

UFO

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HERALD DEMOCRAT, Denison, TX - Oct. 23, 2005

The mystery with the UFO story

Today

Donna
Hunt



My husband told me not to do it; he said I would open a real can of worms. When did he get so smart?

I didn't listen to him and boy have the UFO sighters come out of the woodwork.

Just keep in mind, as former Perrin radar mechanic who sighted not one, but several UFOs in the area in 1951, these things in the sky aren't necessarily from outer space. They are what they say "Unidentified Flying Objects."

I wrote the first column after a friend saw a History Channel piece that told about the sighting of a "flying saucer" at Denison in the late 1800s. Research led to that column. Then the second one was after I interviewed the former Perrin Airman, Chandler Yergin, by phone from his home in Tucson, AZ.

During that week and since, I've received a number of telephone calls and e-mails from others who have seen unidentified objects in the sky.

One, a friend of many years since high school days, shared his story with me, the first time he had told it outside those that witnessed the objects with him, he said. He shared with the understanding that his name not be used for fear his friends and neighbors today would think that he had "lost it."

His sighting took place in about 1956. He and his wife had just returned home in the evening in the area of Mockingbird Lane in Northwest Denison. As they got out of the car they saw several objects at the top of the hill that seemed to be circling each other and trading places from top to bottom.

He said about eight neighbors and his parents came out into the yard and witnessed the display as well, watching for several minutes before the objects split up and flew away. He said he's sure of what he saw and has a bunch of witnesses to back him up.

A friend at Health Trends, pool who read the articles told me a story that her late husband related several years ago. She said he was returning home from work one evening in the Pottsboro area and saw a strange looking circular object in the field near the Country Store.

He told her he stopped his pickup and watched for a minute, then decided he could load it into his pickup and take it home. He crossed over the fence to retrieve it. About that

time the sphere took off straight up and disappeared over the store.

She said he told her he looked behind his pickup all the way home to see if the object was following him. It wasn't.

Another friend told me of a sighting 50 years ago. She said her parents lived on Snow Road, southeast of Denison and she lived in Dallas. She and her husband and younger son and her brother and wife were all visiting her parents.

She said they were relaxing on the screened-in porch on the east side of the house and were looking out at the night sky. She remembers looking at some red lights in the south and thinking they were television/radio tower lights. Suddenly they started moving toward the north and everyone seemed to spot the objects at the same time. They ran into the back kitchen door so they could have a better view.

She said the lights seemed evenly spaced and high in the sky, but not as high as an airplane. They couldn't hear a sound. As the lights moved overhead she and her family members ran to the front door and onto the front porch still trying to figure out what they were seeing. As they watched, the lights began to go up one by one. She couldn't remember how many, but thinks it was five to nine, possibly four in front and five behind, spaced like bowling ball pins.

She said they talked about it for hours and the next morning there were three or four lines in the newspaper, saying several people had reported lights in the sky that evening. The suggested theory was that they had seen weather balloons.

She didn't believe that theory because, she said their movement seemed too deliberate. Anyway, their identity has never been explained to her satisfaction.

Jonathon Oden, who graduated from Denison High in 1998 and currently lives in the Phoenix area, has an interest in the unexplained. He said that he and his wife saw something strange in the sky in Denton one day in 2002. It was clearly shaped like a huge triangle with straight edges and precise corners. They watched it creep along the sky, headed northwest without veering from its course until it was out of sight.

He said his interest was peaked that day and since he has learned that North Texas has a rich history of UFO activity.

He pointed out that Denison was likely the first place the word "saucer" was used in print to describe a UFO. He read about that in a book published in 1997 by Jim Marrs, a Texas Resident. In his book, "Alien Agenda," Marrs provides a comprehensive look at UFO related history, Jonathon said.

Tom Scott, curator of the Fannin County Museum of History, formerly wrote a column, "Bois d'Arc Sketches" for a Bonham newspaper. He sent us a copy of a column he wrote that cited sightings in the Bonham area as far back as 1843 when Bonham was known as Bois d'Arc.

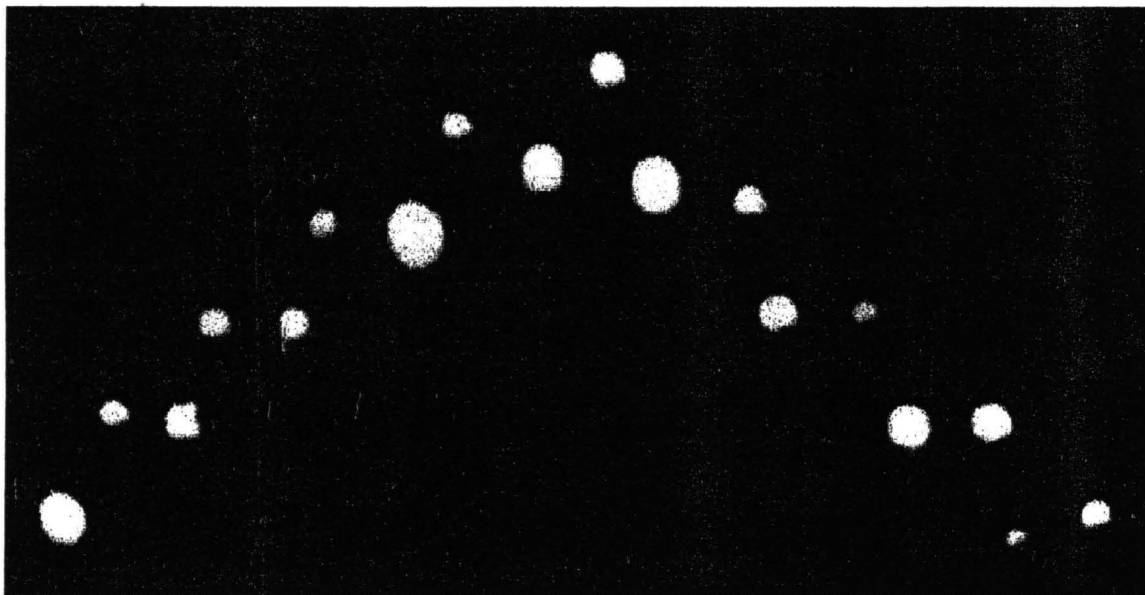
In March 1897 a cigar shaped object was seen in the area. That same month a Dallas newspaper and others in the area reported the sighting of a cigar shaped object between

Honey Grove and Paris. A farmer had said he was chased by the object that was dragging an anchor along the ground. The farmer said the anchor snagged his pants and raised him into the air until his pants ripped and he fell.

Two weeks later, according to Tom's column, a man going between Bonham and Denton also said he saw "some kind of manufactured craft." Other who saw it said it was 200 feet long with large windows. Some people even said they heard hymns being sung as it passed overhead.

Now that is getting a little weird. I wish I had photographs to document some of these stories, but alas, they are not available. Thanks to all for sharing their stories. We don't think you're weird, just observant.

Donna Hunt is former editor of The Denison Herald. She lives in Denison and can be contacted at dhunlimited@texoma.net.



This photo called "Lubbock Lights" was taken by Carl Hart Jr., an 18-year student, with a Kodak camera at Lubbock in 1951. At least 100 people witnessed the display which has become a classic of Ufology.

COURTESY PHOTO

LETTERS

Designed by E.T.

I think "intelligent design" describes very well my understanding of the origin of our species. It includes one characteristic that sets humans apart from animals, the capacity for intellectual growth. It avoids the other major characteristic, capacity for spiritual awareness. This is politically correct in our society, which long ago was retarded in spiritual growth by the Lucifer rebellion.

We have improved our crops and animal stocks by genetic engineering for many decades. The Urantia Book tells the thinking person that our supporters from off planet gave us the characteristics of our humanness through genetic engineering.

My reality is that the first humans were genetically engineered from the animal. Homo erectus, 994,000 years ago. Six colored races were seeded here 500,000 years ago with greater capacity in their biological computers.

Following the Lucifer rebellion, the more advanced "gods of old" gave us another genetic upgrade when they were told to breed with the daughters of man. These became the Nodites we can read about in the Bible.

Adam and Eve brought us the last of four genetically designed upgrades.

We are now ready for a more "intelligent design" as we start to join the galactic society that supports us.

DONALD WARE
Fort Walton Beach

DAILY NEWS, Fort Walton Beach, FL - Nov. 27, 2005 CR: R. Reid

IN OUR SKY

Orland Park man tracks local sightings

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY STEVEN BUYANSKY

Who would you call if you spotted an unidentified flying object over Kendall, Will, or LaSalle counties? Or anywhere?

THE UFO GUY

By Rose Panieri

By day, Orland Park's Sam Maranto sells insurance.

At night and every spare moment of his existence, Maranto pursues his real love UFOs. As the regional director of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), Maranto is responsible for coordinating and corroborating sightings of unidentified flying objects throughout Will, Cook, Kendall, LaSalle and Kankakee counties.

His task is to follow up on calls from UFO witnesses in the five-county region by meeting the witness and reviewing evidence.

If his gut tells him a sighting is staying under UFO status, he'll sort through thousands of files in the MUFON master database to make comparisons with data accumulated from all corners of the globe.

Midnight will find Maranto at his computer, frowning in concentration, and tapping away, until he is satisfied with his conclusions. Only then, will he look up from his task, grab the



SAM MURANTO:

WHAT HE DOES: Director of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) for Will, Cook, Kendall, LaSalle and Kankakee counties, Maranto is known as the 'UFO guy.'

CONTACT: To report a sighting, you can contact him at 708-460-7606 or via email at sammaranto@sbcglobal.net.

QUOTE: 'Even if only a handful (of sightings) are authentic, there is still a substantial case for the existence of UFOs.'



This photo was taken during the sighting of a UFO over Tinley Park on Oct. 31, 2004.

nearest phone and call a fellow ufologist with the news.

Maranto takes his work seriously, and though he'll laugh with you, he doesn't appreciate jokes about little green men and aluminum hats. He's a cynical man — one of his favorite expressions is, "Not every weird light in the sky is a UFO."

If you're skeptical about UFOs, he'd like nothing more than sit down and have a cup of coffee with you. While you chat, he'll let you know that he respects you for not believing that every odd play of light in the sky is a UFO. He'll confide that most bugaboos that appear on the horizon are actually planes, weather balloons, swamp gas and the like. You'll both chuckle at the gullibility of the masses. You'll think, "Gee, for a guy who believes in alien spacecraft, he's certainly reasonable."

At some point, you may pound your fist on the table, exclaiming, "E.T. does not exist, damn it." Maranto will nod and smile pleasantly. As you're patting yourself on the back for convincing the "UFO guy" that he's wrong, he'll hit you — hard — out of left field.

"I find it fascinating that so many astronauts

— like Buzz Aldrin, who walked on the moon — believe there is life elsewhere in the universe," he'll say, or "I've heard Boeing is working on experimental anti-gravity projects that could completely replace conventional aerospace propulsion technology."

Then, he'll tell you exactly why propulsion technology, as it applies to alien spacecraft, is highly significant.

Hours later, Maranto will have you questioning your lifelong beliefs. The next day, you'll find your nose buried in some books that Maranto ("Call me Sam") lent you, wondering how you could have ever been so naive as to NOT believe in alien visitors. Before you know it, you'll find yourself staring up at the early autumn sky anticipating a miracle you never even believed existed.

Men in Black

Though not as glamorous or upscale as the alien hunters in the movie *Men in Black*, Maranto seems more

(continued on page 3)

convincing than either Will Smith or Tommy Lee Jones, mainly because he's the Real McCoy. No, Maranto's work isn't always glamorous or particularly perilous, but Maranto finds it vastly rewarding.

"I have no children, and in my work with ufology (the study of extraterrestrial science) I'd like to believe I have a calling," Maranto said. "I just want to play a role in fostering a greater

understanding of our universe. If I can achieve that, I'll have fulfilled my purpose."

Maranto's heart skips a beat every time the phone rings. And why not? That next call, might just be THE ONE. And when he gets a call, Maranto hotfoots it right over to the scene. He wants to be there when IT happens. "I prefer working on truly unusual cases, especially mass sightings, because there are so many witnesses," Maranto said. "I have learned so much that has blown the lid off of the conventional wisdom we're taught when children: it's an incredible calling, really."

POST, Palm Beach, FL
Nov. 25, 2005

Robert Pratt, newspaperman, author of UFO books, articles, dies at 79

by Michael Browning
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

Earth and outer space, home and visitors from afar, are bound to come up when friends and relatives of Robert V. Pratt come to the Dorsey-E. Earl Smith Funeral Home this afternoon from 4-6 p.m. to meet his widow, Faith, and discuss his passing.

Mr. Pratt was an evangelist for UFOS. The Lake Worth resident wrote about them in manifold articles for *The National Enquirer*. He published two books about them, *UFO Danger Zone: Terror and Death in Brazil - Where Next?* in 1996 and *Night Siege: The Hudson Valley UFO Sightings*, in 1987.

He traveled the world, often at his own expense, interviewing eyewitnesses to extraterrestrial objects that he described as often behaving cruelly and capriciously, dropping globes of fire, he said, on innocent farmers in Brazil.

He never saw one single solitary UFO in his entire life, but he came to believe in them passionately. It was a belief even his own wife did not share, though she stayed married to him for 50 years.

"The first 30 years you squabble. The 20 years after that are wonderful," Faith Pratt said Thursday, shedding tears on Thanksgiving Day. "He would leave me notes, saying things like 'You are my love.'" Mr. Pratt was a very curious man. His own self-written obituary, edited by his wife, says he died Monday, November 21, 2005, at a local hospital following a brief illness. He was 79. He worked for many newspapers for 48 years.

But the last eight years of his professional career were the strangest. After decades in mainstream journalism, he switched to tabloid journalism and became convinced that UFOs were real.

Interest turned to belief. Belief became obsession. Mr. Pratt ultimately claimed to have talked to more than 2,000 people who had had UFO experiences.

During the six years he worked as a UFO reporter for the *Enquirer*, he traveled to Brazil four times.

In recognition of his research in Brazil, on May 3, 2003, at a conference in the city of Curitiba in southern Brazil, he was given a diploma naming him an Ufologo Brasileiro Honorario or Honorary Brazilian Ufologist.

Seventy-eight Brazilian ufologists signed the diploma, his wife said.

She never went with him to Brazil, and she never shared his belief in UFOS.

"No," she declared. "I didn't care about them. I cared about him."

In addition to his wife, Mr. Pratt is survived by his son, Alan Collins Pratt of New York. Another son, Robert Scott Pratt, died in 1975 at 17. A cousin, Richard Taylor of Boca Raton, and numerous nieces and nephews in California also survive him.

The Dorsey-E. Earl Smith Funeral Home is at 3041 Kirk Road in Lake Worth.

In the majority of cases, Maranto's adrenaline is pumped up for nothing. He speeds to the scene only to find the "UFO" is actually a bouquet of liberated Mylar balloons twisting, turning and reflecting the lights of the city — poetic perhaps, but certainly not a myth come to life.

Ah, but once in a while — and more often than you might imagine — Maranto happens on what he thinks is the real thing — an object that defies explanation. "There are approximately 70,000 reported UFO sightings every year, and that's something like 192 per day," Maranto said. "Even if only a handful are authentic, there is still a substantial case for the existence of UFOs."

Are we alone?

Some say ufology is a pseudo-science.

"My only response (to the idea of UFOs) is that there is no credible evidence," said James Hopkins, astronomy professor at Joliet Junior College. "If one crashed made of a metal never before discovered on this planet it would be convincing. I believe in what I can prove."

While acknowledging that there is no "absolute" evidence of UFOs, Maranto finds the "prove it" attitude frustrating. "Just because we do not have the capacity to understand it doesn't mean it doesn't exist," Maranto countered. "If it doesn't conform to some rational standard — if you can't kill it and stick in formaldehyde — it doesn't exist."

Ufology, like other fields dealing with the unseen and unknown, are wide open to ridicule. "Before the invention of the microscope, and subsequent discovery of disease-causing bacteria, the concept of 'invisible' creatures that make people ill was laughable," Maranto said. "People used to believe the world was flat and anyone who disagreed was considered a simpleton."

UFOs over northern Illinois

Several area residents agreed to share their own UFO stories — as long as we didn't use their last names.

They say they just don't want to be ridiculed.

Maranto describes Ron as a prominent area businessman. In July 1984, Ron, his wife and their son, saw a barge-sized, oblong-shaped UFO that was widely sighted by hundreds of other witnesses on a humid summer evening in Will County.

Ron and his wife reside in unincorporated Joliet, six miles south of Laraway Road. After more than 20 years, he still recalled the 1984 sighting as if it occurred yesterday.

"It was about 9 p.m.," Ron said. "We had just come home from a 4-H meeting with our youngest son, who was then 11. Our backyard is about 700 feet long, with trees about 50 to 75 feet high — I bring this up because the trees are a good scale for measuring."

