

UFO

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TIMES-NEWS, Erie, PA - July 31, 2006 CR: D. Munson

This poster is part of a display at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center at the entrance to Presque Isle about the UFO "sighting" at the park in 1966 that drew national attention.



JACK HANRAHAN/Erie Times-News

UFO mania's 40th anniversary

Presque Isle 'sighting' drew national attention in 1966

By TIM HAHN
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Ralph Clark put his motorcycle to bed and hopped into a patrol car. The many deer that roamed Presque Isle State Park after dark made it dangerous to continue patrolling on the two-wheeler, he said. Clark and his partner, Bob Loeb,

would spend the rest of their 4 p.m.-to-midnight shift together on that hot, moonlit Sunday of July 31, 1966, checking the locks on the beach houses and reminding stragglers that the park closed at sunset. They started their rounds at about 9 p.m. by stopping at Beach 6, where a car sat alone at the north end of the parking lot.

Clark, 28, a three-year veteran of the park police who did his patrolling on summers off from teaching school, walked up to the car to see if the people needed a hand. The young man and two young women who sat with two small children in the car said it was buried in the sand.

A buddy had gone off to get help, they added.

Clark and Loeb promised to check back after they finished their 45-minute tour of the park.

"(Loeb) had always said during that summer, 'You know what I hope? I hope to see a UFO,'" said Clark, a retired driver's education instructor who lives in Millcreek.

Loeb didn't get his wish that fateful summer 40 years ago. But he and Clark stepped into an out-of-this-world tale involving an unidentified flying object when they returned to check on the stranded car off Beach 6.

A light in the sky

Loeb's desire to see a UFO wasn't a solitary one at the time.

Countless people searched the skies that summer as reports of UFO sightings continued to spread from points across the country.

The U.S. Air Force launched an investigation into UFOs in the late 1940s. By 1969, the Air Force had received 12,618 reports, according to government archives.

The military determined that some of the unidentified objects seen were common sights, such as airplanes. Other sightings were written off as hoaxes.

But 701 sightings, including the one at Presque Isle, were listed as unexplained in the Air Force's study, known as Project Blue Book.

Clark is convinced that Betty Jean Klem and Douglas J. Tibbets saw something in the sky before he spoke to the frightened young couple for the second time the night of July 31, 1966.

Klem, 16, of Jamestown, N.Y., and Tibbets, 18, of Greenhurst, N.Y., were sitting in the front seat of the car, waiting for their friend, 26-year-old Gerald LaBelle of Jamestown, to come back with help to free their stuck car. Another friend, Anita Haffley, 22, of Jamestown, was sitting in the back seat with her 2-year-old and 6-month-old daughters, according to news reports at the time.

When Clark and Loeb approached the car again after finishing their rounds of the park, Tibbets told them that weird things were happening around them.

Klem later told the Erie Morning News that a metallic, sort of silvery "star" came down from the sky. The mushroom-shaped craft with a narrow base and bright lights made the car vibrate, she told reporters.



STAFF PHOTO/Erie Times-News

Ralph Clark was a Millcreek school teacher working summers as a police officer at Presque Isle in 1966, the year a UFO was reported by a stranded motorist. Clark wonders if the unidentified object spotted that night was an Air Force or military experiment.

What they saw

Forty years ago today, a man and two women reportedly saw an unidentified flying object land on Presque Isle State Park. Here's what they saw:

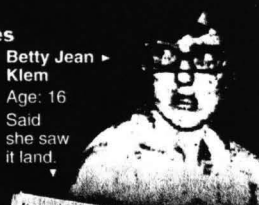
Witnesses

Douglas J. Tibbets
Age: 18
Said the craft was "hovering above the ground several hundred yards... (away)."

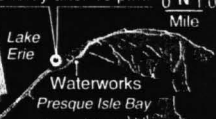
Betty Jean Klem
Age: 16
Said she saw it land.



Shown here are the drawings that Tibbets and Klem drew.



Where they saw it
Beach 6 parking lot at shortly after 10 p.m.



SOURCE: Erie Morning News

CHRIS SIGMUND/Erie Times-News

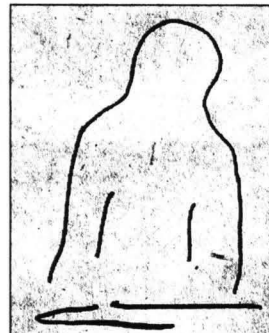


FIGURE 6 Facsimile of the "creature" as the eyewitness Betty Klem for (Erie) Morning News re: "She described the creature as being upright, shaped, about six feet tall, dark, and featureless."

FILE PHOTO/Erie Times-News

Betty Klem's drawing of the "creature" she saw was published in an edition of the Morning News. She described the creature as upright, about 6 feet tall, dark and featureless.

Tibbets spoke of a beam of light that shot out of the craft and lit up the woods.

After the group told Clark of what they had seen, he asked what had happened to it. They replied that when Clark activated the patrol car's red emergency light to signal their return

to the beach, the lights on the craft went dark and it disappeared, he said.

Clark, Loeb and Tibbets walked toward Waterworks Beach to see if they could spot the UFO again. They told Klem to honk the car's horn if anything else unusual happened. They traveled about 200 yards before the car horn started blowing, Clark said.

Klem said she saw a dark, featureless creature walking in front of the car. It seemed to have the general shape of an upright, large creature, but was not any kind of animal she had seen before, Klem would later tell reporters.

Clark and Loeb ushered the others into their patrol car and drove to the park's administration building, where they called for some backup.

"We asked the guys to bring in high-powered rifles, because we didn't think our pistols would match up with what they might have in a UFO," Clark said.

The investigation

Gerald LaBelle missed all of the excitement.

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(continued from page 1
- TIMES-NEWS, Erie, PA
- July 31, 2006)

LaBelle, now 66 and still living in Jamestown, had friends in Erie and had hitched a ride into the city to get help from them when the others witnessed the UFO.

When LaBelle and his Erie friends reached Presque Isle with a tow truck, the park's entrance was barricaded.

He said he had to show identification to get past the roadblock and was sent to the administration building.

There he found his friends in various stages of panic. They were talking to park officials and newspaper reporters, and had drawn sketches of the strange sights they had seen.

"I wasn't really skeptical about it. There was a possibility," he said of his friends' tale.

Haifley and her children headed for home a few hours after being taken to the administration building. Klem, Tibbets and LaBelle stayed until morning.

By then, the park was swarming with the U.S. Air Force, state police and the Erie County Civil Defense group. Crowds of curious citizens also came out for a look after reading about the strange tale in the morning paper or hearing about it on the radio.

Two park police officers working the day shift found two triangular impressions in the sand, several hundred feet east of where Tibbets' car had sat the night before. Other imprints were found nearby, according to news reports.

Authorities made plaster casts of some of the imprints. The sand was also tested for radiation.

Five members of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, a private group that looked into UFO reports, launched their own probe two days after the sighting.

As the work commenced, Presque Isle became a madhouse, Clark said.

It was overrun with local residents and news reporters from across the country who were looking to see a UFO for themselves, he said.

It came as no surprise to Clark that stories of new UFO sightings started to circulate.

"Oh, they said they saw things out in the lake. But there were a lot of people playing a hoax on other people, shooting flares off boats and so forth. None were substantiated," he said.

The aftermath

The Air Force issued a final report within two weeks of the sighting. It discounted the presence of the "black monster" that Klem reported seeing, but could not explain the lights observed during the reported UFO sighting.

By then, the crowds of people flocking to Presque Isle had dropped back to pre-UFO levels, officials said.

Anita Haifley moved out of Jamestown within a year of the sighting, letting her friends know that she wanted nothing more to do with the incident that had made her a household name, LaBelle said.

Betty Jean Klem got married and eventually moved away from Jamestown. Douglas Tibbets died. LaBelle served in the U.S. Navy, retired and now does work for the Salvation Army.

Clark still lives in the Patio Drive ranch house he returned home to on that warm, summer night in 1966. It sits a short drive from a state park that honors its foray into national hysteria with a B movie-style poster hung in the Tom Ridge Environmental Center.

Ask Clark if he believes in UFOs today, and he pauses before answering.

"No, I think we would see more of them," he said. "I don't think they would come down to find out what they want about our universe with one small trip. What I more firmly believe is that they are an Air Force or military experiment."

Clark is also convinced that the monster Klem reported seeing by her car was nothing more than a shadow cast on a brilliantly moonlit night.

TIM HAHN can be reached at 870-1731 or by e-mail.

WEST HAWAII TODAY, Kailua Kona, HI - June 12, 2006

ET for world peace



PHOTOS BY BARON SEKIYA | WEST HAWAII TODAY

Speaker Joan Ocean talks about her communications with dolphins and them telling her about underwater extraterrestrial space ships during her talk at the Extraterrestrial Civilizations and World Peace Conference at King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel Sunday.

CONFERENCE CENTERS AROUND LITTLE GREEN MEN, BIGFOOT AND ALIEN-ABDUCTED DOLPHINS

BY BETSY TRANQUILLI
WEST HAWAII TODAY
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In recent years, there has been plenty of analysis and solutions offered on the Iraq War, terrorism and the overall state of global existence and where it will lead us in the future.

This weekend, a different set of explanations and solutions were offered toward the goal of world peace — and it somehow involved little green men, Bigfoot, floating orbs, the alien abduction of dolphins, unidentified flying objects and other such encounters of the

third kind.

These ideas, and the people that remain steadfast in the pursuit of such beliefs, converged on Kailua-Kona this weekend for a three-day Extraterrestrial Civilizations World Peace Conference at the King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel, hosted by the Kealekekua-based Exopolitics Institute.

The conference, which drew about 150 registered attendees, brought a litany of speakers that reviewed the history of "documented" extraterrestrial encounters and how that history can help the world achieve

peace here — and beyond. The conference culminated Sunday with a panel discussion and the drafting of the 'Hawaii Declaration' that comprises key principles and an 'action plan,' for promoting peaceful relations and communications with extraterrestrial civilizations.

The hope for the conference, according to the Exopolitics Institute co-founder Angelika Whitecliff, is to put focus on how a multifaceted extraterrestrial effort is under way to assist humans in establishing world peace, environmental protection and spiritual upliftment here on Earth.

With such themes resonating with average people on a more everyday basis, Whitecliff said she has seen a surging interest in learning from other life beyond our own.

"We just want to educate and inspire people — to let them know what's really happening," Whitecliff said. "The second most Googled search topic is extraterrestrials — the first is sex, but number two are extraterrestrials. And I think that makes a huge statement about people's interests and belief in this."

The Exopolitics Institute, which Whitecliff founded in West Hawaii with her husband Michael Salla, is dedicated to studying the key political actors, institutions and processes associated



Angelika Whitecliff, co-conference organizer of the Extraterrestrial Civilizations and World Peace Conference Sunday.

with credible evidence that extraterrestrial civilizations are visiting, monitoring or residing on Earth, according to the group's mission statement.

While some of the speakers during the conference held more "fringe" beliefs and questionable "evidence" — take Sunday speaker Joan Ocean of Captain Cook and her assertion that many dolphins have had extraterrestrial encounters; or "Contactee" James Gilliland who lectured for an hour about his many experiences being beamed onto spaceships and hit with fiery energy orbs through his chest while meditating in the bathtub — the conference did draw a number of credible names and opinions, including that of Pal Hellyer, former Canadian Minister for National Defense and C.B. Scott Jones, peace activist and a retired Commander of the U.S. Navy.

"I have no doubts that secrets are being kept from us," about extraterrestrial activity, Scott told the group Sunday in his discussion on the need for more open disclosure by the government regarding such alleged encounters.

"But I think the secrecy is about a fear of trust and not over an inability to articulate what's been going here for the last thousand years," he said. "We need to know who we are and wake up and remember who we are and what our destiny is. The result could be persistent, sustainable global peace."

The intergalactic tourists came a really long way

■ This stretch of desert north of Las Vegas teems with rumors of alien visitors, but don't expect to find many answers.

BY JAY CLARKE
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RACHEL, Nev. — I had lunch here the other day with an alien.

He was small, orange, had a big bald head and oval bug eyes. He also didn't have much to say, probably because he was a life-sized inflatable plastic toy.

But our ersatz E.T. did attract a lot of attention from visitors to this remote desert locale, a center of alleged UFO activity. That reputation comes because Rachel is situated sort of near the super-secret Area 51, the reputed U.S. military testing ground for captured alien spaceships and other hush-hush gizmos.

Trouble is, you can't really get close to Area 51 and its Groom Lake locale. Base borders are well patrolled and trespassers are warned that guards are authorized to use deadly force.

Rachel lies on the state-named Extraterrestrial Highway, 27 miles from Area 51. There's nothing here but a UFO-themed restaurant cum gift shop named Little A'Le'Inn. That's where I met my alien lunch-mate.

The Little A'Le'Inn does a roaring business serving lunch to tour groups and other visitors who drive over from Las Vegas, 2½ hours away. Most of

us dined on Alien Burgers, then browsed among racks of UFO-themed doodads such as mugs, key chains, T-shirts and, fittingly, saucers.

We even ran into a local UFO guru, Chuck Clark, who just happened to come by when our group was visiting. Of course, he also just happened to carry with him copies of his for-sale handbook on Area 51.

According to Clark, Area 51 is not a total mystery. His handbook reproduces photos of the Area 51 base made from satellites and other vantage points, showing its very long runway (30,000 feet) and dozens of hangars and support buildings.

"JANET" FLIGHTS

Actually, he said, there are regular flights to Area 51 on "Janet" aircraft. The "Janets" are a fleet of government-operated 737s that shuttle workers from Las Vegas to Area 51 and probably also to other sensitive sites. Painted white with a red stripe, the planes are often seen at Las Vegas' McCarran airport.

As for the occasional mysterious sightings in the area, many explanations have been offered. Clark himself describes a pulsating light he saw in the vicinity of the Area 51 base that he thought was a flare until it suddenly moved at a speed he calculated at 9,000 to 14,000 miles an hour.

But most other sightings, he says, can be attributed to such things as flares, satellites,



PHOTOS BY JAY CLARKE/FOR THE MIAMI HERALD

ALIEN WORLD: An inflatable toy, top, is the only alien you'll find at The Little A'Le'Inn — or is it? Above, Nevada has named the road that runs near Area 51 the Extraterrestrial Highway.

meteors, stars and planets, military operations, jet engine afterburners, rockets and missiles, weather balloons, vehicle lights and airborne debris.

Another UFO observer attributes the strange glowing orbs to government testing of particle beams, a sort of subatomic plasma.

Still, Clark says UFOs could be from another dimension, could carry time travelers or be extraterrestrial spaceships.

That's the stuff UFO seekers like to hear, but chances of casual tourists seeing something outworldly here are virtually nil, particularly if they are day visitors.

Other than at Rachel, our tour group saw little relating to UFOs. We stopped for a photo op at the "black mailbox," a notorious site for UFO-sighting that since has been replaced with a white mailbox.

We paused to shoot pictures of the green Extraterrestrial Highway sign the state of Nevada erected on Highway 375.

STOP OR WE'LL SHOOT

And we drove to a spot on that highway where a gaggle of signs prohibit further travel.

On a ridge above those signs, which warn of "deadly force," armed personnel stand guard from a pair of white SUVs.

That's about it for anyone venturing into this UFO country. Commercial Area 51 tours from Las Vegas, which go to Rachel, require a full day and cost around \$195. But you can drive out to Rachel on your own. Just bring a full tank of gasoline, lots of water and an open mind.

Information: www.travelnevada.com.

