

UFO

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INDEPENDENT RECORD, Helena, MT -- Nov. 17, 1996

Case of bizarre metal chips

Are doctor's find first evidence of alien abductions?

New York Times
News Service

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — About a year ago, viewers in almost 8 million American homes tuned in to watch film footage shown on a Fox TV special called "Alien Autopsy: Fact or Fiction?"

The program's prime controversy involved the authenticity of some grainy black-and-white visuals — supposedly of autopsies of alien bodies. Was the film a secret, 1940s government documentary, or was it merely clever, surgical science fiction?

Dr. Roger Leir, a Thousand Oaks podiatrist, doesn't have any such questions about the video

No one can explain how the fragments got into people's bodies!

removed mysterious, membrane-encased metal fragments from several patients who believed they had been abducted by space aliens.

The patients' hunch was that the fragments, which showed up in X-rays, were somehow implanted during the time they were in non-human hands.

CLAIMS OF ALIEN abductions — once written about only in supermarket tabloids — were thrust into mainstream media a couple of years ago when John Mack, a prominent Harvard psychiatrist, published "Abduction: Human Encounters With Aliens," which featured 13 in-depth case histories drawn from his research.

But as Mack and others intrigued by the so-called UFO abduction phenomenon acknowledge, there is no smoking ray gun. The evidence that

numerous earthlings have unwittingly been taken aboard spacecraft — and had invasive experiments performed on them — is mainly in people's heads.

But Leir believes in the objects he removed — which he discussed in detail Saturday night.

OVER THE PAST half-dozen years, Leir took an active interest in UFO-related phenomena. The doctor, a native Californian who has been in practice for more than 30 years, was at a UFO conference in Los Angeles last year when Derrel Sims, an alien abduction researcher from Houston, showed him the vexing X-rays.

Leir was initially unimpressed by what he saw.

"It looked like something that is used quite often post-operatively following ordinary foot surgeries. They looked like bits of wire," Leir said. "Sometimes we do

osteotomies where we cut the bone and then tie it together with stainless steel wire."

Leir was then handed a woman's medical records that showed no evidence any surgery had ever been performed. Because the patient couldn't afford to have the chips removed and examined, Leir offered to do the surgery free of charge if she could come to him in Southern California.

So on Aug. 19, 1995 — the week before millions watched "Alien Autopsy" on television — Leir removed a total of three objects suspected of having been implanted by aliens.

Two of the fragments came from the woman's big toe. The third was removed from the back of a man's left hand, slightly above the webbed area between the thumb and index finger.

The doctor took part in removing supposed implants from three more patients on May 18 this year.

(For fear of arousing disdain among his medical colleagues, Leir remained anonymous for a time.)

THE METAL CHIPS removed were highly magnetic, Leir said, and further metallurgical analyses being done by several independent laboratories should determine whether the isotopic ratios found in the chips are of earthly origin — or not.

Even then, other questions remain, such as how the fragments got inside the patients, and what purpose they might serve.

But the real "biological surprise," Leir said, was in the dark, grayish membrane that enveloped the metal bits. It appeared to prevent the patients' bodies from fighting off foreign objects as they normally would.

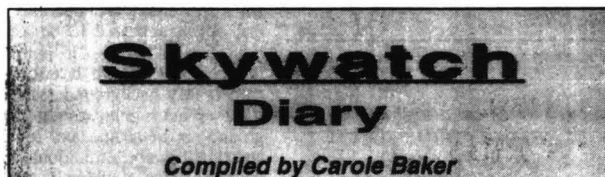
"Always there's an inflammatory reaction to a foreign body. That's the golden, God-given

rule," Leir said. "But the soft-tissue analysis from around the objects produced no inflammatory changes whatsoever. Zero. Zip. And not just from one site, but we're talking about three sites in two different individuals."

The membrane itself, Leir said, was made up of three common bodily substances — protein coagulum (a protein derived from blood), hemosiderin (an oxygen-carrying cousin of the hemoglobin found in red cells), and keratin (the main constituent of the outermost layer of human skin, hair and fingernails).

"I would say that if it was possible to understand how this membrane was put together and duplicate it, we could probably stick anything inside the human body and not get a rejection reaction, which would certainly be a contribution to medical science."

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL -- Dec. 11, 1996



On Monday evening December 2, 1996, I received a call from one of our regular skywatchers, Marie Arredondo, saying she had stopped by Shoreline Park early, at about 5:30 p.m. on her way home. She said there were very few people there and she walked along the beach for a few minutes. She saw one intense amber light appear in a totally clear, starry sky over Santa Rosa Island in the area of the Sans Souci Condominiums. "It was only for a few seconds, but it was quite large and bright," Marie told me.

So, my husband, daughter and I went out on Tuesday night, December 3, 1996 expecting to be cold, expecting there to be few companions at Shoreline Park, and not really expecting to have a sighting. Well, it was cold, but by about 7:30 p.m. there was a total of nine people braving the chill and we were well rewarded with a rather spectacular sighting!

Looking to the west along the shoreline towards Deer Point, there is a large house owned by a local lawyer. I was sitting in my lawn chair in conversation with a couple of other people when at 7:55 p.m. directly in my line of vision above the lawyer's house a large amber ball of light just appeared. Yelling the traditional "Yo! Bubba!" I alerted the rest of the group. The first light was about a quarter of an inch in diameter at arm's length and that intense amber color that we are familiar with. It was followed in rapid succession by two other,

slightly smaller intense amber lights that appeared horizontally to the right of the first light. When all three were illuminated together, they formed a curved edge of what appeared to be one edge of a "ring." All except one of those watching was able to see the sighting.

The elevation was very low, probably between five and ten degrees, appearing about a thumb's width above the lawyer's house. The impression was that it was quite close, although we have found that this particularly hard to gauge. With some previous sightings, after triangulation, what appeared to be very close to our position, in fact, turned out to be several miles distant. The duration of the sighting was around five and seven seconds.

We were still discussing this sighting, the group being quite excited since it has been a while since the "regulars" have seen anything at Shoreline Park when another intense amber light "popped in" just east of the position of the first sighting. A second light appeared to the right of it a few seconds later and there was a light at a much lower elevation which was partially obscured by trees. One observer said he thought this lower light was a plane or helicopter, but through binoculars, it appeared to me to be a thin strip of the same deep amber light approximately one-half inch across at arm's length. Unfortunately, since it was partially obscured by the tree tops it was

impossible to determine with any certainty what the third light was. This sighting also lasted for only a few seconds. Most of the group ran out onto the fishing dock to try to get a better view if something else came in over the same area. Unfortunately, nothing else was sighted for the rest of the evening and, becoming very chilled after all the excitement died down, the group left at around 9:15 p.m. One of the regular group, Cathy, who has skywatched regularly for about two years, had always missed sightings previously either coming along after they were over or leaving before they occurred. She was particularly gratified by the events of this evening. "They finally showed up when I was here!" she said.

The week's activity continued with another sighting on Wednesday evening, December 4, 1996 at 6:55 p.m. A lone skywatcher, Bill, who is a trained MUFON investigator was watching the area of sky to the west of Shoreline Park where the sightings had occurred the previous evening. Bill described the events to me as follows: "I was out on the end of the dock and I decided to scan around the horizon and looked out over the water toward the hotels on the Beach and I saw a single light to the east of Sans Souci, between Sans Souci and The Dunes Hotel. It was bright red, with some white in it and was quite low, maybe ten degrees or so above the horizon and I saw it for approximately five seconds. I continued to watch in this area, and at 7:05 p.m., another light appeared in the same position. I was able to observe this light for around ten seconds through my binoculars. It

was perfectly round and just blinked out. There was absolutely no aircraft activity in that area of the sky at all. About ten minutes later, there was a loud and long, low rumbling sound. It made the dock vibrate. I believe it was a skyquake associated with the sighting I had just had."

At around 7:30 p.m. another regular skywatcher, Marie, who had witnessed the sighting on Tuesday evening arrived at Shoreline Park. Bill told me, "Just as Marie was arriving, there was another skyquake, although this was less intense than the first one, probably about half as strong." There were no other sightings reported on this evening.

Currently under investigation is a very interesting sighting which occurred on November 22, 1996 at approximately 5:50 p.m. involving an object hovering over a power sub-station in north Pensacola. There are multiple witnesses to this event, and once all the information has been gathered, it will be reported here.

There was a visitor from Argentina at Shoreline Park this week. Researcher Alex Chionetti, currently living in Los Angeles was in Gulf Breeze for a few days. He was interested in the sightings that have occurred in the area recently. Alex has been researching worldwide for many years. Unfortunately, Alex was only at Shoreline Park on Monday evening and missed all the ensuing activity.

If you have a sighting or unusual experience to report, or wish to contact the experimenter's support group, please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON hotline at 438-3261, and Keep Looking Up!

Did a UFO do a flyby in Rutherford?

By JENNIFER BENT
Democrat Staff Writer

It was 1:20 a.m. last Wednesday, and suddenly, a home in Watauga County's Rutherford community was bathed in a luminous pool of white light.

The homeowner who wishes to remain anonymous, who will be referred to as "Bruce," was already awake, and thought it possible that a police helicopter might be flying overhead.

The only problem with that theory, he said, was that there was no noise.

Bruce said he walked out onto his front porch, cigarette in hand, to have a look around. A minute later, an object rose up from behind some trees across the pasture from his house.

Like the light that had bathed the

"It was solid but translucent at the same time, like the center of the sun, only it was a fluorescent white light color. At first I thought it might be ball lightning,"

— Rutherford community resident

house, the object was luminous and white, but unlike the light, it was solid and circular in shape.

"It was solid but translucent at the same time, like the center of the sun, only it was a fluorescent white light color. At first I thought it might be a ball of lightning," Bruce said.

Bruce said the unidentified object hovered for only a few seconds before shooting off at bullet speed toward Wilkesboro.

What Bruce called a UFO was the second one he's seen.

"The first one was in 1993. I was working at Arby's in Boone, and at about 6 o'clock at night, I looked up and saw this thing hovering over the

Kmart, about 1,000 feet away," said Bruce, who does not work now and says he lives on an inheritance.

He said that none of his neighbors had seen the light or the UFO that appeared Wednesday night, and Sheriff Red Lyons said Friday that he had seen no reports about strange objects or unusual lights in the county.

"This UFO shot off like a cannon at about a 45-degree angle. There was no acceleration. It was just gone. I have a friend who's a sergeant in the Air Force, and he said they don't have anything that moves like that," Bruce said.

Bruce reported what he saw to

Lori Cordini, the director of Watauga County's Intergalactic Contact Group.

Cordini's group is incorporated with the U.S. UFO Information and Research Center that was established in Johnson City, Tenn., two and a half years ago.

Stacey McGee, the founding director of the center, said Friday that Watauga County has proven to be an active sighting area, and estimated that in the last 22 years, there have been at least five major close encounter contacts reported from the Boone area.

The only thing Watauga has lacked until recently, he said, is an official group to act as a base and clearinghouse for people who have sighted a UFO or had contact with one and/or its inhabitants.

In the midst of explaining what

kind of research the sky watchers in his group conduct, McGee told another Watauga County UFO story.

"About eight or nine months ago, there was a sighting just outside of Boone that was reported to us by a family who were traveling back to Mountain City at about 10 p.m. They were driving on the highway and began noticing that traffic was slowing down and cars were stopping in the middle of the road," said McGee.

"They noticed that everyone on the road was looking up at the sky, so they decided to follow suit. They saw a triangular-shaped craft over 300 feet across with more lights on the bottom than they could count. They were all individual lights, like light bulbs — so many of them that they illuminated the entire surface of the craft. It floated over the highway toward Asheville from the north. Everybody saw it, but there was nothing in the papers," said

Reporter at Roswell

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

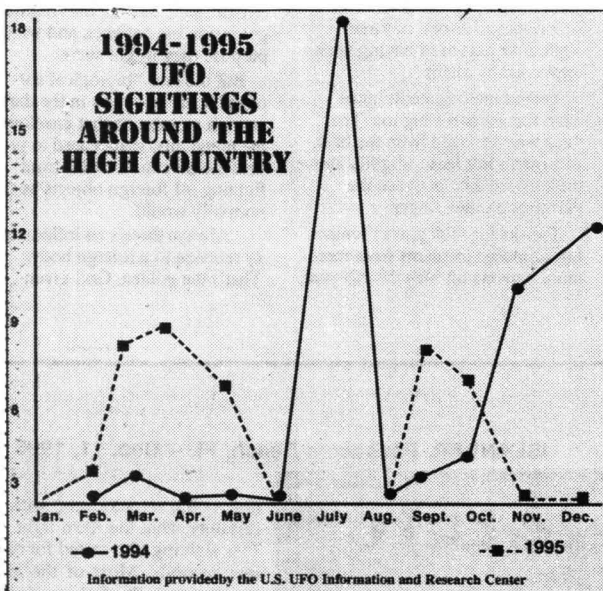
SANTA FE, N.M. — Jason W. Kellahin, an Associated Press reporter pursued by UFO buffs for his photograph of an alleged landing, died Sunday of a heart attack. He was 87.

Kellahin was working as a reporter for the AP in Albuquerque in July 1947 when he was assigned to report a story about a rancher who said he found strange debris on his land near Roswell.

At first, an Air Force spokesman said the wreckage was that of a flying disc. But when Kellahin got there, he was told the rancher found a weather balloon.

In the early 1990s, interest in the Roswell incident was rekindled and reporters and UFO buffs nationwide began contacting Kellahin, whose photograph had appeared in a newspaper about the alleged landing.

Before joining the AP, Kellahin was an editor of *The Roswell Morning Dispatch* and later enlisted in the Army during World War II at age 35.



McGee, 27, who works as a customer service representative for a Johnson City moving company.

The crafts do not just come in circular, cigar-shaped or triangular form. McGee said he saw one when he was 7 years old that looked like two pyramids placed back to back, with one inverted.

Another report he had received from two men in Tennessee five years ago was of a silo-shaped object, which hovered upright just over a field next to a highway.

Another craft, which was witnessed by several members of the research center's sky watch group after they had concluded a visit to a contactee's home in southwestern Virginia, was an "H"-shaped object.

"We were watching lights in the sky and could see satellites, but one object appeared to be a solid light going southwest to northeast. In binoculars, though, it looked like an 'H.' My background (McGee's trade school educational background) is in airline and tourism, and this was not a traditional aerodynamic shape. It had to be exceeding mach three and had certain lights on it — two red, two blue and one green light in the middle," McGee said.

McGee's group, a private, non-profit organization of 2,700 members worldwide, is the third largest UFO group in the world.

The largest, Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), was established in 1965, but McGee said MUFON concentrates only on the physicality and scientific descriptions of the UFO crafts themselves, and not the interactions people have had with the beings that seem to guide the crafts through the sky.

One such being was seen and described by the woman who owned the home in southwestern Virginia where McGee's group witnessed the H-shaped craft. The woman, 45, had been unable to sleep and went outside late at night with her dogs.

The dogs that were standing at the fence began to bark and jump frantically.

She walked toward them, her Chihuahua in her arms, when she looked up at the sky to see a circular craft hovering right above her yard. It was so close, she said, that she could see the being through one of the windows.

It had a large head and large eyes, and when she waved at it, it waved back and she counted four fingers on its hand, including the thumb.

Under hypnosis, the woman also described the green light that shown down from the craft and said that it began to draw her upwards. She had a very peaceful feeling, but became concerned that her Chihuahua would be harmed.

At one point during the regression, though, she became emphatic

that she could not reveal any more because she had made a promise to the beings that she wouldn't.

Though McGee's group stands ready to believe the reports they receive, he said that not all are considered valid.

"There are investigators in the field that help us talk to individuals, and we try our best to collect scientific data to verify the stories," he said.

That scientific data includes markings on the person's body, including scars, pock or scoop marks that McGee said look like there's been a piece of the body that's been taken out and healed overnight.

In 99 percent of the valid cases, the person will know that the mark did not exist before, but doesn't remember how it got there.

Missing time experiences, where there is an episode of a person's life that they can't account for, can stand as other evidence of a contact. In other cases, trees that have come into close contact with UFOs have been magnetized and would actually attract metal objects and register on Geiger counters.

"There are trace anomalies with radiation, too," McGee said.

"Radiation signatures left on plant life in area are — most of the time — circular shapes burned into the grass or surrounding vegetation. The molecular structure of soil can be altered to the point that in some cases, the soil from inside the burned circle can't hold water but soil from just outside burn marking can. Farmers have also seen crop circles in fields where grasses are found braided together with no damage to the plants. They'll often continue growing and are found to be healthier but not as tall," McGee said.

Sightings become more frequent during the summer months, McGee said, probably because more people are outdoors when the weather is warm.

The number of reported sightings has grown significantly over the two years that the research center has been open, with six to eight phone calls a month about close encounters and more than 100 calls a month about sightings.

Some calls are filtered into the center from the local E911 switchboards, which actually have the center's number programmed into their systems.

"I believe that all of Southern Appalachia will see an increase in activity depending on the viewer's vantage point," McGee said.

"Now that the Intergalactic Group is in place, we hope that the Watauga County sightings will be better recorded," McGee said.

Anyone interested in more information about the UFO research center may call McGee or other sky watch staff at (423) 743-2100.

VALLEY RECORD, Snoqualmie, WA -- Nov. 21, 1996

From Pages Past

(Reprinted from the Snoqualmie Valley Record dated Oct. 20, 1949)

Did You See a Flying Disc Last Week?

(Driving across the plains toward Snoqualmie your new editor mulled over dozens of thoughts for putting the name of the Valley on everyone's tongue. If only he could turn up a mountain-climbing Loch Ness monster... or if a flying disc would land harmlessly along Mount Si so reporters from all over the nation, and newsreel photographers and television crews would swarm in like locusts. He put these thoughts aside with a silent admonition: "Cut out the dreaming. Life is earnest, life is real, nothing BIG is going to happen in the Valley." — Editor's Note.)

Mrs. Jim Fritts, wife of the owner of the J & G Tire Shop in North Bend, stopped in at the Snoqualmie Valley Record shop last Tuesday to order some printing work. Just before leaving she remarked: "Say, I saw a flying disc last Thursday morning over near Monroe."

A job press in the back shop droned on as usual. The editor dropped a pivot tooth as his chin hit the typewriter. "What!" he screamed with all the dignity of a brand-new publisher.

Mrs. Fritts stood her ground. "I did too, and I have witnesses to prove it," she replied defiantly.

While driving near Monroe at 11 a.m., Mrs. Fritts chanced to glance up at the fading moon. Gliding across its face she saw a peculiar object. It was a disc-shaped ellipsoid, definitely, not quite as large as a plane, and no fins or tail protruded. It looked quite silvery, silhouetted as it was.

Mrs. Fritts stopped the car alongside of two deer hunters. "Do you see it?" she called pointing in a southerly direction.

The hunters looked and yelled, "It's a flying disc, sure enough."

"I sure was excited," Mrs. Fritts said as she reached for the doorknob.

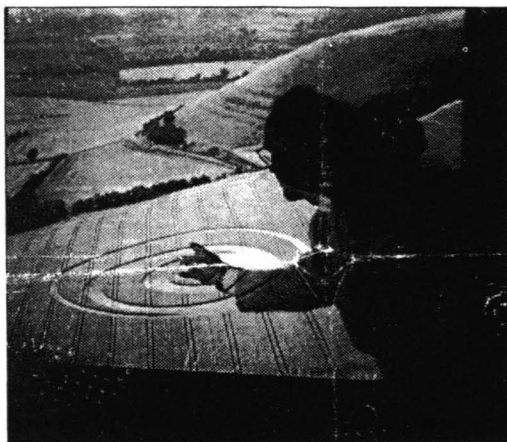
"Could we use your name with the story?" the editor asked her.

Mrs. Fritts thought maybe folks would be skeptical, despite her witnesses. But then, in the interest of news, and the possibility that other Valley folks would call in to corroborate her story, she relented.

(There is no wishful thinking in the facts of this piece. The editor chanced to meet Mrs. Fritts in the North Bend Post Office yesterday. "You're really sure you saw the flying saucer?" he asked hopefully. "I certainly did," she replied, "and I sure was excited." — Editor's Note.)

(Publisher's Note: The Valley Record had been sold by Betty and Dale Krebs to Ed and Charlotte Groshells. An announcement and subsequent thanks were published by the Groshells and Krebses respectively. This is considered the start of many magnificent stories from the new publishers.)

Dr. John Kasher, UNO professor of physics and astronomy, points out the layers of concentric crescents that make up a crop circle that appeared in England.



Professor: There's Been More Than Children in the Corn

By JONATHAN PELPHREY

Skeptics and enthusiasts alike gathered in the Milo Bail Student Center's Nebraska Room on Thursday to listen to UNO physics professor John Kasher talk about UFOs and crop circles.

The term "UFO," according to Kasher, has taken on a meaning of its own in recent years. "When I say UFOs, I don't mean unidentified flying objects," said Kasher, "I mean alien spacecraft."

Kasher has been very interested in the supernatural and the unexplained for a number of years, and began an intense study of UFOs and alien abduction in 1987. He is currently the midwest consultant to the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), an international organization with over 5,000 members, field inves-

tigators, consultants, and researchers dedicated to the scientific study of UFOs.

His studies have given him the opportunity to explore UFO-related phenomenon around the Omaha area, and beyond. He spoke about contacts he has with people outside Nebraska who claim to have been abducted.

One person in particular, he said during the talk, can remember specific details with amazing clarity. She even claims to possess an object that was given to her by aliens. Kasher, who has examined the metallic object, was recently given a grant to conduct tests on it which will help him determine if it was manufactured by humans or not.

Kasher said the woman has been on the receiving end of threats and scare-tactics orchestrated by members of the U. S. Government. Events like these, in combination with the overwhelming amount of evidence he and others have collected through the years, have convinced Kasher that the government knows more about UFOs than we may think.

"People ask me if I believe there's a government cover-up," Kasher said. "It's not a question of what I believe. There is a government cover-up of UFO information. So it's not a question of if they are covering up information, it's a question of what they are covering up."

