

UFO

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ET really TEens?

Some doubt kids' claim to circle hoax



Gary Goldsmith/DAILY REPUBLIC

Wearing aluminum hats to protect them from aliens these four girls came from the Bay Area to see the crop circles in Rockville.

Several discrepancies in 'bored' four's story

By Tim Fields
DAILY REPUBLIC

FAIRFIELD — With a group of Fairfield teenagers declaring this week they made the Rockville crop circle formation, the farmer who owns the property said he'd like to see them prove it by doing a second design in his field.

This week, three 17-year-old boys and an 18-year-old man, all unidentified, told a local newspaper they used boards and ropes to create the formation, which features more than a dozen circles. The teenagers claimed they created two practice circles in a field near the Anheuser-Busch plant before making the big formation.

The teenagers, allegedly on probation for unrelated incidents, said they were bored and were inspired by a TV documentary on crop circles. The group said they didn't make two other formations that appeared after the Rockville site was discovered.

"There are people wanting to get on the news all the time out here," farmer Larry Balestra said Friday.

Two weeks ago, Balestra found the largest crop circle formation ever reported in the United States stamped into his 80-acre wheat field. Since then, hordes of people trying to see the formation have transformed the quiet, rural area into a bustling tourist hub packed with cars, sightseers and news crews.

While some people believe the claim, others said it's a bunch of lies.

TEENS' STORIES DON'T SEEM TO JIVE



Steve and Gene Windham/COURTESY PHOTO

- Teens used **30-foot** rope for large circle; **70-foot** rope needed
- Teens worked by **bright moonlight**; **no moonlight** that night
- Teens made **practice** circles first; **no prior circles** spotted
- Teens had **no previous experience**; experts say **skill is needed**

There are several discrepancies in what the teenagers claimed.

If they used a 30-foot rope, how could they make a circle that's more than 140 feet in diameter? According to sources, as this detail surfaced, the length of the rope may now change to around 70 feet.

The teenagers told the local newspaper they worked by bright moonlight, but on the night of June 27 there wasn't any moonlight, being close to a new moon. The moonrise was also at

4:40 a.m.

"There were a lot of discrepancies in the story like the blue tape not being publicized before," Balestra said.

The teenagers said they used blue tape in the construction of the circles.

"Everybody knows about the blue tape. It was reported all over the TV on the first day," Balestra said. "Also, if they didn't make the circles in Vacaville and

behind Solano Community College then who else is making them?"

Odds are they didn't do it because this is a pretty good circle formation to be made by someone without much experience, said Steve Moreno, director of PsiApplications, a non-profit paranormal research organization in Fairfield. Moreno and several others are researching the circle formations to see how they were made.

Moreno also disputes the teenagers' claims to have made circles by the Anheuser-Busch plant before the Rockville formation, he said.

"We've flown right over that area so many times and you can't tell me with all the reporters and news crews in the air taking photographs and searching for circles that these would go unnoticed," he said.

To Balestra the claim is sure to make many people disappointed, but he's willing to give the teenagers a chance to prove it on another part of his field.

"If they can do this, that's great because we can learn more about how people make these circles," Moreno said. "Anyone can claim they did it. The challenge now is to have them come out and actually prove it."

Tim Fields can be reached at tfields@dailyrepublic.net.

HERALD, Everett, WA - Aug. 28, 2003

FYI

Space Invaders? Not this time

Debora Tilger saw a bright flash of light fall to the ground near her Lakewood farm Sunday afternoon, sparking a small but intense fire in some mulch.

After firefighters put out the fire, Tilger dug through the 4-inch hole looking for evidence of a meteorite, and a 2-inch-wide rock looked like a candidate.

Toby Smith, an astronomy lecturer at the University of Washington, looked at the rock but doubted it was from space. Although he gets about a dozen calls each month, he's never found one that was an actual meteorite.

Smith uses a magnet to detect iron in suspect samples. Most meteorites have iron in them, while most Earth rocks do not. Tilger's rock, alas, was indifferent to a magnet's pull.

As to what started the fire, nobody knows for sure.

"I think we're going to say that this one was authentic."

Jeffrey Wilson | crop-circle researcher



PHOTO COURTESY OF HIGHLAND COUNTY PRESS

An aerial view shows the symmetry of the design discovered in farmer Dale Mark's bean field near Bainbridge. One team of researchers says the crop circle isn't man-made but another expert doesn't buy that explanation.

Supernatural sign or playful prank?

Design in Ross County soybean field encourages speculation about origin



DANA WILSON | DISPATCH

Regardless of how it came to be, the crop circle ruined \$1,200 worth of his soybeans, farmer Dale Mark says.

By Dana Wilson
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

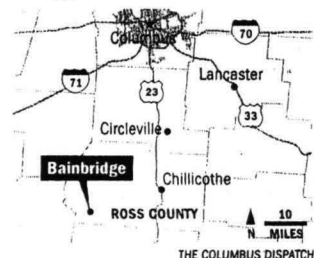
BAINBRIDGE, Ohio — Farmer Dale Mark is more agitated than alarmed by the unexplained geometric design etched across roughly 2 acres of his soybean field.

Passengers in a private airplane discovered last week that the crops had been flattened into a series of circular designs — with one surrounding a triangle, another resembling a peace sign, and a third akin to a bull's-eye.

Many in town wonder how they were created.

Some blame teenagers hoping to draw attention to their rural Ross County community 55 miles south of Columbus. Others welcome the mystery — and theories that extraterrestrials or supernatural beings are responsible.

"I think it's people who've done it, myself," Mark said. "I really don't believe in aliens."



THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Unable to harvest the damaged soybeans, Mark estimates the loss at about \$1,200, for which he has no insurance.

He's waiting to see whether anyone comes forward before filing a report with the sheriff's office. "I'd just like to find out who it is. I don't want them to do it again."

His wife, Mary Ellen, suspects the culprits knew the area well because the design is situated in an island of

land between Rt. 50 and Tong Hollow Road — an area difficult to reach from the road.

That's curious, she admits. "It does make you wonder, because there's no in or out."

Jeffrey Wilson of Dexter, Mich., and a team of independent researchers invaded the Marks' fields earlier this week to study the formations. The group recently examined two other crop circles in southern Ohio — one near Seip Mound in southwestern Ross County and another near Serpent Mound in northern Adams County.

Wilson's team determined the Bainbridge design was about a month old and that the flattened crops were noteworthy.

"The plants were all swirled down counter-clockwise, and several places were woven together," Wilson said. "Along

the stems of soybean plants where the branches bend off, the leaf bases had been shriveled up and browned as if they had been subjected to some sort of heat damage."

The damage didn't appear to be from farming machinery or wooden boards, which typically leave telltale markings, he said.

Wilson ruled out a hoax. "I think we're going to say that this one was authentic."

But Miami University professor and physicist Christopher Church, who has studied such phenomenon in England, has a different explanation for many crop circles.

"When the patterns include words written in English and, in some cases, you have very complex geometric patterns, it seems pretty clear to me that people are doing it," Church said. "I wouldn't call it a practical joke or a hoax. I would just call it a form of expression."

Those who believe the formations aren't

man-made typically want to believe in something mystical, he said.

About a mile down the road from the field, Roscoe and Beth Swartz recalled circles found in their wheat fields in 2000.

After calls and visits from scientists, a local teen confessed that he and his friends were the pranksters.

At the time, Mrs. Swartz was disappointed.

"I'm willing to believe about the new ones," she said. "When I looked at the photos, I was amazed. You have to be a little skeptical."

Mr. Swartz believes otherwise: "It's always been a hoax."

Resident Dave Brown doesn't buy the supernatural speculations but said he's impressed by the intricate pattern.

"I don't know how they are so neat about it," he said. "You have to have a plan to keep it symmetrical. I think they worked awfully hard."

dwilson@dispatch.com

Alleged abductees and curious skeptics come to Springfield ...

In search of paranormal answers

By Jeff Arnold
NEWS-LEADER

The sounds Karl Arnold hears in his right ear are soothing, yet deliberate. They are steady and yet rhythmic.

Rat-a-tat-tat. Rat-a-tat-tat. Rat-a-tat-tat.

Resembling a sort of musical Morse code, it resonates from an implant that Arnold says is embedded in his ear.

Arnold believes the sounds are communication signals, being sent to him supernaturally from other beings in faraway places.

"There are people that are trying to contact us," Arnold said Saturday, speaking in front of a roomful of people, all fascinated with the unexplained. "It's like they are trying to send a message to us."

Arnold is one of several speakers in Springfield for this weekend's Midwest Research Society conference who believe they have experienced phenomena with the supernatural.

"We're all just looking for answers," said Midwest Research Society member Linda Eastburn.

"I don't discount anyone's personal experience, but of course, you have to remain a tiny bit skeptical."

Skeptical, but not judgmental.

"I don't have to necessarily believe or not believe because honestly, it doesn't make a darn's bit of difference of my life," said Kimberly George, a Joplin dental hygienist who attended Saturday's conference.

"I'm just taking it all in ... but I know there are things that are unexplainable."

George's family has its own experience with the supernatural.

When George, who is now 38, was 11 months old in 1966, a family friend came to her parents' Joplin home. The side of her face, along with her arms, were burned.

The woman took George's parents out to a site where she said she saw a UFO land. Later that evening, George's family went to the site, where they found a very large area of grass that was lying flat and partially burned.

On Saturday, George held an oblong piece of material that conference speaker Bob White said he found in Colorado in 1985. According to White, the object — which he said has been scientifically tested several times since he found it — was a remnant of a UFO he says he saw.

"It was incredible to just hold something like that," George said.

Aurora resident Roxy Baxter, too, has a story.

For years, Baxter has meditated around campfires she burns in her yard. Surrounding the fire pit, she places crystals dug from mines in Arkansas.



EDMÉE RODRIGUEZ / NEWS-LEADER

Kimberly George, a dental hygienist from Joplin, stopped by the Museum of the Unexplained booth at the Midwest Research Society annual conference. She is holding an object that is believed to have come from an UFO. George has been interested in UFO's and extra-terrestrial activities since she was a child. "I'm just taking it all in ... but I know there are things that are unexplainable," George said.



EDMÉE RODRIGUEZ / NEWS-LEADER

This object, believed to have come from a UFO, was found in Grand Junction, Colo., by Bob White. White, of Reeds Spring, spoke of his UFO experiences at the Midwest Research Society annual conference.

She believes there is a divine peace and love that surrounds her home.

"It's a peace that is with me wherever I go," she said.

But this spring when she witnessed a ring around the spot where she meditates, she too, felt as if the supernatural was working.

The ring — which measured two inches wide and 10 feet in diameter — was indented into the grass, in the form of a perfect circle.

"When I first saw it, I couldn't

Want to go?

The schedule at today's Midwest Research Society Conference in the Teamsters 245 building, 1850 E. Division St.:

9 a.m.-10 a.m.: Tina Talbert: Sacred Geometry

10:15-11:15 a.m.: Tracy Holdford, Ph.D.: Aspects of a Shaman

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Mike Slack: Roswell: 50 years later

12:30-1:45 p.m.: Lunch

1:45-2:45 p.m.: John Colaw: KC Pulsating Orb and Bias in the Media

3-5 p.m.: Linda Eastburn: Hypnotic Investigation

believe it," Baxter said. "I didn't know what to think."

Baxter, who told conferencegoers Saturday that she has also witnessed a "golden energy" that kept her from looking in the doorway of one of the rooms in her house — continues to have visions and receive messages from a force she can't explain.

"A lot of things have been happening for quite a while," Baxter said.

Like the others, Arnold insists his experiences — which range from animal mutilations to seeing real "men in black" in 1937 in Des Moines, Iowa, to a landed spacecraft he says he was motioned to walk toward in Springfield in 1941 — are all real.

Arnold said two other im-

plants — one in his head and another in his thumb — have been removed through medical procedures.

When a physician made an incision in Arnold's thumb in the 1980s, the implant oozed out. The doctor then placed the implant — which was no longer than three-quarters of an inch — on a piece of gauze. Arnold said when the doctor returned after retrieving a container to place the implant in, he discovered it had disappeared.

His visions are not demonic, said Arnold, who says that his experiences are from God, who wants us to understand other aspects of his universe.

"I know there are people that will tell me I'm nuts," Arnold said. "But it's all true. What I am telling you is 100 percent truth."

Area man committed to the study of UFOs

After 60 years, Lincolnton researcher says sightings real

By ERIC NEWSOM
Gazette Correspondent

LINCOLNTON — During World War II, George Fawcett was working on a newspaper clipping project when he came across the December 1944 headline, "Silver balls floating in air Nazis' newest war device."

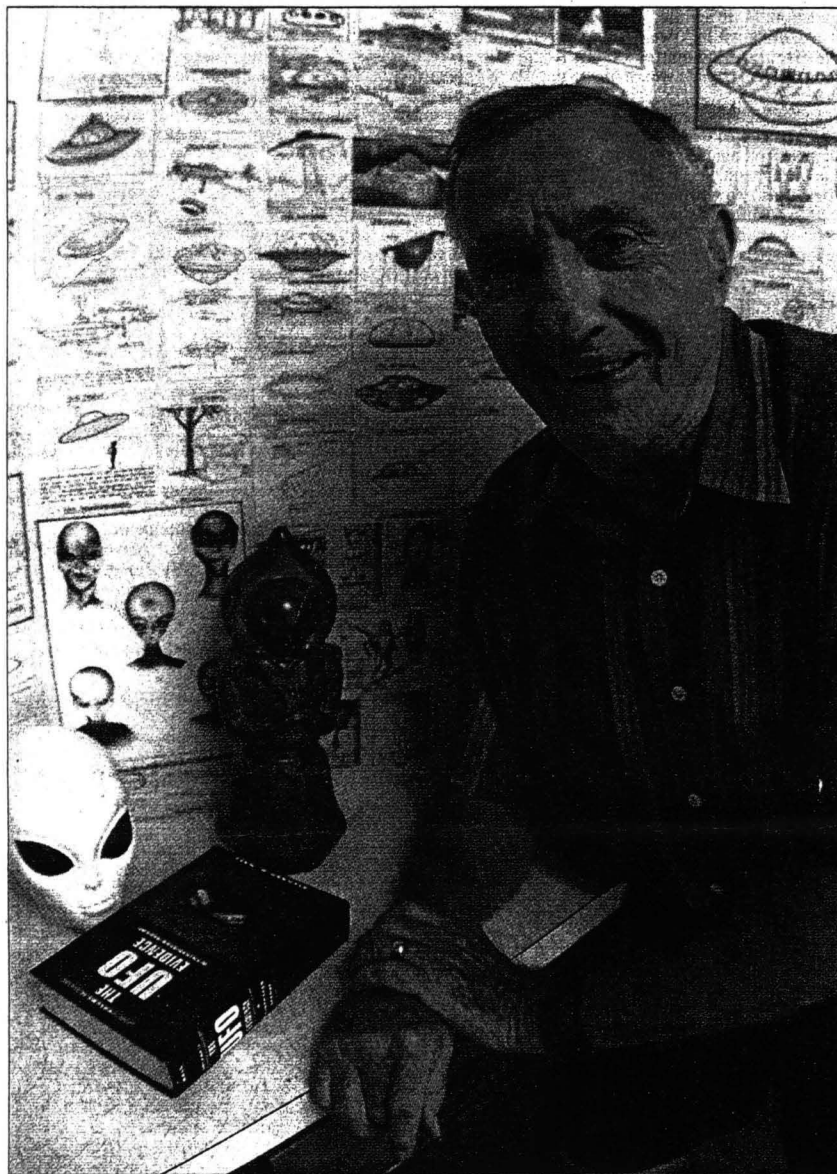
The spheroid craft were called "Foo Fighters" after a comic strip by cartoonist Bill Holman. To Fawcett, reading about the first appearance of these flying discs would spark a lifelong study of the UFO phenomenon.

