

# UFO

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TRIBUNE, Lewiston, ID - Oct. 31, 1997

## Strange light in sky captured on film

### ■ Nezperce man's photo looks like Missouri Spooklight

By LORRAINE NELSON  
OF THE TRIBUNE

Laid side by side, there's an eerie resemblance in the two pictures.

Wallace Kelly's picture of a strange light in the sky looks a little like the photograph of the so-called Spooklight in Missouri.

That's why he brought it into the Lewiston Tribune Thursday. He saw the front page photo of the unexplained Missouri Spooklight, which was published Wednesday.

Kelly, of Nezperce, first saw the light in the sky in the dark hours of the early morning of Sept. 28 when he was driving a U.S. mail truck on U.S. Highway 12 east of Pomeroy, headed for Lewiston.

He crested the Alpowa Grade and there it was, off to the east toward Lewiston.

"It was generating a lot of light," Kelly said.

He didn't know what it was.

He's been to Alaska and seen the northern lights and knew that wasn't it.

The light wasn't moving then, just glowing, he said.

When he dropped down off the top of the grade, it was obscured by the hills.

He didn't see it again until he was traveling up 21st Street in Lewiston, taking the back way home to the town of Nezperce.

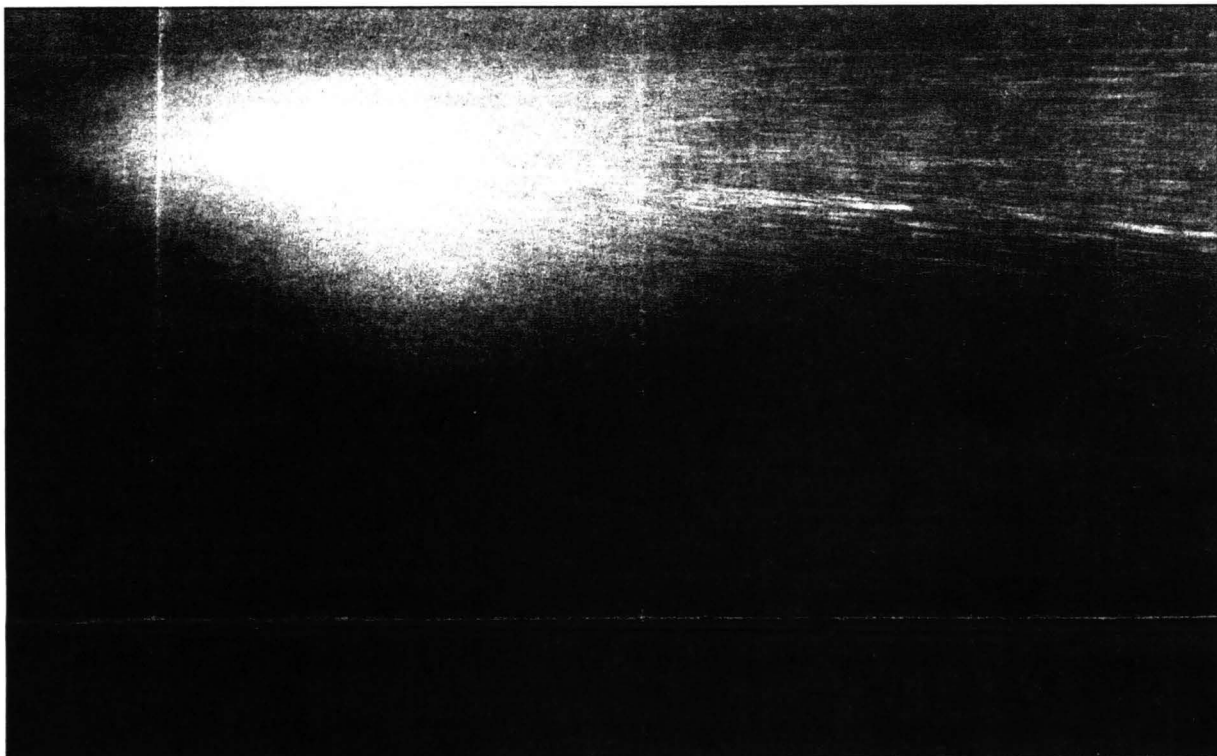
"It seemed then to be traveling at a high rate of speed," Kelly said. "It was pulsating, too."

Kelly stopped his truck in the Tammany area south of Lewiston and set up his camera on the top of the truck. He put his 10x50 binoculars in front of the 35mm camera lens and followed the light across the sky as he snapped a picture.

He only got one. It was 4:20 a.m.

As he looked at the picture Thursday, magnified on a computer screen at the Tribune, Kelly commented the light had no substance to it, no definition, as a star or planet would have.

Nothing turned up after the magnification, either.



Wallace Kelly photo

Wallace Kelly shot this photograph of a strange light moving across the southeastern sky above the Tammany Creek area.

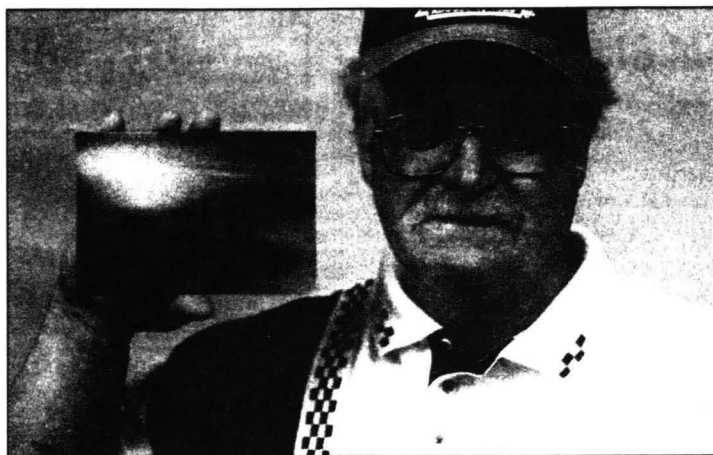
What does he think it was?  
"I have no clue, but it does kind of resemble this," Kelly said, pointing to his copy of the Spooklight.

The Spooklight is legend in certain towns along the Missouri-Oklahoma state line, according to Wednesday's Associated Press news story. It's been spotted high in the sky and hovering close to the ground and charging right at people before disappearing.

Does Kelly believe it could be some kind of spaceship?

"I'll tell you this," he said gesturing to the picture, "something made that. It's not my imagination."

Kelly has a building contracting business in Nezperce and drives the mail truck on weekends. He said he was straight as an arrow when he saw the light.



Wallace Kelly holds a print of a photograph of a strange light in the sky south of Lewiston. Kelly isn't sure what he saw and photographed, but thought it resembled strange lights appearing in the skies above Missouri.

Tribune/Mike Venso

JOURNAL, Albuquerque, NM - Nov. 13, 1997

## Lecturer Says UFOs Exist, Air Force Lying

BY ANTHONY DELLAFLORA  
Journal Staff Writer

Stanton Friedman is angry, and he's not going to take it anymore.

Friedman, a scientist and long-time researcher in the field of unidentified flying objects, will challenge the Air Force to come clean on the subject when he presents his "Flying Saucers Are Real" lecture tonight at 8 at the Radisson Conference Center, I-40 and Carlisle NE.

Others in the UFO field have long accused the government of with-

holding information from the public. Others also have tried to pry an admission out of government officials, but with little success.

Friedman said he is specifically challenging Col. Richard Weaver and Air Force Capt. James McAndrew to a public debate.

Weaver wrote "The Roswell Report: Fact Versus Fiction in the New Mexico Desert," while McAndrew made news this spring with his study "The Roswell Report: Case Closed." Both claimed to have debunked the story of an alleged crash of an extraterrestrial space-

ship near Roswell in 1947.

"These two officers have made a mockery out of serious investigation," Friedman said in a news release. "They have used all the tools of the propagandist with selective choice of data, false reasoning, false claims, positive and negative name calling."

Friedman's lecture will include a review of five scientific studies, the latest information on the Roswell crash, alien abductions and the alleged cover-up of UFOs.

Admission is \$10 at the door, \$7 for seniors and \$5 for students.

LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS, Lincolnton, NC - Dec. 31, 1997

### Letters

To the editor:

An intriguing UFO report in Catawba County, perhaps the last of 1997, was made by a Bassett Furniture plant employee on Tuesday night, Nov. 25, at 10:10 p.m. in Maiden.

The encounter with a dome saucer-shaped UFO lasted for 2½ to 3 minutes during which the object (estimated to be the size of a medium car) was seen above the nearby treetops and moved within 300 feet of the lone observer, before departing at a 45-degree angle.

I would be interested in obtaining reports from the Maiden-Lincolnton and Catawba County areas that may have occurred on the same date.

Sincerely,  
George D. Fawcett  
Field Investigator  
MUFON-NC, Inc.  
602 Battleground Road

CR: G. Fawcett

# Minnesota: Land of 10,000 UFOs?

*It's tough to say when Halloween got mixed up with science fiction, but it appears All Hallow's Eve has become a time to celebrate all things that go bump in the night. And so, for your pre-Halloween pleasure, we share spooky stories of UFO sightings in Minnesota's Lake Country.*

By Roger Pinckney  
Special to The Forum

One summer night some 20 years ago, the mayor of Pelican Rapids, Minn., was readying himself for bed. The evening was well spent, the clock creeping toward midnight. Suddenly there came a mighty roar like a freight train, like a tornado. The yard, the trees, the lake were lit an eerie blue, as bright as lightning, hot like a welding arc. The source roared overhead, then disappeared beyond the western hills.

His honor rushed to the telephone. "Did you see that?" he breathlessly asked his neighbor. The reply was immediate. "No, I did not." Then there was a pause. "And you didn't either."

## Tell it all on Oprah's show?

It's a Norwegian thing, don'tcha know? Some things you talk about. Group sex and UFO's, well ... But some Minnesotans have been known to talk about their close encounters of the weird kind.

The first tale beats the Wright Brothers by six years, as reported by The Becker County Record, April 16, 1897:

"The much talked about air ship was seen sailing over Detroit (Lakes) last Wednesday evening about 9 o'clock. Red, white and blue lights were displayed by the navigators of the air as they wended their way to the northwest against a strong head wind.

"The strange visitor has been seen by many people whose word cannot be doubted.

"Strange to say, the same lights were seen last night about the same hour, by a number of people who had climbed the courthouse tower for that purpose."

## Lakes and a whole lot more

On June 1, 1950, something resembling a gigantic pocket mirror hovered over Ponsford most of the morning - not over the liquor store, as one might presume - but over Pine Point School, being seen by a Becker County commissioner, five teachers, and the entire student body of 150.

Six years later, in December of 1956, three Minnesota game wardens got a lesson in the paranormal while waiting in ambush for a notorious deer shiner near Henning.

Just before midnight, a thing whizzed out of the east over Paul Krueger, O.B. Olson and Al Schadd. The men tightened respective anatomies, grabbed their field glasses and got a good look:

It was round, rotating, with red flames shooting out from its perimeter. And it too was emitting an eerie light "like a welding arc."

Late one August night in 1994, two Sheetrockers were buzzed by an unknown object east of Erhard in Otter Tail County.

It seemed mechanical, with girders, trusses. Given the hour and their choice of refreshments, neither wanted to venture comment. Finally, one uttered. "I didn't see nothing. Did you?"

## The horses aren't talking

Perhaps that UFO was headed for Edwards, Minn. Tiny Edwards, with a bar "code" but no ZIP Code, is a few more miles down County Road 3.

It's a Norman Rockwell kind of place - beer and burger-joint, bait shop, Lutheran church, farmsteads and a cluster of white clapboard houses.

That's where Dorene Milbeck found her mare cut from ear to ear.

The veterinarian, laboring with needle and thread, remarked the incision was clean and bloodless, more precise than he could have done with a scalpel.

Dorene went looking for barbed wire, an electric fence gone berserk. What she found changed her life.

There were two concentric rings - 18 and 36 inches respectively - cut by a counter-clockwise rotation into the pasture sod. About 10 feet from the center were a number of indentations, like the object had been stabilized by outstretched mechanical arms.

Whatever caused those marks in Milbeck's pasture evidently made return visits on Aug. 12, 19 and 26.

When Dorene realized these strange events would be ongoing, she began keeping a journal, taking

snapshots.

There is now an album packed with photos and some 30 pages of notes, detailing 24 recorded visitations over the past four years. Some details are consistent - always unseen, always at night, always the same size marks, always a counter-clockwise rotation.

Others vary. Once the unknown machine bumped an old tire, tried again until it found footing. Once it apparently landed in a nearby slough, cut down a broad circle of canary grass, flailed and bounced up onto dry ground.

Milbeck dismisses the fanciful or spectacular, continues looking for answers and finds none. A government project gone amok?

She has noted changing weather patterns, the phases of the moon, the day of the month, of the week. Nothing makes sense.

"The only ones who know are the horses," she says.

And the horses, so far, are mum.

But others have not been so quiet.

The State Director of the Mutual UFO Network, unable to concoct a plausible explanation, pronounced it a hoax.

But a member - who claims to have had close personal relationships with a number of aliens - warned the visitors now had a taste of blood, would eventually return, butcher the horses and go after the family.

## Up close and personal

The most bizarre Minnesota encounter seems right out of a Spielberg movie. On Aug. 27, 1979, patrolling Marshall County Deputy Val Johnson saw a bright light in the middle of Highway 220 near Stephen, Minn. A dope smuggling airplane? An illegal crop-duster? Johnson gave chase.

Unknown to Deputy Johnson, other strange things were happening in the neighborhood.

An intense blue-white light "stalked" a Warren hospital administrator's car. Near Viking, another swooped so low and bright it turned off a farmyard security light.

Johnson and the light met head-on. Score: Aliens 1, Marshall County 0.

The sheriff's radio log tells it best: "Get someone out here right away!

"Something's attacked my car!

"I heard glass breaking, my brakes locked up!

"I don't know what the hell has happened!"

Details: Deputy out cold for 40 minutes, his watch stopped for 14. Windshield smashed, antenna bent, headlight broken, hood dented. Ambulance dispatched, medical treatment for gazing into almost blinding light. Temporary memory loss and an interview on "Good Morning America."

## So what's up there?

There is continuing widespread belief that the government is Up to Something here, since being Up to Something seems the nature of government.

The area's proximity to Air Force installations at Minot and Grand Forks gives credence to that suspicion. Wide open Minnesota spaces would be a hedge against discovery.

Writing in the September issue of Fate (True Reports of the Strange and Unexplained), UFO-ologist Loren Coleman makes no call on the origin of the sightings but simply says each one "conforms to witnesses' cultural expectations."

Hence the transition from airship, to saucer, to flying ball of fire, to automated mechanical rover.

But still, something's up there.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the infamous Roswell Incident, where an unknown craft reportedly skidded across the desert and crashed in the mountains of southeast New Mexico.

Nearly a quarter million tourists descended on Roswell this summer to commemorate what many believe the most significant UFO contact to date.

But those interested in strange goings-on in the sky need only to look up.

Watch them.

They're watching you.

Skeptics may choose to view the Ford driven by Officer Johnson.

It's on display at the Marshall County Historical Museum, Warren, Minn. (218) 745-5447.

# Mysterious Lights In The Night Cause Concern In Area

It could have been a lost chapter from H. G. Wells novel, several clusters of lights were sighted in the sky by Chambers. Holt County Sheriff's department was observing the objects when they started heading into Garfield County.

This Monday, surely some were aroused by a similar scenario. There was reports of three sets of lights while others saw up to five.

Wheeler County Sheriff Ray Sears was traveling back to Bartlett with his family when they saw three lights, "They were working their way back and forth across the sky" said Sears, "they would hover for a while then zip they were gone."

A rancher north of Burwell observed the lights chasing each other back and forth across the hills like they were doing some kind of combat maneuvers.

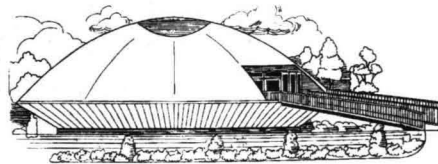
When first called out shortly after 7:30 P.M., Sheriff Larry Donner, of Garfield County, observed the lights at Jeff Huffman's on North Hwy

11 and pulled into School District #70 parking lot to watch them. "The lights were red, blue and clear with no apparent shape," recalled Donner, "and there was noise associated with the objects either."

On his way back to Burwell, after the objects left northern Garfield County, Donner received a report that the lights were hovering over the airport and the sale barn in Burwell. Making it back to the top of Big Legion Hill, Donner was able to confirm the crafts were over the town.

Calls were placed to Ouffit and Ellsworth military bases, the reports that were received back would not confirm any activity in our area, but it could be some type of an Army Military Exercise.

The Garfield County Sheriff is still trying to find out what kind of a mechanical device was using our air space this Monday evening, even though in the back of his mind he knows that no one will ever fess up to it.



Proposed UFO Museum

## UFO MUSEUM CRASHES IN NC

CREATIVE LOAFING, Charlotte, NC - Dec. 20, 1997 CR: G. Fawcett

It looks like George Fawcett has thrown in the towel. For years the Lincolnton UFO researcher has followed his dream of building a UFO museum and research facility in NC. The museum would be a repository for his personal collection of 15,000 UFO artifacts, assembled over a lifetime. Fawcett has written and spoken widely, trying to raise \$5 million to launch the project. He has pitched the idea to the folks at Disney World and many others, but without luck. An architect has even developed a design for the flying saucer-shaped building, but the financing is still out of this world.

Now Fawcett, 69, is left with no choice but to give his collection to the International UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell, NM. The Roswell museum will make a good home for his collection, Fawcett said. But he had always hoped that home would be in Lincolnton.

"I've had my head in the clouds, but my feet on the ground," he said.

Fawcett has been investigating UFOs since 1944, and had his own sighting on July 6, 1951, as he walked across the campus at Lynchburg College. ("It looked like a giant tractor tire, brilliant orange with sharp edges against a bright blue sky.") Over the years he has investigated some 1,200 UFO incidents, written dozens of articles, spoken to hundreds of groups, appeared on television and radio and consulted on a movie. But he has had no close encounters with \$5 million.

Yet, Fawcett's work continues. He is currently writing a book on UFO sightings in the Carolinas. North Carolina ranks fourth in the nation in UFO sightings, the most recent being in Maiden, on November 25, Fawcett said.

If you would like to report a UFO sighting or encounter in the Carolinas, you can contact Fawcett at 620 Battleground Road, Lincolnton NC 28092-2120; or call (704) 735-5725. (No collect calls, please.) —Will Moredock



# It's a bird, it's a plane, it's...

## Coast residents disconcerted by lights appearing in the sky

Was it a Russian rocket? A meteor shower? Or some other type of space debris?

From Oregon to British Columbia, hundreds of people reported seeing a spectacular light show streaking across the Friday night sky.

"It was the most bizarre thing I've ever seen," Dave Way of Keizer, Ore., said. "It looked like something out of 'Star Trek.'"

The North American Space Defense Command in Colorado Springs, Colo., said it was space junk — debris that lighted up the sky in the form of orange fireballs for a few minutes after 9 p.m., said The Spokesman-Review of Spokane.

Oregon State Police communications supervisor Gary Jones had this explanation: "The Federal Emergency Management Agency Nation-

al Warning Center said remnants of an SL4 rocket body disintegrated in the atmosphere, and pieces landed in the Pacific Ocean."

Other official sources said it was an SL12 rocket body.

Bob Clark of FEMA's regional office in Seattle said the North American Air Defense Command reported the rocket was Russian, but it was unclear where or when it was launched.

The space debris landed safely in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Washington, said Milt Maas at the National Weather Service's Spokane office.

"It looked like a huge bottle rocket moving slowly across the sky," said June Akiyama, who was in Gig Harbor when she spotted the lights.

Dale Goudie, information director

of the Seattle-based UFO Reporting and Information Service, said he received 44 calls from people who said they saw eight objects streaking across the sky from 9:09 to 9:15 p.m.

"Some people said they weren't going in a linear path — that they were actually turning, which surprised me," Goudie said.

Astoria and other Clatsop County residents shared the show.

The phones at U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Astoria started ringing off the hook a little after 9 p.m. Friday, according to Quartermaster First Class Bernie Penkin.

But Penkin himself was home at the time, watching the light show that he described as about a dozen streaks of light moving very slowly across the sky above the Columbia River. The objects, miles to the north, looked

like a meteor shower but weren't moving fast enough, Penkin said.

"It was beautiful," he said. "You very rarely get a chance to see something like that."

Brownsmead resident Jon Westerholm spotted two bright lights, reddish orange in color, from his home at 9:07 p.m.

"My first thought was, gosh, am I going to have to deal with a UFO now?" Westerholm said. "The second thing that came to my mind was: no, that couldn't be."

Wondering if the objects came from an airplane about to crash, the salmon fisherman half expected the sound or sight of an explosion. But the objects moving along the horizon made no sound and no flash occurred.

"It was real exciting to me, just left

me with an eerie feeling," he said. "That image in my mind is not ever going to go away."

Callers in Grays Harbor County said they saw an intense streak of light across the sky, said KXRO Radio in Aberdeen. Callers said they saw 12 lights with tails moving sideways in a three-streak pattern.

People in Snohomish County, north of Seattle, reported seeing six or seven lights moving slowly eastward from the Everett waterfront toward the Cascades.

Frank Frazee of Centralia said he and his family were driving west when they saw the objects about 9:12 p.m. He said they moved horizontally across the sky from west to east.

The Daily Astorian reporter C.V. Hollander and The Associated Press contributed to this story.

HERALD, Bellingham, WA - Nov. 15, 1997

## Flash wows county gazers

BY CATHY LOGG

THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

A series of bright lights crossed a crystal-clear sky Friday night to the amazement of countless Whatcom County residents.

Opinions differed on the source of the spectacle, lit by a full moon, that entranced residents from British Columbia to Oregon.

Lee Fryer of the Federal Aviation Administration in Seattle called it "some type of re-entry object or space junk."

The North American Space Defense Command in Colorado Springs, Colo., said it was space junk — debris that lighted up the sky in the form of orange fireballs for a few minutes after 9 p.m.

The debris landed safely in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Washington, said Milt Maas at the National Weather Service's Spokane office.

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management said an S-L-12 utility rocket body reentered the atmosphere near the southern Washington coast. Any parts that didn't burn up on re-entry ended up in the Pacific Ocean, it said.

Seattle television stations offered another theory: The phenomenon was a rare meteor shower of a type not seen since 1966.

The appearance of the lights prompted dozens of calls to the FAA, the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle and The Bellingham Herald.

The UFO center received calls from all over Washington and Oregon, director Peter Davenport said.

Those who called The Herald agreed that the objects moved from west to east parallel to the horizon, shone exceedingly brightly, lasted an unusually long time, covered a large portion of the sky and were extremely strange.