Kasher also spoke briefly about local UFO sightings, including one story of an abduction of two Omaha residents who were driving west of town. One of the abductees, under hypnosis, gave the classic description of her alien abductors, said Kasher: about 4 feet tall, frail gray bodies, long arms, four fingers, large heads with black wrap-around eyes. She also claimed that they communicated telepathically.

Alien abduction, however, was not the focus of Kasher's talk. He spent the majority of his time talking about crop circles.

Crop circles, Kasher said, have probably been around for quite a few years, but didn't gain media exposure until the 1970s. The most well-known and spectacular crop circles were formed in England, but Kasher said that these phenomena appear all over the world.

On July 21, a crop circle was formed in a barley field, just outside Butte, Nebraska. The formation consists of a circle of flattened barley, 35 feet in diameter, laid down in a swirl pattern. The circle is surrounded by a 3-foot-wide ring of untouched barley, and another ring of flattened crop, 4-feet-wide.

Kasher said he has sent plant and soil samples from the circle to W. C. Levengood, of Pinelandia Biophysical Laboratory in Grass Lake, Michigan. Levengood has studied over 160 crop circles, and is considered an expert on the subject.

Levengood's preliminary findings indicate that the Butte, Nebraska, crop circle is genuine, and that it could not have been made by humans.

Kasher said no one in the world knows how to bend the stalks of plants 90 degrees, one inch above the ground, without damaging the plants.

Whether or not these circles are formed by aliens, how-

ORANGE CO. REGISTER, Santa Ana, CA -- Dec. 17, 1996

Scientists mystified by object sighted in Midwestern sky

SCIENCE: The strange ball is videotaped traveling at nearly the speed of light.

By RON HARRIS
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A mysterious glowing ball of light traveling close to the speed of light has been spotted and videotaped in the Earth's upper atmosphere, but what it is has scientists puzzled.

Brief footage of the image, which appeared for about three-one-hundredths of a second at an estimated height of 50 miles, was presented publicly for the first time Monday at the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union.

In a six-frame sequence, the object can clearly be seen crossing upward and left across the field of view while retaining its

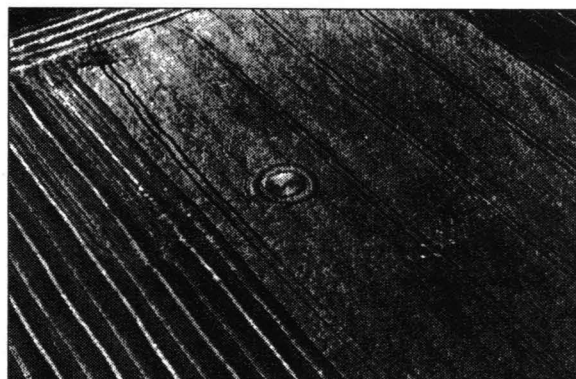
shape and intense glow.

"It's the first and only event of this kind photographed to my knowledge," said Dean A. Morss, assistant professor of atmospheric sciences at Creighton University in Nebraska. Morss is heading a research project designed to videotape luminous electrical phenomena, called sprites, in the upper atmosphere.

Scientists were observing a region of thunderstorm activity in western Kansas from a ground-observation point in Nebraska when the mystery ball appeared. Navy Lt. Paul McCrone, a graduate student at Creighton, videotaped the image Aug. 22.

"It's clearly something that does not have any mass. The angular speed is too fast to be anything at orbital velocity," said Morris B. Pongratz, a scientist with the Los Alamos National Laboratory who has examined the tape. "This guy is clearly moving."

CR: A. Snow



This crop circle appeared July 21 in a barley field near Butte, Neb.

ever, is still being debated. Levengood is of the opinion that many crop circles are caused by ion plasma vortices — collections of charged particles high above the Earth's surface that strike the Earth. Concerning a crop circle in a corn field near Milaca, Minn., he concluded, in a published report dated January 31, 1995, that "rapid, thermal energy delivered within the formations (was) sufficient to alter the cell wall-pit structures within the developing ear (of corn)." This, he believes, accounts for the way the stalks were bent but not broken when they were laid down.

Kasher agreed that there is some genetic alteration that occurs in the stalks of plants bent over in crop circles. He is not so sure, however, about the cause of the crop circles.

Kasher showed slides of complex patterns created in fields in England, including several formations that resemble fractal designs, which are related to contemporary chaos theories. These designs, said Kasher, are too complex to be formed by charged particles, or any other natural phenomena, and the press in Britain has admitted as much. "The British press has given up trying to explain these," he said.

Kasher did not try to hide his opinion on the subject of UFOs. "I strongly believe that Extra-terrestrials are here and have been here for quite some time," he said.

Even if the idea that aliens are visiting Earth is unacceptable to someone, however, Kasher said he thinks it is entirely reasonable to say that aliens do exist. "There are about 500 million planets like Earth in the Milky Way Galaxy alone," he said. "To me, to think that Earth is the only one on which life has evolved is preposterous."

Tales that warm heart, color sky

Lights in the sky and angels in a minimart, here on what the British call Boxing Day. Plus a missing leg brings a lesson for the rest of us, and a message for Mike: I know where your present is.

Great balls of whatever: Paul Koslowski of Tacoma calls to say he thinks he knows what those green fireballs were — the ones recently seen streaking across the Northwest skies. "It's extraterrestrials cleaning up our atmosphere from radiation," he says, and he should know. He's been filming UFOs since 1974.

These intergalactic janitors started washing our air in the early '50s, Koslowski says, "when we were doing nuclear stuff."

Good for them. And if anybody else has an idea what those things were (unless you think they were just meteors, which sounds a bit boring), let me know. You're my kind of people. You've always got a home here on the extreme eastern edge of Page B1.



C.R. ROBERTS

Light, explosion a mystery

FAIRBANKS — Fairbanks-area residents were puzzled Wednesday night by a mysterious surge of bright light stretching across the horizon, followed by a rumbling sound and earthquake-like vibrations. "It was bluish and kind of like a neon light. It lasted a couple of seconds," said Judy McDonald. Shortly after the sky lit up about 8:30 p.m., emergency response officials were

DAILY NEWS, Anchorage, AK -- Nov. 1, 1996 CR: J. & L. Nicholson

flooded with phone calls. North Pole 911 dispatcher Pat Davis didn't see the flash of light but heard what sounded like an explosion and felt a vibration similar to an earthquake at the North Pole police station. Davis fielded dozens of calls from residents reporting the strange light and the subsequent rumbling that rattled their win-

dows and shook their walls from Salcha to Murphy Dome. Alaska State Trooper dispatchers received numerous calls and phoned around to all local airports, military installations, pipeline pump stations and the Fort Knox gold mine, trying without success to find an answer to the mystery.

The UFO show

New York gallery displays artists' close encounters of a strange kind

By K.C. BAKER

DAVID HUGGINS is a family man who often spends time with his children in their nursery — aboard a spaceship with their alien mothers.

The kids, alas, were not his choice. When Huggins was in his 20s, he says alien women forced him to have sex in his upper West Side apartment as part of an extraterrestrial breeding program. The result: a gaggle of gurgling, baby space creatures. Talk about day care problems.

"When I found out I was the father of these alien babies, I was very happy," says Huggins, who was once married to an Earthling and also has a 12-year-old human son.

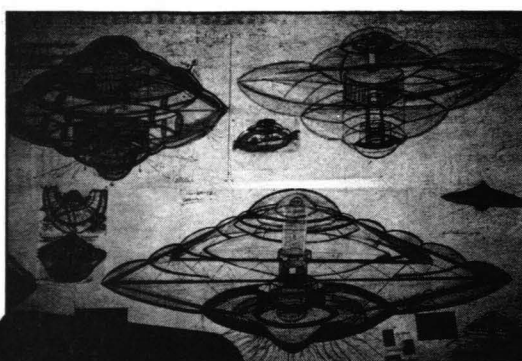
Huggins claims he did not recall these close encounters until a "harmonic convergence" of planets in 1987 triggered his memory. "When I started remembering, I was in shock," says the freelance graphic artist.

To help him cope with these intergalactic interludes, Huggins began painting pictures of his experiences. One rendering shows a naked Huggins cradling an extraterrestrial infant amidst nude alien females with egg-shaped heads, big, black doe-shaped eyes and centerfold bodies. Another depicts a praying mantis-like creature paralyzing Huggins in his bed so that an alien female could have her way with the helpless human.

Huggins' paintings and the work of other artists who claim to have been abducted, sexually assaulted and experimented on by aliens, are on display through October 26 at the American Primitive Gallery in SoHo.

And what a show it's been. Gallery owner Aarne Anton says the wildly popular exhibit has drawn alien art lovers from near and far. One potential buyer called the gallery from a boat off the coast of Alaska. Another jetted from Italy for the day to see the show.

ALIEN ART: "Rocket Man" (left), a sculpture by Clayton G. Bailey. Other works on show include: "UFO Art & Science" (right), by Ionel Talpazon; "Eight Aliens Landing" (below left), by David Huggins; and a recreation of an alien abduction by Chuck Rak.



obsessed with drawing and painting UFOs after seeing the "blue energy" emitted from a spaceship one night when he was 6 years old in Romania. "All the time, I think about space, UFOs and the universe," he says as he stands in the gallery showing off his work. "It's more than an obsession."

The hundreds of technologically intricate illustrations and models of spacecraft in the exhibit and those that crowd his small apartment are a blend of "art and science," says the 41-year-old, who cleans cruise ships for a living. "I plan to give my work to the government, and the government will give it to people at NASA to study my theories."

One of Harvard-educated artist Paul Laffoley's illustrations explains that he has two metallic implants in his brain that serve as a "nanotechnology laboratory" that is "extraterrestrial in origin and not the main motivation of my ideas and theories."

Of course, there are skeptics. "The artists' work has opened them up to ridicule," admits Anton, who adds that he is neither a believer in alien life nor a disbeliever, just "open-minded."

Rak says he is empathetic toward the nonbelievers. "I completely understand their feelings," he explains. "My own family is skeptical. My wife is completely frightened by it and my sister doesn't believe it at all."

But Rak said there is a method to the aliens' madness. "They are trying to leave messages to try to get us used to them," he says. "The aliens want us to get used to their presence in small increments so as not to frighten us. It's almost like they are domesticating us."

The artists say this is nothing to be scared about. When Rak saw that bright beam of light 20 years ago, he said he was in a "state of pure ecstasy. I was absolutely thrilled." "This was the most exciting moment of my life. I couldn't believe this was really happening," says Rak.

Huggins says the aliens that began pestering him when he was 8 years old and living on a farm in Georgia "scared the hell out of me," but he eventually got used to their visits.

"He told me he would shower, brush his teeth and get ready for bed," says Anton. "He doesn't have the fear or anger that comes from people who feel violated. How can he be angry when some of these aliens are his children?"



"It's certainly a subject that strikes a nerve these days," says Anton, who has noted a substantial increase in stories of alien abductions and sightings. "I realized there is a whole genre relative to people wanting to connect with what is going on in space."

Never mind what's going on in outer space. According to the show's eclectic group of artists, space creatures have been keeping themselves awfully busy right here on Earth.

Vermont artist Chuck Rak's

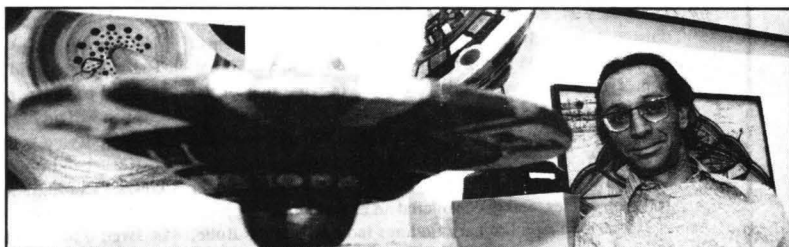
paintings and illustrations recall the 1976 "Allagash Incident," in which he and three friends claim to have been abducted by aliens while canoeing in Maine. Some trip that turned out to be.

While paddling on the Allagash waterway, the four remember seeing an intense beam of light coming toward them, and then seeing it disappear. They didn't remember much else except that the roaring fire they had built on shore had burned down to nothing.

"There was missing time we couldn't explain," says Rak.

Years later, the four learned through hypnotic regression sessions that they had been levitated aboard a spaceship, where aliens took samples of the paralyzed, naked humans' hair, fingernails and body fluids, claims Rak. "We were sitting in a brightly lit arena, surrounded by creatures with large eyes, grey skin and bulbous heads. They put us through physical probings."

Artist Ionel Talpazon became



FOUND IN SPACE: Artist Ionel Talpazon became obsessed with UFOs as a kid in Romania. He's hoping the government will use his intricate drawings to study his theories.

HELANE SEIDMAN

TIMES, Okawville, IL -- July 31, 1996

UFO Sighted Near Kaskaskia River

Actaeon Investigations is investigating a report of an unidentified flying object reported by a Damiansville woman, July 17, near the Washington/Clinton County Line.

She described the object as triangular, with facets on the top and flat on the bottom. She reported to Actaeon that it was very shiny, liked polished steel.

According to David Marler of Fairmont City, an investigator for Actaeon, the woman was driving on the County Road approaching I-64 south-east of Damiansville about 9 a.m.

As she approached the ramp, she saw the object, and pulled off the road to watch it. She said that it stayed in the same position above trees for four or

five minutes, and then vanished. She saw no trail of smoke or heard no noise.

The woman, who has worked at Scott Air Base, said that the flying object did not resemble any military aircraft she has ever seen.

Marler said that the woman was referred to him by a friend in Mascoutah, who said she was very credible, and a former

UFO skeptic.

Marler said that the Washington County and Clinton County Sheriff's Departments and Okawville Police did not receive any UFO reports.

He said, however, that only 10 percent of people seeing a UFO report it because of the "ridicule factor."

The three investigators for Actaeon check out reports of UFO in Missouri and Illinois as non-paid volunteers. Marler said in only one incident was there physical evidence. On May 15, 1995 they found a rough circular area of wheat

gently bent at an angle, but not broken. The pattern in the field match the physical shape of reported UFO in the area.

Anyone seeing a UFO on the Kaskaskia River area July 17th, or any other sighting, can contact Actaeon at their answering service at 314-994-1290.

Saucer rumors still flying in Wanaque

Ex-cop tells of sighting 30 years ago

By JUSTO BAUTISTA
Staff Writer

On a bitter cold winter night 30 years ago, a police dispatcher asked Wanaque Patrolman Joe Cisco to "check out a light" at the local sandpit. The desk was being flooded with calls about bright lights.

The officer turned his big, gray Plymouth Fury radio car toward Highland Avenue, unaware that he was heading straight into one of the wackiest chapters in borough history.

What Cisco saw that night — a bright light over the Wanaque Reservoir — turned the tiny suburban town upside down, sparking a wave of UFO hysteria. Military investigators, the media, flying saucer

buffs, and assorted kooks mobilized, making their way to the New Jersey town whose name they couldn't pronounce.

Today, the wiry, chain-smoking Cisco, long retired, is a hard-boiled skeptic who would just as soon forget the whole thing.

"I saw a bright light," he says with a shrug. "You tell me. I don't know what it was."

After acknowledging the dispatcher's request that night — Jan. 11, 1966 — Cisco drove off at a leisurely pace. His shift was already half over, and there had been no sign of trouble anywhere in town.

Cisco saw no light at the sandpit, so he quickly drove to higher ground — the narrow



"There was something up there that was awfully bright," recalls Hagstrom, 63, who is now Wanaque's mayor. "We don't know what it was. We thought it was a helicopter, but we didn't hear a motor; it looked like a helicopter with big landing lights on."

"We got goose bumps all over you when you saw where the hole was," Hagstrom says. "None of us really said we saw a flying saucer; we saw a bright light."

Another councilman, John Shutte, also saw it. "No doubt about it," he said in a published report. "It was there. I saw it, a brilliant white object, 2 to 3 feet across, and its color — no, not color, shade — it kept changing."

Residents who had been listening to their police scanners flocked to the reservoir; police were forced to shut the main gates. "People were coming out of the woodwork," Cisco says.

Cisco and the officials watched the light for a half-hour before it zoomed away, toward Wayne.

Two days later, with the media descending upon the town, Wolfe, Hagstrom, and Barton were ushered into a New York TV studio for an equally strange experience. The officials, made to wear

heavy coats, were interviewed against a fake outdoor backdrop of trees and water. "It was hot as a sonofagun in front of those big [TV] lights," Hagstrom says.

For several freezing days afterward, Cisco and others stationed themselves atop the dam with radar guns, hoping to see the object again and record its speed. "I sat there for three nights — nothing," Cisco says.

By now, the whole world seemed to know what had happened at the reservoir. The calls to police headquarters continued. One Wanaque Reservoir officer, George Dykman, was immortalized in a comic-strip version of the sighting that depicts him racing to the scene in his radio car and spotting a saucer-shaped object with rays beaming down to the water. The strip fictionalizes an October 1966 sighting in which a Volkswagen vanishes after the object hovers over it.

In neighboring towns, teachers held seminars on the sighting. One seminar at a Butler church attracted 400 people.

"People came to town meetings," Hagstrom says. "Then people started making up stories. They kept saying, 'I saw this, I saw that.' One night, I was at police

headquarters, and they were getting calls about sightings."

Hagstrom, who lives near the reservoir, scanned the sky for 45 minutes, but saw nothing.

Cisco, who lives one block from the main dam, was hounded by neighbors. "People would show up at my front door with pictures of purported UFOs," he says.

"What's this? What's that?" he says, mimicking the questions. "They were driving me nuts. I'd just get rid of them."

There would be two more major sightings over the reservoir that year — in February and October.

The late Sgt. Ben Thompson, a Wanaque Reservoir officer, told Air Force investigators how, in February and October, he spotted bright lights, one as big as a car. "It was like nothing earthly," he told the military.

One newspaper account has local officers who saw the objects refusing to provide information to the Air Force because they were ridiculed by the military officials, and by colleagues.

Former Ringwood Police Chief Roy Van Tassel, now 76, recalls telling Thompson: "Ben, c'mon, get off it." One account has military officials asking the reservoir

police chief what his men were drinking the night they saw the objects. "But that didn't cut any ice," Thompson is quoted as saying, "because the chief saw them, too."

Van Tassel says a big headache for police was the hundreds of UFO-watchers whose cars were parked bumper-to-bumper along the reservoir's shores.

"I don't believe in saucers," says Van Tassel. "You know when I'll believe in it? When they land here and take me aboard for a ride."

"Nobody will ever forget that night," says Hagstrom. "The town was really abuzz. Cars were converging on the reservoir. People were on the roofs of cars. It was crazy."

There is no mention of the Wanaque sightings in the Air Force's "Project Blue Book," a compendium of UFO investigations. After their treatment by military officials, some officers balked at talking to the military.

"The government tried to make a joke out of it," Hagstrom recalls. "First they said it was an airplane, then they said it was a planet too close to the Earth. In the newspaper, the government kept saying it was frost."

pathway atop the main 140-foot-high Wanaque Reservoir dam on Ringwood Avenue.

On the pathway, Cisco spotted a bright "blue-white" spot, silently hovering. "It stayed in the air; there was no noise. I was trying to figure out what it was," he says.

Mayor Harry T. Wolfe and Councilmen Warren Hagstrom and Arthur Barton had been at the sandpit too, stopping by on their way to Pompton Lakes to oversee the burning of the borough's Christmas trees.

Wanaque Civil Defense Director Bentley Spencer drove up. "The police radios are all jammed up," Spencer excitedly told the officials, referring to residents' calls and police talking to each other on their frequency.

Another message crackled over the police radio: "Something's burned a hole in the ice! Something with a bright light on it, going up and down!"

Another message: "Oh, boy! Something just landed in front of the dam!"

Curious, Wolfe, Hagstrom, and Barton joined Cisco at the dam.

Shutte, now 87, says he was more curious than scared at the time. "We never saw anything like that. It was quite a thrill for me."

It may not have rated space in "Project Blue Book," but even today, in the unlikelyst of places, the Wanaque sighting is known. "When we lived in Texas, and my son said he grew up in Wanaque, the response was, 'Oh, where the spaceship landed at the reservoir,'" said one local resident.

Cisco, now a dispatcher for the Wanaque Reservoir police, thinks he can resolve some of the mysteries of that night. "There was no light beam [emitted by the object]," he says, explaining that people may have seen a reflection from a barn light on Windbeam Mountain across from the main dam.

And the holes in the ice? "A natural phenomenon," he says, refusing to elaborate. "We still get them in the wintertime."

Cisco is still a skeptic. "I was a cop," he says with a shrug. "A cop doesn't listen to rumors. A cop deals in facts."

"All I can say is that there was definitely something there," he says. "I don't know what it was."

105 degrees West longitude

By Dick Kreck

'High Strangeness' captures valley oddities

Strange things are happening in the San Luis Valley of southern Colorado.

David Clemens, a former New York banker now living in Rosita, has put some of the oddities on video, "High Strangeness in the Sangre de Cristos."

Clemens, who moved to the San Luis Valley seven years ago and heard stories about unexplained phenomena there, is area coordinator for MUFON, an international investigative organization that looks into reports of UFOs and cattle mutilations.

According to Clemens, 1967 to 1975 was a period of intense paranormal activity in the Valley that picked up again beginning in 1992. "High Strangeness" took him three years to produce.

The video is available by sending \$39.90 to D.B. Clemens Productions, P.O. Box 471, Westcliffe, Colo., 81252. Colorado residents must add 5 percent sales tax.