OKLAHOMAN, Oklahoma City, OK - July 11, 2006 CR: D. Farris

SCIENCE FACTS

Mysterious Oklahoma

This month in 1965, a fisherman at Lake Hefner in Oklahoma City reported a saucer-shaped object rising out of the water, hovering and flying away.

It was one of 20 UFO reports that night, according to the book "More Mysterious Oklahoma" by David Farris.

Witnesses in El Reno, Edmond, Fort Sill, Harrah, Lindsay, Yukon, Wewoka, Ardmore, Miami, Pauls Valley, Pawnee, McAlester, Eufaula, Oklahoma City and at Tinker Air Force Base reported quick objects with pulsating red lights and bluish halos buzzing their homes. The sightings continued through the end of the 1960s, which Farris refers to as the "Sooner Saucer Invasion."



A newly published top secret dossier reveals thousands of alien sightings – not made by cranks, but by highly respected military personnel...

UFOs: Can they all be hoaxes?

Are they out there? One of the most famous UFO 'sightings', photographed in 1968 hovering silently over Utah, was described as a huge flying saucer with winking lights

THE ALARM sounded and Lieutenant Gordon Cooper ran across the airfield to join his mates in the 525th Fighter Bomber Squadron. He had been on regular forays into the sky and was prepared for anything. It was 1951 at Neuberg Air Force Base and the new Soviet MiG-15 jets often penetrated German air space.

Cooper reported: 'My squadron mates and I dashed from the ready room and scrambled skyward in our F-86s to intercept the bogies. We reached our maximum ceiling of around 45,000ft, and they were still way above us, and travelling much faster.'

The young jet pilot, who would become an astronaut, realised that the aircraft above him were not of a type he had encountered before. 'I could see that they weren't balloons or MiGs, or like any aircraft I had seen before,' he said. 'They were metallic silver and saucer-shaped. We couldn't get close enough to form any idea of their size; they were just too high.'

For the next two or three days, according to Cooper, the objects passed over the base daily. They could outmanoeuvre and outflank the American planes, and occasionally came to a dead stop as the airmen flew beneath.

What had he seen? Only one thing is certain: Cooper had unwittingly been drawn into the very centre of a maelstrom: the debate on UFOs – Unidentified Flying Objects.

The stuff of myth, controversy and schoolboy wonder, there have been reports of unusual aerial phenomena dating back thousands of years.

Now, for the first time, a new book documents each significant sighting from 1939 to the present and asks: do UFOs exist? And, critically – if so – does their presence indicate the existence of intelligent life beyond earth?

Millions of UFO sightings have been reported throughout the world. According to the author, up to 95 per cent of these can probably be explained in conventional terms, but that still leaves tens of thousands of unexplained cases.



by Zoe Brennan

Documents declassified by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) under the 2005 Freedom of Information Act reveal that, far from the public image of the odd-ball UFO enthusiast, many sightings have in fact been recorded by respected military personnel.

Some of the thousands of reports by pilots, army and naval officers, astronauts and astronomers have now been documented. Their testimony is often supported by radar, sonar and sometimes by film and photographs.

Indeed, a survey of members of the American Astronomical Society revealed that more than 60 per cent of them have witnessed events they believed could be linked to UFOs, and the majority felt these warranted further scientific study.

Of course, there is nothing new about UFOs. In 1896, for instance, there were sightings of 'mystery airships', particularly in the U.S. In 1920, unexplained lights were seen in the sky around the entrance to the Bass Strait, Australia, as a ship disappeared. The search aircraft sent to investigate also vanished.

The Bass Strait is one of a number of areas, such as the Bermuda Triangle, where aircraft and ships have mysteriously disappeared, often after witnesses reported strange lights in the sky.

MOST of the sightings recorded were made during World War II, perplexing world leaders at the time. For example, Benito Mussolini, the Italian fascist dictator, took great interest in sightings by his reconnaissance agents.

Telegrams related instructions for the recovery of a flying disc grounded near Milan in 1933. An Italian government report of 1936, written by a secret service agent, describes an unknown flying craft near Venice. It reads: 'It was a metallic disc, polished and reflecting light. It didn't emit sound, which would lead one to consider an aerostat. Yet nobody knows of balloons that can fly faster than the wind.'

As war progressed, the sightings intensified, and not just in Europe. Following reports by fishermen of strange lights off the Tasman Peninsula, the Royal Australian Air Force investigated such a report in 1942. The pilot described a domed object: 'a singular airfoil of glistening bronze colour'.

Several reports from 1942 (declassified 50 years later by the MoD) relate to

sightings of unusual aircraft seen by RAF crews. A memo from Headquarters, No 5 Group, to Headquarters, Bomber Command, begins: 'The crew refuse to be shaken in their story in the face of the usual banter and ridicule.'

The airmen, based at RAF Syerston in Lincolnshire, saw the object after a raid on Turin. They said: 'It was seen by the entire crew of the aircraft. The speed was estimated at 500 mph and it had four pairs of red lights spaced an equal distance along its body.'

More typically in this period, many Allied and Axis airmen reported small, apparently remotely controlled objects which followed aircraft during missions.

Amid speculation that the Germans had developed a new weapon, the U.S. Eighth Army Air Force ordered a full investigation but was unable to resolve the matter.

ON THE night of May 26, 1943, during a raid over Essen, Germany, involving up to 500 aircraft, an RAF Halifax four-engine bomber encountered a craft similar to the one reported over Turin six months before, flying at high speed.

Flight Sergeant Cockcroft detailed: 'It was a long cylindrical object, silver gold in colour, with a number of portholes.'

First to observe the object was the captain, Flight Sergeant Ray Smith, of the Royal Canadian Air Force. 'I think the initial reaction of most of us was amazement,' said Cockcroft, 'because the object just had no right to be there.'

(continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4 -
DAILY MAIL, London, England
- Aug. 11, 2006)

In the same month, during a raid on Germany, USAAF 348th Group Bombers reported 'a cluster of discs in the path of the formation near Schweinfurt' at a time when no enemy aircraft were operating above.

Ronald Claridge, a holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross, was a wireless operator with No 7 Squadron, RAF on a 1944 raid on the oil refineries at La Pallice, France. He reported: 'Our Lancaster was flying straight and level. On our starboard side I saw a grey saucer-like object emerge. We all watched this object for about three minutes, then the vast size was gone in less than a second, without any noise or turbulence.'

Was global conflict attracting the attention of an extra-terrestrial force?

After all, this was the largest and deadliest war in our planet's history, with around 62 million people perishing, before culminating in the explosion of the atom bomb.

According to Tim Good, a UFO expert and author of the new book: 'The proliferation of sightings in World War II was not coincidental. I have no doubt the reason lies in the inauguration of the nuclear age on Earth, necessitating increased surveillance by advanced intelligences.'

Indeed, the Americans took sightings by its military personnel sufficiently seriously to undertake an official UFO investigation which, in 1949, speculated on the correlation between the dawn of the nuclear age and the documented increase in 'visits'.

'Such a civilisation might observe we on Earth now have atomic bombs and are fast developing rockets. In view of the past history of mankind, they should be alarmed.'

The USAAF set up a special investigation (nicknamed Project Grudge) into UFOs, and a report was completed by the Intelligence Department at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

But it concluded that there was no evidence that such objects were the result of an 'advanced scientific foreign development' and that they did not constitute a threat to national security.

However, the UFO reports did not stop at the end of the war. In the summer of 1946, a wave of sightings of what became known as 'ghost rockets' proliferated in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

A 1947 U.S. War Department review, classified secret at the time, summarises the observations: 'The two most common descriptions of the missiles were "a ball of fire with a tail" and "a shiny cigar-shaped object". In September and October of that year, flying objects were reported over widely separate points in Europe and Africa. It is not surprising that censorship of such sightings was widespread — often for obvious military reasons, but this only added fuel to the conspiracy theorists' debate.

In 1950, a Canadian government memorandum revealed that 'the matter is the most highly classified subject in the U.S. government, rating higher even than the H-bomb'.

Rear Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, a former CIA director, noted in 1960 that 'behind the scenes, high-ranking Air Force officers are soberly concerned about UFOs. But through official secrecy and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense'.

Were the authorities imposing a

OKANAGAN, Kelowna, BC, Canada - June 18, 2006 CR: G. Conway

Alien encounters prompt book

By J.P. SQUIRE
The Okanagan Sunday

Corina Saebels has appeared on the Montel Williams TV talk show, in the Creepy Canada series and she will soon have a self-published book on UFO encounters.

The 200-page book is currently being edited by Trafford Publishing based in Victoria. The cover is in the works and it should be available at Chapters, Amazon and online (www.trafford.com) in four to six weeks.

"It has photos, drawings and eyewitness reports. It is my story, my truth as I know it. I want to bring an awareness to people, to let them know you can live through this," the Kelowna resident said.

"My first book is called The Collectors, because when aliens come and people are abducted, they (aliens) collect blood samples, sperm samples and women's

eggs."

Saebels started writing the book four years ago based on a series of alien encounters dating back to when she was five.

However, it was a July 31, 2003, encounter on Glenmore Road near the Glenmore landfill that sparked the final push to complete it.

"My girlfriend wanted to go stargazing," said Saebels, so they drove from her Benvoulin Road home north on busy Glenmore Road just after midnight and pulled over to the side of the road on a dark stretch.

To their surprise, there were no more vehicles on the road.

[line missing in original article]
out. There was literally a blanket of stars. We were there all of three or four minutes, and everything started happening."

Her girlfriend, who doesn't want her name published, was looking through binoculars when she saw three stars in a triangle moving erratically from side to side.

The three lights merged to become one, a bright neon green colour, first egg-shaped and then a round ball.

"I got the creeps," recalled Saebels, who had pulled out a 1.5-million-candelpower spotlight in case there were any bears or cougars roaming nearby. She pointed the flashlight toward the opposite or west side of the road.

'world blanket of secrecy', in the words of the eminent Greek physicist Professor Paul Santorini, who studied with Albert Einstein at Zurich University and investigated UFOs for the Greek military?

He suggested that there might be a cover-up because the authorities were unwilling to admit the existence of a force against which they had no possibility of defence.

AN INCIDENT over the town of Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947, has become a byword for enthusiasts' 'conclusive proof' of the existence of UFOs. An 'alien ship' was reported to have crash-landed on the Roswell Army Air Field.

The official response — that it was an experimental high-altitude balloon device to monitor Soviet nuclear tests — is still dismissed by many as a government cover-up.

But in 1995, Lieutenant Colonel Philip Corso, a highly respected intelligence officer who served on President Eisenhower's National Security Council staff, published

an extraordinary account of his work on recovered fabric from the Roswell vehicle.

In The Day After Roswell, he claimed that from 1961 to 1963, he was steward of an army project which developed examples of alien technology at U.S. companies such as IBM, Hughes Aircraft and Bell Labs — without their knowledge of the background to these scientific advances.

He also claimed to have seen an alien life-form being sent for autopsy at Fort Riley, Kansas, where he was serving as an intelligence officer.

He described a 'four-foot human-shaped figure with bizarre-looking four-fingered hands and an oversized incandescent lightbulb-shaped head. The eye-sockets were oversized and pointed down to its tiny nose, like that of a baby that never grew as the child grew'.

Another report came from retired Air Force officer Brigadier General Thomas Dubose. He testified to handling the high-level phone communications and said he personally received the order from General Clemence McMullen in Washington to set in motion a cover-up operation, with McMullen telling him the

event was so highly classified that it went 'beyond top secret'.

Following Roswell, there were sightings at some of America's most sensitive installations, such as the Los Alamos Atomic Energy Commission's facility, as well as further encounters globally.

In 1950, during the Korean War, U.S. Navy fighter-bombers recounted how they had been 'inspected' by objects with a 'silvered mirror' appearance and surrounded by a reddish glow.

Strange aircraft were also observed from a Canadian warship near Hawaii in 1952, while Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma, later Chief of the Defence staff, had a sighting in the Pacific, according to Tim Good.

Similar occurrences have continued up to the present, sometimes increasing in frequency.

Nick Pope, who headed the MoD's UFO research from 1991 to 1994, reports that he arrived at his Whitehall desk on March 31, 1993, to find there had been a major wave of sightings in Britain the previous night.

A report came in from a military patrol guarding RAF Cosford, near Wolverhampton, and another from

"Forty to 45 feet away, there were five sets of teardrop-shaped eyeballs coming at us. Everything started going in slow motion. I was terrified; it was like the breath had been taken out of me."

Saebels dropped her spotlight, breaking it, and they jumped back into the car.

"The lights inside the car, the headlights, were going on and off, but I couldn't get the car started. I was feeling really strange. Every hair on my body was standing straight up like I went through an electric storm. Quite suddenly, I turned the key in the ignition and the car started so I pulled a U-ey and we went flying back into town."

At that point, there were lots of other vehicles on the road and her girlfriend noticed it was after 1 a.m.

"We don't remember what happened for that hour," said Saebels.

"I had a huge bruise on my chest and one under the ball of my right foot like I'd kicked something. I also had head pressure which has lasted on and off until this day. It was my most severe, most frightening experience."

As a result of that experience and the exposure it brought, Saebels organized a paranormal support group in Kelowna. Its first monthly meeting was held Wednesday.

Saebels says she also had two close encounters when she was a child growing up in Quebec.

Rugeley, Staffordshire, where five members of the same family saw a huge diamond-shaped object flying slowly above them. The meteorological officer at RAF Shawbury in Shropshire described seeing an object firing a beam of light at the ground.

Returning from Milan in January 1995, two British Airways pilots, Captain Roger Wills and First Officer Mark Stuart, reported a near-miss with an unknown structured craft as they approached Manchester. They said: 'There was no known traffic in the vicinity at the time and no radar contacts were seen.'

So what are we to make of the evidence? Perhaps it is most illuminating to turn to Bill Gunston, OBE, one of the world's leading aviation historians and a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

He turns the debate on its head and asks if it is credible that so many eminent military men have made these stories up.

■ **Extracted from NEED TO KNOW: UFOs, THE MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE** by Timothy Good, published by Sidgwick & Jackson on August 18 at £18.99. © Timothy Good 2006. To order a copy at £15.99 (plus £1.95 p&p), telephone 0870 161 0870.

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Aug. 10, 2006 CR: G. Conway

Crop circle shaped like music note sparks debate

VALLEY NEAR ARMSTRONG: Farmer believes bizarre pattern in barley field is a hoax

BY GLENDA LUYMES
STAFF REPORTER

In a rural valley outside Armstrong, a mystery lies in a field of barley.

A crop circle has been discovered on land owned by Jack Noble, a third-generation grain farmer and, according to his daughter Brenda, a skeptic.

"The family has quite a range of feelings about it," she said yesterday. "Some are convinced it's natural, while others have been out there looking for footprints."

"My dad thinks someone snuck into his field and made it all, but it's hard to say."

Pilot Clarence Glaicar discovered the circle while flying over the Noble farm last week. He snapped a few photos and took them to the family.

"When I first saw the photo, I got goose bumps," said Brenda. "It was eerie . . . really spooky. But I went out there and I didn't feel scared at all. I actually got a feeling of well-being and peace and goodness."

From the air, the circle of fallen grass, about 20 metres in diameter, appears to be hanging from a branched stem, like a music note. It has caused a whirlwind of speculation. Is it the result of a freak electrical storm? An ancient symbol stamped into the grass by an alien?

What do you think?

Tell us by e-mail at provetters@png.canwest.com, or by fax at 604-605-2223. Please include your name and address.

Or an elaborate hoax carried out by a group of bored farm kids?