Sixty years later, the Lincolnton resident has read 1,251 books on the subject, written three of his own, personally investigated more than 3,500 UFO sighting claims (about 1,700 in the Carolinas), and spent more than \$150,000 of his own money to research the existence of alien visitors.

"I'm really active in the YMCA, the church and with my family, so it doesn't seem like I should be crazy," he said. "But studying UFOs has been a big part of my life, everything always seems to come back around to that."

The man who calls himself, "Curious George, the UFO Man," also started the North Carolina chapter of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) in 1989, and was the organization's first president.

"They're real nice, professional people — from doctors and lawyers to astronomers, physicists," he said.



Mike Hensdill/The Gazette

George Fawcett stands with some of his UFO items at his home on Battleground Road in Lincolnton.

The group holds both state and international symposiums where researchers present papers on a wealth of UFO topics. Dues are \$5 for state members, \$35 for membership to the international organization. North Carolina has 160 members statewide, says Fawcett, from the mountains to the coast.

Fawcett has developed a form that he says contains repetitions in UFO sightings that present a challenge to scientific investigations. He calls the list of 25 repeated details the most important work of his life and says that UFO witnesses in 140 countries have consistently described the same things in reports.

"They don't speak the same language, but they see the same things," Fawcett said. "If we are going crazy, then we're all going crazy together."

According to recent Gallup polls, a little more than half of Americans believe in the existence of UFOs, Fawcett said.

"What most people don't realize is that means for the first time skeptics are the minority," Fawcett said. "Public acceptance is old hat now, and government agencies are letting more in-



Mike Hensdill/The Gazette

A mat is shown outside of George Fawcett's house on Battleground Road in Lincolnton.

formation go. Now they have an opportunity to work themselves out of the dilemma they've got themselves into."

Fawcett says that in 60 years of UFO studies, he's only seen one — over the sky of Lynchburg College when he attended in 1951. He says he also had an experience with a "man in

black" in Columbia, S.C., who told him during a break in a lecture that the world was not ready for some of the information Fawcett was giving.

"He asked me what I thought the effect would be on religion, and the military and the stock market if people knew," he said. "He said he wanted to tell me something before he

WANT TO JOIN?

Call MUFON-NC State Director
George E. Lund III at (704)
366-8340. Want to report a UFO
sighting? Call George Fawcett at
(704) 735-5725.

died, and wanted me to sign myself to secrecy.

"But after all of that research and study that I'd done, I wasn't about to promise to keep anything secret."

Sixty years of research has convinced Fawcett of several things: that UFOs are real, not natural phenomenon, not conventional objects and that they are machines with a high degree of technology.

"Some are friendly, some are hostile," he said. "When they're hostile, some are provoked, some are testing new devices."

Fawcett has been to 244 towns and cities in North Carolina to interview people who claim to have seen flying saucers. Some stories are serious; some are bunk.

"Sometimes they're more hysterical than historical," he said.

You can reach Eric Newsom at (704) 869-1823.



Democrat photo by Adam Harju

JOSEPH PAIGE of Diamond Springs wrote the book "Origin" and will be in New Mexico for the UFO Festival that celebrates an incident of infinite mystery that was the basis for his book.

UFO festival to transport local man

By ADAM HARJU
City editor

In the summer of 1947 something happened in Roswell, N.M., that caused a caterwaul of cover-up that carries on even today. On July 7, 1947, an afternoon news story went out on the Associated Press wire stating from an official press release, "The Army Air Forces today announced a flying disk had been found."

Several people in the Roswell area reported seeing a large flying object crash to the ground a few days earlier on the Fourth of July. That same day, rancher Mack Brazel rode out with a neighbor's son to check on some sheep when they came upon a large debris field and a huge gouge carved into the ground for several hundred feet.

A mortician from Roswell, Glenn Dennis, claimed that an official from the military called and asked how to acquire some small, hermetically sealed coffins.

From there the legend of the Roswell incident has grown into an annual event that draws over 30,000 to the southeast corner of New Mexico to debate the existence or lack thereof of an official cover-up of an alien spacecraft. That's the crux of the argument: what exactly, if anything, is being hidden from the public. Was it a space craft like many believe or a weather balloon as the official explanation stated after the initial report of a flying disk?

A Diamond Springs man will be among those in Roswell seeking answers from July 3 through 6 where he will be signing a book he wrote about the episode. Joseph Paige says the impetus for his book "Origin" came out of an event that occurred when he was a child living near Vandenberg Air Force Base on the Central

California coast.

He recounts standing near his childhood home in 1977 with members of his family one evening. "There was an object right around dusk. In about three seconds it was suddenly over L.A. It then turned and moved to a position directly between our house and a neighbor's," Paige said. "It sat there floating, making no noise and then the pilot waved at us. He looked like an American pilot; it was so close I could see the instrument panel lights reflecting off of his helmet," he said.

That sighting of what he believes was an experimental aircraft was shelved to the nether reaches of his mind for more than two decades before the idea for "Origin" came to fruition.

A Diamond Springs man will be among those in Roswell seeking answers from July 3 through 6 where he will be signing a book he wrote about the episode where many believed a spacecraft crashed to Earth in 1947.

He says about Roswell in 1947, "I'm pretty convinced something happened. There's no evidence to support that it didn't happen."

"I think the universe is so big we'd be naive to think there isn't life out there," Paige said.

But his book is not about life on other planets, it's a story told strictly from planet Earth.

"The Roswell incident is used as a vehicle to tell the story," he said.

His story limits the incident

to humans on Earth but brings in the element of time travel and catastrophic geological events to develop his plot. Paige will be signing his book at the International UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell during the event.

Roswell is a town of 48,000 that has as its main industry dairy farming. Sandra James works at the museum in Roswell and was instrumental in getting Paige involved with the UFO Festival.

"I read lots of books here," James said. "I received a copy of his book through his publisher and thought it was very good. It was a different aspect to the 1947 incident."

James says she believes an alien spacecraft did crash to Earth back in 1947 and that there is an official cover-up. "We believe it did happen wholeheartedly on July 4, 1947. There really is not an official explanation of what happened," she said.

James explained how the public affairs officer at the base initially put out a release that states it was a flying disk that crashed, but that the next day his superiors made him put out a release claiming it was a weather balloon. James said there is no physical evidence to prove the existence of a craft.

Whether the mystery will ever be solved isn't of great concern to Paige. He looks forward to flying into Roswell and looking from the plane to see if the nexus of the mystery matches the image he has created in his mind's eye. "I'm not seeking to change anything about UFOs. My own rationalization simply explains a lot of aspects of UFOs," he said.

The book "Origin" can be found at Placerville News on Main Street or by contacting Amazon.com or New Age World Publishing at (877)411-8744.

E-mail Adam Harju at aharju@mtdemocrat.net.



UFO history topic of conversation

Speaking to the Ashville Kiwanis Club recently was director of RoundTown UFO Society Robert "Pete" Hartinger. Hartinger spoke on the history of sightings in Pickaway County starting Feb. 1, 1948. So far there has been 29 sightings in Pickaway County. Pictured are (from left) Ashville Kiwanis member Boyd Oliver and Hartinger.

GAZETTE, Chillicothe, OH - Oct. 2, 2003 CR: J. Fry

Alien visit?

Crop circles remain a mystery

By LISA ROBERSON
Gazette Staff Writer

The soil has been collected and the plants tested, but researchers still are in the dark as to what caused the crop formations on a Bainbridge soy bean field.

Jeffery Wilson, an independent researcher from Michigan, said he and a group of 20 volunteers spent all Saturday and Sunday studying the circles in hopes of ruling out the possibility of a hoax.

He said he has not found evidence to suggest where they came from but the information that has been gathered is interesting and could lead to better understanding the sightings.

Wilson said he was able to narrow the creation down to four to five weeks ago and is not surprised they went undetected for such a long time.

"The ground is very isolated and you can't see it from any roadway," he said. "We think it would not be the place a hoaxer would go because no one would see it."

Wilson said there are several unique characteristics to the Bainbridge circles including their size and design. The swirls inside the circles are swirled counter-clockwise with multiple layers. When flying overhead the distinct shapes of a triangle, peace sign and bull's eye can be seen.

"This particular design is very large and detailed" he said. "Almost 280 feet by 280 feet. Just about the size of a football field in length and in width."

The most convincing anomalies Wilson said he saw was actual damage to the soy bean plants.

"We found evidence of plant damage at the most delicate point of the plant we believe came from direct heat," he said. "And the boundary between the standing plants and laying plants was almost like a cookie-cutter effect with a deep reddish purple color on the standing plants facing the circles."

Wilson said similar damage was seen in crop circles appearing near Hillsboro more than a month ago.

Although most of the research is done, Wilson said he can only sum up the crop circles with one explanation.

"Whatever energy that causes these plants to go down is beyond the physical spectrum."

But regardless to how the circles came to be, the local farmer who owns the land they sit on said he sustained monetary damages wants a human held responsible.

Farmer Dale Mark doesn't buy theories aliens from outer space left the geometric designs etched into his soybean field.

Mark thinks it was the work of pranksters, and he wants them to pay him \$1,200 for the damaged beans he can't harvest. He said he has no insurance to cover the loss.

"I think it's people who've done it, myself," Mark said. "I really don't believe in aliens."

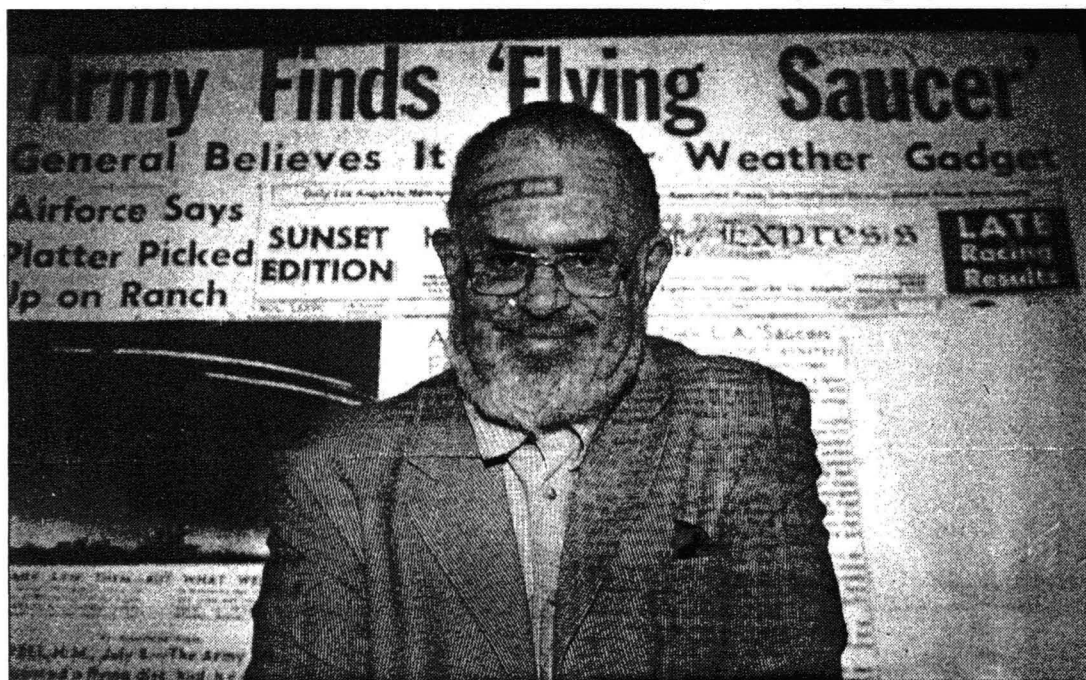
He says he's waiting to see whether anyone comes forward before filing a report with the sheriff's office. "I'd just like to find out who it is. I don't want them to do it again."

Sheriff Ron Nichols said the act will be taken seriously if a culprit is found.

"This is a serious offense," he said. "A man's livelihood has been tampered with. We have no idea who did this but if we find them they will be prosecuted."

Nichols said potential copy cats should be warned — those caught imitating the act on other Ross County fields could land in jail or receive a hefty fine.

(The Associated Press contributed to this story. Roberson can be reached at 772-9376 or via e-mail at lroberso@mncogannett.com)



LAURA A. ODA — Staff

UFO LECTURER STANTON FRIEDMAN will be speaking about UFOs today in Union City. The image behind him is a slide of the front page of the Los Angeles Herald Express on July 8, 1947, about a UFO sighting near Roswell, N.M.

UFO expert to address earthly schoolchildren

■ Nuclear physicist assures 'flying saucers are real'

By Tom Anderson
STAFF WRITER

UNION CITY — UFO expert Stanton Friedman never has seen a flying saucer, but he believes.

"As a nuclear physicist, I have never seen neutrons or gamma rays, but I believe in them, too," said Friedman, who is speaking at 5 p.m. today at Guy Emanuele Elementary School in Union City. The talk will cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and kids.

His talk, titled "Flying Saucers are Real," is based on decades of research, Friedman said. He claims there is overwhelming evidence that Earth has been visited by "intelli-

If you go

WHO: Stanton Friedman, UFO expert

WHAT: Speaking event called 'Flying Saucers are Real'

WHEN: 5 p.m. today

WHERE: Guy Emanuele Elementary School, 100 Decoto Road in Union City

COST: \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors

gently controlled extraterrestrial spacecraft."

Ruben Uriarte, state director of the Mutual UFO Network, invited

Friedman to give a public lecture about UFOs. Uriarte, a Union City resident, wanted Friedman in a public forum, rather than to speak at his group's regular meeting in San Jose.

"This is the first time we've held an event in Union City," Uriarte said. "I like the fact that it's being held at an elementary school because it has a 'town hall' feel to the meeting."

Uriarte, who once worked for the New Haven school district, said he expects about 100 to 200 to attend Friedman's lecture. The Mutual UFO Network has about 150 Bay Area members.

Friedman doesn't expect many hecklers or skeptics by the time he concludes his talk.

"The problem is not that there is not enough evidence to justify my conclusions, but that most people, especially the noisy negativists, are unaware of

the real, non-tabloid evidence," Friedman said.

He has focused part of his investigations on Roswell, N.M., where he claims the Army Air Forces recovered the remains of a crashed flying saucer in July 1947.

In 1994, the Air Force issued a report denying any involvement in a flying saucer crash at Roswell.

"The research located no records at existing Air Force offices that indicated any "cover-up" by the USAF or any indication of such a recovery," the report said.

Friedman called the 1994 report just a small part of the U.S. government effort to withhold information about UFOs.

He has published two books about UFOs, written numerous articles on the topic and has appeared on "Larry King Live," "Nightline," "Unsolved Mysteries" and many UFO documentaries.

Since 1970, he has been a speaking about flying saucers full time. Before then, he said he worked as a nuclear physicist researching fission and fusion rockets for General Electric, General Motors and TRW. He received his master's degree in physics from the University of Chicago in 1956.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Friedman lived in Hayward, but now resides in Canada with his wife.

For more information about Friedman's talk, call (510) 489-3686.

Staff writer Tom Anderson can be reached at (510) 353-7006.

CONFEDERATED UMATILLA JOURNAL, Pendleton, OR - Sept. 4, 2003 CR: R. Timm

Tribal history includes ETs, Bigfoot

My name is Roy Timm, a resident of the Pendleton area since 1936. I have been involved with ETs from other planets since 1942.

I recently went to Silver City, N.M., and went out into the high mountains, over 9000 feet, and met with a little lady who is half Native American and half Zeti. She is what is called a hybrid. She has knowledge of the universe and the people in it, the other planets, Bigfoot, and the history of the Native Americans, who were the first ones on earth.

