

UFO

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COURIER-JOURNAL, Louisville, KY -- April 28, 1996 CR: J. Slone

True stories or flights of fancy? Alien abductees have no doubts

By JOHN VOSKUHL
Staff Writer

One could tell this wasn't a run-of-the-mill discussion group when the man at the podium asked all those in the audience who'd been abducted by aliens to raise their hands.

Five hands went up.
There was Steve Steinmetz, 29, an employee at a Louisville-area camera shop who told of encountering an alien while visiting his grandmother in rural Ohio. It looked like a stoplight that hovered noiselessly in the air, he said.

There was Li Ting Wei, 29, the manager of a local Taco Bell, who said he thinks he was abducted by aliens because he recently lived through what people who watch "The X-Files" or talk about alien abductions call a "lost-time episode."

In other words, he has no recollections of his whereabouts on a recent day. He dropped his children off at day care, he said, then lost consciousness until 9 p.m.

Godparents picked up the children, he said.

"I don't drink either," said Wei, who acknowledged that he's merely guessing he had an alien encounter.

"I don't know — it's possible that I blacked out and went on a killing spree," he quipped. "But I don't think so."

There was a woman who said she was abducted by some beings in what looked like a stealth bomber. She said they inserted a jeweler's tool in her nose. She recognized it, she said, because she's a jeweler.

Ever since, however, she's been plagued by a question: "Why stick a jeweler's tool up my nose?"

She declined to give her name to a reporter.

In fact, many of the 16 people who attended yesterday's discussion of alien abductions at the Highlands-Shelby Park branch of the Louisville Free Public Library declined to give their names to a reporter.

One woman said she was abducted by beings in what looked like a stealth bomber. She said they inserted a jeweler's tool in her nose.

Their reluctance wasn't paranoia exactly — though discussion leader Rahma Ben Argos and Steinmetz agreed that "certain unnamed government agencies" are trying to prevent the dissemination of accurate information about aliens.

("If you don't accept this, it's because you haven't experienced it ... or you're on the take," Steinmetz said.)

One woman explained her reluctance this way: "I'm concerned about getting a lot of negative energy that I might not be ready to receive."

The gathering was the brainchild of Argos, 26, a free-lance artist who said he became aware of his own alien ab-

ductions when he sought therapy to try to account for lost-time episodes.

But Argos said he doesn't really like the term "alien abductions," though he used it in his advertisement for yesterday's discussion.

He prefers "visitors" and "communion," he said, words that he thinks describe more accurately the intent of the beings with which he has communed.

Argos classified his visitors four ways — the "Grays," who are gray and about 4 feet tall with large black eyes; the "Greens," who are taller and green; the "Blues," who are "gnomelike"; and the "Beings of Light," who are "humanoid in form and ... encompassed in light."

They all seemed nice enough, he said, but "for all we know, their intentions might be to conquer us, like in some B movie."

Argos' friend and co-sponsor of yesterday's discussion, Doug Ezell, 19, acknowledged that no proof — "no geometric or mathematical proof" — that there is extraterrestrial life emerged during yesterday's discussion.

But most of the participants were well beyond needing any proof. Argos, for his part, offered a kind of basis for his belief that something is out there:

"If they're not here, there are thousands if not millions of wackos running around out there."

SPOKESMAN-REVIEW, Spokane, WA
March 30, 1996

UFO report has its spin

Hovering 'ball of rainbow' with ring of lights no yarn, say several Spokane Valley residents

By Ward Sanderson
Staff writer

They aren't saying it was some kind of Klingon spaceship, and they aren't saying it was a James Bond spy plane.

But they are saying it was weird.

Several people saw something unusual hovering in the skies over the Spokane Valley between 8 and 9 p.m. Thursday. One family captured it on videotape.

Tessa Whipkey, 13, said she had the closest encounter of them all.

Tessa and her 11-year-old brother, John, climbed onto the roof of the family's garage near 12th and McDonald in the Valley for a closer look. Their grandmother had called moments earlier to say she saw a ball of light in the sky.

"It looked like a ball of rainbow, just spinning out everywhere," Tessa said. John ran inside for a camera.

The Evergreen Junior High student swears the object raced toward her, stopping 30 feet above her. She ran screaming into the house.

Sound like a crazy kid story? Maybe. But when Tessa tells it, her blue eyes turn red and watery, she shakes and chokes on the words.

The phone call that provoked Tessa's nighttime adventure was one in a string that started with a Valley couple living on Liberty Avenue near Park Road.

Julie and Randy Stone were just getting into bed at about 8 p.m. when they noticed what looked like a giant white star outside.

It had a ring of rainbow-colored lights at the bottom. With binoculars, Julie Stone said she could see that the glowing globe was spinning.

Stone said what she saw wasn't Comet Hyakutake.

"I know what (the comet) looks like. That wasn't the comet," she said.

Stone then called neighbor Lea Rosales, who is Tessa's grandmother.

"I'm not an alien chaser or anything, but I saw something," Rosales said. "If the moon were a basketball, it would have been a baseball."

Rosales thought maybe it was a weather balloon or plane, because she lives near Felts Field.

Norman MacDonald, who works at the private air field's front desk, said he hadn't heard about anything strange that night.

MacDonald and Douglas Klaue, a Felts Field pilot, said weather balloons don't have colored lights. The men think it may have been a hovering helicopter.

"Other than that, I can only say it was a high-cost, secret government project," MacDonald said, chuckling. He said he would keep an eye out for green or scaly pilots.

One retired Air Force lieutenant colonel wasn't kidding around, though. Jerry Rolwes is the assistant Washington state director of the Mutual UFO Network, a national organization that investigates sightings.

He said he would like to see the videotape, made Thursday night by Karen Hazlett, who lives on Bowdish Road near Sprague.

Hazlett swears the object got bigger in the sky, as if it was coming toward her, and later retreated.

The tape shows a round, shimmering silver object twinkling in the night, with Hazlett's 11-year-old daughter, Tara, yelling "Mom, it's spinning!"

And 13-year old Tessa?

"I know it was real," she said, her voice losing its waver and catching conviction. "And it scared me."

RECORD-HERALD, Waynesboro, PA -- March 14, 1996

'UFOs' have tongues wagging

By JILL ERCOLINO
Staff writer

FANNETTSTBURG — For the past four nights, it's been hovering over Path Valley and Amberson Valley and occasionally flashes blue, pink and white lights.

Lots of people have seen it. But they don't know what the heck it is.

Could it be an alien spaceship as some have suggested? There are those who aren't convinced.

"I'm a UFO nut, but I think it's probably a hoax," an employee at Lakeview Motel and Restaurant said, adding that whatever it is, the UFO sure has tongues wagging. "It's got everybody in an uproar up here."

"They talk about it at breakfast, they talk about it at lunch, they talk about it when they walk out the doors," said Patty McNemar, a cook at T.J.'s Restaurant in Willow Hill who saw the flying object

around 9 Wednesday night.

Does she think it's an alien spaceship?

"No, I don't...I just thought it was a neat thing to see," she said.

The sightings were first reported Tuesday on Mix 95's morning radio show, featuring Rick Alexander and Lisa Harding. Since the news broke, listeners have been calling daily with reported sightings, Alexander said this morning.

Curious, Alexander traveled to the outskirts of Amberson to join a crowd of UFO watchers last night. The Path Valley area in northern Franklin County also includes the towns of Fannettsburg, Spring Run, Dry Run and Willow Hill. Many of the sightings have been in the area of Amberson Mountain.

"Whatever it is, I saw it," Alexander said. "It was

on the morning show.

But he probably won't hear from a member of the Fannett-Metal Fire Co., who's heard all the rumors, but still doesn't plan to check them out.

"Until they land in my back yard," he said, "I don't give a darn."

spherical in nature and had spider-like legs. Occasionally, it would flash different color lights."

Alexander said he saw the object moving around in the sky around 7:15 p.m. and that it stayed there for about two hours.

While he has "no real belief one way or the other," he'll continue to take calls about the UFO

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

UFO enthusiasts search for answers to solve unexplainable phenomena

BY MARGARET MOFFETT BANKS
Staff Writer

They want to believe.

For a moment in February, UFO seekers thought they had proof when news surfaced of an oval-shaped area of dead grass on a Stoneville farm.

The site had all the trappings of a close encounter: A 15-foot by 25-foot burned area in an open field. Close proximity to a high voltage line, common to UFO sightings. Two square, symmetrical indentations within the oval area — marks from high-tech thrusters, perhaps?

Turns out, regional UFO experts discovered, the spot resulted not from a visiting spaceship but from a more common phenomenon: lightning.

But that doesn't mean all UFO reports can be explained by science; about 5 to 10 percent of reported incidents can't. It's the unexplained minority of incidents that keep the few UFO researchers who live in Rockingham County studying this controversial subject.

"(Rockingham County) is not a rich county for ufology," said John Crutchfield, local UFO expert and dean of RCC's math and science department. "But it's nice to run into people who have had experiences."

Reports of UFO sightings or abduction stories are running gags in mainstream society. People who come forward often are labeled "wacky" for their "frivolous" association with something beyond proof.

Suddenly, the sky turned "twilightish," he said. A circular object appeared about 100-150 feet in the air — just above the treetops. It was dark red around the rim, changing to bright orange in the center.

The light was "bright but not blinding." It moved slowly across the sky without a sound. No engines, no buzzing. Crutchfield, a licensed pilot, now knows the object's pattern was inconsistent with airplanes.

The boys rushed home and told their parents, who viewed the 15-year-olds' sighting with skepticism. They scoured the papers the next day, but found no reports.

"To this very day, this is not a resolved issue," he said.

Since then, Crutchfield has immersed himself in UFO-related information. The astronomy professor — a conservative-looking man with neat hair and wire-rimmed glasses — keeps current on research and attends nationwide Mutual UFO Network conferences.

He's part of a growing number of ufologists who take a methodical, research-oriented approach to the field, yet struggle for acceptance, academic and otherwise. Though the majority of MUFON members have advanced degrees, their work is often belittled.

But Rockingham County's small towns aren't without people sympathetic to the possibility of visitors from other planets. In March, 19 people gathered for one of Crutchfield's UFO "updates," hosted by the Rockingham County Naturalist Club.

Its members view the subject with open — albeit skeptical — minds.

"There's nothing wrong with knowing what's going on around us, what other people believe," said Floyd Rich, the long-time naturalist club president who invited Crutchfield to speak at the first meeting in 1972. "We want as many answers as we can get to come to a better conclusion about the subject."

This time, Crutchfield's topics ranged from routine sightings to violations of the laws of physics — aliens who can walk through walls.

One common theme, though, was his belief. "They do exist. They're real," said Crutchfield, who holds a master's degree in nuclear science and engineering from the University of Cincinnati. "You all may have an opportunity to encounter one and it's not particularly a pleasant thing."

Crutchfield — he's one of three Rockingham County members of Greensboro's Mutual UFO Network — claims to have firsthand knowledge. In 1954, he and a schoolmate were camping near the old Reidsville water works plant on Fairview Drive, right on the edge of the Pennrose Park Country Club area.

Take Harvard psychologist John Mack, M.D., the first Ivy League professional to lend credence to abductions — kidnapping by aliens. His book "Abductions: Human Encounters with Aliens" caused a ruckus in Harvard's hallowed halls. Once a confirmed skeptic, Mack is now a believer. He's found himself on the outs with other scholars.

That's why Crutchfield keeps a low profile. Aside from a few talks to civic and school groups, Crutchfield rarely discusses his UFO studies in public. And when he does, he tries to be low-key and nonthreatening, professional and scientific.

It's a disappointing hobby, he said. Progress is sporadic. Scientists can't control it. And society thinks it's freakish.

"Everybody wants an answer," he said. "If you can't show them, they don't believe it."

In their struggle to gain respectability, ufologists have turned scholarly. In addition to Mack's book, there's the Journal of UFO Studies, which features articles by academic types.

They're quick to distinguish hoaxes — there are many — from legitimate, unexplained phenomena. And their mission is scientific investigation, followed by public education.



John Crutchfield, a local UFO expert and dean of Rockingham Community College's math and science department, works on a time experiment during his physics class.

"There seems to be a real phenomenon of some kind and it's deserving of study. That's what science is all about," said another Rockingham County member of the Mutual UFO Network who asked not to be identified, fearing ridicule from the community.

The man — an educated professional with a military and scientific background — was the first field investigator to analyze the Stoneville anomaly.

"This is nothing unusual," he said of the discovery near the home of Elizabeth Moyer, who lives on N.C. 135 in Stoneville. "Power lines are hit frequently (by lightning). There's nothing special about that."

He didn't arrive at that conclusion overnight. In a scientific process akin to solving a Sherlock Holmes mystery, he and other volunteer field investigators used strict research methods outlined in a training manual.

In January, the local man interviewed Moyer and her son, Willie Sam Moyer Jr., after reading about the mysterious grassy area. He took soil samples, measurements and sketches of the patch.

A few days later, he was joined by more Mutual UFO Network members who brought "Ghostbusters" technology — an electromagnetic, magnetic and radiation field detector called a multimeter.

All readings: negative.

They ruled out two other possible explanations: a mini-tornado and cattle, who might have gathered in a circle and trampled the ground.

That's when investigators turned to a meteorological explanation. Lightning was reported at a high-voltage transmission line 167 feet away from the spot in question in November 1995 — around the time the spot appeared on Moyer's land.

What's more, the tower showed evidence of fresh welding, as if it had been struck, too. And a utility company had recently replaced the insulators.

The official explanation, as determined by the Mutual UFO Network? Forked lightning probably burned the grass, leaving two identical marks (mistaken for thrusters) in the ground.

Not everyone is convinced. Willie Sam Moyer Jr. believes something landed on the sight, and even claims he saw an impression in the grass where the spaceship's door opened.

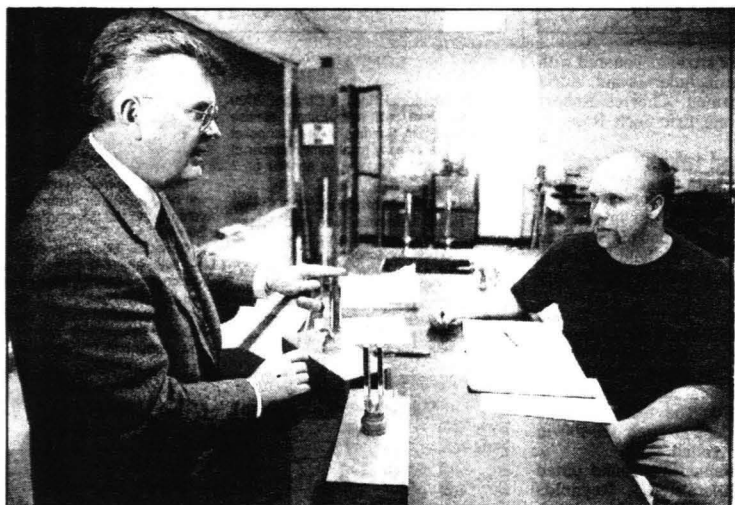
Moyer isn't alarmed, though. He's been comfortable with other-worldly beings since his first UFO sighting in 1985.

"It doesn't scare me at all," he said. "In fact, I'm glad. It lets you know we're not alone."

HOT UFO TOPICS

UFO-watchers are specialized these days. Here are a few of the hot topics for ufologists:

- Abductions
- Ability by aliens to walk through walls • Alien bases
- Animal mutilations
- Association with water and power plants
- Black helicopters
- Cover-ups
- Craft design
- Craft propulsion systems
- Crop circles
- Cross-breeding
- "Nordics," "Men in Black," "Military Men" and other mysterious figures associated with abductions
- UFO crash retrievals
- UFO location studies
- UFO statistics
- Use of regression hypnosis to reveal alien abductions



Tom Copeland / The Ledger

UFO researcher John Crutchfield discusses tone and pitch with student Dale Gallilugh during a physics class at RCC, where Crutchfield is dean of the math and science department.

ⓈThere's nothing wrong with knowing what's going on around us, what other people believe. We want as many answers as we can get to come to a better conclusion about the subject.Ⓢ

Floyd Rich Rockingham County Naturalist Club president

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LEDGER, Rockingham, NC -
April 7, 1996)

Convention to address UFO topics

GREENSBORO — Some of the biggest names on UFO-related topics will share their findings this summer at ufologists' convention.

The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) 1996 UFO Symposium is scheduled for July 5-7 at the Koury Convention Center. This year's theme is "Ufology: A Scientific Enigma."

Headliners for the event will be Whitley Strieber, author of the best-selling book "Communion," and Harvard psychiatrist John Mack, who wrote "Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens."

Other confirmed speakers for hour-long presentations are:

- Therapist John Carpenter, also an abduction researcher

- Vincent DiPietro, who researches alleged faces on Mars

- Carlos Guzman, UFO researcher from Mexico

- Author Budd Hopkins, abduction researcher

- Author Antolito Huneeus, columnist for Fate magazine

- Bruce Maccabee, UFO researcher and a former photo analyst for the U.S. Navy

- Philip Mantle, "autopsy" film researcher from London

- Author Kevin Randle, who investigates the sight of the alleged UFO crash in Roswell, N.M.

- Jeffrey Sainio, photo and video analyst, and UFO researcher

- Chris Styles, UFO researcher from Canada

- Author John White, who has written 15 books on consciousness and higher human development

Vendors will be available to sell new books, scientific devices and UFO-related items. Admission to vendor displays is \$1.

Registration for the symposium will be from 3-7 p.m. Friday, July 5 and 8-10 a.m. Saturday, July 6. Presentations will be held Saturday and Sunday. Cost is \$55 per person before June 29, or \$60 at the door. Cost of the five separate sessions are \$15 each, payable at the door.

A reception with music and cash bar will be held from 6-9 p.m. Friday. Admission is \$10 per person in advance or \$12 at the door.

To pre-register, call (910) 273-7618, or write: MUFON 1996 UFO Symposium, P.O. Box 5149, Greensboro, N.C. 27403. Credit card orders will not be accepted.

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BERKS THE BIZARRE

Strange aircraft identified as topic of long-kept secret

■ A military veteran and skeptic says his troubling encounter occurred 10 years ago along Old Route 22, east of Lenhartsville.

By Charles J. Adams III
Eagle/Times Correspondent

He is a school administrator. He is the father of two and a pillar of his rural Berks County community.

He is trusted and respected. And, he saw a flying saucer.

For reasons which should be obvious, the man who says he witnessed the daylight hovering of an alien spacecraft does not want his name revealed. It's a matter, he said, of that trust and that respect.

"If I read about a fellow who told the story I'm about to tell you," he said in an interview, "I would myself question his trustworthiness. But I swear to you that every word is true."

A military veteran and self-described skeptic about the supernatural and paranormal, the man nonetheless says he has no doubt that what he saw that Saturday afternoon 10 years ago was a craft with unearthly origins.

"I was alone, of course — and without a camera — driving along Old Route 22, somewhere east of Lenhartsville," he recalled. "It was a Saturday, about 3 p.m., and I was minding my own business, coming back from a friend's house near Krumsville."

"I was just driving along when something caught the corner of my eye. For all intents and purposes, it was an airplane. It was coasting along to my right, not much higher than the hillside."

"That's when I thought something was a little strange. That plane was flying very close to the ground, and was maybe in trouble. So, I slowed to a crawl for a closer look."

"The first thing I noticed was that it was very, very silvery and shiny. It looked like smooth aluminum foil shining in the sun. It was cigar-shaped, and had what I can best recall and describe as very short wings. Actually, they didn't seem to be wings at all."

"Anyway, I figured it was a toy, a model, or a balloon. I pulled over to the side of the road and realized that it was none of those. Strangely enough, I can't recall any other car passing me in either direction at the time. But, I was riveted on the plane, or whatever it was."

"I then noticed that it was hovering. It seemed to be absolutely still, and totally quiet. I shut off the engine of the car and listened. I heard nothing."

"It started out maybe 200 yards to my right, and seemed to drift to within 50 yards of me. When it got that close, I could very plainly see windows, a band of blue-green lights which wrapped all around it, and a distortion which indicated to me that it was very hot."

"You have to believe that at that point I was totally enraptured by this thing. I really wasn't thinking 'UFO' at the time. I just wanted to find out what it was."

"It was definitely not a balloon, and I figure it was about twice the size of an average American car. That's about the most I can tell you because within about a minute or two, it turned over on its side and shot out of sight."

"It didn't go straight up or anything, but almost. It just vanished — faster than any airplane I ever heard about."

That was that. "I just stood there stunned," the man said. "I must have stared in the sky for about three more minutes, and then just got back into my car, started up the car and drove home."

Who was the first to hear of his sighting?

"You are," he told this reporter.

"I've kept that little episode inside me for 10 years. When your story comes out in the paper, I'll tell my wife and maybe my kids that it's about me."