"You can ask 10 researchers and get 10 different answers," said Paul Anderson, director of the Canadian Crop Circle Research Network, which recorded five crop circles in Canada last year. "We use science to determine if the circles are genuine or not, but at this point we're still trying to verify that."

So far, he said, the Armstrong circle appears to be a fake.

It's the first crop circle in Canada this year, and the first ever in the Okanagan. It is near the edge of the field, rather than the centre.

"That's definitely a red flag for me," said Anderson. "But we can't say for certain."

Crop circle researchers look for a number of signs to prove a circle's authenticity, said Nancy Talbot, president of the Massachusetts-based BLT Research Team.

"In every case we know to be real, we have found an elongated node on the plants' stems," she said. "In tests, this only occurs when the plants are exposed to microwaves,

which heat the water in the stems and cause them to stretch."

Some scientists believe these microwaves naturally occur in the environment.

Talbot said she is waiting for the network's report on the Armstrong circle before deciding if her team will test the plants.

Brenda Noble said she wouldn't rule out a natural explanation. "We had some really weird weather in July."

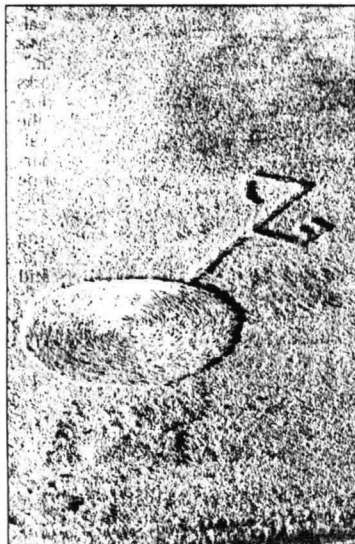
Robert Nichol, director of the acclaimed documentary *Star Dreams*, said he believes 90 per cent of crop circles are "communications from a higher power. They're based on precise sacred geometry and people have been finding them for centuries."

But Dr. Barry Beyerstein, a psychology professor at Simon Fraser University, believes exactly the opposite. "They're all hoaxes," he said. "This all began in Britain in the '70s. Eventually a couple of English performance artists confessed to it all."

Beyerstein said it's possible to match the spread of crop circles with the spread of the publicity. "They've become a tourist attraction, with some farmers charging money to let people see them."

The Noble family isn't planning to charge — they'd rather people stayed away. Next week they plan to harvest the field.

gluymes@png.canwest.com



A crop circle was spotted by a pilot flying over an Okanagan grain farm last week. It's the first circle reported in Canada this year.

Is it a bird? Is it a spaceship? No, it's a secret US spy plane

Sightings of flying object over Britain worried MoD

Questions threatened to strain relations with US

James Randerson
Science correspondent

It is the stuff of internet conspiracy theorists' dreams. A top secret, hypersonic, cold war spy plane that was allegedly flown by the Americans in UK airspace without the government's permission.

Publicly, the UK government played down newspaper stories about people who reported seeing UFO-like phenomena. But documents released under the Freedom of Information Act suggest the Ministry of Defence took the rumours much more seriously. Its investigations even threatened to strain the special relationship. "It does show that they were concerned that this thing did exist and the Americans were flying it around willy-nilly over the UK," said David Clarke, a social scientist at Sheffield Hallam University, who obtained the documents. "It certainly suggests that the British government suspected that they were being kept in the dark."

The United States has never confirmed the existence of the mysterious aircraft, called Aurora, which was supposedly designed to sneak at very high speed over the Soviet Union and take covert snaps of what the enemy was up to. It was rumoured to be capable of flying at up to mach 8 and so could reach anywhere on

the planet in less than three hours. In the early 1990s there was a string of supposed sightings and strange sounds over Scotland which some bewildered locals attributed to UFOs. Rumours in the press that Aurora was operating secretly out of RAF Machrihanish on the tip of Kintyre prompted Scottish MPs to ask questions in parliament.

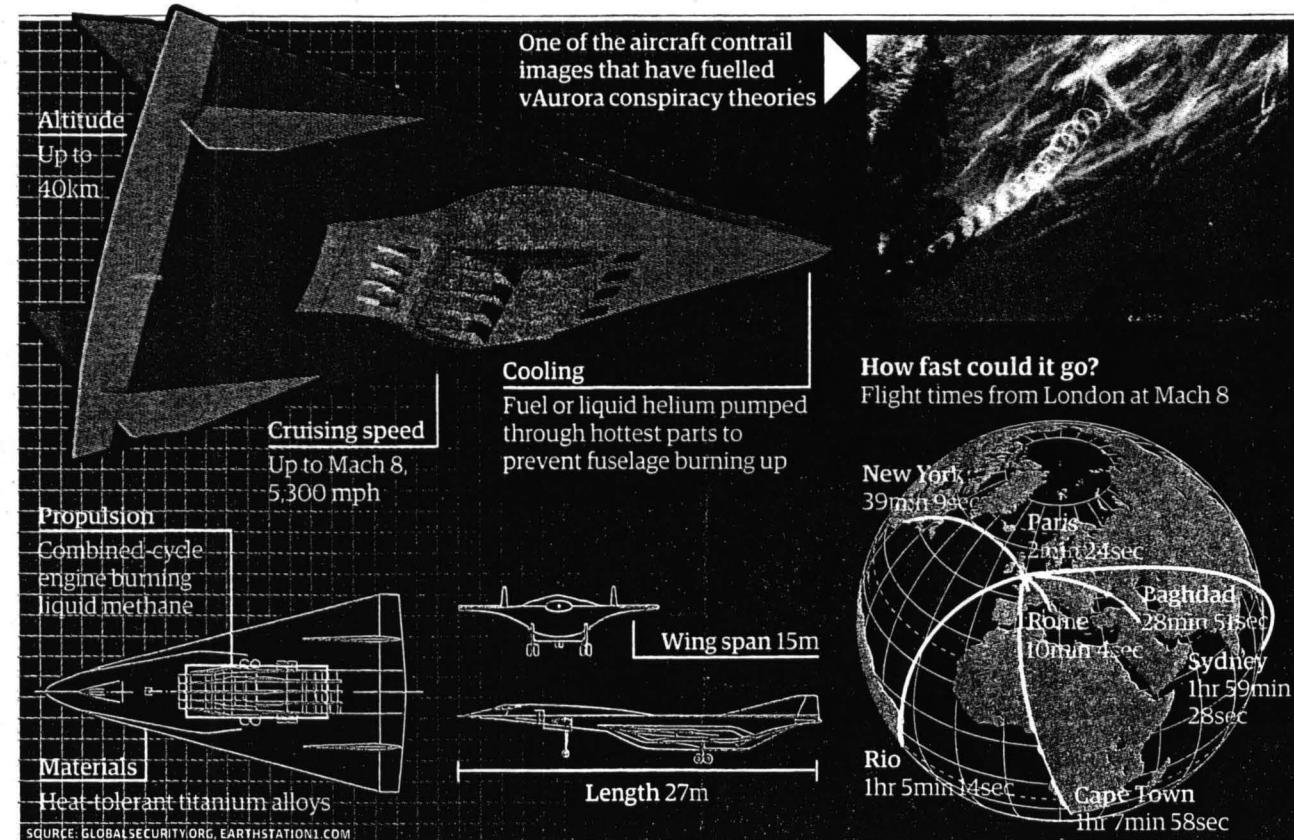
Briefing notes given to the then defence secretary, Tom King, on March 4 1992 show that civil servants did give the idea credence. "There is no knowledge in the MoD of a 'black' programme of this nature, although it would not surprise the relevant desk officers in the Air Staff and [Defence Intelligence Staff] if it did exist."

The response suggested to an MP's question was rather less revealing: "The existence of any such project (or operation) would be a matter for the US authorities." The Americans denied everything, but the reports kept coming.

The most credible witness was Chris Gibson, who had 12 years' experience with the Royal Observer Corps and was an expert on recognising aircraft. He saw a triangular plane flanked by two US fighters being refuelled in flight by tanker while he was working on the Galveston Key oil rig in 1989. The plane was unlike anything he had ever seen. "There was no precedent for this," he said. "I kind of sussed out that it was something I shouldn't have seen." He reported the sighting to Jane's Defence Weekly in 1992.

On December 22 1992, the air attache to the British embassy in Washington wrote to the assistant chief of the Air Staff in London explaining US reaction to renewed MoD questions prompted by Mr Gibson's sighting. "Secretary of the Air

If Aurora exists, it could look like this



Force, the Honorable Donald B Rice, was to say the least incensed by the renewed speculation, and the implied suggestion that he had lied to Congress by stating that Aurora did not exist.

"As you will have gathered, the whole affair is causing considerable irritation

'There is some evidence of an unidentified object operating over the UK'

within HQ [US Air Force], and any helpful comments we can make to defuse the situation would be appreciated."

"The sort of prickly reaction to people not believing their denials is pretty unusual," said Bill Sweetman, an expert on

top secret US black projects with Jane's Defence Review. "They generally don't deny things actually because it generally doesn't hurt them too much if somebody thinks they have a capability they don't."

A further batch of sightings on March 31 1993 over Devon, Cornwall, South Wales and Shropshire prompted another investigation by the MoD. These turned out later to be a Russian rocket re-entering the atmosphere, but the MoD investigators at the time suspected Aurora. "There would seem to be some evidence on this occasion that an unidentified object (or objects) of unknown origin was operating over the UK ... If there has been some activity of US origins which is known to a limited circle in MoD and is not being acknowledged it is difficult to investigate further." Mr Sweetman suspects

that by the end of the decade the MoD knew about Aurora. Another document from 2000 on the MoD's investigations into UFO sightings – or unidentified aerial phenomena as they prefer to call them – states that "some UAP reports can be attributed to covert aircraft programmes".

The section, which discusses other covert US aircraft such as the SR-71 Blackbird, contains two paragraphs and two illustrations which were censored before its freedom of information release last month. Codes next to the removed material indicate that it was excised in the interests of international relations. "Certain viewing angles of these vehicles may be described as saucer-like," the document says.

guardian.co.uk/science

DOWN



TO



EARTH

HALTON'S UFO sightings are down to freakish atmospheric phenomena and have nothing to do with little green men in flying saucers, according to the MoD.

And the report concludes that areas prone to dust, smoke and other airborne industrial pollutants could have a higher prevalence of UFO sightings.

A classified document, *Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region*, produced by the MoD under Geoff Hoon in 2000, has been forced into the public domain under the Freedom of Information Act.

The 400-page document, which has now been posted on the internet, says UFOs are in fact bizarre electrical phenomena.

The researchers claim to have overwhelming evidence that mystery lights are in fact buoyant masses of electrically charged gas, called plasma.

The report says the objects can assume a variety of shapes, such as cylinders, spheres, cones, triangles and even irregular and aerodynamic shapes.

It concludes the strange objects are not intelligently controlled but move about in response to natural electrical fields in the environment, for example, being drawn to electricity pylons or metal objects. It even suggests that when witnesses are in close proximity to a UFO, a person's physical movement could affect local electrical fields and cause it to appear to react to them.

The report states conclusively that there is no doubt that unidentified aerial phenomena exist.

It suggests there is a clear correlation between meteor showers and UFO reports.

It speculates that some plasmas may be the final remnants of meteors which burn up completely in the atmosphere.

Elsewhere, research suggests plasma UFOs are as-

For decades, Halton residents have reported encounters with strange objects in the sky which they often assume to be spacecraft piloted by visitors from another world. But a detailed scientific report released by the Ministry of Defence this week has poured cold water on the belief in aliens once and for all and concludes that UFOs are an unusual but natural phenomenon. The study may also have discovered links between rates of UFO sightings and levels of industrial pollution.

ADRIAN SHORT reports.

sociated with earthquakes and seismic activity. The theory goes that the compression of some types of rock produces a massive electrical charge, which is conducted to the surface and creates plasmas.

The MoD study was dubbed Project Condign and is said to draw on 10,000 eyewitness reports - many from military personnel.

The report says: 'Aerial phenomena ... certainly exist but the available evidence suggests that apart from those which can be more easily explained, they are comprised of several types of rarely encountered events within the atmosphere and ionosphere.'

Regarding industrial areas, it says: 'The increases in atmospherically carried dust and other types of industrial gaseous emission are likely to provide additional opportunities for electrically charged aerosol formation.'

The report explores the possibility that the field emanating from the objects can affect the electrically sensitive temporal lobes in humans and cause hallucinations, which may give rise to tales of alien encounters.

The report's remit was to determine whether UFOs have any defence significance - one finding is that plasma objects may have given rise to reported near misses with aeroplanes and could even have been a factor in some aircraft accidents.

But as the objects have little or no mass, it recommends that pilots do not attempt to swerve to avoid them if en-

countered head-on as there is no risk of a physical collision.

Halton has had its fair share of reports of unusual things being seen in the sky in recent decades.

Purported UFO sightings include an airman who claims to have spotted blue light in 1963 over Boston Avenue, Runcorn, the sighting of an orange ball of light over Runcorn shopping city in 1979 and a wave of supposed UFO sightings over Halton, including the sighting of lit objects, in 1995.

Widnes reports include one from 1996, the year of a major UFO peak identified in the study, involving a bright spherical object which hovered over Widnes train station before hitting the ground and bursting into flames.

More recently, the *Weekly News* was contacted by various people claiming to have seen a luminous object hovering over Widnes, which looked like an upturned ice cream cone and glowed vivid green.

Strange lights have been reported over Helsby Hill, the Ineos chemical works in Runcorn and Pex Hill in Widnes.

The MARA website describes Widnes and Runcorn as being well-known as a 'window area' for UFOs.

There have also been clear-cut cases of mistaken identity in Halton, including call centre staff mistaking a kite used by hawkers for training birds of prey as a UFO.

And earlier this year, a helicopter towing a huge banner warning of DVD piracy was mistaken for alien invaders.

FILEY & HUNMANBY MERCURY, England - May 13, 2006

UFO expert dismisses 'whitewash' MoD study

UFO investigator Russ Kellett, of Filey, has slammed a newly disclosed report on so-called "unidentified aerial phenomena" as a whitewash.

The four-year study released by the Ministry of Defence under the Freedom of Information Act concludes there is no proof of alien life forms and that most sightings could be explained by "plasmas" - little-known atmospheric phenomena caused by electric charges.

Mr Kellett, who was interviewed for BBC News 24 and four radio stations, said: "It's just a theory. They haven't been able to capture a plasma ball - it's just speculation and anecdote. It may be a four-year study, but they've just looked at one or two shots, not the actual footage."

"As far as I'm concerned, it's the biggest whitewash and it's got lots of researchers up in arms. One of the guys I was talking to said 'Is it April 1st?' You're not going to get the truth from the Government."

Mr Kellett, who recently sparked a bidding war for files from the British Flying Saucer Bureau Archives, is not a believer in "little green men", but believes there is more to the mysterious lights in the sky than the MoD is prepared to admit.

"We've been inundated with sightings recently," he added.

According to figures released by the MoD, the Yorkshire coast is a hotspot for UFO sightings, and Mr Kellett believes Filey should be doing more to cash in.

Objects spotted in North Yorkshire account for nearly 15 per cent of the 158 incidents recorded by the MoD last year, with the largest cluster in the Filey and Scarborough area.

"Crop circles brought in an unbelievable amount of revenue in the south of England. We should be recognised as the UFO capital of Britain and do more to promote it. It would bring in Japanese and American tourists."

Mr Kellett revealed he had now sold his archive to a local entrepreneur who could be prepared to invest in a specialist centre in Filey, but was not yet ready to reveal the details.