Several callers worried that the Mir space station had fallen to Earth

and the lights were the burning remnants.

A sampling of viewers' comments: ■ **Laurie Caskey-Schreiber** of the Hanegan Road area: "It looked like about six pinpoints of light starting to go straight up into the sky, eight or nine lines flowing absolutely parallel. You could just hear a faint popping, kind of a crackling sound. It was absolutely beautiful, just stunning. It sounded like disintegrating fireworks when they come down."

■ **Koelle Larsen** of the west side of Lummi Island: Her daughter Melanie and two friends from Fernedale saw it — "like a ball of light come across Mount Constitution on Orcas Island. It came across Rosario Strait and then broke up into pieces. They were screaming. ... It was like falling stars, only a whole patch of them and way brighter." Larsen and her husband made the girls go inside the house in case there was any radioactive fallout.

■ **Jody Pelo** of Linden Road, Bellingham: "At first we thought it was fireworks coming across the sky. There were two lights that were leading and behind it this trail of light, but from each light there was like a beam running behind it. There were lots of little lights behind it and each of them had like a beam of light."

■ **James Twining** of Lake Louise Road near Sudden Valley: "There were at least six lights, maybe more; three really big and really bright, almost flaming. The lights stayed an equal distance apart. The big ones were massive. They looked like shooting stars up real close."

■ **Rita Kraft** of the Lake Padden area: "It looked like fireworks shooting off after the fact — streaking across the sky. Two groups, one more so in the lead, flying in a pattern formation. They had color to them. It was like stars and tails, lots of tails."

■ **Paul de Armond** of Bellingham: "The most enormous meteorite, a whole cluster of them, maybe six streaks of fire, extending perhaps across 20 to 30 degrees of visual field, proceeding east to west in the northern sky. It was enormous. People were stopping their cars to get out and look at it."

■ **Joe Mortimer** of Fairhaven: "I saw two silvery gleams with golden streamers. They slowly got faster and faster and then there were many bits of light and streamers. It went by very slow but it sped up as it went along."

■ **Susan Anderson** of Fernedale: "It was so awesome. It was hundreds of meteorites or something. You could see the ball with a tail that had to be miles long. There were hundreds of them. It was just a mass. Kind of like looking at the Milky Way."

TRIBUNE, Tempe, AZ - Dec. 19, 1997 CR: T. Taylor

## UFO speaker delves beneath usual flying-saucer rhetoric

The best explanation of what professor Richard Sauder does comes from someone else.

"One man described my task as, I am looking for data in a never-never land of make-believe," Sauder said.

That would make Sauder a Lost Boy/statistician, a special investigator for Janet Reno, or a guy who hunts for signs of ETs on earth.

Or failing that, hunts for signs of a huge, secretive, pseudo-government conspiracy to fool the public into believing there are ETs on earth, only to mask secret terrestrial research in advanced technology and human biological engineering.

If you watch *The X-Files*, you've got the Cliff Notes.

Sauder is neither a Lost Boy nor a federal investigator.

That makes him a UFO researcher and author, and a lecturer who spoke Wednesday night to members of the local MUFON group. His topic: "Aliens & Underground Bases: The Troubling Facts of the Matter (Why It's Troubling and Why It Matters!)"

Since I'm on my own personal Alien Watch 'til the end of the year, I attended. My slim hope was that I would at last view conclusive slide show evidence of alien presence on this planet. Perhaps in underground bases, but frankly, location was beside the point. I wanted to see a smoking laser gun.

But alas, no. Sauder did make some interesting points.

■ \$26.6 billion was spent on so-called black projects (projects so confidential they're hidden from even congressional oversight) in the last fiscal year.



**TAMARA DIETRICH**

STAFF COLUMNIST

therefore complicity) of former president, former CIA director, and erstwhile Texan George Bush?

That being the case, Sauder muses, is there possibly some other reason why the United States is so heavily invested (pardon the pun) in keeping the outside world out of Libya? Other than the fact that we don't like terrorists?

"Maybe they don't want people to see what's happening in Libya — bingo!" Sauder said.

If there's anything more subterranean, more labyrinthine than secret underground installations that run for miles below the placid surfaces of deserts and cow pastures, it's the infrastructure of some UFO/MIB conspiracy theories.

Especially, as Sauder says, when there's so much deliberate disinformation circulating from countless quarters.

Sauder's slides implicated everything from the Bureau of Reclamation to AT&T to El Capitan in Yosemite National Park.

It got to the point where people in the audience, noticing tiny white blips in the sky on a few

slides, wondered aloud why they looked suspiciously ... saucer-shaped.

Even Sauder was caught off-guard at the podium. He reassured them the blips were merely irregularities during processing, and pressed on.

And he was clear in couching his theories as theories.

As a slide of an Arizona field hit the screen, with what could be an air vent thrusting out of the ground beside what looked like old storage buildings, Sauder mused provocatively, "Maybe these utility sheds have elevators inside. Maybe. Maybe not."

If there were a huge, secret installation buried a thousand feet deep, he said, there wouldn't exactly be a sign saying "Nuclear Defense Agency — Deeply Buried Secret Facility."

Secret underground facilities in the deserts. The mountains. The oceans. Along the Atlantic Coast.

When could these possibly have been constructed?

Well, said Sauder, concurrent with major public projects such as highways, dams, mining operations, etc. Well, one audience member offered, the Department of Transportation built two tunnels, ostensibly for flood control, during construction of the Squaw Peak Parkway and Price Road. He heard they were 800 feet deep.

"I'm not saying there is anything clandestine under there," Sauder told him. Ever elliptical, he added, "But who knows?"

Tamara Dietrich is metro columnist with the Tribune. Have a store idea? Want to sound off? Call 898-6534.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - Dec. 14, 1997

## 'Red ball' over Midwest likely a meteor

A mysterious flash of light that prompted calls to authorities in four Midwestern states and led to a brief search for an overdue plane was probably caused by a meteor, experts said.

The light, described by many as a glowing orange or red, was seen about 8 p.m. CST Friday across hundreds of miles from Minnesota and Wisconsin south into Iowa and northern Missouri.

"It was a good-sized red ball," said Wylie Peterson of Colfax, Wis. "It had a pretty good tail behind it. It was too big to be a flare."

A search was organized after a private airplane was reported overdue at the Boyceville, Wis., airport. The search was suspended after doubts were raised about whether the plane was missing and the meteor possibility was considered.

Astronomy experts at the University of Minnesota and Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, said the phenomenon was best explained by a single meteor burning through the earth's atmosphere.

Saturday marked the peak of the annual Germinid meteor shower. (AP)

# Looking into close encounters of the UFO kind

By TONY REID  
H&R Staff Writer

**T**he Unidentified Flying Objects most of us encounter are beamed here direct from the planet Pop Culture, materializing in our world via the silver screen.

There are the classics, like "The Day the Earth Stood Still," when a flying saucer double parks opposite the White House. Edgy Earthlings shoot the saucer's humanoid captain, but he stops his robot bodyguard, Gort, from vaporizing us all with the famous line: "Klaatu barada nikto!"

Rough translation: "They're so stupid, they ain't worth nuking."

Movies since then have followed predictable plots: the aliens are either cool and cute — "E.T.," "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" or hungry and hostile — "Alien(s)," "Independence Day."

"This mainstream pop culture obsession with aliens is kind of a double-edged sword," explains Chad Wise, a real-life trainee UFO investigator who lives in Decatur.

"It's raising awareness, but it's also trivializing it all."

Wise, 25, claims a lot of us accept UFOs exist but don't like to admit it. He has no such inhibitions.

"I believe UFOs are real, but, no, I have not seen one," Wise says. "I look forward to my first investigation."

Wise has been fascinated with UFOs since he was 14 and has devoured books on them ever since.

In December, he graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in education and, in between working at Godfather's Pizza and deciding where he wants to pursue his career, found himself with some free time. So he joined the Mutual UFO Network Inc. — MUFON — and became a trainee field investigator.

"MUFON investigates UFO sightings and experiences and is only interested in finding out the facts and the truth," Wise explains. "It's very thorough."

MUFON, now based in Texas, was founded in Illinois in 1969 and has 5,000 members. Its ranks include experts in physics and astronomy who help evaluate information collected by field investigators covering their home areas.

Working from a detailed manual, Wise says MUFON provides instruction on handling investigations and talking to witnesses. "We are deterred from leading questions," he explains.

"The emphasis is always on letting witnesses speak freely and tell what they saw. MUFON members get a monthly magazine featuring case reports and items of interest."

Wise's own specialized interest is "abduction phenomena" — folks not only claiming to have seen UFOs but to have been taken inside them. Many cases involve "missing time" — hours witnesses lose from their lives and cannot account for later — and repressed memories of nasty physical examinations.

As to what's going on here, well, that's anyone's guess. And it leads to an even bigger question: If all these UFOs are real, what do they want?

"There's a million hypotheses," Wise says. "Theories that they're here to save us from destroying ourselves, theories that they're interested in watching our development and slip in and out of our reality from other dimensions. The ideas go on and on."

Wise prefers to keep an open mind but says the level of UFO activity — and people's awareness of it — is building. He thinks something extraordinary is going to happen, and, when it does, we'll all face a brave new world.

"What would happen to society as we know it if it was proven that intelligent life existed off this planet?" Wise asks.

"How would people react? What would happen to religion? An event like that would shatter a lot of beliefs."

Hollywood showed it shattering

much more than that. In the 1953 version of H.G. Wells' "War of the Worlds," a priest strides toward the alien invaders believing he's about to encounter a species closer to God. The heathen Martians toast him with a death ray before you can say, "Amen."

Gerald Slot, a devout Christian who runs the Decatur-based Christian Counseling Service, says the Bible does talk of "signs in the air" before the end of the world

but finds no reference to Martians.

"However, I am fairly open-minded about the idea of life on other planets," adds Slot, a clinical social worker. "There seems to be some evidence for UFOs which can't be explained away."

Friend or foe, E.T. won't be able to shake Slot's faith. "The arrival of aliens wouldn't change my basic perception of God and his creation and man's need for

salvation," he adds.

But the chances of any extraterrestrials showing up in this part of Central Illinois are pretty remote, according to Troy Taylor, a former MUFON investigator. "I was in it for a couple of years but just gave it up," he says.



**FOREVER WATCHING:** Chad Wise is a UFO investigator awaiting his first case. He says UFO activity — and public awareness of it — is building toward some kind of major event.

Herald & Review/Phil Jacobs

## UFO info

**1000 BC:** First witness? The Old Testament prophet Ezekiel writes of "a wheel in the middle of a wheel" shooting lightning bolts into the ground. Some believe he saw a UFO.

**August 1883:** First picture. Mexican astronomer Jose Bonilla snaps a glowing blob moving across space in front of the sun. He says he saw several of them.

**June 1947:** Pilot Kenneth Arnold is flying across the Cascade

Mountains in Washington when he sees nine bright "objects" swooping along in formation. He says they flew "like a saucer would if you skipped it across water." Newspapers dub them "flying saucers."

**July 1947:** The Roswell incident.

Roswell, N.M., rancher Mac Brazel finds strange wreckage scattered over the desert. Officials from the then-Roswell Army Air Field investigate and issue a press release saying it's the remains of a "flying disc." Another release is soon issued saying it was just a crashed weather balloon. Rumors say alien bodies were recovered from the site, and now a new book, "The Day After Roswell," claims reverse engineering of the wreckage gave us goodies like fiber optic cables and integrated circuits.

**December 1967:** Alien abduction. A New Hampshire couple see a UFO ahead of them on a lonely road. Later, there is a period they cannot account for. Under hypnosis, they tell of being taken

aboard the UFO and physically examined. Similar abduction stories continue to the present day.

■ ■ ■

**UFOs in Central Illinois:** Wild stories tell of flying saucers emerging from Lake Decatur and a farmer who pulled a dead alien from a

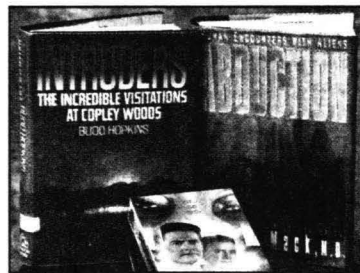
crashed spaceship and kept the body in a box in his attic.

Incidents reported in the Herald & Review over the years include the 1965 case of a farmer plowing a field near Chestnut when a brilliant white light appeared in the sky. It hovered 270 yards away and began to approach the farmer, hovered again, and then flew off.

And in another incident in 1968, a Decatur boy was delivering papers near the South Side Country Club when he saw a dark, spinning top-shaped

UFO flying toward him over the lake. The boy said it hovered so close to his head, "I could have reached up and touched it." The UFO stayed for a minute before flying away.

■ ■ ■



**UFO VOLUMES:** Here are some of the books UFO investigator Chad Wise recommends for those who want to find out more. Wise says these books are good but worries that our pop culture is trivializing UFOs.

Want more? Call the Mutual UFO Network at (830) 379-9216. You can report sightings at 1-800-UFO-2166. Encounter MUFON on the Web at <http://www.mufon.com>.

For further reading, try "UFOs & How to See Them" by Jenny Randles, "Missing Time" and "Intruders" by Budd Hopkins and John Mack's "Abduction."



## SKYWATCH DIARY

BY CAROLE BAKER

"There just wasn't anything to investigate around here."

Taylor, 31, switched his attention to Central Illinois spooks and unearthed enough stories to fill five books. His sixth literary spine-tingler — "Dark Harvest" — is out now. "Ghosts are just a whole lot more abundant than UFOs," he says. "I don't know why."

The answer could be that Taylor sought in the wrong places. Forest Crawford is MUFON's state director for Illinois and says you don't have to drive too far to find wall-to-wall UFO activity.

"In the Spoon River Valley, there has been almost what we call a 'flap' — a dramatic increase in sightings," says Crawford, 39, a chemical company supervisor who lives in Collinsville.

"There are a lot of sightings in an area starting around Peoria, Pekin and going all the way south to Alton. And in 1989-90, during a 10-month period, two MUFON investigators sighted 410 anomalous objects within a 15-mile radius of Dickson Mounds, outside of Bernadotte."

Crawford says UFO activity often occurs in clusters, and he has seen many objects because he knows where to look. He was 10 on the night he accidentally bumped into his first UFO — a "classic flying saucer" — which he claims landed 100 feet from a car he was in near Alton. The car's driver, a friend's father, "totally freaked" and didn't hang around to investigate.

"To this day, I am still comparing everything I now know about ufology to that original sighting, and I still can't tell you what that thing was or where it came from," Crawford says.

"And it's that basic mystery that makes studying UFOs so much fun."

### Kinds of encounters

Quantifying your UFO encounters:  
First kind: A sighting — lights in the sky, whatever — that stays distant.

Second kind: A UFO lands and leaves trace evidence — holes in the grass, scorchmarks.

Third kind: Witnesses interact with aliens — think of the Steven Spielberg film "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

Fourth kind: Being physically affected — abducted and examined, for example — by aliens.

A cold front blew through at Shoreline Park while we were skywatching on Saturday evening. The wind suddenly picked up from the northwest and the temperature began to drop steadily. The Sound, which had been as calm as a mill-pond until that point, began to stir and the stars in the clear sky and the lights over on Santa Rosa Island took on that brittle look that we associate with cold, low humidity conditions.

There was very little going on in the sky, with scant plane activity and nothing anomalous to report whatsoever. Shoreline Park was extremely quiet, with only one boat load of flounder fishermen passing by our vantage point a couple of times. Before the wind picked up and began sighing through the adjacent pine trees, we could clearly hear the owl calling from the woods west of the parking lot, toward the swamp. Ahead of the cold front, and before the wind changed, there were patches of cloud that partially obscured the moon and stars (and of course, all the UFOs!) overhead.

I was contacted recently by a skywatcher over in Mississippi, with whom I have been keeping up an e-mail correspondence now for a couple of months. She has been hoping to visit Shoreline Park for some time and had planned to recently, but those plans unfortunately fell through. She skywatches in her local area and I am grateful to her for sharing the following report of a sighting she had recently. She was skywatching on November 8th with a friend on a levee of the Mississippi River in Deer Park, Louisiana which is directly across the river from Natchez, Mississippi. They were positioned facing west, with the Mississippi River at their backs. It was around 8 p.m. when both witnesses noticed a light appear in the sky that they thought initially was associated with an airplane. What they had spotted was a white flashing light which they first

noticed in the sky to the west of their position. Their first impression of this light being associated with a plane was soon forgotten when the light began to zigzag around the sky in an anomalous manner. It moved straight toward their position at first and then took a sharp right turn, to travel north, then a sharp left, appearing to go back in the direction of its original approach. The object then flew straight for a time and dropped down, before making another sharp left turn. After this last maneuver the witnesses lost sight of the light. Both of the witnesses state that there was at no time any audible sound associated with this object. The witnesses state also that the object was moving in a manner in which neither had seen a conventional aircraft move at any time.

Most people have heard and seen the news reports this past weekend concerning the "space junk" falling out of the sky in the northwest, around Seattle. Reports began to surface around 9:15 p.m. (PST) on Friday, November 14 from witnesses in Washington State, Oregon and Northern California. People were calling TV and radio stations and local UFO Hotlines to report sightings. Dale Goudie, the Information Director for the Seattle-based UFO reporting and Information Service stated that they had received 44 calls from people who said they saw eight objects streaking across the sky between 9:09 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Some of these witnesses stated that the objects were not going in a linear path. Many reports were repeated on the Art Bell Show, which was on air at the time and the Art Bell show uploaded some of the pictures and video of the event that was supplied by TV stations in the sighting area. Stories of UFO sightings in that area were soon all over the Internet. Statements were released by NORAD and the United States Air Force stating that what people had witnessed was the re-entry into our atmosphere of debris from a Russian SL-12 (Proton) rocket. Even after

this explanation was proffered, there were still those who reported seeing the debris behave in a manner that some people did not think fit the "space debris" explanation. Many of the witnesses reported seeing the "fiery red objects" travelling in a west to east direction over the state of Washington at around 200 mph. The rocket debris was supposed to have been tracked and was reported to have fallen into the Pacific Ocean off the Washington coast, which would contradict the eye witness reports of a west to east track over land in Washington state. Perhaps portions of the debris crashed to the earth in eastern Washington, rather than in the ocean. However, many of the witnesses reported seeing as many as "twenty bright lights" slowly travelling along the horizon to the west of Seattle over Puget Sound. Speculation was also rife that what witnesses were reporting were in fact meteors associated with the Leonid Meteor shower. Video shown on local Seattle network affiliates on Friday night showed a huge array of lights with trails behind them travelling across Puget Sound in what seemed to be a basically straight line, with some objects breaking off from the line. Comparisons were made between the "rocket debris" explanation for this event and the "National Guard maneuvers" explanation afforded the sightings in Phoenix this spring. No doubt the controversy over this event will occupy many minds for the next few days. (Reference Art Bell website at <http://www.artbell.com> and information reported by "Skywatch International" who can be reached by e-mail at: [skywatch@wic.net](mailto:skywatch@wic.net)).

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and offer my thanks for support in continuing with Skywatch Diary and the website. If you wish to contact me, please e-mail me at [Cbakswd@aol.com](mailto:Cbakswd@aol.com) or write to me at P.O. Box 17152, Pensacola, FL 32522-7152. Thank you. And remember — Keep Looking Up!

NEWS, Taos, NM - Nov. 20, 1997 CR: D. Perkins

## Just what was that thing in the sky?

By Harrison C. Mondy

I am a retired electronic engineer and once, in Australia, served on a committee investigating UFO reports. At no time during this period did we find anything that could not be explained as a natural phenomenon. During this time I learned not to ask leading questions during an interview so when I queried my mother on two unidentified flying objects she had seen, I was very careful.

My parents were "backwood" farmers with little education. My mother did not know about UFOs. My father was a guard for a small industry in a small town, five miles distance from their home. He had to go to work at 4 a.m. so he ate supper at about 6 p.m. There are two incidents for which I have no explanation, and if they can be explained to me, then I will be inclined to forget about them.

Incident one. It was after dark on a certain night and both Mom and Dad were sitting on the front porch. Suddenly the tops of the trees around the house became lighted and my father said, "My

God, the house is on fire." They both ran out into the yard and looked up expecting to see flames coming out of the roof. Instead, they saw something like a huge plate that appeared to be red hot underneath. It was passing over the house and continued in a southwest direction. They watched it until it was out of sight.

According to my mother, the underneath side was not flat but appeared to have a lot of pipes and tanks, all of which were bright red and appeared to be the source of the light.

Question: What was it?

Incident Two. Once Dad was sitting on the front porch when he saw something coming toward him and thought it might hit him so he jumped up out of his chair. The object turned abruptly to the right, then left, and continued around the house. By this time Dad was running through the house yelling, "Mom, what is that thing?" Mom was washing the dishes before an open window and looked up in time to see the object pass between her and a shade tree about 20 feet from the window. She estimated that it was about half way

between her and the tree. A summary of my questions to her was about as follows:

Q: "How big was it?"

A: "About this long (18 inches) and about this big around (four inches in diameter)."

Q: "What shape did it have?"

A: "It was pointed in front but the back end was not pointed, it was sort of chopped off. It was giving off sparks which were coming out of the back end sort of like a Roman candle but not near as much. Sometimes there was a little ball of fire."

Q: "Did it have wings?"

A: "No, it was round. But, son, it looked like it was covered with purple fur." (High voltage, maybe?)

Q: "How fast was it traveling?"

A: "About as fast as a dove going home to roost." (I guess this to be about 20 miles per hour. Mother was one-quarter Cherokee and observant of nature.)

Q: "How long did you watch it?"

A: "I ran to the back porch with Dad and watched it until it disappeared over the Cooper hill. It went about half way

between the two big trees and dipped down when it crossed the creek. It stayed the same distance from the ground all the time. It rose as it went over the garden and went back down when it crossed the other creek. Then when it went up the Cooper hill it looked like it still stayed about the same height above the ground." (The Cooper hill was about a quarter-mile back of the house. The height above the ground was about 15 feet according to the height of the window and the angle at which she was looking when it passed her.)

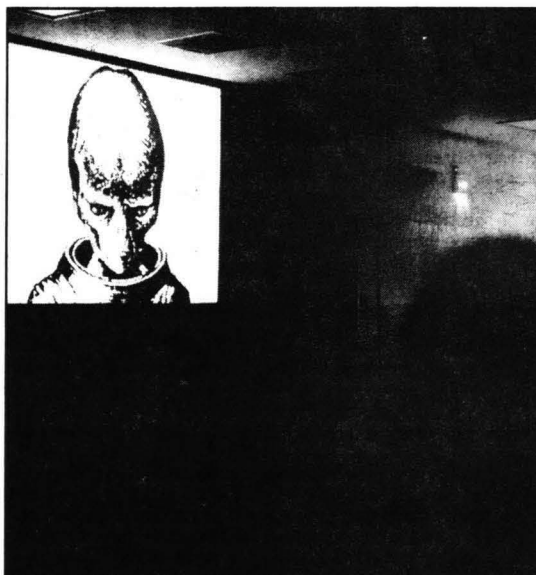
Q: "What did you think it was?"