As the family walked across the deck to get to the back door of their home, Ron no-

Reported incidents

The National UFO Reporting Center's Web site www.nuforc.org says 1,035 UFOs were sighted in Illinois during the last several years. The following Illinois UFO sightings are from this site.

■ Tinley Park: 3:15 p.m. July 9. An oblong UFO spotted by a father and two sons near Oak Park Avenue and 172nd Street.

■ Romeoville: 8:30 p.m. June 17. A married couple saw two pulsating sphere-shaped objects that hovered over their home for about 10 minutes and then disappeared.

■ Plainfield: 12:03 a.m. Aug. 15. The witness was driving home on a clear evening, and saw a flas that lit up the entire area between Theodore Street and County Line Road.

■ Joliet: 1 a.m. Aug. 17, 2003. The witness was heading south on Interstate 55, near the U.S. 30 exit, and noticed a disk-shaped object hovering 50 feet from the ground; that glowed red, blue and green. She said the object tipped at a sharp angle and super-accelerated into the night sky.

■ Lemont: April 24, 2002. During the evening hours, a young man and his friends saw what they described as "huge fireballs" that appeared to be traveling toward them.

■ Bolingbrook: 11:03 a.m. Jan. 30, 2002. A homeowner was taking the trash to the curb and saw a silent, glowing oval-shaped object, that hovered over the area for about 10 minutes.

■ Shorewood: 10:30 p.m. Oct. 29, 2001. A couple in a car saw a very large disk with a blue and red lights that was totally silent. The witness said the disk was about 150 feet in the air and she feared it would crash. Then, it super-accelerated "unbelievably fast."

Presidentially speaking

In 1974, Ronald Reagan spotted a white light "zigzagging" near the plane. He even asked his pilot, who also acknowledged the UFO, to follow the craft. After several seconds, the UFO disappeared. "When I got off the plane I told Nancy all about it," Reagan later told a Washington Post reporter. "But we didn't file a report on the object because for a long time they considered you a nut if you saw a UFO."

An Oct. 22, 2002 article by CNN's Richard Stenger reports President Jimmy Carter said he was among a group that saw a UFO in 1969; an object Carter described as being as bright as the moon with changing colors.

In 1950, Harry Truman was quoted by the press as saying, "I can assure you that flying saucers, given that they exist, are not constructed by any power on earth."

ticed a mysterious object hovering above the trees. "It didn't have definition — it covered our yard and neighbors on both sides of me," Ron said. "I'm estimating it was 250 to 300 feet long with bright red, yellow and orange lights that looked hazy and gaseous, and it was absolutely perfectly silent."

The family gazed at the UFO in awe, unafraid and unconcerned for their safety. Ron confided that at no time during the sighting did he feel fear. He described experiencing an odd sense of tranquility, as if those in the UFO were somehow calming his fears.

"Eventually, the UFO moved out of sight," Ron continued. "We went to the front yard and we saw it on the other side of Route 53, moving slowly and without any sound. Then, it super-accelerated upward and disappeared."

Maranto offered his take on Ron's 1984 sighting.

"This gentleman (Ron) saw a cigar-shaped object in his backyard," Maranto says. "It can resemble a disk, chevron or saucer, but you are only seeing a portion of the craft and part of the reason it appeared hazy was because of the flux of energy created by the craft."

Maranto believes Ron's sighting is typical of a "genuine" UFO experience. The majority of witnesses report feeling calm and unafraid, and comment about being mesmerized by the craft. Worldwide, reports of aircraft as big as ships, hanging suspended and silent in the sky, almost always signify an inexplicable craft.

"The size of the lights (on the UFO) were the size of the whole plane."

Following the Aug. 21 sighting, Tinley Park Police Chief Mike O'Connell said he had heard from a few residents who saw the lights but concluded that they had seen an airplane.

In the Daily Southtown article, Tinley Park village engineer Chris King, who happened to see the Aug. 21 UFO, was quoted as saying he was "99 percent certain" the UFO was actually an experimental aircraft.

Maranto, who was also there on Aug. 21, disagrees. "Some people were saying it was a plane from the Chicago air show held that night, but we (MUFON) checked with the FAA, and they said they hadn't heard anything," he said. "We may never know exactly what it was, but we know what was there was a non-conventional source."

Other sightings

Way back in 1972, Shorewood native J, a wife and mother, witnessed a UFO in Lockport.

"I was walking with my boyfriend on a street near a cul de sac next to a field, behind an apartment complex," J said. "Over the streetlight there a white light hovering in the sky, approximately 50 feet in the air."

Though more than 30 years have passed since this sighting, like the majority of UFO witnesses, J recalled details with startling clarity. "When we stopped and watched the UFO, it started moving toward us very slowly," she said.

"Then, it hovered over us. It was soft light and not bright like the sun. It didn't light the ground or hurt our eyes. It stayed for a few minutes and then it rose up and disappeared."

F, a father of two from Wilmington, was so enthralled when his children, ages 9 and 13, spotted a "hovering disk" on June 20, 2004, that he is now being trained to assist Maranto in his UFO research.

F's two children and two of their friends were out late one afternoon when they spotted an aircraft they described as "dark, shiny and it wobbled."

On Oct. 31, 2004 (the same day a UFO was spotted over Tinley Park), another UFO was seen hovering over Wilmington. Again, four children saw the UFO. On Nov. 2, The Herald News article "Halloween scare: Witnesses report lights in the sky," described a UFO that was eerily similar to the crafts seen by F's children.

Maranto said only 1 percent of UFO witnesses report their sightings to authorities.

Whether they report it to the police, city or to organizations like MUFON, 99 percent of people who have seen a UFO stay mum. Why?

"It's fear of ridicule, and when you think about the stereotype of a believer, you can understand why people hesitate," Maranto said. "Think about it, the most effective form of censorship is ridicule. People will die for a cause, but to be laughed at for your beliefs is the surest way of intimidating a person into silence."

**X Prize hype:
Hope or hoax?**

The X-PRIZE is fraudulent, insists an Alamogordo man.

"The X-PRIZE is nothing but a big hoax. I think hoax means a lie, doesn't it?," Fred Wilcoxson says.

Wilcoxson, 82, a retired Holloman Air Force Base airplane mechanic, has long been critical of American governmental "secrecy" he says is crippling the economy. There are other ramifications because of the secrecy, he says, which include denying today's youth tomorrow's opportunities in space and needless deaths from worn-out technology.

The X-PRIZE is an effort to commercialize space through private enterprise, and is expected to bring millions to southern New Mexico's economies over the coming years. Wilcoxson, though, claims the X-PRIZE is a "hoax" because anti-gravity technology - which negates expensive rocketry - has been usable since the 1920s.

"Anti-gravity is the clue to space travel, it's the clue to space commercialization and yet you never hear it mentioned. It was missing from Apollo, it was missing from all the NASA programs," Wilcoxson says. "If you take (out) anti-gravity, you don't have a space program. Those anti-gravity (craft), or what UFOs as they are well known, some of them weigh 30 tons. But if you overcome gravity you could lift it with your little finger." That the Air Force and NASA continue using rocketry wastes billions of taxpayer dollars, according to Wilcoxson. He says the space shuttle astronauts who were killed would not have died if the government had not kept a cloak of secrecy around anti-gravity.

"The first successful flights of anti-gravity took place in about 1932," Wilcoxson claims. "One could have been here. A friend of mine told me it was in 1932 that he saw this bright light out west go from the ground up and he was a guard on the lumber mill at the time."

Subsequently, Wilcoxson says the military established a UFO base at Orogrande in 1941 to test their newly built craft. The infamous Roswell UFO craft that crashed might well have originated there, he believes.

In the mid-1940s, Wilcoxson joined the Army Air Corps. He moved to Roswell not long after the 1947 crash.

Like countless other people, Wilcoxson says for two decades he bought into the UFO

❖ Viewpoint ❖

**Police have
chased UFOs**

One of the classic cases in UFO history occurred on April 17, 1966. It first involved two sheriffs deputies near Ravenna, Ohio. At approximately 5 a.m., deputies Dale Spaur and Wilbur Neff observed a glowing disc-like object moving over a nearby field. A light beam from the object illuminated the road around them and they also heard a humming sound. They chased the UFO across the state line into Pennsylvania. During the 85 mile chase, the UFO would move away, gradually accelerating and out distancing them, only to slow down until they caught up again, as if it were playing a cat and mouse game. Other police officers witnessed the UFO en route after hearing the excited communication of the Ravenna officers. Finally, after they had crossed the state line, the object hovered, then shot straight up out of sight just as jet interceptors approached to investigate. As with many classic UFOs the explanation is listed as unknown and this sighting did make the newspapers. This chase was partially depicted in Stephen Spielberg's movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

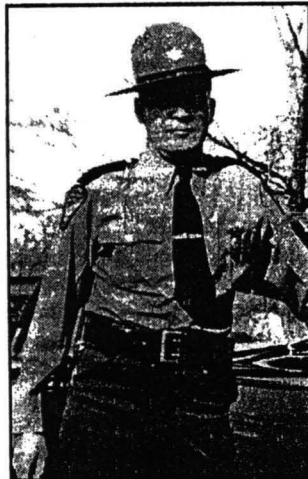
According to Pickaway County resident Glen Howard, Circleville has had one of their own UFO chases. Glenn is a retired Circleville police officer. He states that in the fall of 1980 he was driving to the local police station to work the night shift. It was about 10:40 p.m. when Glenn was driving into



Pete
Hartinger
*Roundtown
UFO
Society*

town on Route 22 from the west. He turned south at the interchange to go toward the west end of Mound Street. When he stopped at the stop sign he was looking directly south toward Route 23. At that time he observed an egg shaped, orange glowing object heading north, approximately 10 feet above Route 23. The object was estimated to be seven to eight feet in length. There were two cruisers chasing the object with their lights flashing. One was a County Sheriff's car and the other was from the Ohio State Highway Patrol. They went past the witness at about 25 feet away, while he waited at the stop sign. The object and cars were traveling at about 60 miles an hour. Startled, Glenn continued on to the police station where he found several police officers (it was shift change) listening to the chase on the police radio. Glenn added confirmation to the chase by telling his fellow officers that he had just observed the incident. Unlike the Ravenna chase, this local one never got the publicity.

Many law enforcement officers have seen UFOs. One who observed a UFO was Dave Burlile, who lives in Mt. Sterling. In 1958, Dave was an Ohio State Highway Patrolman working out of the Georgetown Post. He and his partner,



BURLILE

Robert D. Young, were riding in Young's patrol car when they had a daytime sighting. Dave described it as a saucer shaped object hovering about 500 feet in the sky and was very distinct. They immediately went back to the patrol post and the dispatcher, Ray Mason, also observed it. Together, the three estimated the UFO to be 100 feet in diameter. After a few minutes, the UFO rose to about 1,000 feet in the sky and then slowly rose at an angle and the farther it went, the faster it went. Dave reported his sighting to the State Highway Patrol Headquarters in Wilmington. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chief consultant to the Air Force, told Dave that it was temperature inversion in the atmosphere. After that, Dave's opinion of Hynek diminished.

In January, 2000, the first dramatic UFO sighting of the new millennium occurred. It was in the very early morning hours of Jan. 5 and the object was seen in southwestern Illinois. Four police officers on car patrol in four rural towns all



HOWARD

saw it. So did at least one civilian. Each witness independently described the object the same way. Each was baffled. It was described as long as a football field, two stories high, triangular like an arrowhead. Bright lights winked from its rear. Red lights shimmered from its belly. And no one has any idea what in - or out of - the world it was. This UFO sighting has been featured for television on the History Channel.

Over the years, there have been many UFO sightings all over the country by law enforcement officers and most of them have been very descriptive. Britain has also had many UFO police reports. These sighting reports are very important, because they were made by trained, professional observers. This is part of the evidence that I present in lectures, displays, etc.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 740-477-6252 or e-mail me at rufos@columbus.rr.com. Our web site is www.roundtownufosociety.com.

"hype" that aliens had arrived on planet Earth.

Until, that is, in 1966 when he was vacationing at Halls Crossing, Lake Powell, Utah. Wilcoxson sighted UFOs. The craft, he says, were flying in Air Force formation: a lead ship with others following to either side in a swept-wing formation. At that moment he says he realized that if they were extra-terrestrial, they would not be traveling in that manner.

"Maybe the crash wasn't alien," Wilcoxson said he realized of Roswell. "You're getting down into the military, where the military operates, so you can put two and two together."

He cites other dates he says are key to the alleged secrecy.

"(The year) 1953 was ... important because the CIA formed the

Robertson Panel. They were going to discuss whether or not UFOs existed," Wilcoxson says. "(President) Truman suggested to the CIA to investigate those UFOs," Wilcoxson says. "The CIA convened the Robertson Panel, which was a bunch of bunk." The group was officially known as the "Office of Scientific Intelligence Advisory Panel On Unidentified Flying Objects." The Web site parascope.com states the group was created when "the CIA's science officials had resolved to form an expert panel to come up with police recommendations on how to minimize public concern about UFOs and prevent panic during large national flaps."

They determined any "threat posed by UFOs to national security was psychol-

ogical rather than physical," the site states.

About the same time, Wilcoxson says, the United States established moon bases to mine the resources.

"We have never left the moon. Never, never, never. We were on the moon in the early '50s and are still there," he says.

So why continue to perpetrate fraud? From Wilcoxson's point of view, thousands of jobs would instantly go away if rocketry-based science were to end.

"They're after your money," Wilcoxson says. "We're also misleading the kids. Why don't we tell (the students) the truth?"

Not doing so, he says, limits their future employment opportunities, which he believes will greatly expand to make up for the end of the rocket era. If not, Wilcoxson believes when the

secret house of cards comes tumbling down, industry built on the lie will crash and the economy will follow. He points out that Alamogordo is highly dependent upon Holloman and the F-117A Nighthawk stealth fighters.

The latest event he characterizes as propping up the house of cards is X-PRIZE, which he insists was "instigated by NASA" to push the "hoax" along.

"They had professional hypers. That show was quite well organized. It wasn't for the good of southern New Mexico. It wasn't to benefit space travel. It was a well put-on sideshow," Wilcoxson says. "It all stinks."



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

DAILY EXPRESS, London, England - Nov. 19, 2005 CR: T. Good & N. Oliver

What is the truth about Britain's greatest

UFO MYSTERY?



by Nick Pope

Former British Government UFO Project leader

ON MAY 21, 1997, a former Prime Minister made an enigmatic comment that seemed to confirm the reality of Britain's most famous UFO incident. The remark hinted at darker secrets and led to much debate among conspiracy theorists. The politician was Baroness Thatcher and the implications of what she said are extraordinary.

The comment was made at a charity function. London-based socialite and author Georgina Bruni had been researching the Rendlesham Forest UFO incident, fascinated by hints dropped by diplomatic, military and political friends. Skeptical about the subject of UFOs, she thought it was awash with cultists and crackpots.

But Rendlesham was different so, when she met Baroness Thatcher at a dinner, Bruni put the former PM on the spot. Was there any truth to the rumours about what happened in Suffolk's Rendlesham Forest? What did the Government really know about UFOs? Was it a serious issue or just pie in the sky?

Bruni was expecting a bland dismissal of the story. The official Ministry of Defence position was that no evidence existed to suggest UFOs were extraterrestrial in origin. Then the former PM dropped her bombshell. "UFOs?" she said. "You can't tell the people."

Bruni was astounded and pressed her point. What did she mean? Baroness Thatcher calmly repeated her remark, before departing.

From 1991 to 1994, I ran the Government's UFO Project, based at the Ministry of Defence, and Bruni had interviewed me in the course of her research. Still astonished, she called me at 2am to tell me what had happened. I quickly grasped its significance. I went to my study and began to make notes, all the time quizzing Georgina about every nuance of her brief encounter with the former PM.

If you take all the thousands of UFO sightings investigated by

the MoD over the years, the Rendlesham Forest incident stood out. We could not ignore it, despite our best efforts to find some conventional explanation. This case was the Holy Grail and Baroness Thatcher's remark put the events into a new light.

SO WHAT actually happened at Rendlesham Forest and what makes the event the UK's strangest UFO encounter? As we approach its 25th anniversary, it's time to re-open the MoD's spookiest X-File. Late on Christmas night, 1980, and early on Boxing Day, strange lights were seen in the forest. This might not sound particularly significant. When I was running the UFO Project I used to receive up to 300 reports of sightings each year.

Most could be explained as misidentifications of aircraft lights, meteors or weather balloons. What made this sighting remarkable was the fact that the witnesses were United States Air Force personnel based at RAF Bentwaters and RAF Woodbridge in Suffolk.

Rendlesham Forest lies between the bases and, as the Cold War was still decidedly frosty, a

But they didn't find a crashed aircraft - they found a UFO.

The three-man patrol from the 81st Security Police Squadron - Jim Penniston, John Burroughs and Ed Cabansag - saw a small, metallic craft moving through the trees.