County UFO expert pours scorn on MoD's secret study

Explaining unexplained

By Emma-Kate Lidbury

HE CLAIMS to have seen spaceships soaring across the city's skies and crop circles 300ft-wide so it will take more than an official report to convince this Oxford UFO expert aliens don't exist.

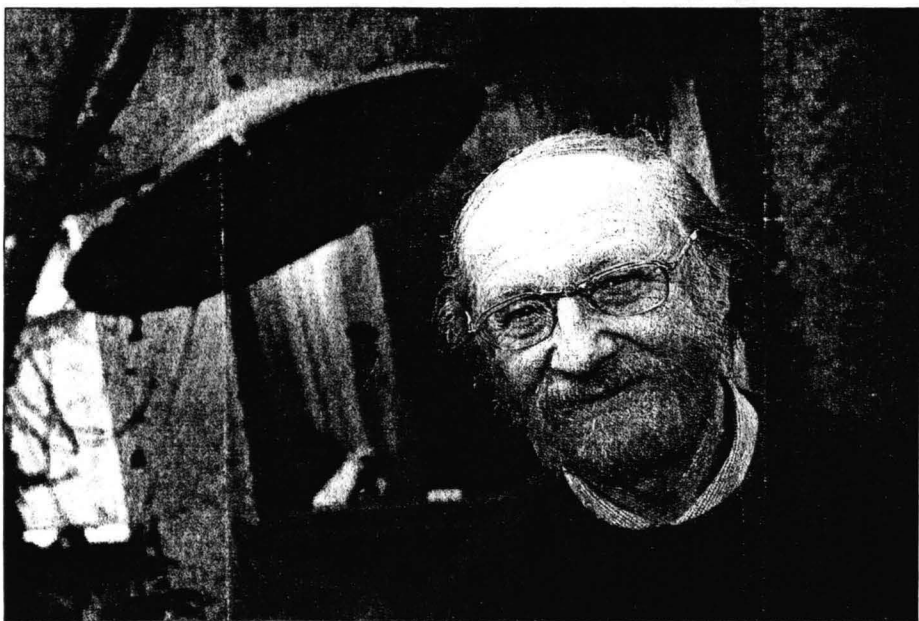
A confidential four-year study by the Ministry of Defence, made public following a request under the Freedom of Information Act, concluded there is no proof of alien life forms.

But Michael Soper, pictured, a member of the Contact International UFO research group, has spent decades of his life studying unidentified flying objects and believed the MoD's report did not throw any doubt on his findings.

Mr Soper, of Ouseley Close, New Marston, who first saw a UFO in 1959 over the Malvern Hills in Worcestershire, said: "Obviously, the MoD can't admit aliens exist."

"Even if they knew they did, they could not admit to it. This is the only kind of report they could produce. I don't agree with most of it."

The report, undertaken by the Defence Intelligence Staff, part of the MoD, concludes that sightings of UFOs can be rationally explained and that meteors and their



"well-known effects" are responsible for "some unidentified aerial phenomena".

But Mr Soper disagreed and said

this could only explain about five per cent of the cases he had encountered.

He said: "You would need to have

a strange mentality to believe the conclusions of this report. I have read thousands of witness reports and seen all kinds of evidence and

the MoD's conclusions do not come anywhere near to explaining them."

Mr Soper, a researcher and mathematician, said he has pictures of an object he believes to be an alien spacecraft which he spotted on a photo taken of a cloud near Banbury.

In 1995, he took a picture of a spherical object above the Co-op store in Marston and has also investigated crop circles in fields near Garsington.

He said: "I've heard petrol engines just cut out when a UFO has flown overhead."

"I've seen pennies burnt after UFOs have landed on them. There are reports of multiple witness sightings."

"The MoD's report shows there is a case to answer if they feel the need to produce a 400-page report. We were told there was no study being undertaken, but in actual fact a four-year study was being carried out."

"It is a bittersweet victory for us. They have admitted there is something to explain."

The report, entitled *Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK*, was completed in 2000 and stamped "Secret: UK Eyes Only".

Only a small number of copies were produced and the identity of the man who wrote it has been protected.

TIMES, Dartford, England - June 1, 2006

'UFO sighting was no drink or dream vision'

A MAN has spoken of the astonishing moment he witnessed what looked like a UFO soar past his bedroom window.

Like an *X-Files* episode, retired landscape gardener Arthur Cherry watched aghast as a glowing lime green orb flew across the sky.

Dreaming

He has spent days desperately trying to find an explanation for his bizarre sighting and persuade people he was not dreaming.

Mr Cherry, 65, of School Lane, Bean, said: "I know what I saw, people have laughed but hand on the Bible I saw it fly past at

12.45pm on Tuesday, May 16.

"I had no sleep in me and nature called. As I walked back to my bedroom I saw it. I wasn't scared I enjoyed it."

"The colour was beautiful, a bright lime green. It moved fast and slow to the ground, I'm not saying it's a UFO but there must be some explanation and it could easily have been one."

Mr Cherry scoured recent news coverage of unexplained phenomenon and believes he is not the only person to see the shining light.

He added: "I think other people have seen it but are too scared to come forward."

"I just want someone to give me a normal explanation - but no one is taking me seriously."

Father-of-four, Mr Cherry, told his family the next day and was

greeted with a hail of laughs and jokes - but he is adamant he saw a UFO.

He said: "I have told lots of people and I know it sounds crazy but I wasn't dreaming, or drinking, I was flabbergasted."

"Someone else has seen it and if there is a normal explanation I would like to hear it."

UFO sightings in Kent are not uncommon, with three suspected sightings reported in recent years.

In 2001, a shining light was spotted near Snodland, and three unexplained lights were spotted in 2003. In 1997 a security guard claims he saw a triangular craft fly over Sandwich.

● If you think you saw the same object on the same night or have similar experiences call the Reporter on 01474 320749.



ALIEN ENCOUNTERS: Mulder and Scully in *X-Files*.



SHOCKED: Arthur Cherry.

'The colour was beautiful, bright lime green. It moved fast and slow to the ground' -

Arthur Cherry

THE REAL X FILES



STAR WARS: The threat of alien attack has been used in film: such as *Earth Vs The Flying Saucers* and *The War Of The Worlds*, let

The results of a secret British government study of UFO sightings are published today and, as a leading expert explains, its findings offer tantalising evidence that we are not alone



THE QUESTION of whether or not we are alone in the universe and if we have been visited from outer space has fuelled public debate, inspired Hollywood movies, and provoked all manner of theories - crackpot and otherwise - for decades.

One of the favourite and most repeated conspiracy theories is that contact has been made with aliens but that it has been hushed up by governments who seek to keep this explosive information hidden for their own, usually dark, purposes.



by **Nick Pope**
Ministry of Defence UFO Project (1991-1994)

I can certainly confirm that our own government has conducted investigations into the subject. For three years I was at the heart of such research, at the Ministry of Defence UFO Project.

Today, under the Freedom of Information Act, the Ministry of Defence will publish a formerly secret report on UFOs. It is the most

highly classified document on the subject ever released. Only 11 copies of it were ever made.

One item in the report has already been made public, the suggestion by scientists that many UFO sightings could be explained away by glowing "plasmas" of gas created by charges of electricity, a little known atmospheric phenomenon which is invisible to radar, but resembles the bright, fast-moving round or cigar-shaped objects typically described by witnesses.

However, as someone who has worked in this field for a number of years and seen at first hand the detailed reports of many such sight-

ings over this country, I can say the research being published today does anything but conclude that most UFO sightings can be explained away by such natural phenomena.

On the contrary, while providing a wealth of fascinating detail on a subject previously shrouded in mystery, Project Condign, as it was code-named, leaves at least as many unanswered questions as not.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) first became involved in the UFO phenomenon in 1950 when the Department's Chief Scientific Adviser, the radar pioneer Sir Henry Tizard, decreed that sightings

(continued on page 10)

should not be dismissed without some form of proper scientific study.

The result was the most splendidly named committee in the history of the civil service, the Flying Saucer Working Party. Its conclusions, set out in a classified report from 1951, were sceptical: UFO sightings were hoaxes or delusions. Consequently, it recommended no further investigations be carried out.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill pressed the Air Ministry for answers in 1952. His letter says: "What does all this stuff about flying saucers amount to? What can it mean? What is the truth? Let me have a report at your convenience." The reply simply restated the party line. UFOs were of no defence significance.

But later that year there was a series of UFO encounters involving the RAF. UFOs were tracked on radar. Aircraft were scrambled. Pilots saw UFOs demonstrate speeds and manoeuvres that went far beyond anything the RAF was operating. And some of these mysterious objects were filmed on the gun cameras carried on some aircraft.

The MoD and the RAF were forced to think again and the sceptical conclusions of the Flying Saucer Working Party were overturned. UFO sightings were to be reported and investigated but could not be discussed with the media or the public. Guidance was set out in a 1956 document classified Secret. In 1965, in the course of liaison with the Americans,

the MoD confirmed UFO sightings were investigated by "our Air Force Technical Intelligence Department". And in a statement that has led to accusations of cover-ups, the document went on: "Our policy is to play down the subject of UFOs and to avoid attaching undue publicity to it."

The MoD continued to receive reports of UFO sightings, not just from the public but from police officers, civil pilots and military personnel. In 1976 we received 200 UFO reports. In 1978 we got 750. I joined the Ministry of Defence in 1985 and in 1991 was posted to the division investigating UFO sightings. My brief was to see whether there was evidence of anything of any

'One witness actually touched the UFO's hull'

defence significance - any threat to the territorial integrity of the United Kingdom's Air Defence Region. What I found changed my life for ever.

There has always been a sceptic versus believer debate raging at the heart of the Establishment in relation to the UFO phenomenon. Some people in government thought it was a waste of time and money, while others thought it to be of critical importance.

My conclusions mirrored those of my predecessors. Most UFOs could be explained as misidentifications of ordinary objects and phenomena: aircraft lights, weather balloons and satellites. But some of the cases on file were considerably more interesting.

On December 26, 1980, a UFO landed in Rendlesham Forest, next to the United States Air Force bases at Bentwaters and Woodbridge. One of the many military witnesses got close enough to touch the hull and sketch the strange symbols - which he likened to Egyptian hieroglyphs - that he saw on the craft. Indentations were found where the UFO had landed and a Geiger counter was used to take radiation readings, subsequently assessed by the MoD's Defence Intelligence Staff as being "signif-



UNWORLDLY VISIONS: Unexplained sightings over the UK - but were these the result of electrically charged 'plasmas' of gas?

icantly higher than the average background". The UFO returned on the following night, when witnesses included the Deputy Base Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Halt.

On March 30, 1990, the Belgian Air Force tracked a UFO on radar and scrambled two F-16 fighters, with orders to intercept it. The two aircraft "locked on" to the UFO with their onboard radars, but the UFO repeatedly broke the lock and a bizarre game of cat and mouse played itself out over the next hour. I made enquiries about this with staff at our embassy in Brussels, and was told that the Belgian government had assessed this event as real - an unknown craft had indeed been involved.

On November 5, 1990, RAF Tornado aircraft flying over the North Sea were casually overtaken by a UFO. The pilot's report stated: "UFO appeared in our right hand side... It went into our 12 o'clock and accelerated away. Another two Tornados saw it."

On March 30, 1993, a wave of UFO sightings occurred over the UK, culminating in a massive triangular-shaped craft flying over RAF Cosford and RAF Shawbury in the Midlands. Witnesses included members of an RAF Police patrol, and a meteorological officer who saw a UFO several hundred feet in diameter, emitting a low frequency humming sound. It moved slowly across the countryside before shooting off several times faster than an RAF fighter jet.

SUCH WAS the background to Project Condign. For 40 years a debate about UFOs had raged within the MoD and the RAF, with first the sceptics then the believers gaining the upper hand. We needed resolution. We needed a proper, in-depth scientific study that was going to look at all the evidence we'd amassed, and come to a definitive view about the UFO phenomenon.

But how were we going to get a study commissioned when so many of our colleagues thought the MoD should drop its UFO investigations altogether? One of our tactics was a simple linguistic sleight of hand - we banned the phrase "UFO".

One mention of the term "UFO" and people's prejudices kick in, be they sceptics or believers. The term was too emotive. So we devised "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" (UAP) as a replacement, and used this in all internal policy documents,

burning plastic to the ground in streaks."

One reader, Kirsten King, emailed the County Times to say she had spotted a possible explanation in a BBC science newsletter which had information about a disintegrating comet.

The ball of ice and rock, known as Comet 73P/Schwassmann-Wachmann 3, has split into more than 60 pieces.

At the weekend, it was six million miles from Earth - near enough for the larger chunks to

retaining the phrase "UFO" only for our dealings with the public.

It worked. To my surprise, given some of the more sceptical voices in the department, resources were obtained and the study commissioned. However, the project was delayed, and in 1994 I was posted to a different

'A UFO came close to hitting a Boeing 737'

section. Accordingly, I played no part in the study and am certainly not - as has been alleged on the internet - its anonymous author.

So what did we get? After four years and 460 pages of analysis, have we solved the UFO mystery? Well, no, we haven't. "That UAP exist is indisputable," the Executive Summary states, before going on to say that no evidence has been found to suggest they are "hostile or under any type of control". What we have is a comprehensive drawing together of existing research, coupled with some new theories. But the report has not provided a definitive explanation of the phenomenon, "although the study cannot offer the certainty of explanation of all UAP phenomena", it says, leaving the door open.

One of the contentious areas, as mentioned, relates to what the report refers to as "plasma related fields". Electrically charged atmospheric plasmas are credited with having given rise to some of the reports of vast triangular-shaped craft, while the interaction of such plasma fields with the temporal lobes in the brain is cited as another reason why people might feel they were having a strange experience.

The problem with this is that there's no scientific consensus here, and as a good rule of thumb one shouldn't try to explain one unknown phenomenon by citing evidence of another. That said, the opportunities presented here are recognised and the study recommends further investigation "into the applicability of various characteristics of plasmas in novel military applications".

The report also deals with flight safety issues. There are numerous UFO sightings involving pilots, and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has records of

be visible through a small telescope. The newsletter says: "Fragments B and C are expected to be visible between 11 and 14 May with binoculars and perhaps even the unaided eye."

"If they fall apart still further - ejecting light-reflective material from the heart of the comet - they will be a magnificent sight in the night sky."

Ms King wrote: "The timing might be wrong, but there's a chance this might be an explanation for what some residents have witnessed."

some terrifying near misses between aircraft and UFOs. In one such case, on January 6, 1995, a UFO came dangerously close to hitting a Boeing 737 with 60 passengers on board, on its approach to Manchester airport.

The CAA commended the pilots for reporting the UFO and the official report states that both the degree of risk to the aircraft and the cause were "unassessable". Numerous RAF pilots have seen UFOs, too. I have spoken to many such witnesses, not all of whom ever made an official UFO report. Project Condign has an intriguing recommendation when it comes to such encounters: "No attempt should be made to out-manoeuvre a UAP during interception."

BUT TODAY is a good day for all those with a serious interest in UFOs. The most comprehensive UFO study ever undertaken in the UK is published, underpinning the MoD's commitment to the Freedom of Information Act and the principles of open government. Although some parts of the study have been withheld, as they relate to areas such as the capabilities of radar systems, the public now has an insight into a world that was previously closed to it.

The real X Files have been opened and proof revealed as to just how seriously some of us in government viewed the UFO phenomenon, and how much hard work went into the effort to resolve one of the last great mysteries of our time.

Some commentators recently suggested that interest in UFOs was declining. The publication of this report looks set to reignite the debate and propel the subject back into the spotlight. UFOs - sorry, I mean UAPs - are back.