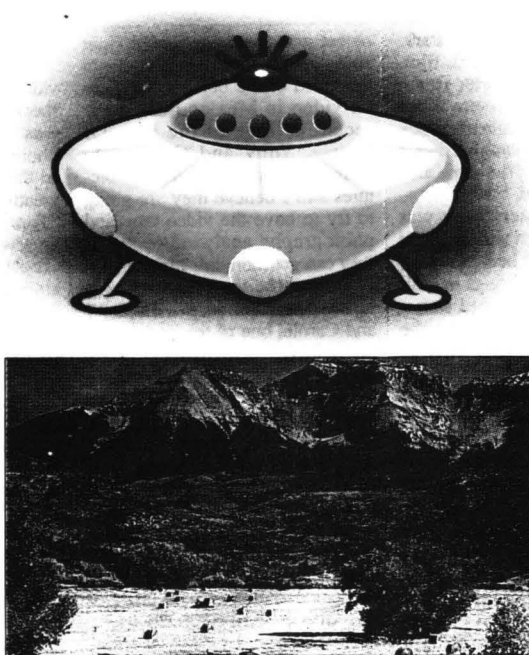


Illustration by Jonathan Moreno / Denver Post archive photo
The San Luis Valley draws plenty of visitors, possibly even visitors arriving in rather unconventional craft.

POST, Denver, CO -- Dec. 1, 1996

UFOs sighted in Leesville?

LEESVILLE — Several Leesville residents reported seeing bright lights in the sky Thursday night, but the officer on duty at Fort Polk said the military was not conducting any maneuvers in the area.

Hattie Louise Stiles said she and other Leesville residents saw four bright orange lights in a row and another on the side shortly before 7:30 p.m. She said the lights were slightly smaller than the moon and remained stationary for about five minutes before disappearing in a flash.

Radio stations in the area contacted by the Town Talk also reported having received calls from area residents asking about the bright stationary lights.

One Fort Polk resident who is married to a soldier stationed there said she too had seen the lights and had asked her husband if they could be UFOs. She said her husband told her "unofficially" that the military was indeed conducting training exercises in the area.

UFO research seeks that official touch

Presidential libraries hold little that believers or debunkers can use.

By BRIAN BURNES
Staff Writer

Maybe the truth just isn't out there. Not in Independence. Not in Abilene, Kan., either. But that hasn't stopped flying saucer researchers from frequenting the sober hallways of the Harry S. Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower presidential libraries.

The traffic and telephone requests of UFO buffs — sometimes called "UFOlogists" — and their debunkers have been a workplace reality for Truman and Eisenhower library archivists since the mid-1980s. That's when stories of a crash of an alien spacecraft in 1947 near Roswell Army Air Field in New Mexico started circulating in earnest.

The requests have continued throughout 1996, given the popularity of such films as "Independence Day" and "Mars Attacks!" and the genre of television shows exemplified by "The X-Files."

"If something is on TV, we get a lot of people calling," said Dennis Bilger, a Truman Library archivist.

The archivists in Independence and Abilene have little to show the researchers. Nor are they inclined to verify the authenticity of the various genuine-looking documents presented them by UFOlogists.

Yet the researchers keep calling. "If you are a true believer, you have to learn to read between the lines of government documents," said Herb Pankratz, an Eisenhower Library archivist.

Over the years, he's become the library's unofficial expert in all things alien. "That's by default," Pankratz added, laughing. "Nobody else wanted to take those calls. But we also want consistency in our responses."

Among the information sought by UFOlogists and debunkers:

■ The whereabouts of the two presidents on certain dates.

■ Whether Truman could possibly have appeared in the "alien autopsy" film footage, released to great fanfare last year.

■ The authenticity of a Nov. 18, 1952, briefing paper allegedly prepared for Eisenhower, elected president days before. The document appears to detail a federal panel known as Majestic-12, or MJ-12, allegedly established by Truman in 1947 to investigate the Roswell crash.

"We have never found a document in our files that says anything about a Majestic-12 or MJ-12," Pankratz said. Neither have Truman Library archivists.

But inquiring minds still want to know.

Many of their questions still concern early July 1947, when the Roswell incident occurred.

UFOlogists wonder, for instance, whether government authorities at Roswell retrieved a fallen spacecraft along with the bodies of its crew. A variation of this legend served as a principal plot device in "Independence Day."

The Air Force says the Roswell wreckage probably was from a balloon launched as part of a highly classified project to detect Soviet nuclear weapons.

Truman was president at the time. But he wasn't in New Mexico. Library staffers since have established that Truman spent the 1947

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■ Get more information about the Truman and Eisenhower presidential libraries when you visit *The Star's* site at <http://www.kansascity.com>.

kansascity.com

July Fourth holiday at the Virginia estate of Stanley Woodward, then chief of protocol at the State Department.

As for Eisenhower, some UFOlogists concentrate on a trip the 34th president made to Palm Springs, Calif., on Feb. 20, 1954. Some researchers speculate he traveled to nearby Edwards Air Force Base that day to view the remains of the aliens and their spacecraft, Pankratz said.

Eisenhower's appointment books, however, indicate the president broke a cap on a tooth and visited a dentist on that date.

"The UFO people say this is a cover story," Pankratz said.

But the biggest dispute concerns the so-called Majestic-12 briefing paper.

The document surfaced in 1987 after it supposedly had been sent anonymously to a member of the UFOlogist community. The Truman Library staff received its copy the same year, with a request that they verify its authenticity.

This library would not do. "We take a neutral position," Bilger said.

Today the alleged Majestic-12 document and related papers remain available at the Truman Library, with disclaimers that they do not represent official library holdings.

The library received the MJ-12 document from Stanton Friedman, a Canadian nuclear physicist who has investigated the paper since its appearance. The Truman and

Eisenhower libraries, Friedman said, may be the most researcher-friendly of any of the 15 government archives he's visited.

The Truman Library, for instance, offered him quick service while he checked out one particularly remarkable claim.

In 1995 Friedman, who describes himself as a "scientific UFOlogist," spoke several times to the marketing entrepreneur who engineered the release of the "alien autopsy."

At one point, Friedman said, the entrepreneur claimed that President Truman could be seen in the autopsy footage, supposedly shot in Dallas in the summer of 1947. A quick phone call to the Truman Library, however, confirmed that Truman was in neither Texas nor New Mexico between June and October, 1947. Such details, when confirmed, can place a particular scenario within the realm of the plausible.

For instance, one paragraph of the Majestic-12 document details how on Aug. 1, 1950, Army Gen. Walter B. Smith supposedly replaced former Secretary of Defense James Forrestal on the secret UFO committee. Forrestal had died the previous year.

Friedman asked the Truman Library to list all the dates that Smith met with Truman. One of those was Aug. 1, 1950.

"Further, the calendar for that day indicated that their meeting was near the west door of the White House and that it was off the record," Friedman said. "That also is the only day in several months that Truman and Smith met."

The idea that Truman kept his own counsel on the existence of aliens is hard to imagine to former Truman intimates.

"I never heard President Truman talk about Roswell," said Ken Hechler, Truman's special assistant from 1949 through 1953 and a member of the 1968 House Committee on Science and Astronautics, which that year organized a symposium on UFOs.

"I'm sure that in the four years that I worked for him, he had enough opportunities to bring that subject up if he thought that it was that important," added Hechler, who today is the secretary of state of West Virginia.

Nevertheless, both the Truman and Eisenhower libraries hold official documents that discuss flying saucers.

The file in Abilene includes a two-page report of a scientific panel convened in January 1953 at the request of the director of the CIA. The document, declassified in 1982, states there's no evidence that reports of flying saucers and related phenomena "constitute a direct physical threat to national security."

A second memo summarizes the testimony of former U.S. Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia, who in 1955 reported seeing two "circular unconventional aircraft resembling flying discs or flying saucers."

The Truman Library file, meanwhile, consists of three documents.

One paper contains the minutes of a June 1952 meeting of the Psychological Strategy Board, during which one member announced his intention to obtain the negatives of flying saucer photographs that had appeared in a magazine.

A second reference is an off-the-cuff remark in a 1952 letter by Secretary of State Dean Acheson to President Truman. Acheson explained how he had declined to make a scheduled speech on security, what with "the people's minds on flying saucers..."

The third is the text of a July 10, 1947, press conference in which a reporter asked Truman if he had seen any flying saucers.

"Only in the newspapers," the president said.

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL -- Oct. 16, 1996

Skywatch Diary

Compiled by Carole Baker

It has been a perfect week for skywatching. We have had clear skies and cool temperatures which has resulted in quite a few people settling in at Shoreline Park each evening ready to witness whatever events unfold.

Tuesday evening saw the arrival of Carole and Tony James from England. Members of EMU-FORA, and English research group. Carole and Tony have visited Gulf Breeze previously in October 1994. They arrived with a full load of camera and video gear ready for a couple of nights of skywatching before returning to England on Thursday.

Tony was anxious to share an amazing story with us of something that occurred in relation to his previous visit of Gulf Breeze in 1994. After being in Gulf Breeze a couple of days and filming around the area, interviewing local UFO celebrities and researchers, Tony and Carole decided to head west on Santa Rosa Island on the afternoon of October 6. Tony wanted to film the view of Shoreline Park from Santa Rosa Island. About 1 p.m. they drove west along Ft. Pickens Road, stopping in the parking lot on the south shore of Santa Rosa Island where the condominiums end close to where the National Seashore begins. Tony set up his video equipment and began film-

ing over toward Shoreline Park, panning his camera around, filming the bridge, the water tower and the skyline on Santa Rosa Island. Tony and Carole also took several still photographs using a 50mm lens covering the same area that they had videoed.

Five months later, Tony was reviewing this video with a friend of his who had just become interested in the UFO sightings in Gulf Breeze. The friend noticed something above the buildings on the video that Tony had shot while in Gulf Breeze. Upon closer observation, they found that there was a bright white squarish object hovering over the area on the skyline where the Department of Environmental Protection buildings appear from Tony's vantage point. The object appeared large and appeared to be revolving. Tony checked his still photographs and found that the object also appeared on the still pictures he had taken on the same day! We were able to review the video and examine the still photographs and indeed, there is a large, squarish, or rectangular object that appears to be rotating on the video. The object appears to be at about ten degrees elevation. Tony has had enlargements of both the video pictures (in still form) and the photographs made. They are very impressive and clearly show the

object with a shadow on its right side. When looking at it, I am reminded of the objects that were on video in Mexico during the recent eclipse of the sun. Of course, Tony and Carole are extremely excited about these pictures and I believe they are going to try to have the video tape and photographs analyzed to see if they can get more information.

During the time that we were all talking excitedly with Tony and Carole, one of the group took her beloved West Highland White Terrier, Mackey, for a walk on the three hundred foot fishing pier that goes out into the Sound from Shoreline Park. A couple of other skywatchers strolled along with them onto the pier. There were no fishermen on the pier at this time. Soon, the group remaining at the picnic tables were alerted by screams and shouts for help! Poor Mackey had fallen off the pier and was struggling in the water. Now, those of you who know Mackey will know that he is a rather portly little gentleman, and swimming is obviously not his forte. In fact, Mackey was drowning, struggling and disappearing below the water and under the dock. One of our regular group, Tom, dog lover that he is, took off down the dock at breakneck speed and dove straight into the chilly water and saved Mackey. The water was quite

deep, seven feet due to the tide!

All in all, with Tony's exciting video and pictures and Mackey's spectacular rescue, Tuesday night was a very unusual night at Shoreline Park. Tom was rewarded the next evening by Mackey's grateful owner, Vicki, with a gift. "Tom, you're a hero!" was the general consensus. Tony and Carole wondered if we have that kind of excitement at Shoreline Park on a regular basis. We all told them that we usually hope for excitement of a different nature, i.e., a good sighting!

The rest of the week was quite quiet in comparison and we enjoyed the clear skies with the Milky Way clearly visible and quite a few shooting stars.

On Wednesday, Chris Fowler, another English researcher arrived and we have been enjoying talking with him. I will be doing an interview with Chris and will include it in this column next week. If you wish to report a sighting or wish to contact the experimenter's support group, please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261. Keep looking up!





Star gazers like Becca Smith of Zelienople rarely see more than stars, but about a half dozen UFO sightings a year are called in to Butler County 911 dispatchers. Local police investigate the reports, but, to date, no little green men have been found.

Melissa Charlier doesn't care if you think she's a kook - she says she knows what she saw

By Kim Paskorz
Staff Writer

Headlights slice through darkness to illuminate a long, gray stretch of country road. Two travelers realize their truck might not be the only vehicle journeying westward — among the stars and planets, something lingers in the night. Something not quite earthly.

It's not an episode of "X-Files" or "Unsolved Mysteries." The above passage is a tale straight from Melissa Charlier's Friday night in Adams Township. Charlier claims she and her companion had a 10 second encounter with an unidentified flying object while driving down Route 228 on July 12.

The tale may sound crazy or delusional, but Charlier insists not one speck of alcohol was part of her night's plans. And, local officials say, Charlier is not alone.

"It's not uncommon to get calls like that," said Frank Mantis, emergency management coordinator for Butler County.

During the evenings, people who need to reach the police must dial 911. Mantis said about half a dozen reports of unidentified flying objects come in to Butler's 911 dispatchers annually.

Local police officers are sent to look at the situation, sometimes identifying the object — a hot air balloon flying at night or a meteor. But mainly they find only clear skies and shaken residents.

Mantis said most people who call in the sightings are not trying to be funny or malicious. "I don't believe they're crank calls. (Callers) have seen something they can't identify," Mantis said. "It's very rare people would call for the heck of it."

Unidentified Flying Object

Adams Township Police Chief Bill Westerman said his department gets a UFO sighting call once or twice a year. The most recent call came about a month ago, when an odd vessel was spotted south of Route 228. Westerman sent his men out to check on it, as is their practice, but found nothing.

Charlier's incident occurred in Adams, but she didn't call out the troops.

"I don't feel bad. I'm happy I saw it," Charlier said.

Charlier, 47, of McDonald, has worked in Cranberry

Township at an accounts payable position for two years. She and a friend were driving down Route 228 from her friend's home toward Cranberry at approximately 10:30 p.m.

They had traveled about a fourth of a mile west of Route 8 when they say they saw a very bright light in the sky, which they almost shrugged off as a star.

As they moved closer, Charlier noticed the object was hovering at approximately the same height as a low flying plane. And then it began slowly moving left to

right in the windshield view.

"It was big, whatever it was," Charlier said.

She estimates the UFO was about half the length of a football field.

Earlier in the evening, Charlier and her companion had been stargazing through binoculars, which she used to get a better look at the light before her.

The object, from what she could see, was round and had three headlights. Charlier's companion believes the lights had an orange tint, but she feels they were clear. There was a

hood over the lights and a haze or fog surrounded it.

"I don't think we could comprehend what we were seeing. There was a really awkward moment," she said.

The object then stopped and changed directions without turning. Charlier said the lights were first pointing to the right. But when the craft switched directions, so did the lights.

"Pull over! Pull over!" she yelled to her friend.

Her friend answered, "Oh my God! What is that?"

"I know it was not an airplane like I've ever seen before. If I had to say what it was, I would say it was a flying saucer," Charlier said.

STAT MedEvac, a medical helicopter fleet based in Cranberry's St. Francis Medical Center, reported that none of their copters had flown over that area at that time.

Charlier and her friend had to pull over to the left of the road because there was no room to the right. Despite having stuck her head out the window, during the pull over process, Charlier lost site of the UFO.

"We had a full view of the sky. There's no way we should have lost it," Charlier said. "We were spooked for the rest of the night."

Charlier was astounded that other cars didn't also pull over, but she thinks they may not have realized what they were seeing.

"Had I not had the binoculars, I would have thought it was a plane."

Prior to this instance, Charlier believed in UFOs.

"I've seen them before."

Charlier said most of the feedback she's received from telling her close encounter has been positive; people wish they'd seen it too. But she realizes there will be those who read her story with a cynical eye.

"I don't care. I know what I saw."

'Witness' claims UFO cover-up

A witness to a 1958 UFO sighting wants us to know the following:

It happened while he was on board the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt. The FDR was the first U.S. carrier at the time to have thermonuclear capability. The only carrier then allowed to transport the H-bomb.

This sighting was tracked on their radar through three sweeps. It was never entered on the ship's log.

Chester Grusinski served on the FDR from 1958 to 1960. The ship was decommissioned in October 1977 and sold for scrap in March '78. His story:

"I reported for duty July 24. September we were on a shake-down cruise off Guantanamo Bay one dark night. I was below decks at the time. Our crew discovered a small light following our ship. The men came running up from the engine room all excited. I followed them.

"This light then came at us. Suddenly it turned red-orange color and we were able to see it was a cigar-shaped object. Inside it, a row of figures watching us.

"The impression I got was that those figures were not human beings. They walked away from the window and the object took off very fast until it was lost from sight.

Cindy Adams



"The bridge watch screamed on the intercom for the officer of the deck to get up there on the double. At the same time, for some unknown reason, all the ship's maneuvers stopped dead.

"Special investigators subsequently came aboard to investigate. We learned later they'd been CIA."

Grusinski, who is in possession of photos, letters and documenta-

tion, then cites further outer-space visitors to this one super-special ship:

● During 1952's Operation Mainbrace, photos were taken by a journalist from the deck as a UFO overtook the NATO fleet.

● In '53, in the Mediterranean,

a commander had a visual sighting at the same moment radar was tracking it.

● In 1956, on July 26, while at anchor in Rio de Janeiro, one witness "drew a sketch of two disk objects, about 100 feet in length, suspended in mid-air, over one another. Two rows of counter-rotating lights. The upper disk released a fireball object onto the lower one. Within seconds they vanished with tremendous speed. This was seen by many. The sketch was sent to the Defense Department. Witnesses were told to tell no one for 20 years."



E.T.

Kin scouting vacation sites?

● In 1973 there was an additional sighting. Sworn testimonies exist in proof.

Grusinski, who may be reached in Clinton Township, Michigan, and cites the Freedom of Information Act, asks me, "Why has there remained a conspiracy to withhold this information from the public?"

I don't know, I have no answer, I'm trying to help. To tell you the truth, the only unidentified flying object I ever encountered was what some dyspeptic pigeon dropped on my terrace.

MISSISSIPPI MUD/by Wm. Stage

THEY'RE OUT THERE

In Nevada, the State Board of Transportation has officially renamed Route 375 "Extraterrestrial Highway." The desolate stretch near a top-secret Air Force range known informally as Area 51 has long been a mecca for UFO watchers worldwide.

On a February evening of this year, up to 40 people in the bi-state area reported seeing UFOs. The five, sometimes four, light-pulsing objects traveled in a southwesterly direction from Litchfield, Ill., to Union, Mo.

A month later, mass observations of gold-tinted objects crossing the sky in formation were reported by folks in northern Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Citizens in the south-central Michigan town of St. Johns reported seeing similar phenomenon during the same period.

Hello. What's going on out there? Is this UFO business the result of boredom? Better drugs? Or is something phenomenal really afoot in the wild blue yonder?

"I don't know that anybody knows," says Forest Crawford, a UFO investigator based in Collinsville. "This area of the country has always been one of the most popular to see UFOs, but there seems to be an increase (in sightings) worldwide."

Perhaps people are just stargazing more often. Maybe it's the influence of the summer blockbuster *Independence Day* or TV's *The X-Files*. Whatever it is, UFO activity is up, according to the Mutual UFO Network, or MUFON, whose realm of study and investigation includes reports of unexplained lights in the sky, alien abductions and crop circles.

Crawford, a MUFON-certified investigator, admits that Hollywood may have spurred the current flurry of sightings. "Every time there's a TV show or movie about extraterrestrials, sightings increase," he says. "It's like when you buy a Toyota Corolla — you suddenly notice how many more there are on the road."

Actually, the American public is more receptive than ever to seeing spaceships and "little green men" (to employ a '50s phrase). Crawford says that, according to various polls taken over the years, the number of Americans who believe that extraterrestrial life-forms exist and have visited our planet exceeded 50 percent for the first time in 1990.

Being on the brink of the new millennium, we so want to believe. Give us a tangible piece of evidence — an alien ship, an alien, an otherworldly tool. Something other than a microfossil from a rock said to have come from Mars. Carl Sagan, the late Isaac Asimov and other astronomer-physicists who understand the infeasibility of intergalactic travel have said, Don't hold your breath. However, those in the trenches — the MUFON and Project ID people as well as members of countless UFO study groups — seem to see the elusive bogeys (or know someone who has) at

every turn.

"We get lots of reports, maybe half, of triangular-shaped craft," says Crawford. "Red is a very popular color. We've also heard of a large, luminous object, a couple saucer-shaped objects and a few cylindrical-shaped objects."

For the past several years, about 300 sightings worldwide have been classified by MUFON investigators as UFOs, said Walter Andrus Jr., MUFON's international director, quoted in the *Detroit News*. From preliminary reports, numbers will be higher in 1996. Andrus estimated that about one-tenth of all UFO sightings are ever reported, and of those about 95 percent are explainable.

The Mascoutah formation falls into that 5 percent that excites the imagination. It was a year ago this summer, according to Crawford, that a Mascoutah, Ill., farmer looked out his window during a rainstorm and saw a spacecraft hovering over his field. The next day he found a jumbled, erratic laid-down stand of wheat. What made it unusual was the way the stalks were bent — not jagged or broken, but lopped over gracefully like blown-glass rods. It was very unlike typical crop damage from a storm.

This really excites Pete Bostrum, a spe-

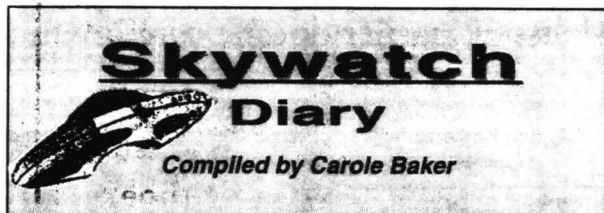
Maybe it's the influence of the summer blockbuster *Independence Day* or TV's *The X-Files*. Whatever it is, UFO activity is up, according to the Mutual UFO Network.

cialist in casting prehistoric artifacts for museum displays. Bostrum's discovery of two doughnut-shaped depressions, 35 and 40 feet across, in a marsh near his Troy, Ill., home was amply covered in 1992. Scientists who studied the affected plants, sweet flag, said there was no apparent explanation for the significant structural and chemical changes they found. Of the experts who came to look, most pronounced the Troy formations similar to the mysterious circles and geometric designs that have appeared in fields around the world. The phenomenon was first noticed in England, and Bostrum is aware that in 1991 two English landscapers came forward claiming that for 13 years they had made all the crop circles as a prank.