A: "I don't know. Dad said, 'Next time Harrison is here we'll ask him what the Air Force has that can fly without a pilot and doesn't have wings.'"

My question is, what was this thing? If you have an explanation, please contact me: Harrison C. Mondy, 374 Hondo-Seco Road, P.O. Box 1696, El Prado 87529 or call 776-5571. My e-mail address is: [ydnmh@laplaza.org](mailto:ydnmh@laplaza.org).

Harrison C. Mondy is a Taos County resident.

# On trail of UFO mystery



Staff photos by Chris Rossi

One of the slides in UFO buff Robert Hastings' presentation.

'UFOs do exist, they are near, the government has been totally untruthful and the cover-up is massive. . . . The public has been kept in the dark. This may have been the best approach at first, but not now.'

— Robert Hastings, UFO enthusiast

## Lecture details theories

By MARY DIXON WEIDLER  
Staff Writer

Never mind the Men In Black.

We are not alone, despite what our government may tell us.

We have been visited by alien creatures. What's more, the government has known about this for over 50 years and still refuses to come clean, fearing a nationwide panic if the truth becomes known.

(Think "War of the Worlds" meets Black Monday and you may understand the hesitation.)

"UFOs do exist, they are near, the government has been totally untruthful and the cover-up is massive," Robert Hastings said in a 90-minute presentation given recently at Gloucester County College.

"Because of the Freedom of Information Act, we have access to approximately 10,000 pages of CIA, Air Force and FBI documents concerning UFOs. These indicate beyond a reasonable doubt that flying saucers do exist. . . for five decades there has been denial, they've been dismissed by our government publicly, but behind the scenes, they are considered a national security matter," Hastings told the crowd of approximately 150 people.

Hastings, a laboratory analyst by trade, said that research concerning interplanetary contact and unidentified flying objects has been his obsession for almost 30 years.

But Hastings' experience with so-called flying saucers



Hastings presents the evidence for UFO activity during his 90-minute presentation given recently at Gloucester County College.

goes beyond the research stage. In fact, he claims to have witnessed a "UFO incident" while working on an Air Force base 32 years ago.

Hastings was a "16-year old Air Force brat," working part-time as a janitor at the Montana base where his father was stationed, when he had his own personal experience with UFOs.

"I was present in an air traffic control booth when I saw (on the radar screen) five aerial targets. . . . It was immediately apparent that these were not conventional aircraft," Hastings said.

The aircraft hovered and

performed high speed maneuvers near silos where atomic weapons were stored on base. Hastings said he was rushed out of the room that night. The next day, when he asked about the incident, his questions were dismissed.

"I do not condemn United States government agencies for the secrecy," said Hastings, acknowledging that the expectation of a panic similar to the one initiated by Orson Wells' "War of the Worlds" was reasonable.

"However, the public has the right and the definite need to know the facts," Hastings added.

The facts, as Hastings outlined them in a "take-it-or-leave-it" lecture and slide show, include massive waves of "flying saucer" sightings dating back to 1947. Often, these sightings were made by military personnel who noticed the objects hovered by nuclear weapon development centers, Hastings said.

Although the Pentagon officially dismissed the "saucers" as "solar reflections on clouds, broken-up meteors and flattened hail stones," Air Force researchers privately concluded they had found "something real, not fictitious, flat on the bottom and domed on top that,

when approached, took action that must be considered evasive."

"Beginning in the late 40s, our government had increasing evidence of the presence of UFOs. It became clear they were distinctly interested in nosing around our nuclear weapons," Hastings told the audience.

Hastings said that in 1953 the CIA secretly took charge of U.S. UFO policy. In that year, the Robertson Panel Report called for "debunking (the sightings) to reduce public interest in flying saucers."

Persons involved in sightings were forbidden to disseminate information about the sightings, Hastings said.

Air Force pilots, who have frequently been involved in sightings, were similarly "hushed." The same order was imposed on private airlines and, although it was protested as a "Big Brother" tactic, the airlines agreed to comply, Hastings said.

"The public has been kept in the dark. This may have been the best approach at first, but not now," he added.

The presentation also included

a review of more famous "alien encounters," including the examination of a New Hampshire couple by a saucerful of space beings and the "Roswell incident," reportedly a government cover-up of a group of downed saucers and the bodies of their alien drivers.

Hastings admitted that "there are not enough facts to draw a conclusion," although there is "persuasive circumstantial evidence."

In his own research, Hastings has interviewed 23 retired Air Force officials. "They told me

that when they personally observed these objects, at that precise moment, missiles failed and went off line. Then the disks made vertical high speed descents.

"In every case, the missiles resumed functioning again without human intervention," Hastings said.

"Most (of those interviewed) speculate that they witnessed a demonstration of the ability to shut down nuclear weapons," he added.

Because of these demonstrations, Hastings speculates that the "visitors" are keeping a

watchful eye on our activities.

"It's like they're wagging a finger at Washington. They know what barbarians human beings are and, like a mother, they are concerned that we have these nuclear weapons," Hastings said.

He believes that these encounters come late at night to save the public from panic. "This way, they effectively get their message to our leaders without alarming the public," Hastings pointed out.

He encouraged his audience to obtain the information that has become available through the Freedom of Information Act.

"There is at this time a wealth of information in the public domain" indicating the deception of the public by the U.S. government concerning UFOs.

"It's simply a matter of time before all of this is out in the open. We must begin to educate ourselves with credible sources of information," Hastings said.



# Lights in the sky lead to spurious conjectures

For those of you who weren't looking up at the night sky Friday from 9:06 to 9:08 p.m. you missed a spectacular sight.

What started out looking like two aircraft in the western sky grew into a cluster of lights — two large ones and a couple dozen smaller ones — that traversed the night above Lynden and disappeared soundlessly to the east, presumably across the international border.

Theories as to what they were are nearly as numerous as the lights themselves. Seattle news media first offered the unlikely explanation of a glimpse of a meteor shower that isn't due for two years yet.

When they had the opportunity to begin checking their facts, it was offered that the lights were the burning remains of a Soviet rocket that had re-entered the earth's atmosphere. Space junk, they call it. (Great. We had to contend with junk bonds and junk mail and now we get to add space junk to the growing list of junk.)

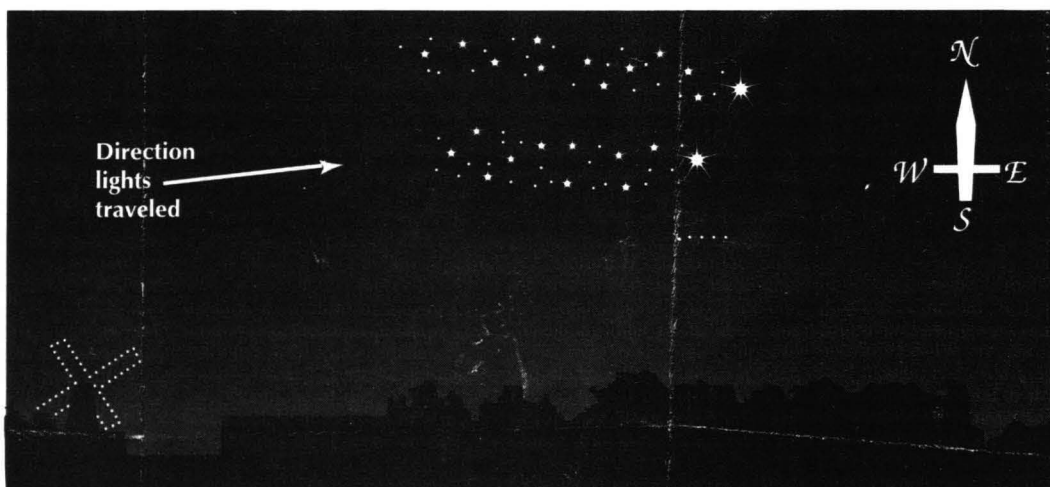
A reluctant rocket is more plausible with the exception they reported (one and all) that the rocket fell harmlessly into the Pacific Ocean.

Last time I checked, Lynden is a good 20 miles inland and the "rocket" made no indication of turning around to go for a swim.

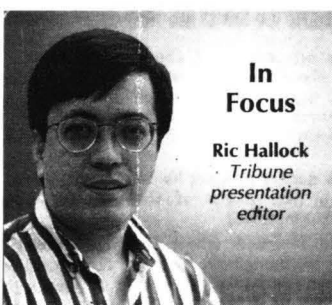
A good conspirator will find plenty of grist for their rumor mill. Let's see if I can add to that.

Naturally, the easiest of conspiracies to jump on is that it was a UFO, or rather, a whole bunch of them. Why they didn't turn off my car's engine or electronics is a baffler. Don't they understand the rules of sightings?

Right up there with little grey men



The view of the lights in the sky Friday as seen looking west from Hampton Road. The lights crossed the sky in less than two minutes disappearing beyond the horizon line toward Sumas.



with almond eyes is the theory of military cover-up. Hey, they're admitting

they have the Stealth fighter, which means they have something fancier in the air right now.

There's a reason why there are more UFO sightings in the Pacific Northwest than any other area in the world. Home to Boeing, after all ...

Combine the two conspiracies above and you get the military trying out the latest captured UFO hardware.

Or, perhaps it was a rocket but not from the Soviets. Saddam Hussein has been squawking about the mother to the mother of all wars. Maybe this was an ill-fated Scud that scudded atop the outer ionosphere, crumbling before it could rumble back to earth.

Going from the ridiculous to the surreal, we could surmise it was an elaborate special effects that will show up on an upcoming "X-Files" episode.

Whatever they were, they were real and they made for a dazzling light show for a lucky handful of people in the right place and time to witness them.

Consider the odds of a rocket entering the atmosphere above a populated area, at night, on a cloudless Northwest November, and looking up at the precise time. The odds are astronomical.

It was brief and mystifying and ultimately fun to have the lucky opportunity to see a sight that few people will ever have the chance to see.

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - Aug. 20, 1997

## SKYWATCH DIARY

BY CAROLE BAKER

We have had some interesting news this week, as well as sightings, details of which follow. The news is that Lee and Brit Elders and Jaime Maussen from Mexico will be visiting the Gulf Breeze area the first weekend of September. They will be filming and doing interviews for a show on Mexican television. Jaime is currently involved with three T.V. shows in Mexico, although the famous *60 Minutos* is no longer on the air. Jaime is well known for his research with the Mexico City sightings and the sightings/photographs by Carlos Diaz of the plasma craft in Mexico. It should be an interesting weekend, particularly since Brit Elders has agreed to speak for the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Group at their monthly meeting. This means, of course, that the meeting will be brought forward a week to September 7th instead of September 14th. This is an excellent opportunity to hear a researcher of Brit's caliber, and she will surely have an interesting talk. Mark your calendars, and we'll see you there.

Now to the sightings. They occurred on Monday, August 11th 1997 at Shoreline Park. There were a total of ten people at Shoreline Park skywatching. Unfortunately I was not there myself, but of the ten witnesses, four were regular skywatchers, five were a family from Pensacola and the other witness was a visitor from Valpariso, FL. My thanks to Ray Pollock for his detailed report of the sighting. I also spoke with three other witnesses personally.

At 9:00 p.m. one witness saw a bright wine-red light just above a newly constructed building near the junction of Via de Luna and Fort Pickens Road on Santa Rosa Island. The elevation was approximately five degrees (the witness told me "twice as high as the building" and I believe the building is some sixteen stories high). The sighting lasted approximately 10 seconds during which time the light did not change intensity and appeared circular or slightly ovoid in shape. "It just blinked out" the witness told me.

Prior to this sighting another witness had seen a bright white light glow on and dim out in an area directly across from Shoreline Park, over Santa Rosa Island to the south. "We saw a lot of "poppers" all evening too, we haven't seen many of those lately either," the witness told me. ("Poppers" are how the skywatchers at Shoreline Park describe short bursts or flashes of light, usually points of light, that appear in the sky. They can range in color from white, through red and even green has been seen. They range in size from very tiny to about the size of a baseball).

The second sighting occurred at 9:18 p.m. and was observed by the family of five from Pensacola and Ray and Elise Pollock. Other witnesses at the scene told me "I was looking the other way and the other group was quite far down the Shoreline from us, so by the time we realized what was happening, we had missed it." The sighting consisted of "four red lights in a row, with the fourth being somewhat lower than the

others and with a slight reduction in size from the first to the fourth. The placement gave the distinct impression that this curved line of lights was attached to an object. The fourth light even appeared to be partially obscured by an angular obstruction. The lights all came on at once and remained in view in the same position for over ten seconds. There was no sense of fading, they just "blinked off." There was no change in intensity or coloration during the time they were visible. No rising or falling motion, or motion of any other kind was detected. The shape of the lights was nearly circular, but slightly ovoid." From the drawing that was made of the sighting, it gives a clear impression of a row of red lights along a curved edge, with the fourth light being partially obscured. Weather conditions at the time were clear, the moon was approximately half full. No aircraft activity was detected in the vicinity of the sightings.

Last week we wrote about sightings that occurred on Perdido Key during the weekend of July 18th-20th, 1997, during Hurricane Danny. This week I had the opportunity to speak personally with one of the witnesses and he confirms that the sighting took place on Sunday, July 20th, 1997. Not a "UFO buff," this witness was obviously very excited about what he had seen. He said that the boys that were with him, his son and his son's friend were also very excited. "The boys were so taken with the whole thing that they stayed all night out on the balcony, fixing the lawn chairs for beds, so that they could keep

watch on the sky and see if the object returned or if they could see anything else." The witness, whose first name is Phil, stated that the elevation of the object when it was stationary in front of them was approximately 30 degrees. It appeared to be at a height of approximately 3000 feet." It is hard to describe how far out over the ocean it was," Phil says, "but it was definitely over the green part." Those of you who are familiar with our Gulf Coast will know that the ocean appears an emerald green color close in to shore, turning a deep azure blue as you go further out into the Gulf. The area of "green" is usually not more than around a half mile out. "The things that go on about this object were its size, the color of it, and the speed with which it left," Phil states. "I am still trying to rationalize it as some military object, but there is no way we have anything that moves that fast from a standing start." Phil describes the size of the object as appearing to be about "four feet long and about one to two inches wide" at arm's length. It appeared in a horizontal position in the sky in front of the witnesses. "It was just there in the sky - not moving at all. It was very large, I cannot imagine how big it would be close too, bug, very big, and the color of it was strange, lime green, you know, like the lime green Gatorade the kids drink—not green like you see on the running lights of a plane. And it was glowing, self illuminated, the whole thing was green and white, not lights, but the thing itself. And there were fins on one end, maybe five or six. They were not illuminated, but the light from the object itself was strong enough that you could see them." Phil went on to

state that the object was totally silent and it was over a minute that it was just there in front of them. "Then it took off, so fast, so very fast, it was out over the horizon before you could even think about it—gone in two seconds. All my kids could say was, "Oh God, Oh God!!!" it really had them going." The two other men who were with Phil and his kids said that there had been two other similar sightings that weekend. "We were awestruck," Phil told me.

I wish they would finish the construction at Shoreline Park. They are working on the bathrooms now, and they have put turquoise blue metal roofs on the gazebos. Summer will be over before long and the project is still not finished. We are getting used to it though, and even though the park is not as natural as it used to be, and the shorebirds have been forced to look elsewhere for places to fish, it is still a good spot for skywatching. I just hope that new lighting is not part of the overall plan. The lights that are there are bright enough and intrusive enough on our efforts.

If you have a sighting or encounter to report, or wish to contact the local Experienter Support Group, please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261. If you would like information, please write to: Carole Baker, P.O. Box 17152, Pensacola FL 32522-7152. Keep Looking Up!

# SKYWATCH DIARY

by CAROLE BAKER

A very busy week for Ufology this week, both locally and worldwide. On the local level, we have had some sighting activity as well as several visitors to Shoreline Park. Worldwide, of course, there has been the response of the United States Air Force to the 1947 Roswell Incident in light of the upcoming 50th Anniversary celebrations, with their "latest" report "Roswell Report: Case Closed."

Locally, we had an interesting sighting reported on Thursday evening, June 19, 1997 which was followed by some unusual helicopter activity at Shoreline Park which seems to have involved an unidentifiable object. The sighting was reported to skywatchers at Shoreline Park at 9:45 p.m. The witness had just returned from a meeting in Gulf Breeze where there was discussion of trying to change the image of the City of Gulf Breeze from the "UFO Capital of the World." (Sorry Guys, I think it's too late for that!) Anyway, the witness had returned home and was on the telephone when a very loud, low helicopter flew over the house. The witness lives in the area of Gulf Breeze which is between the High School and Shoreline Park. The witness rushed outside to see what was going on, and reports seeing clearly a "white helicopter chasing a saucer with three green luminous portholes on the side." The witness states that the helicopter and the saucer were clearly visible because of illumination from the lights on the local ballfield and street lights and that the helicopter and the saucer flew very low over the house, making a sharp turn toward Shoreline Park. "That helicopter was really on the saucer's butt," the witness reports. "There was no doubt that the helicopter was chasing the saucer... I always thought this stuff was all to do with the military in the area until now... there is no way that what this helicopter was chasing was man-made - this event has really changed my mind and made me eat a lot of words," the witness told me. Driving directly to Shoreline Park the witness reported the sighting to skywatchers there.

That evening there was a group of seven people skywatching at the time. Some twenty-five minutes later at 10:10 p.m. the skywatchers at Shoreline Park (including the witness to the earlier event) reported seeing two helicopters apparently escorting a third unidentifiable object across the Sound toward Santa Rosa Island and then east along the Beach toward the bridge. All of the witness accounts detail two helicopters escorting a third object which appeared anomalous. It has been described as an oblong object, "like the fuselage of a small plane" with a small white light on one end and either portholes or luminous blue circles along its flank. The manner in which this object exited the area is of particular interest and has been described in several different ways. Another witness who has come forward, lives across the Sound from Shoreline Park on the north shore of Santa Rosa Island. He reports that at the stated time he was outside and observed three helicopters flying over, very low, one without any lights on at all. This situation is still under investigation and further details will be forthcoming in the near future. Two of the witnesses at Shoreline Park were visiting from the Nashville, Tenn. area and one of these witnesses has had several UFO sightings in the past, one of which lasted over four hours while he chased a craft through four counties in Tennessee.

On Friday evening, June 20, 1997, a witness reported seeing a strange object hovering over the fishing pier that runs parallel with the three-mile bridge from Pensacola to Gulf Breeze. It was at approximately 11:15 p.m. when he spotted a strange square shaped object that appeared to be covered with small lights "the size of ping pong balls" that flashed on and off in different colors, red, green, yellow and white. The object was estimated to be approximately 500 feet above the fishing pier and approximately 1500 feet out from it over the bay. The witness was obviously not able to stop on the bridge although he reports that he "slowed right down to get a really good look" and then pulled off at the Gulf Breeze end of the bridge on the east side, but by then the object had disappeared.

If anyone else witnessed either of these events, the helicopter situation on Thursday evening or the object over the fishing bridge on Friday night, please call the hotline number below. We are anxious to gather more information on both of these events and as usual, confidentiality is assured.

We also enjoyed talking with a couple on vacation in Gulf Breeze from Oklahoma City this week. They made a point of coming to Shoreline Park to see if they could see a UFO. Dana and Vicki both have a deep interest in the subject of Ufology and have made a prior trip to the Rachel, NV area on their vacation last year. Vicki told me that they plan to visit all the UFO hotspots on their annual vacations.

Now, as far as the United States Air Force's "Case Closed" Report on Roswell is concerned, what can one say? This is now the fourth explanation that the Air Force has offered on the Roswell Incident, and fifty years later, we are still being given such outlandish explanations that it must make even the skeptics pause for thought. Are we really to believe that the witnesses who were members of the 509th Bomber Squadron who were the only squadron with A-bomb capabilities were unable to determine what they saw in July of 1947? Surely these would have been our crack troops, and surely the local residents who came forward with detailed accounts of the events of those few days in July would not have been so mistaken as to the description of the craft and the remains of its passengers. No reference was made in the Air Force's explanation of the time difference between the 1947 newspaper report of the Roswell crash and the commencement of the use of the dummies in tests in the early fifties. It would have been interesting if one of the news coverages could have included some comments from Stanton Friedman. His research on Roswell stands for itself and would have offered a strong counterpart to the Air Force's explanations. Even the news people at the conference obviously found some major holes in the Air Force's explanation and the Colonel holding the news conference even admitted that the Air Force could not directly like the events described in the report with the 1947 incident at Roswell, it was just that there were some similarities which may be explanation enough. For whom?

Roswell celebrates its 50th Anniversary over the July 4th weekend. Many UFO researchers will be attending the events which span several days and include lectures, meetings, banquets and other special events. Many people will be attending this celebration and many people will still continue to

research the Roswell incident in the hope of one day uncovering the real truth.

If anyone has any sightings or experiences to report or they would wish to contact the local experimenter support group, please call the Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON Hotline at 438-3261. Or if anyone wishes to receive information, please write to me at P.O. Box 17152, Pensacola, FL 32522-7152. Keep Looking Up!

LABOR NEWS, Rockford, IL - Nov. 21, 1997

## WOMAN BELIEVES ALIENS PRESENT

What's all this stuff about aliens... about dancing lights in the night sky... about outer space creatures and the taking of male sperm and eggs from women?

Serious matter or a big ha-ha right from the pages of the supermarket tabloids?

Nobody laughed when Dr. Karyn K. Mitchell, N.D., Ph.D., began her presentation with the words, "I am an abductee and a contact."

The Aerial Phenomena Research Organization group and visitors gathered round a table in Dixon's Loveland Community Center and listened intently to what she had to say.

Karyn and her husband Steven are certified hypnotherapy instructors who see their "focus" as restoring a normal life to people who have been abducted by aliens.

And there allegedly are millions of them.

According to a Roper Report published in 1992, "one in fifty Americans has been abducted by aliens, 3.7 million people, or two percent of the 185 million U.S. citizens have been abducted."

Articulate and attractively gentle-spoken, Karyn describes how contactees are often left



with a feeling of intense responsibility regarding ominous predictive images. She asks, "If you were to tell people, how would you do it? You could casually mention that you were taken up onto a large spaceship, had all kinds of reproductive tests, and then saw the end of the world transpire."

But, this usually doesn't bring a positive response. So... what does Karyn recommend?

The Mitchells have determined that fear of being labeled crazy and fear of rejection keep people from the help and healing which they need: "It no longer matters what anyone thinks—the pain and the abductions can and must be stopped."