At one point, it appeared to land in a small clearing. They approached cautiously and Penniston got close enough to see strange markings on the side, which he likened to Egyptian hieroglyphs. He made some rapid sketches in his notebook. It touched down for only moments and then departed.

Later, because of the complicated legal and jurisdictional position of US Air Force bases in the UK, police from Suffolk Constabulary were called to the apparent landing site. They conducted a brief but inconclusive examination.

Three indentations were visible in the clearing and, when mapped, they formed the shape of an equilateral triangle. A Geiger counter was used to check the site and the readings peaked markedly in the depressions where the object - possibly on legs of some sort - had come to Earth.

News of the UFO encounter came to the attention of the Deputy Base Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Halt. He was sceptical, but had the witnesses write up official reports, including sketches of what they had seen.

The following evening, Halt was at a function when a young airman burst in and ran up to him. "Sir," he stammered. "It's back." Halt looked confused. "What?" he retorted. "What's back?" "The UFO, sir - the UFO's back."

Halt gathered together a small team and went out into the forest to investigate. He subsequently stated that he had no expectation of seeing anything and that his intention was to "debunk" the whole affair. But he didn't do so because he too encountered the UFO, becoming one of the highest ranking military officers to go on the record about such a sighting.

As he and his men tracked the UFO, their radios began to malfunction and powerful lamps taken to illuminate the forest mysteriously began to cut out. But a hand-held tape recorder

the colonel took to document his investigation did not malfunction.

THE TAPE recording still survives and one can hear the rising tension in Halt's voice and the voices of his men, as the UFO approaches...

"I see it too... it's back again... it's coming this way... there's no doubt about it... this is weird... it looks like an eye winking at you... it almost burns your eyes... he's coming toward us now... now we're observing what appears to be a beam coming down to the ground... one object still hovering over Woodbridge base... beaming down."

At one point the tension in their voices almost seems to become panic as the UFO makes a close approach and fires light beams down on Halt and his men.

Halt wrote an official report of the incident. Although somewhat innocuously entitled Unexplained Lights, it described the first night's UFO as being "metallic in appearance and triangular in shape... a pulsing red light on top and a bank of blue lights underneath... the animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy."

He went on to detail the radiation readings taken from the landing site and set out the details of his own sighting.

The report was sent to the section of the Ministry of Defence where, a little over 10 years later, I spent three years researching and investigating UFO sightings. It went to my predecessors, who began an investigation, but they were hampered by a mistake that was to have dire consequences.

For whatever reason - and it may have been nothing more than a typographical error - Charles Halt's report gave incorrect dates for the incident. So when the MoD checked the radar tapes, they were looking at the wrong days.

Radar evidence is a critical part of any UFO investigation. Many spectacular UFO sightings over the years have been correlated by radar. MoD files detail several such cases, including ones where RAF pilots encountered UFOs and gave chase. Unsuccessfully, I might add.

In the absence of any radar data that might confirm the presence of the Rendlesham Forest UFOs, the investigation petered out. Yet, as I was to discover years later, the UFO had been tracked after all.

I spoke to a former RAF radar operator called Nigel Kerr. He had been stationed at RAF

Watton in Norfolk at Christmas 1980 and took a call from RAF Bentwaters asking if there was anything unusual on his radar screen. For three or four sweeps, something did show up directly over the base, but it faded away and no official report was ever made. It was only years later that Kerr heard of the Rendlesham Forest incident and realised he might have a missing piece of the puzzle.

In the apparent absence of radar data to verify the presence of the UFO, arguably the most critical piece of evidence was never followed up. The Defence Intelligence Staff had assessed the radiation readings taken at the landing site and judged them "significantly higher than the average background". In fact, they were about seven times what would have been expected.

So what are we to make of all this? UFO believers are convinced the sightings involved an extra-terrestrial spacecraft. They still hold sky watches in the forest and claim to see UFOs regularly.

The sceptical theories are almost as bizarre, with suggestions that the highly trained military witness-

'He knew he might have a missing part of the puzzle'

es actually saw the lights of a police car, or the beam from the local lighthouse. "Lighthouses don't fly," Charles Halt said, incredulously.

More rational sceptical theories include the testing of a prototype aircraft, but the bottom line is that, while there are things being developed you won't see at the Farnborough Air Show for 10 or 15 years, we know where we fly our own hardware. The "black projects" theory doesn't hold up.

COL HALT'S evidence was obtained by American UFO researchers in 1983, under the Freedom of Information Act. But it was not until 2001 that the rest of the file came to light, including most of the details we now know.

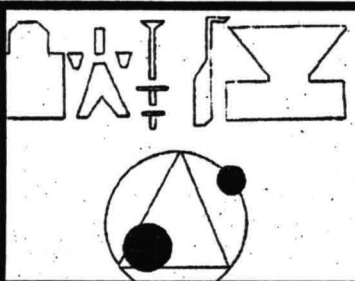
Georgina Bruni had requested several documents on the incident under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information - the forerunner to Britain's Freedom of Information Act. She had also enlisted the help of former Chief of the Defence Staff Lord Hill-Norton - himself a firm believer in UFOs.

Despite the claims of conspiracy theorists, the MoD is committed to open government and was happy to release the file. It can now be viewed in entirety on the MoD website. The MoD and the National Archives are bombarded with requests about UFOs but have a rolling programme of disclosure. These are the real X-Files and they are being released.

As the 25th anniversary of this UFO encounter approaches, there is great interest in the incident. Enthusiasts are planning an anniversary vigil. The Forestry Commission - which has created a UFO Trail in the forest - is planning an event. Several television documentaries are being made and there's even talk of a Hollywood movie.

But despite the wealth of documentation to have emerged and the testimony of the witnesses themselves, we are no nearer to knowing what happened in Rendlesham Forest.

The truth is still out there. Somewhere.



SYMBOLS: American airman Sgt Jim Penniston made sketches of the markings he saw on the craft

UFO sighting at two of the nation's most sensitive military sites was bound to be of interest.

Early on December 26, duty personnel reported lights so bright they feared an aircraft had crashed. They obtained permission to go off-base to investigate.

ROUND AND ROUND IN THE CROP CIRCLE GAME

World expert's 22 years of
research in eBay auction

By SAMANTHA GRICE

Colin Andrews has stood inside 2,500 crop circles.

In 1983, the "very ordinary" electrical engineer for regional government in Britain was stunned when he saw his first circle and almost immediately dedicated himself to trying to explain the (still) unexplained.

Over the past 22 years, Andrews has written several books, acted as an advisor to British prime minister Margaret Thatcher, the Royal Family and Laurance Rockefeller,

among others, on the subject. He has travelled the world speaking to farmers from Japan to the Australian outback, in whose fields crop circles appeared. And he has amassed a photographic li-

brary containing 35,000 original crop circle photographs, a video library of 650 VHS tapes, more than 3,000 books and publications, and the most complete database on crop-circle research in existence.

And now, this self-proclaimed world expert on all things crop circles is selling it all. Andrews is broke. Unfortunately, last week's eBay sale failed to garner a single bid for the lot's US\$250,000 asking price.

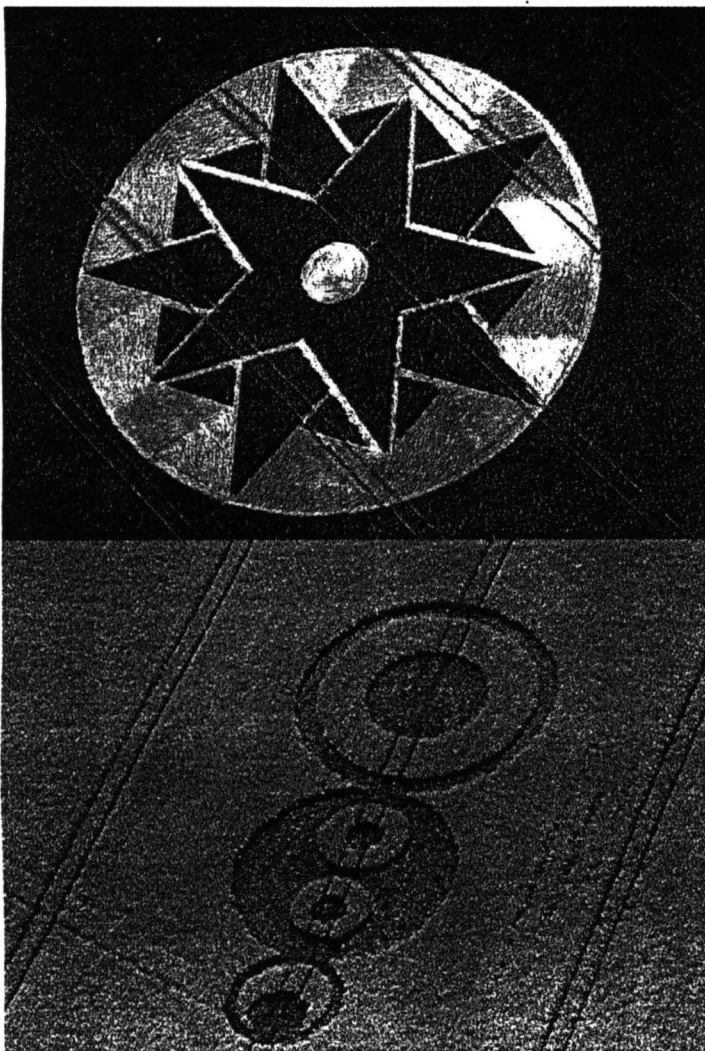
"We had a lot of inquiries, but nobody was prepared to go near that figure," says Andrews over the phone from his Connecticut home. "It's embarrassing for me. I would like to simply be able to make it available to an institute or a library and have it available to the public, but the situation is I cannot afford to hire a building

to house it," he says, adding it takes up two rooms of his nearby office and half of his double garage.

Andrews is still hoping to sell the complete archive (he'd like the body of work to be kept together if possible), although he admits it's difficult to part with.

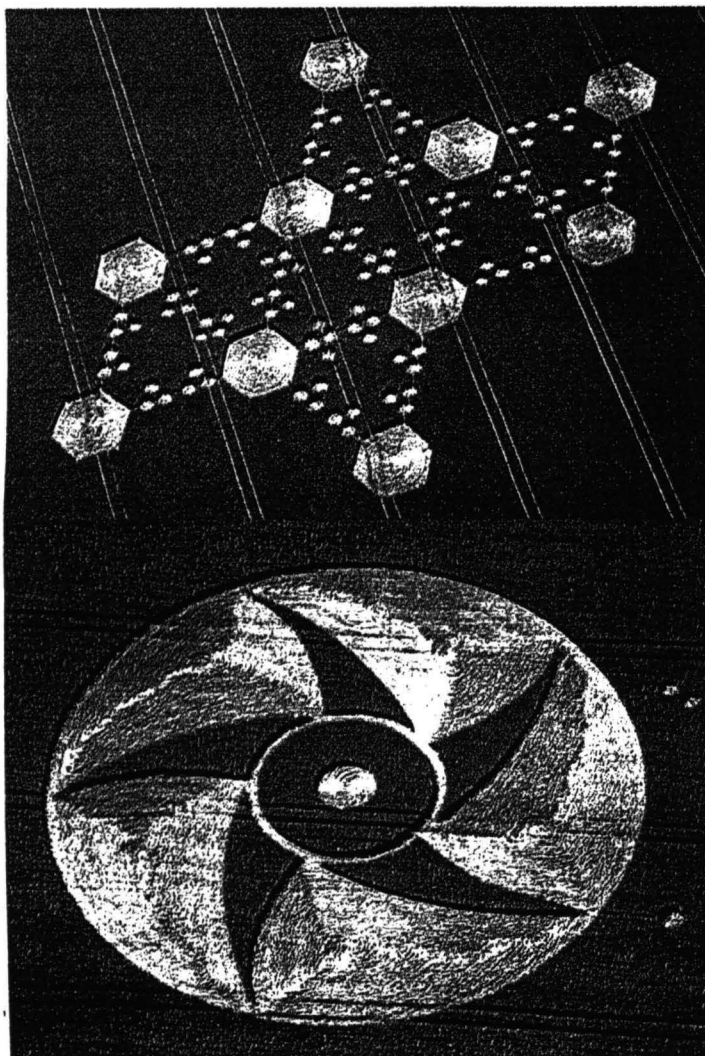
"It's a strange feeling, to be honest. It's almost like losing a relative. But, aside from the three years Laurance Rockefeller provided funding, and the period from the German Royal Family, I've been self-funded, and the bottom line is those funds really have dried up."

Andrews' decision to part with his research isn't indicative of a waning interest in crop circles; in fact, he was in southern England this summer investigating 100 very large circle designs. While media attention has largely dropped off since the crop circle frenzy of the '80s and '90s, Andrews says the appearance of new ones is steady at about 150 a year. During the hype, the number was much higher, but this was



AVENUE

Arts, Culture & Society



CR: G. Conway

largely due to hoaxers.

While Andrews came to the research from a purely scientific viewpoint, he's now broadened his outlook to include the supernatural and paranormal.

As the crop circle mystery has yet to be solved, explanations are complicated but Andrews says

a) there is no evidence they are the work of alien spacecraft and b) the consciousness of humanity is in some way involved in the mystery.

"The mind of man influences what is around him," says Andrews, relaying several anecdotes that link the power of suggestion on a "greater mind" with the appearance of the circles.

"When you talk about a 'mind,' this is where you separate from the rational scientific approach to the subject and where I so often find myself being referred to as 'off the deep end,'" Andrews admits. "I am working in the sciences, that's where I've come from in my profession, but I'm prepared to accept we don't have all the explanations, therefore this might just be exactly what is happening."

Over the years, Andrews' has spoken to 70 eyewitnesses in different countries, who saw circles being formed, and all of them report similar scenarios. "They report a very brief construction phase of about 10-15 seconds where the standing crop moves in a waving motion," Andrews explains. "It then becomes more vigorous, like a whiplashing effect and from the centre of that localized disturbance out to the periphery."

The eyewitnesses have only ever seen simple circles of less complex designs and it's those that are the unexplained. According to Andrews, the more intricate circles are most often man-made.

While Andrews is eager to sell his collection, he says it will be quite impossible for him not to think about the subject that overtook his life for so many years.

"And I would still really like to see the actual process," he says. "We've had a lot of surveillance operations in the past, the most famous one in 1990 with the British Army and the BBC, in hopes of catching one on film, and I'd still very much like to see that happen and get a little closer to what it's about."

If you are interested in Andrews' collection he can be e-mailed at cprandrews@world-net.att.net.

National Post
sgrice@nationalpost.com

Images, left column, from top: Colin Andrews researching a crop circle near Stonehenge; A small section of the files kept in Andrews' crop circle reference library; Andrews showing Sir David Mitchell, from Margaret Thatcher's government, a crop circle in 1990.

Crop circles, centre: Intricate designs that are part of Andrews' database include one in yellow flowers near Avebury, Wiltshire in 1995, and others that appear every year without fail, in southern England.

This column, from top: Andrews with his archives and crop circle databases and libraries; a small part of the photo library, which includes more than 35,000 original photographs of the crop circles since 1983; another intricate design.

ALL IMAGES © COLIN ANDREWS WWW.CROPCIRCLEINFO.COM

There's something out there ... way out there



BY CHRIS BUSH
THE NEWS BULLETIN

Look up, waaayyy up... and you never know what you'll see.

I thought about this the other night as I saw a brilliant white light moving from west to east across the early evening sky.

It seemed to zigzag along its trajectory and change speed as it raced along until it passed into the Earth's shadow and faded to blackness.

It was a satellite and atmospheric pressure and temperature shifts between me and it made its trajectory appear erratic.

But it was tempting to think, just for moment, this could have been technology piloted by some alien intelligence.

Real or imagined, sightings of unidentified flying objects are on the rise across Canada.

The 2004 Canadian UFO survey published by Ufology Research of Manitoba reports more than 5,200 sightings since 1989.

B.C. leads national statistics, accounting for 45 per cent of total sightings in 2003.

UFOROM operates out of the University of Manitoba and collects data from UFO research organizations across the country. The Canadian Armed Forces also forwards civilian sightings and photographs called in by civilians.

Reports around Vancouver Island about fiery spheres, flashes in the sky and strange fast moving lights date back to the 1800s.

Published reports keep those reporting the sightings anonymous for the most part, but plenty of sightings are made close to Nanaimo.

Date: June 15, 2004
Time: 9:30 p.m.
Location of Sighting: Mt. Benson.

Number of witnesses: 2
Number of objects: 1

Shape of objects: Circular.

I was at the corner of Forest and Meredith at the stop sign. I was watching a jet way off towards Comox, and remarking how clear the night was, no contrails from the jet. Half convinced it was a UFO, when off to my left

a brilliant flash appeared up in the sky perhaps a half mile away, my wife remarked at the same time. I turned to stare at it, when it stopped to reveal circular, luminous shape. I stared for three or four seconds, thinking it must be a helicopter, and thought it also was watching the Comox jet. It then cloaked out from the top out.