I am holding a monthly meeting at Shari's Restaurant in Pendleton on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. I would also like to get something going out on the Reservation in connection with the Native Americans, as you need to get back to true knowledge and heritage, which is far different from what you are being taught today.

I would enjoy very much in sharing time with any of you who want to come to our next meeting on Sept. 10.

I am acquainted with quite a few of you. The book I put out in 2001 has three or four Native Americans in there - Teresa Eagle, Benny Minthorn and Tim Hall. It is the true history of this area and of the Zeti, which I have been in contact with. It has not been well accepted by the white people, unfortunately, but every word of it is true. Two pictures are wrong - the one on Page 48 and the Delta Wing on the back cover; it should not have had a tail on it. Otherwise, it is all true history of what this planet is and the people on it in this area.

I know that many of you have had experiences up the river and in the mountains both with the Bigfoot and the flying saucers. I saw my first saucer in 1947 and I saw seven out of Silver City in June. It is a wonderful feeling to know the truth and I would be glad to share with you.

If you have any questions, attend the meeting or call me at 276-2756.

Roy Timm, Pendleton

Sky Watching: A Personal Eyewitness Account of UFO Contact

By Jeannine Hart

The majority of people these days believe in at least the possibility of the existence of life beyond planet earth. The enormous odds against our planet being the only place in the universe to harbor life forms, combined with the increasing number of reported sightings, is enough to make most folks wonder. But if you were faced with the genuine opportunity to witness a UFO or even meet an extraterrestrial, how would you react? Would you be excited? Scared? What would you hope to discover? The following is a personal account of my experiences facing the reality of the UFO phenomenon.

Mt. Adams is located near Trout Lake, WA, just an hour and a half drive from Portland, OR. It is an area of beauty and mystery where over 2000 people have claimed to have had sightings of strange, glowing flying objects, or UFOs. Within full view of the mountain is the Sattva Sanctuary, located on the ranch owned by James Gilliland and home to the Self Mastery Earth Institute. Since the early 1990's James has had numerous contacts with the ET's that he claims fly these ships right over his property. In addition to the testimony given by so many eye witnesses in the area, James has compiled over 30 hours of video footage of these flying craft in the air and landing on the mountain itself. His story has been featured on many different television and radio news programs including Art Bell and the History Channel.

In June, 2002 I made a trip up to the sanctuary with three friends for a two night stay in the guest house to experience what James calls "skywatching".

The sky was clear that evening as we sat outside looking up until our necks hurt. I felt a sort of relaxed excitement and did my best to avoid having any expectations about seeing UFO activity.

The first encounter that we had was with what could only have been a military airplane. It flew so low over our heads that I could not believe it! It really seemed a bit dangerous. The second craft that came along a few minutes later was nothing like the military plane. It did in fact come from the part of the sky where I had felt it would 20 minutes earlier and the noise level was very low. The object was definitely disc shaped and bright, but it had the capacity to become extremely bright and James demonstrated this by shining a high powered flash light from the ground toward the craft while yelling "power up". The UFO responded by flashing us back with a golden white light. The ship flew almost directly overhead and then disappeared, but not before my friend filmed it on his camcorder. It was very exciting and the predominant feeling I had was that it was all hilarious! It really felt like the "ETs" must be laughing! Even the coyotes were screaming wildly off in the distance! We left for our return trip to Portland the next morning with gratitude and many lingering questions.

The second time I paid a visit to the Sattva Sanctuary was in the middle of August, 2002. There were many other skywatchers from all walks of life, including a man who currently works for the military. Everyone had video cameras and big telescopes, and the military man

had "3rd generation" night-vision goggles that made it look like broad daylight in pitch dark.

The two nights I stayed at the ranch this time were extremely active. I probably saw at least 25 ships, and this was not including planes and satellites, which were easily distinguishable from the bright UFO craft. What I saw and experienced this time eliminated any lingering skepticism that I had left in the back of my head as to whether these craft were of extraterrestrial origin.

The ET's were much more forthcoming the second night, and we saw multiple craft landing on the mountain while giving off bursts of white light that looked like giant explosions but were completely silent! At one point we saw a ship land at the base of the mountain, flash us, and then 2 seconds later the craft was at the top of the mountain flashing us again! The closest encounter I had occurred later in the evening when I made a trip to the toilet inside the main house. As I walked into the bathroom I saw a transparent figure that consisted of blue and purple light. It disappeared as soon as I focused on it and I didn't know what to think so I just used the bathroom and tried not to jump to any conclusions. A minute later I walked out the main door to the house and a ship was hovering right above, flashing as brightly as I had ever seen them. The rest of the evening was a very entertaining lightshow in the sky.

After these two trips to Mt. Adams all I wanted was to make sense of it all and tell the world. This has not been easy. Many people, including family, have refused to discuss it with me and have even become angry over the whole subject. Others have shown interest and would like to "see it for themselves", but most are politely apathetic. For some people the video footage is just not enough. "Skeptics" who seek out UFO encounters with expectations and a demanding attitude are usually disappointed. Everyone has their own reality filter and what you experience in life is only limited by consciousness. The subjective nature of many UFO related stories is part of the reason why the mainstream scientific community refuses to formally acknowledge or deeply investigate the eye witness reports. The facts defy logic!

The power of the video camera and the determination of the people who have experienced ET contact first hand are changing all of that.

The ever present question of who "they" are is not one that I can answer completely. There is definitely not one kind of ET and the technology they employ is way beyond our comprehension. Aliens are a lot more like humans than not, good and bad. "Contact" is a slow process of integration and multilevel realization. In all of my encounters with these benevolent beings I have been most grateful that they respect our boundaries and don't force themselves upon the human population. When I finally asked the ETs up at Mt. Adams what I can do to help the world they simply told me to "go within".

Videos, books, picture and more are all available at www.cazekiel.org. Self Mastery Earth Institute: PO Box 281, Hood River, OR 97031, (509) 395-2092. Jeannine Hart can be contacted at Spellbreaker23@yahoo.com.

RATTLER, Shell Knob, MO - Sept. 10, 2003

UFOs to Highlight Conference Awareness

(Springfield, MO) - Karl Arnold, retired farmer now living in Springfield, will go public after more than sixty years of silence as he reveals facts about his first, and many, UFO encounters at the Second Annual "Awareness Conference" to which the public is invited.

The event sponsored by the Midwest Research Society begins at 9 a.m. on Sat., Sept. 13 and runs through 5 p.m. on Sun., Sept. 14. More than sixteen speakers, including a panel of UFO experiencers, are slated to appear at the event in the Teamsters 245 Bldg., 1850 E. Division St., Springfield. Among them are:

Bob White, presenting and displaying "Hard Evidence" about an object

he retrieved from a UFO; Author Leah Haley, "Unlocking Alien Closets"; John Colaw, "KC Pulsating Orb and Bias in the Media", and Mike Slack, who will discuss Roswell.

Arnold, 77, who sighted his first flying saucer on the west coast in the late 1930s, will talk on "Implants and Helmeted Beings." His experiences, which have been collected into a book, include many sightings of alien craft and their occupants, as well as apparent implant devices such as abductees claim have been implanted by aliens for the purpose of monitoring them. Arnold, who has a spherical object in his right ear lobe, will also discuss mutilations of his young livestock.

Other speakers include: Roxy Baxter, "Mysterious Circle Formation"; Dolores Cannon, "Prophecies of Nostradamus"; Tina Talbert, "Sacred Geometry" and Tracy Holdford, Ph.D., "Aspects of a Shaman."

Linda Eastburn, director of Midwest Research Society, will conclude the conference with a presentation entitled "Hypnotic Investigation." A demonstration of a hypnotic session in which memories of an encounter with aliens are unlocked will be given.

According to Eastburn, seating will be on metal folding chairs, so everyone is advised to bring pillows or cushions. Lunch is on your own.

Books and other UFO-related personal and gift items will be available

during breaks and at noon.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. or call 417-863-1377 to pre-register and for fee information. Further information is available from www.midwestresearchsociety.com or Mresearchsociety@aol.com.

STAR NEWS, Pasadena, CA - Sept. 1, 2003

Residents see unexplained lights in night sky

By Ben Baeder
STAFF WRITER

MONTEREY PARK — Police officers in Monterey Park and Montebello have received several calls reporting blinking red lights hovering in the night sky. And a San Gabriel man captured images of the lights on videotape.

Police officials said officers responded to the reports but were unable to find any flashing lights.

"We had a couple calls (on Saturday night), and we sent some officers out," said Lt. Rick Payne of the Monterey Park Police Department. "The only thing they saw out there was Mars."

Montebello officers also reported receiving several calls.

But residents in Montebello, Monterey Park and San Gabriel say the three separate oval-shaped, bright-red objects they saw Saturday night could not have

been a planet. At least two people captured images of the lights on videotape.

The videos show red lights that seem to be shaking in the night sky, then disappear. "We thought it was a helicopter at first," said Hector Corza of Monterey Park.

He and family members were standing outside when they saw the lights Saturday night, he said. "Then it started flashing, and lights seemed to be shooting out from it," Corza said. "It flashed for a while, then it just disappeared."

The first light showed up around 10:30 p.m., he said. A shiny red object slowly migrated up from the horizon. Then it sped up, blinked, flashed and suddenly disappeared, he said.

Within an hour's time, the same type of thing happened twice more, he said.

One oval was in the sky for about 30 minutes, he said. The other two lasted about about 10 or 15 minutes, he said.

A similar incident may have taken

place earlier last week. One anonymous person, who said he or she was from Montebello, posted a note on the National Unidentified Flying Object Reporting Center Web site Thursday.

The posting said: "There was a bright red object as high as some of the stars ... all of a sudden it faded a bit, and finally it disappeared as if it was sucked up into space."

Another posting described a similar event.

Officials from the Federal Aviation Administration and the United States Air Force said they had no recent reports of any abnormal activity in the area.

Although he didn't see the red lights himself, Bob Alborzian of the Los Angeles Sidewalk Astronomers said people could have been experiencing illusions.

The appearance of a fast-moving object may have been caused by Mars, he said. The planet is extra bright because it is closer to Earth than it has been in

about 66,000 years, he said.

"If you stare at Mars too long, it seems like it zigs and zags," he said.

He said variances in the Earth's atmosphere also could make the planet seem like it is blinking.

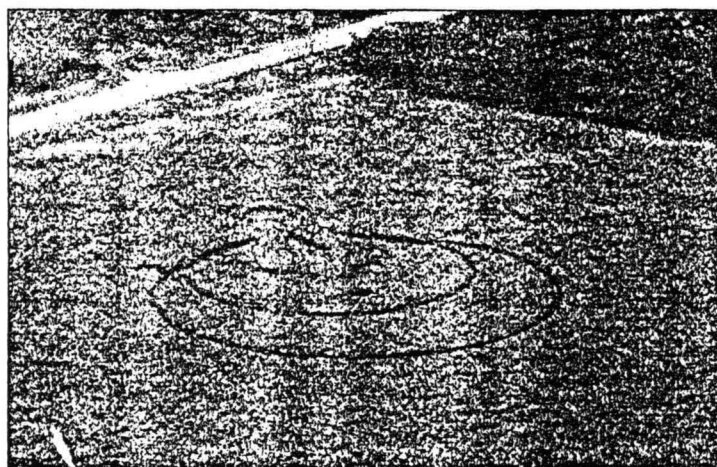
But the Corza family and their neighbors insist they saw something other than Mars. "We could see Mars too, but these were different," said Leonardo Vega, a Corza family friend.

Corza feels vindicated after family members didn't believe him when he said he saw similar flashing lights Aug. 23.

"I saw the same lights last weekend, too, with my brother while we were sitting out in front of the garage," Corza said. "Everybody was saying, 'You guys had too much to drink.' But now they believe us."

Ben Baeder can be reached at (562) 698-0955, Ext. 3024, or by e-mail at ben.baeder@sgvn.com.

Aliens or hoax: crop circles appear in Peebles soybean field



Photos by Mark Tolle/For the Defender

**By TROY JOLLY AND
CALEB GROOMS**
The People's Defender

A strange design found in a soybean field across from the entrance to Serpent Mound on State Route 73 near Locust Grove remains under investigation. The design was found on the property of Molly Williams, a resident of Dayton.

The design, designated as a crop circle, was first seen by Delsey Knoechelman, of Peebles, on Sunday, Aug. 24 around 11 a.m. Knoechelman stated that the creation was not there on Saturday as she inspected the fields in the area for flood damage. She returned to her home where she contacted the Adams County Sheriff's office and then returned to the site with family. Knoechelman's father, Jim McKenzie, inspected the site with a metal detector, where he found several different metallic levels and minerals in the outlining circle.

According to McKenzie, one circle had higher concentrated levels of minerals than did the others.

Jeff Wilson, an independent crop circle investigator from Dexter, Mich., noted higher crop damage inside the design than outside. He also documented a higher radiation level inside the design, as well as higher electrical and magnetic fields than those outside of the marking. According to Wilson, this is the first time there has been a difference in such levels in his investigations. Wilson also stated there have been two other crop circle findings in Ohio, but both have been proven to be a hoax.

"It is my belief that the design in this field is an authentic crop circle," stated Wilson. Douglas McIlwain, president of the American Society of Dowsers, reported abnormality in the field. "I believe the design is pointing towards Serpent Mound, either to the head or tail of the entity," said McIlwain.

Wilson, McIlwain and Roger

Sugden, of Ft. Wayne, Ind., analyzed the field, taking with them crop and soil samples. The findings have not been returned.

The design consists of several markings. The smaller circles on the sides of the design measure 12' in diameter with the larger bottom circle measuring 16'. The total design measures 300' in diameter.

David Garvin, of West Union, said, "The markings in the crop and tail of Serpent Mound are similar."

According to the Adams County Sheriff's office, there was no unusual activity reported on the morning of Aug. 24.

"Anyone caught on the property will be charged with trespassing and may be arrested," said deputy Shawn Cooley.

History shows that very few crop circles have been made in soybeans. The majority of markings have been found in vegetable crops, corn fields, grass, wheat, and even groves of trees.

This isn't first questionable event

in the county. It was reported in *The People's Defender* that on the evening of Oct. 17, 1973, three Adams County deputies and one West Union Police officer encountered an unusual object in the sky on Chaparral Road in West Union and later hovering between State Route 41 and 125 near Panhandle. The men described the object as having pulsating red, green, blue and white lights and claimed it would "zig-zag in a very tight circle" throughout the sky. Highland, Ross and Scioto County deputies also reported seeing the object.

In relation to the most recent happening, McIlwain reported that eye-witnesses have encountered "earth lights" since the design was found. These orange, glowing spheres measure five feet in diameter and are common after crop circles have been formed.

A final report of the findings of the investigation is due to be released in October.

