, pointing indignantly to the mammals section of the list where there, between "beaver" and "bobcat," is "*Bipedus Giganticus*—Sasquatch."

Sasquatch? As in Bigfoot? King County protects habitat for Bigfoot? "Sasquatch is part of the Northwest's folklore," says Clint Lank, surrounded by half-packed

boxes in his Smith Tower office as he is preparing to be reorganized elsewhere from his position as acting chief of the county's Agriculture and Resource Lands section. Yes, the King County Wetlands Inventory Species list is genuine, and yes,

One county official chalks up Bigfoot's status as a protected wetlands species to administrative antics within the county bureaucracy.

it includes *Bipedus Giganticus*. "This list was compiled from a variety of sources, including citizen observations. There's no judgment made about whether or not the observations were real or imagined. There have been many sightings of Sasquatch over the years in the Northwest, so it's not surprising it's on the list." Lank offers assurance that the county has not denied any development permits based specifically on critical Sasquatch habitat.

At least not yet. "You know, there are species of gorillas that weren't discovered until the 1930s. There may be some species out there we don't know about, and it may be Sasquatch," he says with a chuckle.

Indeed, there have been innumerable tales of Bigfoot sightings for centuries. The earliest Sasquatch reports were local Indian legends. One of the more recent and newsworthy Bigfoot sightings came from Wes Sumerlin, a hunting guide from Walla Walla, who says he's stumbled upon Bigfoot more than once. "Oh yeah, this is the sixth time I've seen 'em since '61," he says as he relates his latest encounter last summer, this time with a veritable bevy of Bigfoot. Sumerlin describes how he and a couple of hunting buddies were in the Blue Mountains along the Washington/Idaho border when they practically collided with two Sasquatch amid thick forest underbrush.

Sumerlin says the two beasts quickly eluded their surprised visitors. The hunting party collected tufts of the creatures' hair snagged on brush. Samples of the hair were sent to Ohio State University, where Dr. Paul Fuerst, associate professor of molecular genetics, is running a DNA forensics research project regarding the identification of animals killed by

poachers. Dr. Fuerst would not be interviewed on the record, explaining that the scientific journals and his university higher-ups are frowning on media discussion of this project until the results are completed and published. Fuerst was, however, eager to correct one media report that his research had determined the hair was not from a "nonhuman primate." Fuerst said further testing had reestablished the possibility that it was. And Fuerst insisted that, if Sumerlin's Sasquatch fur is a hoax, the project's methodology would expose it.

Sumerlin is delighted that Fuerst expresses such confidence in the research project, and can't wait until the evidence shows that he "is not a crazy old man," and that Bigfoot lives. Sumerlin has done research of his own on the migratory wanderings of Sasquatch, and believes they could inhabit the higher elevations of the western Cascades. However, when asked what he thinks of King County protecting habitat for Sasquatch, Sumerlin demurs. "I'm not so sure that's the government's place," he says. "They (Sasquatch) have two legs; if it gets too crowded for 'em, I think they'd move."

Even less enthusiastic about preserving

Sasquatch habitat in the suburbs is Chris Vance, chair of the King County Council's Growth Management, Housing, and Environment Committee. "I'm a very conservative Republican, but I helped pass our growth management plan here in King County, and I support it," says Vance. "What we're down to today is not debating whether we need wetlands protection or the protection of wildlife; of course we do. Now we're down to discussing the details, and if you look at the details, any reasonable person would argue that having habitat protected for a mythical creature like Sasquatch is stupid!"

But useful, perhaps, for Vance. He and council members have been escalating demands for a "culture change" in the way county departments deal with citizens' problems and concerns with the county's labyrinthine land use codes. It took three years of prodding and a Vance threat to force the county to buy Jim Baum's property in order to get the county to supply the county assessor's office with information needed to change Baum's assessment. Fuming that he still hasn't been able to sell his place for as much as he paid for it before it became a Bigfoot reserve, Baum recounts a meeting where one official

smugly assured him that there is a fair market for protected wetlands. Baum then offered her a commission and a percentage if she could find such a buyer.