I'm crazy, but my wife is

not. She describes it as the light sucking out of it.

In 2004 Canadian UFO sightings jumped 31 per cent over 2003 figures, an all-time record.

Most sightings were made by two witnesses.

The most common colour of UFOs reported is white.

Various shapes were reported with the most common described as

and he said he saw this thing coming in and going out at the airport and I said, 'Well that's not very good because I didn't see him, so I didn't charge him a landing fee and didn't charge him any money,' he said.

The airport's flight service centre staff, however, would not discuss whether people have called in sightings to the tower and curtly refer all queries to Nav Canada media relations, which did not return telephone calls.

Date: 1990

Time: Evening

Location: Yellow Point, Nanaimo, B.C.

Number of witnesses: 1

Number of objects: 1

star-like. The classic flying saucer disc shape accounted for just five per cent of all sightings.

Nanaimo Airport gets few reports.

Airport manager Dave Hunter recalls only two - bright stationary lights in the sky - in the last four years.

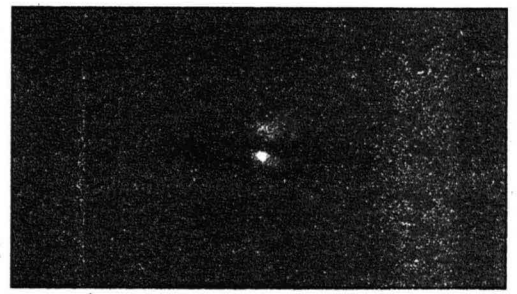
"I actually had one guy who phoned me one time in the Charlottes

Shape of objects:

Round, fluorescent green

While at work I happened to look out my lunchroom window, which faces southeast and has a perfect view of Northumberland Channel. I saw in the sky a perfectly round green object in a downward trajectory towards what I assumed was either the ocean or the ground somewhere near Ladysmith. It was about the size of an orange with a wispy green contrail.

CFB Comox public affairs personnel say they get civilian sighting reports and even photographs of "UFOs" turned into the base.



UFOs: real or unreal?

Most are tiny specs in the photographs or birds. All are forwarded to UFOROM.

Good photographs are rare.

In October 1981, Hannah McRoberts of Campbell River took a series of photos of a cloud over a mountain, suggestive of steam coming from a volcano, north of Kelsey Bay.

No one with her noticed anything else in the sky, but when the film was developed a saucer shaped object appeared in several frames.

Her photos have stood up to scrutiny by researchers in the U.S. and Europe and appear to be genuine.

UFOROM reports 14.6 per cent of all sightings are unexplained. The rest are explainable, probable or contain insufficient evidence to categorize.

Date: Sept. 19, 1999

Time: 9:10 p.m.

Location: Nanaimo, B.C.

A resident of Nanaimo, B.C., observed a whitish object with three lights in a triangle heading north from the 2 o'clock to the 10 o'clock position - a 40 degree angular sweep across 13 kilometres in five seconds at an altitude of about 3,000 metres.

Estimated airspeed topped 9,200 km/h.

Bill Weller teaches physics and astronomy at Malaspina University-College and is one of the people who regularly looks way up.

He has seen strange things in the sky and even investigated reports in his undergraduate days, including a case where a

woman heard beeping and saw lights rising from a swamp behind her home.

The beeping turned out to be frogs and

the lights landing lights on airliners taking off from a distant airport.

"We get reports from the American UFO watch people, who do of course take this seriously," he said. "We report meteors to them. We call them meteors. They call them vehicles, but we're both interested in what the others are doing."

Weller said given the restrictions of distance, cost and laws relating he believes beings travelling across the stars is unlikely.

"The concept of people zipping around and then reporting back to base what they found and going and sending a trading mission - the science fiction stuff that we read about - just ain't going to happen," he said. "You can make trips like that, but they're one way trips."

Still the sightings and belief in UFOs persist.

NANAIMO, BRITISH COLUMBIA - On July

14, 2005, at 3 a.m., I was sleeping last night and was suddenly awakened by a sound which seemed to be coming from my back yard. I looked outside to see a red ball of light and after watching for a few minutes I went to the sliding glass door in the family room. I went to open the door and the light suddenly disappeared, making a sound I can't explain, and then a crash. I was going to close the door when I felt a sudden coldness come over my body. It made my body cold and shocked, and then I was able to close the door. I went right back to my room and saw the red glowing light still pulsing and seeming to grow in size then suddenly shrank. I woke up the next morning wondering what I had seen and feeling a sense of something watching me.

THE SCOTSMAN, Edinburgh,
Scotland - Aug. 15, 2005

MoD 'open-minded' on alien encounters

CRAIG BROWN

ALIEN abduction protocols, curried kidney recipes and Navy-issue watches are among the topics of inquiries received by the Ministry of Defence since the Freedom of Information Act came into force at the beginning of the year.

Averaging 300 requests a month, the department has had to respond to some bizarre and tricky questions, including from conspiracy theorists about the MoD's contact with alien life.

While one wanted access to any physical proof held by the MoD of aliens, another asked simply: "Please could you send me a copy of the MoD's policy on alien abduction?"

However, the MoD, despite being as helpful as it could, denied that it had a policy on aliens - or pictures of them.

"The Ministry of Defence does not have any expertise

or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, about which it remains totally open-minded," said its published reply.

But UFO investigator and writer Ron Halliday said that MoD was clearly aware of the existence of alien life.

"I think they're being very mealy-mouthed about this," he said.

"Back in the 1990s, they revealed that they had been recording UFO sightings since the Forties, and handed the dossier over to UFO experts to investigate."

More prosaic, but equally odd questions, have included requests for a Royal Navy recipe for sauteed kidneys and curried meatballs, a photocopy the new Pulsar aircrew issue chronograph watch, as well as a desire to know what sort of tea is drunk by navy personnel.

EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES, Ipswich, England - July 30, 2005

MoD delivered usual line on UFOs

Sir, - Your article concerning UFO sightings in the region (EADT, July 26) was of interest but, through a lack of familiarity with the subject, you allowed the MoD to deliver its usual public response without question.

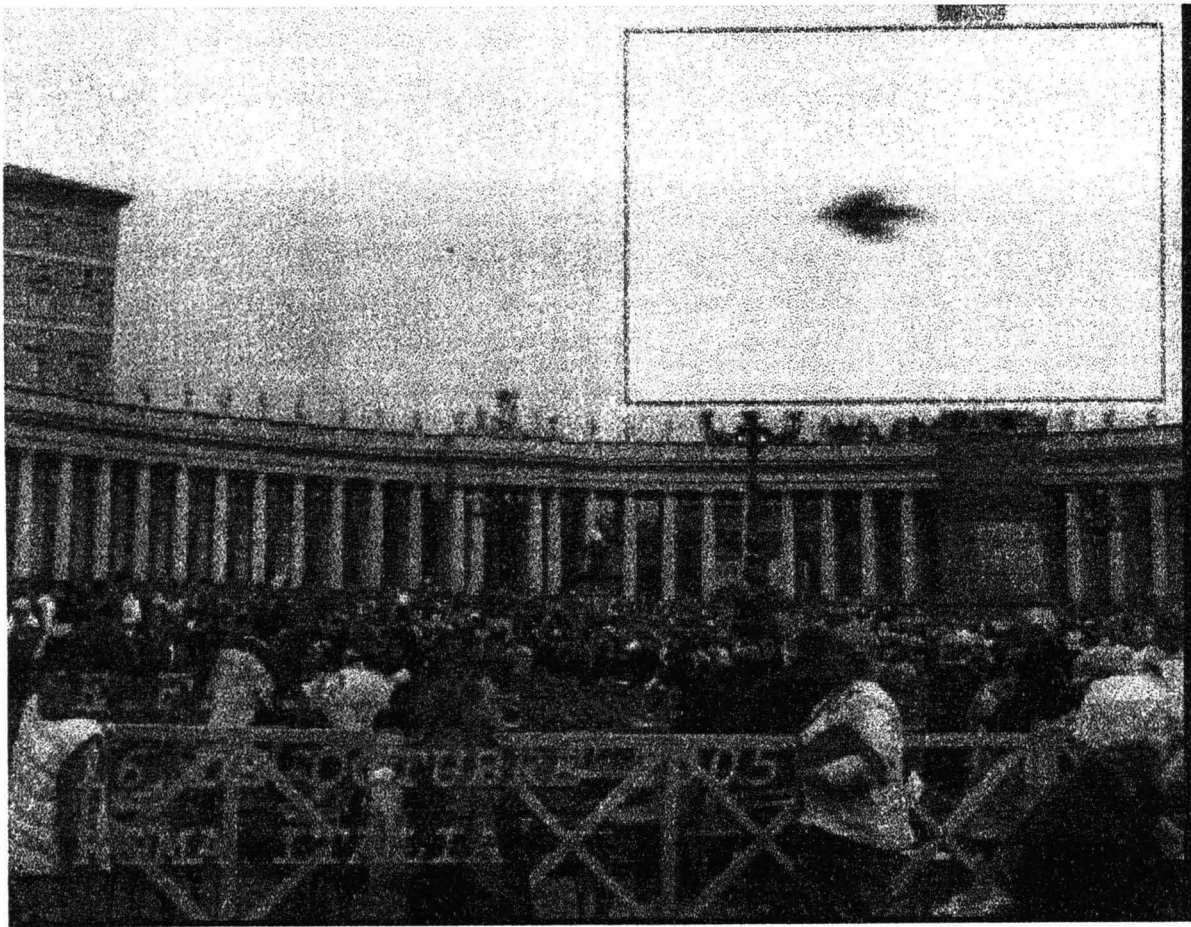
As the MoD itself decides upon the threat level of each incident, it's hardly surprising that none have ever been publicly acknowledged as of "defence significance" - the department's usual terminology. Although I don't for one moment subscribe to the commonly held belief of a government conspiracy (some form of covert investigation has been known to occur in selected cases).

Some governments have demonstrated a less complacent view of the phenomena and

have taken a more direct response. Post-war, fighters from various nations have attempted to intercept UFOs, with little success as they lack the performance shown by the intruders. On more than one occasion, this has resulted in the loss of the aircraft and crew - if it happened here no amount of MoD spin could then dismiss the threat.

If the MoD still remain unconvinced I suggest they speak to the Mexican Air Force and the crew of an anti-narcotics aircraft about a certain incident early last year.

GARY STEDMAN,
Ford View Rd,
Stowmarket.



SOURCE: www.analuisacid.com.mx, October 30, 2005 — ALLEGED UFO OVER THE VATICAN — Image taken on October 16, 2005 at The Vatican (Rome, Italy) by a Mexican tourist identified only with the initials E.F.T.R.

A Canon EOS Digital camera was employed and it is likely to be one of the so-called "invisible UFOs," as the witness did not see the object at the time that the photograph was taken. — CREDIT: Prof. Ana Luisa Cid

WEST BRITON, Truro, England - July 28, 2005

Our own triangle?

A TRIANGULAR shaped area in Cornwall has been unveiled as Britain's most mysterious location.

Visitors to the "Penzance Triangle" are twice as likely to spot a UFO and three times more likely to encounter a ghost than in any other area in the UK.

Scientists conducting major research into paranormal activity in the UK found the area topped a list of three bizarrely shaped psychic hotspots which they have labelled "Britain's very own Bermuda Triangles".

The research reveals that Cornwall, Yorkshire and Norfolk top the British league tables of documented supernatural, mythical and paranormal phenomena.

A research team led by Lionel Fanthorpe, president of the British UFO Research Association, spent two months collating all the documented cases of UFO sightings, circle phenomena and ghost sightings.

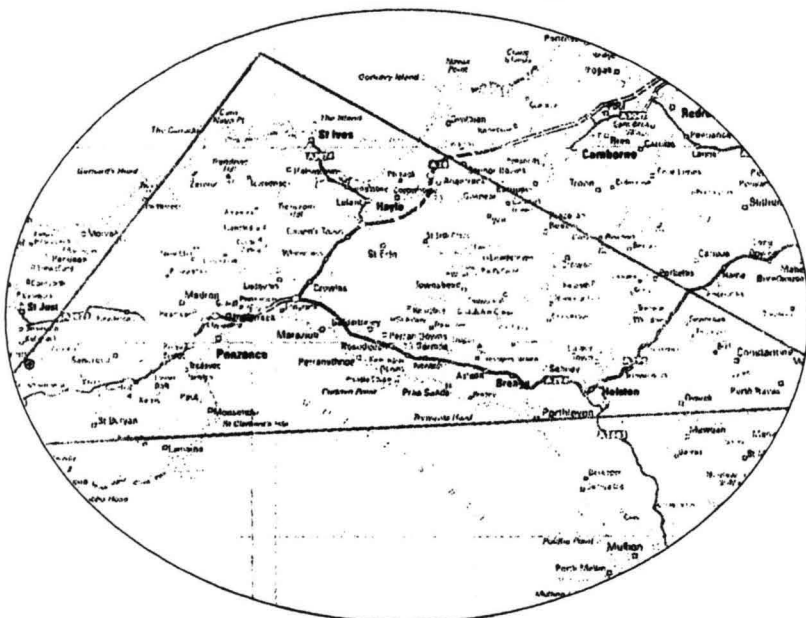
The team uncovered 102 reported incidents in the area – 27 per cent more than the national average. These incidents included 33 reported ghost sightings and 23 reports of UFOs.

Triangles of unusual activity were also identified in Yorkshire and Norfolk.

Mr Fanthorpe said: "The affected areas have all experienced battles, plagues, trauma and tragedy over the centuries: factors which may stimulate increased paranormal activity."

"But the presence of ley-line intersections, irregularities in the Earth's magnetic and gravitational fields, or even extra terrestrial activity, could all play a part in forming these mysterious triangles."

The Penzance Triangle spans St Ives,



West Cornwall: hotspot of paranormal activity? Rachel Foster reports

Sennen, Porthleven and Mawnan.

It represents the highest concentrated area of paranormal activity in the UK and encompasses an area of 216 square miles which envelops much of the county's southern tip.

Regular UFO sightings have been reported in Falmouth Bay and numerous observers who went to Land's End for the Solar Eclipse reported sightings of phenomena in the skies. Morgawr, cousin of Scotland's Loch Ness Monster, also appears in Falmouth Bay.

The Dolphin Inn at Penzance was once used as a court room by the notorious Judge "Hanging" Jeffries in the 17th century and the spectre of an unjustly executed sea captain has been spotted, as well as a ghost ship at Porthcurno.

The Zennor Mermaid has been sighted off the Cornwall coast, St Michael's Mount is named after a local vision of the Archangel Michael and the grotesque Owlman is believed to reside in Mawnan Wood.

EXPOSING THE REAL X-FILES

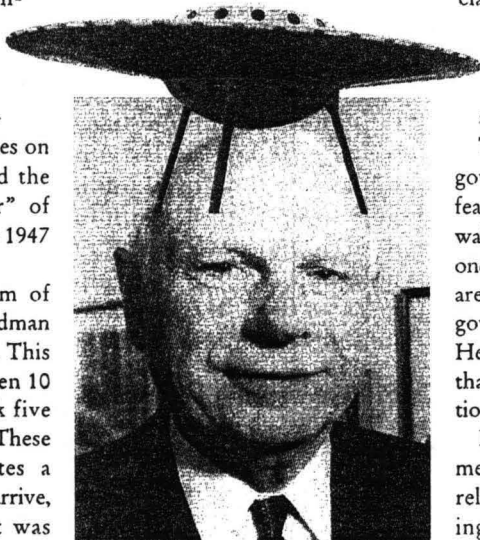
UOFT — Outside Convocation Hall, a predominantly white, middle-aged group of about 20 discuss their personal encounters with UFOs. Retired electronic engineer John Ford says he saw his first flying saucer in 1963, while picnicking in the Zimbabwe bush with his wife and their friends. Catherine Monserie, on the other hand, has seen alien crafts outside Paris in 1967 and over the Toronto Islands in 1995.

It is no surprise that audience members at the university's UFO Disclosure and Planetary Directions Symposium are ET believers — you'd have to be to spend \$40 for seven hours of conspiracy theory. What is surprising is that most of the convention's audience, as well as its featured speakers (who include a political activist, a nuclear physicist and former minister of defence and former Deputy Prime Minister Paul Hellyer) are not your central-casting idea of conspiracy theorists. As nuclear physicist Stanton T. Friedman says, his speech could have been called, "What's a Nice Guy Like You Doing in a Place Like This?"

Friedman is here to address what he refers to as a "Cosmic Watergate" and "the biggest story of the past millennium": Western governments' secrecy regarding extraterrestrial life. Friedman, who began studying UFOs in 1958 after ordering a text on the subject to avoid paying shipping fees on a load of books, is considered the "original civilian investigator" of Roswell, New Mexico's famous 1947 UFO crash site.