Crop circle found in field

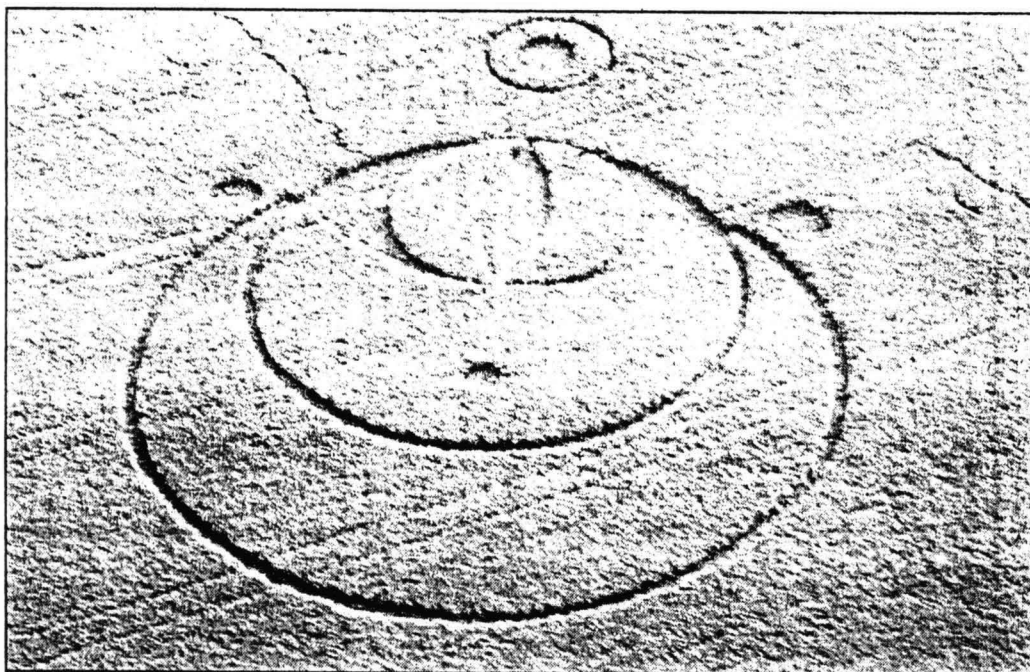
On Aug. 29 three local residents went to Shouthern Ohio to help in the investigation of a crop formation that had been discovered there.

Gene Brewer, Jon Fry and Pete Hartinger were there to help the two leading investigators, Jeff Wilson of Dexter, Mich., and Roger Sugden of Fort Wayne, Ind. They helped with the collection of measurements, samples, reading and more. Recently, Wilson and Sugden have investigated crop formations in Wisconsin, Michigan and Canada.

As you can see by the picture the crop circle is a complex formation. It was located in a soybean field. The soybean crop formations are rare.

The crop circle was found in Loudon, Ohio next to serpent mound in Adams County. The location was kept secret until the farmer had the crop harvested. This is because he didn't want people coming into the field and destroying more of his crop.

If person or persons are discovered to have created this formation, they could be charged with trespassing and



Submitted photo

ACCORDING TO PUBLISHED reports, this crop circle was found in Ohio near serpent mound in Adams County. Three local residents Gene Brewer, Jon Fry and Pete Hartinger helped investigate this crop circle that was found in a soybean field.

vandalism.

If someone knows of similar formations that haven't been reported, please contact

Pete Hartinger at 474-6773. The results about this southern Ohio formation will be shown on the Web site: www.cropcircle

clenews.com. You can also e-mail Jeff Wilson at jwilson10368@comcast.net for further information.



FOREIGN NEWS

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

MEDWAY NEWS, Kent, England - June 27, 2003

Illustration by Matt Penney

It was very big and very weird. It was a solid, bright orange thing in the sky ...

Mum tells of shocking night-time sighting over her Medway home



● Shocked mum Kelly Humphrey in the garden of her Rainham home. 03C288L PICTURE: PIERIS MORGAN

UFO experts are investigating claims that a giant orange pulsating blob appeared in the sky above Rainham on two successive nights last week.

Shocked mum-of-two Kelly Humphrey (28) saw the strange object - together with other coloured lights - hovering near trees outside her home in Maidstone Road at 3am on Wednesday.

She watched the spectacle for more than five minutes before clouds covered the elongated shape and it failed to reappear. But blue, red and green flashing lights, forming a shape similar to the logo for the Channel Four programme *Big Brother*, remained in the sky for a few minutes longer.

Kelly said: "I thought I was going mad and I'm sure people still think I'm round the bend, but I know what I saw. It was very big and very, very weird. It wasn't the moon, it wasn't the sun coming up but it was a solid thing in the sky, bright orange."

"I just watched it and kept watching it and it was going in and out like a heartbeat. It was just above the trees at the

EXCLUSIVE

Report by Sarah Lear

end of my garden so I would estimate it was about 250ft away.

"Then clouds that were moving really fast went over it and it went, but there was still that shadow of it in the sky, like when you turn off a light, but you can still see the outline."



● The Big Brother logo - Kelly says the lights in the sky above her home looked similar to this.

Kelly returned to bed, but woke up again two hours later and saw the phenomenon again. This time she called her father, a retired official to the Hong Kong Government, to witness the light, which had grown fainter. He agreed it

was very odd. Kelly decided to contact police, but operators were unable to provide a rational explanation.

Kelly said: "Obviously, I found it difficult to go back to sleep and when I got up again it was there again so I called my dad in to see it. He said he had never seen anything like it either. The really weird thing is that our dog was behaving strangely too, panting and wanting to go out."

Astonishingly, the coloured lights returned on Thursday night, but the bright orange light had gone.

Kelly said: "I feel quite scared about it all. I'm not mad or given to saying things like this. I tried to take pictures of the funny coloured lights, but I couldn't see them properly through the lens."

The *Medway News* took Kelly's pictures to be processed, but none of the pictures printed.

Chris Rolf, of UFO Monitors East Kent (UFOMEK) said he had contacted Kelly and would be looking in to the sighting.

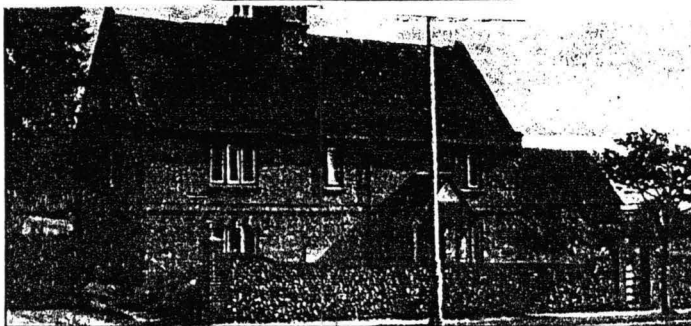
Kent Police said it had passed details of the incident to the Ministry of Defence.



As Time Goes By

compiled by Alex Claridge

ISLE OF THANET GAZETTE, UK - May 2, 2003



A 1966 photograph of Church Hill Farm in Birchington

Aliens attend cricket match

UFO sightings were all the rage in the 1950s, especially in America where the early days of space exploration often fuelled overactive imaginations.

One sighting was reported in Thanet 50 years ago this week, just as the cricket season got underway.

Several players reported seeing a "saucer" over Cliftonville.

One witness said: "It remained stationary in the sky for about half-an-hour and appeared to be the size

of a tennis ball, before it zoomed off into space." Players from the Pegasus Sports Club were involved in a practice match at the Palm Bay recreation ground when they spotted the saucer.

Roy Haddock was running into bowl and nearly delivered a full toss when he caught sight of the object.

Fielder Albert Banning said: "At first I thought it was an airplane with the sun shining on it, but when it remained stationary, I

realized I was wrong. It then appeared to drift slowly across the sky and eventually disappeared."

Other players who saw the saucer agreed that it could not have been an aircraft or a balloon.

The year before, fisherman Tony Higgins spotted a UFO off the jetty at Margate.

Have you any stories of extraordinary things happening in Thanet? Write to me at Gazette Building, Union Row, Margate, CT9 1PP.

EVENING ECHO, Southend, England - April 24, 2003

Stansted pilot spots UFO

AN AIRLINE pilot has reported seeing a UFO two miles from Stansted Airport. Police confirmed the Boeing 737 captain radioed air traffic control to report the mystery sighting. Two hours earlier former taxman, John Wilson, 69, claims he saw a UFO shoot across the sky while out walking his dog near his East Mersea home.

Is anybody out there?

Gareth Bicknell investigates North Wales' top 10 UFO sighting spots

STRANGE lights in the sky, humanoid visitors with no faces, and even stories of people taken to faraway planets. Since the dawn of space travel and science fiction writing early in the 20th century, man has been fascinated by the possibility of life on other worlds. With films like *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *ET* in the 1970s came a rapid increase in reports of flying saucers and men from Mars. Wales in particular has become a hotbed of evidence that we're not alone.

UNDER SURVEILLANCE

ACCORDING to reports of sightings over Denbighshire, we could be under regular surveillance by more advanced life forms struggling to understand our primitive earth ways. Are aliens carrying out their own 10-year census of life on Earth, unbeknown to the unbelieving majority?

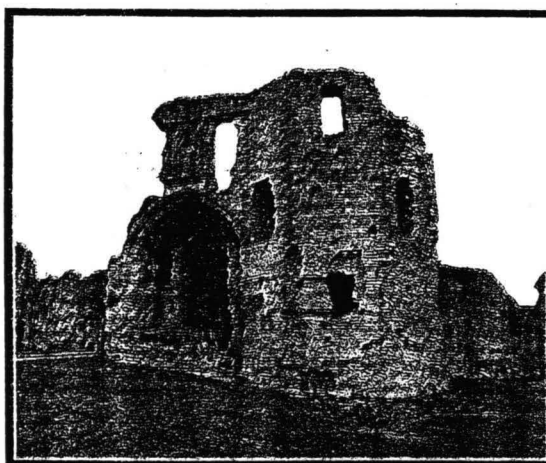
In spring 1964 a woman was walking her dog in the grounds of the haunted Denbigh Castle when the dog gave a sharp yelp. She found the animal cowering under a beam of light in the bushes. The woman rescued her beloved pet but felt a burning pain in her arm as she came into contact with the light.

Ten years later two women saw a bright orange light hovering in the sky above nearby Denbigh Hospital. A similar sighting was also reported in 1984, and again 10 years later in 1994. Will the visitors be returning next year?

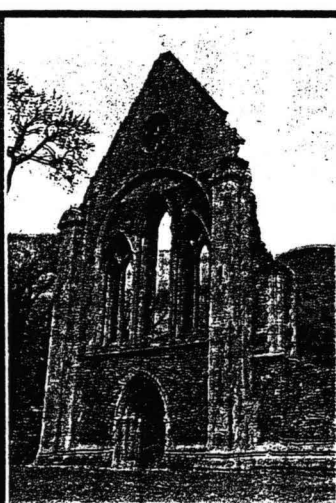
FAMILY OUTING

ONE family claimed to have been abducted by visitors from outer space while travelling through North Wales on November 10, 1977. On the same night an elderly man from Llandudno had been frightened by unusual beams of light in the sky above the Great Orme. The family were driving near the village of Llandernog, Denbighshire. They saw a purple triangular craft which then swallowed up their car. The purple object seemed to vanish. The family had lost several hours but could remember nothing about what had taken place during that time.

Meanwhile, another man driving along the Llandernog road that night claimed he saw a spaceship as big as a football pitch with hundreds of bright lights emanating from it. The man whose family were abducted was reportedly instructed by the RAF not



Denbigh Castle, left, and Valle Crucis Abbey, Llangollen, are among the places in North Wales where people claim to have seen aliens and UFOs



to speak publicly about what had happened to him.

TALENT SCOUTS

1977 was a busy year for Welsh ufologists, with a wave of sightings over Anglesey and West Wales known to alien watchers as the Broadhaven Triangle. On February 4 a game of football between children at Broadhaven School was interrupted when a glowing cigar-shaped object landed in a nearby field. David George, nine at the time, said he saw a "silver man with spiked ears" near the craft.

On February 17 the ship was seen by one of the school's teachers and then later in the day by two dinner ladies. One of the dinner ladies claimed to have seen a figure climb into the craft before it made its departure.

In the months that followed, up until June, there were numerous sightings of flying, cigar-shaped objects in the skies above Dyfed and Pembrokeshire. Many people reporting seeing white, humanoid figures, with pointed, apparently faceless heads. The cynics and those in officialdom suggested they were simply MoD personnel in radiation suits carrying out routine training exercises.

Were these dome-headed beings talent scouts for some intergalactic sports academy? The same month that they landed next to the

playground kickabout in Broadhaven, the cigar-shaped ship was also spotted by Bronwen Williams, who was teaching girls netball during a PE class at Rhos-y-Bol school on Anglesey.

In September the following year, a group of boys were playing football in Llanerchymedd, Anglesey, when they saw what they thought was a helicopter land nearby. The boys went to investigate, finding a small white object with a red glow stuck in the ground where the helicopter had been. They also claimed to have seen two hooded humanoids near the craft.

TRAVEL BACK IN TIME

MANY people put UFO sightings down to the armed forces testing new designs and equipment, but there have been sightings in North Wales as early as the 18th century. In 1743 William John Lewis, a farmer from Peibio, near Holyhead, saw an object sailing through the air above the nearby mountains long before man had mastered flight. He claimed he had seen similar crafts at roughly 10-year intervals.

Historian James Buckley interviewed descendants of miners from Mold who saw a UFO in the 1880s. The men, who were struggling to feed their families on the miserable wages they were being paid, had gone to nearby Padeswood to collect some snares they were

using for poaching. Already tense at the prospect of being caught stealing by the landowner, they were terrified when they saw a large, bright, purple sphere hovering above the field. The men ran away, but when they returned again to pick up their snares there was a circle of scorched grass where the craft had been.

GREAT BALLS OF FIRE

THE Egryn lights are a famous phenomenon that have baffled people in Meirionnydd for centuries, but in the last few decades they have also attracted the attention of ufologists. In the 17th century balls of flame were seen crossing the sea near the west coast of Wales. In Harlech in 1662 it was claimed that these strange lights were setting fire to crops and barns and infecting grass, although they seemed to do no harm to people who were in the fields at the time.

In 1877 blue lights were seen over Pwllheli and the Dysynni Estuary, and in the early 1900s the lights were adopted by Mary Jones and the Revivalists as proof that God was trying to communicate with them.

Ms Jones was widely discredited as being barking mad, but with the increase in UFO sightings over the 20th century the lights became a focus for people convinced of the existence of little green men.

The lights were the subject of an investigation in *Flying Saucer Review* in 1971, and have aroused alien

conspiracy theorists across the world.

FAMILIAR FACES

A WOMAN from Halkyn, Flintshire, has been visited by aliens on a regular basis since she first saw a UFO in July 1982, according to North Wales ufologist Margaret Fry. The woman, who was interviewed anonymously by Mrs Fry, thought she was witnessing a meteorite hurtling towards the earth until the large, round object stopped over a neighbour's home. It was yellow, had two rings around it and made a humming noise as it hovered above the house.

Then, one night in November 1983, she was woken by a bright light shining into her bedroom. Outside her window - 20ft off the ground - was a face looking at her. She claims the figure, who had a human appearance, then appeared in her room before finally disappearing. The woman says she has been in regular contact with people from outer space ever since.

OUT OF THIS WORLD

MANY people, known as contactees, reckon they are visited regularly by aliens on their jaunts to our corner of the universe. But for one young girl from Flintshire, frequent visits from space travellers resulted in the chance-of-a-lifetime trip to visit their home planet.

Gaynor Sutherland, from Oakenholt, claimed she was taken on the journey by aliens she had met when she was nine. In 1976 Gaynor was playing in fields near her home when a flying saucer landed nearby. Two figures, which she supposed were male and female, emerged from the ship and began to carry out what appeared to be scientific tests on the ground.

The aliens continued to make contact with the Sutherland family over the next few years and at times Gaynor seemed to be possessed by the visitors and unable to control her own actions. The girl's claims were backed up by her family, who all gave matching descriptions of the aliens.

DANCING TO AN ALIEN TUNE

IN 1896 Welsh folklore, by the Rev Elias Owen, recounted the story of Dafydd Fawr, a farmer from Penrhyneddraeth who thought he saw a fairy dance but may actually have had a close encounter of the third kind. Dafydd was on his way home from market when he saw a small comet fall to the ground,

saw the ship, which stayed for about five minutes before silently zooming off at a speed no man-made craft would be capable of.

UNSOLVED MYSTERY

ONE of the most famous UFO sightings in Wales occurred in the village of Llangernyw, Conwy, in the 1970s. After farmers reported seeing strange lights in the sky military personnel cordoned parts of the village off and evacuated civilians from the area. The incident attracted worldwide interest from ufologists, but to this day the Ministry of Defence has never come up with an explanation of what the lights were or why the village was closed off.

featureswales@dailypost.co.uk

Plea for details of UFO sightings

LOCAL UFO investigator Russ Kellett is appealing to anyone who may have had a close encounter with an object of extraterrestrial origin to take part in a forthcoming documentary.