The director of the county Department of Development and Environmental Services, Bob Derrick, winces at the prospect of a public guffaw over the county's protection of habitat for Sasquatch. Derrick believes it was someone's joke from a long time ago, and says he'd have it removed from the wetlands inventory species list if it were worth the cost of the process to do so. Vance agrees it was probably a prank, but says he's seen many other similarly silly administrative antics that illustrate what he calls "this bureaucracy's arrogance in dealing with people whose land is being locked up." Vance wonders if the bureaucratic bumble might be humbled if the public gets a glimpse of the county's Bigfoot in its mouth. ●

KEN VINCENT is a reporter and host for KUOW radio; he produced a version of this story for National Public Radio's 'All Things Considered.'

SUNDAY LIFE, Belfast, Ireland
Oct. 29, 1995 CR: T. Good

UFO link to cow carcass horror

A GRISLY animal mutilation at a Co Down farm is being connected with UFO sightings in the area.

Several people in South Armagh and Omagh have reported seeing a large circular ball of light in the evening sky.

At the same time the UFO research group QUEST was contacted by a farmer in Carnlough who reported the mutilation of one of his cows.

Miles Johnston from Quest said: "The cow carcass had been drained of blood, the flesh had been removed from its head and its vital organs were gone."

"The organs were sucked out through a clean incision made by some hi-tech laser device."

"This is the first case of its kind in Northern Ireland but it has happened to thousands of animals in the US and Britain."

A.F.C.
 Box 207
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 Sweden

Nessie's cousin over the water

Some 40 miles west-south-west of the southern end of Loch Ness lies the eastern end of Loch Morar. Twelve miles away at its western end is the village of Morar.

Unlike Loch Ness which, monsters apart, I have always found a dead loch, Loch Morar is enchanting. It empties out of its western end into a small river which runs for only a few hundred yards before passing between the famous white sands of Morar and into the sea. Up this river salmon used to come in their thousands, sea-trout too, although latterly their numbers have dwindled. Also at the loch's western end are a group of attractive wooded islands. But the most interesting thing about Loch Morar is this.

It is, at its centre, by far the deepest freshwater lake in Britain, more than 1,000ft, or a third as much again as Loch Ness. The sea itself does not reach a comparable depth until the end of the continental shelf somewhere to the west of St Kilda; and, like Loch Ness, it is generally believed that at one time the sea covered it. Although Morar is half the length of Ness, its width, varying between a mile and a mile and a half, is almost exactly the same. But whereas Ness is opaque because of the peaty particles in the water, Morar is so clear that at depths that would be impossible in Ness you can easily see the bottom.

I have visited Morar many times since the war, and until quite recently never thought of it as other than ideal for a fishing holiday. That view changed during a chance conversation I had at a dinner party with John Hope, a former Conservative MP, now Lord Glendevon. I was telling him of my interest in the Loch Ness monster when he said: "You know there's supposed to be a monster in Loch Morar too?" I said I didn't. "Yes," he said, "and I like to think I had a tussle with it."

His story was this. In 1924,

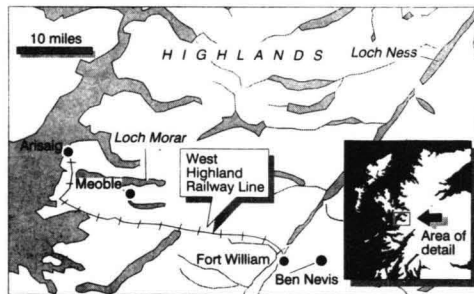
as an Oxford undergraduate, he and his twin brother Charlie Linlithgow were staying with John Sheffield, a friend whose father owned the lodge at Meoble, about halfway up the loch and the last habitation on the right-hand side. They were there for the stalking, but the weather was far too hot for it, the sun blazing down and the surface of the loch a flat calm. These were poor conditions for fishing too, but to pass the time they took a rowing boat out on the loch with some books. In the faint hope of catching a cannibal trout which rarely went near the surface, two of them put on lures with weights to fish deep, while the other rowed. For a long time nothing happened, and for something to do they sang Gilbert and Sullivan.