Pursuant to 1966's Freedom of Information Act in the US, Friedman requested the CIA's UFO files. This appeal, which should have taken 10 working days to process, took five years, leading him to assume, "These guys must work five minutes a day." When the documents did arrive, the majority of their content was blacked out.

Clearly, the government is keeping secrets. Author Richard Dolan says



Paul Hellyer is now a UFO believer.

KENT MESSENGER, Maidstone, England - July 22, 2005

Flying saucer seen while at afternoon tea in the garden

A PARISH councillor is seeking answers after spotting a strange object hovering in the afternoon sun.

Roger Levett, 65, of Tonbridge Road, Teston, was relaxing in the garden with his wife, at about 4.50pm, on Saturday, when they noticed a flashing light high in the sky.

He said: "We had been to the Kent Show and were sitting drinking tea and eating cake we'd bought from the WI marquee."

"As we chatted, I saw this thing flashing over a ridge towards Headcorn but much higher than any normal aircraft."

Mr Levett believes it was a proper unidentified flying object, rather than a vessel for aliens from another world.

He said: "I can only think it was a weather balloon or something like that. It was too high for a helicopter or plane. There must be an explanation."

The mystery deepened with neither Headcorn Aerodrome nor the Met Office able to offer an explanation.

Mr Levett, added: "It was all very strange. Perhaps there was something in the cake."



■ Roger Levett, 65, points to the skies where he saw a UFO

clandestine UFO research is funded by the "black budget" — secret money collected from classified federal taxes, drug trafficking and securities fraud.

There are many explanations for governments' secrecy. Some allude to fears of a Wellesian public panic in the wake of disclosure and Dolan says that once you acknowledge a problem, you are expected to take action, which the government is unprepared to do. Paul Hellyer reinforces this point by saying that he was "too busy" to pay attention to the UFO issue while in office.

But the speakers agree that governments must reveal any existing UFO-related problems and set about solving them immediately. Stephen G. Bassett, director of Paradigm Research Group, says alien abduction is his biggest concern in the world today. To

put this comment in perspective, Bassett cites overpopulation as the second most pressing matter. During a question and answer session, a female audience member worries about the treatment of the human-alien hybrids that allegedly result from abductions.

Still, not everyone views abduction as a major threat. Paul Hellyer says he is unaware of anyone dying at the hands of extraterrestrials. Instead, Hellyer sees anti-alien weapons as a bigger danger. The politician believes that the nuclear missiles constructed under Ronald Reagan's Star Wars initiative were actually conceived to defend us against unfriendly interplanetary visitors. Bassett echoes the futility of such attempts: "All they have to do is drop meteors on us and we're in the Stone Age."

JAMES SIMONS

SHANGHAI DAILY, Shanghai, China - Dec. 1, 2005

UFO reported over Shanghai

SEVERAL people reported seeing a UFO in Shanghai between 4:30 pm and 9 pm yesterday.

A man named Hu told the *Xinmin Evening News* he saw the UFO in the sky near the Outer Ring Road in Xinzhuang area at 4:30pm. It was visible for about 5 minutes, Hu said.

A man named Luo said he saw a bright oval object flying west towards Jiuting Town at 5pm when he was near Qibao Town. He tried to take a picture of it with his digital camera, but failed.

A man named Yang said he saw the UFO near the Laoximen in Jiangguo Road E. at 4:44 pm. He said it was a thumb-like orange oblong object hanging in the southeast sky and moving slowly east.

A Mr Ni, aged 65, said he saw a bright red dish-like object in the western sky for about 5 minutes from his 13th-floor room in the No. 8

People's Hospital in Xuhui District at 4:55 pm.

A caller named Zhao told the newspaper he saw the UFO in the southwest sky at 5 pm in Putuo District near Wuning Road and Caoyang Road. It was a strange shape and flew slowly west, Zhao said.

A Mr Liu saw the UFO from the elevated road of Zhongshan Road N. and Hutai Road at 9 pm. It was a cubic flying object with lights glittering around it, Liu said. It looked like a twinkling gold star in the sky and changed into a thumb-sized cube when it moved quickly. "I saw it stayed in the northeast sky for a while, and then it changed its position to southeast," said Liu.

Hongqiao Airport officials said they had no knowledge of the object.

STAR, Sheffield, England - July 25, 2005

Light shed on strange 'UFO'

RAF experts were called after reports of a UFO in Doncaster but the object turned out to be weather equipment.

Police received a call from a worried resident in the early hours of Sunday morning after she had seen a quick moving light in the sky, which was also rotating.

It was seen in the sky over Bessacarr.

"She did not believe that it was a helicopter or similar," said a police spokesman. "Inquiries with the RAF revealed this to be a Met Office weather monitoring device."



■ Unexplained . . . Michael Soper pictured at crop circles that appeared in a field at Garsington

Order no: 370387. Picture: Damian Halliwell

Mystery surrounds crop circles at Garsington

CROP circles in Garsington outside Oxford are attracting the interest of a group dedicated to monitoring the unexplained.

Michael Soper, 63, of Ouseley Close, New Marston, is a member of Contact International, which carries out research into UFOs and other unexplained happenings.

Mr Soper said the appearance of the 300ft-diameter crop circle in fields either side of the B480 road in Garsington was provoking a lot of interest.

He added: "The circles are certainly impressive and after taking a close look at them it is difficult to believe that they have been hoaxed."

"There is one central circle and four outer circles. There is a footpath leading to one of the fields they are in, so you can get quite close to them."

"In the past, the majority of crop circles have been hoaxes, but the remainder are difficult to explain."

According to crop circle

experts, about 20 per cent are caused by eddies in the earth's magnetic field and the rest are man-made.

Crop circles occur around the world in grass, as well as grain, fields and in Britain there have been a large number of hoaxes in Wiltshire, an area steeped in ancient legends and myths.

KENT ON SUNDAY, England - July 17, 2005

MoD releases secret UFO sighting details

THE TRUTH, it appears, can be stranger than science fiction.

Cinema audiences around Kent are flocking to watch Steven Spielberg's version of HG Wells' classic, *War of the Worlds*.

The Bromley author's book of 1898 describes the Martians' assault on Victorian England as they attempt to colonise the Earth, while the modern version moves the action to America.

But Wells' ideas may not be limited to the realms of fantasy, according to figures obtained by Kent on Sunday.

Details released by the Ministry of Defence under the Freedom of Information Act reveal there were eight UFO sightings across the county in the last four years.

And Kent UFO investigator Chris Rolfe said there were many more reports which have not been logged by the Government.

The MoD said that since September, 2001, it had records of sightings in Ashford, Bromley, Deal, Dymchurch, Gravesend, Southfleet, Westcliffe and Whitstable.

The most recent was in Westcliffe on the afternoon of May 27, when a witness reported a small white object, "that appeared to be moving parallel to an airliner".

By JAMIE MCGINNES

Another sighting in January described "strange lights in the sky" over Whitstable.

In September, 2001, the authorities were told a "ship" or "craft" was seen near the A2070, heading past early morning traffic towards Ashford, before it hovered over the town.

The MoD is currently compiling a database of UFO sightings in the UK for the last quarter of a century, which it intends to publish in the near future. Until 1967, UFO reports were

ALIEN:
ET could
already be
on Earth

destroyed after five years.

Mr Rolfe, of the Folkestone-based UFO Monitors East Kent group, said he knew of many more sightings than the eight recorded by the MoD in the last four years.

"I think sometimes the authorities are a bit economical with the truth," he said.

Mr Rolfe said the new *War of the Worlds* film was just "harmless fun," yet it was possible that the Earth could one day be threatened by extraterrestrials.

He said: "If they are that far advanced that they are able to build spacecraft to come here, perhaps they haven't wanted to make contact with us so far."

"But that's not to say that we will be definitely safe in the future. Some alien civilisation might visit Earth and turn out to be like the *Predator* in the Arnold Schwarzenegger film."

"Most astronomers now accept there's got to be life out there, but whether they're hostile or not, who knows?"

Mr Rolfe added there was a growing number of scientists who believed 'aliens' could already live on this planet -- but in another dimension.



Witnesses are often reluctant to speak out because of a strong possibility of being ridiculed

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a brightly coloured disc with flashing lights and it's heading towards Colwyn Bay! Chief reporter MARTIN WILLIAMS investigates the UFO phenomenon and finds there's many a believer in the North Wales area.

OVER the years North Wales, and in particular the Llandudno and Denbigh areas, have played host to dozens of UFO sightings.

Using the Freedom of Information Act, the *Weekly News* contacted the Ministry of Defence for a breakdown of incidents since the turn of the century, as well as unveiling a series of rare observations, with the assistance of Abergele grandmother Margaret Fry co-founder of the Welsh Federation of Independent Ufologists.

The latest took place in March 2005 and was filmed by a motorist, but the details are vague and were dismissed by experts, though the MOD was more receptive to a call from a Flintshire man who spotted two silvery objects in September 2004.

The witness said: "They were very high up in the sky on the horizon, moving apart and pulling together again. They did this in a matter of 10 seconds and left a vapour trail."

"It was an amazing sight, I'd never seen anything like it before, and it certainly wasn't a plane."

While many readers may well regard such reports as crackpot, Margaret supports such claims.

"The MOD remains 'open-minded' about incidents such as this, and does not have an expertise role in UFO matters, but usually comes up with an explanation."

For example, on receiving two phone calls, one from a milkman, concerning a round yellowish light rising over the village of Gors Goch, near Llannerchymedd, in November 2002, a spokesman pointed out that it was Guy Fawkes Night.

Margaret has dealt with cynicism for decades, but she and her colleagues believe in life on other planets and pool their research to cross-reference sightings and monitor any links or similarities between UFO cases.

She began her hunt for answers to UFO sightings nearly 40 years ago, when, as a young mum living with her family in Kent, she had an alien encounter. Margaret says a craft landed in her town and was witnessed by many other locals in July 1955.

She has found a similar band of believers in North Wales, and the organisation counts a retired police officer and chemists among its number.

"We've established coordinators across Wales, but it's a sad reflection on our so-called democracy that our very active representative on the Isle of Anglesey, a chemist, felt he had to resign, because his job, his livelihood to support a young family, was in jeopardy due to his UFO research activities," said Margaret.

"There are people who are ignorant of the subject and therefore make fun of witnesses. So too do national newspapers on occasion, again because they have not troubled to investigate the subject, so who can they call upon?"

"Well, us for a start. We never disclose a name or address, but we do write about what's reported as part of our ongoing research."

"We explain, listen and reassure, because a UFO experience can be frightening, and if what is described turns out to be unexplainable, we will understand and lend a sympathetic ear."

While people might be willing to consider that aliens exist, few want to speak publicly about their experiences. Take for example the sighting by four women who reported seeing about 12 opaque circles rotating and



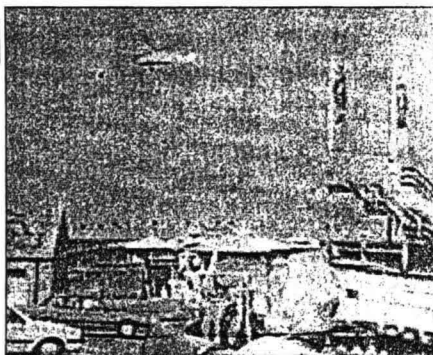
Visitors from other worlds?

ALIENS OF LLANDUDNO

This photograph of Llandudno pier has caused controversy for many years, with witnesses arguing it was either a balloon or a UFO. The majority have argued it's the latter, including Margaret.

"It shows a shape next to a helicopter. It was indeed an unidentified flying object as it was not a bird, balloon or parachute jumper," she said.

"The picture was taken on Llandudno beach in the summer of 1998 by a couple and their young son who were watching a display by the helicopter from RAF Valley, Anglesey. The film wasn't developed until two years later, in March 2000, when the couple finally finished the reel of film. The amazing thing is they had forgotten about the Llandudno photos they had taken two years earlier and were using the camera in 2000 to photograph UFOs in the shape of white arrows they were seeing regularly over West Shore, Llandudno!"



STRANGE SKY:

Mark Atherton, photographer for our sister paper the *Abergele Visitor*, spotted this object hovering above the A55 at the McDonalds roundabout at Abergele at 10.30am on May 14, 2004. The inset shows the craft in closer detail.

Other sightings

TWO college students were returning home from their part-time work on Saturday, December 28, 1985 at 12.30am when they saw an object shoot across the sky. The pair were at Dyserth Crossroads high above Rhyl and Prestatyn when the craft's movement attracted their eye.

The friends plucked up the courage to stop at the scene of the landing, but when they peered over hedging they could see nothing.

A week later, on January 4, 1986 at 8.30pm in the neighbouring hamlet of Trelawnyd, four people claimed to have seen a cigar-shaped craft with bright red lights.

Meanwhile, on January 10 at 11.30pm two householders reported seeing an aerial display lasting more than two hours from their suburban street in Prestatyn.

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT 1:

Geraint ap Rhys, Coedpoeth

"As a boy, walking back from Wrexham to Coedpoeth very late one moonless night in December 1944 I saw an intensely bright white light in the woods near Adwy'r Clawdd. I was startled because the blackout was in full force. As I stood watching, it soared into the air, slowly at first and then at tremendous speed, quite silently, and was lost in thick cloud. I thought it was some secret weapon or other."

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT 2:

Simon, Wrexham

"I used to play in a band that rehearsed in the cricket pavilion in the grounds of Denbigh hospital, in the late 80s. One warm night, during a break in rehearsal, myself and other members of the band were smoking on a balcony outside the pavilion that looked towards a valley. As we watched, an oval orange object appeared in the night sky over the valley, seeming to be hovering about four miles away. Soon after it suddenly appeared to move away extremely quickly and we could see it no longer. I've no idea what it was."

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT 3:

Alexander, Llandudno

"Late on July 6 2005, on my way back from walking on a local beach, myself and a friend spotted a UFO hovering in the sky above Llandudno. It was there for a few minutes before it disappeared. We waited for at least 20 minutes to see if it would reappear, but it didn't."

sweeping across the sky at Towyn on August 14, 1998.

Or one of the earliest recorded incidents in the spring of 1964 at Denbigh Castle. Another was made in the summer of 1974 when two women leaving Denbigh Hospital claimed to have seen a round, bright orange light hanging in the sky for several minutes before rocketing away at great speed.

A further sighting from someone outside the hospital was made in 1984 and a similar one later in 1994. There have also

been sightings over Denbigh Moors. A woman, along with a friend, says she saw a UFO there on July 5, 1984, at midday.

Whether you believe the UFO reports or not, the issue is of great interest. Are we alone? An MOD spokeswoman shed a little light on the subject.

"We do not have any expertise

role in respect of UFO/flying saucer matters to the question of the existence or otherwise of extra-terrestrial life forms, and the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena," she said.

"We examine any reports to establish whether what was seen

might have some defence significance, namely whether there is any evidence the UK's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity.

"We believe rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so."

Your Say

If you've had a local UFO experience, write to us at Martin's UFOs, The Weekly News, Vale Road, Llandudno Junction, LL31 9SL.



BELIEVER: Abergele ufologist Margaret Fry with one of the books she has written about the phenomena.

MARS BARRED

TALKING POINT: Have the men from Mars stopped visiting our skies, do we humans have more important things to worry about?

By Katrina McClintock

FOR years there have been those who were convinced little green men were trying to make contact.

Unexplained lights, humming black objects and even triangles appearing out of the sea have all been sighted.

But it appears man's fascination with Martians is on the wane.

One branch of the British UFO Hunters in Cumbria fears it may have to close as it has had no sightings this year.

And in one of the North-east's UFO hotspots things seem to be eerily quiet as well.

The village of Muchalls near Stonehaven hit the headlines in 2001 with a spate of unexplained sightings.

Dr Tom Moir, who now lives in New Zealand, claimed to have seen a silent craft hovering eerily over a wood near Muchalls Castle before vanishing.

And he said he saw strange lights on countless other occasions.

But since then things seem to have gone quiet.

Muchalls resident and local councillor Carl Nelson said: "I haven't heard of anybody reporting anything for months."