Mr Kellett, of Ffiley, said he had been contacted by the

producers of a cable TV documentary, looking for tales of unidentified - and identified - flying objects.

He said: "They're looking at the more exciting end of the scale, things like spacecraft, especially if they come close to flying saucers."

"I get a lot of these requests because we've noticed a lot of reports of unexplained phenomena in this area, and my colleagues and I have collected a lot of video evidence. We've been fortunate enough to have cameras most of the time, but the producers are interested in anybody who's had a close encounter, whether it's on film or not."

Mr Kellett can be contacted on 07901 597743.

followed by a hoop of fire. Two small figures appeared from the flaming hoop, drew a circle on the ground and started to dance around it.

Dafydd watched amazed as more little people, both men and women, seemed to appear from nowhere and join in the dance. The fairies, as Dafydd supposed they were, danced for a few minutes until the first two figures climbed back into the hoop of fire and flew away. The rest of the fairies vanished.

Dafydd continued home, a journey which would normally take him about 20 minutes. When he got home he found he had lost three hours. According to writer Richard Holland the "fairy dance" episode had all the cult hallmarks of an alien landing - a strange object comes out of the sky,

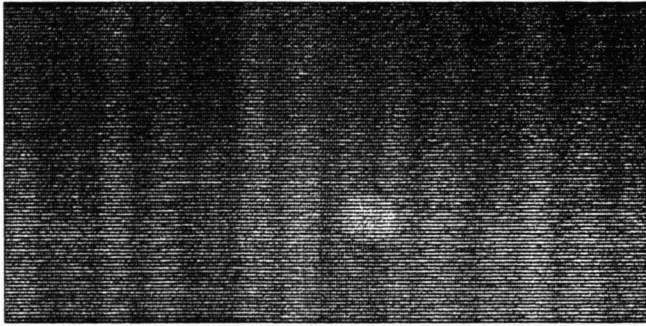
unusual humanoid figures emerge and leave a circle imprinted in the ground, and the incredulous earthing watches spellbound before realising he has lost hours in what seemed like minutes.

DARING DUO

TEN years ago a Colwyn Bay woman and her boyfriend spent the night in Valle Crucis Abbey, Llangollen, when they were disturbed by a huge craft hovering in the sky above them. The two had been dared to stay in the supposedly haunted ruins of the abbey, but halfway through the night the abbey lit up around them and, looking up, they saw a diamond-shaped object above them, its red and yellow lights beaming down on the ancient monastery. A group of campers also

Gary frames a UFO

Camcorder capture sets builder wondering if there's something up there



A STRANGE object hovering in the night sky over Hemel Hempstead on Tuesday last week was filmed by Gary Perry with his camcorder.

And much as Gary is ready for the taunts of non-believers he says he doesn't believe in UFOs either.

"I don't believe in them to be honest," he said. "It's just so weird, it might be something I just don't know."

The strange story began at about 9.45pm on Tuesday, when Gary was sitting in the back garden of his Seaton Road home and noticed a strange, moon-like shape hovering in the distance.

He went and grabbed his camcorder to capture the shape on film and was careful to film houses and

chimneys in the foreground to give an idea of scale.

Gary added: "Next door's children said they had seen it a couple of days ago but they had thought nothing of it."

"It was white and then orange and you could see it was getting bigger and smaller and then it went kind of orangey - it looked like it was over Jarman Park."

And although he doesn't know what the strange, hovering shape was, he doubts it could be easily explained as being a helicopter or aircraft.

"You would have heard it if it was a helicopter, of course you would, it was that low. It was just weird how it was moving about, that's how I can describe it."

But then, after about 20 minutes filming the object hovering in the cloudless sky, it simply disappeared without trace.

"Look, I'm a builder," Gary added. "I'm not the kind of bloke to make something like this up. And I hadn't drunk enough to make me start seeing things."

But police spokeswoman Cath Shepherd said the Seaton Road sighting seemed to be an isolated incident.

"We've had no reports of any incidents or any other sightings," she added.

Did you see something strange in the sky? If you did, please call Andy Puttnam on the newsdesk on 01442 262311

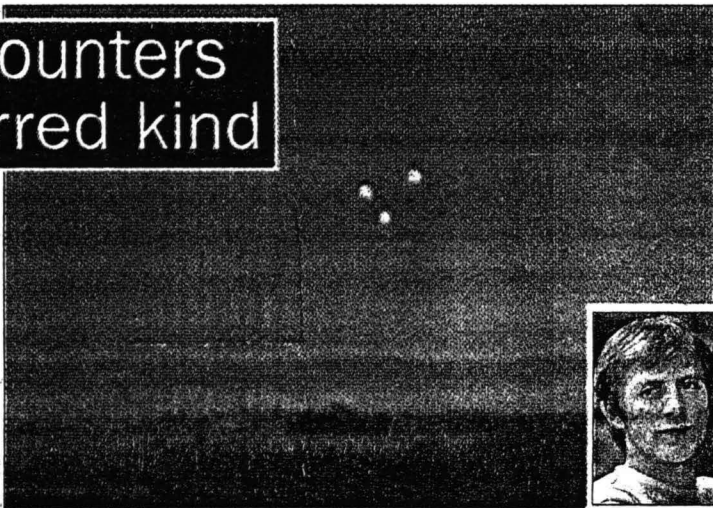


There it was: Debbie Perry with neighbours Samantha and Raymond Hook show where the object in the sky was spotted (03/1242/0001).

METRO, London, England - Aug. 6, 2003

Close encounters of the blurred kind

THESE bright lights in the evening sky stopped a TV cameraman in his tracks. Tom Hines was filming near a stately home when he spotted the bright lights in the sky and quickly trained his camera on them. Two orbs appeared on the Worcestershire horizon and then disappeared, only for three to reappear seconds later and form a cluster. Tom, who works on BBC soap Doctors, filmed them for seven minutes. He said: "The only way I can describe it was like somebody turning on spotlights in the sky. I'm certain what I filmed was from another world. It was seriously like something out of Close Encounters."



Enlightening? Cameraman Tom Hines, below, claims the film he shot shows UFOs



EXMOUTH JOURNAL, Devon, England - July 31, 2003

Eerie lights

ANOTHER local has come forward with a tale of strange lights in the night sky over the region.

Gordon Wynn, of Links Road, Budleigh Salterton, saw eerie glows in the sky near his home around 11pm on Wednesday, July 9.

This comes on the back of other recent reports of glowing objects and night-lights, making the region a possible hotspot for paranormal activity.

But Mr Wynn was unsure what he had witnessed was unearthly or not.

He said: "The lights I saw reminded me of the decorative effects produced by revolving kaleidoscope globes which were once popular in dance halls and ballrooms."

"But my guess is that the glows were caused by lights from vehicles rounding a rising bend beneath a tree-lined stretch of the B3180 over Lymington Common. At the time I saw the effect there was an unusually low bank of thick black cloud at the base of which the fascinating glow was happening. It's the first time I've seen anything like this locally. It seems very unusual that other people would report similar sightings locally. It would be interesting to get to the bottom of it all."

LUTON HERALD & POST, Bedfordshire, England - July 17, 2003



Crop circle image courtesy The Crop Circle Connector picture (Lyn Widdall)

It's neat wheat!

This grand design on the outskirts of Luton has cerealogists - or crop circle fans - buzzing with a belief in creative creatures from outer space.

DAILY ECHO, Bournemouth, England - June 25, 2003

Little green men?

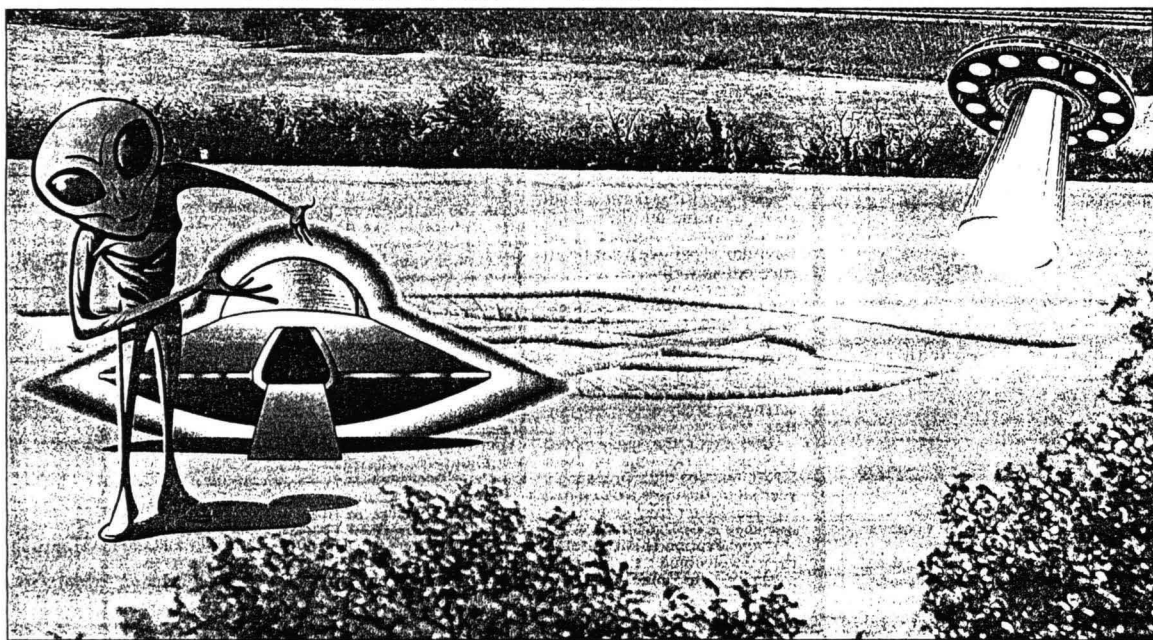
Russia: Fishermen in Russia say they have been driven to drink by a UFO that regularly passes over them.

Fishermen near Yekaterinburg, western Russia, claim to have repeatedly seen the small green UFO over the last two years.

Some locals admitted they

become anxious when they see the object, described by eyewitnesses as a small green object the size of a light bulb and most recently sighted on June 20.

But local fishermen, who claim to see it more often than anyone else, say that every time it passes over them they have an almost unquenchable thirst for alcohol, Pravda reported.



ALL MY OWN WORK: Our computer trickery shows an alien and spaceship in the field that has been decorated by a five-pointed star design.

It came from outer space (or maybe two blokes) with a plank of wood

by Simon Lambert

NEXT time something goes bump in the night, be warned extra terrestrials have been making their presence felt on the outskirts of Luton.

That is the belief of a mysterious customer who arrived in Sharpenhoe pub The Lynmore searching for a crop circle she believed was created by aliens.

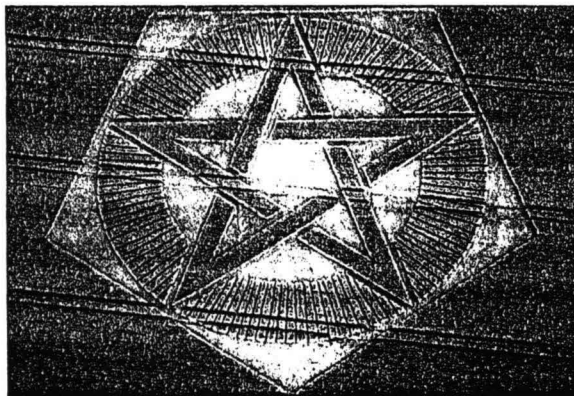
The giant five-pointed star shaped design has appeared overnight in a wheat field, and is visible from the top of the Sharpenhoe Clappers.

Its origin is unknown, but staff and regulars at the Lynmore said they suspected it was more likely to be man-made than a sign from above.

Chef Geraldine White said: "The lady came in looking for it with a map printed off a computer. She travels around looking at crop circles and said this was a very good one that had come from a higher being."

"Personally I suspect it's more likely to be two old men in the middle of the night with a plank of wood who go home and giggle about it over a couple of bottles of wine."

She added: "If there are any aliens



AERIAL VIEW: What the crop circle looks like from an aircraft.

Crop circle image courtesy The Crop Circle Connector: picture Russell Stannard

around here we haven't had them in for a drink, although we do have a few strange customers that might qualify."

Unlike in the West Country, where they have become something of a tourist industry, crop circles in Bedfordshire are rare. Arguments

rage between cerealists - people who study the circles - and groups of circle-makers as to where they come from.

Most cerealists believe crop circles are created by UFOs, citing their appearance at Wiltshire flying saucer hotspots with strong mysti-

cal connections, mysterious mineral deposits at the sites, and the perfection of the designs.

But in the last decade groups have admitted to creating them with planks of wood on their feet to press down the crops, paying careful attention to convincing details.

The two men credited with kick-starting the nocturnal pastime are Hampshire-based artists Doug Bower and Dave Chorley. In 1991 they owned up to making circles for 12 years, inspired by a conversation on the way home from the pub about strange circles appearing in Australian cornfields.

One person not amused by the Sharpenhoe crop circle's appearance is the farmer, who said it has cost him at least £300.

He said: "I know people think it's weird and wonderful and done by aliens, but it isn't, it's bloody vandalism. It's obviously man-made and has damaged the crops."

He asked the Herald & Post to keep the exact location secret, because people investigating the circle on the floor would trample his field.

We can reveal that the best place to see it is from the top of the Sharpenhoe Clappers, but ask readers to respect his wishes.

Is your Herald & Post delivered on a Thursday? If not, call 01582 700678 and we'll do our best to put it right

STANDARD, Warnambool, Victoria, Australia - Sept. 16, 2003 CR: P. Norman

Lights fuel UFO speculation

THE sudden disappearance of strange lights from skies over The Grampians has fuelled worldwide interest from UFO researchers.

Australian UFO Research Network spokesman Paul Norman said the glowing lights had been seen from Reid's Lookout for two years until two aircraft apparently broke the speed of sound in the area on June 16.

"This surprise military activity had raised interest in the UFO subject to a level greater than I had previously found anywhere in the world," Mr Norman said.

Although there was apparently no official Notice to Airmen to signify military aerial exer-

He said yesterday that the reports of glowing lights had only resumed last week.

cises, Mr Norman said many local people had seen and heard the aircraft.

"It was pointed out to me that the flight path of the jets was directly over the valley where the UFO activity has been taking place for at least two years, without interruption."

Mr Norman said he recently visited the area near Halls Gap and for the first time in two years did not see any UFO ac-

tivity. He said yesterday that the reports of glowing lights had resumed only last week.

The flight of the aircraft and the sudden disappearance of the glowing lights produced tangible evidence of intelligent awareness - "a response to a perceived threat," he said.

UFO researchers had previously tried experiments such as shining laser beams and spotlight flashes towards the lights, he said. These did not deter the lights and on some occasions the objects had responded to flashes with the same number of blinks.

Mr Norman said the society would continue to monitor the area.

THEORIES

UFOs BLAMED FOR OUTAGE IN 1965

BY SIRI AGRELL

As government officials and industry experts in Canada and the United States attempt to pinpoint the cause of Thursday's massive power blackout, there is one possibility that has escaped investigation: a close-encounter of the third kind.

In the days following North America's last major blackout, on Nov. 9, 1965, reports of UFO sightings down the Eastern seaboard convinced some people that visitors from outer space had flicked an intergalactic off-switch.

The blackout 38 years ago was similar to last week's outage in many ways. The "Great Northeast Blackout" of 1965 began at 5:16 p.m., near the end of a normal workday. The power grid broke up four seconds after the initial disturbance, and New York, Ontario, most of New England, and parts of New Jersey and Pennsylvania went black within five minutes, leaving 30 million people without electricity for as long as 13 hours.