The ghillie said 'Take my advice, and keep this to yourselves'

"Then, without warning," said John, "something took my lure, and with such force it almost pulled me out of the boat. What it was I don't know, but it certainly wasn't a salmon or trout; they'd have turned away from the boat, keeping near the surface, and would probably have jumped out of the water once or twice. But this thing went down, down, down and at such a rate that if I'd tried to check the line I'd have lacerated my hands. All the 20 yards of line went out and then the 100 yards of backing until there was nothing left on the reel, and then it broke the tip of the rod and was gone."

Charlie Linlithgow confirmed everything his brother had said and added: "When the thing took, there was an enormous boil in the water and behind it I saw a huge grey-brown lump, but no tail or head. What I saw must have been eight or ten feet long." I asked John what was the general reaction and he said: "Total amazement. We didn't fish any more that day. We were all a bit shaken, and when we told the Meoble ghillie about it, he said, 'You'll take my advice and not mention this to anyone'."

It seems that, as at Loch



Ness, the legend of a water-horse or kelpie inhabiting Loch Morar has existed for scores, perhaps hundreds, of years. It goes by the name of Morag. But it was not until 1970 that a group of people, under the leadership of Mrs Elizabeth Montgomery Campbell, came together to make an ecological study of the loch and, at the same time, interview all those who claimed to have seen Morag.

They recorded some 30 sightings and there were many parallels with Nessie. For instance, nearly all the sightings had been made when the weather was fine and the surface of the loch a flat calm and here, too, local people were reluctant to talk about what they had seen.

Descriptions of the creatures were also similar to those of the beasts in Loch Ness. Eight witnesses spoke of the head of the animals as being snake-like or eel-like and supported by a long, thin neck. Nine witnesses described the body as having a single hump similar to an upturned boat, unaware that others had used this analogy before. Ten witnesses said they saw more than one hump (similar variations had occurred at Loch Ness). Again, as at Ness, witnesses were agreed on the

colour of the beasts as being dark — black, brown or a dirty grey. There was one land sighting. Its speed through the water seems to have varied between slow and rapid. And when the creatures disappeared beneath the surface, they followed the pattern of Nessie by doing so vertically.

Most of the sightings read as routinely as those of Loch Ness, but two, I think, are worthy of mention.

On a hot, dry evening in August 1969, Duncan McDonnell of Bracora (opposite the islands on the north shore) and his friend, William Simpson of Malraig, both long-distance lorry drivers, were returning from a trip up the loch in their motor-boat. It was between 9 o'clock and 9.30 in the evening, and the surface was flat and calm.

The boat was approaching the islands at about six or seven knots with Mr McDonnell at the wheel and the kettle was on for tea. Suddenly Mr McDonnell heard a disturbance in the water astern of them and turned to see something very large heading towards them from about 20

yards away. He estimated the speed at between 20 to 30 miles an hour. Mr Simpson thought it slower. Within seconds it had struck the boat; he was convinced that this was unintentional and happened simply because they were on a collision course.

The impact slowed the creature down and also knocked the kettle to the cabin floor. Mr Simpson ran to turn off the gas as the water had doused the flame. Meanwhile, Mr McDonnell got out an oar which he had brought for pushing the boat off the shore and tried to fend the creature off; he struck it quite hard, breaking the oar (which was an old one), but this seemed to have no effect and the creature kept alongside. By this time Mr Simpson had loaded a rifle which was on board and fired in the direction of the beast.

Both men then saw the creature slowly sink away and thought it was the noise of the rifle shot which scared it off.

They estimated the length of the body as between 25ft and 30ft, with a rough skin, dirty brown in colour. Both described three humps about 18ft out of the water at the highest point, but Mr McDonnell later changed his opinion and thought they had seen undulations rather than humps. No tail was seen but Mr McDonnell saw the top of a large snake-like head, brown in colour, about a foot across at the top, perhaps 18in out of the water. No features were visible.