Yet he believes. "It's physical," he says of the sweet flag, which still continues to grow in an aberrant pattern, "something you can hold in your hand. You can't find any plants bent like that except in these crop circles."

It's easy to scoff at these claims, until it happens to you. If you have any UFO sightings or alien-abduction experiences to share, a national hotline has been set up at 800-UFO-2166 to handle incoming reports. The calls are logged at MUFON central in Seguin, Texas, and passed on to regional investigators. ■

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL -- Dec. 4, 1996



This week again saw little activity at Shoreline Park. Many of the regular group went out of town for the Thanksgiving holiday, so skywatching was a little sparse this week.

Another interest sighting report was called into the hotline. The sighting occurred early on Sunday, November 10, 1996. It took place in the Villa Venyce area of Gulf Breeze. Around 11:30 a.m., three friends were driving south through Villa Venyce to another friend's house, on the south shore. As they drove, one of them spotted a white light in the sky, not much larger than a star. It attracted his attention because of the way it was moving around. He pointed it out to his companions. One of the other witnesses, Scott Moss, had been a regular skywatcher in the Gulf Breeze area back in the late '80s when there was a lot of activity here. "It was moving around in a way that was familiar to me... I had seen this kind of activity before. That's what made me pay attention to it," Scott told me. He particularly skywatched in the Shoreline Drive area, which is well known to the UFO community as the place where Ed Walter's took his famous photograph, nicknamed "the roadshot." It shows a UFO hovering low over the road.

Scott and his friends watched the object move around in the sky for over five minutes, before continuing on their way. "It moved back and forth, up and down, kind of bobbed around... obviously not in the way a plane would behave," Scott told me.

It seems that these objects are quite often witnessed in our skies. In talking to another witness recently about her sighting (details of which will soon be available), she told me of a previous sighting where she and a friend had watched these "small white lights

just zipping around the sky making all kinds of patterns." Also, looking back through our sighting reports over the last two and a half years, we have several similar instances recorded. Talking casually with people in the area who are not involved in UFOlogy often turns up a story or two of how they watched these strange "zigzagging stars" on occasion.

Keep an eye on those mailboxes! Flyers and registration forms for the 5th Anniversary Project Awareness Gulf Breeze Conference will soon be mailed out. It looks like we will have a spectacular line-up of speakers as usual and also some interesting additional events due to this being the 5th Anniversary. If you want advance information before you receive your flyer, or if you are not on the mailing list, contact Project Awareness at (904) 432-8888 and they will help you out.

Just as a footnote, recently the Pensacola News Journal appealed to a person who had given them a photograph of something in the sky over the Gulf of Mexico, to come forward. I had contacted the News Journal to try to find out what the picture showed, but was not given any information. We supplied the News Journal with some artist's renditions of the Aurora, but heard nothing more. If the person who took the photograph would like to contact Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON, we would be very pleased and interested in seeing the photograph.

If you have a sighting or unusual experience to report, or wish to contact the experienter's support group, please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON hotline at 438-3261, and Keep Looking Up!

Galactic Wanderings...

By Deon Crosby—Director of the International UFO Museum & Research Center



Last month I introduced a case that was on-going in Brazil; a case that, although 50 years apart, mirrors happenings in Roswell relating to capture and subsequent examination of alien beings, disappearance of people relating to the case and denial of any strange happenings by officials known to have been involved.

As mentioned above, this is an on-going case. As of today, not many more details are known about the entire event. The witnesses, three children, stick to their original story. As do some of the military personnel involved in the capture and transportation of "extraterrestrial beings" and a few of the hospital personnel; however, all of those that have come forward are local people of lower and middle class stations.

Once again, the "higher-ups" are keeping quiet while the common people, whose lives are being turned upside-down, are being ridiculed, threatened and ignored. Why?

Although the "Life on Mars" stories have died out of the local news, it's still a hot topic around the world. However, the news is not so much that possible life forms were found... but who actually found them first! And, why, at the time these findings were reported, were they ignored!

According to researcher Vincent DiPietro, credited for finding signs of life on Mars, he should have gone to Dr. Bartholomew Nagy of the University of Arizona way back in 1975. The findings came from a culmination of research Dr. Nagy had started in 1966.

He even published a book, "Carbonaceous Meteorites," in 1975, which describes detailed findings of meteorites gathered from numerous areas on the earth. Pictures of fossil remains of creatures, which include cellular structures, are included.

Why wasn't Dr. Nagy's work given as much hype as the NASA statement last month? Apparently, one of the meteorite samples collected in France was contaminated with biological entities from Earth. Therefore, the "science elite" deemed his entire work "not good science" and cast aside all his findings as inaccurate.

Dr. Nagy insisted up until his death that he did show that fossils from the collected meteorites were from origins other than the Earth's.

Dr. Nagy died this past year, so he's not able to stand up for his research against those who are claiming the prize.

In 1989, published in "Nature," Dr. Ian Wright states that he too found traces of organic carbon (the proof of life on Mars that NASA claimed) in meteorites that had fallen to the surface of Earth.

Dr. Leonard Martin of the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Ariz., published findings and pictures of a large "erupting water spout" on the surface of Mars. The information along with the images were published in the NASA Activities, Dec. 1980.

As Mr. Michael Lindemann, renown UFO researcher, states in his recent newsletter concerning these findings, "If NASA is serious about retrieving 'possible LIVE' specimens from Mars, this is the place to go. Peroxides cannot exist in this warm, wet environment, but mold, bacteria and other 'buggies' can and probably do."

Let's change gears completely for a few moments.

On Sept. 9, the Roswell Daily Record reported a sighting of several UFOs that had taken place during the night of Sept. 8, 1996.

Questions continue to arise about what exactly happened that evening. I have the story first-hand from Max Littell, as well as from an affidavit signed by thirteen members of the Valdez family. A Roswell Deputy Sheriff also took part in the sighting and he indicated the State Police had also been notified.

The first and foremost key to this story is to realize, before we get in to it any further, that what was seen was unmistakable some UFOs - defined as unidentified flying objects. The key - I did not say flying saucers. I said UFOs.

According to the affidavit, there were four different lights seen.

Object #1 was a constant white light that seemed to be somewhat oblong, appearing in the skies, first west of Roswell and becoming stationary slightly east of north of Roswell.

Object #2, also a white light, started out farther east of #1 but during the one and a half hours, moved even farther to the east. This movement was measured by a telephone pole that was being used as a reference point.

Objects #3 and #4 apparently continued to move and were described as being blue/green as well as red. Both objects #3 and #4 were said to have been blinking on and off in a regular manner.

During the sighting, an airplane passed over-head. This activity gave another reference to what was normal (the airplane) and what was not (the UFOs).

As of this time, no military institution has claimed responsibility or even activity around Roswell. Of course, if it was a military exercise, they might not think anyone was aware of their presence. So... all we can say for sure is that we have numerous individuals who saw some UFOs!

Congratulations!

Another sighting earlier in the summer, took place in the southern skies over Roswell. The witness claims that while looking out her windows in the back of the house, she saw a negative arch of frames, much like picture-windows. From these frames, streams of light shot through the night sky. No blinking. No colors. Just large white lights.

She moved to another window, thinking that the image was a reflection, but she saw the same thing. With-

in a few seconds, the entire arch began rising up into the sky. The witness called to others in the house, yet by the time they arrived, the UFO was gone.

Is there an increase of UFO activity around Roswell? Or has the activity always been ongoing and we Roswellites are just getting brave enough to look up to the skies? Those answers will probably never be answered... be sure to take your binoculars with you - and a friend! You'll need someone with which to collaborate. Good Luck!

DESERT DISPATCH, Barstow, CA -- Nov. 15, 1996

UFO meeting draws hundreds

By Chip Patterson
Staff Writer

HESPERIA — Betty Ashe came because she witnessed strange lights in the sky twice in her life.

"I'm interested, I've seen and I believe," said Ashe, one of a couple hundred people who showed up for a "UFO

Meeting" Thursday night at Pyramid Books.

Ashe, wearing an "X-Files" T-shirt, said she once saw a circular object in the sky with green lights spinning around it. Another time, she saw spherical objects fly out of an explosion during a lightning storm.

It's these types of sightings that Be-

yond Boundaries Inc. of Texas is interested in researching.

The company showed slides of expeditions to Puerto Rico and Mexico, where fishermen and villagers report seeing aliens, spacecraft or Chupacabras.

Last year, the company hired a helicopter so they could photograph crop circles in England.

"We have many hard-core scientists working on this — we're not a bunch of nuts," said Joyce Murphy, president of Beyond Boundaries.

"The thing we're trying to get across is that these sightings are real," Murphy said. "It has to do with alien intelligence, beings that are visiting the Earth."

Murphy, who has a math and physics background, became interested in unexplained phenomena, especially crop circles, six years ago.

The company travels around the world, interviewing witnesses and taking photographs. They haven't been to California for that purpose until now.

"The sightings Oct. 8 sounded so interesting," Murphy said, referring to lights seen in the sky in the High Desert.

She said the turnout Thursday was "absolutely overwhelming."

The presentation included sightings of UFOs, reports of alien contact and even a photo of a woman in Puerto Rico who supposedly is a "hybrid" — half human, half alien.

Of particular interest were places where aliens might have come to Earth via "dimensional portals."

"We live in the dimensions of length, width, height and perhaps, time," Murphy said. "Be-

yond that, we really don't know."

The company goes on expeditions because "everybody's trying to get answers," she said. "I guess I'm primarily an educator."

Later, she told the group: "Some of this stuff is so weird, it's a wonder they haven't locked me up."

Chupacabra sightings are frequent in Mexico and Puerto Rico.

One man said he fired a .45-caliber pistol at a creature who was attacking a goat. The Chupacabra was untouched by the bullet.

"They seem to have a force field that repels bullets," Murphy said. "But nobody seems to have a photograph of it."

Hundreds of crop circles turn up in England each year, the company said.

Many are intricate designs, with larger circles surrounded by dozens of smaller ones, usually in a symmetrical pattern.

"They appear in 20 seconds," Murphy said. "We think it's from extraterrestrial intelligence of some sort."

Mike and Willa Sayer of Apple Valley attended the meeting out of curiosity.

"It would be kind of self-centered to think otherwise," Mike Sayer said, holding his daughter, Tania.

"I'm willing to accept a great deal," he said. "But I don't know if I'm willing to accept everything."

His wife said she believes some phenomena, but not others.

"I'm interested in this sort of thing, but I don't always believe it," she said.

REGISTER, New Haven, CT -- Oct. 13, 1996

Conferees relate stories of aliens

By Paula Brackenbury
Register Staff

NORTH HAVEN — No matter where she goes, says Karen R. of New York, the aliens follow her.

Standing outside the Holiday Inn Saturday, Karen, who asked that her last name be withheld, captivated dozens of people attending the ninth annual UFO conference with her photographs of "scoop marks" made on her body by aliens.

The conference, held every year on Columbus Day weekend, drew about 200 people from 12 states and three countries, said organizer John White of Cheshire.

"I'm an abductee, but people don't believe you when you tell them that — they just think you're crazy," Karen said.

Karen, a health-care provider from upper New York state, was selling sketches of dozens

of aliens she says have abducted her, and hand-sewn beanbag dolls resembling one of the aliens. "They put an implant in my body so they know where I am all the time," she said.

"It's too far-out for people to understand," Karen said. "They (aliens) have made me pregnant several times, but always took the babies from me before they were fully developed and developed them somewhere else."

Karen said the photographs of marks on her legs were made after aliens scooped out pieces of her skin to take as samples.

One of the youngest people at the conference was Gregg, 15, of Woodbridge, who declined to give his last name. Gregg's parents drove him to the conference and have been supportive, he said. "They've seen some UFOs themselves," Gregg said.

Budd Hopkins, author of "Witnessed," a book describing a 1989 alien abduction of a

New York City woman, was one of two dozen speakers at the conference. Hopkins, who has written three books on UFO abductions, said he witnessed a UFO on Cape Cod in 1964.

Hopkins told his audience that in the New York abduction, the woman was seen "floating out a window with four aliens." He said it was the first witnessed abduction on record. The aliens carefully orchestrated the abduction of the woman in front of "some important political figures" to make a statement and let people know they are here, he said.

Bob Benson of Vermont, formerly of Cheshire, said UFO sightings "are almost routine." Benson believes aliens are living below the ocean off the coasts of Peru and Florida.

"It would be incredibly arrogant of us to think we are it" when it comes to life in the universe, Benson said.

Evergreen woman leads UFO discussion group

At the risk of sacrificing my journalistic objectivity, let me state right now. I'm skeptical about UFOs, close encounters and almost any kind of "paranormal activity."

For me, it seems unlikely that "more intelligent" life forms would want to explore our particular planet, which is probably the intergalactic equivalent of Toledo, Ohio.

But that doesn't mean I'm not interested in such matters.

When I saw the press announcement about a UFO discussion group that will meet the second Wednesday of each month in Pine Junction, I thought the group's first meeting might make for a good feature article, so I made plans to attend and take notes.

Cherry Kilgore, a soft-spoken hypnotherapist, scheduled the monthly discussion group as a forum for mountain residents who experienced UFO sightings and contacts, as well as those who are just interested in the subject.

Kilgore is careful to cite her credentials. "I don't want people thinking I'm a nut case," she said.

A member of the Academy of Close Encounter Therapists, Kilgore received crisis intervention training of Extraterrestrial Close Encounters at Stargate International. She was trained at the Hypnotherapy Institute in Denver. She also holds bachelor and masters degrees in music.

An Evergreen resident, Kilgore says she is a UFO "contactee" from birth. After witnessing two UFO sightings in New Mexico in the 70s, she claims to have been repeatedly contacted by other dimensional beings (the politically correct term for "extraterrestrials").

"It started with alien dreams," she said. "Then I started waking up with unexplained bruises on my body."

Other mornings, Kilgore said she'd wake up and find window locks unlatched and window shades drawn up.

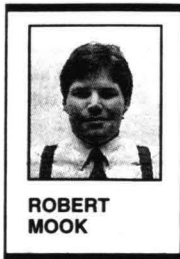
Kilgore said she found out more about her history with dimensional beings through "hypnotic regressions" (when a hypnotist has an individual "relive" a specific experience while under hypnosis).

During one regression, Kilgore recalled that beings hooked her up to a oscilloscope to measure her "frequencies" and brainwaves to prepare her for some kind of mission.

Kilgore said she found many others had similar experiences.

Using her own portable stereo, Kilgore started last Wednesday's meeting by playing new-age space music, which collaborated with heavy thunderstorms in creating a strange ambiance. She showed the group photographs of UFO sightings she captured on film.

While the photos looked "fake" to me, Kilgore seems like such a nice person that I hate to question her credibility. One photo showed either a translucent flying saucer hovering in the clouds or something vaguely resembling a saucer-shaped



ROBERT MOOK

reflection.

Another photo appeared to depict either a huge mother ship ascending from the heavens or a human finger blotting the top corner of the camera lens. A more graphic picture looked like a luminous space craft that landed on a field, but again, it's hard to discern whether the photo is authentic or not.

Participants in Wednesday night's discussion group ranged from the merely curious to people who determined they were contacted through regression.

One woman said she has heard a constant ringing in her ears ever since her husband took part in a top-secret military operation. The woman suspects beings have imbedded "implants" in her body to monitor her every move.

Having worked with NASA and the military, Phil, a gray-bearded man wearing a "Dungeons and Dragons" T-shirt, said he first became aware of dimensional beings after waking up five years ago with unexplained bruises on his arms. Phil said he found out he experienced contact with extraterrestrials after a hypnotic regression.

"They (the dimensional beings) wanted me to work with them in some way and I didn't want to," he said. "I still find bruises on my arms and legs from time to time." Phil, who holds a degree in parapsychology, said he is taking medication to help him recall his "close encounters" more vividly.

Shirley, Phil's companion, also believes she's had contact with aliens because she says she "knows lots of things" without any tangible way of explaining them.

"I'm working to be more conscious so I don't become 'easy bait,'" she said.

An older woman named Alice said she believes her life was saved by alien beings. Years ago, Alice said she was late for a rehearsal while running down the streets of Downtown Denver. A car careened

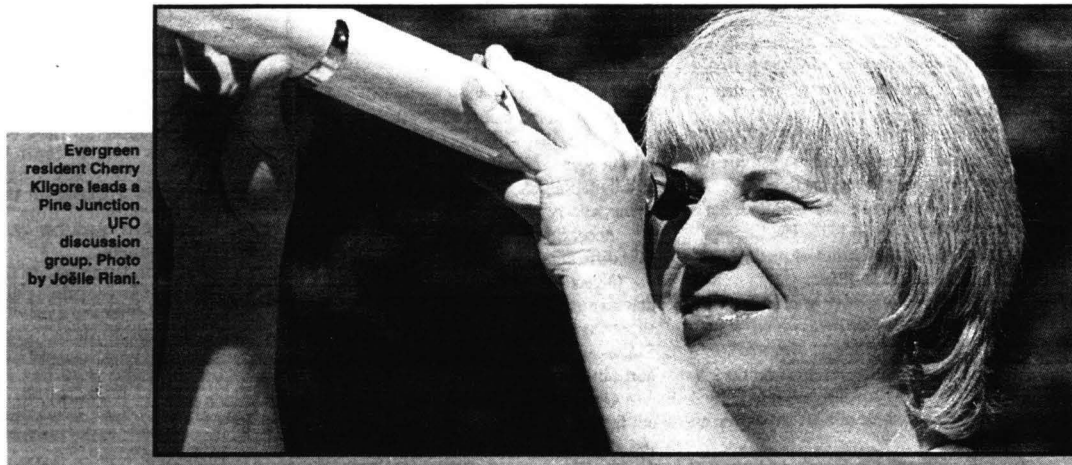
around a street and Alice reports some mysterious force held her back and saved her from a certain death.

No one in the group talked about contacting aliens in the mountain area, perhaps because most contacts are said to occur near military bases.

I observed the discussion quietly and tried not to pass judgment, although I remain somewhat leery of these kind of things. The people who spoke about their close encounters did so with such conviction, it was hard to believe they didn't experience something — whether it was genuine or delusional.

Some of the symptoms of being contacted seemed questionable to me. For instance, I've woken up with unexplained bruises, scratches, body markings and scars, but usually after a night of alcoholic overconsumption.

While the group consisted of articulate and well-educated people, from my (admittedly jaded) point of view, the search for intelligent life beyond this planet continues . . .



SIGNS OF HAVING CONTACT WITH OTHER "DIMENSIONAL BEINGS":

- * Unexplained bruises, scratches, body markings, scars.
- * Dreams (or actual sightings) of UFOs or alien contact.
- * Unexplained fears, anxieties, phobias and panic attacks.

(according to a pamphlet cited by Kilgore)

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada -- Dec. 13, 1996 CR: G. Conway

Flare-like object seen near doomed TWA jet

Reuter

WASHINGTON — The FBI interviewed a Saudi Arabian Airlines crew about a flare-like object they saw in the sky in New York while approaching Kennedy International Airport, federal law enforcement officials said Thursday.

The official said the crew reported the light was in the vicinity of the flight path of TWA Flight 800, which crashed off Long Island in July. He gave no further details.

The FBI questioned the crew at Washington's Dulles International Airport, the

plane's next stop.

The FBI was interested because investigators have still not determined the cause of the Flight 800 crash, with theories ranging from a bomb, missile or mechanical failure.

The officials were at a loss to explain what the Saudi crew had observed. "It could be anything," one official said.

A Federal Aviation Administration official said the crew of the 747, flying at about 4,000 metres, spotted the green flare while making the approach to Kennedy.

VALLEY COURIER, Alamosa, CO -- Oct. 22, 1996

Mysterious lights reported

■ Are UFOs back in the San Luis Valley?

By MARK H. HUNTER
Rio Grande County Editor

DEL NORTE - Some "suspicious lights" were reported to the Rio Grande County Sheriff's office at 8:42 p.m. Sunday.

Deputies did not see what the unidentified caller was reporting, but that is not unusual, they said.

There have been other recent "unofficial" reports of Valley residents seeing large, glittering, cigar-shaped objects in the sky but nobody will go on record with those, yet.

The RGSO report is the first "official" report in recent months to an area law enforcement agency, but that doesn't mean that people aren't seeing strange things in the sky, said UFO investigator Christopher O'Brien.

His recently published book "The Mysterious Valley" is literally flying off shelves in bookstores. It details the decades of UFO sightings, cattle mutilations, and other strange phenomena in the San Luis Valley since the 1970s.

O'Brien had not heard of the latest report, but had been contacted numerous times in recent weeks for other "strange" sightings.

On Oct. 1, some Crestone area residents reported hearing a persistent low volume hum they could not identify.

On Oct. 7, Villa Grove residents reported to O'Brien they had seen a "falling star" land below the mountain skyline at around 11:15 p.m. Nothing has yet been found.

On Oct. 9, Some Crestone area residents spotted "weird lights with pulsing halos."

On Oct. 10, north Valley residents spotted a "weird" helicopter flying in the area with a large box hanging from it. The box was covered with electronic looking gear, O'Brien said.

On Oct. 17, a local truck driver encountered a large military convoy driving north bound on Hwy. 285. Military equipment, especially

helicopters, have regularly been spotted right after "mysterious" lights have been reported by residents.

A mutilated cow was also reported on a ranch north of Monte Vista during the first week of October, but the owner, so far, has declined to talk about it.

"Things are getting interesting again," O'Brien said with a laugh. He encouraged anyone who sees something they can't explain to write down everything they remember, (time, place, direction, lights, colors, etc.) and call their local sheriff's office.

The only way we're ever going to understand what is going on is to document it, O'Brien said.