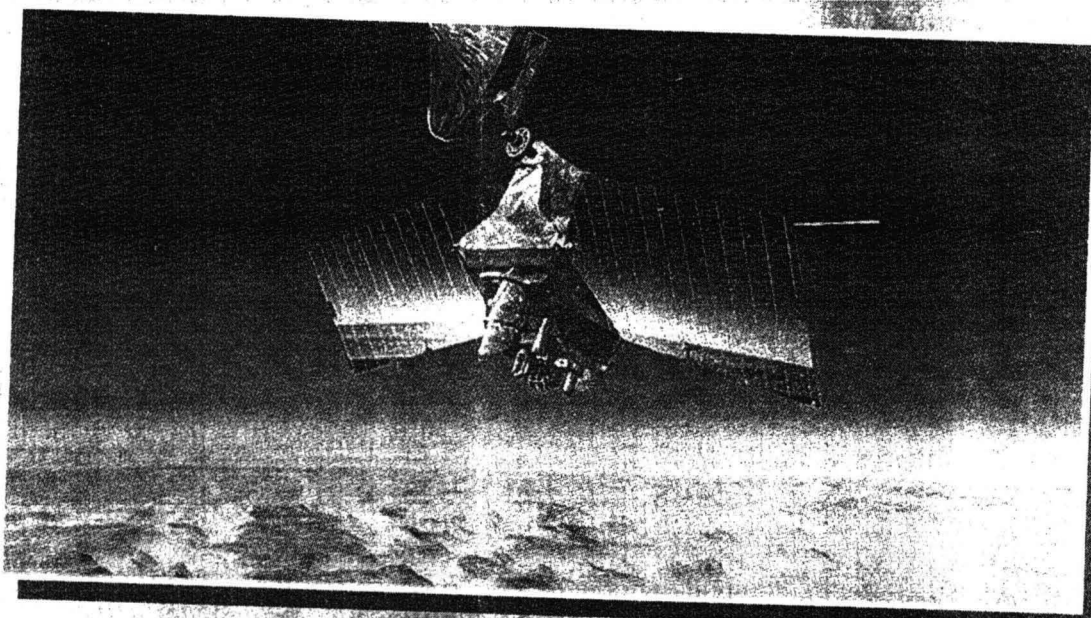
"I've been here for 30 years and have never seen anything."

"We are on the flight path and it's my opinion if you get a misty night sometimes the planes coming in to land can look as if they are standing still."

"There was one gentleman who used to live here and I think he maybe got it started."

"Once he said he had seen things maybe other people imagined they had."

"Or maybe people were looking out more."



ANYONE THERE?: A space probe looks for life on Mars. It seems UFO sightings have been going down.

Elsewhere in the region other people had reported strange sightings.

George Sykes, 68, believes he captured an alien close encounter on camera four years ago.

The retired Woodend Hospital worker claims he spotted two UFOs outside his home near Cruden Bay.

The quick-thinking pensioner grabbed his camcorder to film the "bright globes".

He said they were spinning round really fast with every imaginable colour shining from them.

But since that night George has also had no more unexplained encounters.

He said: "I've only had the one sighting."

"But after seeing what I saw and taping it you could not help but believe it."

So was the UFO phenomena largely down to a "craze"?

And is the novelty now wearing off?

Or are the men from outer space no longer interested in us?

Mary Brown, a lecturer in organisational behaviour at RGU, said: "It's opposed to

what I would have expected to hear."

"There's more and more interest in non mainstream religions and there's no doubt more people are turning to New Age spirituality."

"One reason people say they are doing this is because postmodern religion is too matter of fact."

"It does not look at things like miracles and guardian angels."

"This suggestion people are not seeing UFOs does not seem to sit very well with that."

"You would think this would be another manifestation of people's need to believe there's something out there."

Mrs Brown said she believed the only explanation behind the fall in reported sightings was that people were too tied up with more earthly matters. She said: "People feel anxious about things happening in real life."

"They do not have the emotional energy to think about visitors from out of space."

But despite the claims ET and his chums are no longer frequenting our skies, Aberdonian Ian Taylor, who

has been studying UFOs for more than 50 years, is sure there is still something out there.

Mr Taylor, who was in the Royal Air Force, said: "We are still seeing sightings up here."

"It's gone on unabated. But people do not always report them."

"I think the UFO sighting scenario worldwide is as active as ever."

"I saw something last year above the city but I didn't report it."

"It was an extremely bright light that was not a star or planet."

"I watched it for about five minutes and then it went out."

So the arguments continue. Is there something out there? Just watch the skies.

kmccclintock@ajl.co.uk

by John Dolan john.dolan@eecho.ie

PAGE EIGHT

My flying object is identified ... or is it?

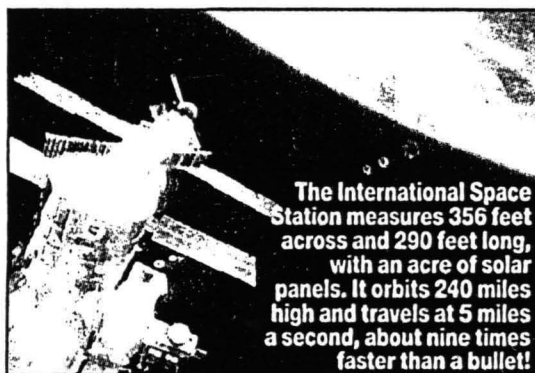
MY story last week about the mysterious object I saw in the night sky over Cork attracted the predictable barbs about 'seeing things' and 'a glass too many'.

But the amber light that moved rapidly in the western sky really was a puzzle that I wanted cleared up.

A UFO expert from Boyle in Roscommon was first to contact me with a possible solution. Eamonn Ansbro said the International Space Station (ISS) would have been visible near to Jupiter at 10.32pm on the night of Sunday, May 15.

My sighting was just west of Jupiter — but was at midnight, and Eamonn said the ISS should have stopped being visible in Ireland at 10.35pm.

Despite this, it seemed my mystery had been solved — could the ISS have just been running a little late? Besides, Eamonn told me it would have faded in the south-east as the Earth's shadow moved across it, just like our light did. However, there were two problems



The International Space Station measures 356 feet across and 290 feet long, with an acre of solar panels. It orbits 240 miles high and travels at 5 miles a second, about nine times faster than a bullet!

with the ISS theory, apart from the timing. Our light was definitely bright amber and the ISS is white, and the magnitude of the station is around that of the planet Venus — our light was far brighter than that.

Eamonn added: "If your sighting was definitely at midnight there were no other large, bright moving objects then that I know of."

"However, as your observations would suggest an amber colour for the object, and a reverse movement, with a fade out, it could well be a UFO at high altitude. This would surprise me

because UFOs are usually low down in altitude. It may be just a reduction of light at the time you saw it. UFOs are self-illuminating, not reflecting."

Interestingly, Eamonn added that the area around Macroom has been a 'hot spot' for UFOs. He also said that using computerised timegraphs for the area, taken at Kingsland Observatory in Boyle, "there was activity at that time near midnight".

I think I can rule out a fireball theory for my object, since these are bluish-white with an orange

tail. Besides, our object moved in a very deliberate, controlled manner.

Another reader, Luke Cranitch, suggested I get in touch with Cork airport to see if they had heard any reports of unusual sightings on May 15, but that drew a blank.

Jim Flora, an American "ufologist", was next to contact me, saying: "We had six UFO reports confirmed in Ireland in the last three weeks. Take my word for it — the skies of Ireland are alive."

Finally, and perhaps most intriguingly of all, it was pointed out to me that May 15 was Pentecost Sunday, the date when the Holy Spirit appeared to the Apostles 50 days after the Resurrection. And what happened then? A dove emitting golden rays of light appeared above the Disciples, convincing them to go out and preach the word of God.

Er, I much prefer the ISS theory — but the object I saw in the sky at midnight on May 15 remains an intriguing mystery.

NEWS, Bracknell, England - July 21, 2005

'I didn't stop to have a look — I thought I just imagined it'

Mum admits she saw flying saucer

By RICHARD CROWE

MUM-OF-TWO Jeanette Green never expected to see anything extraordinary when making her regular journey home from work along country roads outside Bracknell.

But all this changed at 10.20pm one May night this year when she saw a bright pink light glowing from a strangely-shaped object hovering above a tree near Bird's Hill Golf Course in Drift Road.

And the 52-year-old, of Kennel Lane, Bracknell, was so stunned by what she had seen she only told the rest of her family while they were on holiday earlier this month.

She said: "At first I thought it was an airship but I looked closer and saw that it was a flying saucer shape. It was massive, just like the ones you see in films."



Flashback: How the News reported last week's second UFO sighting.

"I didn't stop to have a closer look because I thought I might have just imagined it. I wasn't compelled to stop and just wanted to get home. But afterwards I knew that I had seen it; that it must have been something strange."

Mrs Green, who works for

Christian Dior's Heathrow shop, said a loud humming noise was also coming from the object.

When she told her family what she had seen, their reaction was quite measured, particularly 17-year-old son Alex who saw a UFO outside his bedroom window when he was younger.

Mrs Green said: "That made me feel really funny. It made me feel what I had seen was right."

"They reacted very well and didn't think that their mother had flipped or gone off her head."

Husband Chris, 59, a senior British Airways steward, said they decided to call the *News* when they returned from holiday after seeing a billboard about alien sightings.

Another *News* reader was relieved to hear of the town's spate in extraterrestrial sightings — because she has spent two years thinking she was mad.

The woman, who did not want to be named for fear of ridicule, said she spotted the "typical flying saucer" shaped object hovering over the Hilton Hotel in Bagshot Road, two years ago.

The then-Easthampstead resident said: "I just happened to look out of bedroom window one night. It was about 9pm."

"I looked out and saw it hovering there, but everyone I told did not believe me and took the mickey. I thought I was going mad, but then all these other people started seeing things so maybe it was a spaceship."

● Have you spotted the alien craft? Call the *News* UFO hotline on 01344 456611. And have any readers taken a photo of one?

'My family reacted very well and didn't think that their mother had flipped or gone off her head.'

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.]

November 28, 2005 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina — ALARM IN NEUQUEN OVER TEENAGE UFO SIGHTING — Three young men claimed having seen a UFO in a field in the locality of Vista Alegre, Neuquen. It was a circular light that lit up suddenly and then vanished.

Three young men claimed having seen an unidentified flying object (UFO) this morning in a field of the small locality of Vista Alegre, some 25 km from the provincial capital.

The strange event mobilized provincial authorities to the place and to even notify the Air Force headquarters in Neuquen to participate in the case.

Juan Carlos Manque said that this morning, while in the company of two friends, he witnessed a strange light in the sky as they walked past an area near the Costa de Reyes neighborhood in the locality of Vista Alegre, Neuquen.

"It was a circular light that we saw at a certain distance, as though it were losing altitude. It caught our attention and we kept walking in that direction."

Using their cell phones, the youths notified some relatives to come out of their homes and witness the phenomenon.

Manque noted that at a given moment "the light was much stronger, it lit up suddenly and we were able to see how it lit up some 50 meters around it. That's when we felt sort of scared, but then it vanished all of a sudden."

Police personnel from the locality of Centenario sent out several mobile units and personnel who reached the site and spoke to the teens who claimed having witnessed "a strange light."

Police authorities also advised the Air Force command at Neuquen, which reported to Vista Alegre. Residents of this small community are still commenting about the event.

Unidentified flying objects have been seen in this area as well as in other parts of the country, but it has been a long time since a sighting of these characteristics was reported. — CREDIT: *Planeta UFO*

November 29, 2005 — *Diario Rio Negro On-Line*, Argentina — Vista Alegre's Night Was Lit by a UFO — Claim having seen "a bunch of lights coming out of a circle". This fact resulted in the presence of the Chief of Police and the Air Force — NEUQUEN (AN) — Luciano Manrique always thought that people were "talking guff" and the UFOs were bunk. As of yesterday morning, the boy and the majority of the residents of Costa de Reyes no longer think that way. "It was a bunch of lights of all colors, coming out of a circle that was at least 50 meters wide. All together they were the size of three large trees. It was over the river for a while and later ran about a kilometer over to the small farms. There were three of us and we followed it. Then it suddenly shot out something like many lights together and it looked like it was going to explode ... we ran away quickly, followed it for too long." Luciano, 18, says he was scared despite the fact of being with his uncles, Carlos and Hilario. Everything began after 12 midnight, with lights that expanded to the very coast itself.

"I went to bed early. My uncle Carlitos (34) called me by cell phone and I went out. I always thought that UFOs were guff," said the boy from Costa de Reyes, a populated corner of the locality of Vista Alegre. There, between 12:30 and 2:00 in the morning, an enormous light like a flying saucer appeared over one of the islands of the Neuquen River, amid the commotion in the neighborhood. Curiosity and intrigue even reached the Police, which appeared en masse to witness the spectacle and, of course, to determine what was going on. "I only asked the police, [they said] that what was seen were blue and yellow lines that came out of that thing," said Antonia Quialpi, a local woman who abandoned the comfort of her bed to see the "Flying Saucer."

"I woke up on account of the squad cars. Eight patrol cars arrived in front of the race part. I looked at the commotion through the window, since when these things happen, the police can seize you as an eyewitness, and I'm not up to those transactions," said another neighbor who lives on the access road to the Costa de Reyes jockey club.

The object's presence caused the appearance of Walter Cofre, Neuquen's chief of police, and of police personnel that reported in from the provincial capital. The Air Force Command in Neuquen was summoned from the police prefecture itself.

"We went after two in the morning and the personnel remained until dawn. We saw nothing and stayed until dawn. People claim having seen those lights but we could not ratify it," maintained Santiago Romero, the director of the Neuquen Airport.

Costa de Reyes is located some two kilometers from the limits of Vista Alegre and its name has nothing to do with royalty. There is a resident surnamed Reyes who occupied a good segment on the coast in a place where barricades are being built to keep the Neuquen River from causing flood damage. "Nothing like this had ever happened before," said Antonia Quialpi, the historic resident of the riverside wilderness.

Yesterday, the talk of the town was the spectacle that everyone claimed to have seen in the sky. What was it? Many lights were coming and going to and from a round large object. "One of our cameras arrived only five minutes late, according to what we were told. I don't know if there was something, but everyone was up in arms," said Lucio Piancola, a Channel 7 producer.

Residents say that the object vanished right above the house of former town intendant Ernesto Meschini after having been suspended over the river. From the get-go, the possibility that it could have been a Police chopper was dismissed. Also dismissed is that any photos may have been taken from there. If the event replays itself, residents are geared up for a safari and claim that they will photograph the UFO in order to keep it from being "unidentified." — CREDIT: Christian Quintero, *Planeta UFO*

November 30, 2005 — *www.rionegro.com.ar*, Argentina — Was The Vista Alegre UFO A Laser Beam? — Was the UFO a large laser light show taking place in a neighboring town? — The lights seen by residents of Vista Alegre early Monday morning could have had a more rational explanation — CORDERO (ACS) — The lights seen by Vista Alegre residents may have formed part of a laser light show that was taking place on the other side of the river, some 600 meters from its banks. These were the words of Cordero Council President Fabian Galli, who explained: "I am not saying that the locals couldn't have seen a situation different to what they describe, nor am I saying that they are lying or anything similar: I suggest that there could have been a mistake."

Galli insisted in that he was not "denying" the UFO sighted in the Costa de Reyes area, nor along the

Vista Alegre coastal region on Monday morning. "We believe that there might have been some confusion and are therefore contributing this information toward research in order not to alarm people."

Due to the alarm on the part of the locals, the entire coastal area became crowded with squad cars from Vista Alegre, Centenario and Neuquén, while those elements summoned in turn Air Force and aeronautical personnel.

Galli went on to describe that at the time when the residents claimed having seen powerful lights in the sky, and which even lit up in a single go an area the size of three large willow trees in the area, there were laser beams being emitted from 21:30 hours to 01:30 hours as part of the last festivities of his community's anniversary, which was on November 15. "As from 21:30 hours we activated an electrical device that is one of a kind in the area and which was lent to us by a neighbor who owns a dance hall in Barda. It produces circular lights at high altitude with constantly gyrating laser-type beams."

He described that the beams produced lights in eight concentric circles rotating "at high altitude" and that the device issued these lights continuously until 1:30 a.m. when they ended with six minutes of fireworks "that produced explosions high in the air, cascading multicolored lights." — CREDIT: Luis Eduardo Pacheco, *Proyecto STRATOCAT*

December 5, 2005 — UFOs SEEN IN THE SKIES OVER TAMPICO ALTO — by Ana Luisa Cid and Alberto Garcia — Police officers and reporters from *Diario de Tampico Milenio* were witnesses to the presence of an unidentified flying object in Mexican skies — A light resembling a star was seen in Tampico Alto, Veracruz.

Evidence photographed by a team of reporters from *Diario de Tampico Milenio*, Victor Hugo Perez and Alberto Garcia, who decided to investigate the UFO reports they had received earlier from that area.

Alberto Garcia describes the light as standing out as a very large star, and that its brightness forced everyone to see it. Suddenly, to everyone's astonishment, the luminous object moved a few meters and vanished, as though entering a crack in the sky.

Also present were elements of the Tampico Alto Police under the command of Cmdr. Agustin Rivas Hernandez and Matias Castillo Altamirano, responsible for Emergency Services in that municipality.

Mr. Garcia describes the following with great surprise: "The alleged star remained still. However upon being observed, what it appeared to be waiting for, it simply moved and vanished, as though it had been erased. It wasn't a shooting star. We also saw some of those and the notable difference is that they appear to come out of nowhere and vanish. This one was motionless; it suddenly moved and was gone."