"Maybe they'll believe me, maybe not. And, if they don't, maybe that's for the best."

Charles J. Adams III is an Eagle/Times correspondent. He is the author of "Ghost Stories of Berks County," Books 1-3, and 14

other books on regional folklore. His latest effort, "New York City Ghost Stories," is now available at area bookstores.

Readers are encouraged to submit their personal experiences with the supernatural to Charles J. Adams III, Reading Eagle Company, Box 582, Reading, Pa. 19603-0582

Psychologist loses bid to regain his license

■ Then: In 1993, Sacramento clinical psychologist Richard J. Boylan was sued by three patients. They alleged that Boylan, president of the Sacramento Valley Psychological Association, had used his belief in extraterrestrial life and UFOs to diagnose and treat their emotional problems.

The women claimed Boylan's counseling left them dependent upon him as a "father-like figure," and that he asked them to sit with him nude in hot tubs and join him in nude exercises. Boylan denied the sexual allegations and defended his therapy as meeting acceptable standards.

The patients also complained to the state Board of Psychology, which last year revoked Boylan's license. The Board of Behavioral Science Examiners also revoked Boylan's licenses as a child counselor and clinical social worker.

■ Now: Sacramento attorney Joseph C. George, who represented the patients, said they settled their suits out of court and the terms are confidential.

In January, Boylan went to court arguing that his licenses were wrongly taken away. On Feb. 8, the court turned him down.

Boylan said he is exploring other legal remedies, noting that the legal problems have devastated him financially. He has appealed for financial help on the Internet, saying his counseling and writings about UFO cover-ups led to "character assassination."

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EAGLE, Crestone, CO -- April 1996 CR: W. Jones

Unexplained sightings continue in valley

by Christopher O'Brien

The Greater San Luis Valley has been quietly experiencing a resumption of heightened levels of anomalous-appearing activity. Discs, huge flying barges, fireballs, and red lights "bouncing on the ground" have all been reported this past fall and winter. Most of these reports have not been publicized in the local media, but one event, January 25, 1996, just after sunset, was videotaped by Center resident James Armijo and reported by Mark Hunter in the Valley Courier.

As many Eagle readers know, the San Luis Valley has probably always been a hotbed of activity yet very little photographic evidence has been obtained by area witnesses. This changed with Salidian Tim Edward's footage on August 27, 1995. With all those camcorders around it's inevitable that more quality footage will be obtained.

"I Always Look Toward the Sky"

The local press visited with

James Armijo and his wife in Center, February 7, 1996.

Armijo, a gregarious man of 31, told Valley Courier reporter Mark Hunter, and this Eagle gumshoe, he had been at his cousins house off Highway 17, six miles north of Alamosa, on January 25th when, while standing in the yard, he noticed a bright silvery object hovering low over Green Mountain to the west.

He alerted his cousin and they watched it for several seconds. Armijo claims he suddenly remembered he had his video camera in his truck. He ran and grabbed it and immediately focused on the object that appeared to be disappearing over the mountains.

Much to his surprise, he noticed two more objects to the south hovering 5 to 10 degrees above the horizon. He focused in on one of them and as I watched the footage in fascination in his living room he told me, "if you really look at it, you can see it spinning? After

pulling back to show both objects, he zooms in on the third object. The footage ends with another shot of both objects.

Rewinding the footage, I scrutinize the close-up image of the second unusual objects hovering in his videotape. "I was born and raised here and I've seen them all my life. I always look toward the sky." He is convinced that he will capture additional objects. "This is nothin' bud, you wait and see what I get... I'm always looking." He went on to describe two other sightings he and his wife had had in the prior two weeks that he had been unable to videotape. I asked his wife what she thought of their sightings. She said, "I don't want to believe, but I have to, I've seen them."

Expert photographic analysis may give us some further insight into the objects Amijo captured on his camcorder. The footage will be analyzed by the Paramount Television program Sightings.



X-FILES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS: LAURANCE ROCKEFELLER FUNDED A U.F.O. REPORT ON "A NEW CLASS OF PHENOMENA."

Rockefeller Greets Aliens! A Rich Guy's U.F.O Dream

At 85, Laurance Rockefeller Looks to the Heavens,
Funding Bootsie Galbraith's Flying-Saucer Tome:
'We're Only Giving It to Really Top People ...'

BY ALEX KUCZYNSKI

"You know, there are 200 billion star systems in the galaxy, and there are 200 billion galaxies in the universe," said Marie Galbraith, a trim blonde woman in her 50's, as she reclined in her sun-dappled, sparsely furnished office on Madison Avenue, her diamond bagatelle rings flashing. She lifted her blue eyes heavenward. "We're just a little zilch."

But some zilches have deeper pockets than others. Last year, Mrs. Galbraith, who is married to Evan Galbraith, the investment banker and former Ambassador to France, went to Laurance Rockefeller, the 85-year-old environmental activist and venture capitalist, and got him to fund a 169-page document titled *Unidentified Flying Objects Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence*. The report was co-authored by Mrs. Galbraith and a Virginia-based aviation writer named Don Berliner, who is affiliated with a group called the Fund for U.F.O. Research.

Mrs. Galbraith said she is distributing her report to "leaders of the world."

"We're only giving it to really top people," said her co-author, Mr. Berliner. "Not ordinary people like you and me. I guess the only reason I have a copy is I wrote the thing."

A copy of the report was obtained by *The Observer*. It is a perfect-bound document with a sky-blue cover stamped in silver. On the acknowledgments page, Laurance Rockefeller is listed first, "for his vision and support, financial and otherwise." Underneath the second heading, thanks is given to "Marie (Bootsie) Galbraith, for the original idea."

Fraser Seitel, Mr. Rockefeller's spokesman, confirmed that Mr. Rockefeller funded the report at a cost of around \$30,000. But he said that Mr. Rockefeller did not endorse the findings. "He is interested in Government disclosure of reported activities in this area," said Mr. Seitel. "Laurance's feeling is that he is not convinced one way or the other. But he is interested in learning what the Government has on file. ... He's really quite an eclectic person."

Mr. Seitel said Mr. Rockefeller would not comment on the report.

In an interview in her office, the aforementioned, cashmere-clad Bootsie Galbraith discussed Nikola Tesla and Albert Einstein, Westinghouse and General Electric, secret weather balloons and photographs of alien autopsies on the Internet. "We have to challenge basic assumptions," she said. Then she opened the report and pointed to a dark oval-shaped blob, hovering in a reproduction of a painting of the Madonna and John the Baptist by a follower of Fra Filippo Lippi, which hangs in the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence.

She turned the page, to two magnifications of the blob, which looked a lot like a squashed bug the artist didn't bother to wipe off the canvas. The caption read: "Further enlargement shows an oval or discoid craft radiating gold spikes of light painted around its perimeter. In other words, what today would be called a U.F.O."

"This is as dramatic as Copernican theory," Mrs. Galbraith said. "I mean, [Giordano] Bruno was burned at the stake for this!"

MR. ROCKEFELLER'S JY RANCH

While Laurance's father, John D. Rockefeller Jr., rescued New York City during its bleakest moment in 1929 by pumping \$135 million into the city's economy to erect Rockefeller Center among the flophouses, the son prefers a less tangible product. In recent years, Mr. Rockefeller has become known as a supporter of eclectic ventures. He funded embattled Harvard psychiatrist John E. Mack, whose work with alleged alien abductees was loudly criticized last May by his colleagues at Harvard. In fact, from 1993 to 1995, Dr. Mack's Cambridge-based, nonprofit research institute, the Center for Psychology and Social Change, received about \$250,000 a year from Mr. Rockefeller.

"It made Harvard remember Timothy Leary and made people think of Harvard in terms of that crackpot fringe," remarked C.D.B. Bryan, author of *Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind: Alien Abduction U.F.O.s*

and the Conference at M.I.T.

According to Michael Luckman, director of the New York Center for U.F.O. Research, Mr. Rockefeller has financed at least two recent meetings of a group called the Starlight Coalition, which, Mr. Luckman said, is "composed of former intelligence officers and military officials from the Pentagon who are prepared to talk about extraterrestrial contact."

Mr. Luckman added that Mr. Rockefeller once funded a group that tried to make contact with alien visitors. "You know that scene in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, where they use music as a way to make contact?" asked Mr. Luckman. "It's just like that, except Rockefeller uses these big halogen lamps."

Mr. Luckman said Mr. Rockefeller has also held a U.F.O. conference on his JY Ranch in Jackson Hole, Wyo.

"Laurance Rockefeller has been a quite influential person in the background on this kind of research," said Mr. Bryan, from his home in Connecticut. "Him and the Crown Prince of Liechtenstein."

Mr. Rockefeller hit the headlines twice last year: with Dr. Mack's work, and as a fall guy in the bankruptcy of the Radnor, Pa.-based Foundation for New Era Philanthropy. Mr. Rockefeller lost \$11.3 million when the foundation, which raised money from churches and independent institutions of higher learning like the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, declared bankruptcy, drawing scrutiny from the F.B.I. and Securities and Exchange Commission.

"He's primarily interested in conservation and the environment, and venture capital," said Mr. Seitel. "He's also interested in the whole area of spirituality." Mr. Rockefeller majored in philosophy at Princeton, Mr. Seitel pointed out.

As the sons of John D. Rockefeller Jr., the brothers—Laurance, John D. III, Nelson, Winthrop and David—strode the earth as business and political titans. Nelson served as Republican governor of New York; David ran the Chase Manhattan Bank. Now, only two brothers remain: David, who is in the process of buying back Rockefeller Center from Mitsubishi, and Laurance.

Born in 1910, Laurance was a pioneer of venture capital in the 1940's. In the 1950's and 1960's, he was a champion of environmental causes, serving as the director of the Outdoor Recreation Resources and Review Commission under President Kennedy. In 1965, Mr. Rockefeller traveled the country with Lady Bird Johnson in her "beautification bus" as part of the Task Force on Natural Beauty. But he began to draw criticism from environmentalists in the late 1960's for developing resorts in the Virgin Islands, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Vermont and Yellowstone National Park, under the cloak of conservation.



Helping Mr. Rockefeller find his U.F.O.: Marie (Bootsie) Galbraith (with husband Evan Galbraith, investment banker and former U.S. Ambassador to France).

'RESEMBLING AN EGG'

Mrs. Galbraith said she approached Mr. Rockefeller last year to provide the backing for her report. As an early supporter of the Office of Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health, Mrs. Galbraith saw her role in the U.F.O. debate as a promoter of "frontier science," which she described as "science that is on the cutting edge, like cold-fusion study, unified field theory, anything that has to do with people working on anti-gravity devices."

She paused. "It is a science which is heavily challenged, so it has to prove itself more dramatically."

The report is indeed a dramatic document, with a somewhat chilling echo of the thinking that drives paramilitary types to hole up behind the barbed wire. "Secrecy, like power, lends itself to abuse," reads the opening chapter, titled "Government Secrecy."

"Behind the shield of secrecy, it is possible for an agency or service to avoid scrutiny and essentially to operate outside the law. Accountability to the taxpayers and to the Congress can be conveniently avoided."

The second part of the report consists of case histories of U.F.O. sightings around the world: "Foo Fighters" Over Europe and Asia" in the 1940's; "U.F.O. Dog-Fight Over Tehran"; the "U.F.O. Sighting Wave in Belgium" in 1989-90.

In a chapter titled "1989: Multiple Witness Case at Russian Missile Base," a first lieutenant named Klimenko recounts his brush with a U.F.O.: "There was a flying object, resembling an egg, but flatter. It shone brightly alternating green and red lights. This object gathered great speed. It accelerated abruptly and also stopped abruptly, all the while doing large jumps up or down."

In the third part of the report, government spokesmen and politicians are quoted on the subject of U.F.O.s. "I can assure you that flying saucers, given that they exist, are not constructed by any power on earth," Harry S. Truman is quoted as saying on April 4, 1950, at a White House press conference. Former President Ronald Reagan, in an address to schoolchildren: "... if suddenly there was a threat to this world from some other species from another planet outside in the universe ... We'd forget all the local differences that we have between our countries and we would find out once and for all that we really are all human beings here on earth."

The report concludes: "When studied as a group, these case histories exhibit clear patterns which strongly suggest that they belong to a distinct new class of phenomena, rather than being a formless collection of disparate observational errors ... It is this large quantity of evidence of the existence of something completely baffling which motivates many of us to urge the governments of the world to release all they know about U.F.O.s so that the people of the world, and especially scientists, can begin to come to grips with a mystery that has far too long been subjected to secrecy and ridicule."

"Our goal is to have elected officials decide what is secret and what is not," said Mrs. Galbraith. "Because now the bureaucrats keep all the secrets. They don't even keep the Congress and the President informed."

Mrs. Galbraith decried what she believed are disinformation tactics by the United States Government. "Treating this information in a nonserious way is a very intelligent disinformation technique, something that the Government has done with all those alien autopsies you see in *The Enquirer*."

(continued on page 5)

UFO Conference Back on Beach-Great Success

By Carole Baker

The sun shone, the waves rolled in, the Speakers were amazing and provocative and the participants and attendees had a wonderful and mind-expanding good time at the Fourth Annual Gulf Breeze UFO Conference on Pensacola Beach March 15th-17th.

Most of the speakers seemed happy to be at the Beach and some of them took advantage of it by walking barefoot along the sand and enjoying the overall atmosphere of Pensacola Beach before and during the Conference.

Most of the attendees to whom I spoke were very pleased to be back in the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze area after attending last fall's Conference that was moved to Mobile because of Opal. The people I spoke with were also amazed that the clean up efforts had done marvelously in such a short time.

The conference lasted fully three days, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, and the line up of speakers were stellar. All the attendees I spoke with were full of compliments for Project Awareness and it's directors, Pat and Buddy Crumbley and Vicki Lyons for yet another outstanding Conference. "It just seems like they always get such a good line up of speakers" one attendee from South Carolina told me. There were people at the Conference from all over the United States, from as far away as Montana and Washington, as well as many local residents also.

One of the highlights of the Conference was the unprecedented speaker's panel, in which all speakers took part: Stanton Friedman, M.S., Whitley Strieber, Dr. John Mack, Dr. Edith Fiore, Dr. Michael Grosso, Dr. Barry Downing and Micheal Lindemann. The floor was opened to questions and the response from the panel was both interest-

ing and thought provoking. Everyone present wished that the session could have gone on much longer than it did. It was such a rare opportunity to see people from all different aspects discussing UFOs and related phenomena.

All of the speakers attracted large attendance's at both their classes and lectures. Some of the most popular were Michael Lindemann's very informative class of "UFOs in Cyberspace" where he shared his expertise about UFOs in cyberspace. Another popular event was Stanton Friedman's lecture where he discussed his research and work regarding the Roswell incident. Of course, Whitley Strieber remains a favorite of many attendees and was not disappointing in any way in the information he shared in both his lecture and class. Other speakers were all well attended and Dr. Barry Downing's perspective as a

Presbyterian minister and Dr. Edith Fiore's viewpoints were also extremely informative. Dr. John Mack, a very well known researcher from Harvard shared some very new research of his and it was interesting to hear the viewpoints of Dr. Michael Grosso, a philosopher.

When the conference was over, most attendees seemed very pleased that they had been there for this experience. Certainly everyone went away with plenty to think about in the coming months.

The next Project Awareness event is the Tampa Conference to be held September 13th, 14th and 15th and the next event locally will be the Fifth Annual Gulf Breeze UFO Conference scheduled for March 1997. For information on attending the Tampa Conference, you should contact Project Awareness at (904) 432-8888. Information on the next Gulf Breeze Conference will be

(continued from page 4
OBSERVER, New York, NY
April 8, 1996)

However, Mrs. Galbraith, added, "I think to be skeptical is extremely healthy because I was, when I started out. Only because I've just been with the head of the Belgian air force and the head of French intelligence do I take it seriously now.... I don't expect any reasonable person or anyone who's reasonably intelligent to take this too seriously."

Who are the lucky recipients of the report? The *New York Post* reported Feb. 26 that the document was going to Henry Kissinger, Colin Powell, Walter Annenberg, Jacques Chirac and 1,000 others. "That's total baloney," said Mr. Seitel.

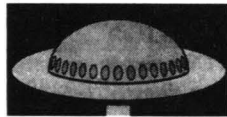
"It's already in the hands of various people here and in Europe," said Mrs. Galbraith. Mr. Berliner said he had sent his list of "100 people on Capitol Hill" to a mailing service. And Mr. Luckman insists that the document is "being presented to a thousand of the world's movers and shakers, as much as possible through personal channels. That's what makes it so different."

U.F.O. OVER YONKERS

Even if the group parenting the U.F.O. document is upset that its contents are being divulged, at least Mr. Rockefeller can take comfort in the thought that his report is at the center of the pop culture Zeitgeist: Night-club denizens wear T-shirts adorned with visitors from outer space, Fox Television's popular show *X-Files* has convinced an entire generation to take the possibility of extraterrestrial life seriously, and the Governor of Nevada is inaugurating a 98-mile "Extraterrestrial Highway" on April 18. The road "has achieved fame for frequent U.F.O. sightings," according to the Governor's press release.

"Evidently, as we approach the ends of millennia, people see crazy things, or think they see crazy things," explained Mr. Bryan. "In 1895, for example, there was an enormous rash of sightings of U.F.O.'s in California." Mr. Bryan paused. "I think the last one was seen floating over Yonkers." (The Yonkers sighting was reported in April 1987.)

Of course, U.F.O. society, like high society, has its rules. "We just want the right people to know," said Mrs. Galbraith of her quest to keep the document from the wrong hands. "It's like your children are going to announce their engagement and they haven't even told their mommies and daddies. And then their mommies and daddies read about it in the newspaper. They would be upset, wouldn't they?"



Compiled by Carol Baker

The following are reports from around the country and around the world of sightings that took place during the week of March 24th-30th.

SHEBOYGAN, WI- 24 MARCH 1966

Two witnesses reported seeing a hovering UFO over a road near Sheboygan, Wisconsin on March 24th. The object appeared to be glowing as it hovered and there were two intensely bright lights as well as a green and red light coming from it. As the witnesses drove past the UFO they described it as being a big bowl shape. They

eventually lost sight of the craft, but later saw it flying low toward the north. (Passport to Magonia-Jaques Vallee, pg. 324, Contemporary Books, Chicago IL 1993).

WARSAW POLAND-25 MARCH 1959, 12:00 p.m.

An engineer reported seeing a UFO hover motionlessly above the Palace of Culture and Science in Warsaw, Poland on the afternoon of March 25th. He described the object as being dumbbell shaped with a larger and smaller sphere connected by a cylinder. It appeared to be the color of aluminum. The object suddenly turned and changed into a disc

shape while flying toward nearby McLocin. Soon after, it returned to its original position and changed back into a dumbbell shape. (UFOs From Behind the Iron Curtain-Ion Bobana & Julien Weverbergh, pg. 212, Bantam Books, NY, 19750).

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, ENGLAND -28 March 1992

A family was out driving near Bury St. Edmunds, when they reported seeing a UFO. At first the UFO appeared to be a large stationary object with red lights which the witnesses thought was a tower of some kind. However, when they drove closer to the

object, they realized there was nothing underneath it. Moments later, they saw two beams of light shine down into a nearby field. Then the UFO slowly flew across the field. The witnesses estimated the object was about 300-400 feet in the air and made no sound as it flew off. (Lynn News and Advertiser, Norfolk, England, 3 April 1992).

If you have any interesting UFO articles or stories that you would like to share, please send them to Carole Baker, PO Box 17152, Pensacola, FL. 32522-7152. Thanks!

UFO eyewitness at local book store March 30

Tim Edwards, a restaurant operator in Salida, gained national notoriety in August, 1995, following the daylight taping of a very large UFO hovering in the upper atmosphere over his home.

His home videotape of the brilliant white cylindrical object continues to be the subject of in-depth study at the Village Labs digital video facility in Tempe, Ariz. Edwards' estimates of the huge object being at least a mile in length flying at an altitude of more than 60,000 feet were confirmed by Village Labs. A Village Lab staff consultant, formerly with the National Security Agency (NSA) in a top secret-level intelligence position has classified the Edwards UFO as an "alien visitation craft." This term is used by NSA to designate a vehicle that is "definitely not one of ours."

Edwards will answer questions and show video tapes never before seen, as well as the one aired on the TV show "Sightings," at EON's Books, Ltd., at 6 p.m., Saturday, March 30. Seating is limited.

Spaced out in New Mexico

Roswell, a town in New Mexico, is expecting plenty of visitors from out of town — from way out of town — during the July 6-7 weekend.

That's when Roswell will host its second annual UFO Encounter Festival. Guided field trips will be offered to the 1947 crash site of an unidentified flying object known by aficionados as "the incident," according to New Mexico's tourism officials. UFO researchers, authors and "phenomenologists" will host public lectures and present papers. And visitors can also check out two local UFO museums.