His book is beginning to draw national attention. It will be featured in a segment of the television program "Inside Edition" on New Year's Day, and will also be featured on a TBS show and "Strange Universe" show later this year. No dates for those stories have yet been announced.

O'Brien wants to hear from Valley residents who spot unusual objects in the sky. Call him at 719-256-4128.



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

CLOSE ENCOUNTER FOR TV MAN AS HE FILMS AT TOP SECRET LOCATION

UFO show director in alien base drama

TELEVISION director Ian Barnes came under American secret service scrutiny when he filmed the outskirts of a base where the military is rumoured to analyse captured alien spacecraft.

Called Area 51, the base, which does not officially exist, is in the middle of the Nevada desert surrounded by a 10-mile exclusion zone and patrolled by guards operating a shoot-to-kill policy on intruders.

The Coventry-born 28-year-old was there to get footage for his nine-part series about the UFO phenomenon called *Future Fantastic*, which starts tonight at 7.30pm on BBC1.

Presented by Gillian Anderson, alias Agent Scully of the cult TV series *The X-Files*, it examines whether life in other worlds is possible.

Ian, who went to Bablake School, and his crew had to use a camera lens "as long as your arm" to get shots of the base from a mountain 25 miles away.

He said: "No agency will admit to running the base, but the majority of people think it's the CIA."

"When we were by the perimeter signs we were being watched. The guards wear camouflage gear but no insignia."

The series also includes

By EDDY MURRAY

interviews with astronaut Story Musgrave, who always felt he was "being watched" while in space and an engineer who claims he examined one of nine alien spacecraft



SECRETIVE SITE: Ian Barnes near Area 51, the rumoured alien spacecraft base

kept at a secret US base.

The television producer also spoke to people in the nearby town of Rachel who claimed they were aliens.

"The whole area is a strange and eerie place. People say they look up at

night and see flying saucer-type craft coming from the base and moving at 7,000 mph."

Although Ian keeps an open mind about some of the things he was told, he believes there could be life on other planets.

"We are very conceited if we believe we are the only life form in the universe."

The series also looks at alleged alien abductions and "conspiracy theories" that governments know more about UFOs than they admit.

Derby man says it's strange, but true

CLOSE encounters of the third kind - for the third time!

Those are the bizarre series of UFO sightings which have turned Derby union official Tom Cullen into one of the most visited men in the world - by aliens.

Tom opened his X-file on the extra-terrestrials in May when in the space of 48 hours he was twice visited by inexplicable flying craft.

Sighting one took place at the beginning of May when Tom spotted a "spacecraft" resembling the space shuttle. Tom watched in awe as it hovered over houses near Burton-on-Trent.

Sighting two took place two days later, but this time his experience was much more shocking. He claims that an enormous triangular craft, the length of a football pitch, rose from a field in the village of Bretby and silently and effortlessly took off.

"Not a sound came from it," he revealed. "Anything humans have invented would have needed a lot of power to blast itself off the ground and would have blown me, from where I was standing, off the face of the planet!"

But just as it appeared the encounters had stopped, Tom has been visited again - this time by a saucer-shaped UFO, much smaller than the previous craft.

Intense

He explained: "This one was shaped like the top of an old-fashioned milk churn. As with all the craft the light was very strange - very intense."

Tom, who was sceptical about UFOs before his first sighting, is now convinced that life forms from other planets will eventually make contact. He is prepared to put up with ridicule because he believes he has a unique role to play in the search for the truth about alien life.

He said: "I must be some sort of 'chosen' person. People spend their whole lives looking for this kind of thing and I have seen three crafts this year."

"I'm not in the world of fantasy - even if someone offered me money to deny what I have seen I could not."

MYSTERY FLIER'S CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH YOUNG EARTHLINGS



● IT COULDN'T BE ... COULD IT? A strange object looms into view at the top right of the main picture. Seconds later (below) it has gone. Experts have ruled out any fault with the negatives or the camera



I think I shot a UFO

A STUNNED schoolgirl believes she may have caught an unidentified flying object on camera while snapping her classmates.

The mysterious object appeared silently from nowhere in the last of a series of photos of Banchoy teenager Lesley Fitzgerald and her chums.

Lesley, 14, and her friends took the photos in a matter of minutes at the end of May during a lunchbreak beside the River Dee.

None of them, including the photographer, saw or heard the object - which appears to

by Sarah Mulford

be travelling at great speed - until the film was developed this month.

A professional photographer has ruled out any fault with the negatives or camera and says it is flying too fast to be a helicopter or aeroplane.

Now Lesley would like to hear from anyone who can shed some light on the unidentified object or anyone else who has seen it.

"It's really spooky. I know some people might think I'm

mad but I just can't explain what it is and no one else - not even the police - can either," she said.

"It must have been silent because none of us heard it. If we had you would have seen us looking at it while the picture was taken."

"Whatever it is, it is moving very fast. I'm really intrigued."

Aberdeen aviation journalist Jim Ferguson admits it is difficult to identify the object because you can't work out its distance from the group.

"In my opinion I would suggest that this could be a bird

but there really isn't enough detail to identify it," he said.

Until fairly recently Mr Ferguson was a total disbeliever in the presence of UFOs and other unidentified aviation phenomena but nowadays he's not sure.

The snap follows a series of sightings in recent months most notably one by two Highland road workers in February.

Simon McKenzie and Murdo Macleod were mystified after a "silent" UFO buzzed by them as they loaded up their gritter at Achiltibuie on the West Coast.

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Coventry, England

July 10, 1996 CR: R. Archer

Flying banana

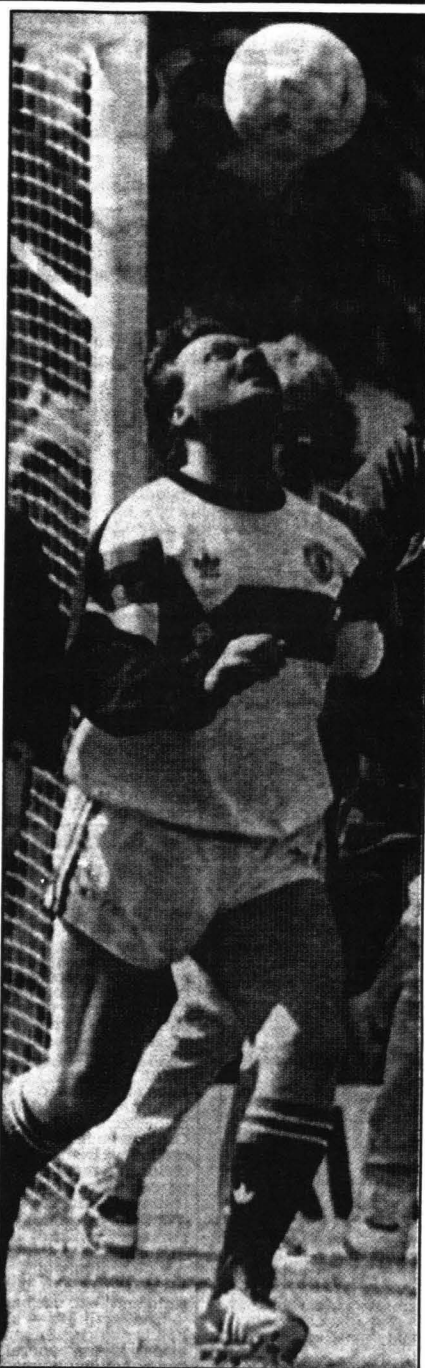
UFO investigators want to hear from anyone else who saw lights shaped like a "crushed banana" hovering above the Saxon Mill Harvester restaurant in Coventry Road, Guy's Cliffe, Warwick, at about 11.40pm on Friday, as reported by a motorist. Call Birmingham UFO Society on 0121 681 6344.

TYCOON IN TWO MINDS OVER ALIEN REVELATIONS



Left: A proud moment as Knighton holds the Third Division championship trophy in 1995

Right: At Old Trafford in 1989



The world's against me says UFO soccer boss

TO the readers of the local newspaper, the front-page story was an amusing talking point.

But to soccer boss Michael Knighton the tale of his brush with aliens was the final straw in what he interpreted as a long-running campaign against him.

In fury, he announced he was standing down as chairman and chief executive of Carlisle United — a club

Daily Mail Reporter

he took from the brink of bankruptcy to a Wembley final and the third division championship in one season.

The row erupted on Saturday when the Carlisle News and Star carried a story headlined 'Knighton: Aliens Spoke To Me' which described his encounter with extra-terrestrials at a motorway service station 19 years ago.

Insisting the paper had run a story which was off the record, Knighton said: 'They have betrayed my confidence utterly and completely.'

Last night, however, the 45-year-old millionaire with a 90 per cent stake in the Third Division side was having second thoughts.

He said he would reconsider his decision to quit after the paper printed a front page 'don't go' plea by editor Keith Sutton.

The story emerged after Knighton spoke at a meeting of UFO enthusiasts in Carlisle on Thursday. There, he revealed details of his own experience in 1977, when he was a teacher.

He told how he was with his wife Rosemary on the M62 when he noticed a strange light in the sky.

'The bright dot became a triangle and shot down from the sky at an incredible speed,' he said. 'It then turned into a glowing disc which hovered above a petrol station at about the height of Nelson's Column. It was

amazing.' According to the newspaper, he then heard a voice inside his head which said: 'Michael, don't be afraid.'

Knighton, who first hit the headlines when he juggled a football in front of the Stretford End at Old Trafford during his ill-fated attempt to buy Manchester United, confirmed last night that he had a brush with aliens.

He said: 'I am not prepared to have my nine-year-old son

taunted with, "Your dad speaks to ET".' He added, however: 'Perhaps it has been an over-reaction on my part. I don't get uptight about things, but I did feel betrayed.'

Mr Sutton said: 'The fact that he sighted a UFO on the M62 doesn't disqualify him from being the chairman of a football club. He has done a lot for the city and a lot for the club, including building an exceptional stand and taking us to Wembley.'

LANCASHIRE EVENING POST,
Preston, England -- May 20, 1996

ET pics are out of this world!

UFO experts in Morecambe believe they may have chanced upon photographs more mysterious than anything out of The X-Files.

A mystery man phoned the home of North Lancashire's leading UFO investigator and told him an important package was going to be left in the toilets of the Headway Hotel in Morecambe.

Initially, some people thought the package had been left by someone attending a UFO conference being held in the resort.

But, when it was opened, ufologists discovered photographs which reveal what appears to be

dead male and female extra-terrestrials.

Simon Lewis, of the North Lancashire and Cumbria UFO investigation group, said: 'The photographs show male and female beings of some kind. One of them seems to be bruised and swollen around one eye and the right arm is damaged.'

'We were tipped off about the photographs in a timed phone call and we later found them in a sealed brown envelope.'

'They are very exciting and, if they are genuine, then they could be one of the biggest revelations ever to hit the UFO investigation sphere.'

EVENING NEWS, Worcester, England -- June 29, 1996

Riddle of county's silver-suited visitors'

DID extra-terrestrials find themselves in the sights of a Herefordshire farmer's gun as they took turf from his land?

This scenario, as unlikely as it may seem, is the subject of a probe by two UFO-ologists who claim the contact could be among the most significant of the "flying saucer" phenomenon.

True to form "the authorities" were accused of covering up the county's very own alien X-file, but this doesn't deter Rob and Marilyn Aldworth, of Birmingham UFO Society, from taking on a task that would test Mulder and Scully.

The tale Rob and Marilyn relate takes place in late 1947 when, in the early hours of the morning, a 'dome shaped disc-like object' is said to have landed in an orchard adjacent to a farmhouse in a village nine miles from Hereford.

The farmer watched with his housekeeper as three 'small silver-suited beings' alighted from the craft and took up samples of turf, but before he could draw a bead on them with his gun they were re-boarded and heading for the heavens as swiftly and silently as their arrival. Only a circle burnt into the ground at the landing site was evidence the "aliens" were ever there.

According to a "close relative" of the farmer, from whom Rob and Marilyn take their details, the police were called to the scene the following morning, they, in turn, alerted the Ministry of Defence who took soil samples and declared the landing circle radioactive. The two witnesses were then warned to "forget" what they had seen and never to discuss it with anyone.

Subsequent inquiries into what occurred met

with silence and no known records exist, but Marilyn hopes fresh questions some 50 years later may meet with answers.

"Our informant is elderly and, at this stage, unspecific on some details such as an exact location, however if what has been described took place it could be among the most important contacts in the history of UFO investigation," she said.

The year of the landing is significant in UFO-lore, it was in 1947 that a "spaceship" supposedly crashed at Roswell in the US state of New Mexico. Marilyn says the 'aliens' allegedly found after this event are 'remarkably similar' to those who may have come to earth in Herefordshire.

Anyone able to assist Rob and Marilyn in proving "the truth is out there" can contact the couple on 0121 681 6344.

DAILY ECHO, Lincoln, Lincs.,
England -- July 12, 1996

Alien sight

REGARDING UFO sightings. In November 1964 I sighted a huge, round object in the sky which looked like a hovercraft with church windows in it and lights flashing on and off.

It went over the Cherry Willingham and Fiskerton area. A mysterious flying object was later reported in the Echo a few days later.

Heighington

PAT

Why would aliens want to come to our town?

It's not immediately clear why aliens should want to come to Bonnybridge. A small, windswept town just north of Glasgow, it sits in a muddy valley, framed by electric pylons and low hills. There's a bridge (not remotely bonny), a Chinese takeaway, two pubs and 5,450 people.

There's also plenty of sky — and from the window of their seventh-floor flat, pensioners Bill and Mabel Bestall can see most of it. If they are preoccupied with the view, few can blame them. From their windows, they have witnessed UFO activity on no less than three occasions.

Bizarrely, perhaps, this small, close-knit community has become the scene of Scotland's real-life X-Files — a town where, with startling regularity, residents report evidence of alien activity.

The most dramatic of these sightings took place in the early hours of the morning last January. 'It was about a quarter to five, and I'd got up in the night,' remembers Bill. 'Suddenly, I spotted a large circular light hovering over Bonnybridge and realised it was heading towards our flats.'

'Next, two smaller circular objects came into view, spinning around the larger one. I was intrigued and called the wife to come and look. However, as it got nearer, we became scared. It was huge and it was heading straight for us. But then it suddenly rose up and over the top of the flats.'

Perhaps it was a plane. Or a helicopter. Or perhaps Mr Bestall is completely batty, and so is his wife — who, incidentally, confirms every detail. All these are possibilities. But when you look at the sheer statistical mass of sightings by people in the Bonnybridge area, then the greater likelihood is that the Bestalls are telling the truth.

For some reason, this corridor of countryside between Glasgow and Edinburgh is a UFO hotspot. Of all sightings in Scotland, two-thirds occur within it. 'To my knowledge, 3,000 people have seen something unusual in our skies during the past few years,' says Bonnybridge councillor Bill Buchanan. 'And there must be many more who have been afraid to come forward.'

Walk down the main street, and everyone knows someone who's seen a UFO. At the electrical goods shop, it's Anne Stewart's daughter, Carol, who had a night encounter with bright, flying objects while driving home. 'We were at the pub when she rang us, terrified,' says her mother. 'The whole bar piled outside to have a look, but whatever it was had gone.'

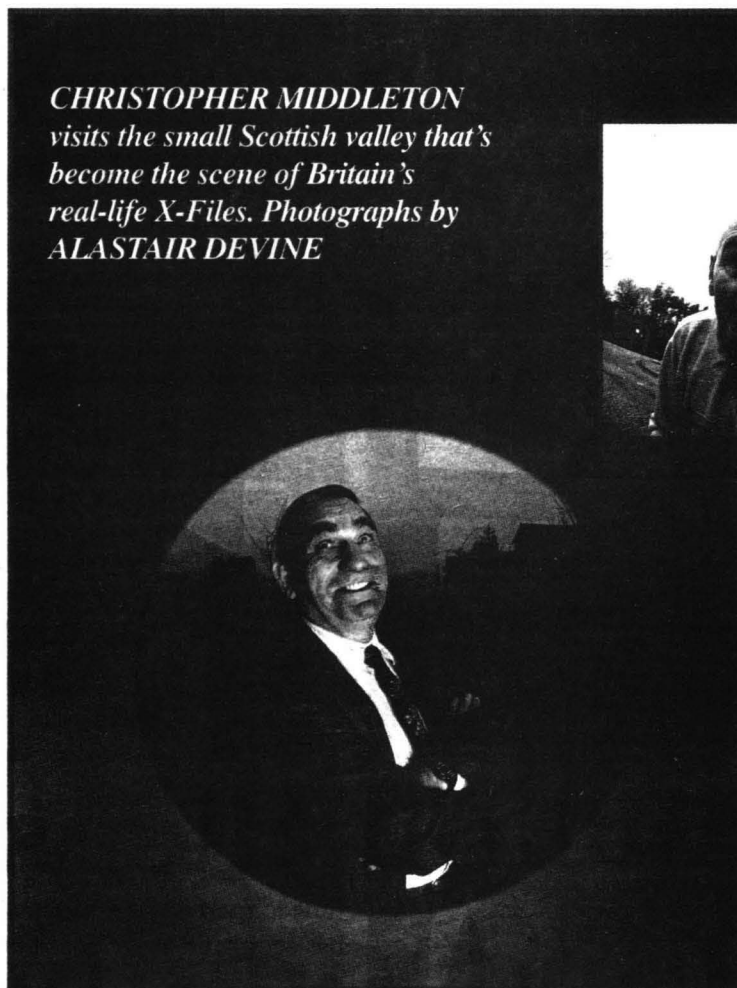
Meanwhile, at the post office, Marlene Fleming has been keeping a secret for years. It concerns an elderly friend who went fishing one night at nearby St Helen's Loch, and saw a bright light in the sky. 'The thing started moving back and forth across the water,' says Marlene. 'Then it started following my friend, who decided to head back home. By the time he reached the house, he was running for all he was worth.'

Marlene's friend never made his ordeal public, and many others feel the same way. There is, however, someone they can turn to. And that's John Jenkins. A 60-year-old piano tuner from nearby Penicuik, John was a spaceship sceptic until one morning in 1992, when he saw an 'orange-golden ball' in the sky just outside Edinburgh.

'It was travelling in an absolute straight line and at great speed,' recalls John. 'I thought the whole city would be in an uproar, but although there was an article about it in The Scotsman, it was quickly forgotten.'

But not by him. Before long, he was seeking out others who had experienced close encounters. One was Andy Swan, a 27-year-old electric

CHRISTOPHER MIDDLETON
visits the small Scottish valley that's become the scene of Britain's real-life X-Files. Photographs by **ALASTAIR DEVINE**



cable layer from nearby Armadale. 'I'd been to Cowdenbeath,' recalls Andy. 'When I got home, around 11.45pm, there was a lightning storm, and as I was sitting in the car watching it, I saw this large object come crashing down from the sky — about 35 to 40 foot long, the size of a lorry trailer. I decided to drive in the direction it had been travelling.'

A mile along the road, the object suddenly came flying low over the hedgerows, straight at his car. 'I thought I was going to run into it, but it passed over the bonnet and came to a halt in a field. It just sat there, hovering silently, about 15 feet off the ground. I got out of the car and pointed my halogen lamp at it to get a better look. Immediately, the bulb blew. Then my headlights went out. I tried the car ignition, but it wouldn't start. Suddenly, the thing leapt up and reversed at incredible speed back over the top of the car.'

The police were called, as was an AA patrolman, who was unable to find any visible fault in Andy's car. No sooner had it been towed back home, however, than the electrics came back to life. In a police statement, Andy described the object as looking like 'a giant, black Toblerone bar'.

What still troubles him now, though, is that, 'Somehow, an hour of my life can't be

accounted for.' Falkirk police confirm that they received a distress call on Andy's mobile phone at 1.20am. Yet he is sure he made it at around 12.15. So what happened in that lost time? At this point, one makes a significant leap from the world of visible, recordable fact — into the black hole of sci-fi speculation.

Suddenly, X-Files theories loom large. One theory gaining ground in UFO circles is that humankind is being infiltrated by a race of creatures often referred to as The Greys. Those who have experienced such contact tell their 'true life' stories in glossy 'paranormal' magazines such as Encounters and Alien Encounters.

Others, however, are more sceptical. One explanation for the whirling lights seen by the Bestalls is that they are fireballs — pieces of matter burning up on entering the earth's atmosphere. Other possible culprits include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, kites, helium balloons, weather balloons and unusual cloud formations — not to mention lightning and meteors.

Yet there is one rather disquieting detail which may yet prove the sceptics wrong. It

Close encounters: Bill and Mabel Bestall, below, have had three UFO sightings, while John Jenkins, main picture, is convinced they exist. Front cover: Andy Swan, who 'lost' an hour of his life



concerns what has been Bonnybridge's most distressing case so far, involving two young men who have become so upset by their experience that they no longer talk about it publicly. It happened one night in 1992, as Colin Wright and Garry Wood were taking a satellite dish to be repaired at a friend's house. Ordinary working people, they had no previous interest or belief in UFOs. Colin was a painter and decorator, Garry worked for the ambulance service.

As they drove along the A70, near the Harperrig Reservoir, they suddenly saw a jet-black, disc-shaped object 20 feet above the road. They came to a halt directly underneath the thing, upon which it released a shimmering curtain of light over them — 'like confetti', one of them described it.

Both men were catapulted into inky blackness, and remember only that there was a huge shudder. Then they found themselves still in the car, the blackness gone. Shaken, they drove on — but found when they reached their destination that the journey had taken two hours longer than the 35 minutes it should have done.

To find out what happened in those two missing hours, Colin and Garry independently underwent a dozen sessions of hypnotherapy, during which they provided accounts that not only matched each other's, but also those of previous 'abductees'.

Both claim they were transported out of the car by a beam of light, then stripped and subjected to an inspection by creatures with translucent, child-like bodies and pear-shaped heads. Both saw other men and women being examined, but not each other.

And the official response to all this? Don't panic, Captain Mainwaring, would seem to be the answer. 'If we conclude that no threat to the security of the UK has occurred, we do not attempt to investigate,' says the Ministry of Defence. And in none of the Bonnybridge cases is any such threat thought to have occurred.