Karyn says she has worked with over a hundred UFO abductee clients and many more contactees who have found help through regressive hypnotherapy.

In her third book, "Abductions: Stop Them, Heal Them," the transcript of a session is printed. Following is an excerpt. The client has been "regressed" to the creation of his problems and is describing a cave (or craft) of

some sort:

Therapist: Are you alone?

Client: No, there is someone with me... I can see the legs, looks like some sort of gray, stretchy smooth material... I see long fingers... twice as long as ours, only not so many, maybe three.

Therapist: What happens next?

Client: I am trying to bargain with him or her, but it doesn't seem to understand what I am saying or doesn't care."

The client explains that these ongoing abductions have been experienced since the age of two or three.

According to the Mitchells, possible indicators for people who suspect they have been abducted include: unusual hair loss, consistent (same time each day) ringing in the ears, scars or mystery wounds without cause or reason, missing time and memory lapse, dreams of strange encounters, undefined paranoia, and a sense of falling or jolting back into bed.

One chapter on why abductions occur suggests an alien race, the Zeta Reticuli, are "taking sperm samples from men and eggs from women." One female client wished to continue her abductions because she said she became the mother of a hybrid child and was allowed to nurture this child during her "visits."

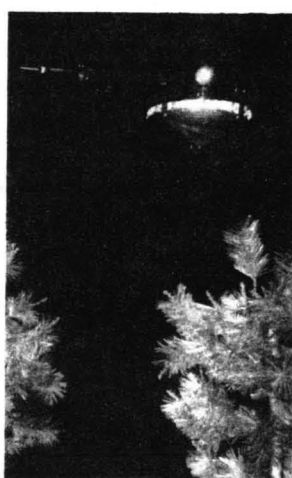
A Polaroid photograph of the hybrid girl mysteriously disappeared from Karyn's pocket during an interview with a camera crew, but she said she could well remember what the child looked like—"very sparse hair, enormous eyes and pale gray skin."

Karyn describes another woman who had conceived twins. This woman reported she had also observed mysterious, colored lights dancing over her area in the night sky around the time of her babies' conception. Later, the twins "vanished" from her womb and her doctor accused her of having a surgical procedure. Interestingly enough, the girl's mother said she had experienced a vivid dream of someone stealing the babies.

A chapter on implants describes tracking devices, energy impulses, and the therapist even spoke of devices for harvesting genetic material. She reports seeing wounds on clients which involve these extra terrestrial implants, and also explains how to remove them.

The APRO group asked questions about Karyn's own abduction experiences, which she graciously answered, but asked that they be edited from the televised taping of her presentation and not be publicized.

Later, APRO Director Bill Heft, who recently spoke at the Rockford Rotary Club luncheon,



"HERE THEY COME"

said he believes the group must support people and never ridicule or dismiss their opinions.

The question he always asks is, what is God's place among aliens? "If aliens really exist, then God created them. Nothing exists that is not a part of His plan," says Heft.

Voicing his concern over messages of "space brothers coming to save mankind from destruction," Heft says he is in the organization to refute such beliefs. He explains that a UFO cult has developed world wide which is actually a "religion" and a warning has to be sounded. "I am that warning voice," says the former Baptist minister.

Speaking of the suicidal Heaven's Gate followers, Heft admits that the weirdest, off-the-wall ideas often surface in the fringes of the UFO followers, adding that "to commit suicide in order to live smacks against all common sense." The Heaven's Gate cult was never a part of APRO although they tried to join at one time, according to Bill.

Christians, he says, need to be involved to offer balance. Television host of biblical prophecy programs, Jack Van Impe, acknowledges UFOs as Satanic manifestations, according to Heft. "The devil can dupe people into believing they are seeing aliens when they are not, but believers have authority over devils," says the director.

As the evening progressed, the group of men and women sat quietly, each alone with his own ideas, and yet sharing a curious bond with the others. They had all seen something they could not explain.

Nobody laughed.

## Ayres Says Archway Near UFO Site

UFO historian and songwriter Bob Ayres believes the "southside of the Archway" will rest within a mile of an alleged 1957 UFO landing site on the Platte.

Bob has kept the UFO legend alive for 40 years with recorded songs and stories.

He has also written a humorous song about a controversy over whether Kearney County or Buffalo County hold claim to the landing sight.

Ayres is a former Minden resident now residing in Holdrege.

COURIER, Minden, NE - Dec. 2, 1997



# 'Fireball' fires up the UFO crowd

## Man reports strange light over Will Co.

By ART GOLAB  
SUBURBAN REPORTER

Scully and Mulder, look out. The sighting of a mysterious fireball in the sky near New Lenox over the weekend has drawn the attention of UFO specialists from all over the country.

It also has become fodder for a nationally syndicated radio show dealing with the paranormal. But authorities are not ready to open an X-File yet and call in agents Dana Scully and Fox Mulder from the TV show.

A search by Will County sheriff's police found no evidence of debris, and the FAA reported no planes missing or sightings on radar. "We looked into it, and there is no aviation connection that we can determine," FAA spokesman Don Zochert said.

But Tinley Park businessman and pilot Tim Janecyk, one of three people who reported the phenomenon to police, knows he saw something.

He was driving west on Interstate 80 near Parker Road about 6:30 p.m. Sunday with his girlfriend when, off to the left, he saw "a brilliant fireball

descend from the clouds straight down."

The object, the size of a full moon, lit up the clouds, trailing a column of smoke, Janecyk said. It appeared to be descending about 125 to 150 m.p.h., he said. "It was too slow for a meteor," said Janecyk, a private pilot for eight years. Within 20 seconds, it disappeared behind some trees, he said.

Janecyk called New Lenox police, who notified Will County sheriff's police. Officers investigated but found nothing, said Lt. Mike Moran.

Janecyk also called the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, whose director, Peter Davenport, discussed it Monday for half an hour on "Art Bell Coast to Coast," an overnight radio program heard locally on WLS-AM (890). Davenport described similar sightings near Kansas City, Mo.

Janecyk also was contacted by John Timmerman of Lima, Ohio, a case investigator for the Mutual UFO Network. "We're not suggesting it could be of extraterrestrial origin," Timmerman said. "It could be some space device that man put up there that decided to come back home. We're just trying to identify it and explain it."



New Lenox

# UFO Visited Wayne County 34 Years Ago



## THOUGHTS

From the mind of JACK VERTREES



Got a phone call the other day from a young lady of 100 years, Nellie Austin over Wayne City way. She was a delight and pleased that she got 139 birthday cards on her Sept. 29 birthday when she hit the century mark. Not many of us get that far and Nellie would have been around when the Titanic sank in 1912.

Nellie did go back on us a bit in time to about 34 years ago and asked if we remembered talking to members of the Austin family after an UFO incident involving her grandson, Ronnie Austin and his girl friend, Phyllis Bruce, after they had gone to a movie in Mt. Vernon. As the young couple started home, a strange and myste-

rious light in the sky began following them, all the way home, thru the countryside.

The light hung in the sky for a time after Ronnie got home. The light was seen by a number of people that night. The sighting attracted national attention and the Air Force sent its UFO experts here and a Northwestern University professor, considered top man in the US at that time in UFO sightings came too. We don't recall the Air Force verdict on the sighting but we are sure that they determined it was no UFO since the Air Force doesn't believe in UFOs. Interesting story and yes, we believe there are UFOs around. Incidentally, Ronnie and Phyllis became Mr. and Mrs. and still are.

# UFOs on new CD-ROM

By TIMOTHY KENNEDY  
Universe Staff Writer

"UFOs: Just The Facts" is a wonderful new multimedia CD-ROM that does a fabulous job of providing both detailed and documented information for those intrigued by the phenomenon of UFOs.

The CD-ROM, produced by the Sky Multimedia group, is promoted as being both entertaining and informative, a description I would quickly agree with. As I browsed through the various menu options and explored the information contained therein, I was entertained and better informed on the subject of UFOs.

One of my favorite parts of the CD-ROM was the "Film and Video" exhibit. While the film section only offers six different videos of UFOs, the shots are intriguing. One in particular I liked was the shot from a space shuttle that showed a meteor and lightning

storm on Earth that is interrupted for a brief time by what appears to be a large UFO coming out of the clouds. While the shot is distant and shaky, it is still fairly convincing. Other shots include one from space showing something zipping off in the distance, plus a couple of other shots from Earth. All in all the footage is decent, but like most UFO footage, it is difficult to follow and ambiguous at best.

Another interesting section, entitled "Government Documents," contained convincing evidence of government cover-ups from both the military and FBI, some of which were originally intended for various presidents and other important government officials. The CD-ROM lays out both the original copy and a translated version, making it easier to understand, although the actual content of the documents is difficult to decipher. Still, the fact that the documents exist, and you can read them on the

CD-ROM, somehow makes the whole idea of a government cover-up credible. It is a must-see for anyone who is convinced deep down that the government is holding out on its UFO information.

Although most of the information on the CD-ROM is interesting and entertaining, some of it is just plain boring. The "Timeline" section is a true sleeper in its attempt to trace the important dates of UFO history. Equally boring is the "UFO Lore" section, which contains ancient hieroglyphics and artifacts that are somehow connected to UFOs in the past. These portions of the CD-ROM are the definite downside to the presentation, offering little detail and few graphics.

Overall "UFOs: Just The Facts" is an entertaining and interesting approach to the subject of UFOs. It contains information and fabulous graphics that come together in a fun package for UFO buffs everywhere.

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed reading your letter from Ken Manning concerning the tenth anniversary of the Gulf Breeze UFOs (Nov. 12 issue). In his 1997 book called **UFOs ARE REAL: HERE'S THE PROOF**, Gulf Breeze contractor Ed Walters and co-author Bruce Maccabee, Ph.D., described my research and discovery made in 1992 that on a Mercator flat map of the world Gulf Breeze is the center of a huge circle that cuts through the northwest edge of North America at Alaska and the southern edge of South America. Thus, Gulf Breeze is the topographical center of North America and South America. Also, Gulf Breeze forms a nearly perfect equilateral triangle with the North Pole and the center of the world on a half-section view of the earth. In addition, Gulf Breeze and the Japan Trench in the

Pacific form a perfect equilateral triangle with the ancient Great Pyramid of Gizeh in Egypt (circa 2600 B.C.) on an overhead view of the world from space or the North Pole.

What I am getting at is that in Carole Baker's "Skywatch Diary" in *The Islander* for November 12, 1997, five people driving along Nine Mile Road in Pensacola during November, 1997, said they saw three large lights in the sky in the shape of a triangle. The lights were big, yellow-colored, and the entire triangle was big.

After ten years of the UFOs over Pensacola-Gulf Breeze, are the objects trying to send us some kind of graphic or mathematical message in the form of a huge equilateral triangle? If the UFOs do come from space—what kind of graphic message could be more logical and reasonable than one set in mathematical and graphic design terms and concerning the world and outer space and other worlds?

With the Ed Walters photos starting in 1987-88 and other sightings ranging up into 1997, I suggest that more and more information will be made clear and more and more dramatic sightings over Pensacola-Gulf Breeze will occur in the months and years ahead. In future years, I think that some kind of monument or center of learning related to the coming of the UFOs will be built at Gulf Breeze. This might be related to the ancient Great Pyramid of Gizeh in Egypt and to Meso-American civilizations or to temples of learning and a center place related to superior wisdom or learning and the theme of revealed knowledge and truths.

Kenneth Larson  
Author, *Gulf Breeze UFOs: Topographical Center of North & South America*

# Crash-test dummies, UFOs — a starting point

PAUL and CATHY RUEZ

Gaze into the star-studded night sky and feel the sensation of sheer wonderment and respect, and connect with the vastness of nature's creation, the universe, our home.

As Hollywood and tabloid media managers try to exploit the aura of uncertainty regarding life in the universe, thoughtful people look to the heavens and contemplate more rational explanations concerning the vastness of the cosmos and the origins of life. These thoughts are further stimulated by responsible information indicating extraterrestrial civilizations, past and present.

People ask why they don't hear more of this kind of information. It's important to know that a 1959 NASA report warned against releasing data indicating contact with ETs or ET artifacts (like the

"Face on Mars").

While some officials have helped, and continue to encourage the release of in-depth information, this NASA report, we believe, helped set the precedent for discrediting and ignoring information that indicates we are not alone in the universe. The report warned that the social, economic, scientific and religious status quo would be disrupted if such information were made public.

If we scan the papers, research reports and private testimonies from the late 1940s up through the present day, despite the vigorous efforts of some government and private concerns to look the other way, we note that technologically advanced unidentified flying objects have been observed landing on Earth, flying in the air and on the moon and Mars.

Public pressure led to the government-sponsored Condon Report. Designed to look "objective," it was admittedly biased.

Despite the best efforts to bury the "saucers" this 1969 "report" was unable to disprove about 30 percent of the cases chosen for examination.

In addition to sightings and daylight landings, scientists also are stating publicly their findings that life is not limited to just this little planet Earth. Chemical building blocks of life are discovered in space. NASA announces the discovery of indications of organic life in a Mars rock. Mars Viking mission scientists (1976) can't say for sure we didn't find life.

A senior chemical researcher reports that we should not be surprised when we land on another planet to have an ET who looks like us welcome us with a handshake. Discoveries show that the principles and laws of nature that govern life on Earth are universal.

Consider that historically the telescope was thought to be an "instrument of the devil," the

Earth was "known" to be the center of the universe and people were executed for stating that other planets are inhabited. Human visitors from "above" hold prominent places in Earth's mythology, scriptures and history.

"We Discovered Alien Bases on the Moon II," by the late Fred Steckling of Vista, shows NASA photos with objects hovering above, and rolling on, the lunar surface. We have examined the original NASA photos and see them as very strong evidence of ET activity.

Information is knowledge, and with greater understanding, perhaps, as you gaze into the night sky you can feel what it's like to live in a populated universe.

Paul & Kathy Ruez, coordinators of the Space Science Education Project, teach classes, lecture and write on this subject. E-mail: spacesci@mailhost2.csusm.edu. "We Discovered Alien Bases On The Moon II" and further information is available at [www.gafintl-adamski.com](http://www.gafintl-adamski.com).



## FOREIGN NEWS

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

DAILY MAIL, London, England - Dec. 9, 1997 CR: G. Conway

### AS EXPERTS MEET AT A WORLD UFO CONGRESS, A STARTLING THEORY FROM A TOP WRITER

COLIN WILSON is one of Britain's most eminent authors. He has written dozens of plays and books, covering subjects from Mozart and Rasputin to Tolkien and Hermann Hesse, and has been a visiting professor at leading American universities. But it was for his studies of real-life crime, in particular serial murder, that he acquired an international reputation. Possessed of a first-rate sceptical mind, he prides himself on solving forensic problems.

It is in this context that what follows is an extraordinary testament. For here, as experts from all over the world meet in Mexico for the second World UFO Congress, Wilson reveals for the first time why he believes that there are, indeed, aliens among us.



by COLIN WILSON

**T**HREE years ago in Washington DC, at a conference on unsolved mysteries, I heard a professor named David Jacobs lecturing about UFO abductions.

I could hardly believe my ears when he said that thousands of Americans believed they had been kidnapped by aliens, taken on board spacecraft, and often subjected to some kind of medical examination.

What was more, Jacobs said, the aliens usually destroyed all memory of the abduction, and the victims came to suspect that something was wrong only when they became aware of 'missing time'.

After the lecture, I asked Jacobs: 'Do you think these people are sane?' He nodded. 'I've interviewed hundreds, and most of them are as sane as you or I.'

The whole thing sounded so absurd that I pushed it to the back of my mind. But a year later, when a publisher asked me to write a book about extra-terrestrial life, I decided to return to the subject.

At first what I learned made me wonder whether the human race was going insane. It seemed vast numbers of people were telling the same story: they had been taken from their beds by little grey men with huge wrap-around eyes, often floated through the wall, and taken aboard flying saucers.

Women often said that they were subjected to some kind of examination, and that foetuses had been implanted in their wombs. When they woke up the next morning, they were often puzzled by red marks on their navels, yet had no memory of anything happening during the night. But their ordeals often returned in dreams and many consulted a doctor or psychiatrist, who recovered memories under hypnosis.

**A**ND WHAT happened to the babies? This was the weirdest part of the story. According to the women, when the foetuses were a few months old they were taken away during subsequent abductions and brought up by the aliens.

What was going on? Was all this some kind of mass hysteria? Over nearly three years, I progressed from being a sceptic to a believer.

I talked to John Mack, a friend who is a professor of psychiatry at Harvard University. He has studied hundreds of cases and has written a book called *Abduction*.

John assured me that it was happening. It was not hysteria or imagination. He also felt that many of those he had examined had been made 'spiritually stronger' by their experience.

But surely little grey men were not kidnapping human beings to make them stronger?

Mack admitted that he had no idea of their motive. All he knew was that something strange was undoubtedly happening.

I had never taken any deep interest in UFOs. But in the Seventies I had been friendly with Uri Geller and his mentor, Andrija Puharich.

Professor Puharich had written a book called *Uli*, in which he claimed that all kinds of miracles had happened in front of their eyes: UFOs swooping out of the night sky, metallic voices speaking from thin air, tape recorders that switched themselves on and off

with messages that claimed to come from 'the Nine' — aliens who were anxious to help humanity.

The aliens told Puharich that they were preparing for a mass landing on Earth in the Seventies. But, of course, it never happened and Puharich's book flopped, virtually destroying his reputation.

Now, for the purposes of my book, I decided that I had to start from the beginning and study UFO phenomena that had been appearing all over the world since a pilot named Kenneth Arnold saw nine 'shining discs' in 1947 and invented the term 'flying saucer'.

The first thing I recognised, as I studied hundreds of reports, was that the whole subject of UFOs had to be taken seriously; that it was not some strange fad or superstition.

There have been millions of sightings and most have been made by perfectly ordinary, reliable witnesses with no reason to lie. And the number is incredible. When an American called John Keel decided to collect newspaper cuttings about them in the early Sixties, he

was astounded to receive more than 2,000 in a month.

Then the nature of the cases began to change. In 1967, 16-year-old Shane Kurz was puzzled when she woke up one morning to find her feet covered in mud and her muddy footprints going downstairs and across the street.

She began to show signs of pregnancy — but that was impossible, because she was a virgin.

**U**NDER hypnosis by Dr Hans Holzer, she remembered being summoned from her bed by some inexplicable compulsion, being taken aboard a spacecraft, and being impregnated by a humanoid alien. When she struggled, the aliens rubbed some ointment on her body that made her sexually excited.

A month or so later, her pregnancy vanished as suddenly as it started.

That was the beginning of an

apparent wave of abductions. And throughout the Eighties they became increasingly frequent.

Budd Hopkins, a New York artist, wrote a book about 'missing time' and received hundreds of letters from people who were certain they had been abducted. He is now a world expert on abduction and his meticulously documented cases are disturbingly convincing.

French astronomer Jacques Vallee, studying UFO sightings in the Fifties, came to a very strange conclusion: that the aliens were attempting to accustom human beings to the idea of beings from space coming to Earth.

But were they beings from space? After 20 years, Vallee reached an even more amazing conclusion: they were not. Rather they existed in a kind of parallel dimension, more like poltergeists than aliens.

Their craft, a kind of UFO, can do things that no normal spacecraft can do. They can turn at right angles at a thousand miles an hour, appear and disappear at will, communicate with those they abduct by telepathy. I have known

Jacques Vallee for many years, and I found his evidence overwhelming. There is a sense in which the UFO entities behave like the traditional ghosts — except that they are very obviously not ghosts, but highly evolved beings.

If they are so highly evolved, why are they bothering with us, who must strike them as little better than Neanderthals?

Slowly, as I researched my book, which will be called *Alien Dawn*, I began to see what I believe to be the only explanation.

Ever since I wrote a book called *The Outsider*, 40 years ago, about the mystical states of man, I have been convinced that mankind is on the point of some great evolutionary change. We possess inner powers that we scarcely begin to understand, but which were glimpsed by the Romantic poets of the 19th century.

Now I became totally convinced: the aliens are interested in us because we are what they were once. I believe that the task they have given themselves is to act as midwife to us as we go through the next stage of our evolution.

What first convinced me was the number of cases in which people who have had UFO encounters have been deeply changed.

A woman who stopped her car to look at a UFO as she was driving to Oxford said that, for the rest of the drive, it was if a mental explosion was taking place. Knowledge and insight seemed to flood into her mind. She told Vallee: 'All I can say is that in the course of a few hours, I changed from an agnostic to a gnostic.'

I, too, have come across dozens of such cases. Sometimes the change is interesting but minor.

**O**NE British couple who later realised they and their family had been abducted experienced personality changes. They became vegetarians. The husband suddenly became interested in art and religion. A smoker, he gave up overnight. Their backward child became brilliant at school.

In other cases, there has been a deep and permanent inner transformation of awareness.

An American, Beth Collings, realised that not only had she been abducted since childhood, but so had her father, her grandfather and her children. And when she asked a grey alien why he was inserting a needle into her navel, he replied: 'For the sake of change.'

H.G. Wells once wrote a novel suggesting that humans were slowly being changed into 'Martians' by some higher beings who were bombarding our genes with cosmic rays from space. I have come to believe that Wells was showing the amazing prophetic insight that was part of his genius.