● Project Condign will be posted on the MoD's website today at www.mod.uk in the Freedom of Information section. Nick Pope's website is www.nickpope.net

Not convinced

TOO little and also sadly for me, about seven years too late! This is my criticism of the MoD's conclusion on UFOs, but the conclusion is also not as convincing as it might have been! So the MoD's conclusions on UFOs, I'm afraid, convinces me not!

That said, I know that the conspiracy theorists will spin other theories, some of which will be compelling. With this revelation, the MoD only narrows the credibility gap of UFOs by two or three per cent, which means about 77 per cent of evidence on UFOs remains unreliable at best! If it had dipped to 75 per cent, I might have changed my mind on UFOs to support the conclusion of highly improbable, but no longer officially deniable.

Agreeing with the unexplained phenomena is one thing, but if the evidence is more that three quarters unreliable, surely it means that the MoD knows a bit more than we are being told!

I could argue about UFOs until I am blue in the face, but I'd get nowhere at all! With only 23 per cent of solid information outside the MoD, I'm afraid the only hope to force it to come out will have to come from the source of science! I think it's a most alarming state of affairs and The Search for Extra Terrestrial Life Institute is the only chance of proving the MoD wrong.

Seventy seven per cent unreliable information makes any claim of UFOs suspect! That's the sad fact of the state of things today! I wish it weren't true, but no amount of cajoling or pushing will change the MoD's mind - only indisputable information will do so!

I would like complete honesty, but somehow when it comes to UFOs, I don't think we'll get it.

STEPHEN FARTHING
Bristol

Fresh sighting of mysterious light

THE MYSTERY orange light over Horsham's skies was spotted again on Friday.

Andrew Malone of Ropeland Way was one of more than a dozen people who said they had seen the original strange object on April 28.

He also managed to get several photographs as it passed over his home at 10.45pm. (WEST SUSSEX TIMES)

This week, Mr Malone called to say he had seen a similar cylindrical object, also at 10.45pm, on May 12.

"I saw exactly the same thing on Friday," he said. "But it didn't come over as far as my house."

"Whatever it was didn't seem to make it over Horsham. It seemed to burst into flames, then seemed to be dripping

PIE IN THE SKY?

A four-year study by the MoD reveals that UFOs are not spaceships from other worlds – but natural phenomena. Do we believe them? Or is it a cover-up?

CLOSE ENCOUNTER: Unexplained lights in the sky above Denton Hall, near Ilkley. **BELOW:** UFO hunter Russ Kellett

Main picture: Anthony Chappel-Ross



by Gavin Aitchison

gavin.aitchison@yep.co.uk

UFO experts have hit back at claims in a Government document that reports of alien craft are nothing more than hot air.

Ministry of Defence chiefs have released secret papers, saying most unidentified flying objects (UFOs) are glowing "plasmas" of gas, caused by electricity in the atmosphere.

But experts in our region have criticised the report, and reiterated claims that North Yorkshire is the UFO capital of Britain.

Russ Kellett, of Filey, labelled the report a "whitewash" and said it was based on theory rather than fact.

He said: "This information is totally flawed. It's total and utter theory and it's anecdotal. There is no evidence for it. Everyone's laughing. It's unbelievable. It's like some office junior has sat

down and drawn it up. There is no evidence."

Questioning the plasma theory, Mr Kellett said: "We have got experts that say: 'Does it exist?'"

Mr Kellett said North Yorkshire was one of the most active areas for UFO activity, and said that just last week, a colleague of his in Selby reported seeing a two-tier cake-like object in the sky, along with a flying red ball which turned orange.

Mr Kellett said 15 per cent of all UFO sightings reported to the MoD were from North Yorkshire – totalling about 22 last year.

He said: "That's a hell of a lot, and that's just people that have reported it to the MoD. There are a lot more unreported sightings as well. There's a heck of a lot going on and it can't be explained by plasma."

Fellow expert Phil Shepherdson, of Woodthorpe, York, accepted the plasma theory as

valid, but said it did not explain all incidents.

He said: "Astronauts have seen this kind of thing, and seen electricity travelling upwards from lightning, so we know it can happen. I'm not surprised they are saying this, but it does not explain all the sightings at all. It's maybe just a 'stop' for the public."

Mr Shepherdson voiced concern about the secrecy of the report, which was compiled by defence experts between 1996 and 2000, and released last week in response to a Freedom of Information request by academics at Sheffield Hallam University.

He said: "What worries me is why, on something like this, we are not involved as UFO investigators. When it comes to something like this, I think there should be more openness and trust."

He said he concluded "years ago" that plasma could explain some, but not all, cases.

GAVIN AITCHISON asked people in York whether they believe in UFOs, and what they thought of the Ministry of Defence report



Ellidh Alexander, 31, of Huntington Road: "I have never seen a UFO personally. Whether they have any alien connection I do not know. I do not see why not to be honest."



Sharon Forster, 19, of King's Square: "I once saw two bright lights in the sky. I thought it was a reflection, but I wound down the window and it was still in the sky."



Matthew Block, 26, of Fulford, said: "No, I've not seen a UFO. I'm sure they do exist somewhere, but I've not so far seen them."



Aaron Baxter, 21, of King's Square, said: "I think it's just people making up stories. Seeing is believing, but in the sky it could be anything. I think it's all down to the Government."

UFO SIGHTINGS IN NORTH YORKSHIRE

Phil Shepherdson was travelling along the Huby to Crayke road in 1978, when he saw a triangular object hovering over a field, with strange figures standing around. He said his memory faded as he approached them.

In January 2005, a dog-walker in Scarborough reported seeing 200 white-yellow balls of lights coming towards the coast from the North Sea.

Earlier that month, a UFO-spotter reported something over Selby, which looked "like a snake in the sky, with lights all over the bottom and top".

Leslie Brigham took a picture, left, of a mysterious light in the sky over York in September, 1971

'We also saw mysterious object in sky'



Claude Harvey and Irene Henson hope the truth is out there. C6190886

MORE reports have come in of a strange light in the sky over Horsham on April 28 night. A Springfield Park Road couple and two friends said that around 10.45pm they saw a bright orange light which seemed to split into pieces, then fade from sight, as reported in the County Times last week.

Now several other groups of people have come forward to say that they spotted it as well. All are at a loss to explain what they saw.

Andrew Malone took several photos as it passed over his home in Ropeland Way, Horsham.

He described it as cylinder-shaped, flying horizontally, at a steady

speed.

Mr Malone said it appeared to come from the north-east, heading in the direction of Springfield Park Road.

Claude Harvey, also of Ropeland Way, told the County Times: "As me and my friends were coming back from the theatre we saw a very strange light that was moving across the sky westwards."

"We see the planes flying over from Gatwick fairly regularly, but this was nothing like that. It was orangey-yellow and constant, not flashing."

"We had absolutely no idea what it could be, but we knew we had never seen anything like it in our lives."

Meadow Farm Lane, Horsham, resident Marie McKay said: "Whatever it was, we saw it in the sky above us and then it did a really smooth turn and went over to where Broadbridge Heath is."

"It was the colour of bright fire. It came closer and closer and then split into two."

"It definitely wasn't a plane because it didn't have flashing lights and its movement was much too smooth. It was nothing like we had ever seen before."

"We were sitting there in amazement and we couldn't believe our eyes when a bit dropped off it and fell to the ground."

Margaret Goard, of

Drake Close, Horsham, said: "We saw these strange lights in the sky while we were in North Heath Lane on Friday night. "I thought it was a hot air balloon, but it wasn't big enough and it was travelling much too fast."

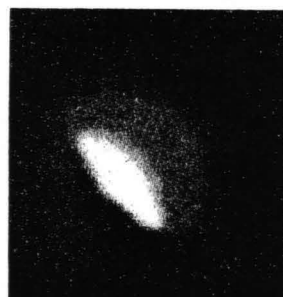
"It came from the direction of Ruspur and was moving quickly towards the town."

"It looked like a plane but it couldn't have been because it broke up."

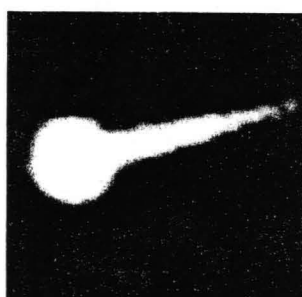
Another Drake Close resident, Julie Poole, said her husband and his friends saw it, but unfortunately she didn't.

However, in an email to the County Times she put forward a couple of theories which might help to explain the phenomenon.

"I do know that the Lyrid



Andrew Malone's picture of the mysterious light spotted on April 28.



Another object photographed by Richard McGowan on April 14.

'I thought it was a hot air balloon, but it wasn't big enough and it was travelling much too fast. It came from the direction of Ruspur and was moving quickly towards the town'

- Margaret Goard
Horsham resident

meteor shower (associated with Thatcher's Comet, discovered in 1861) is due around April 21 to 22 - Something along the lines of 12 meteors an hour can be spotted on a clear moonless night - maybe the light was a fall-out of these.

"Certainly during May there are a lot of meteor showers passing through the upper atmosphere."

"Usually these manifest as what is known as noctilucent clouds - thin high clouds of ice crystals, which catch the light of the sun an hour before and after midnight - although they usually appear ghostly bluish white. Perhaps this was one ice crystal that had strayed!"

"Our planet Earth also crossed the path of Halley's comet on May 5 and 6 - tiny particles of ice hit the upper atmosphere and are known as the Eta Aquarid meteors."

Richard McGowan, of Broadbridge Heath, said he saw and photographed an unusual orange light in the sky in the small hours of April 14.

He told the County Times: "I was woken up by my cat scratching on my window. As I let her in I noticed a strange orangey yellow blob in the sky that had a tail."

"In comparison to the moon it was fairly big. At first I thought it was a large rock burning in the atmosphere."

Mr McGowan said he soon realised it was too slow to be a meteor, and it couldn't be a plane because it had no flashing lights, and was in any case moving too slowly to be a commercial aircraft.

Luckily, Mr McGowan had his mobile phone camera handy, and managed to get a picture.

On reflection, he wondered if it could have been a large rock deflecting off the Earth's atmosphere.

EXTRA, Maidstone, England - June 2, 2006

Mystery of objects seen in the sky

A WOMAN who spotted five unidentified flying objects moving slowly across the night skyline is appealing for others who saw them to get in touch.

Angela Boswell, from Man-gravet, Maidstone, was driving through Loose at about 9.30pm on Monday, May 15, when she spotted the five strange objects moving slowly in the direction of Boxley.

Mrs Boswell said: "I was driving my son to his girlfriend's down the Loose Road near Plains Avenue when I spotted these weird things in the sky. The last two were close together, too close for them to be a helicopter or aeroplane. They were round and were flying very low."

Mrs Boswell's husband saw the objects from their home and Mrs Boswell's sister, who lives in Tovil, spotted them too.

■ Did you see the weird objects? Call the KM newsroom on 01622 695666 or e-mail messengernews@thekmgroupp.co.uk

UFOs DO EXIST, SAYS WATCHER

By Emma-Kate Lidbury

HE CLAIMS to have seen spaceships soaring across the city's skies and crop circles 300ft-wide, so it will take more than an official report to convince this Oxford UFO expert aliens don't exist.

A confidential four-year study by the Ministry of Defence, made public under the Freedom of Information Act, concluded there is no proof of alien life forms.

But Michael Soper, a member of the Contact International UFO research group, has spent decades of his life studying unidentified flying objects and believes the MoD's report does not throw any doubt on his findings.

Mr Soper, of Ouseley Close, New Marston, who says he first saw a UFO in 1959 over the Malvern Hills in Worcestershire, said: "Obviously, the MoD can't admit aliens exist."

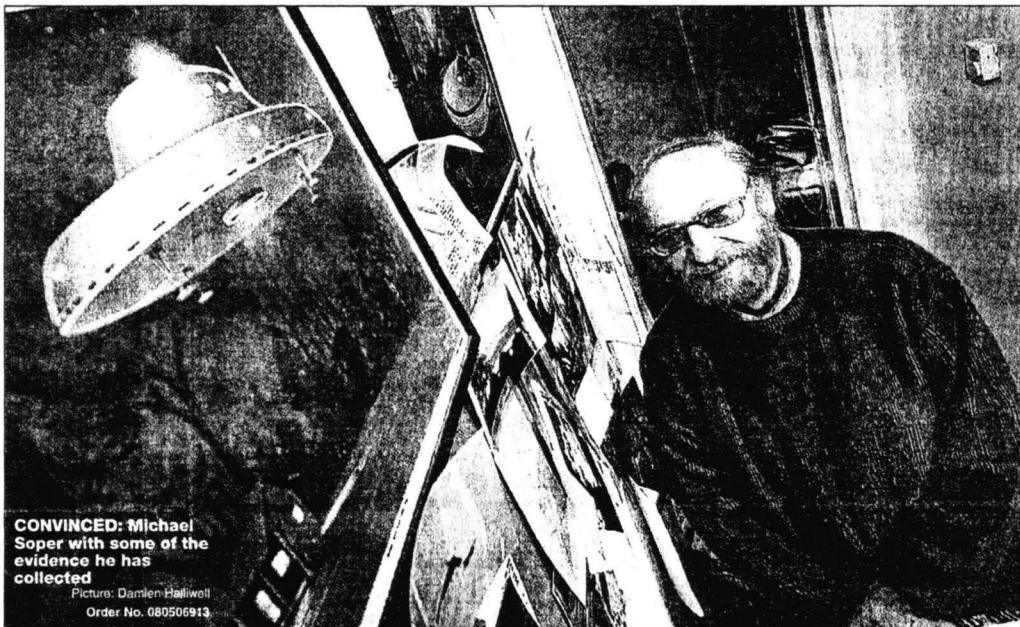
"Even if they knew they did, they could not admit to it. This is the only kind of report they could produce. I don't agree with most of it."

The report, undertaken by the Defence Intelligence Staff, part of the MoD, concludes that sightings of UFOs can be rationally explained and that meteors and their "well-known effects" are responsible for "some unidentified aerial phenomena".

But Mr Soper insisted this could only explain about five per cent of the cases he had encountered.

He said: "You would need to have a strange mentality to believe the conclusions of this report."

"I have read thousands of witness reports and seen all kinds of evidence and the MoD's conclusions do not



CONVINCED: Michael Soper with some of the evidence he has collected
Picture: Damien Halliwell
Order No. 080506913

Researcher dismisses secret report

come anywhere near to explaining them."

Mr Soper, a researcher and mathematician, said he had

Banbury. In 1995, he took a picture of a spherical object burned after UFOs have landed on them.

"There are multiple wit-

ness reports. The MoD's report shows there is a case to answer, if they feel the need to produce a 400-page

report. We were told there was no study being undertaken, but in actual fact a four-year study was being carried out.

"It is a bittersweet victory for us. They have admitted there is something to explain."

The report, entitled *Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK*, was completed in 2000 and stamped "Secret: UK Eyes Only".

Only a few copies were produced and the author's identity has been protected.

elidbury@nqo.com

'I have read thousands of witness reports and seen all kinds of evidence and the MoD's conclusions do not come anywhere near to explaining them'

MICHAEL SOPER

pictures of an object he believes to be an alien craft which he spotted on a photo taken of a cloud near

gated crop circles near Garsington. He said: "I've heard of petrol engines just cut out when a UFO has flown

ness reports. The MoD's report shows there is a case to answer, if they feel the need to produce a 400-page

Iain Hollingshead Whatever happened to ... UFOs?