Last week, North Americans still traumatized by Sept. 11 braced themselves for news that a terrorist attack was responsible. But in 1965, some people looked up into the darkness and found a different answer.

In his 1979 book, *UFO Canada*, Yurko Bondarchuk writes that some believers went so far as to accuse then-prime minister Lester B. Pearson for covering up alien involvement in the blackout.

"To shift attention from the UFO explanation, the 'broken relay' story was invented," Mr. Bondarchuk quotes U.S. ufologist Donald Keyhoe as saying. "Since this could be construed as blaming Canada, the prime minister must have been convinced it was best for both countries not to disclose the true situation."

The author explained that UFOs can "create sudden power surges in transmission lines as the craft flies overhead." In theory, he wrote, "these power surges could produce blackouts of massive proportions."

Although Mr. Bondarchuk met with various UFO enthusiasts and "experts" to discuss the phenomenon, their theory was given little credit in official documentation at the time.

"The Ontario Hydro press statement similarly neglected to include UFOs as the possible cause for the blackout," Mr. Bondarchuk wrote.

The blackout of 1965 was traced to a plant near Niagara Falls, although Mr. Bondarchuk maintained there was evidence that UFOs can cause power failures in the national electricity grid systems, although he said it "may only be a side effect."

In December of the same year, he wrote, the grid systems failed in New Mexico and Texas following UFO sightings in those areas.

He claims reliable witnesses reported the sightings, and pictures were taken. "Was there any physical effect caused by a UFO?" he asked. "We have to conclude that to cut 30 million people off from electrical power over eight states is a sufficient physical evidence."

With perhaps more justification, and despite government declarations to the contrary, there were some who insisted that last week's blackout was the work of terrorists.

National Post

sagrell@nationalpost.com 12

TRANSLATIONS

[The following translations are all courtesy of Scott Corrales and the Institute for Hispanic Ufology, with translation copyright being retained. Credit for individual contributors will be given at the end of each article. All articles are from South American and other Spanish-language newspapers and media sources.]

August 19, 2003 — *CEINPLA*, Venezuela — An extraordinary sighting was reported last night (8/19/03) at Caracas, Venezuela between 8:35 to 8:50 p.m.

Mrs. Enza Colucci, who was returning from the Los Samanes urbanization to her home in Santa Monica, was followed by an enormous round object, surrounded by blinking blue lights. Mrs. Coluchi was very excited and her driver, Mr. Alberto Amorin, phoned *CEINPLA* immediately to file a report and make their experience known. They regret not having had a photo camera on them. — CREDIT: Martha Rosenthal

August 28, 2003 — *CEINPLA*, Venezuela — ANOTHER UFO SIGHTING OVER CARACAS — Venezuela's *CEINPLA* organization has received word of the following sighting: Mrs. G. Gutierrez Lomas witnessed a strange light which split in two at midnight (last night) from the El Silencio sector of downtown Caracas. The light appeared to be moving from the La Candelaria sector to the Ruperto Lugo sector, where it made a sudden, inexplicable turn and made a line for the now famous Cerro Avila mountain area. *CEINPLA* plans to interview Mrs. Gutierrez today and furnish more information. — CREDIT: Martha Rosenthal

August 31, 2003 — *Revista TOC* (www.revista-toc.cl.nu), Chile — FORMER AIR FORCE COMMANDER DISCUSSES UFOs — [Interview conducted by Alejandro Guillier; transcription by Rodrigo Cuadra Salazar]:

Alejandro Guillier (journalist): UFOs, well... nothing better than to ask a war pilot about the experiences he's had if he's seen anything, but it turns out that I've heard talk about there being a military pilot in Antofagasta who toward the late Seventies -- '78 -- had been flying and ran into a very strange thing. It also turns out that the pilot became a general, retired general Hernan Gabrielli, and we're going to talk to him about this rather interesting experience. How do you do, general? Good morning.

Hernan Gabrielli Rojas (General-Ret.): Hello, Alejandro. Good morning to you.

Alejandro Guillier: This occurred in '78, according to one version, but what is the story about your running into a UFO while flying a warplane?

Hernan Gabrielli: We were two F-5's, dual training craft, and we were returning to base after completing our mission, Cerro Moreno, noon. From Mejillones to Antofagasta, at an altitude of some 35,000 feet - 40,000 feet. I suddenly detected a radar fault and saw a line that ran side to side on the scope, and my student, Danilo Catalan, also detected the same, and curiously enough it was the ground radar, which has a large screen, that also indicated a radar fault. At that time we looked toward [the part of the sky indicated on the radar screen] and we saw that UFO.

Alejandro Guillier: What was it exactly? What was it you managed to see? Can it be described?

Hernan Gabrielli: It was visualized as a smoke-covered, half-deformed banana, very large, in other words, very large in plain sight. We were between 15 or 20 miles away. It was tremendously large and surrounded by a fumarole which moved in our very same direction and at the same speed as our aircraft.

Alejandro Guillier: ... and you felt tempted to check it out.

Hernan Gabrielli: We approached it carefully and...but those were good instructions. We were heading back from Attack 1, which is a combat tactic involving gun cameras, no cannon, missiles or anything else. So we approached it with caution. Unfortunately the UFO did not go away toward a single minute, so we arrived in an instant.

Alejandro Guillier: But I understand that you had to ascend.

Hernan Gabrielli: No...

Alejandro Guillier: In order to approach, what was your position? Going upward..

Hernan Gabrielli: No ... we shared the same altitude, between 30,000 and 35,000 feet.

Alejandro Guillier: But F-5's are swift airplanes. When you got near, it scurried away so...

Hernan Gabrielli: Of course. It's a fighter that covers 10 nautical miles a minute, in other words, 20 kilometers a minute. That is the normal speed for that aircraft.

Alejandro Guillier: And this object you saw, how soon did it vanish? At what speed?

Hernan Gabrielli: Unimaginable, in other words, thousands of nautical miles a minute, because it vanished toward the west suddenly and the screen cleared up. In other words, all three radar screens -- the ground radar, mine and Danilo's -- were operating normally; it wasn't just a visual experience but a physical one as well, a material one, that materialized on the screen. Now, if you ask me what it is, where it comes from, don't ask me. I haven't the slightest idea.

Alejandro Guillier: Now...is this kind of sighting customary among Chilean military pilots?

Hernan Gabrielli: No, they are not.

Alejandro Guillier: And has any other functionary remarked that he had been flying and seen strange things?

Hernan Gabrielli: Look, at that time there was also another sighting by a functionary near Calama, but no...that was the age of the Vampire aircraft.

Alejandro Guillier: What's that?

Hernan Gabrielli: Vampires were wooden aircraft, and the fighter climbed to a certain number of feet and could see from below that this UFO didn't ... didn't move. However, as the pilot climbed, he said that the object or size was such that...

Alejandro Guillier: ... that it didn't move and he could never reach it.

Hernan Gabrielli: He never reached it. They later sent out a pair of fighters, then an F-5 and nothing, really...

Alejandro Guillier: And they couldn't continue climbing.

Hernan Gabrielli: No, they couldn't continue their ascent.

Alejandro Guillier: It reached its maximum altitude and then...

Hernan Gabrielli: Fifty something thousand feet, and it had to turn back.

Alejandro Guillier: And by the descriptions you recall, general, was there any similarity with the sighting you had in Antofagasta?

Hernan Gabrielli: No, because this one had another shape, it had a shape...in other words, as though looking from below upward, the pilots flying at the time said it was triangular.

Alejandro Guillier: Triangular ... it couldn't have been an American plane, one of those spy planes.

Hernan Gabrielli: I don't think so. This was 1978. The latest thing around at the time was the SR-71, which is a U.S. spy plane, but it flies at Mach 3, so there is displacement. This thing did not move.

Alejandro Guillier: Right, this thing was suspended in the air. Well, and after that you landed and must've had a shot of whisky, I imagine.

Hernan Gabrielli: No, no. There were remarks, in other words, each combat or training flight is its own story, so this was just another anecdote.

Alejandro Guillier: Now, why does the FACH [Chilean Air Force] handle all of this with such secrecy, because it has in fact appeared before Congress, before parliamentarians, and everyone was deathly silent ... there were no such things. All they do is create more concern, because one says: "Well, there must be something awful that the FACH, the senators and the deputies don't want to discuss," and in this case they were all quiet.

Hernan Gabrielli: Look, it's not that there's an unwillingness to talk, but since it is an almost intangible piece of information, it cannot be handled, it cannot be processed. To tell you the truth, the base commander is informed and then the page is turned and normal activity resumes.

Alejandro Guillier: Right. Well, last week in Calama, a LAN airliner was flying in over the weekend with the players of the Wanderers team for the big match against Cobrelola and the pilot was forced to make a spectacular turn, diving to avoid a collision.

Supposedly there was no airplane there. This would also be equivalent to a UFO.

Hernan Gabrielli: Surely. In other words, if the pilots were forced into taking an evasive maneuver, with passengers aboard, it must have been something... — CREDIT: Rodrigo Cuadra Salazar

September 4, 2003 — *Cronica*, Concepcion, Chile — Dogs Sucked Dry from Within in Lota — Did the Chupacabras move to Lota? Researchers of the unexplained prefer to speak of an unknown biological entity which attacks the animals in a mining community. Death has now visited the dogs in the Enacar compound. — by Gonzalo Pizarro G. — Something unknown is prowling Lota and is slaying animals without pity: ducks, hens and now dogs are the victims of a macabre "entity" which has local researchers of the unexplained beside themselves, collecting background information in order to reach the truth as closely as possible.

"Given the rigidity of their muscles, I believe they were subjected to such a state of agitation that it could have only been caused by blinding fear, an unprecedented attack or act of aggression." This is the description offered by a person who found the bodies of four dogs—four pups and a grown bitch—completely exsanguinated from within, without any traces of liquids or blood inside them.

Leonardo Torres is the president of the MUFON chapter in Lota, an independent international agency that looks into strange phenomena and is compiling background information on the deaths, which have been attributed to a "being" whose names he did not wish to speculate.

The deaths of these quadrupeds occurred at a kennel located in the vicinity of the Enacar compound and which is under the care of a person who worked for said corporation, training their watchdogs. This man, who did not give his name, left some pups locked in a kennel on August 23, together with a female pit bull to look after them.

The next day, the man was gripped by fear when he found them lifeless. He even found one of the puppies sliced in half and another at several meters' distance. "They were completely dry and dehydrated. The bitch was stiff; I had to break her bones to bury her. The strangest thing is that her jaws were clenched and the pups were all together, as though piled up ... they also had two puncture marks, one behind the ear and another in the backs of their necks," said the man, who has 40 years' worth of experience in dealing with dogs and had never seen anything like this.

The kennel's gate had been torn and everything inside was in disarray, even an iron stove weighing several kilos was a meter and a half away from its original position. Torres said the Enacar compound is very large and that it possesses ideal tunnels in which anything can hide.

He likewise remarked that there are statements from people who claim having seen—at different times on August 22—a "biological entity" in the Lota Alto sector, among them a child who even made a drawing of it.

This case coincides with others which were made known a few days ago, such as the one in Idahue, in which six ducks were found with punctures in their necks. — CREDIT: Gloria Coluchi

September 13, 2003 — *La Estrella del Loa*, Chile — FIRST IMAGES TAKEN OF CHUPACABRAS? — After analyzing the digital image, it was established that the shadow corresponds to a being with these characteristics.

The "Chupacabras" phenomenon has become one of the most important mysteries of recent years in Calama and in the country. The stories and experiences of many people who have seen animals die in bizarre fashion have caused many researchers to become devoted almost exclusively to the subject.

Newspapers, magazines and TV shows have devoted considerable space in an effort to solve the enigma. However, a true image of the creature has never been presented. For this reason, it was always spoken of in terms of a myth, or something unknown.

However, researcher Jaime Ferrer, known in Calama and in other latitudes, presented to this newspaper as an exclusive what may be the first audiovisual take of the Chupacabras.

According to his own version, the tape was presented on the Mega network's "La Ley de la Selva" program. However, the strange being's presence was not noticed during the original screening.

"The image was presented to show the site where some attacks had occurred (Codao, Peumo, Sixth Region). After a while, researcher and TV producer Claudio Ojeda Asmussen, noticed that there was a strange shadow moving among the bushes at the site."

After analyzing the image over three months and through the use of modern computer software, "it was established that [the shadow] was that of an unknown animal, in other words, the Chupacabras, thus becoming the most important piece of audiovisual evidence in the field of cryptozoology in recent years."

According to background information supplied by Ferrer, the creature has strange characteristics. Its stride resembles that of an ape, but traits of other animals can be seen in its structure, such as a feline, a dog, and even some sort of "hoses" that dangle from its muzzle and through which "it would drain the blood of animals," explained the ufologist from the El Loa region.

Ferrer explained that "Claudio Ojeda is the intellectual author of this discovery, as well as of the complex

digital analysis performed on the recording. He called me, since he knows my research. I attest to the truthfulness of the recording and to the earnestness of his work."

"This represents a very important step in clarifying this phenomenon. Here we have a creature that is on the surface of the earth, captured on videotape, and not a figment of the imagination or a tall tale." The full video can be seen at the following address: <http://www.angelfire.com/fl/ufomiami/CalamaUFOcenter/> — CREDIT: Gloria Coluchi and Dr. Virgilio Sanchez-Ocejo

September 13, 2003 — *La Estrella del Loa*, Chile [<http://www.estrellaloea.cl>] — CREATURE ATTACKS CONTINUE IN CALAMA — This was the cat attacked days ago by the Chupacabras in Villa Caspana, Calama [photograph in original article].

According to statements made by Jaime Ferrer, a paranormal phenomena researcher, the Chupacabras has not stopped its attacks in Calama.

The ufologist stated that the latest incursion occurred at Avenida O'Higgins, only meters away from his home. "One of my neighbors came to my place of work to say that his cat had been attacked by something very weird. In fact, it had a highly enigmatic wound on its neck, where a total lack of fur is evident which could not have been caused by a dog or similar animal, nor through a fight with a member of its own species," said Ferrer.

He added that the animal was very nervous, allegedly from its experience with the Chupacabras. "I believe that its life was spared by being a male, since these creatures prefer females, and I believe it's because they are the ones responsible for protecting life and giving birth.

"It must be understood that this being remains in Calama. Many have seen it. It's possibly not the same one that was filmed in the south, since my research has shown me that there are countless species of said creature," he noted. — CREDIT: Gloria Coluchi

September 14, 2003 — Miami UFO Center [www.angelfire.com/fl/ufomiami/] — DESCRIPTION OF CHUPACABRAS AS A RESULT OF ANALYSES PERFORMED — The following are the characteristics observed as a result of digital analysis, for which state of the art equipment and sophisticated computer software programs were employed, as well as the experience of belonging to a family of photographers.

This analysis lasted approximately 60 days and is still ongoing.

THE RECORDING

The duration in which the animal can be seen is of approximately 4 seconds. The distance from the camera's position to the subject under analysis is approximately 15 to 20 meters.

Its appearance, at a glance, is that of a black panther combining canine and ape characteristics. But detail is only possible through the result of an objective digital analysis.

TRUE APPEARANCE OF THE ANIMAL

Its size--horizontally-- is approximately 1.8 meters long by 1.4 meters tall.

It has two ears similar to those of a donkey, but much thinner, with an approximate length of 30 centimeters. When these are in repose, they remain straight and forward (rigid). Upon observing or feeling itself under observation, it moves them backward at a 90 degree angle, approximately. At no time does it relax or put its ears back, as is the case with most animals; they always move in the same direction, from front to back.