For tourist information about Roswell, call its chamber of commerce at (505) 623-5695.

Canadian Press

UFOs seen in Midwest 100 years ago

By STEVEN A. ARTS

Six years before the Wright brothers made their first flight in Kitty Hawk, N.C., there were a series of strange airship sightings in Canada and the United States. From the summer of 1896 until the spring of 1897, thousands saw what we might call UFOs today.

These sightings, as recorded in newspapers of the day, began in central and western Canada and generally moved to the West Coast. But a large number of the sightings occurred in the Midwest, mainly in April of 1897.

One of the first Midwestern sightings happened near Hastings, Neb., in February 1897. Some people thought someone was experimenting with an airship about 10 miles west of the city. The airship was spotted on a Sunday morning. It circled for a few minutes and then headed north. It was also described as staying and then moving for a little while. One theory was that a man named McLean had flown a kite from his collection. But the reported maneuvers weren't consistent with those performed by a kite.

Newspaper headlines told the story. On April 12, 1897, the St. Louis Post Dispatch headline read: "Aerial Wonder Seen in St.

Louis. Crowds in Extreme West End Watch the Mystery. Moved Steadily Southwest. Skeptics Forced to Believe the Evidence of Their Own Senses. and Admit It was Not a Star."

The sighting was first made by people west of St. Louis. They reported seeing a bluish-white light in the sky. The airship was seen only in outline by some gazers. Others watching tried to gauge its speed.

Some children saw the airship and thought it was a balloon. A university professor, who had been looking through his telescope that night, reported that he had not seen any lights in the sky.

A headline from the Dallas Morning News took a decidedly Biblical turn. "And There Shall Be Signs in the Heavens."

The reported sighting it referred to was at Guthrie in Oklahoma Territory. The landlord of a local hotel reported a dark-looking object in the sky around 11 p.m.

The airship shadow was described by some as an indistinct shape, but with a light thrown out from the front. The airship reportedly sank to the ground north of Guthrie, then shot up into the sky at a great speed and disappeared.

Another airship sighting in

Oklahoma Territory took place at McAlester. A man reported that he saw an airship about 3 a.m. The airship was said to be traveling about 50 mph and making a strange swishing sound.

Another mid-April sighting happened at Cripple Creek, Colo. Reportedly hundreds of people saw the object, and some claimed it was made out of aluminum, because it shone.

Interest in human airship inventors, real and imagined, was intense. These airship sightings were reported in Washington, California, Iowa, Nevada, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio.

Editor's note: Capper's predecessor, the Kansas Semi-Weekly Capital, reported airship sightings in the Midwest. Some of the headlines on March 31, 1897, read: "Strange Light In The Sky," "Will 'O The Wisp," and "Was It the Head-light of An Airship?"

About 200 people in Topeka, Kan., reportedly saw the "airship" just west of town.

Professors at the University of Kansas in Lawrence thought it was a hoax, but then-mayor of Topeka Tom Anderson thought it was Venus.

The paper quoted him: "If that isn't Venus, I never saw her before."

CAPPER'S, Topeka, KS -- April 9, 1996

SENTINEL, Woodland Park, CO
March 27, 1996

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
March 24, 1996 CR: G. Conway

'Interesting things are happening' And Lakeview UFO researcher ponders the possibilities

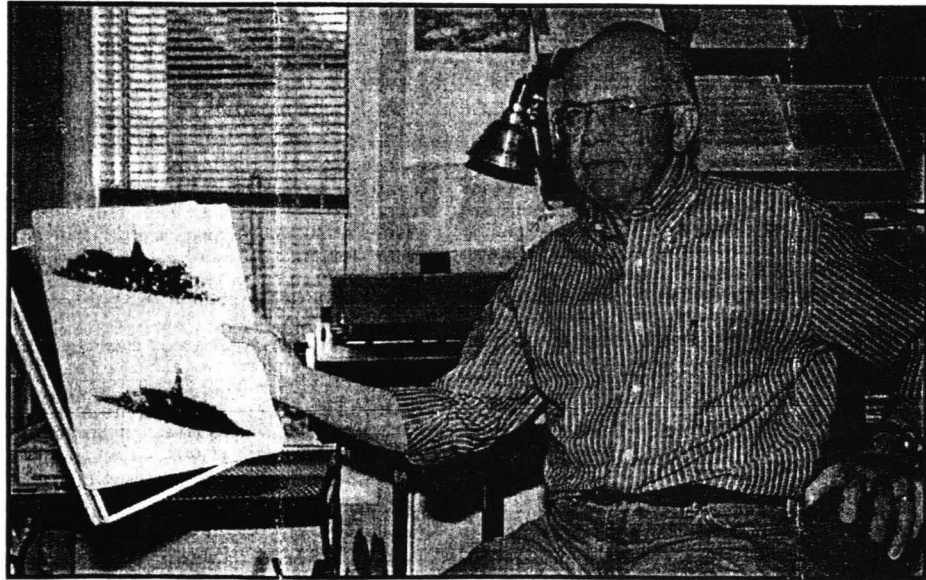
By DAVID COEHRS

LAKEVIEW - On a summer night several years ago, two Wapakoneta residents were driving home after dining and playing miniature golf at Indian Lake.

Just south of New Hampshire they encountered a noiseless, glowing object along the roadway. Its almost transparent quality allowed them to see the three occupants inside; short humanoid-type beings with unusually long arms, one behind what resembled a control station. The two vehicles studied each other for several minutes before the strange object lifted up and flew away.

Like thousands of other reports of unidentified flying objects he has received from around the world, retired Lima businessman John Timmerman won't concede the local incident was a bona-fide encounter with aliens from another planet. He will only say that something very interesting must have occurred.

Timmerman, now a Lake-



SEARCHING FOR TRUTH · Lakeview resident John Timmerman believes the UFO phenomenon will probably persist long after current generations of Earthlings are gone. (Photo by David Coehrs)

view resident and world-renowned UFO (unidentified

flying object) investigator, will relate this and other possible tales of the other-worldly as

the guest speaker at a meeting of the Wapakoneta Lion's Club on April 23.

Timmerman, 72, would be considered the ufologist's equivalent to a "mugwump," someone who carefully straddles the fence of opinion. He displays objectivity during conversations regarding UFOs, which he said is vital to maintaining credibility among his peers.

These days the articulate, soft-spoken man follows his avocation from a cluttered home office and occasional trips to the Center For UFO Studies near Chicago, which he helped to finance and with which he still holds administrative positions.

It's the culmination of years of avid interest and research into the perennial UFO phenomenon, an interest that led Timmerman in his early married years to spend nights on a cot outside his home, binoculars pointed skyward.

It also led to years of traveling to facilities across the country, where he has displayed his UFO Photo Exhibit Research Project with the intent of educating an increasingly curious population.

It was during those years of travel that Timmerman was regaled with innumerable stories of UFO sightings and encounters by thousands of ordinary people, many of whom had never told their stories before.

And while the investigator with the insatiable curiosity of the unknown has never personally witnessed an unidentified flying object, he firmly believes something extraordinary is taking place daily.

"Interesting things are happening on our planet that we don't understand. They're happening while I'm alive, and I can't turn away," he said. "It's an itch I can't scratch."

He said over 100,000 reports of UFO sightings have been registered since the early 1800s, although reports of weird objects and lights in the sky date back much farther.

"The Roman soldiers used to refer to them as 'flying shields,'" he said.

While Timmerman alone has fielded upwards of 10,000 reports during his investigative years, he believes there are hundreds of thousands of other people who have experienced close encounters and have kept them private for fear of ridicule.

And while he believes something odd has happened to many who make claims, he steadfastly remains skeptical.

"I tend to be more demanding about the information I get," he said.

Timmerman said rather than try to declare what a reported incident is, he tries to prove what it could be. That involves a strict criteria that includes evaluating the positions of stars and planets at the time of the sightings and evaluating the people making the claims.

"I believe something is happening to these people but in a lot of cases it can be attributed to things such as schizophrenia, manic depression, forms of dementia and drugs. Some of these people, however, are having experiences that deserve intensive study."

Timmerman said years of investigative study have helped him develop interviewing techniques and a keen ability to detect deceptive reports.

"Over the years I have found there were many people I didn't want to take the time to listen to," he said. "Yet, there are lots and lots of other (reports) that my gut tells me 'yes, they

happened the way I was told'."

In Timmerman's opinion the most credible UFO report to date is the infamous Roswell incident, an alleged 1947 crash and subsequent recovery of a flying saucer and the remains of its extraterrestrial occupants from an Arizona desert.

"I feel that it is a real case of a crashed, unidentifiable object," he said. "Whether it was an extraterrestrial craft from somewhere other than Earth I don't know, but it's true the government has bounced back and forth about the facts all along. They have even admitted lying about their original reports that it was a weather balloon."

He also hesitates to lend credence to other popular reports of UFO cover-ups, including stories of preserved spacecraft and alien bodies stored in the equally infamous Hangar 18 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton and the existence of images of UFO encounters recorded by astronauts during space flight.

Timmerman believes the government is very aware of the UFO phenomenon and has made monumental efforts to hide the knowledge, probably due to its fear of adverse public reaction. But he also thinks the government appreciates the work he and other UFO aficionados are doing to educate the public.

And although he understands the derisive laughter of naysayers who consider the study of ufology a waste of time, Timmerman thinks they are only revealing their close-mindedness.

"This is an academic study as far as I'm concerned, and the people who would laugh at that simply reveal their lack of knowledge on the subject," he said.

He is proud of his own contributions to the dissemination of UFO information to the public, citing the importance of making citizens aware.

"I was able to get into the minds of a lot of people that there is a reality in this," Timmerman said.

The Cornell University graduate has followed the phenomenon since his undergraduate days, when the report of a sighting in the local newspaper attracted his eye.

The interest followed him for years, and came to fruition with his association in 1979 with J. Allen Hynek, noted astronomer and trailblazer in the field of UFO investigation, who died in 1986.

In 1980 Timmerman became chairman and treasurer of the Center For UFO Studies and produced the CUFOS Associate Newsletter. He opened and operated a public access office for the Center in Lima from 1981 until it was combined with the present facility in Illinois. He retired as chairman in 1985.

How has Timmerman's passion for UFO investigation affected his wife, Margaretha, 71, all these years?

"My husband always did what he wanted to do and I went along with it," she said. "John is unusual in that he has many different interests. Whatever he does he does with such intensity," she said. "When he gets carried away, I just walk away from him."

Margaretha Timmerman had a sighting of her own outside their home one night in the late 1960s. She had witnessed a glowing, football-shaped object silently hovering high over an oak tree on the couple's property, which "blinked out" as she contacted her next door neighbor.

Her experience, though, has not deterred her from remaining a self-proclaimed skeptic.

Out of this world

Discussions about cattle mutilations, alien autopsies give conference a twist.

Ozark UFO Conference

Today through Sunday Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs. Speakers include Joe Lewels on reptilian creatures, Linda Moulton Howe on animal mutilations, Antonio Huneus on UFO sightings. Registration: \$40. 354-2558.

Stories by Ron Wolfe

Arkansas Weekend Staff Writer

Suppose it's true that mysterious creatures from some other world or dimension might slip into your home tonight. They do as they want, and they might want to carry you off to an alien spaceship.

Or — they might drop you at the eighth annual Ozark UFO Conference this weekend in Eureka Springs.

Come bleary Monday morning, you will shudder with a sense of missing time, a blank screen where your memory should be, and then strange and cloudy images will appear half-shaped on that dim screen.

Could it be? ... that you spent the weekend puzzling over stories of terrifying abductions, alien autopsies, lizard men, cattle mutilations and crop circles?

It could. The conference is real, and some of the people there will tell you — seriously and citing evidence they find compelling — that spaceships and extraterrestrials are real, too.

Conference coordinator Lucius Farish says most of the usual 400 to 500 people who attend the event have had a UFO experience of some kind.

"They want a place to talk where other people will not ridicule them."

The experience could be like his — nothing out of this world, only curious. "I've seen a few things I couldn't explain," Farish, 58, says. "Some odd lights."

But those sightings prompted the Plumerville postal clerk to wonder if other people were seeing odd things in the sky, too. He found so many other reports that he has been assembling a 20-page monthly collection, the *UFO Clipping Service*, since the 1970s.

A recent issue includes the story of a California surgeon who cuts "small foreign objects" out of people who claim they have been abducted, and President Clinton talking about space aliens. The President insists that he doesn't know of any alien spaceship that crashed in Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

He could find arguments by the flying saucerful at the UFO conference.

Belief in the "Roswell Incident" is a basic reason for the UFO conferences that gather in Eureka Springs and around the world. The story gained even more attention with last summer's "Alien Autopsy: Fact or Fiction?" broadcast on Fox TV.

The fuzzy film purports to show doctors slicing into an alien body the same year as the Roswell spaceship crash, which the govern-

ment swears never happened. This year's Ozark UFO Conference will include film expert Bob Shell's report on his "Alien Autopsy" investigation.

Shell is editor of *Shutterbug* magazine in Radford, Va. He says "Alien Autopsy" seems to have been made with 1947 film stock. And a week's search in New Mexico left him convinced that something strange happened there 49 years ago, about two months before the better-known Roswell crash. He tells of a falling "fireball" that witnesses remember seeing, but written accounts of it seem to have vanished.

"People pressure me on both sides of the issue," Shell says. "They want me to say

absolutely yes, it's a hoax, or it's absolutely real. There just isn't enough evidence."

He hopes to bring previously unshown autopsy footage that might hold the answers.

Conference speaker Yvonne Smith says she is convinced something happened to her patients, who claim aliens abducted them. Smith is a hypnotherapist from near Pasadena, Calif., where her Close Encounter Research Organization offers a UFO abductee support group.

Patients and researchers alike yearn for the hard evidence that would prove their claims, Smith says. For now, she cites the peculiar, triangle bruises that her patients

Explorers' guide to Eureka Springs

Hold the Spock ears.

The Ozark UFO conference is not about "Star Trek" or any other science fiction, since UFO believers don't count flying saucers and dark-eyed alien creatures as fiction at all.

Some of your fellow conference-goers will tell you that aliens abducted them and did terrible things to them. You might encounter some goof who thinks he is an alien. You will shiver through long, scary lectures. You'll come out drenched in suspicion about government cover-ups and conspiracies.

"We don't sit around with antennas on our heads," conference speaker Yvonne Smith says. But even so, conference organizer Lucius Farish promises, "We try to have fun along with this."

So here is a fun-seeking alien visitors' guide to Eureka Springs' other attractions:

■ **Best barbecue** by Jupiter: Bubba's, 60 Kingshighway. Even moon rocks would be fair eating dipped in Bubba's piquant sauce.

■ **Invasion of the little green guys:** Frog Fantasies, 151 Spring St. Frog ashtrays, frog salt and pepper shakers ... thousands of frogs. Discover the world's most-celebrated frog collector — Robert Goulet (Honest).

■ **Worth the drive from Venus:** Two Dumb Dames fudge. Various locations.

■ **Fiddlin' even a Ferengi would love:** Pine Mountain Jamboree, U.S. 62 East.

■ **Close encounters of the furred kind:** Pet adoptions at the Good Shepherd Humane Society Animal Shelter, U.S. 62 East.

■ **Unsolved mystery:** McDonald's, U.S. 62. The Victorian resort town simmers with so many memorable, one-of-a-kind restaurants, so many chances to try something different — who goes to McDonald's? Must be Martians.

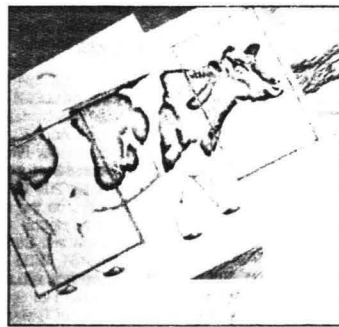


Illustration by KIRK MONTGOMERY

Unnatural happenings in the Natural State

Mars attacks! Here are some of the Natural State's most unnatural UFO reports, abducted from the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette's* X-files of moldering news clippings:

■ **Little Rock, Fort Smith, elsewhere, 1966:** Lights in the night sky prompt hundreds of calls to police and radio stations. The strange lights change from white to red and green, sometimes described as globes with lighted portholes. They hover and then — "boom!" to quote a witness — shoot off.

■ **Malvern, 1967:** "Thing like an upside-down parachute" startles sky-watching farmers, who see it land. Nothing found.

■ **Little Rock, 1975:** Federal Aviation Administration assures people who claim to have seen a glowing UFO that it probably was the planet Jupiter. But a Little Rock woman insists she watched it for an hour, describing the weird thing as "a big bright light with a round beam of light coming out of the bottom and moving around in a circular motion."

■ **Batesville, 1979:** Several witnesses report seeing a long silver rocket "bigger than a jet," with a jet plane chasing it.

■ **Little Rock, 1988:** A flash of blue light shocks the sky, turns into a ball of flame and falls away, trailing smoke.

■ **Berryville, 1991:** Farmer suggests outer-space aliens have been killing his cows. Sheriff blames bovine disease, but that doesn't explain the cows being drained of blood.

Three most common official explanations of what Arkansans really see when they think they are seeing UFOs: Meteors, weather balloons, planet Venus.

Close encounters in Roswell, N.M.

The hottest UFO speculation revolves around the story that a spaceship crashed near Roswell, N.M., in 1947. Believers claim U.S. government sneaks hid the wreckage and stole off with the bodies of several alien creatures.

After decades of suspicious silence, the Air Force finally revealed that something hush-hush *did* crash near Roswell: a then-secret spy balloon. But the spaceship story persists, and Roswell has become an oddball tourist attraction.

Visit the UFO Enigma Museum and souvenir shop. See the International UFO Museum and Research Center with its 8-by-12-foot mural depicting the famed crash. Set foot where it happened — on Hub and Sheila Corn's sheep ranch.

Roswell's annual UFO festival, Encounter '96, will be July 4-6 with fireworks, costume contest and Main Street parade. Call (800) 295-7611.

show — those and sheer numbers.

"I have worked with well over 100 cases" of claimed UFO abduction, she says. Her support group includes about 40 people who tell of alien creatures spiriting them away.

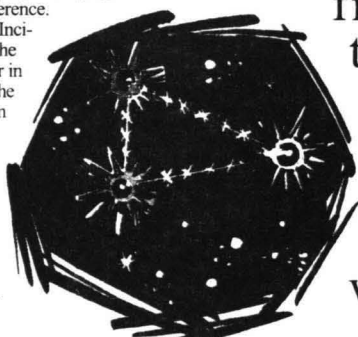
"We can't just ignore them," Smith says. What if — as she contends — they are telling the truth?

About half the nation already believes in alien visitation, according to a survey in *Skeptical Inquirer* magazine. Millions of people claim they have had UFO experiences.

This weekend's conference will be the place to meet some of them.

But don't get carried away.

Hundreds of believers find a place in the Ozarks to discuss their experiences without feeling alienated.



Cartoon by JOHN DEERING

THE OREGON FILES

Stories and photos by Tom Forstrom
The Statesman Journal

Are they real, those space beings that some people claim to have seen and communicated with? And what about the strange aircraft we call Unidentified Flying Objects? What's the deal with phenomena such as cattle mutilation and strange crop circles in fields?

This is the stuff of TV's hit show "The X-Files" (9 p.m. Fridays on Fox, KPDX Channel 49), to be sure.

Except some people claim these odd goings-on are happening right here in Oregon.

The UFOs are real to people like Roy Myers of Eugene, who says he saw one and chased it through Klamath Falls. The noiseless aircraft that Brian Crissey says

he saw as a teen-ager is real to him, and it changed the focus of his life.

And Joy S. Gilbert of Eugene says it all is real to her. In her book, "It's Time to Remember," she tells about how she was taken aboard a space ship, where an alien operated on her and "awakened" her to the reality of her captors, who really were part of her and part of all of us.

There is no end to the stories in Oregon ... or in China, in Brazil, or anywhere else on Earth. And many of the stories are startlingly similar. The patterns and profiles and experiences match — no matter if the person is speaking English or Swahili, or if the people telling the stories are highly intelligent or woefully illiterate.

People who really believe in UFOs and space aliens claim things like a government cover-up of a UFO crash in Roswell, N.M., in 1947, and of evidence of extraterrestrial doings on our moon.

Some people believe we are merely evolving into the future, and spirits (call them what you want) are part of it, and that we must be brought into their worlds slowly so that we don't panic or, as a race of humans, go insane because our beliefs — literally our little world — will never be the same.

And, of course, many, many people will say it's all bunk, and that those who make claims of sightings or abductions have ulterior motives — that they need attention or money. They say it's akin to hysteria — the brain's reaction to stimulation or suggestion. And they say it's dangerous.