Man kind has been spotting strange objects in the sky since biblical times, but it wasn't until the 1940s that terms such as "flying saucer" regularly appeared in the headlines. Footage of an alien autopsy near Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947 reached an estimated global audience of one billion before being exposed as a fake. The film of this story - *Alien Autopsy*, starring Ant and Dec - opened earlier this month.

However, it would appear that public interest in UFOs has waned significantly since the 1970s film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* suggested we are not alone. A forlorn statement on the website of the British UFO Research Association (Bufora) declares that they are scaling down their activities. "The halcyon days of ufology are over," explains chairman Robert Rosamond, bemoaning the effects of "dwindling subject material". A number of regional affiliates have closed down altogether, some of them blaming the end of *The X-Files* series for waning interest.

It is a far cry from 1951, when the ministry of defence set up the flying saucer working party. Although the committee dismissed reports of alien sightings as "optical illusions and psychological delusions", its findings were not made public until 50 years later, fuelling suspicions of a cover-up. Public paranoia was not helped by the fact that most UFO sightings have occurred near RAF bases, with the result that the MoD has been reluctant to release too many details.

Today, however, rational explanations appear to exist for most UFO sightings. Last October, drivers on the M25 pulled over to stare at what turned out to be Thai lanterns. In December 2004, Southern Electric was moved to persuade its customers that a huge flash of light was due to a power surge and not any extraterrestrial interference. Even the infamous Rendlesham Forest incident in December 1980 was later blamed on a prank-loving American airman. Kites, soap bubbles, feathers, weather balloons, parachutes and tumbleweeds have all been mistaken for alien visitors.

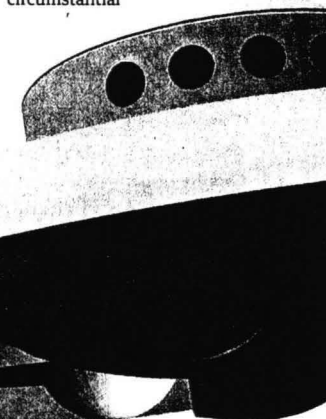
UFO enthusiasts have also suffered by association with their fringe, loony element. The *Flying Saucer Review* - which bizarrely claims to have Prince Philip among its subscribers - has an online article suggesting HIV was brought to earth by aliens. A documentary in 2004 reported that flying saucers were actually created by Nazi scientists and sold to the American military.

Understandably, this kind of press is a deterrent to potential hobbyists. "People don't come forward because they fear ridicule," says Roy Lake, the chairman of London UFO Studies.

A more obvious explanation for fading interest in UFOs is that the craze has simply run its course. "The internet killed it off," says Mr Lake. "And it's been overshadowed by other events." The internet has also given support to

myriad conspiracy theories. Why worry about extraterrestrial life when down here on earth you can concern yourself with whether MI5 murdered Princess Diana, Nasa staged the moon landings and Jesus had a bloodline that can be traced to Leonardo da Vinci?

Yet Bufora's Rosamond remains phlegmatically optimistic about the future of ufology. "For every 100 cases there are 99 rational explanations," he says. "But there is always one which confounds the scientists. The problem is that we have realms of circumstantial



evidence, but not one piece of conclusive proof. No one will believe anything until they have seen it for themselves."

At least one editor of a UFO magazine is taking no chances. "No home visits, please," reads the request next to his home address.

Do you have a forgotten news story that you would like chased up? Email: iain@iainhollingshead.co.uk

Tales of the unexpected

ACCORDING to Echo readers, Lincolnshire has a history of spooky happenings.

At the end of last year, residents claimed to have seen spaceships hovering over the county.

Two groups of people said they saw the UFOs on December 30 and 31.

Beth Clarkson (58), of Dene Close, Skellingthorpe, had been at a caravan convention at the Memorial Hall in Wellingore when she saw an "orange, cone-shaped object burning in the sky".

Mum Sandy Gregory, of St Peter's Avenue, Boultham, Lincoln, had a similar experience.

She told the Echo: "The strangest thing flew past at about tree height... like a plate with a flame on it".

Six other unidentified flying objects have been reported in Lincolnshire's skies in the past five years.

And the ghost of Dambusters ace Guy Gibson's dog Nigger is said to haunt RAF Scampton.

And there have been numerous sightings of a huge black panther-like creature across the county.

Holidaymakers have reported spotting a large black cat thought to be a panther at least 12 times in the last year at the Lowfields Country Retreat, in Eagle Road, North Scarle, near Lincoln.

TRANSLATIONS

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

August 6, 2006 — *INFOBAE.COM* — ARGENTINA: RETURN OF CHUPACABRAS ALARMS RURAL SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO — Residents of this province found a group of kid goats slain in a pen. The case shares several similarities with events that took place four years ago plus a new feature: the presence of strange lights.

The ghost of the red-muzzled mouse

Three years ago, several rural districts in Argentina produced reports concerning the presence of mutilated cattle, causing INTI authorities to intervene and find an answer in the presence of the carrion rodent better known as "the red-muzzled mouse."

The narratives, which shared the same tone as those involving the Chupacabras - a sort of extraterrestrial monster engaged in attacking livestock in various parts of Latin America - appeared to vanish after the official explanation and there was practically no further discussion of the topic.

However, in a rural sector near the Santiago locality of Garza, Department of San Martin, the story appears to have flashed up from the embers.

According to the *El Liberal* newspaper, goat carcasses were found mutilated with surgical precision in a pen of the Quimilioj wilderness, 16 km from the aforementioned locality.

The goats showed no signs of having been attacked by carrion animals, at least not known ones, nor signs of putrefaction, much like the cows found in the same region in 2002. The strange animal deaths, according to locals, was preceded by the sighting of strange lights flying over the area. — CREDIT: Virgilio Sanchez Ocejó, *Miami UFO Center*

August 6, 2006 — *El Liberal*, Santiago, Argentina — Unknown Santiago - Mystery Returns After a 4-year Absence — MUTILATED ANIMALS AND STRANGE LIGHTS REAPPEAR IN QUIMILIOJ — History repeats: In 2002, mutilated cows appeared in this locality of the Dept. of San Martin, as they did in many parts of the country. Today, four years later, history repeats. Mutilated goats were found in a pen. The previous evening, local residents reportedly saw "strange" lights in the sky.

A resigned expression and serene voice reveal the fact that Juan de la Cruz Paz is no longer startled by anything at all. In 2002, two of his cows were found mutilated near his humble ranch. There were no signs of putrefaction and carrion animals did not dare touch the animals' remains. Today, four years after that disconcerting experience, four of his goats were found with the same signs of mutilation and no one can explain -- again -- what happened to them.

"Don Juandela," as he is known by the locals, lives in the Quimilioj wilderness, some 16 km northwest of Garza in the Dept. of San Martin. Four years ago, this province, as well as others, made national and international headlines when bovines began turning up with mutilated vital organs [removed] with a surgical precision hitherto unseen.

With these recent discoveries, the mystery returned to Quimilioj yet again. And although Don Juan de la Cruz reported that he did not officially report the cases, since "it will all be for naught," as in 2002, the inhabitants of this inhospitable wilderness are concerned by the new chain of strange events that is taking place in this site and which they already endured four years ago.

Although in 2002, they preferred to keep silent about many things they saw and experienced, on this occasion, interviewed by *EL LIBERAL*, several residents of Quimilioj decided to break their silence and tell us about the strange manifestations of "flying objects with unusual lights."

"We Couldn't Touch The Cows Because There Was Electricity"

EL LIBERAL visited Quimilioj's residents last Thursday. All of the locals consulted on the cases involving cow mutilation in 2002 and those whose goats met the same fate a week ago, coincided in their accounts. "Strange lights could be seen in the wilderness the night before the mutilations."

When several Argentinean provinces began reporting cattle mutilations in 2002, her husband was among the first Santiago residents who reported strange cases in this province.

"The first thing he found was a dead cow missing her eyes, guts and many inner organs, but he didn't pay it much mind because it's only normal for an animal to die every so often in the fields. But when we started seeing on TV that dead cows were being found in the same way as ours, my husband decided to file a report, because it was very strange," Graciela Paz de Lemos told *EL LIBERAL*.

Graciela still has vivid recollections of that first encounter with the astonishing. "When my husband found the cows, all of the locals went to the site, which is about 2 km from my house. When we got to where the animal was, no one could approach it because the current would seize you. The truth is that it scared us a lot, and we're still scared today," she added.

Graciela agreed with her neighbor Ernestina about the strange lights that appeared in the wilderness always before cattle mutilations. "Every time we saw a large light in the wilderness, an animal would be lost the next day. Whenever we went to look for it, it would turn up dead and mutilated."

"The cows had their eyes well gouged-out, as if they'd removed them with a spoon. Furthermore, they would leave them like a bag, that is to say, nothing but hide, because they would remove all that was inside and left them with nothing. All of the locals felt frightened, because we still don't know what happened to them."

"We Always See Strange Lights in the Countryside"

Although four years ago, when the first mutilated cows turned up, the story did not merit greater attention by researchers, she insists. She does not doubt to ascertain that every time that an animal is found dead under strange circumstances in the countryside, "strange lights going up and down can be seen in the wilderness the night before."

"You're the ones who published that time when the mutilated cows turned up. I remember because the animals turned dead near my house. My name is Ernestina Paz and it's a pleasure to see you here." That was how the woman who, along with her fellow residents of Quimilioj, suffered the experience finding mutilated bovines, presented herself to the team from *EL LIBERAL*.

Today, four years after that incident, Ernestina claims that "what happened at the time is also happening today." She added: "The other night we saw a very powerful light in the wilderness, several colors, going up and down. At the next day, over at Juan de la Cruz Paz's place, near my house, about four goat kids turned

up dead."

Regarding these new discoveries, she remarked: "The goat kids were hollow on the inside, like the cows. It seems as though all their innards had been removed in a single go. Don Juandela didn't find traces of any other animal and there was no blood anywhere."

"That time with the cows, some people said it was Martians, because strange lights could be seen in the wild. It was as though some red-colored thing was burning. Until today, when one wakes up in the early morning, one can see something like giant lamps burning," she observed.

"But as far as I know, this isn't happening only in Quimilioj. When I worked in Garza, a little old man also had all of his sheep devoured. I say that it's something to be afraid of, because one doesn't know what it is. Even other animals are terrified, because when we found the dead cows, not even the crows would come near."

"Animals Were Left As Empty as a Bag"

A man from the deep countryside, Primitivo Paz never feared anything that could befall him in the wilderness, but the situations involving cows and mutilated goats changed his opinion.

All I can tell you is that one's afraid of what one doesn't know, or what you can't explain," he told *EL LIBERAL*.

This resident of Quimilioj also suffered the "terrible" experience of seeing - without knowing how their deaths occurred - dead and mutilated cows. "When the first mutilated cow showed up, we were all alarmed, because we couldn't understand how it happened."

"The animals were down to pure leather, that is to say, empty inside. Furthermore, they were missing eyes and entrails. Even though they came down from Santiago to investigate, we were never told what had happened to the animals. It's still a mystery to us today." — CREDIT: Christian Quintero, *Planeta UFO*

August 11, 2006 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina — ARGENTINA: UFO BETWEEN SANTA ROSA AND TOAY — On Friday, August 11, between 6:40 and 6:50 am, occasional witnesses have reported the sighting of a UFO from the Quintas de Toay district, located to the north of the city in question, which is 12 km distant from Santa Rosa to the southwest.

The eyewitnesses were getting ready to report to their jobs in Santa Rosa and were leaving their homes when they noticed a large triangular object with numerous lights running down its side, noiseless, giving off a kind of fog or otherwise enveloped in it, at a visual angle of between 40 and 25 degrees respectively. The witnesses remarked that it flew high and relatively close to them until it lost itself from their sight.

The object's path went from southwest to northeast and always in the periphery of the cities of Santa Rosa and Toay. We may dismiss any possibility that the Moon was involved; while full, it was hardly "moving."

The object was also observed by toll booth and bus station workers along the avenue linking Santa Rosa and Toay. — CREDIT: Salvatore Valentin Carta

August 20, 2006 — *Miami UFO Center* and *El Nuevo Herald*, Miami, Florida — CUBA: Were UFOs Involved in the Forced Landing of A Private Plane? — [Note: This is part of an article that appeared today in Miami's *El Nuevo Herald* concerning a recording in which Raul Castro discusses the forced landing of a private plane by Cuban MiGs on February 24, 1996] — RAUL ORDERED PRIVATE PLANE TO LAND by Wilfredo Cancio Isla, *El Nuevo Herald* — The recording corroborates multiple information regarding the events that took place with regard to the incident and contributes details on the condition of high alert generated among the [Cuban] military hierarchy and the government in the days following February 24.

The tension surrounding the military commands at the time gave rise to special reasons for protecting the travels of Fidel Castro within the country and the presence of the highest government figures in mass political mobilizations, according to the tape.

In the tape, Raul explains that in recent days he had to issue a forced landing order to the airplane conveying Fidel Castro from Ciego de Avila, since the San Antonio de los Banos air base had detected several contacts in the center of the Havana province.

"When [Fidel] was heading there [Havana], I gave the order to land him in Varadero. It was necessary to say that the order was mine," he says. "Make them land in Varadero! And he, [Fidel] ordered them to comply."

When mentioning the mid-air contacts, Raul says that "we called them UFOs," but does not explain if they were U.S. probe aircraft or artificial electronic interference on the radar screen. — CREDIT: Virgilio Sanchez Ocejó

August 22, 2006 — *Miami UFO Center*, Miami, Florida — CHUPACABRAS STRIKES AGAIN IN JALPATAGUA — Residents of the Municipality of Jalpatagua, Jutiapa, are alarmed by the deaths of several farm animals. Apparently, the so-called Chupacabras is on the prowl again, since all of the sheep have been found dead under mysterious circumstances.

Members of a family discovered the remains of several sheep slain in a mysterious fashion; it appears that another animal attacked them, but merely drained their blood instead of devouring them.

Since then, they decided to keep watch over the sector for several evenings. However, no predator was found even while the beast kept attacking small animals.

One of the witnesses to the sheep deaths noted that in a single night, they found four dead animals lined up, presenting bite-marks on their necks.

Some residents have speculated that there is a tigrillo (jaguar) on the loose. However, given the manner in which the animals are being attacked, others point to the involvement of the Chupacabras.

The fact of the matter is that not even the authorities have been able to explain the situation, and the mystery continues. — CREDIT: Virgilio Sanchez Ocejó

August 26, 2006 — *Chile.com* and *Miami UFO Center*, Miami, Florida — CHILE: RENEWED CHUPACABRAS ATTACK IN CALAMA — ORBE - (Calama) Some residents of Calama's Chunchuri Bajo sector are concerned following an alleged new attack by the now-legendary "Chupacabras," after a number of animals appeared dead in one of the sector's plots of land.

Notice of the event occurred after a local woman heard strange noises on her rooftop. The next day she discovered that over 10 animals were dead in their pens.

The report was made by paranormal researcher Jaime Ferrer, who stated that this is not an isolated event, in his opinion. With regard to the aforementioned creature's attack, Ferrer explained that after becoming aware of the animal slaughter, he visited the site and interviewed the owner of Plot No.4. "What is strange about the affair is that if starving dogs had been involved, at least one of the animals would have been devoured. But quite the opposite occurred: no signs of bite marks or tearing could be found on the animals. One of the rabbits presented a deep hole on its left side, a trademark of a Chupacabras attack."