On its abdominal region it presents four cannulae or segmented tubes which appear to emerge from its dorsal area and are attached to its body. These cannulae, ended in semi-rounded points, hang beneath its abdomen forming a ring. Something similar can be found on its neck but these are short, thick and semi-conical. Between its nasal region and muzzle other dangling cannulae can be seen, these being shorter and lighter in color, and which it appears to be able to contract and extend at will. Speculatively, it might be able to employ them as siphons to drain its victims' blood.

Between these cannulae, which emerge under its nose, a strange pair of vampire-like fangs can be seen to emerge from the upper mandible, linking in a rounded manner, opening slightly at their ends and curving backward, like powerful claws.

It has a powerful jaw and a broad muzzle with long upper fangs.

Its nose presents large nasal openings, a combination of pig, mandrill and wolf.

Seen sideways, its face resembles that of a large feline, but seen face-on, [it resembles] a fusion between wolf, feline, pig and mandrill. It further presents a slight protuberance in the upper rear part of its skull.

It features a pair of curvilinear upper wings which fold and emerge from behind its neck, like the wings on a hawk. These wings present three folds from beginning to end, with the last fold being the one of largest size.

It is further endowed with two medium-sized lateral fins that emerge from behind each one of the front legs, which are linked to a "semi-rectangular" prominence or bulk located in the underarm joint of said extremity. The wings resemble those of a bat, where bones adhered to the skin can be identified, showing several final folds and fan-shaped joints on the base.

It features membranes or pseudo-wings which link the front arms with the medial abdominal region of its body and has characteristics which are very similar to the aforementioned wings, only thinner. In a resting position, these [pseudo-wings] assume the shape of an inverted "V". Its skin is slightly lighter in color and crossed by thin bones.

It has a short tail, measuring some 20 cm. in length with a mean thickness of 5 cm. resembling a thick sausage, which it shakes quickly.

Its upper wings, when folded over its back, become fused with its fur. Slight protuberances (on its back) can be seen which would be the edges of the pointed folds of the folded wings. Toward the end of the body, the endings or tips of the wings mounted (sic) or in repose can be clearly seen, above and between the tail. Its hind legs are noticeably longer than the front ones. It walks with its hind legs flexed--as though crouching-- opening them sideways; it walks normally with its front legs. Its gait has a certain resemblance with that of a large lizard. Both arms and legs on its upper section appear thick and strong. Four long frontal toes joined by a membrane can be seen in its hind legs, plus a dewclaw with medium sized nails.

The color of the creature's skin on its head and the ends of its feet and hands are dark in color, rather black, while the rest of the body has a dark brown shade that is only slightly lighter in the abdominal area. Reddish shades are evident on its nose and upper wings (back). Certain lighter shades can also be seen toward the tips of the upper folded wings (over the tail).

It is not possible to establish sexual organs.

It walks quickly, taking great strides, but the movement of its wings and face (attention and reaction) is far swifter. Movements are very similar to those of a lizard.

Its eyes are elongated and swept backward, menacing, curved and following the shape of its skull.
The analyses are still ongoing. New details on this creature may still be found. — CREDIT: Dr. Virgilio Sanchez-Ocejo, Miami UFO Center

September 14, 2003 — *La Discusion de Chillan*, Chile — **THIRD ATTACK ON SHEEP CLAIMS 20 MORE** — Nocturnal attacks that end with large numbers of slain sheep in pens adjacent to homes have acquired unaccustomed frequency, without owners being any the wiser until the following morning. The third of these attacks in recent months occurred between Thursday night and Friday morning in the Santa Lidia de Cartago sector some 14 kilometers west of the city of Pemuco.

Alfonso Mendoza, owner of the dead and dying animals, lost between 20 sheep and lambs. The first attack was on Thursday and claimed the lives of 5 animals; the second was on Friday morning and took 7 more plus left eight agonizing animals which must be put down. Among the wounded was the family's pet sheep, which had been raised by hand after its mother's death, and treated with antibiotics.

Despite the fact that the farmer believes dogs were likely involved, his experience and the difference in the attacks on each day has left him wondering if a "leon" (puma) could have been responsible, since this animal sometimes descends from the snowy cordilleran peaks, or else another type of animal.

He was hoping to know for sure this weekend, which he planned to spend standing guard with a shotgun, since he has already lost a third of his flock, which is an improved Suffolk stock. "If dogs are involved, they must be eliminated, since they still attack even after being sated," he said. He notes that an event of this type had not been witnessed here in three years, and that the "stunt" represents a loss of at least 200,000 Chilean pesos to him.

A situation that eludes his grip is that the first night, the attacking animals ate part of the sheep, but on the second assault, they only attacked for the blood, which in his opinion is not customary in dog attacks.

Earlier cases occurred in Colelemu, where it was speculated that a puma attack would be very strange, since said animals would be unable to reach the area by themselves.

Another case occurred on the road to Cato, where it was ascertained that a dog attack had indeed taken place, since paw prints the size of a large canine's were stamped on the wood that served as the roof to the sheep pen. — CREDIT: Lilliana Nunez O.

October 3, 2003 — *OVNIVENEZUELA* — **LUMINOUS OBJECT IN THE GULF OF VENEZUELA** — The presence of UFOs in Venezuela has become increasingly more frequent and intense. A new sighting has been reported from the coastal state of Falcon, a region in which these enigmatic objects have been popularly classified by local residents as "avioncitos" (little airplanes) due to their breathtaking and customary appearances.

On September 28, 2003, two witnesses observed the maneuvers of an enormous luminous sphere that flew over the Punto Fijo region of Falcon, to the northwest of the Gulf of Venezuela. The event took place at approximately 7:45 p.m. while Jose Jimenez and his father-in-law performed fishing tasks in the vicinity of the Villamarina and El Pico beaches.

According to Jimenez, the source produced an intense and "glistening" white light that came from above. This caused him to look up to the heavens and notice the strange and nearby luminous presence among "hundreds of stars in the sky."

The witness added that after a while, after having remained static for a few seconds, the object became lost after performing zigzagging and vertical "appearances" and "disappearances" in the air space over Falcon. It is worth noting that it is not the first time that such events have been reported in the area. Dozens of people have repeatedly reported the presence of these odd luminous objects. Likewise "confidential" unofficial communications made by the crews of Venezuelan vessels have also reported strange objects during crossings of the deep waters of the Gulf of Venezuela. — CREDIT: Arturo Escalante and Roger Lopez

CREDIT: Diego Zuniga — TRANSLATION CREDIT: Jane Guma

August 21, 2003 -- *La Estrella*, Arica, Chile — **UFO in Copaquilla?** — Photographer Patricio Lara was greatly surprised when a few days ago he developed the photos he took in the province of Parinacota at the end of last month in order to post them on his website.

Aside from the spectacular landscape he noticed nothing special at that time, but when a few days later, back in Santiago, he checked the photos he took, he noticed a strange object in the sky in one of them.

That photo was taken near Copaquilla towards the East above the ravine on July 31st at about 1:30 pm when the sun was almost in the middle of the sky.

"We were on Kilometer 88 where Alexis lives (who is known as the Hippie), who took us to a lookout he calls the Maliku, from where Chapiquina can be seen very well in the distance. I saw that the landscape was beautiful, so I took a panoramic photograph with a Nikon, an 80 to 200 millimeter lens in the 80 position and a 100 ASA Fuji slide film," he said.

According to him, nobody saw anything unusual "because otherwise I'd have taken more photos, I even had a 500 mm telephoto lens that I could have used to get more details. I only saw the object when I digitalized the photo," he said.

He then checked the slide and all the other photos to make sure there was no anomaly in the film, but found nothing.

The image shows a sunny and clear day, the pampa, the Andes mountains and to the left of the frame a little above the horizon, a rhomboidal opaque object somewhat tilted to the left.

According to the photographer, "estimating the distance and proportions, it must have had a diameter of ten meters."

He added that he consulted with the University of Tarapaca and the Meteorological office to find out whether it could have been a balloon, but there were no records of any launchings in those days. He also said he asked the General Office of Civil Aeronautics (Direccion General de Aeronautica Civil), but hasn't received an answer yet.

In a few days he plans to post the photo on the fotosdechile.com website to see if any Internet surfer has an explanation.



LONG ISLAND PRESS, Garden City, NY - Sept. 18, 2003



PARANORMAL P.I.

Amazing Stories of the Unexplained, Paranormal, Extraterrestrial or Otherwise

THE SHINKE-CHO BEAST



Nardiello's rendering of the mysterious creature

THE SHINKE-CHO BEAST

It astounds me how prevalent throughout our society is the notion is that there are no more new species of animals to be discovered, that all the living entities, whether aquatic, subterranean or terrestrial, have already been identified and catalogued by our all-knowing race. This is a horrible untruth.

There is an entire science dedicated to the study of mysterious creatures: cryptozoology. According to *Cryptozoology A to Z: The Encyclopedia of Loch Monsters, Sasquatch, Chupacabras, and Other Authentic Mysteries of Nature* (Fireside, 1999) by Loren Coleman and Jerome Clark, hailed in many circles as the Bible on this subject, "cryptozoology is the science of 'hidden animals.'"

David Nardiello, 29, of Wantagh, encountered one such evolutionary enigma this past May in Osaka, Japan, in a town called Shinke-Cho. Nardiello had lived in a small apartment in the town for three years, teaching English to high school students at the nearby Higshimozu High School.

After a tiresome night of Shorinji Kempo, a form of kung fu, Nardiello rode his bicycle the few blocks home, as he'd always done. It was a rainy and foggy night. This being Japan's rainy season, continuous torrential downpours had flooded a rice field bordering his building. Staring out over the newly formed lake, something appeared that has piqued Nardiello's curiosity ever since.

"I'm looking in the lake and I see this thing pop out," Nardiello told me. "A white neck. And it's got two black eyes. And then it turns its neck to look at me. And it noticed me. And then, right as it noticed me, it started walking out. But it looked like it had cat's legs. It looked like maybe it was a lizard. It turns to look at me, then turns and takes out wings and starts to fly away. It must have gone almost 100 feet up in the air, out of nowhere. It sent shivers up my spine. I got the hell out of there."

Curiosity turned to fear. Nardiello ran up the stairs to his third-floor apartment and peered outside the window.

"I look out the window and I see it fly right by again," he recalled. "Really fast, too. Right up, close. [The wings] looked like bat's wings. And its paws looked like a cat, like the arms of a cat. It had a tail, too. [Its face] looked like a white snake with black eyes. Like great-white-shark black eyes." After asking neighbors if they, too, had ever witnessed the aerial creature, Nardiello found that no one else had actually seen the thing, but had in fact heard strange animalistic cries coming from the field in the past. Nardiello soon learned that there was a general theory among many of his native friends that the beast might be some sort of mutation, evolving from a foreign animal perhaps set loose in Japan. Nardiello ran an illustration of the being in his school's newspaper to see if anyone else had witnessed the thing. One co-worker, Kato Sensei, branded the animal Nekohebitori, which translated into English means "cat snake bird."

Nardiello describes the abdomen of the cat-snake-bird as leathery. He speaks of its eyes and teeth, but describes the organism as being void of feathers. Nardiello also believes the avian quadruped may be part reptilian. One thing he is convinced of for certain is that the animal was dangerous. Nardiello believes it was a lone hunter.

"I've never seen anything like this in my life," he said. "But it was definitely a predator. Just the way it moved. [As if it] was searching. It had a kind of a confidence in itself."

What could this enigmatic creature be? Some prehistoric survivor that slipped through evolution's cracks and escaped extinction? A mutated foreign organism, introduced into the island-nation's ecosystem that adapted over time, as the locals theorize? I will refrain from my own speculations, instead calling upon the expertise of the world-renowned cryptozoologist, Loren Coleman. Coleman has traveled the globe extensively in search of various species of unclassified animals, has authored and co-authored several books on a number of cryptozoological topics, most recently *Bigfoot! The True Story of Apes in America* (Paraview Pocket, 2003),

STATESMAN JOURNAL, Salem, OR - Aug. 19, 2003

WILLAMETTE

Whimsy

BY TOM FORSTROM

Mars and spirits

Catherine Duncan thinks maybe Mars has something to do with it. She isn't sure, but things sure have been anything but normal lately.

Duncan heads up the Trails End Paranormal Society, which is based in Oregon City. She does things such as investigate haunted houses, investigate and clean up cemeteries and so on.

"I'm getting a lot more activity," she said Monday. "I know for a fact that on the 14th I picked up a spirit."

That was when she was working in a cemetery.

Then she picked up another spirit while investigating a house, she says, and she has the photos to prove it.

"The hardest to get photos of is entity, or ghost. In eight years I have gotten one full and one partial until the last couple of months were I have been able to get two. This is not the norm," Duncan says.

It's pretty unusual, and the Red Planet

could be playing a part. Duncan doesn't know if that's the case. But she says that solar flares and magnetic fields and the alignment of planets present odd combinations, and they cause a rise in activity.

"So it could have something to do with it," she says.

"I'm sure with the increased gravitational pull from Mars and the moon it could increase paranormal activity," she says.

She says that to some people, August is considered "Ghost Month."

Anyway, if you need your home or cemetery investigated, you can contact the paranormal society at : www.trailsendparanormalsocietyoforegon.com

THE FIRST AND GREAT COMMANDMENT IS, "DON'T LET THEM SCARE YOU."

— ELMER DAVIS

Do you have something funny or odd you'd like to share? Pass it on to Tom Forstrom at (503) 399-6746, or send an e-mail to: forstrom@StatesmanJournal.com

and is considered by many to be the foremost authority on the subject.

"This Japanese creature could be a variation on the Kappa legend, about an amphibian-type beast," Coleman says. "The wings, which I take to be a fantastic element added in storytelling, remind me of the Jersey Devil tales from New Jersey.... As I discuss in *Mysterious America: The Revised Edition* (Paraview, 2001), the Jersey Devil is a catchall for any strange creature account that happens in New Jersey. A similar phenomenon may be occurring in Japan, in which a name of a weird fabled monster becomes the lightning rod for all such stories, and the picture of what is really happening is confused."

"Zoologically speaking," Coleman continues, "the Japanese creature does not seem possible, but then we know - that legends, myths and folklore often hide deeper truths. However, a skeptical approach is worthwhile and I would need a lot more information and evidence before I would consider this Shinke-Cho beast a valid cryptid [an animal of interest to cryptozoology], worth researchers' time."

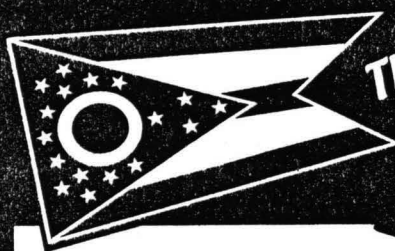
While the winged, snakelike animal Nardiello encountered seems to elude a valid classification for now, Nardiello is returning to Japan later this month. He's determined to get to the bottom of this mysterious creature's origin, hoping for an eventual identification, and he promises to update me with any findings.

If You Have A Ghost Story, Alien Encounter Or Conspiracy Theory - Or Know Somebody Who Does - And Would Like Tristram Fox To Investigate, Contact Him At:

FOXHUNT@kongislandpress.com

Is Planet Earth... hollow?

SPECIAL BICENTENNIAL SERIES



The Ohio Time Traveler™

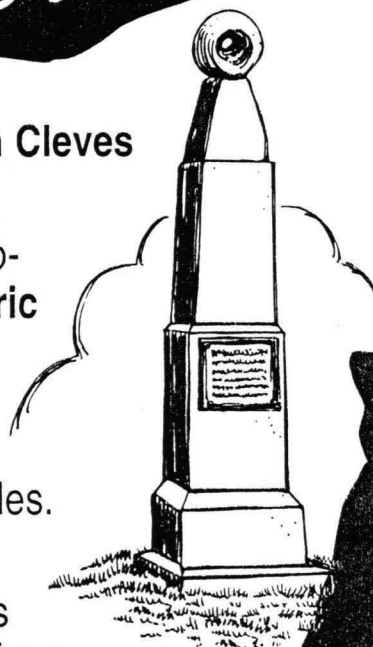
Would you believe our Earth is **hollow**? That's what **Captain John Cleves Symmes of Hamilton, Ohio**, believed.