As one UFO investigator says, all we have at this point are stories, with little to back them up.

Submitted for your approval: The following stories from people who say they've had "contact." You decide. One way or another, the truth is out there.



Joy S. Gilbert says she was abducted by space aliens, and then transformed into one of them.

THE STRANGE TALE OF JOY S. GILBERT

It was cold and rainy when Joy S. Gilbert pulled into the driveway on a Friday night in October 1969. The lights were off in her Seattle home, so she knew her roommate was gone.

Shivering, she went in and started a fire. Even though she was safe at home and a fire was blazing, there was a discomforting feeling in the house.

"I could feel a presence," she says.

She wrapped up and went to a rocking chair and began to meditate, something she had taken up earlier. Meditation, she says, helped her cope with some of the stranger experiences of her unusual life.

"I could still feel the presence. It was scary, very scary for me."

Then the chair began to rock on its own. "I opened my eyes in a shocked stare. I was paralyzed. In those moments I became aware that I was not in control of my body. I got up, like a mannequin, not in control of my body, and went into the bedroom and lay down. I was afraid, but it was more than that."

There was the combination of astonishment, of terror, of ... something more.

"There was a blue-white light coming from the corner. I heard a male voice that had the quality of non-language. I heard it inside my body."

The voice from inside and outside her repeated the request three times.

Joy, give me your heart.
Joy, give me your heart.
Joy, give me your heart.

"The blanket was slowly covering my

body and covering my head. It was like I was released, comforted."

Still, what was it?

It was a prelude to a finale that would play out years later in the small central Oregon town of Sisters.

It was 4 a.m.

She is one of them

Gilbert says she was abducted by space aliens. She says she is, in fact, one of them — or one with them. We all are "them," Gilbert will tell you, and they are us.

Gilbert has told the story of her long association with the blue-white lights, night visits, and her abduction, in "It's Time to Remember," a book she published on her own through Laughing Bear Publishing. It sells for \$19.95.

Skeptics will say she has created a wildly imaginative story to take advantage of the current interest in paranormal experiences and what some say is a blossoming series of sightings and contacts with beings from space.

But others will come to Gilbert and thank her for telling her story, she says. Professional and common people, she says, will tell her of their experiences,

their contact with the aliens. And though they've never met one another, their stories will be astonishingly similar.

Early contacts

"It started for me really as a child" the 47-year-old Gilbert says. "I didn't understand it growing into adulthood."

Gilbert tells of the appearance of blue-white light in her bedroom as a child, and of a figure who wore, of all things, a trench coat and Fedora.

"After my grandfather died, I started experiencing this person," she says, adding, "Many people describe exactly this same figure." Gilbert was about 20 when the October visitation occurred in Seattle.

After the voice spoke to her and asked her to release her love to him, she went to sleep and awoke, she says, "exhilarated," yet still feeling a sense of terror.

"I went to the mirror. It was not the same face I had the day before. It was me, but not the same face." And now the blue-white light was around her head.

"I thought it was the meditation. Meditation opens your mind. You go to unseen worlds. I talked to my meditation teacher and I was the only person they knew who was going through this."

(continued on page 9)

UFO research

Here are some sources involved in Unidentified Flying Object research:

Places to call

■ Lane County UFO Lectures: (541) 744-5720.

■ Northwest UFO Group: (503) 591-9827.

■ Laughing Bear Publishing (for "It's Time to Remember"): (541) 935-5256.

■ Nadira Duran, Salem psychic: 371-5776.

■ Blue Water Publishing, publisher of UFO books: (503) 538-0264 or 1-800-366-0264 (to order catalog).

■ The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal and its publication, The Skeptical Inquirer: 1-800-634-1610.

If you see one

If you encounter what you think is a legitimate UFO, call:

■ The National UFO Reporting Center, Seattle, (206) 722-3000.

On the Internet

■ The X Files (one of many about the show): <http://www.foxhome/trustno1.com>

■ The National UFO Reporting Center, Seattle (206) 722-3000:

[http://www.nwlink.com/\(tilde\)UFOCNTR](http://www.nwlink.com/(tilde)UFOCNTR)

■ The UFO Guide (a list of sites):

<http://www.rahul.net/rogerd/ufo.guide/html>

■ Skeptics page: [http://www.rtd.com/\(tilde\)jfleming/ufo.html](http://www.rtd.com/(tilde)jfleming/ufo.html)

■ Richard Hoagland, former NASA scientist who says there is evidence of alien buildings on the moon: <http://artbell.com/art/hoagland/tmm0014.html>

Reading matter

■ "The Allagash Abductions: Undeniable Evidence of Alien Intervention," Raymond E. Fowler, \$16.95 (Blue Water Publishing, P.O. Box 726, Newberg, Ore. 97132.)

■ "The Truth About the UFO Crash at Roswell," Kevin D. Randle and Donald R. Schmitt, \$5.99 (Avon).

■ "Connections, Unraveling Our Alien Abduction Mystery," Beth Collings and Anna Jamerson, \$17.95 (Blue Water Publishing).

■ "Becoming Gods," Cazekiel, as received by James Gilliland (the thoughts of Cazekiel — or Ezekiel in the Bible — transferred to Gilliland), \$13.95 (Blue Water Publishing).

■ "The Talmud of Jmmanuel" (a book that makes a UFO-Jesus connection), translated from German, \$15.95 (Blue Water Publishing).

■ "The Skeptical Inquirer," newsletter, P.O. Box 703, Amherst, N.Y. 14226-0703, or call 1-800-634-1610 (\$32.50 per year, 6 issues).

■ "Cosmic Relief: Honoring and Celebrating the Global Paradigm Shift," Connie Schmidt, \$18.95, Brockton Publishing. A sharp witted, humorous, skeptical look at the issues, with chapters like "All the Latest Poop on Quartz Crystals and Your Colon," "Isn't It Time You Considered a Career as an Incest Survivor?" "The Recovery Channel," "Alien Implant Problems?" and "Single Personality Disorder."

■ "A Mad Look at Alien Abductions," Mad magazine No. 341, Dec. 1995, pages 9-11.

"Others thought I was mentally ill."

Oregon incident

Gilbert says she has had a number of "blue-white light" experiences, including the exchange of light with a Tibetan lama.

After a marriage, the birth of her daughter, Kristina, and a divorce, Gilbert moved to Eugene and earned a degree in psychology from the University of Oregon. She worked in an agency that helped abused children, and eventually met Mark, whom she married.

The furniture business she and her second husband owned was going well, as were all aspects of Gilbert's life, she says. "My life was wonderful," she says. "I didn't have to work. I was having a good time."

In the winter of 1983 she and Mark went to Sisters to visit Kristina, who then was 20. At her daughter's house, Gilbert began to feel nauseated. She went to the kitchen window to look out at the meadow, thinking it would make her feel better.

Although many unusual experiences had crossed through her mind since childhood, what she says she saw in the meadow was something completely different.

"There was a large, spherical object in the meadow. Even after all of my experiences, I didn't believe in UFOs."

But, she says, there it was — large, round, metallic.

"The hardest part was, it looked like something out of a 1950s science fiction movie. But feelings and sensations came from the ship, and terror."

She turned and went into the living room where the others were. She didn't say a thing.

"I thought they would think I was out of my mind." They went to dinner, then she and Mark returned to the lodge where they were staying.

The visiting

That night, Gilbert went to bed at 10:30, and when she put her head down she saw sparkles, much the way she did in meditat-

ing with the Tibetan lama.

Then, she says, they came for her.

"I saw four beings come through the wall. I was surprised, but I wasn't scared at all. I didn't care. One of them touched a finger to my forehead, and my head literally exploded in blue-white light. My body levitated off the bed. My feet were on the ground, but I felt like I was floating. I felt no fear."

She found herself in a curved corridor, then passed through a doorway etched with hieroglyphic-type writings that she thought she could understand.

Gilbert was taken to a round examining room and cleansed by a soothing light.

"In the doorway was a female being, probably about five-eight. She had big eyes and no pupils and almost no mouth. She had four fingers and was willowy, surrounded in a swirl of blue-white light, which was her. I began remembering all the times we were together."

"She said, 'It's a pleasure to see you, my sweet friend.' It was she who came into my room when I was a little girl. I thought it was my mother, but at that moment, I knew it was she who came, and I felt love, more powerful and more profound than any love I have ever felt for another living being."

A doctor came to examine her, and the feeling of love extended to him, too, but at the same time she felt terror and was rigid with fear because of what was happening.

"It was as if I knew I had to be conscious while the procedure was happening, and a cold, freezing north wind began to flow through my body."

The doctor placed an object in her body, she says.

"I wanted to scream out in pain, but there wasn't any pain. The terror was from the perception, not from what was happening. It was like waking up from amnesia, but I felt joy."

The blue-white light flowed to her. "It merged into me. It was the same blue-white light they were wrapped in."

The doctor took out an implant that he told her was no longer

needed, and during it all there was no surgery as there is on Earth, but on another level, Gilbert says.

At the end, she says she was told that the light in her head was completely activated. "The impressions came in and in and in. I went into a place inside myself where time and place literally collapsed ... to creation. I was the beginning and end of all things."

Gilbert says she had the feeling that she was an experiment. "There was a sense in the room of gloating. I was theirs. It was an accomplishment, and now I was with them."

They told her, "It's time to remember."

She was given a cube substance to eat. "I bit into the substance and felt my molecules turn into light. I felt the love of the doctor. I remembered who I was, creating my body, choosing my family, completing a covenant before I came into the world."

"I did not want to come back here. They were who I was and I did not want to leave."

But Gilbert says she did. She says she was swirled in a white light and drawn down to the balcony of the Sisters motel. She entered her room through the closed windows.

"Particles of me merged into the particles of glass," she says.

Her body was not in bed, Gilbert says, so it wasn't a dream. "It was a physical experience. It was not a dream."

The aliens — she calls them "friends" now — left, but only in physical form. "The essence of the doctor and the beings never left," she says.

This is the message Gilbert says the aliens left with her. "The most important thing they left me was awareness of joy. The world is beautiful. Each of us is the gift of life, creation. Each of us is a universe. It takes no courage to suffer. It takes courage to have joy."

The plan, she says, includes us all.

"It is the order of things," she says. "It will happen to all of us."



Brian Crissey teaches computer science by day, but stalks UFOs by night.

'IT HAD PORTHOLES AND A SHIMMERING GLOW'

A bright sunshine bathes down on Brian Crissey as he sits in a chair on the back deck of his mountain-high home overlooking the deep Chehalem Valley outside Newberg.

Crissey is an amiable, thoughtful man who speaks softly and carefully, measuring his words so they come out right and correctly convey the ideas he wants to get across.

He looks and sounds like the kind of person you would want to have over for dinner. He has wit, knowledge and charm.

But Crissey, who heads the computer science department at Linfield College, has had a lifetime of bizarre experiences that sets him apart from most of us. He investigates the paranormal — UFO sightings, abductions, crop circles, near-death experiences, and other dimensions that might house alien spirits.

These aren't the actions of your classic college professor, particularly one who deals with the black/white, yes/no, on/off world of computers.

But Crissey is the kind of person who keeps an open mind about all things physical and metaphysical. He isn't one to rule in or rule out anything without the evidence to do so.

He uses the word "seems" a lot, and "it appears." He doesn't state things as fact, unless they are fact to him.

Like the UFO he and a friend say they saw while counselors at a summer camp in Wisconsin when he was 16. Like the UFO his wife, Pam, saw with the rest of the family when she was 16 in Pennsylvania.

The object he saw, he says, "looked like the size of a city bus. It had portholes, and there was a shimmering orange glow. There was no noise; maybe a hum. I didn't have any idea what it was."

Whatever it was, he says, it scared him and his friend to tears. It did the same the next night to two other counselors. "For Eagle (his friend's camp name) and me, it was confirmation that we didn't have a hallucination," he says. "The process left me open minded. There was an absence of proof, but it was as real as anything else I've ever encountered."

Crissey says that all the stories people tell — and because he is one of the key UFO investigators in the area, they tell him a lot — are just stories at this point.

"They're all stories until we have proof," he says.

But he tracks the stories and gathers what evidence he can. It gets pretty strange:

■ A two-couple family near Molalla in which one partner in each couple is a space being. Together they have "bred" more than a dozen children.

■ A woman in Eugene who communicates with space aliens through an implant in her brain.

■ Claims that Bigfoot is from another galaxy, and that he — they — are psychic and able to anticipate and disappear so that none will be captured.

These are a mere sampling of the things Crissey investigates.

But it's the theories that intrigue Crissey, who runs a publishing business from his home, a business that specializes in UFO phenomena and all of its aspects.

Perhaps, he and others theorize, we are an experiment — human "cattle," if you will.

Perhaps we are just being studied by those from other galaxies, and the beings can't make themselves widely known because life as we know it would collapse in fear and panic. Perhaps we need to be slowly and carefully made to know the truth.

Maybe space ships did crash in the Southwest, and the government is covering it up for the same reasons.

"There may be elements of it that are too much for even UFO buffs to swallow. There may be particularly nasty aspects to it," he says.

(continued on page 10)

Aliens to angels, she helps us remember

By Tom Forstrom
The Statesman Journal

The space aliens came to a hunting camp in the coastal mountains of Oregon in 1984.

The men of the party were out on a hillside talking and relaxing, and the women were at the camp playing cards.

Suddenly, a thick mist came through the midday brightness and paralyzed all but one of the women. That one was lifted up in the mist, which felt alive, like it had a consciousness of its own.

The woman was taken aboard a spacecraft, examined and then returned to the camp. She doesn't remember how she got back to the camp, only that she and the others slowly woke up.

That is the story that Salem psychic Nadira Duran tells. She says it was told to her during a client's regression session, when she took the woman back in time to the troubling abduction, to the root of the problems that brought her to Duran.

Psychics are among those who hear stories of abductions, of examinations, of abuse by alien beings. Duran says she has heard plenty from her clients.

■ From a doctor friend who, with a fishing buddy, was badly burned by a UFO that swooped past them while they were sitting on a hillside near Maupin in north central Oregon.

■ From a woman who was followed in her car by lights — lights that stopped her car on a rural road near Stayton. "She was burned. She was burned

when she came to me," Duran says.

■ From clients who, in regression therapy, tell tales of skinny aliens with big eyes who performed experiments on them or otherwise abused them when they were abducted as children.

Such stories aren't, excuse the word, alien to Duran. She says she also channels the thoughts of angels to clients who ask for that service. And, she says, she has had precognitive experiences all her life.

"I was born with the ability," she says. "When I was little I would tell my mother that Uncle Joe's coming over to visit. Sure enough, he would show up."

She calls herself an interpreter, a conduit from the guardian angels to those to whom they speak.

"I try to keep up word for word and keep it as clear as possible. They tell where their soul originated, their purpose for being here, and avenues they can take."

She makes the connection this way: "I pray. I ask in the name of the creator that the guardian angel come through for this person. There are colors and lights when the spirits come through — they come in pure form, colors and lights. They start to talk and I interpret."

"I don't ever remember anything they say. It all goes on tape."

Duran says she explains this about the angels because they are often mistaken for aliens, be-



REGRESSION THERAPY: Salem psychic Nadira Duran helps her clients remember abductions and communicate with angels.

cause light is involved.

In regression, which takes several sessions, the client sometimes comes to a halt when the original problem comes into view. The conversation can go like this, Duran says:

"It's when they came."

"Who are they?"

"I can't talk about it."

But after more attempts, they talk. "Then they will open up and tell about the abduction, or whatever," Duran says.

"The good thing is, once they go through regression, then they can handle it. Then they can go on with their lives."

But Duran gives an ominous warning: "If they have been abducted once, it will happen again. That's what I believe."

Crissey says the government may be trying to finesse its way out of a 50-year cover-up, but that they don't know how.

If there really are extraterrestrials examining us and living among us in physical or spiritual form, it will take what Crissey calls "a classic paradigm shift" to understand and cope with it.

He means that we will have to change entirely all ways of thinking about and dealing with Planet Earth and its visitors: classic religions may have to be altered; laws of physics may no longer apply; time and distance may mean nothing; other dimensions — realms, Crissey calls them — may need to be opened.

Books, lectures, official speeches and casual conversations about the existence of space beings are plentiful. But real, hard physical evidence is scant.

And that's where the nearly cult-like UFO movement is at.

"There are no answers," Crissey says. "There are only surmises at this point."



Be prepared

If you see a UFO, or think you might see one, have these things in place:

■ Be prepared to take photographs or make video recordings. Have binoculars ready.

■ Be prepared to estimate dimensions of the craft, as well as its speed and altitude. Make angular measurements to gauge the size of any flying object you see. To do that, extend a coin between your thumb and forefinger at arm's length to see how much horizon it covers. Compare the coin's coverage of the horizon with that covered by any UFO.

■ Have a tape recorder ready. UFO researchers say they make a high-pitched humming or quivering sound. Sometimes there's a fairly loud rumbling as a vehicle goes by, sometimes a low hum, researchers say.

■ Carry a paper and pencil to make notes and record statements by other witnesses. Make diagrams detailing what you saw. Make an aerial view of the area, including natural landmarks, standing lights or anything that might be of relevance.



Kent Myer (left) and Royce Myers investigate Oregon stories of the paranormal.

UFO INVESTIGATORS LOOK FOR ANSWERS

Royce Myers pulled into town at 2:30 a.m. The streets of Klamath Falls were empty that early morning in March 1994. As he says, the sidewalks had been rolled up hours ago.

He was with a friend, and they remarked about the spotlight they were waiting for. It was a long light, much too long for this time of the night in Klamath Falls.

Then his friend pointed up, and Myers looked up through the window.

"There was a long, cylinder-shaped craft, a hundred feet long, at least. There were three lights on one end, and a single light at the other end.

"At first I thought it was a helicopter. I rolled down my window, and it was hovering over a building. There was no sound. It was dead silent.

"It was the most awesome thing I have seen in my life. It was a fantastic thing. It was huge,"

he says.

After hovering for a time, the metallic craft did a tumble roll, end over end. "It rotated and shot off."

He tried to follow it, almost crashing head-on into a semi truck, but it was hopeless. "There was a little flash and it was gone."

Myers has since become a UFO investigator, spurred on by his own sighting of the craft in Klamath Falls.

"As a kid I read a lot and I thought it was pretty interesting." But as he grew older, he grew skeptical and decided that people who said they saw things that dealt with aliens were doing some wishful thinking.

"I thought people see what they want to see. They're crazy. They're nuts."

Now, however, he is more open to the paranormal, the unusual. As an investigator, he is a neutral evidence-gatherer. "I try to be as skeptical... as objective as I can. We want to get hard physical evidence, hard data."

Myers is a full-time criminology student at Lane County Community College in Eugene. He and fellow investigator Kent Myer helped found the Lane County UFO Lecture Series, which features speakers on the various aspects of UFOs. The next lecture in the series, on April 27, will feature Paul Davids, executive producer and co-writer of the recent Showtime cable movie "Roswell." For information, call (541) 744-5720.

Myer, who works for KMTR-TV in Eugene, has been interested in strange phenomena for some time, and something from his past fueled his interest. "My involvement came from a personal experience I do not talk about. Probably only two people in the world know about it," he says.

The lecture series they founded isn't trying to promote belief in UFOs. Their brochure says,

"We do not claim to represent any final truth, but by presenting a variety of speakers, this forum offers a chance for you to hear their compelling claims, examine the evidence, and draw your own conclusions."

Myers currently is checking out reports of a UFO sighting, and he has traveled to Klamath Falls to check on cattle mutilations.

The investigators have photos of the grisly mutilations, which are part of the UFO study because of the unusual nature of the wounds and the fact that there is absolutely no blood to be found in or around the dead animals.

"All of the wounds have cauterized edges, like they were done with a laser. And there was no blood," Kent Myer says. Heat, they say, implies technology, and heat of at least 350 degrees was needed to make the cuts on the animals' stomach and mouth.

"It's very clean. It's too perfect, just too perfect," his partner Myers says.

But who did it? "We're not really sure. There may be a correlation with lights in the sky, with sightings," Myers says. "It's

going on all over the world. It isn't some strange disease. This is not natural."

A recent investigation of red lights in the sky moving erratically in the Eugene area prompted a lot of calls to police, but nothing concrete for the UFO investigators, Myers says.

He checks the police logs after an incident is called in, and a lot of people had called the police. But as for any real evidence, anything that you can see and touch, there isn't any.

Some people say the evidence is real — unexplainable implants removed from people, videotapes of UFOs, unusual activity in the sky over Mexico City. And both Myers and Myer agree that the press hasn't paid much attention to any of it.

To other people, it's nonsense.

To the investigators, it's something to study and document. "It's critical that it be presented with the proper evidence and backing," Myer says.

So, was the craft that Myers saw in Klamath Falls two years ago something from outer space?