According to the information, the pen showed signs of having been ripped apart. However, no one saw anything on the night of the attack. Perhaps the only sign that something was amiss involved the behavior of one of the small dogs owned by the affected Calama resident; the pet appeared grief-stricken and even "cried" at times. The paranormal researcher stated that this is not the first time that this person has lost part of her animals to phenomena like this. — CREDIT: Virgilio Sanchez Ocejó

August 27, 2006 — *Ana Luisa Cid* — MEXICO: UFOs BUZZ GUADALUPE BASILICA? — Photos of probable chance UFOs over the Basilica de Guadalupe in northern Mexico City. The image, taken by Mario Casta, is dated August 14, 2006, while the one from Ing. Hurtado is dated September 2001.

Both photographs were recently submitted to researcher Ana Luisa Cid.

"As a further detail," she writes, "due to the sinking of the old Basilica's foundations, a new circular-based shrine was built beside it, where the original image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is now venerated."

[See photos at bottom of page]

August 30, 2006 — *EFE News Agency* and *El Nuevo Diario*, Nicaragua — COSTA RICA: "PHANTOM LADY" APPEARS IN SAN JOSE'S SAPRISSA STADIUM — Ghost frightened two sports officials before kicking off a game between Costa Rica's Saprissa and Nicaragua's Esteli Real — San Jose (EFE) -- Two Central American sports officials were "frightened" on Tuesday night by a "phantom lady" who vanished before their eyes when they followed her to ask her to leave San Jose's Ricardo Saprissa Stadium.

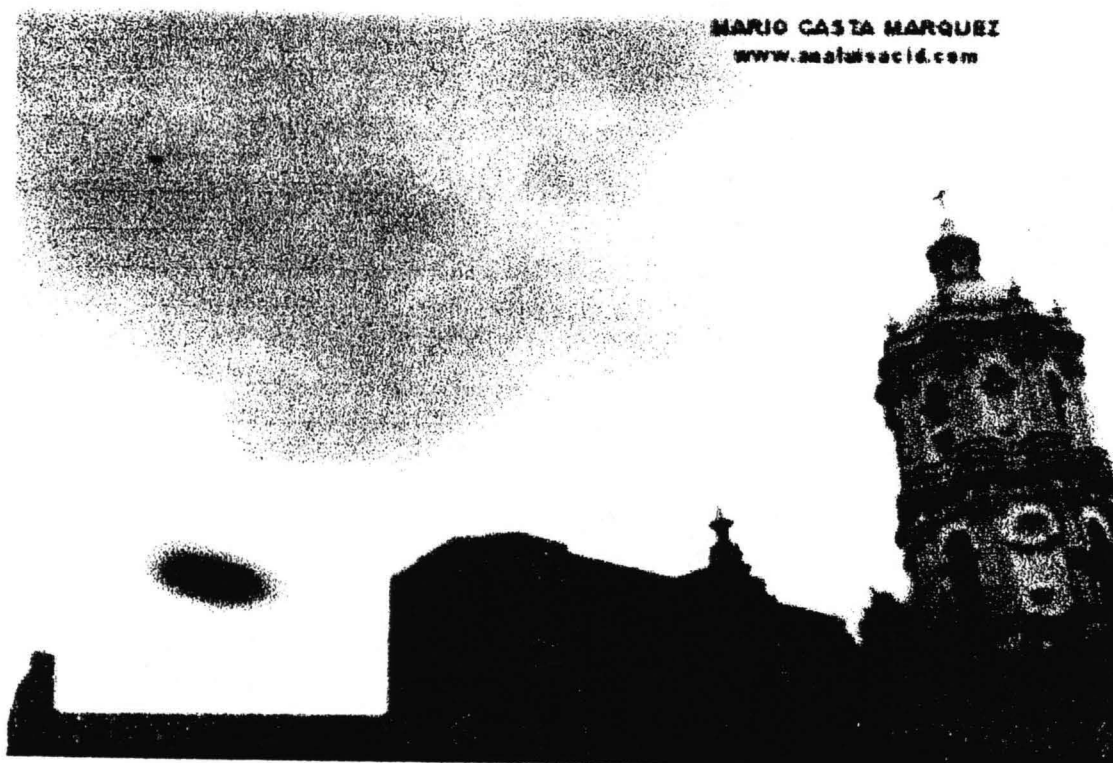
The unusual event took place before the game for the Central American Soccer Union's Cup (UNCAF) between Costa Rica's Saprissa and the Real Esteli, which had to be played behind closed doors due to penalties imposed by CONCACAF.

In a statement made to "Radio Monumental," Mario Escobar, the UNCAF delegate, claimed to have seen, while in the company of Jorge Alarcon, the Saprissa's general manager, nine people in the skybox. Among them was woman dressed in white, approximately 30 years old.

Escobar asked the people to leave the stadium as a closed game was about to be played, but the woman entered an empty broadcasting booth. The official followed her straightaway, only to be startled by the fact that there was no one inside the booth at all.

"I don't know how to explain it. When we said that no unaccredited personnel could be there, she went into the booth (...). I was three meters away and thought that she was being concealed, but she went into the booth and there's no bathroom in which to hide."

Sports commentators broadcasting the event had fun with this "otherworldly story"; the game ended with a 1-0 victory by Saprissa over Esteli in what was a low-quality match. — CREDIT: Christian Quintero



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www.analuisacid.com



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NEWS, Paris, TX - July 30, 2006 CR: T. Adams

BIGFOOT LIVES?

Some believe mysterious creatures call Pat Mayse Lake home

By Sally Boswell

Bigfoot is living along the shores of Pat Mayse Lake, according to C. Thomas Biscardi.

He should know. Hunting Bigfoot is what he does for a living.

But there are those who doubt him and his "research."

For years, Lamar Point residents have reported sightings, encounters and what might be evidence of the legendary creature. Many reports are recorded on Web sites devoted to Bigfoot and the hunt for the elusive creature.

Biscardi's Web site — searchingforbigfoot.com — is where the Redwood City, Calif., man claims the has seen Bigfoot on the shores of Pat Mayse Lake.

Earlier this month, the Associated Press reported on a lawsuit filed by the Bigfoot hunter in Northern California against Great American Bigfoot Research Organization, a company he founded. Biscardi told reporters he was in Texas, where he had recently found evidence of Bigfoot near Paris.

An account of a Bigfoot sighting on the shores of a lake is described in an Internet report by Bob Schmalbach, a writer and Biscardi associate. The Web site also includes the names of two Lamar County residents who have their own tales to tell.

"A friend of my wife had seen one out by the lake," said Mike Sells, who lives south of the lake on FM 1500. "I said I'd just look and after awhile I found a track. That was my first encounter."

"I was real skeptical at first," Sells said. "Over time I did some research on Indians of this area and came across an article on an Indian legend of the Sanders Creek wild man."

Sells, along with others

who claim encounters, made castings of some of the prints and it was these artifacts that brought Biscardi to Lamar County.

"He was on an expedition in Honobia, Okla., earlier this year,

Paris on July 15. They made a foray into the woods around the lake that night and reported almost immediately finding footprints, and seeing movement in the trees with

Paris and that he visited the expedition site.

"We went out there, my wife and I, for just about a half hour or so. I saw part of the video they made. It was something; something standing upright."

Schmalbach, who goes by the name JavaBob on his Web site, described the area of the sighting as "something out of Jurassic Park."

The water, he wrote, was "very shallow and was thick with reeds, tree stumps and the biggest lily pads I have ever seen." He also described finding footprints at the edges of "holes where something had dug up clams" with the shells discarded nearby. He marveled at the size of the shells, saying they were bigger than a man's hand.

JavaBob also told his readers the team had seen a heat silhouette standing in the water several hundred yards out and called it the "largest creature we have ever seen."

According to Darla Barr, Texas Parks and Wildlife game warden, the holes that Java Bob reported were hog wallows. She said feral hogs dig for and eat freshwater mussels that are common to the lake. Raccoons and

nightscopes and infrared cameras.

The next day, Schmalbach invited reporters to join the expedition.

Bob Hallmark, a television reporter from Tyler, accepted the invitation. Hallmark later told viewers that he had seen and videotaped prints, scratch marks in the dirt and signs that something had been breaking open and eating clams along the shore. He also reported seeing on an infrared scope a large heat signature "moving at a high rate of speed through the woods."

Sells reports that the Biscardi team was indeed in

and a local reporter up there knew one of the guys here and he put us in touch." Sells said Biscardi and several of his associates made the trip to Paris to look at the casts.

According to the Web site account of the expedition to Pat Mayse, Biscardi and his crew again came to

Top: A foot print that is about a foot long is embedded along the shore of Pat Mayse Lake near Lamar Point. Could this be the footprint of Bigfoot? Some say yes, but others disagree. The edge of the print has been darkened to allow details of the print to be more easily seen. **Right:** The shore line of Pat Mayse Lake near Lamar Point is dried up and cracked. The lake is nearly six feet below its normal level. Bigfoot researchers that have visited the area have reported it to be a remote and almost prehistoric landscape. Game warden Darla Bar says the lake is down, and the area is used daily.

Same Craft / The Paris News



Thomas Biscardi

other animals do too, she said.

"I never saw those folks out here," she said, standing on the shoreline near the Lamar Point boat ramp, "but I did talk to the guy from Tyler. He described the area and how they got out here, so I know they were right around here."

Walking across the dried lake bed through water lilies, Barr said the site is a daily-use area.

"There's people out here all the time," said the veteran game warden, who has been stationed in Lamar County for nine years. "Hunters — it's hog season right now — boaters, fishermen. Where we're standing is about a quarter of a mile to a half mile from the houses along the road."

"The guy from Tyler TV asked me if had ever seen or heard of any evidence of a Bigfoot in this area," she said, shaking her head. "I told him no."

As Barr walked the shoreline, she pointed out prints from local residents of the area — deer, hog, bobcat, beaver and raccoon, as well as human, both shod and unshod.

"Someone pulled a boat up right here, and one person got out barefooted and walked around," she said, pointing to prints in the gummy mud.

Further along the shore, the game warden stopped and noted one particular print.

The print was a little more than 12 inches long and showed five distinct toes. A left foot based on the position of the instep arch, the print was embedded in the dry soil about 10 feet from the water's edge. A small water lily leaf lay crushed and curled in the center of the print.

Another print was found nearby, a few feet behind, fainter and less discernible. It, too, was a left foot of the same size and shape.

Just to the front and left of the first print, however, a small yellow survey-type flag on a wire fluttered. The flag was there when the print was discovered.

Was this one of the prints Biscardi and his party discovered?

Attempts to reach Biscardi have not been suc-



cessful. Voice mail left at his office in Menlo Park, Calif., this week have not been returned.

Research into Biscardi reveals a history of activities in the field of Bigfoot research. Alex Breittler, a Northern California journalist, says that there are red flags about Biscardi that shouldn't be ignored.

"I believe he's a former Vegas show producer," the former *Redding, (Calif.) Record Searchlight* reporter said. "In other words, he has a career in entertainment and lots of people seem to think his Bigfoot expeditions are just an extension of his show. On the other hand, I have talked with some people who think he's genuine."

Even among those who believe in Bigfoot, many question Biscardi's sightings. Contributors to Bigfoot forums such as Crytomundo and the American Bigfoot Society Clearinghouse question his claims.

"He probably thinks there's money in it if he captures one," said Sells, when asked if he believes Biscardi is on the up and up. "I think he's pretty sincere in wanting to capture one."

"I haven't had a face-to-



Sam Craft / The Paris News

Darla Barr, Texas Parks and Wildlife county game warden, holds a 6-and-a-half-inch mussel shell found along the shore of Pat Mayse Lake near Lamar Point on Wednesday. Bigfoot researchers who have visited the area attribute the shells found along to shore to feeding by the mysterious creature they believe inhabits the area.

face encounter, something to convince me that there is such a thing," Sells said. "But some of the people that

have seen them (Bigfoot), I can't doubt their sincerity. They've seen something, enough to scare some of

them, enough to amuse others. I can't doubt their veracity."

sally.boswell@theparisnews.com

CHIEFTAIN, Pueblo, CO - July 22, 2006 CR: D. Perkins

Costilla County officials probe cattle mutilation

Sheriff says the marks are consistent with an earlier spate of mutilations he investigated.

By ERIN SMITH
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

SAN LUIS — The Costilla County sheriff's office is investigating a possible cattle mutilation.

Sheriff Roger Benton said, "I've taken care of a lot of them (cattle mutilations). This could very well be a mutilation but we don't know. It is consistent in one way with others I've investigated. The udder, tongue, and rear end of the cow were mutilated."

Rancher and former Costilla County Commissioner Manuel Sanchez called Benton's office last week to report the suspected mutilation of a 5-year-old Limousin cow that Sanchez found dead in his herd. The cow reportedly had been alive and well a few days earlier.

As undersheriff in the mid-1990s, Benton investigated a number of similar cattle deaths.

Deputy Cruz Soto was the investigating deputy in last week's case on the Sanchez property.

Benton said some of the mutilation could have been done by predators, but indicated it was unlikely predators made the kill since the cow apparently was healthy.

"We've not had a mutilation or anything close to it in quite a few years, since the mid-90s," Benton said.

"I'm not positive, but I feel

confident (from looking at photographs) to say this was a mutilation. I hope it's not happening again, but it's very consistent with the ones I've investigated," Benton said.

The apparent mutilation has drawn interest from outside the San Luis Valley. Benton said that two men from Aurora who investigate mutilations stopped by his office on Monday.

Benton said it was his understanding that the veterinarians Sanchez summoned to investigate the incident did not respond.

Sanchez, a county commissioner here from 1980 to 1988, said his herd experienced a mutilation in 1992 and one prior to that. He said another rancher lost a cow this week but did not know whether that was a mutilation.

The Sanchez spread is about three miles from his home. "There were other cows in the herd. Whatever it was seems to pick out the strongest and the youngest. She was a 1,400 to 1,600 pound cow and she had a 350-pound calf which I'll bottle-feed."

"It's hard to say who or what did this. I know nobody from here could do that kind of work," Sanchez said.

He said he finally was able to persuade a veterinarian to check the cow out, but the doctor never got out of his pickup. The vet said he thought it was the work of birds, dogs or coyotes.

"It could not have been an animal. The cuts were clean. There was no blood, and the guts are pretty strange" Sanchez said.

"I've been a hunter and rancher. We don't do those kinds of cuts. It's a big loss; the meat goes to waste," he said.

POST, Denver, CO - June 28, 2006 CR: P. Noonan



Gilmar Nascimento / The Associated Press

TROPICAL STONEHENGE | A grouping of granite blocks along an Amazon hilltop in Brazil's Amapa state may be the vestiges of a centuries-old astronomical observatory. The 127 blocks, some of them up to 9 feet tall, are spaced at regular intervals around the hill, like a crown 100 feet in diameter. On the shortest day of the year, the shadow of one of the blocks disappears when the sun is directly above it. Anthropologists know that indigenous people were acute observers of the stars and sun, but the discovery of a physical structure suggests pre-Columbian Indians in the Amazon rain forest were more sophisticated than suspected. Archeologists became aware of the site after a geological survey in 2005.

SPOKESMAN-REVIEW, Spokane, WA - July 16, 2006

Mega ice meteor



The giant ice ball that fell out of a clear sky in a Johannesburg suburb on July 7 was determined to have been one of Africa's first known impacts from a meteorological mystery known as a megacryometeor. The impact created a small crater in a parking lot, which was left covered with pieces of broken ice. Such

phenomena have been reported since the 19th century, and a swarm of falling ice balls that lasted for a week six years ago in Spain caused extensive damage to vehicles and an industrial storage facility.