In the case of Andy Swan, for example, they wonder if he had mistaken his Toblerone bar for a Harrier Jump Jet, of which there were three in the area that night.

Nevertheless, local MP Dennis Canavan and Bill Buchanan still want the Bonnybridge phenomenon investigated. 'It's a disgrace that no one has come here to look into what's going on,' says Councillor Buchanan. 'I have this feeling that something really dramatic is going to happen here. I'm just hoping that I and all these other law-abiding people will eventually be vindicated — and preferably in our own lifetime.'

GRIMSBY EVENING TELEGRAPH, Lincs., England -- July 16, 1996

MYSTERY SIGHTING, SPARKS X-FILE PROBE

GRIMSBY Police could be set to open their own X-File on unsolved mysteries after the possible sighting of an alien spacecraft.

Police today confirmed that they were ready to launch their own investigation into the unexplained if the public approached them with sightings of UFOs.

Stunned drivers came to a standstill on Monday evening after a mysterious object flew overhead.

They watched in awe as the craft:

✂ Came in low over the road with a row of eight red and white lights flashing.

✂ Carried out seemingly impossible manoeuvres by changing its axis of travel.

✂ Suddenly and silently disappeared leaving not a single trace of its existence.

Tracey Morrison, of Tummel Court, Immingham, saw the UFO as she travelled with her children along the old Immingham road at just after 10pm.

'We saw this thing with eight red and white lights come out of

the sky. It was much lower than a plane and much bigger, moving towards Roxton Woods, near Keelby.

'At first we thought it was a light on a pole or aerial but the lights were placed horizontally along the craft's body, which we could not see, and they were flashing red and white.

'Then the horizontal strip turned vertical — that's something an aeroplane could not do.

'It was quite spectacular but you are left thinking whether it

was man-made or something else.'

A spokesman for Grimsby Police said: 'We received no reports of any unidentified flying objects on Monday night. If such a thing was reported, we would look into it. You could not ignore it.'

Humberside Airport confirmed there was no flight taking off or landing at the time of the sighting.

Lincolnshire Police, who last year launched their own X-File-style probe into mysterious sightings of a cat-like beast near Tetney added their voice of concern.

And eyebrows were further raised after a series of mysterious corn circles appeared in the Louth area.

A spokesman said any sightings would immediately be passed on to the Royal Air Force. The Civil Aviation Authority added it had not been told of any possible UFO sightings.



ANOTHER WORLD: Matthew Williams at his home in Ton Pentre where he produces his own UFO magazine

Picture: ROB NORMAN

Spaced out on aliens, flying saucers and army bunkers

FROM his parents' house in Ton Pentre, Rhondda, Matthew Williams masterminds a non-stop investigation into the possibility of an alien presence in Wales.

This amateur but rather impressive operation is beamed from his bedroom, involving a photo-copied bi-monthly magazine, various jaunts around the country looking for secret bunkers, overhead-projection lectures and liaison with like-minded UFO enthusiasts in Britain.

Matthew even travelled to the Nevada desert in May 1993 to check out a secret air base, known as Area 51, where the US Government is supposed to be building UFO-like craft.

Life for the 24-year-old former civil servant apparently revolves around his computer (always handy for creating front-page images for the magazine *Truth Seekers Review*), video recorder with accompanying library (titles include *Ozric Tentacles*) and, of course, the telephone.

The *Big Breakfast* and a BBC programme call within half-an-hour of each other, although because it is not a direct line, one or other of Matthew's parents downstairs pick it up as quickly as he does.

The parents – his father is a retired industrial chemist – don't really get involved. "I don't discuss it with them, to be honest," he says. "They have got used to me."

His room is so full of files and correspondence that he does not allow the family's lively Labrador Oliver in as he is likely to send everything flying.

If it wasn't for the mention of a girlfriend (the pair share weird experiences) it would be easy to believe Matthew, like some intrepid BBC children's drama hero, is obsessed with the idea we are not alone in South Wales.

CATHERINE JONES

He first became interested in 1990 when he saw what he calls a UFO near Bwlch Mountain as he travelled to work one evening.

Very large, yellow and sitting on the side of the mountain is how he describes the vision. "It must have been 300 feet high."

Although his friend, travelling in the passenger seat, didn't see it, the experience set Matthew thinking.

"This was the weird thing about having my sighting – I didn't think, 'hey what was that weird thing?' until four or five days later. It was the thought of seeing something that strange and not being able to realise you're seeing something strange that perplexed me."

He was recommended a book, *Above Top Secret, the Worldwide UFO Coverup*, by Timothy Good. "What an explosive book – UFOs being seen a lot more than we think and the military knowing about it. Sightings which cannot be explained by natural means and the fact the British Government, by the end of 1945, had departments in place looking into stuff in the skies which had affected their craft."

Matthew cites the Roswell incident which allegedly occurred in 1947 in New Mexico in the USA. "People did see little aliens – there are plenty of witnesses – it's a very intriguing case because so many people came up with the same description of what was seen."

After reading many books – "to acquaint myself with what we are dealing with" – he became an investigator in his spare time.

"I spoke to people, I took reports, I looked into cover-ups. I became involved in carrying out hypnosis on

Flaps, lights and balls

CARDIFF has had quite a few sightings over the last few years, according to Matthew, and the South Wales valleys are also a hotbed – several coming from Pontypridd, Abercynon and Quaker's Yard.

In the seventies there was "a lot of activity" in West Wales – one area became known as the Welsh Triangle.

"People in Pembroke were seeing unusual lights in the sky and the RAF reported that they were not doing any strange manoeuvres

which could have caused these.

"In North Wales, there are tales of triangular UFO craft. Near Liverpool in November 1994 there was a flap – the term for a large set of sightings."

He has investigated sightings in Brecon – "ghost lights" seen in the distance which followed people home. More recently three people claim to have seen a UFO – "a large ball of glowing light was seen to rise into the sky" – near a military base in Brecon.

people to look into their memories of missing time."

Around 18 months ago with Cardiff researcher Chris Fowler ("He was instrumental in getting the Government to admit Rudloe Manor in Wiltshire dealt with UFO information") and Paul Damon ("He has moved to South America and is carrying on his research there") Matthew started printing *Truth Seekers Review*, a 40-odd page non-profit-making publication, priced at £1.70, which now has 50 subscribers.

"I feel strongly about this subject because I have experienced something."

Since losing his job with Customs and Excise he has been working while he is on the dole.

Particularly interested in military bunkers, he has travelled to investigate them in Scotland, Wiltshire and Wales – "The level of security at these bases is incredible, generals and admirals working round the clock" – although the bunkers' connections with other-worldly presences is never

quite clear.

In the latest edition of *Truth Seekers Review*, he writes about bunker spotting. (Other articles include *The Krill Files*, *What is Aurora?* and *Ley Lines in South Glamorgan* and in the March/April copy readers can choose from *Mutilations in Puerto Rico*, *Mass Murders in White Coats* and *Brecon UFO incident*).

Recently he took the BBC to film at a bunker site and the MOD police accosted them.

"They let us carry on, not showing their aggressive hand in front of the cameras, but one of the interesting things was, he did say he knew my name. They all know what we're up to."

In his lectures, he tells people about the abduction research he has been doing, interviewing people under hypnosis. He concludes that with all his video evidence – "I have some very impressive footage" – something must be going on.

If anyone thinks this is all madness, Matthew, a founder member of the South Wales UFO Group, would disagree.

"They obviously haven't studied the available information. Unfortunately some sceptics prefer to ignore the evidence even though it's slapping them in the face."

"You can't get through to some people. The one thing that changes people's minds is when it happens to them."

In Britain, there are some 2,000 sightings a year. A survey in 1992 showed 50 per cent of Americans believed in UFOs.

Inevitably, he comes in for joking from the kind of people who believe *The X Files* is a television programme and no more.

Matthew points out the enormous popularity of the programme and one-off television specials on the paranormal such as *Strange But True*. "A lot of the sightings I hear through word of mouth," he says. "Nearly everyone has had some sort of unusual experience. Some have seen disc-shaped crafts, some have seen rocket-shapes with big plumes leaving a massive smoke trail."

"Most people wouldn't make it up to be malicious – I think the majority are genuine. Quite honestly, I don't think they'd have the imagination to think these things up."

"People don't talk about it because of the fear of ridicule."

"There are women who have met aliens and maybe been on board their craft. There are stories about how aliens have come into their rooms at night and surrounded the bed, how these creatures with almond-shaped eyes have just stood there looking at them."

There is, says Matthew, a lot going on we don't know about.

● *Truth Seekers Review* can be contacted on 01443 437853.

Man claims to see UFO over rail line

► NEIL MACDONALD

A WIDNES man believes he had a close encounter with beings from another world when he saw an unidentified flying object on Sunday morning.

The 24-year-old was walking across a footbridge near the Upton estate at 2.30 am when he saw a bright yellow light in the sky over the railway lines between Hough Green and Widnes stations. He also heard a high pitched noise.

He followed the light towards Sayce's Pit, the fishing pond next to Mill Brook County Nursery School, off Birchfield Road, and says it hovered over Widnes cemetery for 20 minutes.

The object was firing bursts of flame at the floor, which the man later discovered had apparently burned holes in several railway sleepers on land between the pond and the graveyard before disappearing.

The sighting comes just a year after a spate of similar mysterious craft were seen over Widnes and Runcorn, prompting UFO investigators to stake out Halton's skies.

At that time, residents in Castlefields said they were buzzed by a flying saucer which appeared to be sucking water out of the River Mersey, with bright orange objects also seen over Hough Green, Daresbury, and Helsby. UFO experts believed the Mersey was attracting the craft to the area.

Eric Morris, from the British UFO Studies Centre in Winsford, said: 'There have been several sightings around the North West recently, of either a black triangle



object or an orange ball, including two over Runcorn. The sightings tend to come in groups.'

He added that a new HALO aeroplane was undergoing test flights along the North West coast as far as Preston, which might be one explanation for the sighting.

'I would very much like to see the rail-

way sleepers as soon as possible. If there is physical evidence, we might be able to pick something up with a Geiger counter or dousing meter.'

■ Did you see the UFO over Sayce's Pit, or have you seen any other strange craft in the past week, if so report it to the *Weekly News* on 0151 424 5921.

GLOUCESTER ECHO, Cheltenham, England -- June 12, 1996

UFO claim for strange orange light

Another possible UFO has been spotted in Gloucestershire, this time near Tewkesbury.

Security guard Mr Tony Bryant from Bristol was working at the Group 4 offices in Ashchurch at about 2.45am on Sunday when he saw a cigar-shaped orange light move across the Tewkesbury-Evesham road.

He said: 'It was about 500ft above the ground moving at about the speed of an aircraft but there was no way it was a plane.'

'The most remarkable thing about it was that it was completely silent, even though it was only half-a-mile away.'

'The other strange thing is that the gulls which are roosting nearby went completely bananas, even though there was no noise.'

The light, which he described as being about as bright as a street light, appeared to descend and disappear behind the trading estate in Ashchurch.

Mr Bryant, who said he has never seen anything like it before, has a theory on why there have been so many sightings in the area.

'It must be something to do with GCHQ. That's why they're here,' he said.

by Dave Higgins

Both Gloucestershire Police and the Royal Air Force said they had no reports of UFOs in the Tewkesbury area on Saturday night or Sunday morning.

Echo readers have been calling in with their sightings all over the Cotswolds and Cheltenham.

The flood of interest arose after UFO spotter Mr Ron Barrett of Little Rissington, near Bourton-on-the-Water, said he saw a strange formation of lights over the A40 at Northleach.

Last month, Tewkesbury and Cirencester MP Geoffrey Brown was told by the Ministry of Defence that there were down-to-earth explanations for most reported sightings.

■ Have you seen a UFO? Call the Echo newsdesk on 01242 526261.

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Coventry, England Aug. 5, 1996 CR: R. Archer

Alien encounter on CD

THE experiences of a Daventry woman who believes she developed psychic abilities after being abducted by aliens, is the subject of a new CD-Rom disk.

Elsie Oakensen claims she underwent some form of "scanning" process by the aliens who examined her for 15 minutes.

Now her story is among dozens of others on the CD-Rom documentary, *The Unexplained*.

SUNDAY TIMES, London, England -- July 14, 1996

Aliens drop in on carnival country

by Jack Epstein Rio de Janeiro

THEY have never seen anything like it. The people of Varginha, a small town 180 miles north of Rio, are being besieged by enthusiasts desperate to catch a glimpse of aliens who are reputed to have crash-landed from space.

Varginha is claiming the title of UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) capital of the Americas after locals reported strange encounters with aliens who flew over the town and crash-landed in a grey object the size of a minibus.

In an episode that could have been written for the popular television show *The X-Files*, some residents assert that the Brazilian army is involved in a cover-up similar to one claimed by American conspiracy theorists about an alleged UFO landing in 1947.

Even by the exotic standards set by UFO devotees around the world, the incident recounted in the dusty streets of Varginha is extremely bizarre. Three women told investigators of a 3ft visitor from space with chocolate-coloured skin, no nose or mouth, rubbery limbs, bulging red eyes and horns protruding from a massive forehead. They also reported a strong stench oozing from its oily skin. A second alien was spot-

ted later huddling against a wall. The first creature was rounded up by the army.

'It's what we call circumstantial proof, but it is very compelling,' said Irene Granchi, founder of a Brazilian UFO research group. However, not everybody is so sure. The town is becoming a laughing stock for the rest of Brazil. A satirical television programme has invented a character called ET Varginha who speaks with the slow drawl for which the locals are renowned, likes pretty women and is followed everywhere by bumbling soldiers.

Even so, Aloysio Ribeiro de Almeida, the mayor, sees rich potential in the affair. He plans to host an international UFO conference and turn Varginha into a centre for extraterrestrial studies. There is even a plan to build a park in honour of the alien visitors.

This is good news for Brazilian UFO enthusiasts. They are convinced that Varginha is the most significant extraterrestrial event since the Roswell, New Mexico, "landing" five decades ago. They claim one of the aliens was handed over to military officials at a local army base, where it died. The military took the corpse to the city's hospital, where it was examined by doctors. The UFO enthusiasts refuse to be put off by denials from the army and hospital.

DAILY ECHO, Lincoln, Lincs., England -- July 4, 1996

'UFO' sighted on mystery photos

Plea for help in solving puzzle



BAFFLED Michael Clipsham is appealing to Echo readers to help solve a UFO mystery.

The 24-year-old thought he was simply taking a photo of his girlfriend's sister and son on a slide outside the Stag's Head pub at Knaith Park, near Gainsborough.

But when he went to pick up his snaps he saw a mystery bright white light glowing in the sky above the tree line.

'I definitely didn't see anything in the sky at the time I took the photographs,' said Mr Clipsham, of Stanley Street, Gainsborough.

'I couldn't believe what I was seeing when I looked at them. Up until now, I never really believed in UFOs, but now I don't know what to think.'

Mr Clipsham has shown all his friends and family the mystery pictures in the hope of finding an explanation.

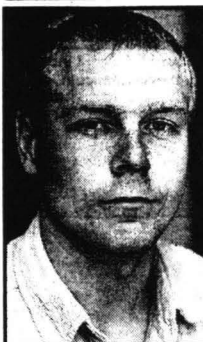
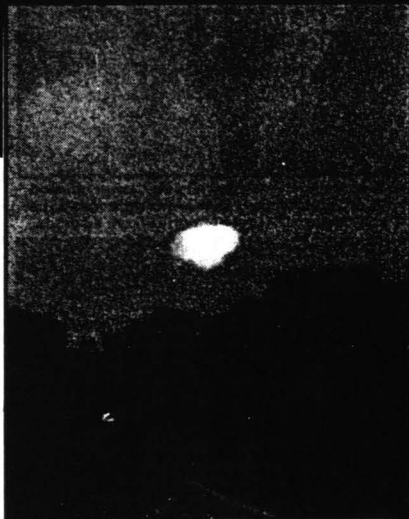
Photograph

'It has really got to me,' he said. I even went out and bought a book on UFOs, but nobody can come up with an explanation.

'I'd love to hear from anyone who may have seen this bright white disc in the sky or who can explain it.'

The photograph was taken on June 12 outside the Stag's Head pub, looking northwards.

● Does anyone have an explanation? Call the Echo hotline on (01522) 540001.



● Michael Clipsham

COASTAL EXPRESS, Colchester, England -- May 16, 1996

Strange shapes in the sky seen over seafont

A SPATE of UFOs have been spotted in the Clacton area, it has been claimed.

Ron West, chairman of the Essex UFO Research Group, said there were five sightings recently.

Most were made on Clacton seafont and the first was at 10.10pm on Tuesday of last week when a person from Vista Road saw a triangular-shaped large object in the sky, and at the same time a resident from Peter Bruff Avenue saw a diamond-shaped object.

Then a person from Coppins Road saw a triangular-shaped object zig-zagging across the sky at 10.15pm last Wednesday and five minutes later a person from Talbot Avenue, Jaywick saw something similar.

If you spot anything spooky call Mr West on 01255 431391.

THE M FILES

I WOULD like to tell you about a strange object, I saw once, in this area, about 15 years ago. It is a long time, I know, but I think it is a story long overdue to be told.

It was autumn going into winter, when the nights are drawing in. I was on the way back to Lincoln to complete another day's work for Lincs County Council, driving in a van (unfortunately alone) on the A46 between Market Rasen and Faldingworth. It was about 5.30pm. Over in the west, the sun was going down behind the hills we call the 'cliff' putting a red glow on the clouds. There were pockets of mist forming roundabout, especially down in the valley where lies Faldingworth Camp. I was approaching the sharp left-hand bend just before Faldingworth village, looking west when something caught my attention. In fact, I could not have failed to see it.

Above a low bank of dark cloud there was a very bright light, stationary so far as I could tell, travelling along in the van and sort of sticking out from the top of the cloud. It was

Dome-shaped object bobbed up and down in the sky

one of the most dazzling things I have ever seen, like the sun shining off a mirror, but of course the sun was setting...behind it! As there was no other traffic (strange in itself that time of the day) I was able to slow right down to get a good look at it. Then the light dimmed and I could make out a dome-like shape in the sky.

It looked like the upper part of a sphere, silver, with some dark lines running down from the top of it. It was just sitting there in the cloud, motionless. As I got to the bend in the road, glancing back at it as it was safe to do so, I saw the clouds thin enough to see the bottom of this object, which was flat and dark (like it

was hollow). It sort of bobbed up and down gently in and out of the cloud, which I felt was somehow connected with the strange object.

I pulled-up for a moment to get a better look at it. I estimate that it was maybe a quarter of a mile or so away to the west of the A46, hovering in the air some 300 feet above the fields. It looked solid and at that distance (difficult to estimate) quite large too, at least as big as a farm house (and there are several in the area to use for scale). Within minutes however, it sank into the dark cloud bank and was completely obscured, which happened just as some more vehicles were coming along. It has however been visible for some five or six min-

utes, long enough for others to have seen it and bright enough to have been visible for miles round around in every direction.

As I had to get back to the Lincoln office, I could not hang around to see whether it reappeared, or if the cloud moved away and I had to drive off again. People tend to label you a crackpot when you see strange things, so when I got back to the office I didn't tell anybody about it. No one else reported having seen it, to the press, probably for the same reason I did not, but I still cannot think that I was the only person to witness the dome-like thing that evening. I had never had a belief in UFOs before then, but I believe in them now! However, I have never seen anything like it since and Lincolnshire has had its share over the years. So I thought I would finally tell my story, even though I still don't want to be identified.

I am a long-term resident of Market Rasen and a former member of the Royal Observer Corps.

Have you got a story to tell which defies rational explanation? The Market Rasen Mail would like to hear from anyone who may have experienced strange sightings, incredible coincidences, eerie goings on or bumps in the night for inclusion in our new column — 'The 'M' Files.' If you have such a story to tell, contact the Mail newsdesk on 01673 844644.

CHRONICLE & ECHO, Northampton, England -- July 13, 1996

UFOs and blackout spark investigation

THE VILLAGE of Hackleton is at the centre of X-files-style investigations following reports of UFO sightings.

Mysterious objects have been spotted in the night sky, a crop circle has been found where one reported UFO was seen landing and there was a power cut on the evening of one of the sightings.

Edward Plenderleith, 11, was with a group of friends when he saw what he said was a UFO landing in a field near his home.

His childminder, Debbie Cheeseman, said: "Edward told me he had seen a UFO land on Monday night. I told him he had been watching too much X-files but he insisted to me it was true and took me to where it landed and there is a crop circle there.

"And on Thursday night there was a power cut in the village and Edward said he saw a UFO flying outside his window at about midnight."

"I am sceptical but Edward is a very sensible boy and he wouldn't make this up."

Electricity supply to the village was cut off for more than three hours on Thursday night.

A spokesman from West Midlands UFO Investigations in Birmingham said the group had received calls from people in the Hackleton area about

'There was a power cut and Edward said he saw a UFO'

— Debbie Cheeseman

UFO sightings. She said power cuts were common when UFOs were present and added: "We are planning to visit the village to take a look at what has been happening."

East Midlands Electricity said: "The cause was a broken glass insulator on a transformer. The problem is most likely more terrestrial than UFO."

But a possible explanation for a UFO sighting reported in Thursday's *Chron* under the headline Technician Spots X-files Case, has been given by a Northampton man.

Eric Drummond, of Salcey Street, said: "The observation may have been of a satellite lit up by sunlight. If the man had waited 20 to 30 minutes it would have come round again."

NEWS, Stourbridge, England -- June 20, 1996

Duo spark UFO hunt

Flummoxed martian hunters are appealing for witnesses after a flying saucer was supposedly spotted hovering over Hagley!

'X Files' experts have been combing the skies over the sleepy village since a startled Stourbridge couple claimed they were confronted by a spaceship.

And they are pleading with villagers who may have spotted the low-level UFO to come forward and help solve the chilling mystery.