"I had no idea what it was," he says. "To this day I have no idea what it was."

Prove your abduction, he'll give you \$10,000

■ UFO skeptic Philip Klass says all stories so far can be explained in down-to-earth terms.

By Tom Forstrom
The Statesman Journal

Philip J. Klass is the nation's top UFO debunker, a man who puts \$10,000 of his own money on the line and says "Prove it."

So far he's held onto his money.

He has sleuthed the UFO phenomenon for nearly three decades, mostly as a hobby. Klass, who has an electrical engineering degree, was a senior editor of "Aviation Week & Space Technology" magazine for 34 years, and is still a contributing editor.

He is the author of "UFO Abductions: A Dangerous Game" and three other books, and publishes a bimonthly newsletter called "Skeptics UFO Newsletter."

Klass also is one of the founders of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, and is head of that group's UFO subcommittee.

"I can think of no other story I'd rather see than to say at last

we have found one case — one UFO report — that cannot be explained in prosaic, down-to-earth terms: There are extraterrestrials. The headlines would say, 'Famous UFO skeptic admits he was wrong.' I would be rich," he says. "I would charge \$10,000 a lecture."

But he doubts that will ever happen.

"In fact, we have had 50 years since the first sighting over Washington — Mount Rainier. If anyone could come up with one piece of credible evidence, it would no longer be a mystery," he says.

What we do have, he says, is talk and debate. But there's no physical proof.

Here is the Klass challenge: If anyone who says they were abducted by space aliens goes to the FBI and reports their kidnapping, and if the FBI discovers enough evidence to actually investigate the abduction, Klass will pay the person \$10,000.

But Klass reminds the abductees that anyone who falsely reports an abduction — a kidnapping — to the FBI faces a five-year jail term and a fine of \$10,000.

So Klass says those who say they were abducted aren't ex-

actly picking a number and waiting in line at the local FBI office.

Klass, who lives in Washington, D.C., is the foil to Budd Hopkins, the author of "Intruder," and Whitley Strieber, who wrote "Communion." The books are credited with starting what Klass calls the "abduction cult." His newsletter frequently takes them to task.

He has been a guest on just about any television talk show you can name, from "Nightline" and "Oprah" to "60 Minutes."

"If these abductions are really taking place, it is the most serious threat to the people of this country and the entire planet," he says. "But if they are not true, they will leave many psychological scars. People will be afraid to go out at night. They will be afraid to be alone."

Klass says the UFO abduction talk scares children, who think they might be abducted.

So why do people tell the stories? Klass can't answer that for sure.

"There is no single explanation for why people tell these stories, why they act like they do. For many it is an opportunity to become a celebrity."

"For other people, it is a way to gain attention. Some people are psychologically disturbed," he says.

Klass, whose UFO investigations have been hailed by "Scientific American" magazine and by science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke, says he will continue to dog those making claims he says are false and dangerous.

Others on the committee will, too. Here are two other views from members of the committee, which publishes "The Skeptical Inquirer."

■ Ray Hyman, psychology professor at the University of Oregon and a member of the committee's executive council: "It's a self-reinforcing thing. The more media attention, the more it makes it plausible and it becomes mainstream."

"People are under stress now. There's no trust anymore, in government, politics, church leaders. People are under stress, and when they're out of their usual context — hypnosis, darkness — you get them in a situation that their brain latches onto whatever is around them. It's a revelation for them, and that's hard to shake."

On cow mutilations: "Cows do die — predators or whatever. They would lie out there and no one would notice them. Now people go look for them and find them. But it's nothing more than normal. The experts say that's exactly what you would expect to find."

On repressed memory drawn out in therapy, such as hypnosis: "If you know the therapist, you will know that the person was abducted by hostile aliens. Therapists specialize. At one therapist, all of the patients were satanically abused. Others are enemy aliens. No matter what your problem is you were abused by aliens."

■ Barry Karr, executive director of the committee: "There may be other life in the universe, but the evidence hasn't been shown that they have visited. The burden of proof is on them (those making claims), and so far it hasn't been shown. You have to keep an open mind, but not so open that your brains fall out."



DORKING ADVERTISER, Surrey, England -- Jan. 11, 1996

Seeing is believing at airport

New sightings are out of this world

by MIKE HAWKINS



GATWICK is spawning its very own collection of the X Files as dozens of sky-watchers are calling up a UFO expert with sightings.

Top UFO watcher Larry Dean who runs the Skysearch agency, believes the aliens are:

- Studying our air travel by spying on planes over Gatwick.
- Trying to tell us that we are destroying the planet.
- Going to show us how we can stop wars and pollution.

Larry said: "We've had an incredibly intense period of sightings recently, almost a mini-wave of them."

He says places such as the towns and villages around Gatwick could be targeted by the extra terrestrials just to let us know they are out there.

"It's called awareness, where extra terrestrials make a lot of contact before they show themselves properly," he said.

Recent daylight sightings have included cylindrical objects, saucers, lights and flashes in the sky and wedge-shaped ships.

"Over the next four or five years we're going to see a lot more close encounters so that we will get accustomed to their presence."

The space invaders are going to teach us and not destroy us.

"They are not here to harm us, they may have an interest in our health and in what we are doing to the planet."

"They are monitoring all aspects of our life including our air travel and pollution levels and recording our reactions to them."

People have been abducted — but not for medical experiments, he says.

"People are being shown war and pollution on a big screen and when they come back they're often filled with a new awareness."

Larry, who spotted a silver and black wedge-disc over Chancetonbury Ring in October 1994, added: "I want to know how we can offer our hand out — we could learn a lot from a more spiritually advanced civilisation."

SKYSEARCH needs stargazers to monitor the skies over Gatwick for UFOs.

The group, which started in February and publishes a quarterly magazine, has 20 investigators — but none in this area.

The summer was one of its most hectic times — with 35 sightings in two months, peaking in August.

Call the agency's 24-hour hotline on 01273 300805 or write c/o PO Box 2507, Saltdean, Brighton, BN2 8NE.

Here we open the Ad's own X Files:

- August 10 3-4am. A woman on a plane from Portugal to Gatwick filmed a strange white

light which came from nowhere and then vanished.

- August 15. A woman walking her dog at 2.30am in woods near Horley saw a huge green flashing light moving above her at low altitude.

- August 21. A commuter going to work on a bus near Horley spotted a silver cigar-shaped space ship. He described it as "an aircraft engine without the wing".

- October 7. A sky-blue coloured space ship shaped like a ringed doughnut was seen close

to the area at 6.30pm.

- November 4. Two motorists on the A23 at 2.45pm saw a sinister egg-shaped object hovering over trees.

They described the eerily silent craft glowing brightly from its own source, with white, blue and orange patches over its surface.

- Do you have a tale for our X Files? Then phone us during office hours on 01737 732090.

UFO airport is set for take off

By Roger Todd

more sightings reported than anywhere else.

Local councillor Valdon Vargao, who initiated the plan and has made nationwide tours with Mayor Vilmar Peres to publicise the UFO airport, said: "They can call me mad. But I'm doing humanity a service."

He insists: "My main concern is to maintain a cordial and official relationship with the extra-terrestrials."

His "Interspace Aerodrome" signs have gone up all over the fenced-off site in preparation for concreting it over — just to make sure the UFOs do not get stuck in the mud.

Brazil's foremost UFO expert, A.J. Gevaerd —

whose Centre for Flying Saucer Research is on the edge of the Pantanal — is in regular contact with Valdon Vargao.

"A.J." as he is known to UFO spotters across the world, said: "They're very excited about it in Barra do Garcas and there is huge interest in UFOs in Brazil generally."

PHILIP Mantle, of the British UFO Research Association, said: "For some strange reason the Pantanal has been very popular for sightings of UFOs."

"Some people there have claimed to have had close encounters."

Soon, if the new airport encourages alien visitors to make official contact, they may be able to say: "Beam me up Scotty".

ESSEX CO. STANDARD, Colchester, England
Dec. 15, 1995

UFO sightings of 'brightly-lit craft'

UFO investigator Sheridan Lane is following up reports of sightings around the Colchester district during the past couple of weeks.

She has received 11 calls from people — some absolutely terrified — reporting strange brightly-lit craft spotted over Bixted, the top of Clingoe Hill, near Mersea Road and near the Severalls Estate.

One caller, an ex RAF officer now working as a civil servant in Colchester, had been in his car with his wife when they spotted a diamond-shaped object above them.

They even opened the car's sun roof to get a better view of the object, which he said, as a trained observer of up-to-date military aircraft, was unlike anything he recognised — including Stealth or Aurora.

And a young man who describes

himself as an amateur observer of aircraft reported seeing a diamond-shaped object hovering over the top of Clingoe Hill, near the University of Essex.

He too says it was unlike anything he has seen before.

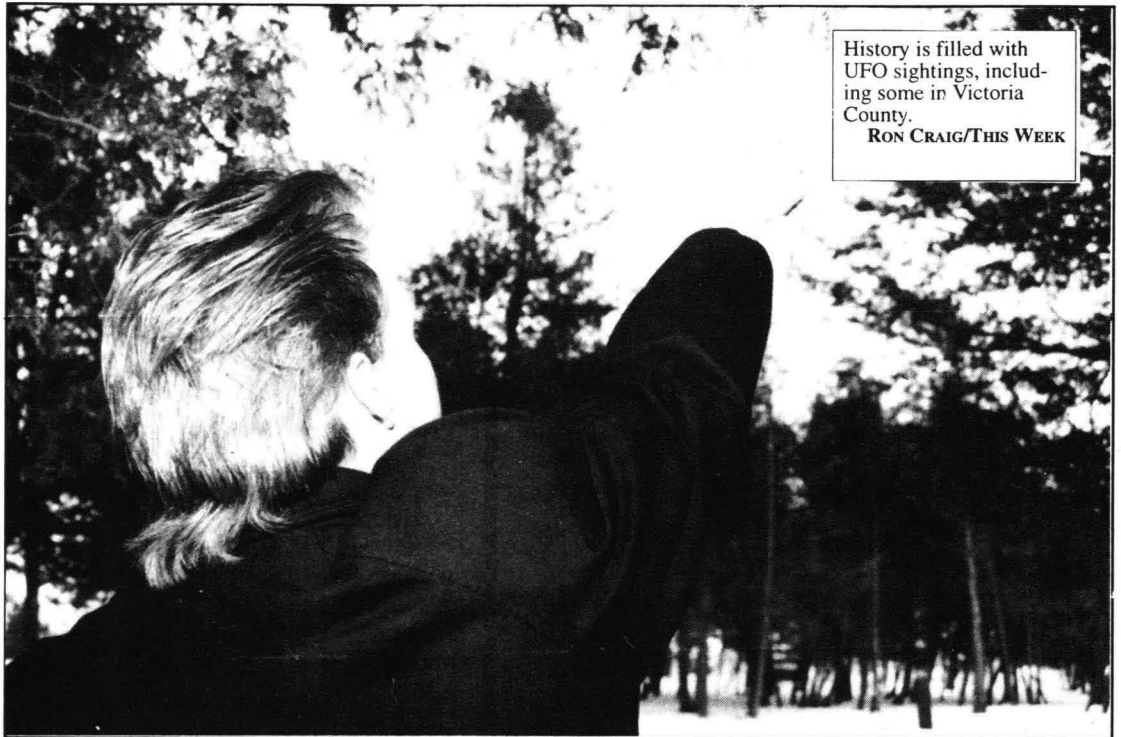
An elderly woman living in a top-floor flat in Maple Way, Colchester reported seeing a huge object pass over her roof at lunchtime while she was writing her Christmas cards. She said it was like nothing she had ever seen before; as bright as the sun and noiseless; and was only visible for a couple of seconds.

A woman and her aunt who were in the conservatory of their home in Mersea Road were shocked to see a huge cigar-shaped silver object, surrounded by red, white and amber lights, in the sky. They went into the garden and watched it for about ten minutes before it disappeared.

Sheridan, who lives in Colchester and is a member of the London UFO Studies (which has branches all over the country) is currently investigating these and other sightings in the area and would be pleased to hear from anyone with information on sightings.

Contact Sheridan via Roy Lake at the London UFO Studies, on 0181 270 9919.

The truth is out there



History is filled with UFO sightings, including some in Victoria County.
RON CRAIG/THIS WEEK

BY CHRIS VERNON
THIS WEEK STAFF WRITER

Scientific evidence is slowly being gathered supporting the hypothesis that we are being visited by creatures from outer space who abduct and probe our bodies in an effort to find out what makes us tick.

History is filled with UFO sightings and alien abductions, but only recently has the scientific world begun to accept and research the possibility of such events.

Scientific research and data certainly abounds — even here in our own back yards.

Lindsay resident Daniel Scarborough, 24, doesn't doubt the existence of flying space crafts.

During the twilight hours of July 1995 Mr. Scarborough and his wife Bonnie said they saw an unexplainable sight over a patch of hardwood forest near the intersection of Highway 28 and Sherbrooke Street near Peterborough.

While driving, Mr. and Mrs. Scarborough saw five odd lights hovering approximately 75 feet off the ground over the forest, reports Mr. Scarborough.

"When we got out of the car it disappeared. The whole thing lasted only 45 seconds, and whatever it was it wasn't stationary. There was no outline of a shape, and it was so quiet you could hear a pin drop," said Mr. Scarborough.

The object was moving from side to side, up and down, with one central light, added Mr. Scarborough.

A check of the area by Mr. Scarborough revealed no roads to the sighting area he said.

"I don't use drugs or alcohol," he assures.

One month earlier Shane, 36, who doesn't want his last name used, saw a similar object in Bobcaygeon with six friends.

"It was about a mile away, and was saucer shaped. It was moving up and down and didn't make a sound. A pulse of light shot out of the bottom of it and it disappeared," said Shane, a Bell Canada employee.

Within minutes of the object's disappearance, three military helicopters raced into the area, added Shane.

Canadian Forces Base Trenton Captain Lynne Chaloux said air force helicopters carry out search and rescue flights in the Bobcaygeon area, but don't chase UFOs.

"We don't respond to UFO sightings from individuals. If the federal government asks us to chase a UFO then we would," said Capt. Chaloux.

Five years ago a Lindsay woman in her 30s saw a

strange object early in the morning at the corner of Highway 7A and 35

"It was a beautiful morning. Then suddenly it got foggy. I looked up above the Co-Op building and saw an oval shaped object with flames coming out of the bottom," said the woman, who wished to remain anonymous.

The woman was driving her car, and is certain the driver of the vehicle in front of her saw the object.

"It only lasted a few seconds," she said.



Errol Bruce-Knapp is MUFON's (Mutual UFO Network) Ontario communications director, and isn't aware of a lot of UFO activity in the Lindsay area.

"I'm sure there are sightings, but people don't know where to report their experiences. Often they'll phone the police or the airport," said Mr. Bruce-Knapp.

Ed Barker holds a degree in social science and is the producer at the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature's planetarium.

He is also the director of the Manitoba branch of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

MUFON is a world-wide body headquartered in Texas.

MUFON investigates thousands of UFO sightings yearly.

He's been studying UFOs for more than 20 years, and investigated one of Canada's most famous UFO

cases involving prospector Steven Michalak in May of 1967 near Falcon Lake Manitoba.

"Mr. Michalak was taking a break from prospecting. As he was eating his lunch, a saucer landed and a hatch opened. He got up and walked over to it," said Mr. Barker.

What happened next was the focus of an extensive investigation by the Canadian Government, the Royal Canadian Air Force, and NASA.

"Mr. Michalak was struck in the stomach by some sort of exhaust from this craft and sustained serious burns. He was taken to hospital and treated," said Mr. Barker. The injury left a series of round burns on Mr. Michalak's stomach. This is when UFO investigators from the U.S. got involved said Mr. Barker. "Mr. Michalak underwent a psychological examination. He wasn't nuts," added Mr. Barker. Oddly, a year later the burns returned. Doctors discovered scar tissue within Mr. Michalak's stomach consistent with burns.

The case has been featured on the TV series Unsolved Mysteries in which Mr. Barker was consulted as an advisor. Mr. Michalak is now 78 and in poor health, said Mr. Barker.

Mr. Barker is presently researching alien abductions using a technique known as hypnotic regression.

Subjects are hypnotized and asked to recall their abduction, but are they making their stories up?

"I am working with four children that have been abducted. They're very credible because they don't have the misconceptions (of aliens) as adults through TV. Their fear is real," said Mr. Barker.

"People all over the world report the same procedures, the same creatures, and the same types of crafts," added Mr. Barker, who has one piece of advice for those who don't believe in UFOs.

"Skepticism is a knee-jerk reaction. If you are going to refute something in science you need to do some research and come up with another hypothesis," he said.

One of the best ever authenticated UFO cases was made by the crew of one of the U.S. Apollo space flights. A strange object followed the Apollo for some minutes before speeding off.

An astronaut told Houston control, "We'll assume it's friendly."

If you've seen something in the starry sky, call MUFON's sighting line at 1-416-249-0933.

"Something unusual is happening," concluded Mr. Barker.

AIRDRIE ADVERTISER,
Lanark, Scotland
Dec. 19, 1995

Men from Mars

Report: John Hutcheson

HAVE Martians descended on Monklands?

It seems that everyone has taken an interest in our district since it hit national headlines three years ago. Now it appears that little green men have decided to come down and see for themselves.

A mysterious glittering, oval-shaped object was seen hovering over Coatbridge early last Tuesday morning.

But, unfortunately, it was so early that few people seem to have seen it.

One lady from Ailsa Place in the Old Monkland area of Coatbridge swears that an object was mysteriously floating in the sky last Tuesday morning.

"It was about 5am and I was in bed when I heard a door banging," she said.

"I got up and went to the window and thought I saw a plane but I looked at it for a little while and it didn't seem to move.

"I went back to bed and got up again a little later and it was still there — it must have been there for about an hour.

"I got my binoculars out to look at it. It was shaped like an egg and was very sparkly and dazzling.

"It never moved from

that position and resembled something you would put on a Christmas tree.

"It was spooky and certainly something that shouldn't have been there."

The glittery object appeared to float in the sky in the direction of Glasgow. Unfortunately, no picture was taken of it.

"It certainly wasn't a plane or helicopter — I don't know what it was," added Mrs Friel.

Ron Halliday, who runs the Bridge of Allan-based Scottish Earth Mysteries

Research Association, said: "This one certainly sounds interesting.

"We get about 100 reports of UFOs every year but I think this is the first report we have had from Coatbridge which surprises me."

A police spokesman said: "We've had no reports of UFOs — only flying saucers. I'm only joking."

Did you see the UFO? If so, contact the Advertiser newsdesk on 748048.

Israel hot spot for sightings of UFOs, aliens

By DANIEL BRYNBERG
JERUSALEM REPORT

On Sunday, Jan. 8, 1995, Herzl Ksantini was relaxing at home with a buddy in a small farming community in central Israel. "It was an ordinary evening on our moshav [village]," he says, "until suddenly, at 9 p.m., the house began to shake. It was like an earth tremor."

Ksantini opened the front door to investigate and came "face-to-face with a three-meter monster." His friend tried to peek out through a window in the kids' bedroom, but was thrown to the ground. Half a minute later, the "monster" was gone.

The 42-year-old Ksantini, married and a successful businessman, speaks calmly and convincingly of a "mud-colored monster, with long legs and no arms," and recalls lights shining from its head. He makes no claim that it was extraterrestrial. "All I know is that it was too big to be a man," he told the Jerusalem Report on the anniversary of his encounter, "and it wasn't a horse, camel, or any other known animal."

Ksantini and his friend sat frozen with fear for 20 minutes. They then called the moshav security head, who in turn phoned the Border Police. By early the next morning about 30 officers were scouring the area. They found no aliens — but did find "deep footprints" which were tracked for some 8 kilometers. While skeptics claimed these were camel tracks, Israel's small but enthusiastic UFO community swooped down on the sleepy moshav of Yatztiz and proclaimed it the site of the latest visitation.

Over the last decade, hundreds of Israelis claim to have had close encounters with alien beings. Their experiences range from mere sightings of UFOs or their "crop circle" landing sites, to actual communication — with several claimed abductions.

American-born Beit Shemesh resident Barry Chamish, a self-professed ufologist, says "Israel is recognized as an international UFO hot spot — with an unsurpassed quantity and quality of evidence."

In January 1995, a crew from Paramount TV's "Sightings" program came to Israel to film an episode — and ended up with enough material for three, two of which have aired to a global audience estimated at 60 million. Ufologists are at a loss to explain the lack of sightings in Israel's near neighbors — it is as if the aliens, unlike most earthlings, are aware of Israel's borders.