CR: J. & L. Nicholson

NATIONAL POST, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - Aug. 19, 2006 CR: G. Conway

BEAST MAY HAVE BEEN WILD DOG, EXPERT SAYS

By LEE GREENBERG

A mysterious beast said to have lurked in the Maine countryside for more than a decade — attacking pets and frightening children with its blood-curdling howls and glow-in-the-dark eyes — might have been a wild dog, according to an expert who examined the creature's carcass this week.

"I'm pretty convinced ... it's a dog," Loren Coleman, a cryptozoologist, or expert in the study of unexplained animals, said yesterday. "It may be mixed with something else, maybe mixed with a wolf. It's certainly not a standard pet dog that's escaped."

A story in the local newspaper this week prompted a flurry of national and international attention as pictures of the dark, odd-looking creature circulated. But nowhere was interest greater than in the rural section of southwestern Maine where for years, lore has circulated about a mutant creature roaming the woodlands and feeding on domestic animals.

Area resident Michelle O'Donnell, therefore, isn't so quick to accept Mr. Coleman's assessment. Ms. O'Donnell, 42, is still shaken by a run-in with the animal about a week before it was killed, when it was reportedly run over by a car while chasing a cat.

That day, the mystery beast skulked into her backyard while she was sitting at her kitchen table.

She ran outside and looked at it long enough to glimpse its "evil looking face" and smell a "horrible, horrible stench" that seemed to emanate from the beast.

"I've never seen anything like it. It wasn't a wolf, it wasn't a fox, it wasn't a coyote or coyote, but it's possibly a combination of a few things," she said.

"There have been a lot of people scared — their dogs have been getting shredded and torn and killed, their cats and farm animals and you know there's been a lot of stuff going on in these parts for many, many years. And that didn't even cross my mind, I just wanted to know what it was."

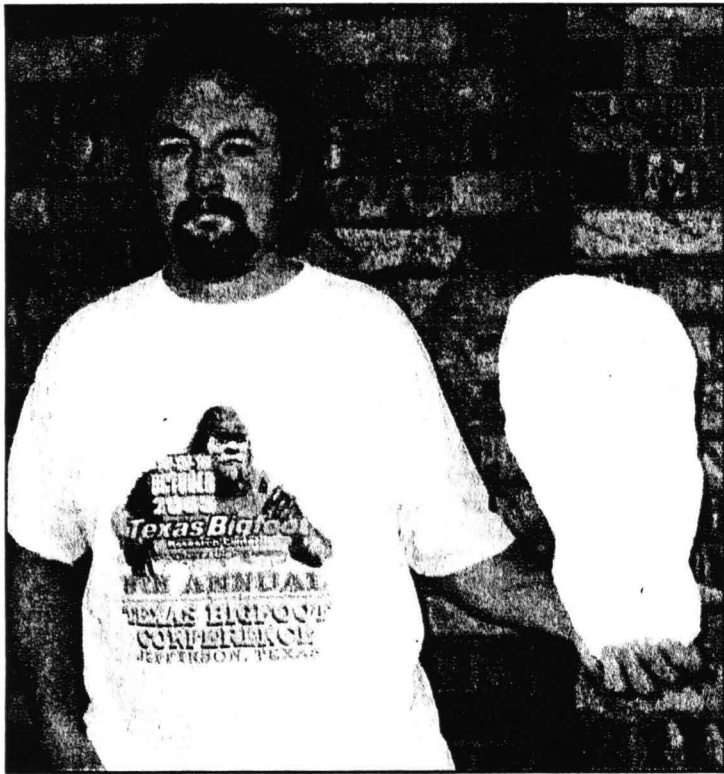
About one week later, a neighbour found the animal's carcass beneath some power lines. Ms. O'Donnell says area game wardens and animal control officers refused to examine the remains.

When Mr. Coleman arrived, most of the remains — including the skull — had been removed by vultures. However, he says the animal's ribcage and paws appear smaller when viewed in person, because the photos snapped by Ms. O'Donnell don't indicate scale.

The legend will likely be put to rest within the next several weeks, when DNA samples are returned from the two labs currently analyzing them.

CanWest News Service

Is Big Foot really out there?



Area resident Scott Schubbe is pictured above with a plaster cast of what is allegedly a Big Foot footprint..

Scott Schubbe is trying to solve the puzzle of Big Foot

By Michael Reisig

Scott Schubbe spent much of his early life in the woods of Northern Illinois — hunting, fishing, and just observing nature. He loves the challenge of a good mystery as well.

Schubbe said he experienced a conundrum that would puzzle him for years — on a dark night deep in the backwoods of the north country while hunting with a friend.

"I knew the woods well — the sounds, the smells — I had hunted and trapped some for a living in my youth," Schubbe said. "But one night in 1984, while hunting with my buddy we were sitting on a log, — taking a break, smoking a cigarette, when we heard this incredible sound about 50-60 feet away from us. It was like a combination of a screech and a roar and it sounded like it came from the chest of an animal rather than the voice box. It was intimidating and frightening all at the same time. Just moments later this 'creature' screamed again, but this time it was answered by another in the hills behind us.

I can tell you right now that

was enough for both of us," he continued. "My buddy was one of these burly 'Harley biker' types and I remember the look of fear on his face — I'm sure the same look was on mine. We didn't wait for an introduction to whatever that was that night. We just got out of there fast!"

Schubbe said he had no idea what he had run into that night, but he was certain he would never forget that sound.

"I lived in Hampshire, ILL, until I was 26," he said. I married my wife, Gina, in 1986, and we had a son, Mitchell. In 1982 we moved to Florida — something I had wanted to do for years. My parents took me to the ocean when I was five years old and it left a huge impression on me. I love the sea and the myriad variety of creatures that live there."

In June of 1992, the family settled into Tampa, Fla. Schubbe worked in the maintenance field.

"I worked in apartment maintenance, doing air conditioning electrical, plumbing etc.," he explained. "My experience in the woods many years ago had

become just a memory. But in 1995 my son was in a gifted children program at school and he needed a computer, so we bought one and in the process I became familiar with it too. One day I was surfing the web and I came across a Bigfoot/Sasquatch site. It had a vocal on it that you could actually listen to — it was supposedly the call of a Bigfoot. When I heard that sound it all came back to me — it was the exact same sound I had heard almost 10 years earlier. That really caught my interest."

Schubbe said he began to gather all the information he could on the Bigfoot creature. "I read everything I could find, all the websites and all the literature," he recalled. "I also discovered Bigfoot forums and groups that offered information, interaction, and communication on the subject. I became a member of the forums, the largest being BFF (Bigfoot Forum). This gave me an opportunity to learn as much as I could about this apparently elusive creature."

A year or so ago, he and his wife decided to try another lifestyle, and they moved to the Ouachita Mountains and Mena — which would put Schubbe closer to the enigma that fascinated him so much.

"It's a sort of a different hobby/preoccupation," Schubbe said with a grin. "Because most of the people you talk to about this outside of the forums are barely interested, and the rest think you're wrapped a little loose."

Schubbe said he became interested in plaster casts on the

wily Bigfoot, and he is the proud owner of several — some of the only tangible evidence available he added.

"They say that about 60-70 percent of the Bigfoot sightings go unreported, for one reason or another," he said. "But I believe it's more like about 90 percent. My goal is just to find a few pieces to the puzzle. I don't expect to solve this enigma, but I want to help put the puzzle together."

Schubbe has recently joined two Bigfoot research groups — Sasquatch Research Initiative (SRI), and the Alliance of Independent Big Foot Researchers (AIBR), to aid in the search for evidence that will confirm the existence of Big Foot.

"They work separately, but if there's a Bigfoot incident they will investigate together," he explained. "Myself and a few others here in Arkansas and Oklahoma help in investigations in this area.

"What I really want to do is to find people and have people come forward who can tell me about their experiences regarding the Sasquatch," he continued. "We know that many people have seen or experienced things that could be of benefit in our research — old photos, videos, livestock missing, heard strange sounds, seen large footprints — all this could help. If someone has information, or wants to learn more, they can go to www.sasquatchonline.com, or call toll free — 1-866-415-AIBR. All I'm looking for is to have somebody give me a piece of the puzzle."

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO - May 15, 2006 CR: P. Noonan

City In the sky



Thousands of people in eastern China's Peng Lai city witnessed a prolonged mirage of "high clarity" that lasted for more than four hours, according to state media. The official Xinhua news agency reports mists rising on the shore of the Shandong province port created an image of a city with modern high-rise buildings, broad streets with bustling cars as well as crowds of people. Experts quoted by the agency said many such mirages have been recorded throughout the history of Peng Lai, earning the city a reputation as a dwelling place of the gods. They explained that a mirage is formed when moisture in the air becomes warmer than the temperature of sea, which refracts rays of sunlight to create optical illusions in the sky.

Universal Press Syndicate

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Who are we?



Mike Masterson

I recently reread a book that helps further illuminate the wonders behind this temporary state of consciousness we know as physical existence. In essence, the author says even the minute cells of our bodies can communicate with us from a distance.

"The Secret Life of Your Cells," published in 1989, was authored by Robert B. Stone, Ph.D., who claims that "the cells of your body, even removed and observed at a distance, know what you are thinking."

Stone delves into research by Cleve Backster, who achieved controversial prominence in the 1980s after attaching a polygraph to a house plant and discovering that it registered reactions to human thought and emotions. However, he takes similar research a step beyond by using videotape of Backster's experiments. He tells of 20 prominent researchers who in 1986 visited Backster's laboratory to investigate whether human cells could, indeed, communicate with their host across a distance. By then, Backster had been documenting the phenomenon for two years, but it was difficult for others to accept his findings.

As Stone explains, no genuine investigator can venture into this startling study with a mind that is closed or fearful of offending established vested interests.

Six years earlier, in 1980, graduate student Stephen White, who worked with Backster at San Diego State University, had monitored a group of migratory white cells removed from his mouth and placed in a dish 15 feet away. Using scientifically sound methods, he connected those cells to a polygraph machine and switched on a dual videotape machine that displayed the subject and the polygraph readings on the same screen.

The bottom line: White's dislocated cells clearly responded from a distance to his fluctuating thoughts and emotions as he read through a *Playboy* magazine. Their responses came at precisely the moments of White's peak reactions. The results surprised both him and Backster. But they also were clear and recorded.

"What's most interesting is that White never verbally expressed his thoughts," writes Stone.

Another recorded example is that of Joe, a janitor in Backster's lab building who provided some mouth cells in 1982. Backster centrifuged the cells and arranged them away from Joe's body to be read by a polygraph.

Then he showed Joe a series of photographs as the polygraph machine and the videotape ran.

Stone explains that although Joe's dislocated cells did not respond to unemotional pictures such as a floral display and a geometric design, the polygraph pen leaped when he came to a picture of the Marlboro man. The cells also reacted in dramatic fashion to subsequent photographs of both an alluring woman and an ice cream sundae.

Stone believes, and I agree, that mainstream science, while gradually warming to the reality that consciousness itself—as well as the astounding metaphysical ramifications that entails—has been its own worst enemy by too often ignoring

or hurrying to discredit such groundbreaking studies.

Some of you may recall when I wrote about the incredible computerized EGG experiments headquartered at Princeton and how more than three dozen electronic random generators placed around the planet to measure for the possibility of a global consciousness actually reacted in advance of and for three days after the terrible events of Sept. 11, 2001. The measurable reaction from these EGGS actually began appearing a few hours before the first plane hit the World Trade Center, indicating a broader world consciousness that realized what was about to occur.

Neither the EGG experiment results, Backster's incredible body of work nor the many other astounding revelations now emerging as if by plan from cutting-edge research are the result of hocus-pocus or imagination. They all are rooted in hard science and recorded observation. It all adds up to one undeniable truth for me.

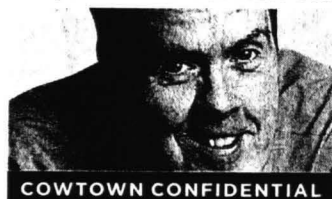
As these pioneer researchers follow their minds and hearts into the realm beyond our restrictive five senses, we should be encouraging them at every frontier. With each new revelation, they are reassuring us that we are spiritual beings who spend brief and challenging periods contained inside fragile, cumbersome bodies, and that what we so easily refer to in our ignorance as "the empty space" around us is, in deeper realities, anything but empty.

Staff columnist Mike Masterson is the former editor of three Arkansas daily newspapers. The original version of this column appeared in January 2002.

STAR, Kansas City, MO - Aug. 27, 2006 CR: J. Johnson

PSSST! CONSPIRACY CONFAB COMING TO KANSAS CITY

HEARNE CHRISTOPHER JR.



Be there or be square.

Anyone who ever harbored the slightest suspicion about the lurking presence of Big Brother and the death of JFK, or fretted over fluoride in drinking water or about why cars don't deliver 200 miles per gallon, listen up.

Uptown Theater head **Larry Sells** is poised to make good on his threat to deliver a state-of-the-art conspiracy convention Dec. 9 at the Uptown.

"It's called Dark Star," Sells says. "That's because we're going to discuss UFOs, talk about 9/11 and some of the ancient technologies that are now being rediscovered on places like the History Channel."

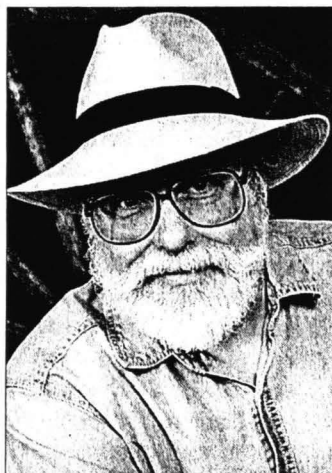
It's not that Sells never met a conspiracy theory he didn't like. But with a library of more than 10,000 magazines, periodicals and books — 5,000 of which deal with assassinations — who better than he to bark at all those mysterious moons?

"I've read parts of all of them," Sells has said of his library. "I read between five and 30 books a month outright and then portions of another 50 books on things I find related to assassinations and (the) involvement of government in everything from bringing Nazis into this country to doing experiments on citizens — things that are considered blasé now."

Some of Sells' conspiracies might be said to be a bit out there.

Example: "The computer that dates back to 2,000 B.C.," Sells says. And technology like electro-magnetic pulse-type weaponry so old that it could have brought down Jericho's walls.

Author **Jim Marrs** will do a two-hour presentation on



Author Jim Marrs will speak at the conspiracy convention slated for Dec. 9.

secret societies and 9/11 at the event, Sells says.

"His best-selling book, *Rule By Secrecy*, was used by **Dan Brown** in the *Da Vinci Code*," Sells says. "And his book *Crossfire* was what **Oliver Stone's** movie 'JFK' was based on. Now his new book *Terror Conspiracy*, comes out Sept. 1 and is about 9/11."

Sells' big bang will feature eight hours of presentations, dinner and a social hour. Tickets will go on sale at the Uptown box office and Ticketmaster Sept. 11 for \$55.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO
June 12, 2006 CR: P. Noonan

Raining alien life?



The mysterious red rain that fell on the Indian state of Kerala during the summer of 2001 may have contained a strange life form of extraterrestrial origin, according to a scientist who has conducted an extensive analysis of rain samples. Writing in the journal *Astrophysics and Space Science*, Dr. Godfrey Louis said the samples contained bizarre, thick-walled, red-tinted cell-like structures that divide like living cells. The particles appear to lack DNA, yet still reproduce plentifully even in water superheated to 600 degrees Fahrenheit, Louis writes. He theorizes the particles came from a meteor or comet fragment that disintegrated above Kerala with a loud explosion, heard just prior to the red rain.