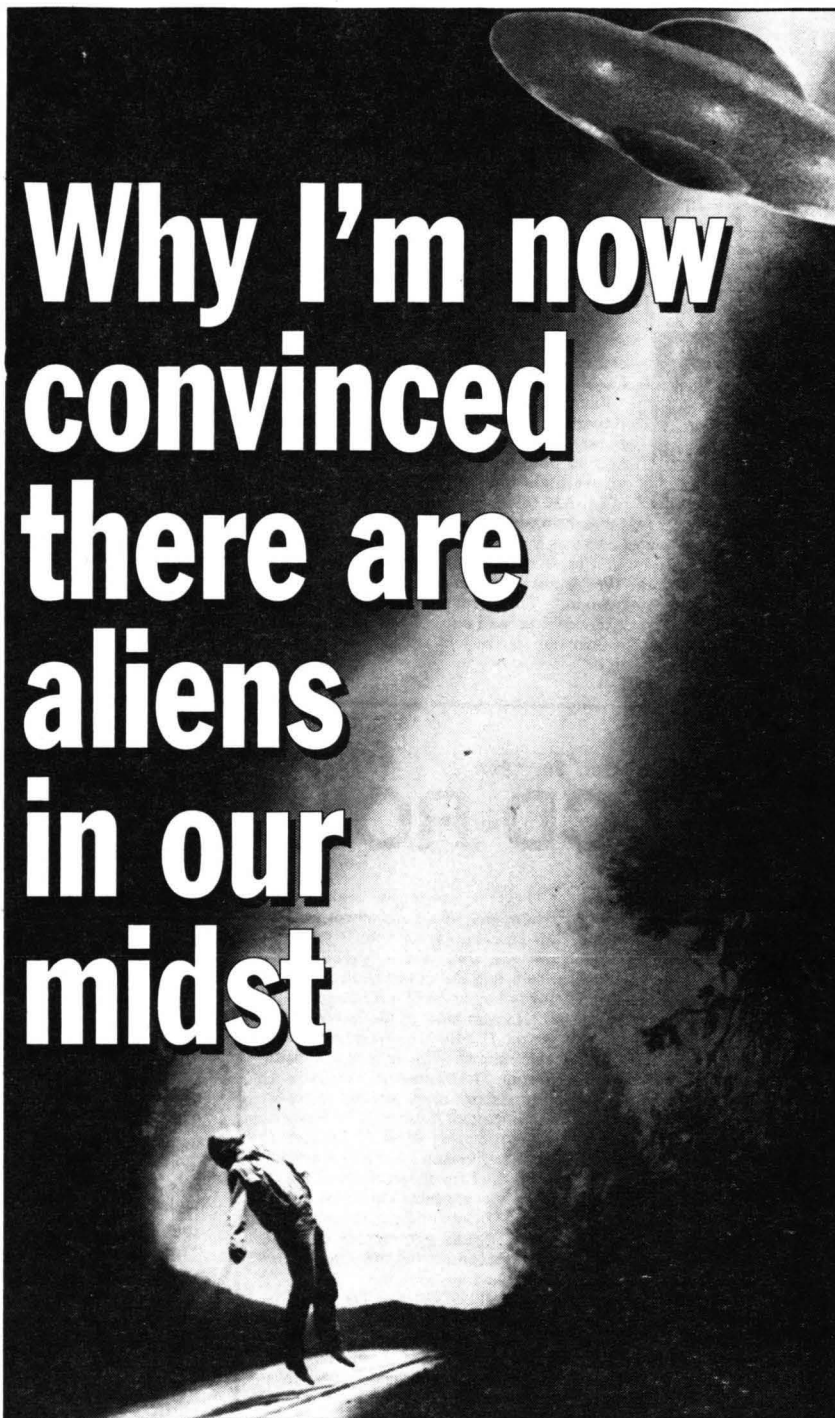
I rang Andrija Puharich, not long before his death, to ask him what he was working on. He told me that he was studying super-normal children. 'You wouldn't believe how many of those kids there are out there,' he said. 'They seem to be on genius level. I know dozens, and there are probably thousands.'

I have also come to believe this. I am convinced that the aliens are using many methods to 'seed' the human race with different types of being: alterations in individual consciousness, genetic engineering, even the creation of people who do not realise that they have two personalities — as a human being and as an alien.

The aliens know that the human race is at a dangerous point in its development, that we are creating a chaos that will be hard to disentangle.

Nostradamus foretold that the coming millennium would bring about some frightening changes.

But if I am right — and the study of a vast body of evidence I have compiled has convinced me that I am — then we are also close to a change that will alter the course of human history.



# Why I'm now convinced there are aliens in our midst



**IT TAKES** only a dark road with a dip in it, or a blind corner, and Gary Wood is gripped by fear.

Nightmares shatter the four hours' sleep he has now learned to live with.

Every day the words echo in his head: "We are already here — and we are still coming."

Yet this is a man who holds down the vital job of keeping Scotland's ambulances on 100 per cent call-out readiness.

In a country pub, his drink untouched, making his story as detailed as possible, 32-year-old Gary shoots embarrassed glances at his listeners.

He shakes his head. "I'm sorry. I know it sounds nuts, but I can only tell it how it happened. I don't want this. I would rather have my life back the way it was."

Gary tells a story of alien abduction on a Scottish road. Of beings who probed his body and mind and left him terrified that one day they will return — for him.

Of all the encounters claimed around the world, Gary's is considered one of the most authentic. For he was not alone on the night of August 17, 1992, when he was plucked from his car.

Friend Colin Wright was with him. Separately, under hypnosis, they have told the same story.

Colin has coped with it better, refusing to talk publicly. Gary talked and suffered ridicule and hostility. It took much persuasion to arrange this rare interview.

Nervous, and watching for the first hint of derision, he begins: "I was just a normal guy. All I wanted was my job, plenty of money, a nice house, a family..."

Today he shrugs as if these things are lost forever.

**AT ABOUT 10pm** that August night, Gary set off with Colin on a 40-minute journey to another friend's house outside Edinburgh.

Driving at a safe 45mph, the pair had just passed Harper's Ridge reservoir on the A70 when they approached a blind dip in the road.

Before them, floating about 20ft above the ground, was a black, domed object measuring 30-35ft across. It was a classic flying saucer shape.

A curtain of light bathed the width of the road.

"Suddenly, it was like I was in a black void," says Gary. "There I am, standing up and thinking: 'Where's my car? Where's Colin?' I wondered if I was dead."

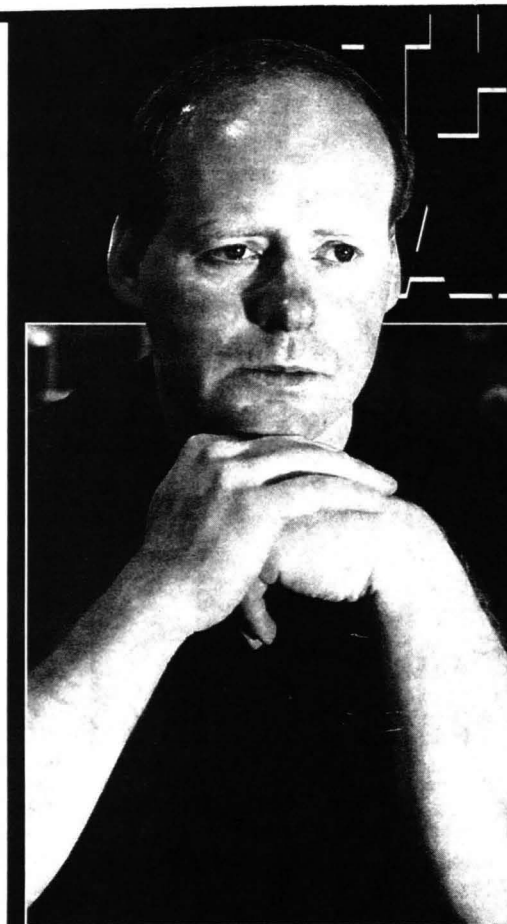
"Another 15 seconds went by and I was back in my car on the wrong side of the road, shunting diagonally into the banking."

At their friend's home, the terrified pair told what had happened.

Independently, in separate parts of the house, they drew what they had seen. The drawings were identical.

They also discovered that somehow, they had lost an hour-and-a-half en route.

For Gary, the ordeal was just



**NIGHTMARE:** Gary Wood recalls his abduction. Inset, the picture of a spaceship the Daily Mirror reported yesterday NASA had suppressed

# THE REALITY IS AMONG US

Case 1: The ambulance chief  
Dateline: August 17, 1992  
Location: A70, nr Edinburgh



beginning. He began to suffer severe headaches and flashbacks which left him screaming in bed. The fear was so crippling he couldn't go out alone, except to work.

Nine months after his encounter, Gary was prepared for hypnosis. Colin also agreed to undergo testing.

The regression was video-taped. Horror is stamped over Gary's face as he relives the meeting.

"I saw three creatures coming towards my car. I felt intense pain, like an electric shock. Then I was in some room."

"I saw these things like wee men moving about, doing something to me. I could only see up. Then this six-foot creature approached."

"It was white-grey in colour with a large head and dark eyes with a long, slender neck, very slim shoulders and waist."

"There were either ribs or folds of skin on its body. The arms were like ours but there were four very long fingers."

"The little ones were about three feet tall and seemed to do

all the work while the big ones did the communication."

"I felt that some of them felt sorry for me. One of them looked into my life and I looked into it — it couldn't stop me. It was hiding something."

"One of the big creatures put his face close to mine and I was so frightened I could hardly breathe."

**I NEVER spoke to me, but something came into my head.**

"I heard a voice saying: 'I have a life like you but different things happen to us — but it's got to be done.'"

"I was crying like a baby — I wanted to get away. I must have asked what it wanted. It said: 'Sanctuary — we are here already and we are coming here.'"

"Just to the left of me I saw a girl. She was on the ground, her hands clasping her knees to her chest. She was naked and crying."

"She looked at me, but I couldn't do anything. Tears were coming down her face. She was in her early twenties, with shoulder-length blonde hair. I would

recognise her face if I saw it again but it was nobody I'd met before."

In separate sessions, Colin remembered being in a different room. He was naked and sitting in a chair.

If he tried to move, one of the creatures would stop him.

In his head he heard: "Gary's all right, you don't have to get off the chair."

Hanging from the ceiling were cylinder-shaped objects which made him think of containers for people.

After the regression, Gary became obsessed with research and tracking down other people who have had similar experiences.

He now has his own page on the Internet. Along with Edinburgh author John Jenkins, he has recorded the stories of others — debunking many of them.

Every spare hour is devoted to seeking an answer to what happened to him.

"I know something is going to happen. I believe they are here and they are coming."

"I want to be ready."

## MANY CASES INVOLVE SANE, HONEST PEOPLE

**PHILIP MANTLE**, of the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA), has interviewed many of the 80 Britons claiming alien encounters. He says: "There are too many cases involving sane, sober, decent and honest people for it to be discounted."

"The fact that alleged abductees risk ridicule when they talk publicly must deter the cranks."

**AN MoD SPOKESMAN** dismissed the threat of aliens arriving here as "negligible". He said: "We don't perceive any threat from extra-terrestrials."

"Around 99.9 per cent of cases are explained by natural phenomena like lighting, weather balloons or aircraft."

### EXPERTS' VIEW

**NICK POPE** spent three years at the MoD, investigating and researching the UFO mystery. He says: "I have absolutely no doubt that some of these accounts do happen and that some sort of alien intelligence may be involved."

"Of the MoD UFO sightings, five to ten per cent are unexplained."

"On a number of occasions, RAF jets have been scrambled to try and intercept UFOs."

● Philip Mantle's book *Without Consent* is published by Ringpull Press. You can contact BUFORA at BM Bufora, London, WC1N 3XX

GUARDIAN, London, England - June 27, 1997

## Why UFOs are no flight of fancy

THE American Air Force is trying once again to convince people that the UFO crash at Roswell was nothing more than a fabrication conjured up by a deluded and paranoid segment of the population (To boldly go where no mannequin's gone before, June 25). I am insulted.

I consider myself a well balanced and rational person. I do not believe in alien abductions and am loath to subscribe to most of the cover-up

accusations levelled at various governments, but even a basic examination of documents piled from the US government reveals a far greater interest in UFOs than they are willing to admit, including one analysis that concluded they are indeed real nuts-and-bolts machines of extraterrestrial origin.

**John Gosling**, 87 Arncliffe Drive, Healds, Milton Keynes MK13 7LF.

MID-SUSSEX TIMES, Haywards Heath, England - July 17, 1997

# UFO SIGHTING

## Red lights on silent disc shape

**IT LOOKS** as though the truth is not out there . . . but in Burgess Hill, where a UFO has been spotted.

According to an ufologist, it proves Mid Sussex is a hive of activity for unidentified flying objects.

Larry Dean, co-founder and editor of the Skysearch magazine which reports and investigates unexplained sightings, told the Middy of the mysterious object seen just outside

**By Steven Vaughan**

Burgess Hill.

On March 3, a man was driving northwards on Isaacs Lane when he saw a dark disc shape with flashing red lights, silently hovering in the sky for ninety seconds before flying away to the west.

Larry said such a sighting is extremely common in Mid Sussex which he called a "UFO hotspot".

He believes this may be because aliens visited and made contact with Ancient Man in the past and are returning to the place where they made first contact.

There has been a recent surge in UFOs and unexplained phenomena which Larry thinks is due to television programmes such as the *The X Files* and films such as *Independence Day*.

But he believes they create the wrong impression.

"Most people are ready to believe in extra-terrestrial life but most films show aliens as destructive monsters which causes an automatically negative image for the public," he said.

● Skysearch would like to hear from anyone who seen anything unusual in the skies of Mid Sussex and all reports will be dealt with in strict confidence. Ring on (01273) 300805.

GLoucester ECHO, Cheltenham, England July 31, 1997

## Spybase in UFO cover-up claim

Cheltenham spybase GCHQ has been covering up UFO sightings for decades, says a new report.

UFO expert Robin Cole says sources 'close to the base' have told him that information has been concealed from the public for the last 40 years.

Mr Cole, who lives in Cheltenham, is demanding the base comes clean about UFOs. He has published a booklet detailing his research called *GCHQ And The UFO Cover Up*.

He said: "The time has come when the truth should be told."

Mr Cole, head of investigations for Circular Forum, a Gloucestershire UFO group, has concentrated his research on a sighting last October when a green and red rotating light was seen off the coast of Skegness in Lincolnshire. It appeared on the radar at the coastguard station.

The official explanation given to Mr Cole by the MoD is the lights were probably from the planet Venus and a blip appeared

on the radar screen because of freak weather conditions.

But Mr Cole says that on the night of the sighting two senior civil servants were called to GCHQ. He says the conclusion of their meeting was that a UFO had been observed.

Mr Cole also says that two GCHQ security guards were reprimanded in March last year for speaking publicly about two bright objects they observed over Oakley site.

A GCHQ spokesman referred the Echo to a letter written by the base's director David Omand to Mr Cole last January.

In the letter Mr Omand says: "We're not engaged in any way whatsoever in any monitoring for suspected UFOs and we hold no information from our normal work which would shed any light on the debate whether UFOs have or have not been detected. So a nil return from us."

The booklet costs £3.95 plus 40p postage and packing. It can be purchased from Mr Cole on 0973 778906.

# Intergalactic Tourists

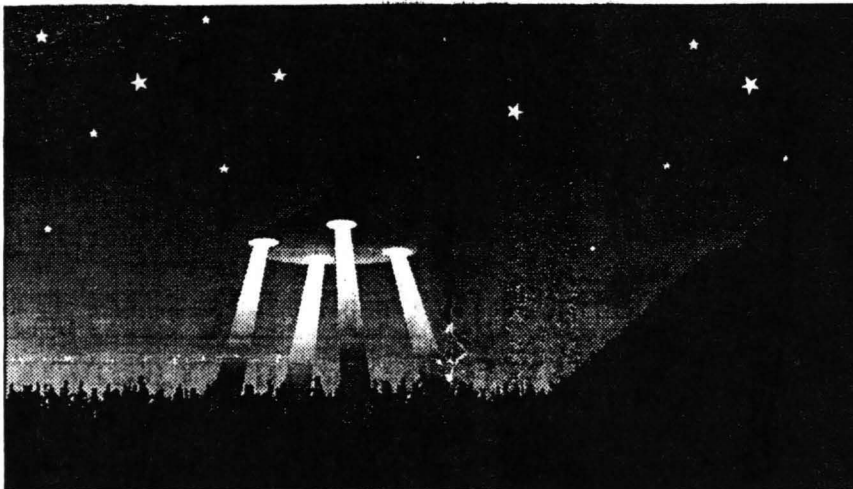
by Bruce Wishart

**T**HIS WEEK A STRANGE light was spotted over the ocean near Prince Rupert. Was it a weird cloud or a figment of the imagination? A secret weapon or a helicopter's landing lights? Or was it a UFO, a flying saucer? Listen to the facts, then decide for yourself.

Suspend your disbelief for a time. In everyday life there are things that we can't explain. Perhaps the greatest mystery of them all lies in unexplained lights that have appeared in Northcoast skies for the past half-century and as recently as this week.

The UFO craze started after the Second World War. American interest in the subject was already captured before the alleged recovery of flying saucer pieces in New Mexico in 1947. In Canada, a highly-classified Project Magnet was formed by the Department of Transport in 1950. That was followed by Project Second Story in April, 1952, a Defense Research Board version of the U.S. Project Blue Book.

The first documented Northcoast sighting was an object that sped over Prince



Artist's conception of an Unidentified Flying Object spotted over Port Edward, 10:10 pm, December 23, 1995. (Debbie Mierau Graphic)

Rupert harbour in 1949. At that time the media was abuzz with flying saucers; the Korean War was raging and there was a Russian in every closet. Then, in 1952, the flying saucers visited Northwestern B.C. in force (see PRTW Vol. 6 No. 50).

Jean Pavlikis saw a "mystery ball" appear out of the west at 7:50 a.m., December 3, 1952, then vanish into the south. Ten minutes later eight other peo-

ple, many of them Columbia Cellulose workers, saw it return.

"I saw this object," Fred Ramsay reported, "a white ball about the size of a plane and it appeared to be trailing something. It was travelling at about 1,000 miles an hour, I would say, or three times the speed of a fast plane."

"I believe it was one of those flying saucers."

"It was going in a northeasterly direction, across the harbour. I watched it pass out of sight among the buildings."

W.M. Armstrong added that it "glowed like a bright light in the clouds, big at front and tapering at the end. The tail seemed to flutter a little. It disappeared into a heavy cloud past the city."

Fifteen minutes later, perhaps by coincidence, 20 log-

gers spotted a very similar object "zooming" over Bear River Ridge near Stewart.

On December 18, 15 days after the December 3 sighting, a crowd of Rupertites watched a group of UFOs over the city.

"It was just before 11," said T. Eaton Co. manager Vern Ciccone. "There were four or five of them. They were headed northeast, and rolling." Ciccone said that the objects were "very small, slightly dark on top and shiny at the bottom. They were round and seemed to veer several times as they moved toward the northeast."

Others reported up to 10 UFOs, in flights of two, three and then five. "They were about the size of saucers," said Hugh Ferguson, "and were moving forward very fast and seemed to be rotating."

"It is fatuous to claim any longer there really is no such thing," the *Daily News* editorialized. "It is possible to make a liar out of one man who has been seeing things late at night, but it is hard to do the same thing to dozens of clear-

headed citizens on a cool, bright morning."

Many researchers have linked the rash of UFO sightings between 1945 and 1955 to the spread of nuclear weapons facilities. There were certainly fewer UFOs reported after that time, but they didn't stop. One report even came from a Mountie. RCMP officer Bill Toffan reported "a blinding flash" some 60 miles east of Prince Rupert in April, 1976.

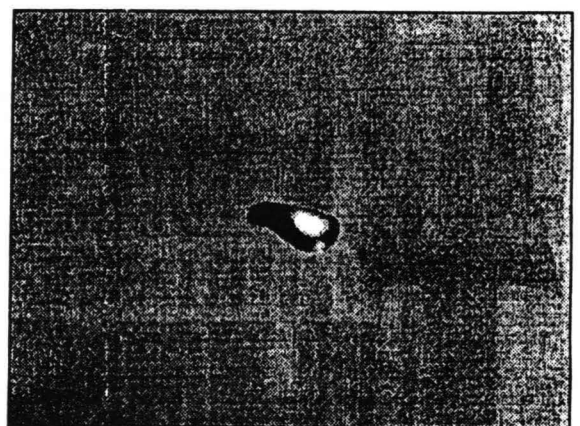
THIS WEEK has learned of several Northcoast UFO sight-

ings over the past year. "I was driving into Prince Rupert," says one girl. "It was about 11:30 am on April 27, 1995; a nice clear day. Just as I passed the car dealerships at the edge of Prince Rupert, I saw a flash of light like you might see from a plane or helicopter. I watched it, and it didn't move at all, so I pulled over. It was just sitting there. I guessed that it was over the harbour, or perhaps over the mainland on the far side of Kaien Island in the Salt Lakes area. I tried to get close to it, but eventually I lost sight of it and couldn't pick it out again."

A 52-year-old mill worker who we will call "Tom" reports

two sightings. The first was in early September, 1995. He spotted a rapidly-moving object along a mountainside near the Port Edward turn-off on Highway 16. "It was a brilliant light," Tom says, "like a windshield reflection or an aircraft landing light. I had it in my sight for 10 or 11 seconds, and at one point it 'winked' to the side. I'm familiar with most aircraft, and no aircraft I know of could have made that movement."

Tom's second sighting was made in Port Edward just three months after the first. It was 10:10 p.m., December 23, 1995. Tom describes the object as a group of four lights forming a roughly-triangular pattern. "It was moving away from me in a northeasterly direction, right-to-left across my view, at about 12 degrees elevation from the horizon. At first it was travelling very slowly, then it stopped. My view was partially obscured by trees. I would say that it was perhaps two kilometres from me, though it would be impossible to say without knowing the size of the object. I grabbed my binoculars, and I could see that the lights were revolving because I could see the beams



This Unidentified Flying Object was spotted on June 20 over Prince Rupert at 12:12 p.m. It is one of several sightings in Northcoast skies over the years.

of light coming out from them. I watched it for about 11 minutes as it hovered there, then cloud obscured my view."

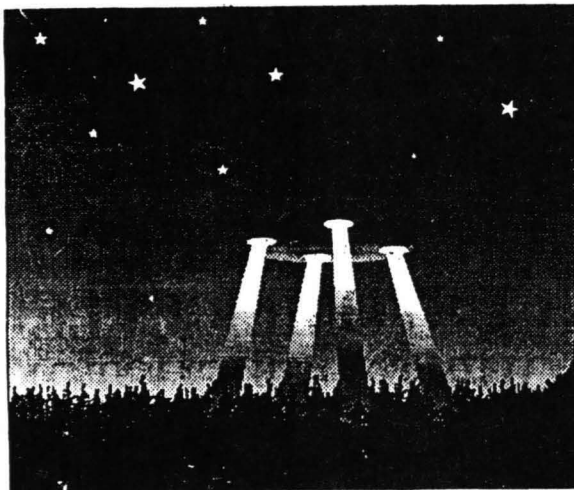
Frank, a fisherman, spotted what he thought was a skydiver east of the 400 block of Seventh Avenue West at 12:12 p.m. on June 20. When it moved off in a northeasterly direction it was clearly no skydiver. Frank photographed and videotaped the object (see PRTW Vol. 7, No. 26).

Brian Sparrow comments that many fishermen have seen unusual objects in the sky. At about 3:00 p.m. last Monday (August 5), he was fishing off Tugwell Island and spotted an object toward Triple Island. It

was "like a bright light bulb," with no smoke or vapour trail. As it veered off, he saw that it was similar to photographs of the object Frank saw.

Some three years ago Brian spotted four lights after a lightning storm near Edye Pass, and reports that a fishing acquaintance of his calculated a "blip" on his boat radar to be an object travelling some 3,500 miles per hour.

What these objects actually represent is open to speculation. Form your own conclusion. Are they environmental anomalies? Misidentified aircraft? Or are these bright lights in the clouds the space ships of visitors from another planet?