Horried Hill Street couple Stuart and Sarah Waggett say they saw a craft the size of a double decker bus late at night while on the Kidderminster Road.

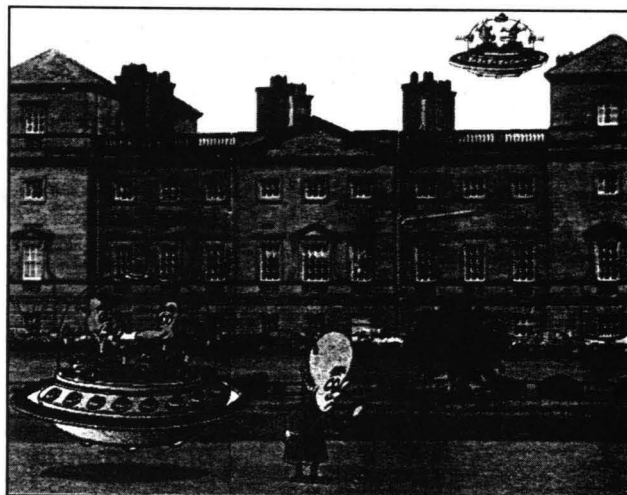
The oval spaceship, surrounded with red and green lights, was just a couple of hundred feet above them.

Paranormal investigators at the Birmingham UFO Society are keeping their fingers crossed other terrified people saw it.

The creepy close encounter happened at around 11.10pm on Thursday June 6.

Stuart said: "I've never seen anything like it before — it was exciting more than frightening."

"At first we thought it might be an airship but as it slowly flew over us it didn't make a sound."



LITTLE GREEN MAN-SION... could aliens use Hagley Hall's lawns as an extra-terrestrial landing pad?

"It was absolutely huge — we were all all over the road watching it!"

"If there is a reasonable explanation I'd love to hear it."

UFO Society spokeswoman Marilyn Aldworth said: "It seems to have been a very clear sighting."

"It is unusual to have reports of UFOs from this area and we are appealing for anyone who can help to come forward with more information."

Did YOU spot the off-course UFO? Call the Society on 0121 681 6344.



UFO SPOTTER... Stuart Waggett.

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada -- Oct. 16, 1996 CR: G. Conway

SWOOPING 'FIREBALLS' PUZZLE

United Press International

BANGKOK — Hundreds of residents of a village north of Bangkok claim they have been followed by "fireballs."

"I suspected them to be hoaxes

played on factory girls by naughty boys," said Dumrong Kaewkudun, a local administrative officer. "But when I went to the village, I saw it was true."

"These things are about the size of a volleyball. They come as many as

three at a time, but sometimes only one. If there are many people around, they float very high, about 100 metres above the ground. But if there are only one or two people around, they come down low, only a few feet above the ground."

UFO spotted in Colsterworth

A SIGHTING of an unidentified flying object over Colsterworth is under investigation.

It was spotted by a woman from her window at about 2am three weeks ago.

Alan Smith, of the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association, said it was the second sighting in the Grantham area this year.

He said: "She was looking through her window and saw a strange formation of lights. It moved smoothly without a sound across the sky and then rose out of sight. It was wedge-shaped and covered with hundreds of lights."

On January 25, a Grantham family travelling home from Melton Mowbray spotted an object in the sky which was investigated and still remains a mystery.

Appealing sight

I AM attempting to identify a UFO witnessed over Colsterworth at 2am, Friday May 17, 1996.

The UFO was described to me as consisting of many small, red lights arranged in a wedge or vague triangular shape.

It was observed, at high altitude, for about six seconds before moving from view.

There was no noticeable noise associated with the UFO.

There is a chance that it was observed in other parts of the county and, possibly, reported to UFO research groups.

If this is the case, I would invite such groups to contact me so data can be compared.

I can be reached on (01664) 812736 or at 14 Woodhouse Road, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 3YR.

ALAN SMITH

Asfordby, Leicestershire.



NEWS, Taos, NM -- Oct. 24, 1996

Spooky video looks at weird phenomena

Researcher documents 'High Strangeness in the Sangre de Cristos'

By Rick Romancito
The Taos News



An example of a "classic" cattle mutilation, one of several that have plagued the Taos area in recent months

Questions, questions and more questions are what the viewer is left with after watching a 75-minute video "documentary" on unidentified flying objects and "unexplained phenomena." The video, titled "High Strangeness in the Sangre de Cristos," was written, produced, edited and narrated by David B. Clemens of Westcliffe, Colo.

Clemens' program attempts to explain the apparently large number of "anomalous" events in the San Luis Valley of southern Colorado and in northern New Mexico.

Chief among these explanations is that dimensional portals exist in the Sangre de Cristos through which spacecraft travel and through which Bigfoot comes and goes. Bigfoot, Sasquatch or whatever you might call the hairy creature reportedly seen at various places throughout the world is, according to "High Strangeness," a highly spiritual entity.

Orchestrating all this is a "secret government" that overlays and controls the world's major powers.

It purports to reveal the truth of these incidents that, Clemens says, may conflict with our accepted view of reality.

But after viewing this badly researched, edited and shot-on-video production, one may wonder if the reality being messed with is that of any audience member who buys the wild fantasies portrayed as fact in the program.

To take care of anyone who might notice the program's defects, a so-called "deep throat" informant says in the program that members of the media, law enforcement and other investigators are part of a well-financed conspiracy to discredit the people who are trying to inform the public.

REVIEW

about all this "high strangeness."

I wish I knew who was handing out those checks because I certainly could use the money. Instead all I have is a healthy skepticism about anything that claims to explain where all this stuff comes from. So should any viewer.

One of the most unfortunate aspects of this type of so-called "documentary" is that it is so low budget and non-professional that it shoots itself in the foot.

In the program, for instance, are shots of the mysterious silent black helicopters that witnesses say often show up whenever a cattle mutilation or UFO sighting occurs in the area. But nowhere are these shots identified as having been taken by eyewitnesses, if they were taken elsewhere or when. For all we know these shots are simply thrown in to suggest the type of craft people have seen in the area.

The mainstay of journalism is to confirm information from a variety of credible, authoritative and sometimes opposing sources so a clear picture emerges from which the public may form an opinion. Professional reporting encourages the pursuit of "facts" and to not necessarily accept anyone's word at face value, no matter how charming they may appear on camera.

Clemens apparently chose to ignore all that and instead only includes information that supports his premise — no matter how questionable it may seem.

Using narration that sounds as though it was recorded in a closet by someone who's afraid of waking

his parents, and put to eerie synthesized music, "High Strangeness" does include references to some genuinely weird things that are going on around us.

Anyone who has lived in this area for more than a decade has heard of the various UFO sightings and cattle mutilations, for which no one so far has been caught, much less prosecuted. Eagle Nest rancher Eli Hronich is interviewed in the program about some of the incidents among his herd, one that apparently the perpetrators like.

I have no doubt that strange, unexplained and very weird phenomena occur in the world every day. But I believe that is the way things have been since the days when Zuni Pueblo Indians saw real kachinas walking among them. Miracles could have happened, angels might still be around, and when a *bruja* puts the whammy on you, it might be a good idea to take extra care when shaving in the morning.

Mysteries are part of the world, but in large part, I think they are ours and not necessarily attributable to "extraterrestrials" or "interdimensional beings." If people take a closer, more educated look at these so-called phenomena, they might discover the explanation is closer to home than they might think.

To obtain a VHS copy of "High Strangeness," send \$29.95 plus \$3.95 shipping and handling charge, to D.B. Clemens Productions, P.O. Box 471, Westcliffe, Colo. 81252.

Phaedra Greenwood

JOURNAL-BULLETIN, Providence, RI -- Oct. 12, 1996

Mysterious 'boom' shakes S. Kingstown

■ Area seismographs report no earthquakes, so the cause is likely a passing jet, one expert says.

By JON GRANEY
Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

SOUTH KINGSTOWN — A large bang rattled windows and shook walls in parts of South Kingstown yesterday morning, setting off a flood of calls to local police with reports of an earthquake in the West Kingston area.

South Kingstown police dispatcher Blann Gardiner said his department received dozens of calls around 10:25 a.m.

"Houses are shaking in West Kingston," Gardiner said shortly after the incident. He said there were reports of windows and walls shaking and loss of cable television service to homes along Routes 138 and 2.

But Dr. John Ebel, director of the Weston Observatory in Weston, Mass., said it wasn't a tremor.

He said the closest seismograph, at Bryant College in Smithfield, measured no ground movement, and that the phenomenon must have been a sonic boom from a passing Concorde jet.

Ebel, also a professor of geophysics at Boston College, said the Massachusetts Institute of Technology recorded no ground movement, un-

like it did in March, when an earthquake measuring 3.5 on the Richter scale rocked Swansea, Mass.

"We've had reports in the past, when the Concorde has come into New England, of the sonic boom actually making it down to the ground," Ebel said.

The Concorde, a supersonic passenger jet operated by British Airways and Air France, flies faster than the speed of sound on its way to New York.

Its speed displaces the air around it, creating a sonic wave that Ebel said occasionally reaches the ground in the form of a sonic boom.

Both British Airways and Air France listed no Concorde flights arriving or departing from JFK at 10:25 a.m. yesterday.

British Airways, which operates Concorde flights from London to New York, said its flights arrive daily at 9:25 a.m. and depart daily at 8:45 a.m.

Air France operates flights to and from Paris. Its arrivals and departures are daily at 9 a.m. and 8 a.m.

Officials at Otis Air Force Base, in Buzzards Bay, Mass., could not be reached yesterday afternoon. Ebel said military exercises could also cause sonic booms.

Whatever it was, he said, it wasn't an earthquake.

"If it was an earthquake," Ebel said, "we'd know about it."

CR: J. Trainor

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada -- Dec. 23, 1996 CR: G. Conway

Scientists probing mystery of exploding stone in U.K.

JO KNOWSLEY
The Daily Telegraph

LONDON — Long ago it was the focus of ancient pagan rites. Locals claim it is the muster point for a ghostly army. Now a megalith in Exmoor, England, is at the centre of a new mystery: What caused it to explode during a violent thunderstorm?

A team of archaeologists has been brought in to investigate the phenomenon after the two-metre-tall, three-tonne standing stone was struck by lightning during an electrical storm in October.

Large chunks of the stone were propelled more than 20 metres in the explosion, which scientists say caused "unprecedented" destruction. Now the team wants to establish whether the menhir, listed as an ancient monument, could contain rock types that made it some sort of magnet.

"There are no recorded cases of a standing stone exploding in this way," said Simon Timms, Devon county archaeologist. "It is most odd — particularly when there is a 60-foot tree standing only 20 yards away which should have been an obvious target for the lightning."

"We believe there may be something in the makeup of the stone which caused lightning to go for it."

Sue Hamilton of the Institute of Archeology at University College, London, said bedrock around the stone would need to be investigated. "This is very unusual," she said.

The Exmoor plateau in Somerset and northeast Devon, some 260 kilometres southwest of London, is the site of many prehistoric earthworks.

"Perhaps the people who erected it did so for a particular reason. We know from research that the people of ancient times appeared to have an awareness of the bedding plains beneath these stones."

Historians say the menhir's position near two Bronze Age burial mounds, and remnants of other stones found nearby, indicate that it was erected about 4,000 years ago as an important centre for prehistoric rituals. But it is also thought to have been used as a cemetery for those who died in a later battle.

J.F. Chanter, a historian who lived in Victorian times, believed the stone marked the site of a major battle among ancient Britons in which a Celtic chieftain called Madoc was killed.

"There is a story that ghosts of soldiers group here on certain nights of the year," said a man from a nearby village. "I'm not sure anyone really believes this — but it's an eerie place."

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada -- Dec. 11, 1996

It wasn't the doughnuts that were dunked

Southam Newspapers

A Durham, Ont., couple learned that stopping at a doughnut shop can be dangerous to your health, and not just because of the calories.

A two-kilogram steel bolt dropped from the sky and shot straight

through Angela and Victor Verschuere's car trunk while they munched on doughnuts inside a Tim Horton's shop in Cambridge, Ont.

Angela believes the impact could have killed children who were playing in the parking spot before the couple pulled in. Police told them the threadless bolt must have come from a passing aircraft or satellite. The bolt was so hard that a file couldn't cut it.

CR: G. Conway

NEWS, Taos, NM -- Oct. 17, 1996

Not a real cattle mutilation

According to livestock inspector Jerry Valerio, the most recently reported cattle mutilation is not a part of the unexplained phenomenon, but rather a victim of a 45-caliber bullet.

The cow, which is said to

have belonged to Herman Manzanares of Española, was found about 15 miles up Taos Canyon around Oct. 4.

"It was not a mutilation," Valerio said Friday (Oct. 11). "Someone put a bullet in that cow's head."

The cow did have a cored-out rectum and the udder and tongue were missing, but Valerio said it may be the work of a copy cat.

"Somebody shot that cow," he said. "I don't know why, people are just mean."

THE MYSTERIES OF MARS

COSMIC SEED AND THE ORIGIN OF LIFE

Were men brought to Earth by a meteorite?

IS THERE an extraordinary connection between the Martian meteorite containing what scientists believe to be a fossilised organism and mysterious structures on the surface of the Red Planet? ROBERT BAUVAL and GRAHAM HANCOCK, authors of the number one bestseller *Keeper Of Genesis*, which was serialised in the Mail earlier this year, believe there could be. On Saturday, in the first part of their controversial series, they described the strange monumental objects in Cydonia, a region of Mars, and how they could be the remains of a long-dead civilisation. They also pointed at the bizarre similarity between a structure called The Face and the Egyptian Sphinx. Today, in the second part, Bauval and Hancock focus on other inexplicable links between Mars and ancient Egypt.

AT SOME points in its orbit Mars passes less than 30 million miles from Earth — in cosmic terms just outside our front porch compared to the nearest star, Alpha Centauri, which is 26 thousand billion miles away.

Therefore it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that there could be a connection between life and civilisation on Mars and life and civilisation on Earth.

Since time began, Earth has played host to literally millions of strange visitors from outer space — meteorites. It has been estimated that a million meteorites hurtle through the Earth's atmosphere every year.

Fortunately most of them are tiny and quickly burn out after entry, appearing to us as 'shooting stars'. A few survive the atmosphere and reach the ground. These can be as small as a ping-pong ball or as large as a London bus.

The most spectacular meteorites found on the Earth are the large 'oriented' meteorites, so called because they cut through the air retaining their direction of flight like a cannon shell, with their front part taking the brunt of the frictional heat. When they hit the ground they are found to be shaped like cones or pyramids.

Wonderful examples of 'oriented' meteorites can be seen in museums around the world. A 15-ton 'oriented' iron meteorite called Willamette is displayed in the Smithsonian Institution in New York and another, called Morito, can be seen at the Institute of Metallurgy in Mexico City.

SUCH an 'oriented' meteorite, probably pyramidal in shape, could have been at the root of the mystery of the Giza pyramids.

It is known that long before the so-called Pyramid Age of Egypt (circa 2,500 BC) a strange pyramidal or conical 'stone' was kept within a sanctuary called the Temple of the Phoenix, 12 miles to the east of Giza in the sacred city of Heliopolis.

This mysterious stone was called the *Benben*, derived from the root *Ben* — a word which Egyptologists say means 'seed' or 'procreation'.

Other details that ancient Egyptian texts give us about the *Benben* strengthen the possibility that it may have been a meteorite. We are told that it came 'down from heaven' like the fire-bird or Phoenix. It

by ROBERT BAUVAL and GRAHAM HANCOCK

was also said to have been 'sent by the gods' at the moment of 'Creation' — an epoch the pharaohs called *Tep Zepi*, literally meaning 'The First Time'.

In our book, *Keeper Of Genesis*, we used the science of astronomical alignments to calculate the date of the 'First Time' to 12,500 BC. The implication, if the *Benben* was indeed an oriented meteorite, is that it landed in Egypt in precisely the same period during which the meteorite containing a fossilised organism from Mars arrived in Antarctica.

The original *Benben* of Heliopolis — an object that was already old in the time of the ancient Egyptians — is lost. Whatever its origins, it must have been of paramount importance to the pyramid builders, because stylised replicas of it served as the capstones of all pyramids.

A surviving example, carved in one piece out of a hard stone known as diorite, is in the main hall of the Cairo Museum. On it are two rows of enigmatic hieroglyphs evoking the 'Lord of the Horizon' (the rising sun, according to Egyptologists) and making reference to a deity called *Sahu*, identified with the constellation of Orion and the deity Osiris — the archetypal god of the 'First Time', whose 'divine seed' created humanity.

Beneath the complex layers of symbolism, the ancient Egyptian texts can be taken to link the origins of life — and civilisation — to the arrival of a meteorite. Within the past ten years, scientists have independently reached a similar conclusion, arguing that life on Earth may

indeed have been imported — or 'seeded' — by a meteorite or a comet, billions of years ago.

A striking characteristic of the pyramids and Sphinx of Giza is the way in which they are integrated into a grand architectural plan, based on mathematical and astronomical data.

There is no evidence that the pyramids were used as tombs. What is certain is that two narrow shafts emanating from inside the Great Pyramid were directed to two specific stars: Zeta Orionis, one of the three stars in Orion's belt, and Sirius, in the constellation of Canis Major.

It is certain, too, that the principal Giza monuments form an accurate terrestrial 'map' of the three stars of Orion's belt as these constellations appeared in 10,500 BC.

Who could have been observing the skies over Giza in 10,500 BC and who, at that date, could have had the technical capacity to realise such monumental works as the Sphinx and the pyramids?

Egyptologists assert there was no civilisation on Earth at that time, let alone one capable of planning and building such immense, well-engineered structures. If they are right, why do the alignments of Giza so plainly and repetitively mirror the skies of the 11th millennium BC?

Former NASA consultant Richard Hoagland is convinced there may be a 'terrestrial connection' between Giza and Cydonia — the region of Mars where the mysterious structures are located — perhaps a common source that imparted the same legacy of knowledge and symbolism on both worlds.

Hoagland's interest in Giza began

when he met Dr Lambert Dolphin, a scientist from the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) who had conducted radar and seismographic research to locate hidden chambers near and under the Great Sphinx.

Dr Dolphin was captivated by Hoagland's idea of a 'Martian Sphinx' — the Face — and, in 1983, was instrumental in helping Hoagland set up the Independent Mars Investigation Project under the aegis of SRI.

Hoagland argues that the Face on Mars is 'not merely the image of a terrestrial hominid... lying where it has no business being. One half (the right) is also the perfect image of a cat; specifically a lion — the king of beasts. So the Martian Sphinx is in truth the combination of two "families": hominid... and... feline.'

HIS description also fits the lion-bodied, human-headed Egyptian Sphinx. Another coincidence is that the ancient Egyptians called the Sphinx *Hor-em-Akhet*, meaning 'Horus in the Horizon'. Horus — the hawk-god, the divine child of Isis and Osiris — is a name derived from the Egyptian word *Heru*, which translates as 'face'.

Helped by a mathematician, Erol Torun, Hoagland has also identified a number of intriguing mathematical and geographical connections between Cydonia and Giza.

Torun was among the first to realise that one of the large 'pyramids' on Mars, the D&M Pyramid, contains a variety of functions and

constants used in a sophisticated mathematical system known as tetrahedral geometry. Evidence of such high mathematics in supposedly natural structures is strongly suggestive of a conscious design.

The most important recurring feature found in the mathematics of Cydonia is the value 0.865 — derived from the ratio of 'e' (an important mathematical constant equal to 2.7) and π (the mathematical constant of 3.142 used to work out the properties of spheres and circles). This Hoagland terms the 'message of Cydonia'.

A trigonometrical function, the arc-tangent of e/π , gives the value of 40.8, which is the Mars latitude on which both the D&M Pyramid and the NK Pyramid are sited. Amazingly, another trigonometrical function, the cosine of e/π , gives the value 30 — the exact geographical latitude of the pyramids of Giza on Earth.

HOAGLAND has demonstrated that the Great Pyramid of Giza contains 'tetrahedral functions identical to those of the D&M Pyramid on Mars, and Torun has shown that the positioning of the Great Sphinx, relative to the pyramids, expresses the 'Cydonian' ratio e/π .

'The odds of such correlations happening by coincidence on two neighbouring planets are somewhere in the region of one in 7,000,' says Hoagland. What makes coincidence look even less likely is a bizarre link to another ancient site on Earth.

One of the key angles of Cydonia, repeated again and again, is 19.5 degrees. This is precisely the latitude (19.5 degrees north) of the mysterious Mexican city of Teotihuacan, 'the place where men became gods', with its three distinctive pyramids dedicated respectively to the Sun, to the Moon, and to Quetzalcoatl, the Central American counterpart of Osiris.

OPENING THE WAY

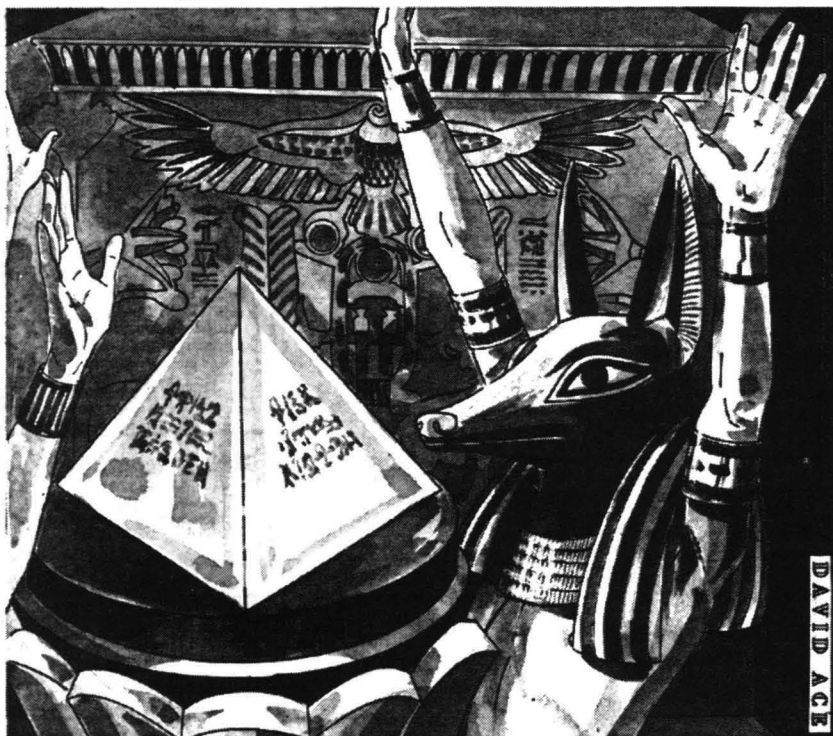
LAST week, in a statement on the implications of the Martian meteorite and its fossils, President Clinton promised to launch a whole fleet of space probes to the Red Planet. The first of these, designated *Pathfinder 1*, is scheduled to leave Earth in November.