"This reporter, Victor, two policemen and a third person, agreed upon observing its brightness, 'look, that one's shinier than the rest.' Suddenly, the 'star' inexplicably moved a little. Our jaws dropped, and if it is possible to be even more surprised, we did it, because it suddenly vanished ... right after the photograph was taken."

"This experience left us in the proper mood to continue our search for the UFOs that the inhabitants of Tampico Alto's rural districts mention so much ... in fact, it's quite the adventure."

Upon interviewing some of the locals, they agreed that UFO sightings are quite frequent, explaining that the "ships" hover above electric light posts, rock themselves on the wires and even shoot sparks, according to eyewitness accounts.

It is important to note that on days prior to the date in question, UFOs had been reported in this area and that the story was also published by *Diario de Tampico Milenio* on November 26, 2005.

In Alberto Garcia's interesting article, the reporter says that some officials have received accounts from the population. Alfredo Mellado Polito, director of Civil Defense, states that electricity has been interrupted due to the alleged visitors: "They say that the lights go out because they come too close to the electric installations. I don't know if it's true, but I can tell you that many people have said this," he noted.

Officials explained that they have no intention whatsoever to perform any kind of investigation, at least for the time being, regardless of comments made by fishermen, housewives and farmers.

December 16, 2005 — *CIUFOS-LaPampa*, La Pampa, Argentina — CATTLE MUTILATION IN VERTIZ — Four Argentine Frisian cows ("holando argentine") were found dead and mutilated some days ago at the "Los Hermanos" ranch in the vicinity of Vertiz, La Pampa.

The leaseholder, Gustavo Steib, stated that "...from one day to the next, cows that were about to give birth were found dead, missing their genitalia, the nipples of their udders and a patch of hide, whose circular incision was perfect."

Steib added that "...one of the cows had an incision in the medullar area of its neck and another incision in the carretilla," expressing his surprise at the precision of the incisions, which he classified as "clean and almost cauterized - it's like cutting and sealing at the same time to avoid hemorrhages."

He further highlighted that "...the flesh takes two or three days to rot, but in this case it only took 12 hours," stressing the fact that he found that the color of the flesh turned to a dark greyish color, "almost leaden," following an incision.

It was also remarkable that despite the fact that flesh was removed from the animal for examination, the rest of the carcass was unmolested by carrion animals. — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves

December 18, 2005 — *CIUFOS-LaPampa*, La Pampa, Argentina — UFOs OVER SANTA ROSA — At 22:00 hours on December 17, 2005, three witnesses saw a source of light approaching from the North, detected at 25 degrees N., which at a given time made a sort of turn to the right, vanishing suddenly.

At 22:50 hours that same day, two adults and a minor saw three luminous objects traveling in single file over Santa Rosa, moving from South to North.

These objects were detected at 70' S. and vanished toward 45' N., following a displacement pattern similar to the [star] formation known as "Las Tres Marfas" [The stars of Orion's Belt -- transl.note], as regards the separation between the objects, their volume and luminosity; the first of them presented a less luminous intensity than the remaining ones. — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves

December 18, 2005 — *El Once Digital*, Parana, Entre Rios, Argentina — HAS THE MYSTERIOUS CHUPACABRAS RETURNED TO ENTRE RIOS? — The strange deaths of deer in a hunting preserve in the department of Uruguay has become a source of concern to local residents. These are female specimens that turned up mutilated and whose genitalia and reproductive organs were removed.

During recent days at the La Medalia Milagrosa ranch, located some 50 km from Concepcion del Uruguay, near the banks of the Uruguay River, the events became a source of great concern among locals and left authorities mystified.

As could be observed, the animals had their genitalia and reproductive organs removed with incisions similar to the ones seen in bovines during 2002, a situation that caused a stir in various parts of the country.

In the light of these events, specialists in the study of UFOs and extraterrestrial life visited the site and covered 3000 hectares in search of evidence. Locals and persons in charge of the ranch claim having seen helicopters and allegedly luminous objects over the area, but there is no proof at this time to substantiate this. Uno was at the site yesterday and surveyed the preserve with Juan Rios, the person responsible for the site.

Rios stated that all of the animals had been found dead next to some of the barbed wire fences that divide the parcels; another deer slain during early morning hours was found on the trail - a case that can be added to the ones found on previous days.

All of the deaths involve females whose reproductive organs, genitalia and anuses are missing, as well as part of their backs on the right side. Incisions appearing instantaneously cauterized can be seen -- a circumstance which drew the notice of veterinarians, including the expert attached to the police. Moreover, all of the females were lying on the same side, with their necks twisted in the same way, as if they had received a strong electric shock, according to sources.

The La Medalla Milagrosa ranch is an important hunting preserve visited permanently by national and international political figures, top-level sportsmen and artists, who come to the country in strict secrecy to enjoy hunting vacations where distinctive samples of deer, buffalo, boar and antelope can be found.

The location is truly magnificent for activities of this sort, but has also been a source of attraction for poachers who cause damage to the facilities and steal valuable specimens that have been brought in for reproduction--situations that often represented great sacrifice by the owners when it came to fighting them with police assistance.

Juan Rios has been in charge of the site for some 10 years and is aware of what this represents, but what took place in recent days has left him intrigued. "We have found dead does along a 1000 meter stretch, [all of them] presenting strange incisions. No blows or bullet holes are visible, and there are no bloodstains in the area," he told Uno worriedly.

Rios assured us that a round and luminous object that rises and moves in an irregular manner can be seen periodically over the area, which has drawn his attention. Moreover, he said that local residents have seen black, unmarked helicopters descending, which are thought to be persons visiting the site to study what is going on.

"No one can explain what is going on. They say it already happened with other animals and that they took samples for analysis. The incisions are perfect and identical over the same part of the body. Bum marks produced by an electrical element are visible," he said, waiting for some sort of answer to the enigma, which has produced curiosity in the media. "We are constantly on watch every night, but nothing could be found. The animal that was killed early this morning (yesterday), we found with you, but in spite of being on guard, we neither heard nor saw anything."

There is no doubt that the event is a source of controversy. There are those who insist that it is the activity of a person who wishes to foster fear or uncertainty, but there are also those who claim that we face a non-terrestrial phenomenon. The fact is that it all resembles what has been going on for little more than three years, when on June 26, 2002, the first case of mutilated cattle was found on the shores of the Uruguay River before spreading to the rest of the province. The method of incision is very similar, with the difference being that the cows were being found without jaws or tongues at that time. With time, everything became anecdotal and forgotten, but the phenomenon has arisen again.

Strange though it may seem, persons dedicated to exobiology reported to the site.

Ernesto Eduardo Lavarde, 63, a native of Gualeguaychu and host of the "Enigma de los Tiempos" radio show, participates in many meetings or conferences on the subject. Given his specialty, Lavarde acknowledges having been a witness to events of these characteristics. In a conversation with Uno, he highlighted that many UFO landing sites have been found in Gualeguaychu, which have been corroborated by scientists.

"These events lead us to believe that there is something behind all of this that is related to the subject. I think we could be witnessing a creature facing extinction and for this reason it is experimenting with animal organs," said Lavarde, who believes in the existence of aliens, intraterrestrials and ultraterrestrials. — CREDIT: Christian Quintero, *Planeta UFO*

December 20, 2005 — www.infobae.com — ARGENTINA: A DESTINATION FOR UFOs — "This isn't the first time and it will doubtless not be the last. According to researchers, the city of La Banda in Santiago is a magnet for aliens. Do they exist or not? That's a tough one to answer."

The association for the Study and Research of UFO Astronomy La Banda, established by renowned characters such as Andres Francisco Miotti, David Waisman, Luis Ducoumau and Carlos Barragan, has operated in the city since the mid-1980s according to a local newspaper.

Its mission is to study and analyze all matters related to the appearance of UFOs. Delving into this subject has brought about some original conclusions.

Andres Miotti, a former judge, spoke to the *El Liberal* newspaper with regard to some of the cases the group has analyzed in connection to possible sightings of alien spacecraft.

One of the cases mentioned was the one that occurred in Paraje Maravilla where, according to Miotti, a smallholder had a close encounter of the 3rd kind: "The tractor driver saw a UFO. The tractor was rendered idle and it recovered power after the UFO had taken off. "

Another event occurred in 2001. "The case that surprised me the most was when a UFO was abducting a cow in a field near La Banda," remarked Miotti.

"While he did not acknowledge it at first, the witness to the event finally admitted that at two o'clock in the morning, he got up to go to the lavatory. It was then that he saw a strange craft hovering over the field, busily trying to abduct a cow," he added.

The Association continues to function, although with fewer members than before. Miotti remarked that until not long ago, he received eyewitness testimony from people who had witnessed supernatural events from various departments in the region. — CREDIT: Martha U., *Planeta UFO*



FORTEANA NEWS

Mysterious Oklahoma

Edmond Author Explores Oklahoma's Eerie History – by Gayleen Langthorn

OUTLOOK, Edmond, OK - Nov. 2005 CR: D. Farris

Who can resist a good mystery story? Tales of UFOs, strange sightings and unexplained phenomena turn up in conversations everywhere from playgrounds to coffee shops. It seems we never outgrow the desire to hear about things that defy logical explanations. When these puzzling events occur in familiar locales, they become even more intriguing. Most people hear those stories, shake their heads and go on. But for Edmond author David Farris, tracking down eerie incidents in the Sooner state has become his passion.

Since childhood, Farris has been fascinated by spooky stories. He vividly recalls being in the second grade and seeing news reports of a werewolf roaming the streets of Lawton. "It was on the news and next to the reporter, they had a graphic of a werewolf," Farris said. A few days later, the story was exposed as a hoax: merely a teenager dressed in a costume. But Farris discovered there are many more local stories that are not so easily explained away.

Growing up, Farris lived near both the Edmond library and the Central State (now University of Central Oklahoma) library. "I'd spend time in the library working on reports and I'd pass by sections and wish I had more time," Farris said.

His favorite area was at the beginning of the non-fiction collection: books filled with accounts of the paranormal, extra terrestrials and unidentified creatures.

Farris began collecting strange and unusual stories set in Oklahoma and filing them in a folder. Over the years, the folder grew into several folders. In 1995, the accounts he'd collected became the basis for his first book, "Mysterious Oklahoma."

That book is now in its seventh printing and Farris published a second book, "More Mysterious Oklahoma" in 2001.

The first book provides an overview of strange events, while the second gives more detailed information and offers additional stories. One of those focuses

on a large number of UFO sightings that took place across Oklahoma in August of 1965. Unexplained objects were seen darting through the sky in dozens of communities, including Edmond.

Beginning around 10 p.m. on August 1, 1965, authorities began receiving calls from startled residents who reported seeing colorful, brightly lit objects hovering over the city before moving off to the north. In the following days, newspapers published accounts from Edmond police officers, highway patrol officers at the watch tower on Broadway Extension and citizens from all walks of life. Tinker Air Force Base tracked four UFOs on their radar. Witnesses agreed the objects they saw that night were not planes or stars. Similar sightings were reported that night in Texas, Kansas, New Mexico, Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming. Sightings continued through the area until August 5. Within a few days, the Air Force dismissed the sightings as astrological observations. They suggested the objects were planets or stars and the color changes that had been observed were the product of scintillation, a n

atmospheric condition that makes stars appear to twinkle.

Farris doesn't have an explanation for the observations that week in August, but he does say it was "certainly something extraordinary." "It will remain a mystery unless someone comes forth and tells us what it was," he said.

UFO critics often cite the lack of sightings over major cities as evidence of the phenomena being a hoax, but Farris said the events of 1965 as well as the lights over Phoenix in 1997 and Washington, D.C.

in 1952, invalidate that argument. "People have seen them, it is just not well reported and not a well-known fact," he said.

Farris said he has never had an encounter or incident that defies explanation, but he has interviewed several people who have. One of the most unusual stories in "More Mysterious Oklahoma" is that of the McWethy family in Centrahoma.

Over a period of more than a dozen years, the McWethys experienced paranormal phenomena including rocks and pennies falling from thin air

childhood days hunting through the wooded areas of a then-sparsely populated west Edmond with his fondness for tales of the hairy man-beast.

Like the other stories in his book, Farris' Bigfoot accounts are well documented. He collects the information from newspaper archives,

libraries and historical societies. Each incident typically has half a dozen or more articles and interviews listed as references. "I want to let people know these are not my inventions," Farris said. "If you want to do research on your own, you have a place to start."

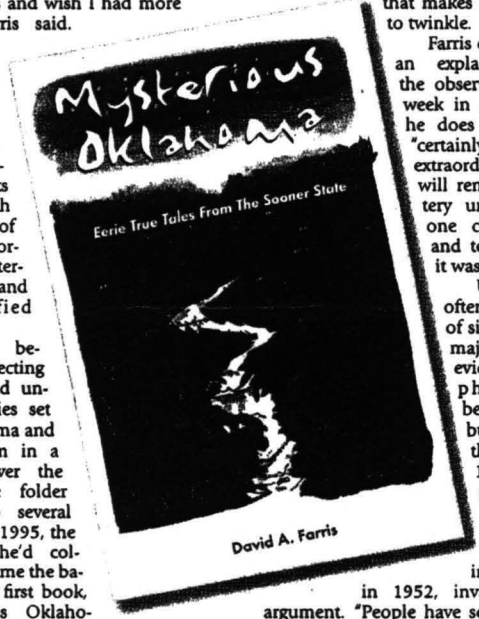
His books also let readers draw their own conclusions. "I try to keep things open-ended," Farris said. "I'm simply collecting stories from Oklahoma to share with people who might be interested in such things." "Whether you call them mysteries, legend or folklore, they are all part of the tapestry of Oklahoma's past," Farris said.

Those who are interested in reading more or learning about stories such as Elmer McCurdy, one of Oklahoma's errant corpses who toured the country as a sideshow attraction, pick up Farris' latest book, "Oklahoma Outlaw Tales." Farris' books are available at the Edmond Historical Society, the Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma Tourism Gift Shops and Best of Books or directly from the author by sending \$12.95 to David Farris, P.O. Box 5991, Edmond, OK 73083.

both inside and outside their house. Strange voices, missing food and spontaneously breaking objects were also reported at the McWethy home, not only by family members but law enforcement and members of the media. Farris interviewed the family and other witnesses, but could find no explanation. He concludes the chapter on the Centrahoma ghosts with this: "If all of life's mysteries had answers, then they wouldn't be mysteries."

Farris says ghost stories don't hold the same fascination as some of the other things he writes about. "Ghost stories have to be something special to make the cut."

He finds land creatures like Bigfoot much more intriguing. Farris credits his



TIMES-DEMOCRAT, Sulphur, OK Sept. 15, 2005

I am absolutely amazed that anyone now doubts the existence of Bigfoot. First we have pictures from all across the North American Continent. First, of course, is the famous Roger Patterson film in which extended footage was shot of one. Then we have the two snapshots taken by a woman of one eating her apples in her back yard in Florida. Next is the film footage shot on Prince Edward Island off the coast of Canada. Then there is the Memorial Day footage. All the pictures of these creatures show amazing resemblance. Finally, there is the picture I shot in the Chickasaw National Recreation Area not far from Little Niagara.

Next are the monster-sized fingerprints, over 20 huge prints, none of which are the same print repeated. How many pro basketball players do you think I would have to bribe to make these huge prints! Even when these prints are larger than any human prints.

How can anyone be in such denial? We have a species out here, nocturnal, and that can be easily photographed if the Park Service will allow us to buy electricity from them. There is a choice here, the first is to stay in denial until you are made to look tremendously foolish when we find a place we get the ideal circumstances, or we can do a scientific study of these gentle and wary creatures.

Charles Hallmark

Big, 'hairy, ape-like creatures' given print

Comes now this story outta "squealboy" country and right onto the front page.

Yes, we are talkin' about the Bigfoot story in The Oklahoman last week, centered on the denizens of Kiamichi country in southeast Oklahoma. The story purports straightforwardly that there have been sightings of the ever-illusive Bigfoot centering in the remote woodland town of Honobia.

That's pronounced "Ho-nubby" to you city folk. Lying along the remote (and canoe-passable) Little River, rural water and electricity are fairly recent additions to life in the area. It has the last unpaved state highway. It's more than 50 miles to the nearest grocery store. The area is so remote ... how remote is it? Well, when you get there you are so far in the woods that if you keep going you come out the other side.

"Gigantic footprints embedded in the soil," proclaims the intro of the story. "Unfamiliar moans and shrills emanating from the forest. Hairy, ape-like creatures darting across remote creeks and roads."

To the writer's credit, these sightings sound more like a case of mistaken identity, according to our sources at CFN with intimate knowledge of the area in question.

1.) Quite likely could be Sen. Coburn supporters running from the free-ranging high-school lesbians he sighted in southeast Oklahoma during his campaign last year.

2.) "Sasquatch" — the sound one makes when using an outhouse.

3.) Hallucinations. Only those very familiar with the area know what they grow up along Little River.