Artist's conception of an Unidentified Flying Object spotted over Port Edward, 10:10 pm, December 23, 1995. (Debbie Mierau Graphic)



# LIFE

## and times

**DENIS Plunkett (66), of Winterbourne is chairman and founder member of the British Flying Saucer Bureau - the oldest UFO group in the world. A retired civil servant, he has devoted his life to researching UFOs - living through years of scepticism he is now enjoying the current surge of interest following the X-Files.**

### WHEN did your interest in UFOs begin?

In 1947 my cousin dramatically disappeared in unbelievable circumstances.

My cousin was radio operator on an aircraft which was going to Santiago airport. It was four minutes from landing and just didn't turn up. A couple of weeks before UFOs had been seen in Chile.

A mysterious message was received by the Chilean operator at the airport from the aircraft just before it disappeared - a person said 'STENDEC' - which has never been deciphered.

**The US Government has recently come up with another explanation for the Roswell incident. What do you think happened?**

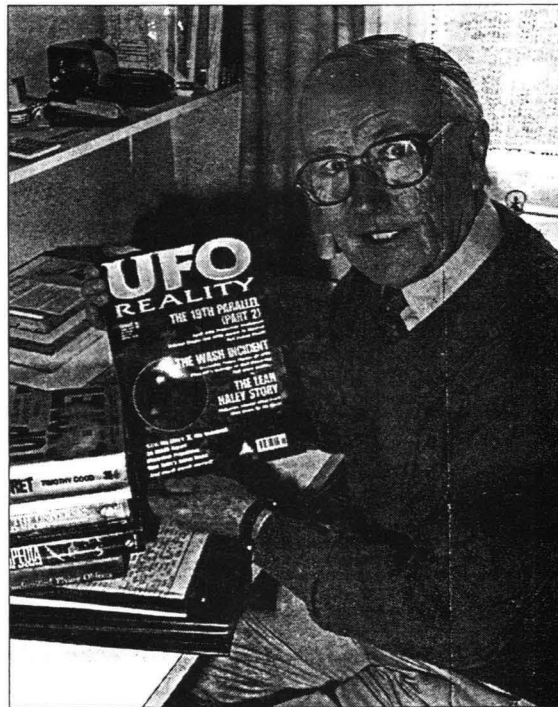
I have heard three or four versions now. I can't understand why the information officer at the base at the time

should have made a story up that was so wrong. I think he inadvertently gave out information which he shouldn't have done.

The latest explanation is that it was three foot dummies falling from the sky - why not full size human dummies? It's almost as if they are trying too hard. I think the truth is yet to be told about it.

### When were you first involved in UFOs in the 1950s did people think you were mad?

I don't think it did my career in the civil service any good. They like you to conform. But I have done talks to all sorts of people - and never had any hecklers. Once I had a man sitting at the front listening who had pointy cardboard ears on - it was a bit off-putting. But he wrote to apologise three months later after he had seen a UFO - and he joined the group.



● Denis Plunkett GETS592v97

### What do you think of the X-Files?

I enjoy it. I believe there's a conspiracy. It's part and parcel of this awareness campaign that someone is orchestrating.

### Now that opinion is changing is it as case of "I told you so"?

It was difficult in the beginning - I'm satisfied that things have developed.

### If you met an alien face to face what would be your first question?

Where's my cousin?

### What is the reaction from your family about your hobby?

My wife is very tolerant. No-one seems to be against it, in fact they're quite enthralled and enthusiastic about it.

### When do you think opinion began to change?

There have been around six to 10 big sightings over the last 50 years which have changed things. Most recently the Belgian black triangle and Mexico sightings in 1991.

### The X-Files slogan is 'The Truth is Out There'. When will we know the truth?

One or two things could happen. The American Government could reveal that they have heard an extra terrestrial signal or the United Nations could decide to announce that UFOs are real and have always been real. People throughout the centuries have all pointed to 1999 as a time when something dramatic will happen.

### What is the strangest experience you have had?

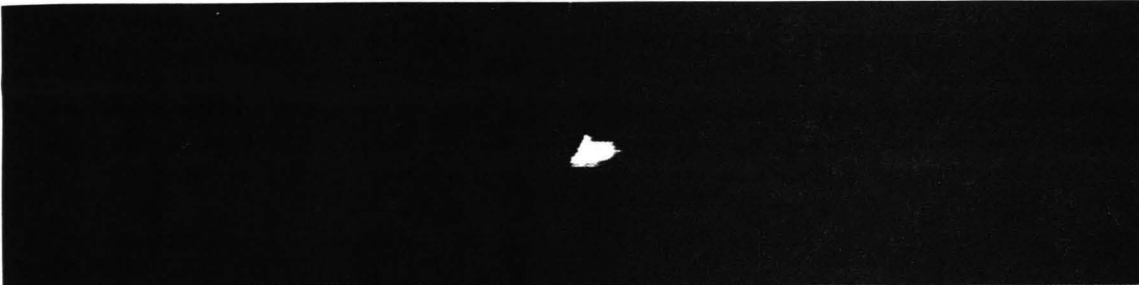
A strange thing happened to me in the mid 1950s when I was supposed to have died. My father printed a book for the British Flying Saucer Bureau. The way it was worded suggested I had died. Newspapers picked up on it. It was strange reading about your own death. He wrote: *When the RAF claimed Denis Plunkett* - meaning when I joined them.

### Many people in the US do not believe the 1969 moon landing actually took place. What do you think?

I watched it and was enthralled. It was totally impressive at the time. But in recent years there have been some very strange photographs emerging. It did seem strange at the time that the Americans seemed to come out of nowhere to get to the moon when the Soviets were so far ahead.

### If there is life outside of the Earth what are the implications for religion?

Everyone is going to have to look at their own beliefs and see what they really believe.



**UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT:** This glowing object in the sky was captured on video camera by David Spoor (below).

Main photo: NOLAN LINCOLN

# EXPERTS IN 'UFO' INQUIRY

**UFO experts in Norfolk are studying this astonishing pictures shot from a man's back garden.**

David Spoor was closing the garage door of his Oulton Broad home when he saw this metallic saucer-shaped object in the evening sky.

He has since been unable to find an explanation for the objects which he filmed on three separate occasions.

Mr Spoor, 53, who filmed the object at 8pm on September 14, said: "At first I thought it was a plane but it made no noise at all and had no wings. I dashed inside for my video camera and filmed it for a while before accelerated and disappeared."

Both the RAF and Norwich airport confirmed that it was unlikely any of their planes were in the area at the time.

Norfolk artist and UFO researcher David Dane said: "When I first saw it I was astonished - it is the best

piece of footage I have seen for years. There are no simple explanations."

The second picture, of a glowing cigar-shaped object, was taken at around 7.50pm on August 19.

Mr Spoor filmed it hovering in the sky for some time before it disappeared at high speed.

He said: "I assumed it was a helicopter at first but it was completely silent."

"I am baffled. If I had not had my video camera, I would have just said I was seeing things."

He has also filmed a similar saucer object on September 25.

The August 19 footage has been sent off to experts at UFO magazine who are studying it in the hope of coming up with an explanation.

Graham Birdsall, editor of UFO, said: "This is an extraordinary piece of footage. Through video and computer enhancement we have been able to establish that this object did fly off at great speed."



## Where's E.T.? In Mexico, maybe, for UFO session

Reuters News Service

ACAPULCO, Mexico — Mexico has long faced resentment in the United States for exporting illegal aliens, but since 1991 the country has faced its own alien invasion — by extraterrestrials, that is.

That is the claim of UFO experts who are gathering in this Pacific resort city for the Second World UFO Congress, which started Friday and runs through Sunday.

The first congress was held here 20 years ago and featured a lecture by the late astrophysicist Carl Sagan. No one at this convention can match his scientific credentials, but some UFO proponents here, such as nuclear physicist and author Stanton Friedman, take a scientific approach.

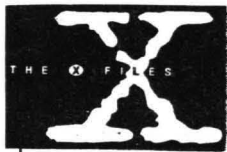
Organizers said the convention returned to Mexico in large part because over the past six years the ancient land of the Aztecs and Mayans has become a frequent stopping place for extraterrestrials.

It all stems from the eclipse of the sun on July 11, 1991, according to Jaime Maussan, Mexico's leading "ufologist" who conducts a television program on the phenomenon.

That was the most highly watched eclipse of the century, and of all the countries in the world, Mexico had about the best vantage point. Reports of UFO sightings during the eclipse poured in from around the country.

"We can only speculate" as to the reason why they chose Mexico, Maussan told Reuters. "It could be because of the Mexican people themselves, for their characteristics, for their acceptance, their lack of fear."

"The only thing for sure is that something strange is happening in the skies of Mexico," he said.



MARS ATTACKS? One of the pictures the OAP took

# UFOs ARE A WEEK EARLY

## It's Independence Day *this* Friday

by Sharon Patrick

COULD these be pictures of visitors from another planet?

A Thorpe pensioner took these snaps late on Friday afternoon and is absolutely convinced that they are space aliens.

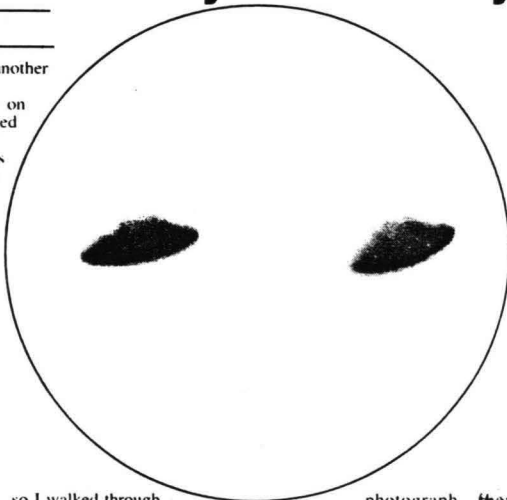
The man who, perhaps unsurprisingly, wants to remain anonymous sent these two photographs to the Informer from his Warwick Avenue home.

He wrote: "As I walked into the garden, I couldn't help but notice a strange humming noise above me. When I looked up, I was taken aback by what I saw.

"As you can see from the pictures, they cannot be standard issue aeroplanes.

"At first there was just one flying object, so I immediately ran to the cupboard where I kept my Polaroid camera.

"When I arrived back in my back garden, the object had moved further away



so I walked through the garden gate and took one picture.

"By the time I had removed one picture from my camera, another object appeared beside the

first one.

"These pictures were taken on the old refuse ground in Thorpe Lea.

"Just after I took the second

photograph, they disappeared in the blink of an eye.

"This experience has completely changed my outlook on such things."

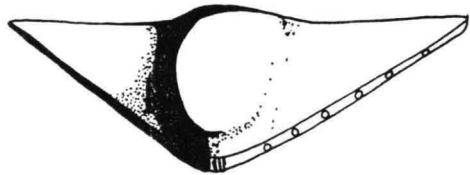
FOREST & WYE VALLEY REVIEW, Lydney, Gloucestershire, England - July 25, 1997

## Mark's mystery convoy in the sky

A LYDNEY man is on the look-out for crop circles in the Forest of Dean this week after seeing eight unidentified flying objects.

Mark Adams, 25, of Crump Place, Lydney, says he saw the UFOs fly across the Severn from the Bristol area, towards the Forest, between 31.5am and 3.40am on Monday morning, each one triangular with red lights flashing along their side.

"I know that the air show has been taking place at Fairford, but



● Shapes in the sky...images recorded by Mark Adams.

these are like no airplanes I have ever seen," he said.

"I actually saw a plane a few minutes later and it looked and sounded nothing like the eight UFOs that had passed over. Apart from the red

flashing lights, each one had one white light on the tail and they made a rumbling noise, not at all like a normal plane engine.

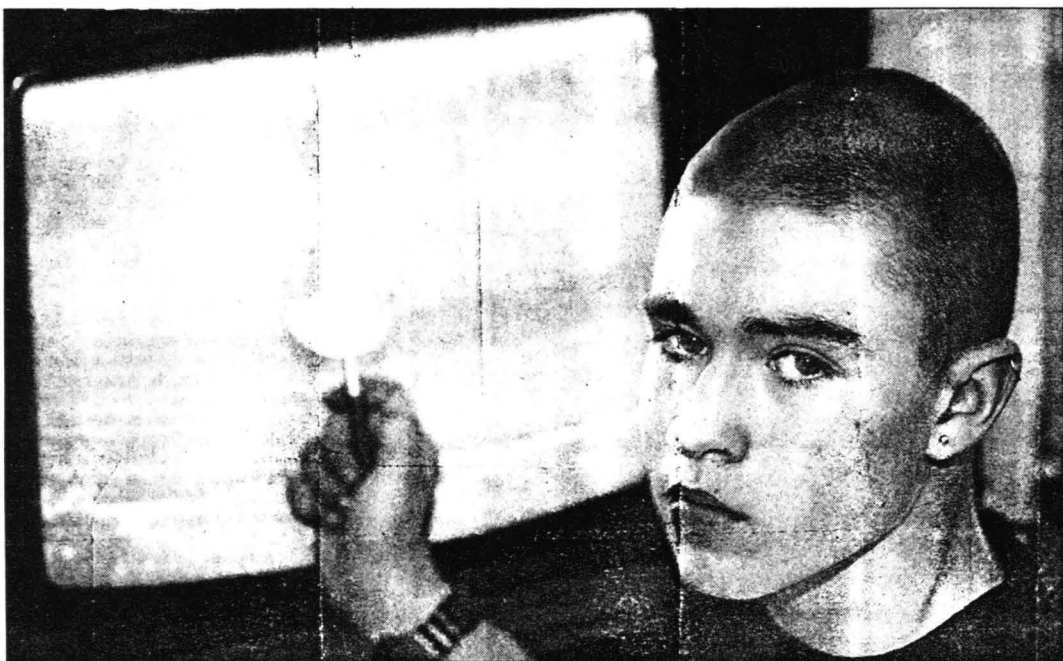
"I would expect at least one farmer to have found a crop circle in his field and I

would be interested to know when and where."

Mr Adams says he woke his wife in the middle of the UFOs passing over, "just to make sure I wasn't imagining it, but she saw them too."

COLCHESTER EVENING GAZETTE, Essex, England - Aug. 22, 1997

## Schoolboy convinced truth is out there ... and on tape



● The J-Files — Jay Dyer takes a close-up look at the strange object he caught on video. Picture: CLARE BANKS

## I caught UFO on home video — Jay

by DAVID McDONNELL

is convinced he has captured an alien spacecraft on film with a video camera from his Howard Close home.

The drama unfolded in the early hours of the morning when Jay spotted

a strange object zig-zagging its way through the night sky.

He rushed to wake his mother to tell her what he had seen, but she told him to go back to bed.

Jay also woke his brother, Ross, 17, who was annoyed at being disturbed and dismissed his

younger brother's UFO claims.

So the next night Jay decided to capture what he had seen on film. "I was leaning out of my bedroom window with my camcorder when I suddenly spotted the little orange ball flying around in the sky," he said.

"It was zig-zagging across the sky and it was like nothing I had seen before. It was certainly not a helicopter or aeroplane because it was travelling too fast and in a strange direction.

"All of a sudden it started to flash and then it flew upwards."

HERALD, Timaru, NZ

Oct. 28, 1997 CR: J. Trainor

## Strange lights over Dunedin

WELLINGTON — Several Dunedin people saw strange white lights in the sky on Saturday night, according to a UFO researcher.

Ross Dowse, of the National UFO Hotline, said about five or six people had contacted him to tell him of "two very bright white illuminations" they had seen about 10.30pm.

The lights crossed the sky, following each other, from the west of Dunedin. They stopped overhead for several minutes and then moved to the northeast until they were out of sight, Mr Dowse said.

He had accessed Nasa's computer but could not find any data indicating space programme activity over New Zealand at that time.

The lights were very high in the sky, which indicated "a lot of energy", he told. He had no idea what it was. Dunedin police and the MetService also had no information about the lights. — NZPA

SOMERSET GUARDIAN, Bath, England - Aug. 14, 1997

## UFO mystery

A MIDSOMER Norton woman wants to know if anyone else in the town saw and heard a strange light during the early hours of Sunday morning.

Mrs Lilian Lewis, who is 85, lives in Church Court, Midsomer Norton.

She said: "I was woken up by a buzzing noise. I looked out of the window and, from the Clapton direction, saw a very bright rectangular object. It came hurtling across the sky and disappeared over Withies Park."



## IS THIS PROOF THAT ALIENS LIKE CORN FLAKES?

THEY are usually circular examples of perfect symmetry.

But the latest crop circle seems a little more attractive than the usual.

The snowflake-like shape has attracted such interest that some local farmers are charging visitors to look at the 200ft-wide phenomenon, which is stretched across a wheat-field on Silbury Hill, near the Stone Circle tourist trap of Avebury in Wiltshire.

The formation's apparent geomet-

ric accuracy has astounded enthusiasts and sceptics alike.

Crop circle and UFO researcher Stephen Alexander, of Gosport, Hampshire, who took this picture, said he was convinced that the formations are not accidents of nature — human nature at least.

"The shapes are becoming more and more complex every year," he said.

"There is a wide variety of explanations, but I'm convinced that only

some sort of consciousness could create such complex patterns. I've got video footage of unexplained lights darting about in crop fields, and I believe they are somehow involved.

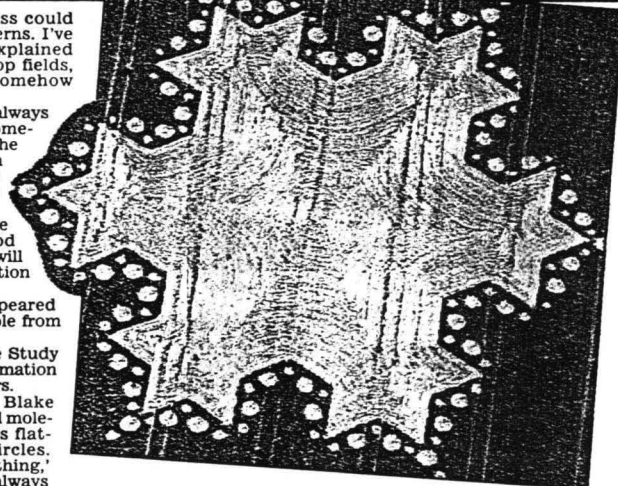
"Conventional science is always keen to dismiss the phenomenon, but they forget that the people who have gone down in history as geniuses were often considered to be cranks by their peers.

"I'm sure that one day these shapes will be understood and conventional science will have to reassess its explanation of the world we live in."

The formation, which appeared on July 23, is partially visible from the top of Silbury Hill.

The Wiltshire Crop Circle Study Group is certain that the formation is not the work of pranksters.

Co-ordinator Francine Blake said U.S. research suggested molecular changes in the crops flattened in unexplained circles. "They don't appear for nothing," she insisted. "There must always be a reason."



Summer snow: The flake-shaped formation

# Fireball a mystery till thaw

## Space rock may be under arctic snow

By KATHY SAWYER  
Washington Post

Did a 50-ton space rock slam down on the ice cap of southern Greenland 13 days ago? It is an arctic mystery whose solution may have to wait for spring.

Early Dec. 9, shocked fishermen reported a blazing fireball that turned night into day. The question is whether the object burned up in the atmosphere or struck the Earth, astronomers said. Scattered reports of seismic tremors occurring moments later strengthen the case for an impact but are not conclusive, according to Scandinavian scientists who are investigating the event.

The impact zone, if any, is estimated to be a remote and forbidding site about 30 miles northeast of Narsarsuaq Airport, near Qaqortoq (formerly Julianehab). If scientists follow the tradition of naming an impactor after the closest post office, astronomers noted, this one will be known as the Qaqortoq meteorite.

Research teams are eager to search the area for fragments, but the harsh winter conditions are making this difficult, if not impossible, for now. Up to 40 inches of snow has fallen in the area since the

impact, and another 10 feet is anticipated before the spring thaw. Attempts to inspect the site from the air have been hampered by clouds.

Here is the primary evidence so far:

Crews aboard three Danish and Norwegian trawlers at widely separated sites on both sides of southern Greenland reported seeing the light trail at 5:11 a.m. local time, according to the Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen. The institute is coordinating an investigation that also includes the Tycho Brahe Planetarium, the Copenhagen Astronomical Society, the Danish Center for Remote Sensing and the Norwegian Seismic Array (NORSAR).

"The flashes observed in conjunction with the meteorite were so bright as to turn night into daylight at a distance of 100 kilometers (62 miles), and can be compared to the light of a nuclear explosion in the atmosphere," the institute said. "However, we stress that there is no reason to believe other than natural causes."

Lt. Col. Dennis Goldsmith of the U.S. Space Command near Colorado Springs said the object was not a spacecraft or other artificial debris re-entering the atmosphere.

NORSAR reported tremors that "are assumed to relate to the impact or the passage of the

meteorite through the atmosphere." Fainter signals were detected in Finland and Germany.

A video taken by a parking-lot surveillance camera in Nuuk, the capital of Greenland, is reported to have recorded a bright flash of light from a moving source reflected in the curved hood of a car.

Based on the trawler sightings plus observations of the light track from Nuuk, the point of impact was fixed at 61 degrees 25 minutes north latitude and 44 degrees 26 minutes west longitude. Scientists have been checking satellite data for further evidence, and are attempting to survey the impact zone using radar satellites and an ice reconnaissance plane flying between Kap Farvel and Nuuk.

The institute estimated the Dec. 9 object was probably comparable to the Kap York meteorite that fell south of Thule, Greenland, in prehistoric times. "Findings from this meteorite consist of a number of iron meteorites totaling 50 tons."

At the very least, something big apparently burned into the atmosphere, said Gareth Williams, associate director of the minor planets center at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. "But it's still not 100 percent sure that something actually ... survived to hit the Earth."

TIMES, Seattle, WA - Sept. 14, 1997 CR: J. Taverner  
JAPAN

## Space aliens take over Japanese fishing village

By ALLEN WAN  
Reuters

HAKUI, Japan — If the day comes when aliens decide to land on Earth, they could do worse than visiting this little fishing town.

Long known for seafood and beaches, Hakui, on the west coast of the main island of Honshu, now draws tourists from around the world for its obsession with UFOs, as the town's themed restaurants, "pachinko" pinball gaming centers, bars and hot spring resorts attest.

At the center of this other worldly activity is the town's most popular attraction, Cosmo Isle Hakui, a UFO and space museum shaped, of course, like a flying saucer. The driving force behind the museum, in Ishikawa prefecture's rugged Noto peninsula on the Sea of Japan, is director Johsen Takano, a scientist and UFO buff who has turned a hobby into a job.

Takano's electronics background and leadership of the town's "mystery club" convinced town fathers to cough up public funds to build the museum, which opened in July 1996.