One explanation offered is the Divine. Israeli ufology divides into the majority rationalist and minority mystic camps. The mystics have no doubt as to the reason for the prevalence of sightings in the Holy Land: The angels of the Bible are returning. Mystics have constructed elaborate theories based on biblical and cabalistic texts to support their contention that the "miracles" of the Bible — such as the pillars of cloud and fire that guided the Israelites through the wilderness — are actually descriptions of alien encounters.

Most recently, ufologist Hadassah Arbel has proffered a theory linking Kadimah, a moshav in central Israel where a number of encounters have been reported, with Kedmah, a biblical word for eastward, associated with the coming of the messiah. Rationalists counter by pointing out that, with minimal effort, almost any biblical passage can be interpreted as an encounter narrative.

Nachman Ben-Yehuda, associate professor of sociology at the Hebrew University, first looked at the UFO phenomenon when studying in the United States. He explains the recent spate of sightings as manifestations of "diminishing security tensions." Accordingly, he sees Israel becoming "more and more like West Europe and America, witnessing more science fiction, more cults. People are becoming more aware of themselves and their experiences."

Not all the action has been in the last decade: Claims of Israeli UFO sightings date back to the 1950s. Avi Greif, head of the Israel Center for UFO Research (a ragtag association of amateurs), says that "considering the size of the country, the number of encounters, particularly of the second and third kind, is remarkable."

World attention has been sharply focused on Israel by a recent flurry of extraterrestrial activity — what Israeli enthusiasts refer to as a "holy trinity" of "well-documented" encounters.

The most recent was Ksantini's "monster." Before that, between March and June 1993, five women claim to have had one-on-one encounters with aliens in Kadimah — and each has furnished similar descriptions of a "2.5-meter [7-foot] tall, bald, gray alien being, with an oval-shaped face, glittering eyes and a small dotlike nose."

All five Kadimah incidents were marked by "crop circles," taken to indicate spacecraft landings, in back gardens.

The other encounter in the "trinity" occurred in September 1976, when a series of sightings, over Haifa's Shikmonah beach, culminated in a spectacular explosion that scorched the sand in the shape of a spaceship.

Tens of thousands of residents came to see the unique "alien signature." Avi Greif says the site was unusually magnetic and contained extremely high concentrations of zinc.

Other local encounters of note include the Nov. 6, 1991, "visitation of a giant" to the home of Beit She'an police officer Yitzhak Mordechai, which resulted in a six-hour chase involving 300 soldiers in jeeps all the way to the Jordanian border.

The being is said to have stopped at the border fence, and then disappeared.

On the night of Jan. 24, 1992, a UFO was sighted along the length of the country, from the Galilee to Eilat, triggering hundreds of calls to emergency lines.

Operators are briefed in handling such emergencies; Rachel Holzman, of the Israel Center for UFO Research, has given several lectures to the operators on Israel's 100 police emergency line.

Tel Aviv University astronomer Elia Leibowitz is skeptical about the new rash of sightings. "I'm sure they see something," he says.

"The question is the meaning people give to what they see."

To most mainstream scientists, ufology remains a pseudo-science. Nachman Ben-Yehuda warns that "Ufology is simply plagued with fraudulent reports, forgeries, unreliable witnesses — you have to shed a lot of rubbish to get even a kernel of evidence."

But he recognizes that "you don't have to be a crackpot to believe in UFOs." He points to DNA code-cracker and Nobel Laureate Francis Crick's last book, "Life Itself," which argues that DNA was brought to earth by a rocket from another world.

Indeed, there is a growing academic respectability being given to UFO studies.

And the U.S. government is now conducting the biggest-ever search for extraterrestrial life through the 5-year-old global META (Megachannel Extraterrestrial Assay) program, simultaneously scanning over 1 million frequencies for any signs of intelligent communications — so far with no results.

Ben-Yehuda, who has specialized in the sociology of "deviant science," sees an irony in the fact that respected government agencies and scientists spend billions of dollars searching the distant horizons of space, while people who claim to have been visited in the back garden are ridiculed.

Still, UFO enthusiasts are used to being disbelieved by a skeptical, often mocking public.

Undaunted, Israel's amateur UFO researchers will doubtlessly continue to spend their weekends tramping through gardens photographing "crop circles," collecting residue and silica, and dreaming of locating a large landing site in the Galilee which has become tantalizingly known as "The Mother Lode."

TIMES, Solihull, England -- Dec. 29, 1995

On the trail of mystery

A KINGSHURST man has become a paranormal detective and set up the borough's very own answer to The X Files in a bid to explain the unexplainable.

Chris Harris is setting up a UFO and Paranormal Investigation Society called Beams Birmingham to investigate all the weird and wonderful events around the West Midlands.

"There are a lot of unexplained events going on particularly in this area from flashing lights in the sky, ghosts and 23 feet corn circles and I'm sure there are many people out there who, like myself, want to discover what it's all about," said Mr Harris.

"I belong to a larger society

Leda Reynolds

called the British Earth and Aerial Mystery Society which has a large collection of data on unexplainable incidents.

"Everyday people encounter strange encounters but probably dismiss them because they think if they report it no-one will take them seriously when in fact sightings of UFOs are becoming commonplace."

"For instance on October 31 several people reported seeing a dull flashing light over Castle Bromwich which hovered for one hour before shooting off."

"And on another occasion three policemen in Great Barr saw a glowing white object in the sky turn green as it descended to the ground behind some houses and disappear but when they sent the helicopter to have a look they found nothing."

"We have found that when incidents such as this are reported to defence organisa-

tions such as the Ministry of Defence they are dismissed or written off."

"But some of our members are ex-MOD employees and apparently there is a branch called S4 which belongs to the Air Ministry which investigates paranormal activities although not many people know about this."

"We believe there is a world wide conspiracy to keep these sightings a secret but people are beginning to talk between themselves more and more."

"We know of farmers who have gone to tend their cattle and found at least one of them mutilated with internal organs missing yet no sign of any blood and there are also tales of abductions by UFOs."

If you have experienced any paranormal activity from corn circles to ghosts or believe you have spotted a UFO and would like to get in touch with Chris Harris contact Leda Reynolds at the Solihull Times on 0121 704 3344.

WEST SUSSEX GAZETTE, Arundel, England -- Jan. 4, 1996

Strange sights viewed across the Sussex sky

A MYSTERIOUS large red ball of flashing lights in the sky, reported near Arundel in December, was the tail end of a massive spate of UFO sightings in Sussex this year.

The claim has been made by Skysearch, a Saltdean-based group which specialises in investigating UFO sightings.

Mr Larry Dean, co-founder and director of the group, said there had been an unusually high number of reports from across Sussex this year, particularly during the summer months.

There have been sightings of everything from spinning saucers to cigar-shaped objects and bright lights in the sky, many of which have been unexplained.

Mr Dean also claims the strange lights seen from Arundel were spotted on Boxing Day evening over Keymer by a man looking from his bedroom window.

Mr Dean said: "He saw a glowing orange ball. The object remained stationary and then pulsed.

It became very bright and then dim. Eventually it moved away towards Devil's Dyke."

He added: "It was not an aircraft, this man knows his aircraft. It was very similar to what was reported in Arundel."

After receiving more than 30 reports of UFOs in just two months over the summer, Mr Dean said he was keen to hear from any other witnesses to strange objects in the sky.

"We've had silver balls over Hurstpierpoint, cigar-shaped objects in Ditchling and other reports from Woodingdean and Shoreham," he said.

"We've had triangular objects, lights in the sky and disc-shaped objects. Some come in at great speed across the sea and then bank and vanish."

But his investigations were not all based on secondhand reports. He has even spotted a UFO himself while out walking.

"I had a sighting in Chanctonbury Ring in October last year," he said. "I was with a fellow investi-

gator, Patricia Begley, and we were walking back from the ring on a bright day."

"What we saw was a wedge-shaped disc, which is the best way I can describe it. It was silver and black and was about 50 to 100 feet above us."

"It went off in the direction of Brighton. It went up and up and then just vanished."

He added: "Chanctonbury Ring seems to be getting more active. In fact the whole area is having a very active time."

Mr Dean would now like to hear from anybody who has seen unexplained objects in the area to build up a profile of the activity taking place.

"We do investigate any reports and look into all possibilities and will of course protect anybody's anonymity if they make a report to us," he said.

Mr Dean can be contacted at Skysearch, PO Box 2507, Saltdean, Brighton BN2 8NE or on a 24-hour hotline on 01273 300805.

EVENING CHRONICLE, Newcastle, England -- Jan. 2, 1996

Fanatics focus on the unexplained

By PETE LEYDON

UFO fanatics in the North East will be the first in Britain to witness new footage of the amazing Roswell film at a lecture in Newcastle this month.

It's the second in a series of UFO conventions in the region being staged by the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA).

Author Philip Mantle will be presenting his lecture featuring discussion of the Roswell footage and a video presentation of film

never seen in this country before.

He will also be covering the mysterious UFO encounters and unexplained events such as the abduction phenomenon which are said to have happened in this area.

Gloria Dixon, of Woodlands Park, Newcastle, who is North East investigations chief for BUFORA, is organising the event following the amazing success of

the first one, which was held in October.

She said: "It will be backed up with specific cases reported in the Northern region and slide presentation of these disturbing events."

Author

"A wide range of UFO related material, like videos and magazines will be on sale at the lecture, and the end will be devoted to questions from the audience."

The convention will be held on January 27 at Nixon

Hall, University of Northumbria, Newcastle, from 2pm to 5pm.

Tickets will be limited, and admission will be £1.50 BUFORA members, £2 concessions, £3 non-members.

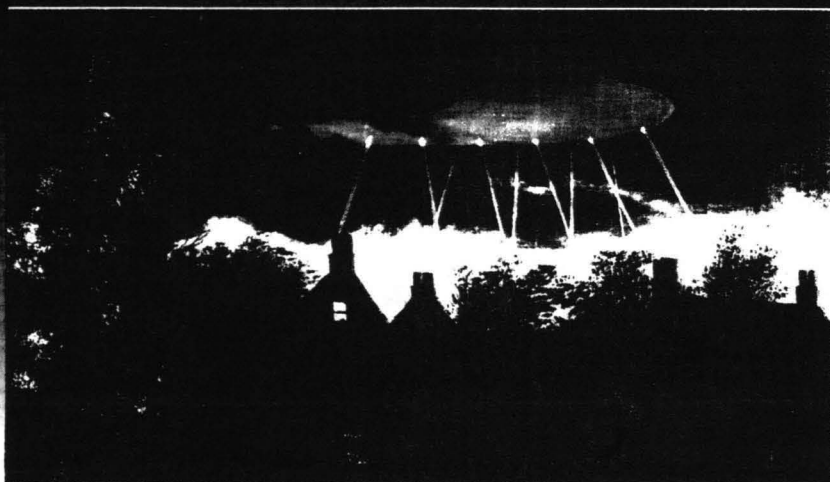
A host of other speakers are lined up to appear at several other conventions planned for the North East in 1996, including leading Scottish researcher Malcolm Robinson, and Jenny Randles, Britain's top ufologist and author of more than 30 books.

the Y files

Fire in the sky

Just what was the strange object a York artist saw in the sky on the night of the Minster fire? Was it a UFO? SIMON RITCHIE reports

YORK artist Royce Harmer cannot forget what he saw in the sky on the night of the Minster fire. It has haunted him ever since, but only now has he decided to talk openly about it. The 55-year-old from Dodsworth Avenue has even recorded his experience on canvas. "It is something that I've never forgotten and I never will," he said. It was 11pm on Sunday, July 8, 1984. It was pouring with rain and Royce and his wife Heather were returning home after a night out with friends in Malton. "We got to near the golf club on Malton Road when my wife shouted: 'What the hell's that?'" "I pulled in, wound the window down and looked up. I could not believe what I saw. "There was a very large elliptical object, dull orange in colour which was pulsating. It had a definite edge to it. It had a clear shape. "It was stationary about 200ft above the ground. It was windy so the clouds were passing over it.



MYSTERY: Royce Harmer's painting of the orange object he saw in the sky

"We were watching in awe for about a minute or so, then beams of light came out of the object at angles, just like someone had turned on a switch. "They were the same width all the way down. They did not fan out as a torch light would do. Then it went behind the clouds and we could not see it anymore." Royce then drove round the corner to their home in Dodsworth Avenue. "We looked again but we could not see anything. We thought it might have come down somewhere. "During the night I kept getting

up and looking out of the window. "It was not until the morning that I found out about the Minster fire. "I read in the Press at the time about a number of people who had seen strange objects in the sky that night and were ridiculed at the time. My wife said to say something but I did not want to be labelled a crank. "It was only when I read the recent articles on UFOs in the Evening Press that I thought I would come forward. "I had an open mind on the subject of UFOs until that night." Van driver Eddie Acaster, of

Huntington, claimed to have seen an "orange-coloured" Zeppelin-like object moving fast over York at 10.30pm - half-an-hour before Royce's sighting. Taxi driver Bill Whitehead saw a similar object hover over the Minster at 2am the following morning. A short time later the building caught fire. It is generally believed lightning was to blame. ● If you have seen a UFO or had a paranormal experience then contact Simon Ritchie at The Yorkshire Evening Press on 01904 653051 ext. 347.



Royce Harmer: Saw pulsating object



What was it?

BRYAN Marlowe took this amazing photograph of a UFO flying over Acomb, York. He was out walking in a field off Askham Lane with his son Raymond, a former Royal Air Force crew member, when the object came into view. "It was about 1,500ft high and travelling with a wobbly, revolving motion at about 50mph in a north-westerly direction," said Mr Marlowe, 65, of Otterwood Lane, York. "The object gave off an incandescent glow and appeared to be constructed of a highly-polished, almost translucent, white metal. It was completely soundless in flight and did not emit any exhaust or vapour trails." Mr Marlowe took a second photograph as it

accelerated away to the north-west until it was no longer visible. He had his camera with him as he wanted to take some pictures of a bull in a field. The sightings took place at 3.30pm on Monday, August 7. He forgot about the film until a few days ago when he got it developed. He is now going to send the photographs to Ground Saucer Watch, USA, and the British UFO Research Association. He added: "My son, who has flown many hundreds of hours as aircrew in RAF transport aircraft, has seen all manner of flying objects, including Iraqi Patriot missiles, and is convinced that the object we saw and photographed was alien to this planet."

ELTHAM TIMES, Kent, England -- Jan. 4, 1996

UFO investigation group is launched

VISITORS from other worlds will be subject to closer scrutiny following the launch of a new UFO investigation group. Eltham Supernatural Phenomena Research and Investigation Team (ESPRIT) has been formed to delve into unexplained occurrences. To date, the team has investigated 13 reports of UFO sightings in south east London alone. Organiser Joanne Bishop said: "We

By JOHN TAYLOR

are willing to look into any UFO sighting, past or present, and any other instances of unexplained phenomena. "Our most recent sighting was of a disc-shaped object flying over Eltham Hill School which we are still investigating. "Another case occurred when we were on a skywatch in Oxleas

Meadow, off the Rochester Way. A brilliant white light sped right over us at about 1,000 miles an hour. "We have since discounted all conventional explanations with our research. It could have been anything really." She added that the team now feels able to investigate further reports from residents in Eltham, Kidbrooke, Motingham, Greenwich, Woolwich and Welling.

If anyone has spotted a UFO and would like to report it, they can call ESPRIT at the headquarters in West-horne Avenue, Eltham, on 0181 850 8964. Each case will be dealt with confidentially. Mrs Bishop said ESPRIT had received praise for their work from Quest International, one of Britain's biggest UFO organisations.

LANGUAGE

Do aliens speak Hungarian?

ACCORDING to evidence uncovered by an American UFO researcher Glenn Campbell, Hungarian may be the mother tongue of alien visitors to the earth. Campbell is investigating the notion that Hungarian, a language of Asiatic origins, is related to an extra-terrestrial mystery he is studying in the US where a grey-skinned four-fingered alien called Jarod is purportedly advising a top-secret government agency in the construction of a working flying saucer. According to Campbell's source, the

native language of Jarod the alien is a higher form of Hungarian. What's the evidence? Well, when answering a question Jarod always impersonates the person who asked it. "Whenever addressed, it will answer in your own voice," explained Campbell. Furthermore, Jarod constructs its English sentences using Hungarian word order - which is convenient because, according to Campbell's source, Hungarian is the special code language of the top-security research operation. Furthermore, Campbell's source claims that the programme hires Hungarian scientists in preference to all other nationalities. Does this mean that the first Hungarians were aliens?

Were Hungarians the occupants of the first flying saucers to reach the earth? Campbell doesn't know the answers and concedes that a Hungarian-speaking alien is a far-fetched notion but he is still convinced that Hungary is an enigmatic component in an international UFO mystery. You could test Campbell's hypothesis quite easily for yourself. The next time you encounter an alien, try saying: *ET menj haza* - the Hungarian for 'ET go home'. You may just make contact.

John Nadler

Serious look at flying saucers

Are "flying saucers" manned by beings with a spiritual and beneficial message for Earth-dwellers? Joyce Woodhouse, of Dalton, believes so, and, at 84, has written a novel on the subject. She talked to DAVID HAMMOND

IN NOT too long, perhaps, after the year 2,000, spacecraft from other planets could be landing on Earth, bringing important spiritual messages.

"I believe this will be the greatest happening in modern times — namely the quite open and friendly visits to Earth of advanced human beings from other planets in this solar system," says Joyce Woodhouse.

In fact, she believes there are people on Earth who have been in touch with beings on other planets for the last 30 years or so, and that messages have been exchanged.

Mrs Woodhouse, of Dalton, admits these ideas are so staggering that many people will dismiss them as rubbish. If they proved to be true, all our lives would be affected.

But in her own mind she is quite sure that it is only a matter of time before there will be concrete evidence available. And that's why, at 84, she has just published her second novel —

to introduce the subject to readers and get more people to think about it seriously.

It may seem a bit late in life to be going into print like this, but Mrs Woodhouse says it's the right time. "I am better equipped now to write about these things than I was in my 40s and 50s," she says.

She has done considerable studies of life on other planets as a member of an international society which she joined in 1961. Leaders of the society claim to be in regular touch with "spiritual masters" on other planets, who want to benefit Earth and its inhabitants with their superior knowledge and wisdom.

The "flying saucers" which people claim to have seen are indications of visitors from outer space, Mrs Woodhouse believes. She has not seen any herself, but has talked to those who have, including two contacts, who claim to have made contact with people from other planets.

"I am keen to spread the



Joyce Woodhouse with her novel on space visitors, which she has illustrated herself

message. There is a lot more going on than governments are prepared to admit," she says. "They have done a good job in trying to keep things quiet, but I am trying to bring things out into the open.

"It is high time the shameful veil of secrecy which still hangs over the subject of so-called 'flying saucers' was lifted."

Mrs Woodhouse adds: "There are finer beings living on other planets than on our own. They abandoned wars centuries ago and also monetary systems. They are beyond us scientifically, and, especially, spiritually.

"I believe their visits are beneficial. Spiritual energies are targeted on the Earth. Mountains like Kinder Scout have been spiritually charged.

"These people are not coming to force us into anything — they are doing it to help us. They will not

interfere with our freewill. They are not allowed to do that, by Karmic law.

"But I think people should be prepared for what is going to happen. It could be sooner than we think."

Mrs Woodhouse, a widow with three children and five grandchildren, has been a regular letter writer to *The Examiner*, often on controversial subjects.

She has been a member of Huddersfield Authors' Circle since 1956. She is a former president and twice won the silver cup for the best annual competition entry.

Her first novel, *Once More To Earth*, had reincarnation as its subject.

● Copies of her novel, *The Quest of Helen Delaney: A Story of Hope In A Confused World*, are obtainable at £5.95. Contact 01484-427895 for details.

UFO mystery deepens

THE Martian mystery in Monkland deepens.

After the Advertiser's story last week of a UFO being spotted over Coatbridge, more readers have called in — one to confirm the sighting.

A lady from the Old Monkland area of Coatbridge saw a glittering, oval-shaped object between 5am and 6am on Tuesday, December 5.

Reader Catherine Cooper, from Rhinds Street, Old Monkland, also saw the UFO.

"At first I thought it was three stars together and then I thought it was an aeroplane, but it stayed in the same position for too long," said Mrs Cooper, who saw the object at about 4.40am.

After reading last week's story James Aitken, from Church Crescent, Airdrie, wrote in to say he saw the UFO shortly after 3pm on Thursday, December 7.

"There was a difference in my case because there appeared to be some sort of cable between the glittering, oval-shaped object and a smaller, similar object behind the larger one," said Mr Aitken.

"The smaller object was about half the size of the large one and I called my wife out to see it and she saw it quite distinctly.

"It stayed for approximately three minutes. How long it had been there before, I don't know.

"The smaller object disappeared first, then, about a minute later, the larger object just disappeared.

"The sky was cloudy and a cloud seemed to pass over the object but it was still visible through the cloud.