Later, Mr McDonnell thought that they must have seen an overgrown eel, but this may well have been said to avoid further publicity. This

was not his first sighting. According to his interviewer: "He had once seen a head and neck about 3ft out of the water and he had seen a hump on several occasions. However, he did not wish to give details and he knew of a good many other eye-witnesses who would not talk about what they had seen."

The other sighting was quite creepy. It was witnessed by a Bob Duff of Leith who, in July 1969, was fishing in Meoble Bay on the south side of the loch and about midway along it. Again it was a calm day with bright sunshine. Mr Duff's boat, which had an outboard motor, was under way at about two knots and he was peering over the side. The water was some 16ft deep, the sandy bottom almost white in colour and with leaves resting on it.

Mr Duff saw what he described as "a monster lizard" lying on the bottom. It was not more than 20ft long, motionless and looking up at him. The shock at seeing it caused him to rev up and get away as fast as possible, so that he saw it only momentarily. The head was snake-like with a wide mouth and slit eyes. The neck was not visible and its length could not be estimated. It had four legs and the front legs were clearly seen to have three digits each. The body, hind-quarters and tail were only vaguely seen. It was a grey-brown colour, the skin rough, like burnt coke.

Could it be that there is an underground waterway joining Loch Ness and Morar and that within the length of it Nessies and Morags meet to frolic and disport themselves? And if not, why not?

In Bed with an Elephant by Ludovic Kennedy is published on Friday by Bantam Press (£16.99)

It looked like a monster lizard gazing up at him

DISPATCH, Columbus, OH - March 4, 1996 CR: J. Fry



Jennifer Domenick/Dispatch

Don Keating holds a mold of one of the footprints he discovered in Tuscarawas County.

Ohioan stays on heels of Bigfoot sightings

By Rita Price
 Dispatch Staff Reporter

NEWCOMERSTOWN, Ohio — People who don't believe there's a big, hairy anthropoid running around eastern Ohio used to really make Don Keating mad.

"At first I'd think, 'You dirty SOB, I'll prove you wrong some day.' Which, of course, I haven't yet," a smiling Keating said yesterday.

"Now I'm like a duck with water on its feathers; it all rolls off."

"This guy from Inside Edition was interviewing me and at the end he asked, 'Do you believe in the Easter Bunny?' I said, 'No, I haven't seen it.'"

Chase Bigfoot sightings for 11 years and you're bound to catch a sense of humor, if nothing else.

Keating, 33, chairman of the Tri-State Bigfoot Study Group, is still at it, convinced as ever that there's plenty of truth behind the Sasquatch legend.

This weekend the Newcomerstown resi-

dent hosted the group's eighth annual conference, an event that was expected to draw a few dozen participants but instead topped more than 100.

The aim of the meeting wasn't to convert doubters.

"We just want to let people know it may be out there, to ask people to come forward if they have any information, and to ask the general public to be our eyes and ears," said Keating, who said he twice has seen a creature he believes to be Bigfoot.

He also has a videotape — shot accidentally — of what appears to be a Bigfoot walking along a country road. Keating said he was carrying his video camera on his shoulder and didn't realize it was on when he captured the image.

So far, his Eastern Ohio Bigfoot Investigation Center lists more than 228 sightings, with the bulk of them coming from Coshocton, Guernsey and Tuscarawas counties. Franklin County logged just two.

Bigfoot postcards — money goes toward

research only — are "selling like hotcakes" in Newcomerstown.

Piquing the interest of scientists remains more difficult than finding credible witnesses, he said.

Keating eagerly awaited news about a Bigfoot investigator in Oregon who sent tufts of hair recovered near a sighting to Ohio State University last fall for DNA analysis.

Paul Fuerst, associate professor of molecular genetics at OSU, suspended the work in December, saying news media interest was becoming disruptive.

Keating doesn't see why scientists are reluctant to suppose they've missed something — namely, a tall, furry, muscular and elusive primate.

"They estimate there are more than 100,000 aquatic species not yet known to exist," he said. "Science finally catches up with some of them and says what they are. I just think Bigfoot's another animal running around the woods that science hasn't caught up to yet."