"We have three themes: space and space development, SETI or the search for extraterrestrial intelligence, and then UFOs," Takano said.

The SETI and UFO Science Museum has space equipment from the United States and Russia, UFO-related materials, a library and a research center. Displays on UFOs discuss aerial phenomena, alien abductions, crop circles, UFO contacts and radio transmissions related to SETI.

Vice director Takashi Ishiyama said local officials turned to UFOs to revitalize the town after its population was decimated by an exodus of young people to the cities.

"Usually governments wouldn't participate in this kind of thing, but with our government's lead and attention from the mass media everyone started talking about the myths associated with this town," Ishiyama said.

The town, which boasts the most reported UFO sightings in Japan, is steeped in "alien" folklore and legend, he said.

"There is one legend called 'shohachibun,' which says cymbal-like flashing lights were seen flying from one end of the mountain to

the other. Another legend tells of children being taken away in a big 'nabe' (stew) pan while playing."

But it is the town's ancient Ketataisha shrine, regarded as one of the four main shrines in Japan, that may hold the key to the preoccupation with strange phenomena.

"Ancient documents kept in the town's Ketataisha shrine talk about flashing lights in the sky and the hand of god controlling them. The story has been passed down from generation to generation," Ishiyama said.

Although there was opposition from residents at first to using tax money for the museum, they finally came around.

Around the corner from the museum is the UFO ramen (noodle) restaurant, which serves up heaping bowls of noodles garnished with little octopus balls shaped like aliens. After a long day of sightseeing, visitors can also relax at the "Euphoria" hot springs.

Further north are some of the region's most famous hot spring resorts, which draw tourists from countries such as Taiwan who have made the museum a necessary stop on their tour. Officials expect 200,000 people to visit this year.

"I don't believe in UFOs but this is interesting nevertheless," housewife Masako Minami said as she eyed the charred shell of the actual Russian space capsule Vostok used to make the first manned space flight in 1961.

Takano said the aim of the museum was not just to attract tourists but to become a leading research center for people interested in studying UFOs. Hakui has hosted several international space and UFO conferences and the last one, held in the museum in May, attracted top scientists and researchers from the U.S. Naval Research Center and NASA's SETI Institute.

Takano said he started to believe in the existence of alien life after obtaining declassified U.S. top secret information. He said data from the U.S. Air Force shows that UFOs have been around for 50,000 years and that there are three to four groups of aliens.

"The conclusion is the unpleasant possibility that there have been alien visitors to our planet or alien-controlled UFOs," he said.

## Watch out, a UFO's about!

A report has been made to police in Milton Keynes about a metallic disc-shaped Unidentified Flying Object which travelled at about 300 mph over the town at 7.30 on Monday night.

The report said it then altered course and headed towards Luton at high speed.

● An amateur photographer took a picture of what he thinks

might be a UFO over Stopsley at 7.30 on Wednesday evening.

David Joyce was taking photos of the Luton Youth Orchestra outside Stopsley Baptist Church and did not notice a metallic object in the sky until he downloaded the pictures from his digital camera later.

He says it looks the wrong shape to be a hot-air balloon.

# UFO-MANIA!

## X-FILES STYLE MYSTERY BAFFLES Leader READERS

UFO-MANIA is sweeping Ayrshire following last week's exclusive *Leader* story about sightings of strange lights in the skies over the county.

The *Leader* has been swamped with calls from readers claiming to have seen strange lights in the sky.

Readers from all over Ayrshire say they saw something on the night of March 8 and from descriptions it would appear that readers all saw the SAME object.

"I saw lights over the Bellfield area of

**Leader**  
Report by Hugh Harkin

Kilmarnock and they were changing from red to green to blue, with a very bright white light above them," said 11 year-old Craig Kennedy, of Hurlford.

A lady in Ayr who did not want her name printed for fear of "public ridicule" said: "There were red, green and white lights. There were also loud bangs like gun-fire and the whole thing was like an incredible fire-work display."

Maureen and Andrew Gulbis of Belmont, Ayr, saw a spotlight in the sky with blue and white lights on either side. When their neighbour saw the blue and white lights, he joked that it "must be a Rangers UFO!"

11 year-old Lucia Mezzullo, from Ayr, saw a triangular-shaped object over the Centrum Ice Arena.

"It was green, red, blue and white and had a light in the middle. I went to get my parents, but by the time I got back, it wasn't there."

Another reader from Loans said she saw the object towards Dundonald.

"It remained stationary for some time, so it wasn't a plane."

"And everybody has been talking about the comet Hale-Bopp having a tail, but there was definitely no tail so this was no comet."

The *Leader* also received a mysterious call which resembled something out of the *X-Files*!

The caller claimed that "around 20 years ago, a fleet of UFOs appeared over the Air Traffic Control Centre in Prestwick."

"Everyone who saw the UFOs was ushered into a room and made to sign the Official Secrets Act. The incident is now code-named ANGELS," claimed the caller.

There have also been claims that the mysterious lights on Saturday March 8 were disco lights, mounted on a hill to make people think they were seeing a UFO.

"I believe a man was arrested a couple of months ago for messing about with disco lights," said Roderick McCafferty, from Kirkhill, Kilwinning.

"The lights have a range of miles and they can be made to look bigger or smaller or swirl around."

David Scott, Kilnford Crescent, Kilwinning, believes there could be a very down-to-earth explanation for the lights.

"I think the Territorial Army were up at Auchan House firing guns and setting-off coloured flares. It goes on at all hours of the night and they use red, green and white flares."

But the *Leader* contacted the Royal Highland Fusiliers based in Ayr, and a spokesperson said there hadn't been a TA exercise on Saturday March 8 leaving the mystery of the Ayrshire UFO sightings unsolved....

# UFO ALERT

INVESTIGATORS are opening an X-Files report after a family claimed they were "buzzed" by a UFO on the A47 between Peterborough and Wisbech.

The terrified party were returning from a visit to the city along the dark and deserted road when suddenly their vehicle was bathed in a bright pink light.

Looking up they saw a dark shape swoop above them and then pursue them down the

by NEIL SHAW  
NEWS REPORTER

road apparently observing them.

The jet black UFO was triangular in shape with bright lights at each point.

The shocked family had their extraterrestrial experience last November but have only now broken their silence to renowned UFO experts.

The British-based International UFO Research Network

(IUFORN), which has branches in Northern Ireland, Belgium, four American states and Australia, says it is taking the report seriously.

It is now appealing for further witnesses.

IUFORN leader Russell Kellett said: "This is the first report we have received from the skies of Peterborough, and we are taking it very seriously."

"Four witnesses have stepped forward, after quite a while, and reported the same thing."

"Sometimes there is a delay in

reports, because people can be frightened of what will be said, so that could be why it has taken so long to come to our attention."

"One of the things people always say with these things is that they are military aircraft, and there are bases around Peterborough, but some things like the pink glow don't match up."

The four in the car, the driver, his girlfriend, her mother and a friend have asked to have their identities kept secret.

## UFO experts say abduction is an alien concept

ACAPULCO, Mexico — Extraterrestrials are secretly abducting humans for use in hybrid breeding experiments and inserting implants into their bodies, UFO experts said yesterday at the Second World UFO Congress.

In some cases, women are impregnated, carry the hybrid fetus through a short gestation, and then abducted again to give birth, Budd Hopkins, billed as "a pioneer in the genre" of investigating alien abductions, told

the meeting.

The kidnapping aliens take two forms. Cases in the United States involve short extraterrestrials with white skin, big eyes and large bald heads shaped like an inverted pear, Hopkins said.

In Ecuador, they are taller with round heads and olive green skin, said Jaime Rodriguez, Ecuador's top UFO investigator and host of a television show on UFOs.

In both cases the aliens are implanting devices into the brains, earlobes or other parts of the human victims. Hopkins theorized they could be for tracking or controlling humans, or perhaps they allow aliens to see through their victims' eyes.

Hopkins is not sure whether the alien intentions are harmful. "There are not good aliens and bad aliens," Hopkins said. "This is not a cowboy movie. This is the real world." —Reuters

## TV focus on Herald's own 'Marshian' investigator...

By Melody Foreman

WHEN TV station Meridian decided to investigate the growing number of UFO sightings in Kent, reporter Paul Anstiss knew just where to come — the *Herald*.

For over an amazing four-month period, your top local newspaper has reported an unprecedented number of strange objects in the sky over Romney Marsh.

There have been so many that one of the UK's major independent TV networks decided to investigate — and will be broadcasting its findings tomorrow in the extended Friday edition of *Meridian Tonight*.

Featured on the programme is *Herald* reporter Sarah Hall, who recorded the bizarre claims of a strange triangular shaped object floating above the Lympne home of Shepway's MP Michael Howard.

But if the 25-year-old journalist found the haunting of the then Home Secretary to be difficult to believe, it was nothing to the shock of finding herself confronted by strange lights in the sky one dark and chilly night in early spring.

### Shudder

Sarah recalled with a visible shudder: "I was driving in Burmarsh at about 3.30am. I had seen a strip of bright lights in front of me and as I drove closer I realised they were a weird object floating in the field opposite Botolph's Bridge pub."

"It was very large and shaped like an elongated triangle with white lights running all around the side. I haven't seen anything like it before."

She added: "As I drew up close it shot off and then stopped abruptly. It continued to move in this way until it was out of sight. It left me really shaken up."

Any suggestion the keen-eyed reporter was imagining things were quickly dispelled when calls from all over the district started to come into the newspaper office as well as to the police and the coastguards.

Said Sarah: "The *Herald* is anxious to hear more of these stories — as many as possible — and anyone who has seen anything unusual can contact me at my newsroom on (01303) 850999."



Above: Sarah is interviewed by a Meridian TV crew

DAILY TIMES,  
Otago, New Zealand

Oct. 28, 1997 CR: J. Trainor

## Night lights a mystery

By Andrea Jones

Several Dunedin people saw strange white lights in the sky on Saturday night, according to reports received by Australian-based UFO researcher Ross Dowe.

Mr Dowe, of the National UFO Hot-line, said last night about six people had contacted him about two bright white lights they had seen about 10.30pm. He had not received reports from elsewhere in Otago or New Zealand, but localised sightings were not

unusual, depending on weather conditions and other factors.

He did not know what the lights were and there was no Nasa information indicating space programme activity at that time.

About five months ago Dunedin residents alerted Mr Dowe to pulsing light beams in the sky, which were later found to be from a light display using an Italian-made lamp.

Dunedin police had no information about the most recent lights.

Oct. 8, 1997 CR: J. Trainor

## Bright light seen on Mt Te Aroha

A bright light seen on the summit of Mt Te Aroha on Sunday night was not a fire.

Around 9pm the Te Aroha Volunteer Fire Brigade was called to the transmitter station after a local resident 'spotted a glow', said fire chief Lindsay Spooner.

Mr Spooner said however that this related to a high-powered light sited around the back of the station, with the beam catching cloud and causing the glow in certain atmospheric conditions.

Such reports have been a 'common occurrence' over the past fortnight and he planned to talk to BCL, which operates the station, about changing the lighting.

Mr Spooner stressed that the transmitter station is very well monitored in case of fire.





FORTEANA NEWS

# THE VALDEZ FILES

For Gabe Valdez, a retired state police officer, discovering the mystery behind cattle mutilations has become his life's work



Gabe Valdez, a state trooper for 22 years in Northern New Mexico, investigated his first cattle mutilation in 1976. After 21 years of studying the mutilations, he is considered an expert in the field.

By STEVE TERRELL  
The New Mexican

**G**abe Valdez had been a state police officer and stationed in Dulce for more than six years in June of 1976. He had answered all kinds of calls — stabbings, rapes, who knows how many burglaries — during his tenure.

But on June 14, Valdez would go to a call concerning a dead cow on Manuel Gomez's ranch, a call that would affect him more than any other.

It would lead him on a path in which he would become recognized nationally among believers in paranormal phenomenon as a sympathetic cop — and perhaps even a fellow traveler.

And though his beliefs would be ridiculed by some and directly challenged in an official government report, Valdez would remain undaunted in his determination to solve the mystery.

"It was very strange," said Valdez speaking in an interview last week about what he found on the Gomez property. "It was what we call a classic mutilation.

*"It was very strange.  
It was what we call a  
classic mutilation.  
I've been around cattle  
all my life and I'd never  
seen anything like it."*

GABE VALDEZ

The tongue, the ears, the sex organs had been removed. I've been around cattle all my life and I'd never seen anything like it."

The terrain was rough, not accessible to motor vehicles. In the nearby dirt were unexplained circular imprints, each about 4 inches in diameter.

Within a year, he would investigate more than 30 similar cases, all in the Dulce area. In fact, up to about 1980, cattle mutilation reports would become almost commonplace around Dulce, he said.

Just like those strange orange lights up

in the sky that Valdez says many Dulce residents — including himself — have seen.

"I know someone's doing it," he said. "And whoever it is is pretty damn smart."

Valdez is 54 now. He's been retired from the state police for about five years. He lives in Albuquerque, where he works security for a large business — which he requested not be named.

And since February, Valdez has been working a part-time job as a field investigator for the National Institute of Discovery Science, a Nevada-based organization funded by a Las Vegas, Nev., real estate investor named Robert T. Bigelow, described by *The Las Vegas Sun* as "easily the most prominent American financier in the paranormal research field."

An Oct. 23, 1996, article in the Las Vegas paper said Bigelow formed NIDS a year earlier. Among the scientists involved is John B. Alexander, former director of nonlethal weapons testing at Los Alamos National Laboratories, the *Sun* article said.

Since hooking up with NIDS, Valdez

Of course the new NIDS study is not the only research into cattle mutilations in New Mexico. In 1979 the District Attorney's office in the First Judicial District — which includes Santa Fe, Rio Arriba and Los Alamos counties — received a \$44,000 federal grant to look into the problem.

The chief investigator was former FBI Agent Ken Rommel, who in his 1980 report wrote:

"In summary, of the 90 mutilations reported in New Mexico between February 1975 and May 1979, 69 (77 percent) can be explained, at least partly, on the basis of available evidence. Eighteen cases were resolved immediately by the investigators. An additional 28 'mutilations' were associated with scavenger activity. In 19 cases, the evidence cited was not detailed enough to infer scavenger damage. However, the information provided was sufficient to definitely rule out the verdict 'classic mutilation,' for either the cause of death was known and attributed to natural causes or routine injury, or the carcass was too decomposed for tests."

Rommel's report was critical of Valdez's conclusions on several of the Dulce cases and disputed Valdez's conclusions that they were "classic mutilations."

As for Valdez's report of circular marks in the ground near mutilated animals, Rommel theorized that they could be eroded hoof marks.

At one point Rommel wrote, "Interestingly, in regards to the media, Officer Valdez has been one of the more outspoken individuals on cattle mutilations. He has taken a special interest in this mutilation phenomenon, and is probably one of New Mexico's foremost proponents of the theory that many of these cattle deaths and subsequent mutilations are engineered by humans. His articulate reports have frequently captured the favor of the press, which places a premium on attention-getting news."

Valdez said last week that he did not want to say anything bad about Rommel. "I think he's a sincere individual," he said. But, he said he does not believe any "classic mutilations" occurred in the state during Rommel's study. (A conclusion with which Rommel agreed in his report.) Valdez said Rommel only spoke with him once during the study.

In the 1980s Valdez's name would become linked with another bizarre phenomenon that allegedly occurs around Dulce — modern legends of a UFO base.

Do a search for "Gabe Valdez" on the Internet and you'll find several documents concerning the fantastic tale. One Web page describes how the aliens and U.S. government have a secret base beneath Mount Archuleta that has a tunnel to Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Valdez is mentioned in such works because he says he saw a UFO above Mount Archuleta in June 1988 while showing a French UFO researcher the area.

"It looked like a boomerang shape," he said. "It left a light bluish-green streak. It was flying so fast it looked like a flash. It came by real fast. It just popped out of the sky."

But, Valdez says reports of an underground base beneath the mountain are pure bunk.

There are other things about him on the Internet that he says are blatantly untrue.

One report claims that the governor of New Mexico instructed the state police chief to shut Valdez up. Thus, Valdez

(continued on page 18)

has investigated about five reported animal mutilations. Only two of these — both in Taos County — turned out to be unexplained "classic" mutilations.

Valdez, with his round, slightly balding head and his bulldog body, looks the part of retired cop. A visitor who has heard about Valdez's involvement with strange phenomenon might be disappointed that his office isn't decorated with UFO posters like Fox Mulder's in the *X-Files* (a TV show Valdez says he watches occasionally).

Valdez was born into a ranching family south of Tierra Amarilla.

"It was a small ranch," he said. "We had about 30 head of cattle. My dad would sell steers in the fall. We always had plenty of meat. Not many vegetables, but plenty of meat."

After a stint in the Bureau of Indian Affairs working for the Roads Department, Valdez became a state police officer in 1969. Stationed first in the Española and Chimayó area, he was transferred to Dulce by the

end of the year.

As the number of reported animal mutilations grew, Valdez became more fascinated — and determined to get to the bottom of the mystery.

When discussing the cases he does not come off as a flaky true believer, but as a frustrated cop still trying to crack that one big case that has eluded him.

And like any good police officer, he worries about the people who suffer because of a crime.

"The ranchers are taking a hell of a loss," he said. "Some of

these ranchers really can't afford it. Steers go for \$500 to \$600 and a cow is worth about \$800. And some of these bulls sell for \$2,000 to \$3,000. It's a great economic loss."

Valdez says he does not know whether the UFOs like the ones he saw in Dulce are related to the cattle mutilations. However he says he believes that someone in some type of silent aircraft is responsible.

He also says that whoever is carving those cows "surely isn't doing it for anyone's good."

(continued from page 17 - NEW MEXICAN,  
Santa Fe, NM - Dec. 26, 1997)

supposedly was yanked away from Dulce, that fertile ground for UFOs and mutilated cows, and assigned to Albuquerque.

Indeed, Valdez said he was ordered to go to Albuquerque by a higher authority — his wife. She decided the family should be near a university so they could afford to send all three of his sons to college, Valdez said. Though he loved Dulce, he agreed and in 1990 then State Police Chief Neil Curran granted Valdez's request for a transfer. Valdez retired from the force five years ago.

Soon after that in 1993, a new wave of cattle mutilation reports began sweeping Northern New Mexico after a long period of calm. They soon quieted down, but started up again last year, this time mainly in Taos County.

Valdez got his job with NIDS, which he said is dedicated to a scientific study of the phenomenon.

"Most law enforcement agencies just don't have the resources to really study mutilation cases," he said. "It takes about \$7,000 to properly investigate each case."

NIDS has those resources, he said. Among the procedures the organization pays for is a necropsy — an autopsy done on animals.

The NIDS Web site says the organization "focuses on scientific exploration that emphasizes emerging, novel, and sometimes unconventional observations and theories ... The Institute will concentrate on exploring fundamental research on issues concerning the nature and evolution of life and consciousness in the universe, and their modes of interaction. We are specifically interested in issues related to evidence for survival of consciousness beyond death and aerial phenomenology and related topics."

Asked why cattle mutilations became such a passion for him, Valdez hesitated, as if to form his words perfectly. Then a smile came over his face as he replied in an almost hushed tone. "Whoever breaks this case, well, it's going to be one of the biggest things in the history of mankind."

## Rancher frustrated by new cattle mutilation

By Phaedra Greenwood  
The Taos News

"I feel really frustrated," Arroyo Hondo rancher Jesse Gonzales said when he found another of his cows dead and apparently mutilated Monday morning (Nov. 24). "If I see anyone messing around with my cows, I'm going to shoot them."

No mutilations have been reported in the Taos area since May, but a mutilated cow was found in the Brazos around Sept. 13. Gonzales lost a bull and a cow last summer to apparent mutilations.

Gonzales said his father last saw the two-year-old blond bull alive Sunday afternoon (Nov. 23) when he fed the cattle which Gonzales keeps in a field near the highway in Arroyo Hondo. Gonzales discovered the dead bull by following the magpies.

Dogs had already been at the carcass, but Gonzales said he saw it before the predators got to it, and was able to tell private investigator Gabe Valdez how it had looked before.

"There was no blood," he said. "When you gut an elk, especially from the rear, you get about two gallons of blood."

The animal was lying in a dry, shallow ditch in the willows at the edge of the field.

Its anus was cored out and a circle of hide about 16 inches in diameter had been removed from the area of the ribs on the exposed side. In the typical style of cattle mutilations, the incisions were very neat. According to Valdez, the penis was missing, though there was no visible incision in the hide.

Valdez and the District Attorney's head-investigator of cattle mutilations, Dominic Martinez, donned white suits and masks and tied garbage bags on their feet to take tissue samples which will be sent to Scientific Discovery, a privately-funded lab in Las Vegas, Nev.

Valdez arranged to have the whole bull transported to a refrigerated unit in Albuquerque until investigators from the institute are able to examine it.

"We need to do a full-focused analysis," Dr. Colm Kelleher of the institute said. "We need live cells, bone marrow cells from an animal that hasn't been dead much longer than 24 hours. Ultraviolet light, sunlight, will break up DNA as the animal is lying there."

If you saw anything unusual in Arroyo Hondo Sunday or want to report a mutilated cow, call the state police or Gabe Valdez at 505-857-1717.

NEW MEXICAN, Santa Fe, NM

Jan. 5, 1998 CR: D. Perkins

### Cattle mutilation

As a writer/researcher who has been working on the cattle mutilation question since 1975, I am compelled to point out some disturbing journalistic nuances in your otherwise informative article, "The Valdez Files" by Steve Terrell (Dec. 26, 1997).

Although the cattle mutilations have many bizarre aspects, it is far from conclusive that they are "paranormal" in nature. The answer might be much more mundane and closer to home.

Reporter Terrell seemed disappointed that Valdez's office wasn't decorated with UFO posters "like Fox Mulder's in the X-Files." That would have made Valdez easier to deride as "a flaky true believer." As the eminent astronomer and ufologist J. Allen Hynek said: "Ridicule is not part of the scientific method."