"There should be no doubt that what the lady saw in Coatbridge was not a figment of her imagination.

"The object, whatever it was, certainly did exist and the large object I saw was exactly as she described it."

The Scottish Earth Mysteries Research Association is looking into the matter.

The Civil Aviation Authority and Glasgow Airport say that nothing showed up on their radar equipment during the times in question.

BRAINTREE & WITHAM TIMES, Essex, England Dec. 28, 1995

UFO sighted over Witham

A DRIVER believes he saw a huge UFO over Witham on Christmas Eve — and is hoping the strange object may have been spotted by others.

Designer Chris Lamb, 35, was driving on the A12 and was close to some lakes when a circle of 15 to 20 lights appeared and passed over the top of his car.

"It was too big to be a helicopter," said Chris, who says he's been having sleepless nights since the incident.

He explained: "It was the size of four lanes of the A12 and was about 500ft above us."

The designer's Italian friend was riding in the passenger seat and he too saw the mysterious object — but, so far, no one else has reported it to the police.

Chris contacted officers in Chelmsford and Witham in the hope that someone else might have seen it.

The object made no sound and was visible for about three minutes.

Chris, of Bergholt Road, Colchester, said the sighting happened at about 6.30pm.

Above the village, a light shone

IT may have been around bonfire night but that thing in the sky was no Roman candle.

The strange pink triangle tipped with red lights hovered over Pool in Cornwall.

In the past six weeks UFOs have visited Cornwall twice, says UFO-hunter David Gillham who is anxious to hear of other sightings.

The triangle UFO was seen by eight people in Pool on November 4.

And a couple of weeks later six independent witnesses spied an elongated object with brightly lit portholes, floating over nearby Trispen, he claims.

"We've no idea what they are but we want to know if there are more witnesses who have not come forward," said David, from Truro.

"People in Redruth reported the triangular pink light circling a disused engine house and chimney stack.

"It was just before bonfire night but was definitely not a firework. One man was so alarmed he ran home and left the dog he was walking where it was.

"When he got home he and another witness watched the object until it disappeared from sight.

"They reported it to us later — it had been floating about 35 feet off the ground and was making no sound.

"I checked with the police and RNAS Culdrose. There were no helicopter flights that night."

David said the second sighting happened on the night of November 27 at nearby Trispen.

"This time two independent groups of three people each saw a weird object with bright, white lights and again it was making no noise.

"It flew over a four mile area around the A30, not far from RAF St Mawgan. But it looked nothing like any aircraft."

David, from Truro, started the Cornwall UFO Research Group after seeing unexplained hovering red lights this summer.

"I don't know what they were. I have an open mind on all these things.

"I'm investigating with a colleague, John Morris, and would love to hear from anybody who can explain what's been seen or has seen something unexplained themselves."

● David can be contacted on 01872-76381.

Calls add to UFO mystery

THE Star has been dazzled by a series of mysterious reports from readers who may have spotted UFOs in the night sky.

The strange sightings were revealed after a photo of a UFO was published in last week's paper.

The puzzling picture of a triangle of bright lights glowing over Marlow has baffled space buffs.

It was taken by Mel Donovan, 38, and his wife Julia, 35, from their home in Moor Common, Lane End.

Now former RAF wireless operator John Scott, 74, of Dean Street, Marlow, thinks he may have seen the same group of lights glowing over Bourne End on the same weekend.

"On the night in question I was working in my kitchen with a small desk lamp with the curtains open. I went to the sink to fill the kettle, when my gaze was attracted to a very bright light due east in the direction of Bourne End."

"The light was not steady, as with a car's headlights, but shimmered and flickered as if subjected to some vibration."

The Star also had a call from school caretaker Phillip Walls, 39, and his wife Dawn, 32, who recently filmed a set of lights moving over their home in Berkhamstead in Berkshire.

Dawn said: "The lights were very close as they came over the house and they made no noise at all."

They plan to send the video to space experts.

GAZETTE, Clacton, England Jan. 12, 1996

UFO over hospital

POSSIBLE sightings of UFOs lurking over Clacton Hospital have been reported.

Ron West, chairman of Essex UFO Research, said there was a report from a worker at the hospital of a triangular-shaped object hovering over the hospital at midnight last Wednesday.

He added there have also been recent reports of similar objects sighted from Clacton seafront and over Harwich harbour.

North woman at the frontier of study into UFO reports from all around Britain

Keeping an eye on the skies

THE phone rings and a gentle, understanding and sensible sounding voice answers. It has the matter-of-fact tone of a doctor's receptionist who has heard it all before. "Yes, you think you've seen a flying saucer. I see. Tell me all about it, we'll log it and then check it out."

All in a day's work for Gloria Dixon, currently acting, unpaid but enthusiastic, as Britain's foremost recorder of sightings that sometimes can't be explained. And if you thought UFO types were sort of cosmic kin to train spotters, amiable but slightly loopy, then Gloria is the kind of person who can shatter pre-conceptions.

She's a veteran of UFO-spotting and has seen - or at least tracked down - all the false alarms there are, from weather balloons, airships, sunspots to any of the other hundreds of sightings which prove as scientifically accurate as a Dr Who script.

At the moment Gloria, head researcher for the British UFO Research Organisation, is fielding calls from sky-watchers around the country and is compiling her own X Files on the unexplained. Gloria, of Woodlands Park, Wideopen, Newcastle, said: "Ninety per cent and more of the reports we get are perfectly explainable."

"That, though, does leave five per cent which just don't have a rational cause, and that is, in global terms, a very large number. "We are getting more and more sightings because more people

LITTLE green men in spaceships? Maybe not, maybe it's all in the mind, says the Newcastle woman who is one of Britain's UFO investigators. **PETER FAIRLEY** boldly goes into the world of the unexplained to sort fact from fiction



● **IS IT A UFO?** - this photo puzzles many

are watching the sky. They see a variety of things like airships and bright stars, laser light shows and military aircraft in odd conditions and think they're UFOs.

"The five per cent, however, leaves an awful lot of questions to be answered."

"We have sightings by policemen and airline pilots, people who are trained to analyse what they see. They have been reporting what is scientifically impossible."

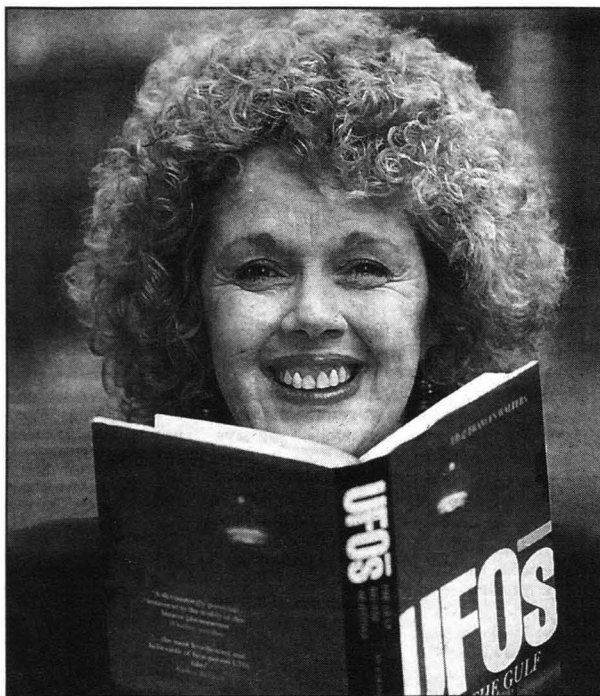
The top sighting in the north has been from people in the Tyne Valley last August when a copper, dome-shaped aircraft was watched by several witnesses.

One man, whose two alarms went off, thought his house was being burgled, went into the garden and saw the craft which he photographed. Gloria said: "We sent the pictures to an

acknowledged expert in America and he has said it is definitely not a conventional rocket, aircraft or other commonplace object. "This picture cannot possibly be a hoax, and there were other witnesses who saw this object at the same time from a distance."

"At the moment it is literally a UFO, an unidentified flying object." Along with a rise in the number of UFO sightings has come a rise in the number of people reporting close encounters. But Gloria warns: "The Universe might hold a great many mysteries but, so too, does the human mind, and these experiences with what people believe are aliens might have nothing to do with spaceships but could come from within the mind. We don't know."

To contact Gloria with any reports call: (0191) 236-8375.



● **DEEP IN STUDY** - Gloria Dixon with a book about UFOs continues to log and check out reports of mystery sightings

Mystery sighting probed

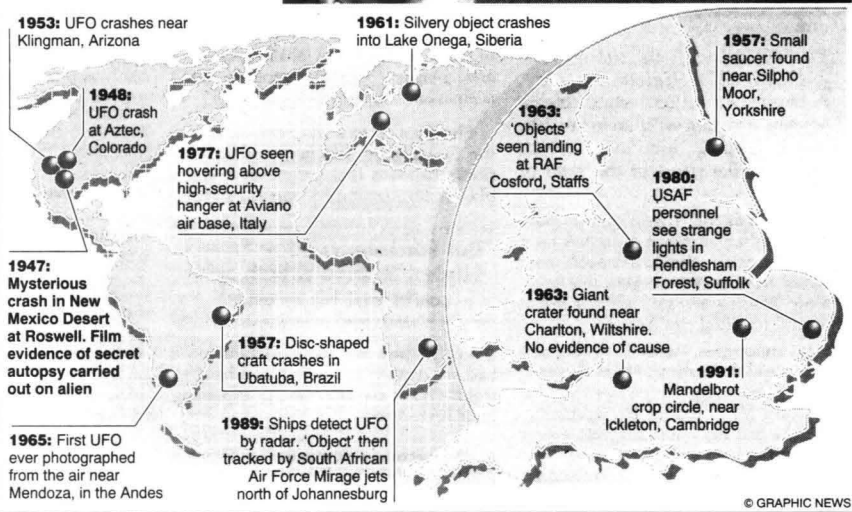
IT was UFO sceptic Peter Nelson who sparked the most notable unexplained sighting in the north in the last two years.

The 50-year-old retired shipyard worker, now disabled after a fall at work, was at home in Bellingham, Northumberland, last August when, just before midnight two infra-red alarms in his garden, each wired separately, went off.

Thinking he was being burgled he ran outside to see a mystery object in the sky. It was copper-covered and dome-shaped and was passing over his house. It hovered over the Tyne Valley for 15 minutes before accelerating away. He got pictures of the object which have been passed to examiners in the US who say what he captured on film is no ordinary sighting. It is one of the unexplained.

UFO SIGHTINGS Close encounters of the alien kind

The majority of sightings of UFOs coincided with the onset of the Cold War, with many involving 'retrievals', where wreckage or the bodies of unearthly beings were supposedly spirited away by the authorities. The most famous episodes - like the 1947 Roswell Incident, in which an autopsy of an alien was allegedly filmed - tended to occur close to military bases. Here is a catalogue of the more curious events...



Were they flying saucers... or was it just Venus?

FANS of television's 'X Files' will be pleased to hear that unidentified flying objects have once again been spotted in Gwent.

UFO fanatic Martin Tolley, of Laurel Road, Bassaleg, in Newport, is convinced something strange was going on up at Twm Barlwm mountain on Christmas night and Boxing night.

"It was about 8.30-9pm and I was standing in the kitchen looking out of the window when I saw three coloured lights in the shape of a triangle revolving and hovering above the mountain opposite," he said. "It was unbelievable. It almost looked like they were talking to each other."

Police at Risca said they

By Alyson Price

had received no other sightings but investigated anyway and found nothing suspicious.

Martin swears that what he saw was not the result of a festive tippie or two.

"I'd had a couple of cans but I wasn't drunk. I went back an hour later and the lights were still there," he said.

"The next night I saw them again. They were moving in a different way this time and gradually, over the course of about three hours, they moved from one side of the mountain to the other, then disappeared."

"My brother-in-law,

who's in the RAF and works with planes every day, said he'd never seen anything like it."

"I've got lots of books on UFOs and they say first encounters always involve lights. They were so bright they could not have been torches."

UFO expert Kerry Blower, of Croesyceiliog, Cwmbran, said she had not heard of any sighting recently on Twm Barlwm, but there had been rumours in the past.

"At this time of year Venus is predominant in the sky and at the moment it's very low as well. Last night it was incredible."

"I'm not saying that's definitely what Martin saw, but a lot of people do confuse Venus with UFOs."

Previous unexplained activity:

Sept, 1980 - mysterious lights spotted in the sky over Cross Keys

Nov, 1981 - blue lights in sky over Oakdale

Feb 25, 1982 - family terrified by lights above their car on lonely mountain road, near Blackwood

Feb 25, 1982 - two men driving through Trinant see strange lights in the sky

Feb 25, 1982 - Newport family see coloured lights in the air

March 17, 1982 - Blackwood policeman reports blue and white flashing lights in the sky

March 17, 1982 - Newport man confirms Blackwood sighting

March 18, 1982 - Grey cone-shaped object seen in the sky over Cwmbran

March 18, 1982 - Newport mother and

daughter spot an unidentified flying object

August, 1982 - a brightly coloured moving object seen over Markham

Sept, 1982 - four sightings made over a two-week period. One in Abergavenny, one in Monmouth and two in Cwmbran

Oct, 1982 - three sightings in the Cwmbran/Pontypool area. An investigator from the National UFO Laboratories spends three weeks in the area in a bid to solve the mystery

Dec, 1982 - UFO spotted by Cwmbran man

Jan, 1983 - Ministry of Defence announce they will look into the sightings

February, 1983 - Cwmbran woman claims to see a spaceship

April, 1983 - rugby ball shaped UFO seen in Cwmbran



MIRROR, Klamath Falls, OR -- Feb. 1996

"Killers Hit A Klamath Ranch"

STORY BY JEAN BILODEAUX
PHOTOS BY KENT MYERS

"Oh no, it's happened to us!"

In December, *The Mirror* carried a story entitled, "Killers Among Us," concerning the recent cattle mutilations in northern California, cows that had been killed with no sign of struggle, drained of blood and mutilated with no clue left behind.

Five cows have been found mutilated in the northern California, southern Oregon areas since July 1995, four of them since mid-October. There has been one deer reported mutilated. These are only the reported cases, how many more occurred is unknown. What is known is that this has been going on for over 20 years and is amounting to quite an economic impact on local ranchers and ranchers across the U.S..

When Klamath Basin ranchers Tim and Lisa Howard, read the article it did not stir much interest. Their interest did not remain passive for long. On December 21, their son found one of their pregnant heifers lying dead in a pasture about a mile from their home. It was quite apparent she did not die of natural causes.

"We've been ranching here for eight years and we've seen predator kills. I can tell you one thing about this heifer, she was not killed by a predator," Tim said.

The heifer due to calve in February had her tongue cut off, left eye removed, teats cut off, rectum and vagina cored out with a smooth oval cut. Two circular holes were found cut out on her stomach. Although the tem-

perature was freezing, the heifer was still warm. No rigor mortise had set in, her joints still pliable. Her semi-aborted calf, which normally would have been dessert for coyotes, was untouched.

Following the suggestions in the article, Howard contacted Linda Howe, the world's leading expert on cattle mutilations. She alerted her staff of scientists. The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) was also contacted and sent an investigator collect samples. I was also notified.

Ron Myers, a MUFON investigator, traveled down from Eugene, Oregon to examine the heifer. Following the procedure outlined in "Killers Among Us," grass, soil and

tissue samples were taken and sent to the appropriate professionals for analysis.

According to Myers, the Oregon State Police came out, initially seemed interested and then declared it a predator kill and left.

"We asked how a predator could do all this damage and not have any blood on the cow or on the ground. Why she didn't struggle and why were there no traces? They didn't have an answer," said Lisa Howard. "Even the coyotes haven't touched her and it's been a week."

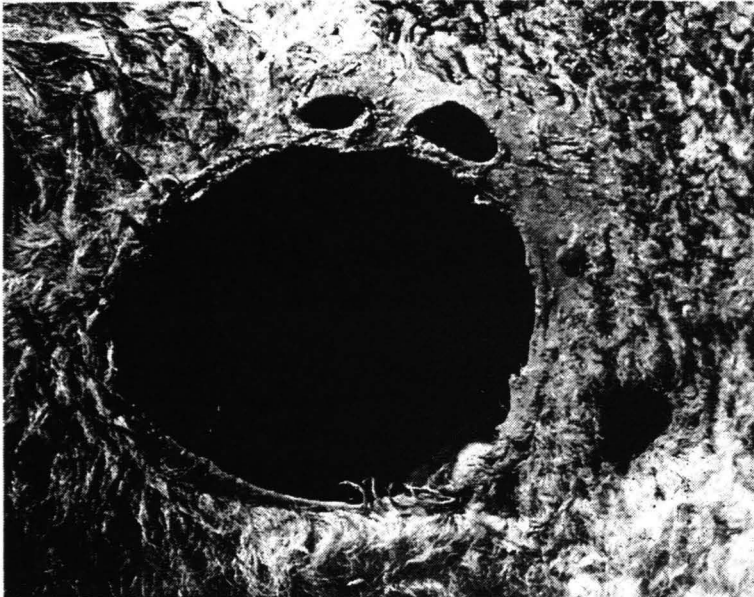
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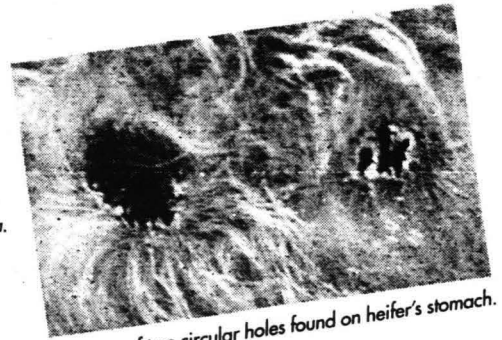
Investigator, Roy Myers, examines mutilated heifer while owners, Tim, Heath and Lisa Howard, of Klamath Falls look on.



(Above) Close up of calf found mutilated in northern California in mid-November. Left eye, jaw skin, sex organs and rectum were removed.
(Left) Heifer with left eye and ear removed.



(Left) Close up of cut that removed sex organs in calf found mutilated in northern California. This calf, as with the Howards' heifer, was not bothered by coyotes that normally devour dead animals.



Close up of two circular holes found on heifer's stomach.

There was only one unusual sign of disturbance at the scene, a depression about one and a half inches deep on a thistle plant. Samples were taken from the flattened plant and from another plant about one hundred feet away.

"In other cases we have found changes in plant cellular structure and that heat in excess of 300 degrees is used to make some of the cuts. This eliminates the more conventional explanations of predators or Satanists," said Howe.

"The key to solving these atrocities lies in the examination of tissues, grass and soil samples. In the Howard's case, we were able to get samples fairly quickly. Although the testing is not completed, there already appears to be some abnormalities in the electrical conductivity of the plant samples," said Linda Howe, internationally known investigator and Emmy award winning television producer.

As the news of this recent mutilation spread, stories of other ranchers with similar experiences have come in. It seems

ranchers in Klamath County have been suffering losses due to this phenomenon along with ranchers in Modoc, Lassen and Lake counties, as well as ranchers across the U.S. In the late 1920's Sean Curtis, farmer and president of the Modoc County Farm Bureau, lost two cows to this phenomena.

"I know it wasn't a predator or kids or Satanists that killed our cows. They all leave tracks. We found our two cows laying on fresh snow. Their tracks led right up to where they fell over dead, drained of blood, and with parts cut off. There was no blood anywhere, no indication of struggle, no other

tracks. Something should have shown up on the snow. The cows were in a pasture behind our house. There's no road near the pasture. They would have had to walk

"We asked how a predator could do all this damage and not have any blood on the cow or on the ground. Why she didn't struggle and why were there no traces? They didn't have an answer," said Lisa Howard. "Even the coyotes haven't touched her and it's been a week."

Lisa Howard

through our yard to get to them, our dogs would have barked. I don't know what is causing this, but it's not the explanations offered."

In another recent mutilation a veterinarian tried to duplicate one of the cuts, with all his instruments and expertise he was unable to do so.

"Our team of volunteers is continuing investigations into these mutilations. Some law enforcement agencies are beginning to help us, some still prefer to ignore the problem. We can solve this through scientific examination of the evidence at the scene, but we need the cooperation of the ranchers and law enforcement officials. The fresher the samples the more we can learn. Because of the winter freezing of the plant tissue, we weren't able to obtain as much information as we would have liked. If this continues to happen into the spring and summer we should be able to get some informative test results," said Howe, "providing we get the samples quickly."

Anyone knowing of cattle, horses or other animal mutilations that resemble what has been described in this article, is urged to call Linda Howe at (215) 491-9840; Dr. John Alshuler; (303) 740-7771 or Jean Bilodeaux, (916) 279-2031. For further details please refer to the December issue of *The Mirror* magazine. ○

Tissue sample taken from the rectal area. Top portion shows mutilator's cut, sides and bottom are cut with exacto knife.