Is it a coincidence that the name of the ancient Egyptian jackal-god *Upuaut* means 'Opener of the Pathways' — literally 'Pathfinder' — and that *Upuaut* was also the name given to the small robot camera that was used to explore the narrow 'star-shafts' of the Great Pyramid earlier this decade?

Designed and operated by the German engineer Rudolf Gantenbrink, *Upuaut* stunned the world in March 1993 when it revealed a 'door' blocking the entrance to a hidden chamber at the end of the shaft pointing to Sirius (a star the ancient Egyptians identified with Isis, mother of the divine child Horus).

Why shouldn't the pyramid-builders have concealed behind that door the fabled lost relic of Heliopolis — the *Benben*?

We may soon know the answer. Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities has announced that an attempt will be made later this year to open the 'door' at the end of the Sirius shaft.



DAVID ACE

Lost in time: How the Benben stone might have been worshipped in the Temple of the Phoenix

Did Navy use fish story as cloak?

Pend Oreille Paddler said to be subs

By Kevin Keating
Staff writer

SANDPOINT — Did the U.S. Navy concoct a big fish story to hide its submarine tests in Lake Pend Oreille?

**Friday
SPECIAL**

It's very likely, according to Jim McLeod. The North Idaho College teacher has chased the legendary Pend Oreille Paddler for 14 years.

Sightings of the mythical creature, which supposedly lives in the 1,200-foot-deep lake, oddly coincide with Navy submarine tests. And what better way to disguise a top-secret operation than to start a rumor of a lake monster? McLeod said.

"I think the Navy directly or indirectly perpetuated the monster rumor for some time to disguise what they had been doing in the lake. They did not want the public sticking their noses in it," McLeod said. "There is something behind these creature sightings, and I think I have found my answer."

McLeod is not into conspiracy theories. In fact, if the Navy did invent the monster, he gives it credit for a job well-done.

"It's been a good laugh for everybody along the way, I think."

McLeod's theory about the Pend Oreille Paddler appeared as a cover story in Omni magazine this month.

He says the creature surfaced when Navy tests began in the 1940s. Those who told stories of seeing bizarre activity on the lake — most likely, model submarines — were written off as fools or pranksters.

The Navy pretty much chuckles at the idea that it dreamed up a monster.

"The Navy would not go to that extent or effort to create some story to cover up the fact we are involved in submarine testing," said Commander Rick Schulz, who heads the Navy's David Taylor Acoustic Research Center in Bayview. "I think that is definitely false. But I can't say that in the past an employee sitting at the bar didn't lean over to a buddy and say, 'Hey, did you know...' that sort of thing."

The submarine testing facility opened on the south end of the 43-mile long lake in 1946. The base works with model submarines and torpedoes, designing ones that are invisible to sonar.

McLeod said his theory fell into place after digging up documents, interviewing Navy personnel and people who supposedly spied the creature with a periscope neck, long tail and wide body.

One of the first reports of the monster came from the Farragut Naval Training Center — now Farragut State Park — near Bayview in 1944. The Farragut News reported it, somewhat tongue-in-cheek, and had a photo of the creature.

McLeod believes the Navy started testing submarines about the same time as the first sighting. Other sightings surfaced around Bayview in the 1970's when the Navy was testing torpedoes. The model weapons and submarines are towed to the depths of the lake and released. When they break the surface of the water they can fly 20 to 40 feet in the air. Other equipment has been towed just below the surface of the lake on 300-foot long cables.

After the tests, stories surfaced in several newspapers about a lake monster.

"It began to be an awful lot of coincidence there," McLeod said. Those who claimed to have seen something in the lake were treated as crackpots and drunks, he said, which helped keep a lid on the fact submarines were in the lake.

It was not until about 10 years ago that the Navy was forthcoming about the type of tests it was doing in the lake.

The story of the Pend Oreille Paddler may have started as a drunken hoax by some locals, McLeod says, but he's sure the Navy used it to its advantage.

"I don't think it was policy of the military to concoct this story, but I certainly think they helped foster the lake monster myth to their benefit if they didn't instigate it."

The Navy has actually played along in good humor. The base held an open house last month to help dissolve its decades old shroud of secrecy. The base played noises it had recorded in the lake and then, as a joke, played the sound made by the Pend Oreille Paddler.

"I think the Navy has a long history of perpetuating the myth," McLeod said. "This business with the Paddler noise is just another example."

Web site

The mystery of the Pend Oreille Paddler is explored in Omni Magazine. To read its recent cover story on the Internet, go to Web site <http://www.omnimag.com>.

OBSERVER, Charlotte, NC -- Aug. 26, 1996 CR: G. Fawcett

Photo taken day of TWA explosion shows what could be a missile

By DAN BARRY
New York Times

HAMPTON BAYS, N.Y. — Linda Kabot wishes she had never taken the photograph. But she did, and what can she say? In the dusky sky that serves as a backdrop for the otherwise routine snapshot, there appears to be a cylindrical object with one end aglow.

On another day and in another part of the country, the object — if it is an object — would have been dismissed as an optical illusion of some sort, or the result of a water mark on the camera's lens.

But Kabot took the photograph on the night of July 17, when TWA Flight 800 exploded a few miles south from where she stood with her camera.

Once the FBI heard about the snapshot, it requested and received the commercially developed photographs, as well as all the negatives. The Kabots kept one photo.

Word soon got around the town of Southampton, and now just about everybody, including the national media, knows about the

Kabot photograph. And they all have the same burning question. That thing in the sky: Is it a missile?

Indeed, the FBI, which is investigating the explosion, has repeatedly included a missile as one of three explanations for what knocked the Boeing 747 from the sky, killing all 230 people on board.

What's more, investigators recently disclosed that chemical residue from an explosive material had been found on a piece of wreckage. The finding bolsters the theories of a missile or bomb, and deflates the third theory of mechanical failure.

But an answer to that question will have to wait. The FBI could not be reached for comment Sunday.

A week after the snapshots were taken, Kabot collected the developed photographs. Realizing that the event she photographed, a fund-raiser for her boss, the town supervisor of Southampton, took place the same night as the explosion, her husband, Lance, examined the snapshots for any sign of history. And there it was, maybe.

One of the photographs, taken

while Linda Kabot was facing due north, her back to the Atlantic Ocean, she said, depicts several people milling about on the deck. But just above a man holding a microphone, there is the thing that caught Lance Kabot's eye. It appears to be a long, cylindrical object high in the sky. It is in a roughly horizontal position, although its left end is tilted downward. Its right end seems to be brightly lit.

The Kabots received inquiries from a network news program, a couple of TV shows, and several publications. Then, Lance Kabot appeared on "Hard Copy" on Friday. The program broadcast the still snapshot while an announcer confided, "This is the photograph the FBI doesn't want you to see."

The media curiosity grew. Then someone made three suggestions to the Kabots: keep the photograph in a secure place, hire a lawyer and sell the photo to the highest bidder.

This is the course of action the couple chose.

'Universe' reports on strange Utah occurrences

By Lezlee E. Whiting
Deseret News correspondent

ROOSEVELT — A Los Angeles-based TV news magazine that delves into unexplained, extraordinary and bizarre occurrences throughout the universe will feature some rather odd activity being reported in west Utah County.

Reporters from "Strange Universe," a syndicated show that airs locally on Channel 4 at midnight, were in the area two weeks ago to interview people in connection with the sightings of UFOs and incidents of cattle disappearances and mutilations on the former Sherman ranch between Fort Duchesne and Randlett, Uintah County.

The 480-acre ranch was purchased three months ago by Las Vegas millionaire Robert T. Bigelow, perhaps the most prominent

American financier in the paranormal research field. Bigelow has established the National Institute for Discovery Science and has erected an observation building at the ranch and moved in a pair of scientists and a veterinarian. Someone is on the property 24 hours a day to record anything out of the ordinary.

Terry and Gwen Sherman gained national notoriety last June when their experiences — including sightings of several types of UFOs, cattle mutilations and unusual soil impressions and circles of flattened grass in a pasture — were featured in a Deseret News story and on a national radio broadcast.

Producers from "Strange Universe" picked up the story and sent a four-member crew to the Roosevelt area in late November to conduct

interviews and tape what will air as a five-minute segment Friday, Dec. 13, said production assistant Renee Barnett.

"We talked to believers, skeptics, a paranormal investigator, a veterinarian, a friend of the former owner, it was our intent to turn the camera on what seems to be quite an unexplained mystery in your part of the area," said Margaret Roberts, one of the show's executive producers.

"This is very much the heart of our show to go out in areas where sightings have been reported and apply classic journalism to the story... our position is that we go out to cover the story neither as believers or debunkers."

Reporters from "Strange Universe" also talked with Deseret News reporter Zack Van Eyck, who broke the story. Those working for Bigelow declined to be

interviewed.

One of those interviewed was Roosevelt veterinarian Dr. Dan Dennis, who is assisting the veterinarian working at the Institute for Discovery Science in conducting necropsies on livestock that farmers and ranchers report as being the victims of strange deaths.

So far only one case has been investigated. The death of the cow in that incident was not attributed to mutilation.

Dennis said he told interviewers that in his 40 years as a veterinarian in the Uintah Basin he has seen only one case that he felt "fit the category" of an actual mutilation. That case involved a horse that had

been sliced open and cut in pieces and occurred about 25 to 30 years ago north of the sales barn in Ballard.

No pictures or records were made, said Dennis, so it's impossible to go back and review the incident. It occurred in the 1950s or 1960s when "alien sightings were quite actively present around here," he said.

Regarding numerous claims of cattle mutilations, Dennis feels they are actually "10 percent scavenger activity and 90 percent imagination."

DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, UT -- Dec. 12-13, 1996

CR: Z. Van Eyck

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
Dec. 27, 1996 CR: G. Conway

Our ancestors: Alien sewage?

The Sunday Telegraph

A respected scientist has put forward the stunning — if unsavory — possibility that humans are descended from sewage dumped by aliens.

Dr. Andrei Arkhipov, of the Institute of Radio Astronomy in Kharkiv in the Ukraine, claims that the ultimate origin of life on

Earth began with microbes which had come through the atmosphere as lumps of alien waste.

While many will turn their noses up at the idea, scientists admit they have long had problems trying to explain how life on Earth began. Conditions on the early Earth were so awful that no one can figure out how delicate chemicals like DNA developed.

Some suggest that perhaps life came to Earth from outer space ready-made, in the form of bacteria or viruses. The question then becomes: How did it get here? Arkhipov points out that our own space program has led to a lot of microbe-bearing "debris" being dumped in space.

"For example, freeze-dried spores in drops of rocket fuel, or human fecal material from our spacecraft, are quite well adapted to interstellar travel," he says.

And if we humans already are dumping such stuff into space, there is every reason to think other beings may have done so, too. As he delicately puts it: "Contaminated artifacts could be in the interstellar medium."

Arkhipov estimates that the typical result of alien ablutions

would be the creation of a "coron non-sanitare" around stars extending for several light-years into space. Any planetary system passing by would run the risk of being showered with the stuff — and thus being "fertilized" by whatever the alien dung contained.

The theory is creating a stir among religious commentators.

Nicholas Coote, occasional spokesman for the Catholic Bishops Conference in Britain, said the alien dung theory was ultimately not so different from that of the biblical account of an origin from dust. "It isn't a very inspiring idea but it would be very funny if it is true — and I presume that God must have a fairly vigorous sense of humor." Inevitably, however, the notion

that we are ultimately descended from dung has got up the noses of some.

"It is speculative in the extreme," said Rev. Clive Calver, director general of the Evangelical Alliance. "First we read that we are the creation of God, then scientists say we are descended from apes. Now they say we're some sort of alien poo. How much further can we sink?"

A. F. U.

Box 11027

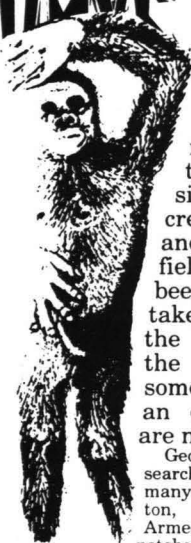
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Sweden

TWIN VALLEY NEWS, West Alexandria, OH -- May 9, 1996 CR: W. Jones

Have You Seen A Sasquatch? (Big Foot)

By
S.
Brewer



East of the Indiana line, near Paint Creek Road in Preble County, residents have reported to the police numerous sightings of a strange creature in their woods and tracks in their farm fields. Dozens of casts have been made, photographs taken and reports filed with the local authorities over the past few years. While some of these sightings are an elaborate hoax, others are not as easily explained.

George Clappison, Ohio Bigfoot Research and Study, has investigated many reports in the Cincinnati, Eaton, Franklin and Akron areas. Armed with lots of plaster of paris, notebooks, camera's and an open mind he travels to area farms and wooded areas. "These are a few of the casts I've made over the last few years," he says carefully unwrapping 18 to 20" long, 5-8" wide human like footprints. "I took this one on April 6th," Clappison said, "and this photo was taken last year."

According to Jim Donohoe, an independent anomalous researcher, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, and western Indiana are 'hot spots' of anomalous activities.

Germantown has had sightings of a creature the local residents nicknamed the 'Butter Street Monster'. West Elkton has over the years had many sightings of a large hairy creature. Brookville has a 'Monster under the Rock' and the vicinity of Paint Creek Road has been the sight of where many have heard and seen an unrecognizable creature for years.

Cryptozoologists, scientists who study ancient animal species, speculate that if a Yeti, India's version of Bigfoot, had managed to co-exist with humans beings all this time, the creatures may turn out to be an unknown species of Langur or Guerezas. Langurs and guerezas are large primates that subsist only on leaves. Many Hindus still consider langurs sacred and the animals are allowed to roam freely across the countryside. Langurs were almost hunted to extinction because their hair was prized for its length, texture and beauty.

Many cultures around the globe have legends, stories and myths that tell of a huge and hairy creature. They stand 10 to 15' tall, walk in a bipedal (upright) fashion, weigh 500 pounds or better and are covered with dense, coarse, sometimes smelly hair. The Shasta Amerindians of California refer to this creature as Tha-tah-kle-ah. It is known as Sasquatch, to many of the Northwestern American Indian tribes.



North American sites where BHM reports have been made.

One of the earliest reported sightings of Sasquatch occurred in 1869 in California. While hunting, a man witnessed a large, hairy male creature scatter his fire. The creature wandered

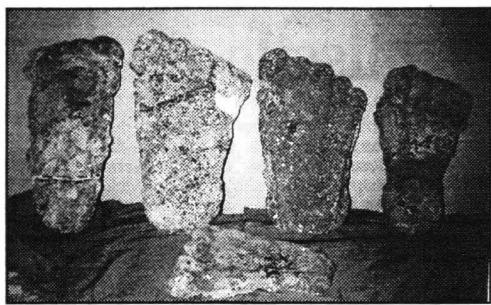
away from his campsite and was joined by a female. In 1904, Issue 51 of "The Lane Country Leader", the Cottage Grove, Oregon, an article was printed recounting a local residents encounter with a 'wild man'. These historical records of encounters with a BHM, (Big Hairy Monster) are very similar to more recent reports that have been made.

A.S.K., the Association For Scientific Knowledge, based in Cincinnati, investigates Bigfoot sightings and other anomalous activities. This organization consists

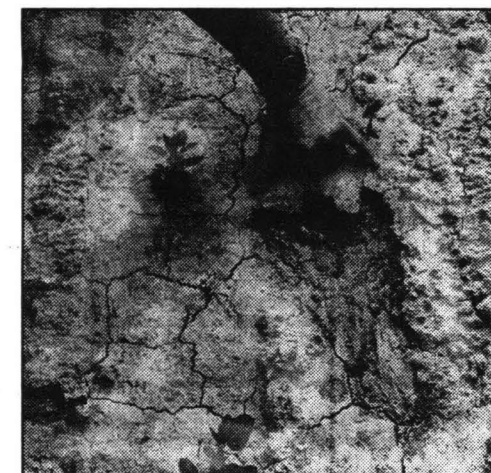
mainly of lay people who are willing to investigate these strange, often unbelievable incidents. Their investigations have brought forward some strange and interesting items, photographs and casts. Hair, casts of unidentifiable footprints, some with five toes and others with three, and possible nesting beds, just to name a few. While some believe this creature may be wild and dangerous, others claim that the creature is sentient. Some states like Montana, have placed this creature on the endangered species list while others offer a bounty for one "dead or alive".

As M. Papagiannis stated in 1992 at a conference held at MIT, (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), "the absence of evidence is not evidence of absence." Until someone provides concrete evidence of this creature's existence, or non-existence, sightings of 'The Big Hairy Monster' will remain one of the areas more interesting unsolved mysteries.

Upper Left: Biologist I.T. Sanderson made this sketch in 1968 while conducting an examination on a corpse found in Minnesota.



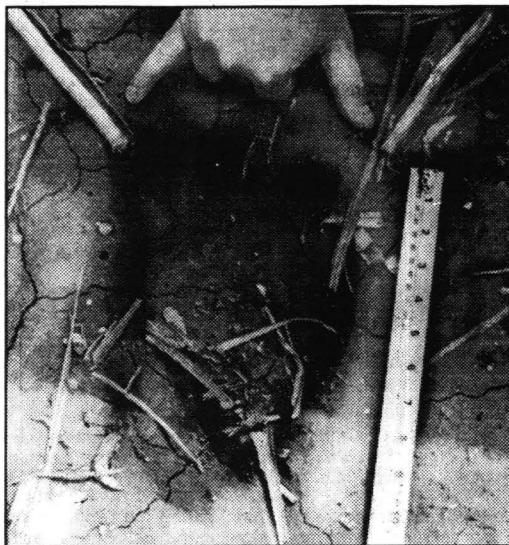
A few of the casts taken from southwestern Ohio.



Footprint taken in a soybean field, south of Eaton, 1995.



Nest like structure found near Cincinnati, 1995



1996 footprint, found in Preble County.

Russia's 'Nessie' frightens villagers

ARAB NEWS, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
Dec. 17, 1996 CR: C. Hart

BENYOK, Russia, Dec. 14 (R) — Near the bottom of Lake Brosno, or perhaps deep in the recesses of man's imagination, a monster of huge proportions lurks. The evidence, much like that of Scotland's Loch Ness monster, is based on a single photograph and a few alleged sightings. The picture shows a panoramic view of Lake Brosno with an object floating in the foreground. As with the Scottish "Nessie," it is not clear whether the object is a large log — or something more ominous from the deep. "I'm afraid," said one elderly woman, Varya, who lives in the lakeside village of Benyok, 400 kilometers northwest of Moscow. "I do not feel comfortable staying in this place. The monster could crawl into my house any day."

residents there claim to have seen the beast, and "nearly everybody" believes in it, according to the mayor, who has led search teams to hunt goatsuckers.

"We haven't stopped looking," Mayor Jose "Chemo" Soto said in a telephone interview. "Today it attacks animals; tomorrow it could attack humans."

Catching the creature has become a campaign issue for Soto, who faces re-election in November and likes to be called "Chemo Jones" because his chupacabra-hunting expeditions remind him of the adventurous movie character Indiana Jones.

The mayor's first expedition last October was broadcast by television in Latin America. Soon after, the beast reportedly landed in Costa Rica. In Florida. In Mexico. Then in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Southern California.

In Mexico, government officials concluded that dogs or coyotes, not goatsuckers, were to blame for animal killings in more than 10 states. Veterinarians made the same conclusion after attacks in Florida.

GAZETTE TELEGRAPH, Colorado Springs, CO -- Sept. 7, 1996

Mysterious goatsucker captivates Latinos

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

PALO ALTO, Calif. — Rosa Ramirez and her co-workers wouldn't dare venture through the darkened patches of Stanford University once they leave their janitorial jobs at 2 a.m. The goatsuckers, they reason, lie in wait.

The flying, kangaroo-like creatures with bulging, red eyes lives for the blood of goats and other farm animals. Humans, so far, have escaped injury, but that's small comfort for 36-year-old Ramirez.

"A lot of people believe it's real," said Ramirez, an East Palo Alto mother who has watched, with some skepticism, goatsucker news reports on Spanish-language television's tabloid shows. "It worries us."

Recent tales of the rampaging goatsucker — el chupacabras — are captivating Latinos after reports of sightings buzzed through Latin American and parts of the United States, causing hysteria in some Spanish-speaking communities where parents are afraid to let their

children play outside.

Is the chupacabras simply an urban legend? A genetic experiment gone bad? An extraterrestrial? A marketing ploy to sucker consumers onto Websites, T-shirts and records?

All of the above, depending on whom you ask.

Although there's no solid evidence such as photographs to verify the accounts, everyone is eager to share opinions and theories. A Los Angeles radio station offered \$1 million for the creature's carcass. Puerto Rican

and Mexican government officials have mounted high-profile investigations into chupacabras-suspected slayings.

Rumored sightings of chupacabras (pronounced choo-pah CAH-brahs) have frightened children and adults from San Francisco to Moscow.

Their saga began last summer in Canovanas, a Puerto Rican town of 40,000 where scores of goats, chickens, sheep, rabbits, pigs and horses were slain by a creature that left distinctive neck perforations. More than 20