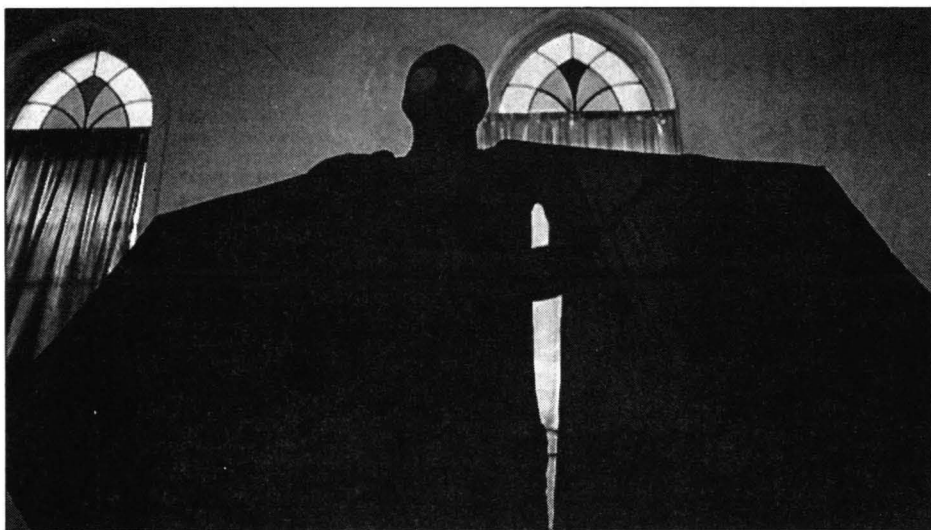
To categorize Valdez as "perhaps a fellow-traveler" of the "believers" is another example of a pejorative term. It harkens back to the McCarthy era when "Communists and fellow-travelers" were denounced in Congress. The connotation is that Valdez and his fellow researchers are somehow unsavory.

When *The New Mexican* did a similar article on my work (Sept. 18, 1994), my research was lumped together with "UFO buffs." Webster's defines a pejorative term as "having a disparaging, derogatory or belittling effect." Whether the media uses such terms consciously or unconsciously, the overall result has been to keep the scientific community and the public at arm's length from the puzzling and complex mutilation phenomenon. If this mystery is ever to be solved, we need an educated public and investigators/scientists who are not afraid of risking their professional lives by examining this perplexing data.

These may seem like minor points of English usage, but they are not insignificant. Back in 1979, Senator Harrison Schmitt courageously attempted to gain federal aid in solving the mutilation crimes. For his efforts, he became the butt of endless "little green men" jokes in the New Mexico media. Some say the ridicule blitz cost Schmitt his re-election bid.

Gabe Valdez is to be commended for his professionalism and perseverance. Maybe someday, with our help and encouragement, he will solve this elusive mystery.

David Perkins  
Santa Fe



H&N photo by Gary Thain

The Mothman is one of the prominent displays at Dorris' Museum of the Unexplained. Starting Monday, the museum will be open from 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m., seven days a week. Admission is a \$3 for adults and \$2 for children under ten. The museum was previously devoted to Big Foot.

## Museum mission expanded

### Bigfoot Museum is now Dorris' Museum of the Unexplained

By BRIAN COLE  
H&N Staff Writer

DORRIS — It used to be the "Bigfoot Museum." As such, it attracted about 200 visitors since opening in Dorris June 1.

Monday, however, it will become the Museum of the Unexplained. This unusual gallery is housed in 100-year-old building in downtown Dorris.

The facility has been extensively renovated, particularly during the last month, according to the museum's curator, Ryan Emerson.

The new name reflects the museum's diversification into many unexplained phenomena. "When we did research on Bigfoot," Emerson explained, "we also acquired a tremendous amount of material about everything that is related to the unexplained."

Since June, the museum has featured a full-sized Bigfoot replica. Now, there are representations of legendary creatures like the Mothman, which, according to Emerson, was seen by more than 100 people in West Virginia over the course of two years.

"This thing was seen by dozens and dozens of people," Emerson said. It is said to be seven feet

tall, black in color, with red glowing eyes.

Then, there is the Chupacabra. "Right now, this thing is running around in Puerto Rico," Emerson said. "It is estimated that, in the last two years, the Chupacabra has killed about 2,000 animals — sucking all their blood out."

The Chupacabra, Emerson said, will make a small incision in a goat, dog or chicken. "It draws every bit of the blood out of an animal. Over 15 people have described it. In one place, it walked into the center of a town."

Another unexplained creature is the Loveland Frog. One evening in March 1972, a four-foot-tall, frog-like creature was allegedly spotted in Loveland, Ohio.

"It was seen by two different police officers," Emerson said.

In 1955, two of these creatures appeared to a motorist, and, as the story goes, one of them held a rod above its head that gave off sparks.

Emerson said that, in many cases, these entities are associated with UFO sightings, but that some of these beings have appeared — then vanished without a trace.

One of the museum's exhibits is of a hapless human, prone on a table, being probed by two aliens.

The Museum of the Unexplained is at 226 South Oregon St., Dorris.

Starting Monday, it will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children under ten.

For more information, call (916) 397-2259.



## Point Of View

# Is the 'Mysterious Valley' getting even more mysterious?

*"Nothing is so firmly believed in as what is least known."*

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne (1533-1592), French writer

There was another mutilated cow discovered in Saguache County last weekend.

It was the first such incident in many months locally, but several other "mutes," as paranormal researcher Christopher O'Brien calls them, were found in northern New Mexico last month.

The Saguache area cow was lying on her side in the snow with no tracks around it. There was no blood but its back end had been "cored" out, its internal organs were gone and part of its face was excised away revealing the jawbone.

I didn't go to the site but I did talk to Center Post Dispatch reporter Becky Noland and Christopher O'Brien about it.

O'Brien, who's seen his share of such sights said it was "spooky." Reporter Noland, who is usually pretty skeptical about 'paranormal' issues, said it gave her the creeps. There were no guts lying around, no birds pecking away bits of meat, no coyote tracks in the snow.

Right after I talked to O'Brien I went to the Central Auditorium for a Kent Rominger presentation. He wowed the kids with a video of the shuttle, slides of his latest flight, and encouraged them to study hard so they could be astronauts when they grow up.

If anybody would know about this weird stuff, maybe Kent would, I thought to myself. He's been in outer space and seen some strange sights.

"As a trained engineer I'd have to look at it real hard," Rominger said when I asked him about the Valley, UFOs, and mutilated cows. "As a member of NASA I think there has got to be other life out there somewhere. I'm not certain we've had any contact yet, but we will someday. When, I don't know," he said.

When I asked him about the possibility that it might be the military conducting 'experiments' on cows in the middle of the night, he grinned. As a Top Gun Navy pilot, he wouldn't speculate on anything that had to do with UFO's and/or the military. "I don't know," he said. That



Mark H. Hunter

was a wise answer. I could probably get him in a lot of trouble with his bosses if I quoted him saying something 'off the cuff.'

But the question remains — what is going on with mutilated cows, strange sightings, UFO reports, and other 'paranormal' activity?

I don't have any answers and neither does O'Brien who has spent countless hours investigating dozens, if not hundreds, of weird reports.

I tend to agree with O'Brien's speculation that it is the military. Remember when we were all shocked when we first saw news reports of the Stealth fighters and bombers in Desert Storm? Those planes had been flying for years — and probably over our own Mysterious Valley — but nobody here knew what they were.

Remember two or three years ago when NORAD called the Rio Grande County Sheriff's office about that 'mystery' fire on Greenie Mountain? They said there was a "significant heat source" on the mountain because they could see it from their satellites — but nobody could find anything. After the dust settled I tried many times to have someone from the military; the Colorado Air National Guard, NORAD, the Air Force in Albuquerque, White Sands Missile Range, and several other military agencies, tell me what happened. All I got was "we don't know."

I've interviewed enough people to know when someone is lying to me. Virtually every time I called a military organization, everyone I talked to didn't know anything. I'm sure the folks I talked to on the phone didn't know, but I'll bet their superiors did know something they just won't tell us.

Which brings me to the point of military accountability to the public. From my experience with the military, ranging from the Airspace Initiative to 'mystery' incidents, I've never gotten a straight answer.

The military brass that I've encountered didn't give a hoot whether or not they were giving straight answers — or even correct information. The 'vibes' I got from them was they really didn't care whether or not the public agreed with what they were doing because they were going to do it anyway.

I've asked several of our Congressional delegates about that military "attitude" but they just shrug it off. Apparently elected officials are protecting the military's "secrets." So who are they representing anyway — us or them?

It's time to get some answers. But I'm not holding my breath.

POST DISPATCH, Center, CO - Dec. 3, 1997 CR: D. Perkins

## Apparent calf mutilation has officials wondering 'who', 'why'

By BECKY NOLAND  
Special to the Courier

CENTER — A routine Sunday morning check on a herd of weaner calves 12 miles east of Center resulted in the discovery of a dead calf that bears all the markings of a mutilated cow.

The right side of the calf's face was neatly removed, as was the calf's rectum and vagina. There were no tracks in the snow around it.

"I don't know how it died," said Ted Ruggles, who called the Saguache County Sheriff's Office to report the unexplained death. "But you could tell right away that it had been cut on, or mutilated, or whatever. My wife's uncle had one (a mutilated cow on the

Triple L ranch last year) and you can tell right away."

The dead calf was discovered about 9 a.m. Sunday morning by Bill Kopfman, who is partners with Jack Kuntz and Travis Smith in J & J Farms, the company that owns the calves. At the time, Kopfman didn't get close enough to the dead cow to notice anything was out of the ordinary, so he just reported it to Ted Ruggles, Jack Kuntz's foreman. But when Ruggles checked on the dead animal, he knew right away something out of the ordinary had happened.

"It was totally bizarre to me," he said. "Once Bill told me there was a dead cow, it just didn't sound right because I had checked the day before and everything was all right. When I

found it, I said "Wow!" You can tell it's been cut because you can see the knife cuts."

Ruggles called the Saguache County Sheriff's Office and Deputy Dan Warwick was dispatched to County Rd. C and County Rd. 60. Warwick took photographs of the cow and the death is currently under investigation by the Sheriff's Office, but officials are reluctant to speculate about the incident.

"We're doing a formal report on it," Undersheriff Mike Norris said. "At this point, all we have is an unexplained cow's death that wasn't predator-caused."

Norris did confirm that no tracks were present around the body when it was discovered.

GLOBE, Boston, MA - July 5, 1997

## Looking for aliens on the SETI website

By David Colker  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Roswell.

Don't worry, even though this column concerns the search for extraterrestrial life, you won't find that desert spot mentioned here again.

If you are interested in that place, you can dive into any one of hundreds of UFO-themed sites, some of which make supermarket tabloids look like the Oxford Book of Knowledge by comparison.

We are instead going in search of something far rarer on this subject in the digital realm — true science. It exists, but mostly on only one, rather sedate, site: <http://www.seti-inst.edu>.

This is the World Wide Web home of the SETI Institute, which is conducting a quiet, somewhat lonely search for traces of radio signals that may have been sent from planets a long, long way from our home. Moviegoers were briefly exposed to its existence last year. In "Independence Day," the young man who detects a signal from unfriendly aliens is said to work for SETI (which stands for Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence).

The real SETI Institute has roots back in 1959, when two Cornell physicists suggested that microwave radio transmissions could travel long distances in space. The next year, young radio astronomer Frank Drake conducted the first radio

**The institute is conducting a quiet, somewhat lonely search for radio signals that may have been sent from planets a long, long way from our home.**

wave search for signals from other solar systems. He didn't hear anything of much interest from his West Virginia outpost, but similar tests followed around the world, especially in what was then the Soviet Union.

NASA eventually got involved and, after years of planning, began the world's most ambitious SETI project in 1992. Its program was supposed to last at least 10 years.

It ended in 1993. The search for little green men turned out to be an easy target for politicians looking for ways to cut government spending.

The institute was then born to continue the work, in a much diminished fashion, with private support. The budget is \$3 million a year. Published reports have disclosed that major donors have included Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, Hewlett-Packard co-founder William Hewlett, and Intel co-founder Gordon Moore.

The SETI Institute site is somewhat unorganized (the home page promises it will be revamped this summer), but if you dig long enough, you can find fascinating documents. One is a "Declaration of Principles Concerning Activities Following the Detection of Extraterrestrial Intelligence."

High on the list of these principles: The person who detects a suspected artificially produced radio pattern should promptly notify others in the field. That done, "a confirmed detection of extraterrestrial intelligence should be disseminated promptly, openly and widely through scientific channels and public media ..."

It's not clear what would happen next. Earth could aim a radio signal at the originating source, but even if it came from the nearest star, it would take four years to get there and another four to get a reply.

The institute examines about 2 billion radio frequencies for each target star on its list. The site can display nothing as titillating as blurry pictures of UFOs or film clips of surgery on crash-landed aliens.

But, "the faint whine that would betray an alien civilization," notes the site, "could come tomorrow."

## Retired officers fire missile theory back into TWA case

By John Hanchette  
and Billy House  
Gannett News Service

WASHINGTON — Retired admiral Thomas Moorer, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, called Thursday for new congressional hearings into TWA Flight 800.

The plane disintegrated July 17, 1996, en route to Paris and plunged into the Atlantic near Long Island, killing 230.

"This time, I wouldn't let the FBI do it," Moorer said. "I'd have the NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board) do it."

Moorer and other retired Navy brass, at a news conference, expressed suspicion over the FBI's 18-month investigation of the disaster.

"All evidence would point to a missile," said Moorer.

Moorer, an expert on missile weaponry, attended the news

conference convened by a media watchdog group that scoffs at the NTSB and FBI findings.

Joseph Valiquette, FBI spokesman in New York, said the agency is "comfortable" with its conclusions that "there's no evidence a criminal act was responsible."

The Navy officers — who appeared with a veteran TWA pilot, two witnesses and members of Accuracy in Media, which coordinated the briefing

— said a study of evidence from recovered Flight 800 data recorders rebuts the government's official story about fuel vapors exploding in a central tank of the jetliner after a spark from unknown causes.

The retired officers speculated a missile could have come from either a submarine or a buoy device developed by the Navy years ago to float attack missiles into position for launch from miles away. "One

vital question we haven't attacked is the origin of that streak of light," said Moorer.

Shelly Hazle, a spokeswoman for the NTSB, scoffed at allegations made at the press conference. "Their interpretation of the data from the flight data recorder only displays their lack of knowledge of how FDRs work and how data is interpreted."

Contributing: Scott Bowles

# House-shaking 'booms' mystify neighborhood

By BARBARA POLICHETTI  
Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

## CRANSTON

CRANSTON — Sometimes Ed Conway's 3-year-old daughter will run to him in the middle of the night exclaiming, "The dinosaurs are coming!"

Those are the times Conway's house has just shuddered from a mysterious booming sound that worries, and perplexes, Conway and a number of his neighbors in the Glen Woods neighborhood.

The noise, which residents say sounds like a thudding explosion beneath the earth, seems to be concentrated in a two- to three-block area affecting houses on Summit Drive and West Blue Ridge and Park Forest

Roads.

It occurs day and night, with an eerie irregularity that they say thwarts attempts to find a pattern. It may happen only once, or more than a dozen times, during a 24-hour period, they say.

Finding out exactly what is causing the sound became a top priority for city officials after Conway and Summit Drive resident Barbara Mendelsohn called police early last week.

After knocking on a few doors in the area, patrol Officer Robert Callison found that several other residents were troubled by the same acoustic disturbance and he put together a report that Patrol Capt. William Burroughs said simply could not be ignored.

**LAST MONDAY** Burroughs notified city officials, as well as the U.S. Geological Survey, the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, and the Providence Water Supply Board.

On Tuesday, Public Works Director Peter Alviti said the city was working scientifically to try to solve the

mystery.

"It sounds like gunshots with very deep resonance," said Barbara Mendelsohn, who lives on Summit Drive. "There are usually three or four such sounds even spaced. It's very hard to describe."

Mendelsohn has kept a log of the occurrence of the sound, calling it simply "the boom list." And she has clocked the noise at all hours of the day and night.

Conway and others say they heard the sound as long as a year ago, but that this fall it increased in intensity and frequency. They all say it is loud enough to wake them from a sound sleep. And although Conway says his four children are getting used to it, his 3-year-old insists that it is the earth-shaking tread of dinosaurs.

"It feels like something rumbling beneath your house," said Conway, who at first thought his furnace might be the culprit. "For the life of me, the only thing I can think of is that it is some sort of gas buildup beneath the earth that is being let off."

**CALLING THE** situation, "very peculiar," Alviti said that the city is sending out letters to residents who live within a quarter-mile of the area where the complaints have originated.

"From an engineering standpoint it is very important that we understand exactly what kind of noise it is," he said. "And we need to know how big an area is affected."

He said his office is plotting on a map the location of houses affected by the boom.

The city will be in contact with the Providence Water Supply Board and any other relevant agencies he said. It will also be tracking down any possible audio culprits such as traffic on Route 37, businesses on Oaklawn

Avenue, and a nearby water pumping station on Melody Lane.

Rebecca Petronio, who lives on West Blue Ridge Road, likened the sound and the accompanying "feel" to someone falling down in the next room. "It's like the whole house has been hit and is a little shaky," she said.

"It varies in intensity, but it can wake me out of a sound sleep," she said.

Petronio said her husband remembers hearing the sound before the big water main break in the city a year ago. She said that he also remembers the sound abating for a while after the main was fixed.

Alviti said he does not think the sound is from the water main, which cuts east-west across the city and runs through the Dean Estates neighborhood. He said if it were the main, he would expect more complaints from Dean Estates residents rather than those who live in Glen Woods, just to the south.

Alviti said it is too soon to be specific about what might be causing the noise. "One of the residents asked me if I thought it was of immediate concern and I told them that it is premature for me to say yes or no."

"Are we taking immediate measures and are we treating it as an immediate concern? Yes we are."

Mendelsohn said she just wants to know the source of the noise — and would be relieved if it turned out to be something very simple and harmless.

"It's just getting very unnerving because this is a big sound that doesn't sound right in your home," she said. "Maybe our concern is out of proportion, but we need to know what it is."

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - Dec. 16, 1997

## Aliens are out there, and they're smarter than we are, survey says

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Most Americans think there is intelligent life on other planets — more intelligent, in fact, than on earth.

"The public loves this stuff, they always have," said Paul Horowitz, a professor of physics at Harvard, when told of the finding made public Monday by the Marist Institute for Public Opinion. Horowitz directs a project that operates a 250-million channel receiver listening for signals from space.

"It could be that the American people are taking two and two and coming up with four," said Brian Welch, a spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

What pleased the space community was the response to this question: "Do you think there is intelligent life on other planets?"

Sixty percent of the people said yes and 40 percent said no.

Marist researchers then asked those who said yes if they thought life on other planets is "more, less, or about as intelligent as human

life on earth."

The aliens came out ahead on that question, with 47 percent of Americans saying they thought ex-

**Most people who believe extraterrestrials exist believe they are intelligent and friendly.**

traterrestrial life was more intelligent, 13 percent said less intelligent and 40 percent said it was about the same.

By a margin of 86 to 14, people said they thought galactic neighbors are friendly rather than hostile.

Despite the positive view of the possibility of life on other planets, the survey found Americans divided on spending for the space program.

Forty-seven percent said the government is spending too much, 43 percent said funding was about right and 10 percent said it was too low. Asked if they thought the

space program was a good investment, 45 percent said yes and 55 percent said the money would be better spent on other programs.

The telephone survey was conducted Oct. 5-7. Marist questioned 935 adults by telephone and the results had a margin of error of 3.5 percentage points.

Broken down by age, people from 18 through 60 were strongly supportive of the idea of life on other planets. But people older than 60 rejected the idea by a margin of 67 to 33.

"The subject has moved a lot in just the last couple of years, said Louis Friedman, executive director of the Planetary Society, whose 100,000 members are strong advocates of continuing research into the possibility of life in outer space.

Horowitz said researchers are "riding along on this wave of technological innovation." He said his project listens on 250 million channels simultaneously. The first serious search for signals from space was in 1960 and had just one channel, he said.

DAILY NEWS, Anchorage, AK - Dec. 3, 1997 CR: J. & L. Nicholson

## Female body mysteriously falls from sky

The Associated Press

MIAMI — A woman who police believe may have fallen out of an airplane was killed after hitting a garden wall in an apartment complex Tuesday.

Police have no idea who she

is or exactly how she fell. Nobody saw her fall.

Residents heard a loud bang and went outside to find that a woman's body had landed on a garden wall and was ripped in half, Moss said.

Police said she could not have fallen from a nearby 20-story apartment building, the tallest structure in the area. The condition of her body indicates she fell from a much higher point, Moss said.

LOG CABIN DEMOCRAT, Conway, AR - Dec. 11, 1997

## It's not 'Star Trek' beaming, but teleportation being done

NEW YORK (AP) — It looks like the "Beam-me-up-Scotty" magic of "Star Trek." But a startling laboratory result might help scientists build more powerful computers.

In an Austrian lab, scientists destroyed bits of light in one place and made perfect replicas appear about three feet away.

They did that by transferring information about a crucial physical characteristic of the original light bits, called photons. The information was picked up by other photons, which took on that characteristic and so became replicas of the originals.

The phenomenon that made it happen is so bizarre that even Albert Einstein didn't believe in it. He called it spooky.

The work is the first to demonstrate "quantum teleportation," a bizarre shifting of physical characteristics between nature's tiniest

particles, no matter how far apart they are.

The experiment is reported in today's issue of the journal Nature by Anton Zeilinger and colleagues at the University of Innsbruck in Austria.

Scientists might be able to achieve teleportation between atoms within a few years and molecules within a decade or so, Zeilinger said.

The process is fundamentally different from the "Star Trek" notion of "beaming" people from one place to another. But could teleportation be done with people?

There's no theoretical problem with that, several experts said. But get real.

"I think it's quite clear that anything approximating teleportation of complex living beings, even bacteria, is so far away technologically that it's not really worth thinking about it," said IBM physicist

Charles H. Bennett. He and other physicists proposed quantum teleportation in 1993.

There would just be too much information to assemble and transmit, he and others said. Even if it were possible someday, it would be so expensive that "probably it's just as cheap to send the real person," said Benjamin Schumacher of Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio.

Besides, Schumacher said, teleportation would "kill you and take you apart atom by atom so you could be reassembled at the other end, one hopes. It doesn't seem like a good idea to me."

Much more likely, experts said, is using teleportation between tiny particles to set up quantum computers. These devices would use teleportation to sling data around and they could solve certain complex problems much faster than today's machines.

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada  
Dec. 20, 1997 CR: G. Conway

### Meteorite Fall

A meteorite may have triggered a fire that killed four small children in central Colombia, according to Bogota's *El Espectador*. The newspaper quoted witnesses, including the children's father and local firefighters, as saying that "fireballs" had been spotted raining down from the sky in the impoverished area of Huila province where the children perished. No evidence of a meteorite was found in the house, but a 25-cm hole was discovered in its zinc roof, along with traces of a sulphur-like substance.

what happens to the other. In particular, their polarizations are the opposite of each other.

Here's how the Austrians took advantage of that:

Call three photons A, B and C, and assume the goal is to transmit A's polarization to C. The researchers created B and C as entangled photons. Then they entangled B with A.

That second step destroyed A, but not before B took on the opposite of A's original state. This change meant B's entangled partner, C, had to change polarization to remain the opposite of B's. So C's polarization ended up the same as A's used to be. The polarization was transmitted.