Close up of teats removed. The only disturbance of the carcass from the time the heifer was found until the investigator arrived two days later was from birds, as shown by the white areas - bird excrement. They had pecked the smoothly cut tongue area to rough edged. No other predators had bothered the carcass.



N.W. FLORIDA DAILY NEWS, Fort Walton Beach, FL -- April 10, 1996 CR: R. Reid

Professor debunks mythical beast

MIAMI (AP) — The chupacabra myth is dead. Long live the chupacabra.

With television cameras rolling, Alan Herron, a University of Miami professor of pathology, performed a necropsy on a dead goat and offered his own conclusion of what caused the neck bruises on the goat.

"The bite wounds are suggestive of a predation that is most likely a dog," Herron said. "A wild pack of dogs did it."

He found no evidence of the elusive chupacabra (chew-pah-cah-bra), or goat-sucker, as the

It's kind of like "El Bigfoot," reported by residents of Dade County's Latin neighborhoods to be the mysterious creature that killed dozens of chickens and goats.

nightstalking creature reportedly sighted in Miami and Puerto Rico is called.

It's kind of like "El Bigfoot," reported by residents of Dade County's Latin neighborhoods to be the mysterious creature that killed dozens of chickens and goats.

Described variously as having

reptilian skin, glowing red eyes or looking like some kind of space alien, the chupacabra sightings have taken off. Some scared homeowners have reported seeing a creature jumping like a kangaroo as it left behind dead carcasses.

The reports started in Puerto Rico last year and soon spread to

Latin America and Florida, fed by Spanish-language talk shows on radio and television, and via the Internet.

After the latest animal death in Dade County, Metro-Dade County Police decided to enlist the help of local medical and zoological experts.

In January, authorities in Puerto Rico reported similar routine explanations for animal killings that had stoked the chupacabra myth.

Paranormal's Now a Norm

■ **Television:** Some say the flood of otherworldly shows reflects a disenchantment with science and religion. Others say the series are contributing to scientific illiteracy.

By JON MATSUMOTO
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Aliens, ghosts, vampires, monsters, faith healers, psychic phenomena: Inherently dramatic subjects, they've all been explored and exploited by television over the last four decades.

But it's doubtful that paranormal-related programming has ever been more visible than it is today.

The recent mainstream success of Fox's supernatural series "The X-Files" has helped unleash a flood of programming surrounding the unexplained. There are nearly a dozen TV series with otherworldly orientations being aired. Fox unveiled a vampire-themed series, "Kindred: The Embraced," earlier this month, and last month UPN kicked off "The Paranormal Borderline," a magazine show featuring supposedly authentic tales of paranormal encounters.

Sunday, Showtime premieres "Poltergeist: The Legacy," a dramatic series about a secret society that combats mysterious evil forces.

"They're all over the place," says filmmaker Denise Dilanni, whose recent documentary for the PBS science series "Nova" explored and questioned alien abduction claims. "Several months ago, I noticed that 'ER' and 'Chicago Hope,' two serious medical shows, both had plot lines of a woman who presents the emergency room with an alleged [alien pregnancy]. Then there's 'The X-Files,' 'Sightings' and the new comedies and all the books being written [about the paranormal]. . . . Fortunes are being made off this stuff."

To Mack Anderson, co-executive producer of "The Paranormal Borderline," the explosion reflects a greater openness in mainstream society to the possible existence of paranormal occurrences. He says this attitude is partly fueled by what he sees as the many credible witnesses who have come forward with stories of strange encounters.

"We interviewed Gordon Cooper," Anderson says. "He's the Mercury astronaut and the character in [Tom Wolfe's book] 'The Right Stuff.' He told us stories of his encounters with UFOs that, if you put them on 'The X-Files,' you wouldn't believe. I'm not talking about two guys with no teeth in a swamp; I'm talking about a true American hero."

To some, interest in the paranormal reflects growing disenchantment with conventional science and religion.

"Science should give people hope and optimism," says Michio Kaku, a professor of theoretical physics at the City University of New York and the host of a science-oriented radio show in New York. "That's not the message coming from established science. Instead the message is, 'Here are more pesticides for shinier apples.' These [paranormal shows] aren't all bad. There's a lot of hokum and quackery out there; however, there is also a message of hope."

But the glut of paranormal programming has dismayed some empiricists such as Paul Kurtz, chairman of the Amherst, N.Y.-based Committee for the Scientific Investigation of the Claims of the Paranormal, a scientific and educational organization highly skeptical of paranormal claims. He is also a philosophy professor at the State University of New York, Buffalo.

Kurtz, part of a group being formed to monitor television shows with supernatural designs, believes these types of programs—whether newsmagazines or dramas—are contributing to scientific illiteracy in America. To him, this trend is another example of the tabloidization of TV, which he believes blurs the line between fact and fiction.

"If we're turning out people who can't distinguish pseudo-science

from science, that undermines a whole level of thought and judgment in this country," Kurtz argues. "People have to be able to make intelligent judgments. . . . These shows should be labeled like cigarettes: 'This is only entertainment.' A lot of people believe this [material] because it's on television."

Filmmaker Dilanni was prompted to make a documentary on alien abductions largely because the subject was attracting increased public interest and belief, yet few in the media were willing to explore the matter with depth and objectivity. Among other findings, her investigation presented the possibility that the memories of some alleged abductees may have been distorted in hypnotic regression.

Paranormal magazine shows such as the syndicated, quasi-journalistic "Sightings" and the more sensationalistic "The Paranormal Borderline" are hardly hard-hitting. But "Sightings" co-executive producer Ann Daniel says paranormal activities such as hauntings tend to exist outside traditional boundaries of science and thus maintains it is unrealistic for critics to expect hard evidence.

"We do try to involve people who are experts in various fields," Daniel says. "When you're dealing with the paranormal, you're dealing with experiences that are very hard to scientifically test. When it's possible, we present that information. But many times it's not possible. It's like trying to scientifically prove an emotion. You have an emotion but how do you prove you have an emotion?"

Daniel insists that "Sightings," which covers everything from UFO encounters to healing miracles and Bigfoot, tries to uphold a high level of honesty and objectivity. During a recent shoot, one of the show's producers discovered that the ghostly activity in a home was being caused by its human residents. The story was dropped.

Yet producers Daniel and Anderson admit that their shows are, in part, entertainment. Dramatic reenactments are often shot to maximize feelings of fear or mystery; eerie music is the norm.

"We want to bring people into our tent and tell them scary stories," says "The Paranormal Borderline's" Anderson. "But what makes them scary is the belief that these people are telling the truth."

Chris Carter, creator and executive producer of "The X-Files" dislikes his series being associated with paranormal magazine programs like "Sightings," which he terms "kitschy." He says he was upset when Fox (then producing both shows) briefly paired the two several summers ago.

Carter believes his show's success has much more to do with its involving and innovative storytelling and characters than its unearthly content. "The X-Files" involves two FBI agents who investigate paranormal matters. The show's portrayal of aliens is often subtle and shrouded in mystery.

"I honestly don't believe the hardest-core UFO [buffs] maintain any central position in our audience," says Carter, a paranormal skeptic. "They are actually upset sometimes because the show isn't [involved enough with] UFOs and extraterrestrials."

Richard B. Lewis, creator and co-executive producer of "Poltergeist: The Legacy," says it is being presented largely as a morality tale. He strongly disagrees with blanket condemnations of shows with paranormal themes.

"We have a group of heroes who are fighting evil," he says. "What's wrong with that?"

"Who's harmed by good storytelling?" Anderson says in agreement. "I don't think [paranormal shows] can be construed as harmful. I see a lot of stuff on television that degrades humans a lot more."

■ "Poltergeist: The Legacy" premieres Sunday night at 8 and 10:20 on Showtime.

■ "Sightings" airs Saturdays at 6 p.m. on KTTV-TV Channel 11.

■ "The Paranormal Borderline" airs Tuesdays at 9 p.m. on UPN (Channel 13).

■ "The X-Files" airs Fridays at 9 p.m. on Fox (Channel 11).

FREE PRESS, Little Rock, AR -- April 5-18, 1996

THE Straight Dope

By Cecil "B" Adams

DOOMSDAY, OR JUST ANOTHER BILLION-DOLLAR DAY AT THE PENTAGON?



Recently I heard about the U.S. Air Force's new "doomsday machine" called HAARP, for High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program. From what I understand, the Air Force plans to experiment with blowing a hole in our ionosphere by directing intense high-frequency radio waves at it from somewhere in Alaska. The Air Force "experts" assured the interviewer that such a thing would have no negative impact on our global environment or weather systems. There was also some discussion of using this technology as a form of mind control by determining the proper frequency radio waves and directing them at whole armies to render them insensible.

My understanding is that the ionosphere protects us from lethal cosmic forces, allowing the earth to support life as we know it. What evil people are toying with this delicate balance? Where can information about this project be found, and how can concerned citizens appeal to stop this unnecessary experiment?

— Donna Sexton, Northbridge, Massachusetts

Come on, where's our sense of adventure? When HAARP is fully deployed in 2002 and they flip the switch, either nothing much will happen or, to hear opponents tell it, it'll be the end of the world. Cecil has had a long talk with the folks at HAARP and concludes that the latter isn't very likely, but thinking about it will definitely liven up a dull day at the office.

What freaks some people out about HAARP is the concept: scientists are building an array of 360 high-power radio antennas in Alaska to generate a beam of radio energy for purposes of heating up a patch of the ionosphere, the outer part of the earth's atmosphere. This may come in handy for such purposes as:

Submarine communication. Send a pulsed radio beam into the "auroral electrojet," the high-altitude stream of charged particles found in polar regions, and the electrojet will rebroadcast pulses of extremely low frequency radio energy. In effect what you've done is turn part of the electrojet into a giant ELF antenna extending for hundreds of miles. ELF energy will penetrate

seawater and thus can be used to communicate with submerged submarines.

Underground surveillance. ELF energy will also penetrate some distance into the earth. By means of "earth-penetrating tomography" — radiating ELF energy at the earth and seeing what kind of echo bounces back — you can map out stuff hidden underground, e.g., mineral deposits or, more urgently for the Pentagon, secret underground nuclear-bomb factories in countries like North Korea.

Directed over-the-horizon radio communication. You could create one or more "virtual refractors" in the upper atmosphere to direct a radio beam to a location in a distant part of the globe.

Doesn't sound so bad, but HAARP opponents say the Air Force isn't telling the whole story. Their main beefs: first, the project will pour more energy into the sky than ever previously attempted, with who knows what awful consequences. Proponents say the energy isn't that much greater than what existing ionospheric research facilities pump out and in any case is trivial compared to natural forces. The second complaint is that the military wants to use HAARP to develop scary futuristic weapons.

Among them: (1) A "Global Shield" that would zap the guidance systems of incoming ballistic missiles; (2) mind-control beams to incapacitate enemy troops, and (3) weather-control machines. Sounds wild, but at least some of these schemes were embodied in technology patented in the 1980s by physicist Bernard Eastlund, who was a founder of a predecessor company of the current HAARP contractor. HAARP spokesmen say there's no connection between Eastlund's plans and theirs, and that they're not cooking up death rays or anything of the sort. But check out both sides of the story and decide for yourself.

For the full paranoid treatment see *Angels Don't Play This HAARP: Advances in Tesla Technology* by Nick Begich, Earthpulse Press, PO Box 201393, Anchorage, Alaska 99520, 907-249-9111. For the Air Force's version (complete with photos), check out the HAARP Website at <http://server5550.itd.nrl.navy.mil/projects/haarp/haarpindex.html>.

Write Cecil c/o LRFP, 824 W. 7th St. Little Rock, AR 72201

EASTSIDE WEEK, Kirkland, WA -- Feb. 28, 1996

Readermail

Sasquatch voodoo

Ken Vincent's article "Sasquatch-Sensitive Area" (1/31) bears the shocking news that Sasquatch, along with the African gorilla, figure into the land use policy of King County's Department of Development and Environmental Services.

But where are the "local Indian legends" of Sasquatch? We have published five books of Southern Plateau Indian myths and legends, in particular 35 Yakama hunting narratives, but no sightings, not a track or trace do Indian hunters report of Sasquatch. And tribal hunters were skilled, able, would coura-

geously crawl into a grizzly's winter den to dispatch that ferocious beast. Reported were numerous accounts of a monster rattlesnake, capable of swallowing a care-less youth, that left a track in the dust like a dragged log—but no Sasquatch. And in late winter with food supplies running low, hunger and disease stalking the winter lodges, hunters would have taken and eaten any game. But no Sasquatch!

Since when does an anecdote or two, plus unreliable sightings by nonscientific observers constitute anything but "voodoo science" at work in King County Department of Agriculture and Resources' lands section?

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MORNING NEWS, Dallas, TX -- April 1, 1996 CR: E. Rager

THE "PROOF" OF EXTRATERRESTRIALS ACCORDING TO THE ENTERPRISE MISSION:



Apollo 12 Astronauts Amid the Ruins . . .

Reflections in the helmets of the astronauts are quite revealing. This reflection, captured on a photograph of Alan Bean (AS12-48-7071 -- with lunar module "Intrepid" almost half a mile behind him, to right -- 1), was taken by astronaut Pete Conrad. In the enlargement (2), a strange "geometric object" is seen . . . "hanging" several feet above the lunar surface, with its shadow seen beside Conrad's own reflection. In close-up (3), the object is revealed to be solid, "glass-like," and suspended in a "grid" of surrounding glass-like structure

THE "TRUTH" ACCORDING TO ASTRONAUT ALAN BEAN:

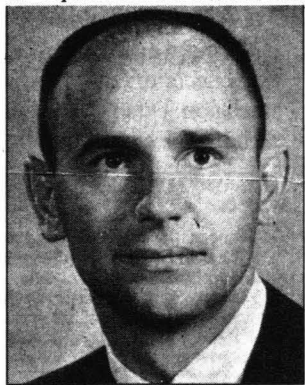
1) That's Pete Conrad in the photo. Mr. Bean says he can tell from the gear on Mr. Conrad's back.

2) The reflection is "probably dust that got on the visor or something."

3) The "artifact" looks a bit like a fat man kicking a soccer ball. However, Mr. Bean adds that there were no soccer players on the moon.

And why it would have tried, since space exploration is its entire reason for being.

"That is a contradiction, isn't it?" replies Richard Hoagland, with



Apollo 12 astronaut Alan Bean says there's nothing on the moon but rocks and dirt.

a knowing nod of his head.

He points to a news clipping from 1960. It says the Brookings Institution believes Earth's civilization could not stand the shock of learning about alien life.

Therefore, Richard Hoagland says, NASA astronauts dutifully concealed the fact that they landed near the ruins of a massive structure that once housed the air supply for lunar dwellers.

Question: If the Brookings Institution is correct, could this news cause a stock market crash?

Oddly, the market falls 28 points. As Washington Journalists leave, Enterprise Mission distributes booklets offering \$25 memberships and \$39 videotapes of lunar civilization evidence.

Afterward, NASA's Paul Lowman, a geologist who has examined space photographs for decades, inspects Enterprise Mission photos.

"[Some images] have been enlarged so much they're meaningless," he says. "You are basically looking at the grain of the film." Other images resemble scratches and dust on the negatives, or meaningless lunar shadows, he says.

Logical. But is he part of the conspiracy?

I establish voice linkage with former astronaut Alan L. Bean, who walked on the moon in 1969. Due to his extensive medical examinations, we can be reasonably certain he is human.

Question: Did his Apollo 12 fly through the ruins of a giant crystalline atmospheric-containment vessel, millions of years old? Did he and his colleagues cover up evidence of ancient lunar civilization?

"Everyone at NASA wishes we'd seen something like that," he says, with a very human sigh. "It's what we were there for. We were explorers. If we'd found that [evidence], we'd have been able to keep going back. And we'd have won the Nobel Prize."

CNN has called Mr. Bean. So has the Associated Press, and *The Washington Post*. His mind boggles. "Not making something like that public would be like discovering a cure for cancer, and hiding it."

Richard Hoagland has already drawn great attention on the Internet. Some call him crazy. Others say if he attracted so many Washington Journalists, he must be onto something.

"Some people just find it more fun to think that there are conspiracies," says Mr. Bean. "And it's more fun to think that we found an ancient civilization on the moon than to realize that all we found was a bunch of rocks and dirt."

Richard Hoagland says he never talked to Alan Bean, because he knew all along what a man like that would say.

Beam me up, Scotty.

LUNAR-TIC FRINGE

ARE WE
NASA'S
UNWITTING
DUPES, OR IS
SOMEBODY
OFF HIS
ROCKET?

By George Rodrigue

Washington Bureau of The Dallas Morning News

WASHINGTON — Science Officer's log, stardate 1996.3.22:
On routine patrol in my guise as a "Washington Journalist," I receive an unusual bulletin. A group called "The Enterprise Mission" claims NASA has hidden evidence of an ancient civilization on the moon.
The bulletin says former space-agency scientists will show photos of astronauts "amid the ruins" the next morning. It cannot say more for "security reasons." Fascinating.

I establish communications with NASA, where a humanoid voice identifies itself as Elsie.

"Are you kidding?" she says. "You know what Congress is doing to our budget. What would they do if we found signs of life in space?"

Logical. But if NASA were hiding something, would it not create an "Elsie" and program her to reply thus? More data needed.

Computer scans reveal that "The Enterprise Mission" called itself "Mars Mission" a few years ago, and accused NASA of concealing evidence of a mile-high human face on the fourth planet from this solar system's sun.

Science Officer's observation: If true, this would be the

first interplanetary "Have a Nice Day" symbol. Multitudes of scientists, however, called the face a freak of nature and shadow. They noted that under different angles of sunlight it looked like a monkey.

Question: Were the classic *Planet of the Apes* films a coded response to possible Martian communications?

The quest for knowledge leads to the main ballroom at the National Press Club. Red lights from 12 cameras glow in the darkness. Some 100 "Washington Journalists" sip coffee and chew free croissants.

At the podium stands a gray-bearded humanoid life form. He calls himself "Richard Hoagland," Enterprise Mission's founder.

Data files indicate that "Richard Hoagland" is the name used by a science writer who claims the U.S. government invited Serb, Croat and Muslim leaders to an Air Force base near Dayton, Ohio, because that is where the United States stores the bodies of extraterrestrials said to have been recovered from a UFO crash site near Roswell, N.M., several decades ago.

Observation: There are 5.6 billion humans on Earth. Richard Hoagland is among the few claiming knowledge of aliens in Dayton. Thousands of scientists have viewed moon photos. But he is the first to call a news conference about ancient civilizations there.

Question: How can he be so sure? Could the figure before us be an alien with humanoid features, calling itself "Richard Hoagland"?

Whatever his planet of origin, Richard Hoagland says

computer-enhanced enlargements of NASA photographs show "an extraordinary, highly geometric, glittering glass object hanging more than nine miles above the surface of the moon."

Alas, the slide projector repeatedly jams. Richard Hoagland finds that most suspicious.

Question: My son's *Barney* videotape jammed this morning, too. Is Barney part of this conspiracy? What is Barney's planet of origin?

Another member of Mars Mission, who calls himself "Ken Johnson," says NASA's Lunar Receiving Lab in Houston ordered him to destroy all file copies of lunar photos, but for one archival set. Then, he says, NASA let him send another set to his college in Oklahoma City.

Observation: Logically, this was a peculiar lapse in the cover-up.

Richard Hoagland revives the slide projector and exhibits images of what he calls the "Crystal Palace," the "Chrysler Building," and the "Shard," which he says stands 1.5 miles tall.

Observation: The "Crystal Palace" also resembles a blurred bird. The "Chrysler Building" looks like a blurry asparagus stalk. The "Shard" favors Casper the Friendly Ghost.

Richard Hoagland calls for questions. One man asks if Enterprise Mission will pay everyone's \$7 hourly parking fees.

Eerily, no one laughs. Washington Journalists generally seem to respect anyone standing on a podium.

Some do ask how NASA, which televised missions live, could have concealed 9-mile-high lunar castles.

DAILY NEWS, Anchorage, AK

March 31, 1996 CR: J. & L. Nicholson

NEW MINERAL

A vivid blue chunk of rock bought at a roadside stall in Morocco 15 years ago has been identified as a new mineral, but its qualities, which include the ability to change color, are baffling British scientists.

Geologist Anna Grayson was unable to identify the stone after coming across it at a souvenir stall during a field trip. It remained at her home for years until she took it to London's Natural History Museum. Experts there

discovered it is made up of millions of crystals that are fibrous on a submicroscopic scale, like asbestos, and could be lethal if inhaled. Containing silicon, aluminum, calcium, magnesium, iron and oxygen, the unnamed mineral changes from purple to blue to cream when rotated.