Symmes, a veteran of the war of **1812**, theorized that the Earth is made up of **Concentric Spheres and Polar Voids**. He believed huge openings at both poles lead to an inner world much like our own. His theory drew ridicule but also attracted some disciples.

There are those today who still believe in Symmes' idea. Some even suggest that this inner world is where **flying saucers** come from.

A monument in **Hamilton**, in memory of Symmes, features a stone representation of his **Hollow Earth**. The monument, erected in the **1840s** by Symmes' son, was restored in **1991** for the city's bicentennial.

03-15



Have a question or comment
for The Ohio Time Traveler?

E-mail us at: ohiotimetraveler@hotmail.com

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GEOLOGY

Loch Ness Monster defies logic, so chalk it up to myth

The Mesozoic Era is sometimes called the "age of reptiles." Dinosaurs, which were reptiles, ranged all over the land. Reptiles also filled the air, as pterosaurs, and swam the oceans.

Among the three main types of Mesozoic ocean-dwelling reptiles were the plesiosaurs.

Some had huge heads on streamlined bodies and hunted large prey — they were the killer whales of their day. Others had long, snakelike necks ending in heads with numerous sharp teeth for catching small fish and squid.

Periodically, a news report surfaces that claims a plesiosaur has been caught in a fish-



DALE
GNIDOVEC

erman's net. (For some reason, such reports are jumped on by creationists in the mistaken belief that a living plesiosaur invalidates evolution — how is never explained.) Invariably, these reports are shown to be mistaken. Usually the carcass is that of a partially decayed shark.

Another place with a supposed plesiosaur is Loch Ness, Scotland. The largest body of fresh water in Great Britain, the loch is about a mile wide, 22 miles long and 754 feet deep.

The animal supposedly has been spotted since 565 A.D., but I'm skeptical. I'm not saying that we have discovered every species — we certainly have not — but a plesiosaur living in Loch Ness is very unlikely, for a number of reasons.

First, there is timing. No plesiosaur fossils have been found in rocks younger than 65 million years old, yet the loch is only a few tens of thou-

sands of years old. True, a live coelacanth, a fish thought to have been extinct for 80 million years, was discovered in 1938, but coelacanths are gill-breathers — not air-breathers like plesiosaurs.

Second, reports of sightings mention a series of vertically undulating humps, impossible for a plesiosaur, which had very little vertical mobility in its backbone. Reptiles typically undulate their bodies side to side like a snake, not up and down like an otter or whale.

Finally, there can't be just one or two individuals in the lake — there has to be a population large enough to prevent fatal inbreeding. Among that population, some would die and their carcasses would float to the surface or eventually wash up on shore.

I'm not asking for a live animal to crawl up on the beach in front of CNN cameras. One bone — one lousy bone — is all it would take to convince me. Until then, I think it's a matter of Scottish mist and wishful thinking.

Dale Gnidovec is curator of the Orton Geological Museum at Ohio State University.

gnidovec@geology.ohio-state.edu

Universe Centers Around Olyphant, One Man Says

BY STEPHEN DAILY
THE SCRANTON TIMES

OLYPHANT — Where is the center of the universe?

In Olyphant, of course.

Well, at least according to one man who has devoted many years studying the mystifying connections between the small borough, ancient Egypt, UFOs and portals into other dimensions.

John Peruka, a retired chemist, moved to Olyphant in the mid-1970s and immediately sensed that there was something strange about the town. In particular, he noticed there was an unusually high concentration of churches — beautiful, magnificently constructed churches — all surrounding a former synagogue.

"Why would a small, insignificant town of 4,000 souls erect such wondrous temples of faith in such an obscure area?" he pondered.

The mystery unfolds.

At first, Mr. Peruka said Olyphant appears like any other small town in America. It has a bank, a high-rise apartment building for the elderly, a borough hall, and the usual small businesses lining the main street. Nothing seems amiss, everything is in order, and in its place. An ordinary town in an ordinary place where ordinary people go about their daily business.

But beneath this false veneer is a hidden world, Mr. Peruka contends. A world of incredible secrets — the secret forces that control the residents of Olyphant, he said.

These secret forces date back to ancient Egyptian beliefs. The Egyptians worshipped the seven stars of the Orion constellation. Their belief was that their god-kings or pharaohs came from Orion and after death their souls went back to the constellation.

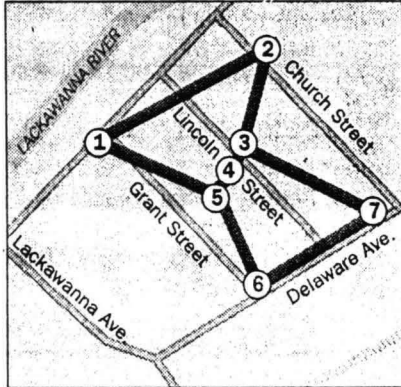
Mr. Peruka has produced a topographical map that shows the location of seven churches in Olyphant. The pattern of the churches is a perfect match to the butterfly shape that the stars of the Orion constellation form, according to Mr. Peruka.

He references the bible to support his theory — Revelations 1:20, "The seven stars (of the Orion) are the angels of the seven churches."

The Egyptian connection doesn't end there. Referencing a picture from the 1950s, Mr. Peruka points to an old culm dump in Olyphant, the remains of a Hudson Coal Co. mining operation from the early 1900s. The dump appears to create a perfect pyramid on the border between Olyphant and Throop, in exactly the right place in reference to the

The secret of Olyphant

Lines connecting six churches and a synagogue in Olyphant mimic the constellation of Orion.



1. SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church
2. Former St. Michael's Church/School
3. St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church
4. Former Synagogue
5. All Saints Orthodox Church
6. St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church
7. Calvin United Presbyterian Church

Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt. The triangular mountain is now somewhat eroded, but still visible.

Next comes the Giant Sphinx phenomenon. If one traces the boundary lines of the borough, the lines form a giant sphinx, approximately four miles long and one and one-half miles wide. A closer shot from a satellite image shows the Lackawanna River clearly cutting out the identifying features of the head of the sphinx.

Still not convinced?

Mr. Peruka adds another point to consider. He explains how everything in nature can be broken down into triangles — such as a pyramid which is comprised of two triangles. Citing this fact, he reveals that the Great Pyramid of Giza is 480 feet high and the elevation of Olyphant is 960 feet high — exactly twice the height of the pyramid.

Perhaps it is just a coincidence that the churches are aligned perfectly with the stars of Orion, or that the boundary lines of the borough form an eerie resemblance to the shape of the giant sphinx, or that David W. Olyphant, a prominent New York merchant for whom the town is named, died in Cairo, Egypt in 1854.

But from Mr. Peruka's standpoint, there is a secret behind every town and what lies beneath the surface of this small town has yet to be seen.

BY FIONA GOVAN
THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

American explorer claims remains of ancient civilization of Atlantis are located near Cyprus

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Sept. 29, 2003 CR: G. Conway

LONDON — It may be the answer generations of experts on the ancient world have been looking for. New research claims that the fabled ancient civilization of Atlantis is located close to Cyprus.

After nearly 10 years of research using ocean mapping technology and accounts from ancient texts, an American explorer says he has evidence that Atlantis lies beneath the deep blue waters off the southern tip of the island.

Robert Sarmast, a self-proclaimed mythologist and expert on the ancient world, makes his claim in a book published in America last week. In *Discovery of Atlantis — The Startling Case for the Island of Cyprus*, published by Origin Press, Sarmast

uses maps to show the location of archaeological remains on a sunken strip of land just off the south coast of Cyprus, which he says is Atlantis.

Sarmast said at his home in California last week: "This is going to rewrite the history books. We are set to make the biggest archaeological discovery of all time."

His research, which cost \$500,000 US and uses data collected by a Russian scientific survey vessel in 1989, was paid for by the Heritage Standard Corporation, an organization involved in undersea surveys for oil and gas. He now intends to carry out an expedition to explore the seabed, to find proof of his theory.

Sarmast says the site matches Plato's account of Atlantis, in the dialogues *Timaeus* and *Critias*, written in about 400 BC. The description is said to be based on the writings of Solon, who recorded the account told to him by the Egyptians in around 600 BC.

Whereas many historians believe that Atlantis is the stuff of legend and that Plato's description is an allegory to praise the values of Athenian society, Sarmast takes a more literal view.

"My discovery will vindicate Plato," he said. "Within his dialogues, Plato provides factual clues as to what Atlantis was like. I have matched all but two of the 45 clues with the area around Cyprus. That's either the biggest coincidence in the history of the world or we have found Plato's Atlantis."

Sarmast says he has identified many of the areas described by Plato, including a rectangular plain, running east to west, containing a metropolis at its centre.

Just how do you know?

It's pretty obvious that some who read this column would rather that I stick to mainstream topics rather than occasionally wandering to the edges to explore subjects I feel interest many people. Those issues range from inexplicable phenomena to the nature of death and even how is it you know you are reading this sentence—our very consciousness.

To those critics I say, go spend the next four minutes perusing today's funnies instead of hyperventilating here. Don't miss John Deering's latest weirdness or "Pearls Before Swine." Afterward, you might pause long enough to ask yourselves why 200 pounds of steak tartar can't do the same thing.

Meanwhile, Professor Johnjoe McFadden, a London-based scientist, lately has come to believe that our consciousness might well be an electromagnetic field resembling that which permeates the universe and transmits the signals to our radios and television sets. I happen to believe he and his colleagues in this research will be proved accurate in the next decade.

McFadden, of the School of Biomedical and Life Sciences at the internationally regarded University of Surrey, said the theory "solves many previously intractable problems of consciousness and could have profound implications for our concepts of mind, free will, spirituality, the design of artificial intelligence, and even life and death."

The professor presented his views in his published academic paper, "Synchronous firing and its influence on the brain's electromagnetic field: Evidence for an electromagnetic field theory of consciousness." All of McFadden's findings I'm writing about here were republished on the UniSci Web site of daily university science news.

Most people consider "mind" to be all the conscious things that we are aware of. But much, if not most, mental activity goes on without awareness, the UniSci article said.

"Actions such as walking, changing



Mike Masterson

gear in your car or pedaling a bicycle can become as automatic as breathing. The biggest puzzle in neuroscience is how the brain activity that we're aware of (consciousness) differs from the brain activity driving all of those unconscious actions."

Scientists for centuries have wondered just where, in the infinitely complex structure of the brain filled with its myriad chemicals and ions, consciousness is located. Scientists can find no region or structure in the brain that specializes in conscious thinking. As a result, our consciousness is humankind's greatest mystery.

"Consciousness is what makes us 'human,'" McFadden said in the article. "Language, creativity, emotions, spirituality, logical deduction, mental arithmetic, our sense of fairness, truth, ethics are all inconceivable without consciousness."

McFadden realized that every time a nerve fires, its electrical activity sends a signal to the brain's electromagnetic field. But unlike solitary nerve signals, information that reaches the brain's electromagnetic field is automatically bound together with all the other signals inside the brain. The brain's electromagnetic field does this binding that is characteristic of consciousness.

What McFadden and, independently, the New Zealand-based neurobiologist Sue Pockett propose is that the brain's electromagnetic field is this consciousness that creates reality.

The theory also explains many of the peculiar features of consciousness, such

as its involvement in the learning process. Anyone who learns to drive a car will have experienced how the first (very conscious) fumbblings are transformed through constant practice into automatic actions, UniSci reported.

Some have wondered that if our minds are electromagnetic, why don't we pass out when we walk under an electrical cable or any other source of the many external electromagnetic fields? McFadden's response is that our skin, skull and cerebrospinal fluid shield us from those external electric fields.

"The conscious electromagnetic information field is, at present, still a theory," McFadden said. "But if true, there are many fascinating implications for the concept of free will, the nature of creativity or spirituality, consciousness in animals and even the significance of life and death."

"The theory explains why conscious actions feel so different from unconscious ones—it is because conscious ones plug into the vast pool of information held in the brain's electromagnetic field."

Yes, I know; there's a lot of science here. But I trimmed most of the deeply technical materi-

al and left you with only the tenderloins to digest. I wouldn't even have done that if this topic wasn't so relevant to each and every one of our lives together.

The 10th-grade, bottom-line explanation seems to be that McFadden believes consciousness may be created inside our brains by selectively accessing certain electromagnetic energies that are always swirling around inside it. Could that then mean this life of yours and mine which seems so real to us has been just one grand electrical dream?

Mike Masterson is an award-winning Arkansas journalist.



DAILY MAIL, London, England - Sept. 12, 2003 CR: N. Oliver

'Atlantis' of the North Sea is found by diver

ARCHAEOLOGISTS say they have found evidence of what they call a 'British Atlantis' in the North Sea.

The discovery was made by chance by archaeologist Dr Penny Spikins on a diving training exercise near Tynemouth, Northumberland.

Within 30 seconds of reaching the sea bed she had spotted the first signs of a 10,000-year-old civilisation - signs which would have gone unnoticed by any other diver.

Within five minutes she had found scores of ancient artefacts made of flint, including parts of arrow heads and blades as well as tools used for scraping animal hides.

The wealth of the find has raised expectations that substantial organic remains such as wood, bone or leather could also be uncovered.

"This is just so very exciting," said Dr Spikins, of Newcastle University. "It is very much evidence of the British 'Atlantis'."

The find dates from the Mesolithic

By **Lech Mintowt-Czyz**

era between the last Ice Age 10,000 years ago and the start of the agricultural revolution 5,000 years later.

At that time ocean levels were much lower as much of the water was locked in huge ice caps and Britain was connected to mainland Europe by a broad stretch of land that started north of modern-day York.

As the ice melted, water levels rose dramatically, making Britain an island and submerging many of the settlements made by the hunter-gatherer Mesolithic people.

David Miles, chief archaeologist with English Heritage, said: "This is a tremendously exciting discovery."

"We know that there is a prehistoric Atlantis beneath the North Sea where once an area equal to the size of present day Britain attached us to the continent and where prehistoric people and animals roamed."

"This discovery gives us a stepping stone into this unknown world."

BENTON CO. RECORD, Bentonville, AR - Oct. 1, 2003

Prowling primate spotted in Decatur

By Jeff LeMaster, Staff Writer

[jeff@nwanews.com]

DECATUR — A large animal believed to be an ape or a monkey has been sighted several times within the last week both in and around Decatur.

Police Chief Coy Hendrix said he received two calls last week from people reporting they had seen the animal in Decatur. Hendrix said he received a call Monday from another individual who had seen the animal. Hendrix said the first sighting was on Hill Street, and the second person to report seeing the animal told officers the animal was headed toward Crystal Lake.

Monday's sighting put the animal on Benning Road, several miles east of town.

An employee at the Wild Wilderness Drive-Thru Safari in Gentry who did not wish to be identified said no animal matching the description had escaped from the park. He did say, however, that the animal would probably try to find a consistent food source. "I imagine it's scared to death," he said. "It will probably try to shack up near some cattle feed."

Farms may be a specific target for the animal, as they would supply a consistent food and water source, he said.

If the animal has been raised in captivity, it may be acclimated to human contact. This does not mean, however, that if someone sees it he should get close to the animal. Hendrix encourages anyone who sees what they believe could be the described animal to call the Decatur Police Department at 752-3911.

This is not the first time a primate has been loose in the area. In the fall of 1995, a monkey was shot and killed by Gentry police after being cornered on the playground of Gentry Elementary School. Students at the school had to be kept inside while police dealt with the situation.