"Logger Randall Wright, 43, tells of tracks he saw in the woods: 'They were 15 1/4 inches long, 7 inches wide — with five toes,'" the story reports.

"I know Bigfoot is out there," continues the story, quoting the fellow. "Wright, born and raised in Honobia ... adds with a devilish grin, 'And if I see it, I'm going to shoot it, too.'" Yep, he's definitely from there, all right.



There you go. Shoot it. The story goes on about how one area resident claims to have shot a Bigfoot, splattering its blood all over the place — then the Bigfoot being picked up and carried off by two other Bigfoots. Another claimant to this story explains

he saw the creatures some ways later, running like hell and carrying the wounded one.

A caption beneath a hirsute photo describes "a clump of foul-smelling, fine, woolly hair." Sounds to us like the product of a southeastern Oklahoma bikini wax.

Still, carrying away one's wounded is hardly the act of barbaric cave-beings. Does this story ask the question about whether or not we should be killing ancient, humanlike creatures clever enough to stay hidden in the wild through modern times?

In the end, the explanation might have more to do with encroaching industrial clear-cutting, weekend four-wheelers tearing up the mountainside and disap-

pearing habitat flushing out creatures that are indeed big, hairy, occasionally walk upright and make loud moans. Bears. And there is no place left for them to go but a rural area where the residents shoot at them.

Oh, no. That would just be crazy. It has to be Bigfoot.

OKLAHOMA GAZETTE, Oklahoma City, OK - Aug. 17, 2005



News Photo by Scott Weisser

Mike Bardsley of North Webster poses next to his Suburban, a vehicle that doubles as promotion for his Bigfoot Web site.

Believer in mythical Bigfoot gathers tales of local sightings

By SCOTT WEISSER

News Assistant City Editor

NORTH WEBSTER, Ind. — Mike Bardsley is used to people giving him a hard time.

"You get out of the truck at Wal-Mart and people are like, 'Are you serious?'" he said. One guy thought Bardsley was working a gimmick to sell shoes.

Bardsley isn't selling shoes. And he is serious.

His Chevy Suburban gets noticed because it bears the address www.bigfoot46555.net, a Web site set up by Bardsley that's devoted to Bigfoot. The

site includes accounts of Bigfoot sightings/encounters in Kosciusko County.

Bigfoot, or sasquatch, is supposedly a large, hairy, manlike creature. He or she or it has long been a part of pop culture lore.

There have been numerous reports of Bigfoot sightings over the years, but skepticism persists about the creatures' existence — and with good reason. No one has ever killed or captured a Bigfoot, or happened upon a Bigfoot corpse. The proof is elusive.

In conversation, Bardsley comes across as an intelligent fellow and not the credulous type. Bardsley is also a

Bigfoot believer. More specifically, he calls himself a "level 3" believer, and described the different levels as such:

1. People who don't believe in sasquatch
2. People who aren't sure
3. Believers
4. Believers who've seen it.

Bardsley started his Web site following a couple of incidents where he used to live, a rural area north of North Webster.

Bardsley recalled an episode in which one of his sons and the son's friend told him they'd seen a "really

big hairy thing" they initially thought was a dog. Then came one memorable night in October 2003.

According to Bardsley, it was fairly bright out under a full moon, and he'd been hearing things outside. He dozed off around 1 a.m., only to be awakened later by someone "beating on the front of the trailer and yelling," he said.

Making the racket was Bardsley's son and two of his friends, all of whom wanted inside. Bardsley said the youths spent the rest of the night talking about what they'd experienced out-

side. Addled by his interrupted sleep, Bardsley had to wait to get the full story.

"It's not that I didn't believe them," he said. "I don't think I was totally aware of what they were trying to explain to me."

Bardsley indicated that he quizzed the kids later, and separately, and their story stayed consistent. Bardsley's son and his friends said they arrived at the home and, from the porch, heard something making noises they couldn't discern.

Suddenly, what one of the boys thought was a stump in the yard stood up to its full,

imposing height and ran off to the east at a high rate of speed. It then came back into their view, according to Bardsley. The boys claimed that what they saw was a big, hairy, bipedal creature about 8 feet tall with long arms.

Bardsley said that over the next couple of weeks, he started researching Bigfoot using the popular databases and discovered Kosciusko County reports.

"I started finding random reports of Bigfoot in Indiana and I'm thinking, 'This is crazy,'" he said. Bigfoot is com-

monly associated with the Pacific Northwest.

The more Bardsley got into his research, the more he heard tales of local encounters. He started wondering how many others had had similar experiences, and that's when he discovered the world of online forums and message boards. Soon he launched his own Web site.

Bardsley considers himself an independent researcher. He noted that after he's done follow-up investigations with people who've given him their accounts of Bigfoot, "They're

very grateful that somebody actually would talk to them about it. Because I think they've kind of got this 'nobody believes me' feeling and they're dying for someone to actually listen to what they're saying."

"That tends to tell me they're not just making this up fishing for a nice hoax."

Bigfoot enthusiasts bring different beliefs to the table, according to Bardsley. There are those who view Bigfoot as a flesh-and-blood entity, and those who think Bigfoot has supernatural powers. There are Bigfoot preservationists, and those with the goal of killing a Bigfoot and bringing it in to prove it exists.

For the record, Bardsley's creation is a "no kill" Web site "as it pertains to the intentional hunting or killing of a Bigfoot/Sasquatch."

As there are differences among Bigfoot enthusiasts, so are there different types of Bigfoot. There are size variances depending on region, Bardsley said, and the same is true with hair color. Some Bigfoots are exclusively bipedal, and some will drop to all fours and run. Generally, Bigfoot gets bigger the farther north it's sighted.

One aspect of Bigfoot stays pretty consistent. "They seem to, with a passion, want to avoid human contact," Bardsley said.

Bardsley doesn't think the creatures live in Indiana, per se. Rather, he said there seems to be a spring and fall connection "to either migration or nomadic tendencies." Where they're coming from and where they're going is a mystery.

According to Bardsley's Web site, Bigfoot's comings and goings have brought it close by.

One listing is of an April 2004 sighting that reportedly

took place near the intersection of Kosciusko County roads 1100 North and 300 East between Milford and Syracuse. Another report describes a 1995 encounter in Syracuse along the railroad tracks by Chinese Gardens. Sometime in the '80s, a big, hairy manlike creature supposedly ran in front of a carload of people on Bowser Road near Syracuse.

Sue Castor, a telecommunications officer with Indiana Department of Natural Resources district headquarters in Syracuse, said her office has never received a report of a sasquatch. She's been with the IDNR nine years.

Steve Ross has been manager of the Tri-County Fish and Wildlife area for the past 15 years. He, too, has never received a Bigfoot report.

"We've had calls of various big cats of some type, be it bobcat or puma or something like that," Ross said. That type of sighting is entirely possible, he added.

"As far as sasquatch goes, I haven't had any," Ross said.

Bardsley said he is a believer because too many people have had the same experiences over a broad span of time. The reports span regions and come from people from all walks of life, he said.

"Just using logic, there's something going on," Bardsley said. "Now is it exactly what we think it is? Maybe not. Maybe it's far more simple."



Sulphur resident Charles Hallmark displays two soft drink cups he says contain the fingerprints of Bigfoot, which he collected in Chickasaw National Recreation Area a little more than a year ago. Hallmark said he placed the cups, filled with Fig Newtons, in a sealed trash bin and under a bag of popcorn. The popcorn, he said, was used to get the oil on the animal's hand before touching the cup. He returned later to find the cups devoid of food, but with plenty of markings. Hallmark and others close the subject, both believers and skeptics, were interviewed in an eight-page feature in the September/October issue of Oklahoma Today, the state's official publication.

REMEMBERING ARKANSAS

King Crowley was a pretender to archaeological throne

As a seventh grader taking Arkansas history I was fascinated by a picture of "King Crowley" in our textbook. King Crowley was the name given to a reputed prehistoric stone carving of a human head supposedly found near Jonesboro on Crowley's Ridge. Although authorities at the time said it was a fake, the foot-high bust with the glaring eyes has retained much of its mystique and appeal.

The statue first came to light in the early 1920s, when a Jonesboro jeweler and gunsmith named Dentler Rowland claimed to have found a cache of ancient carvings in a gravel bar south of Jonesboro. Rowland, nicknamed "Deef" because of his deafness, was a native of Indiana and had lived in Jonesboro since about 1913. Dentler found a ready buyer in Bernice "Bernie" Babcock, the founding curator of the Museum of Science and Natural History in Little Rock, who reportedly paid the substantial sum of \$600 for the collection.

Babcock, who was a popular writer and history buff, was mesmerized by the stone carvings and soon began referring to the bust as "King Crowley." A 1945 article in the *Arkansas Democrat* reported that Babcock "calls King Crowley her 'boyfriend,'" saying that he was given to "staying put," and "never engaging in silly talk."

Like many "boyfriends," however, King Crowley was not all that he seemed. And, like some admiring older women,

TOM W.
DILLARD



Babcock knew more than she was willing to state publicly. In a 1942 letter to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, Babcock admitted, "Before I bought the stones I was warned they were fakes. All down the line I have been told the same thing."

In addition to King Crowley, Babcock purchased a variety of other artifacts from Rowland, including a stone phallus. Archaeologist Dan Morse of Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, who eventually published an article exposing the fraud, said it was rumored that Babcock kept the phallus in her desk and would show it only to trusted friends.

Babcock was not the only person who defended King Crowley's authenticity. Fred Allsopp, the newspaperman and poet, included a large picture of the bust in his popular two-volume *Folklore of Romantic Arkansas*, published in 1931. Allsopp described the carvings as "a mystery," but he went on to state, "The charge that these strange stone pieces have been recently faked, aged, and bur-

ied is disproved by the fact that in the bottom of the hole from which they were taken, roots from an oak tree growing on a nearby hill, wound around a mortar of conglomerate, binding it into the earth."

A close examination of King Crowley should have convinced Babcock and Allsopp of the carving's recent origin. The statue's copper eyes were the same size and composition as harness studs. Inlaid on the chest was a metal rendering of a valentine-shaped heart — a motif that was unknown to prehistoric American Indians. Some of the other carvings included "eyes" made from metals that were unavailable before the arrival of Europeans.

Eventually, Babcock came to realize that King Crowley and the other Rowland discoveries were fakes. The carvings were removed from the museum, and it is believed that King Crowley was sold to a collector in California. Other Rowland pieces, however, still reside in the state, including a large collection held by the Arkansas State University Museum. To see color photographs of the pieces on the Internet, visit the Museum Web site at museum.astate.edu/vewebsite/exhibit2/vexmain2.htm.

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University of Arkansas Special Collections

"King Crowley," who proved to be a fake.

Lake monster attracts the curious, skeptics

Tens of thousands make journey in hopes of seeing China's version of the Loch Ness.

By Audra Ang
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAKE KANASI, China — The moon is barely a crescent in the sky as dusk darkens the milky green surface of Lake Kanasi.

Four people huddle on the edge of a floating wooden dock, eyes scanning this mountain lake near China's remote northwestern frontier with Central Asia.

In a soft voice, Yuan Guoying recounts his two sightings of the creatures. The first over there, from a cliff, Yuan says. Then again, 19 years later.

From the group comes a squeal as tiny, silver fish dart at hunks of bread they have dropped in.

"Look! There are so many of them!" says one girl. "But where's the lake monster?"

They have come by the tens of thousands over the years — skeptical scientists, curious tourists — answering the lure of the mysterious "Kanasi Huguai," China's very own version of the Loch Ness monster.

On this particular trip, there are a handful of Yuan's university buddies and their wives, three teachers, a nurse, a local reporter, a university student, a lab technician and her mother. They have flown thousands of miles to Xinjiang Province to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Yuan's first sighting of the monsters.

Yuan, a researcher at the Xinjiang Institute of Environmental Protection, hands out Mon-

ster T-shirts, and on the bus the passengers watch state television's elaborate three-part documentary on the myth of the beasts that supposedly have dragged sheep and cows from the shore and devoured them.

Yuan's photos of the creatures flash across the screen. One, taken from a distance, features several blurry forms clustered close to shore, some looking as long as nearby fir trees. Grainy footage filmed in June by a tourist from Beijing shows frenzied bubbling in the water.

Yuan, 66, is featured in several interviews, along with other scientists and people who have witnessed the creatures. Some describe enormous shapes and shadows as big as trees and boats, sometimes tinged with red or white. In 2003, when an earthquake struck the area, witnesses in a boat reported seeing a silhouette as long as 70 feet leap out of the water.

"I said it was rubbish at first," says Yuan. "The next day, I saw them."

"It's fish. Giant fish, some about 15 meters (50 feet) long."

In 1980, Yuan was part of a team of 150 experts who launched the first scientific study of the lake's environment.

It was then that he met Chinese Mongolians living in the area known as the Tuwa people and heard the ancient legend of the monsters in Kanasi.

Five years later, Yuan headed another team to study environ-



GREG BAKER / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tourists gather on a platform above Lake Kanasi in China's western Xinjiang region in the hopes of catching a glimpse of the mysterious monsters rumored to be in the 200,000-year-old lake.

mental protection for the lake — and to search for the creatures of the Tuwa myth.

Within a day, he had his first sighting.

"They looked like tadpoles coming up for breath," Yuan recalls. "Their eyes were huge. Their mouths were gaping."

After weeks of study, Yuan and his team discovered dozens of huge red fish, each 30-50 feet long and weighing more than four tons, living in the lake.

In 1989, scientists concluded that the fish — a type of giant, freshwater salmon that thrives in frigid, deep waters — were in all likelihood the monsters.

Despite that conviction, there remains a nagging doubt.

Lake Kanasi is 200,000 years old, roughly 15 miles by a mile. It is 603 feet deep at its lowest.

Throughout summer, up to 4,000 tourists a day flock here.

"Everyone in the country has heard of it," a visitor surnamed Zhou says. "It may be a rich fairy tale but the scenery is so beautiful — plus there's this mysterious creature. How can we not come?"

Surprisingly, there is scant monster publicity at the site.

"We believe there are unidentified creatures in the lake, but we can't say for sure what they are," says Zhao Yuxia, a spokeswoman for the reserve. "We've never seen them with our own eyes."

Even so, there are measures in place to protect the area's wildlife. Fishing and swimming are banned. Boats are under a strict speed limit.

As Yuan and his group stroll along the shores, he relives his second sighting, just last year.

"It seemed like they were trying to get some sun. Their whole bodies came up to the surface. Their shadows were like one huge roll of plastic — long and black. They shimmered. I couldn't tell at all that they were fish."

No monsters present themselves to Yuan's group.

But still, Qu Yuan, a 26-year-old nurse, is thrilled.

"I kept my eyes on the water," she says, beaming. "The waves were lapping at our feet. It was almost like we were one with the lake."

199 Bigfoot sighting makes believer of Brookings man

By 'CURRY
COASTAL PILOT'

It took less than 30 seconds for Travis Cover to become a full-fledged believer in Bigfoot.

The Brookings truck driver was making a routine drive on Hwy. 199 near Knopki Creek in Del Norte County at approximately 5:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 22 when, he said, he saw the beast.

"It was still dark, and I was driving along," Cover said. "I reached down to grab my lunch and when I looked back up there it was — a big, hairy monster standing next to a yellow road sign."

Cover described the creature he saw as dark, hairy and as tall as the semitruck he was driving. The furry mammal's head was parallel to the steering wheel, he said.

"It raised its arm to block the beam from my headlights," he said. "I've never seen anything like it."

Notions to stop and investigate the matter first raced through Cover's mind. But the massive size of the creature was intimidating, so he rolled forward to his destination a few miles off the highway. He didn't have a camera in the truck, and darkness also contributed to his reasons not to stop.

Cover said that he frantically tried to phone the California Highway Patrol, but lost reception from his cell phone on the windy, desolate road.

After he arrived at his destination, the skeptics came out.

"When I stopped, the loaders were telling me it was just some hippie off the side of the road," Cover said.

Cover's glimpse at a potential Sasquatch is not a rarity for the West Coast. According to the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization (BFRO), California, Oregon and Washington report more Bigfoot sightings than any other states. Washington tops that list with 371 sightings, followed by California with 321 and Oregon with 186.

There have been seven recorded sightings in Curry County, the last one on June 26. Del Norte County has 25 reports, the last coming on April 20, 2004.

Several hours after Cover saw what he is certain to be a Bigfoot creature, another truck driver who was on the same route that morning reported seeing a strange object off the side of the road.

"He told me that he saw a large dark object rustling in the grass," Cover said. "He didn't know what it was either. It's a freak thing."

When Cover was a child, he believes he may have seen a similar type of creature roaming the woods when his family was on a camping trip. But his latest encounter has made him a firm believer that Bigfoot is not a myth.

"It wasn't a bear because it moved its arm to block the light," he said. "It wasn't any other animal. I'm just glad that I was in the truck."