

UFO

NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

October 2006
Number 447

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: Lucius Farish • #2 Caney Valley Drive • Plumerville, AR 72127-8725 USA

CLAYTON NEWS DAILY, Jonesboro, GA - Sept. 19, 2006

UNSOLVED MYSTERIES

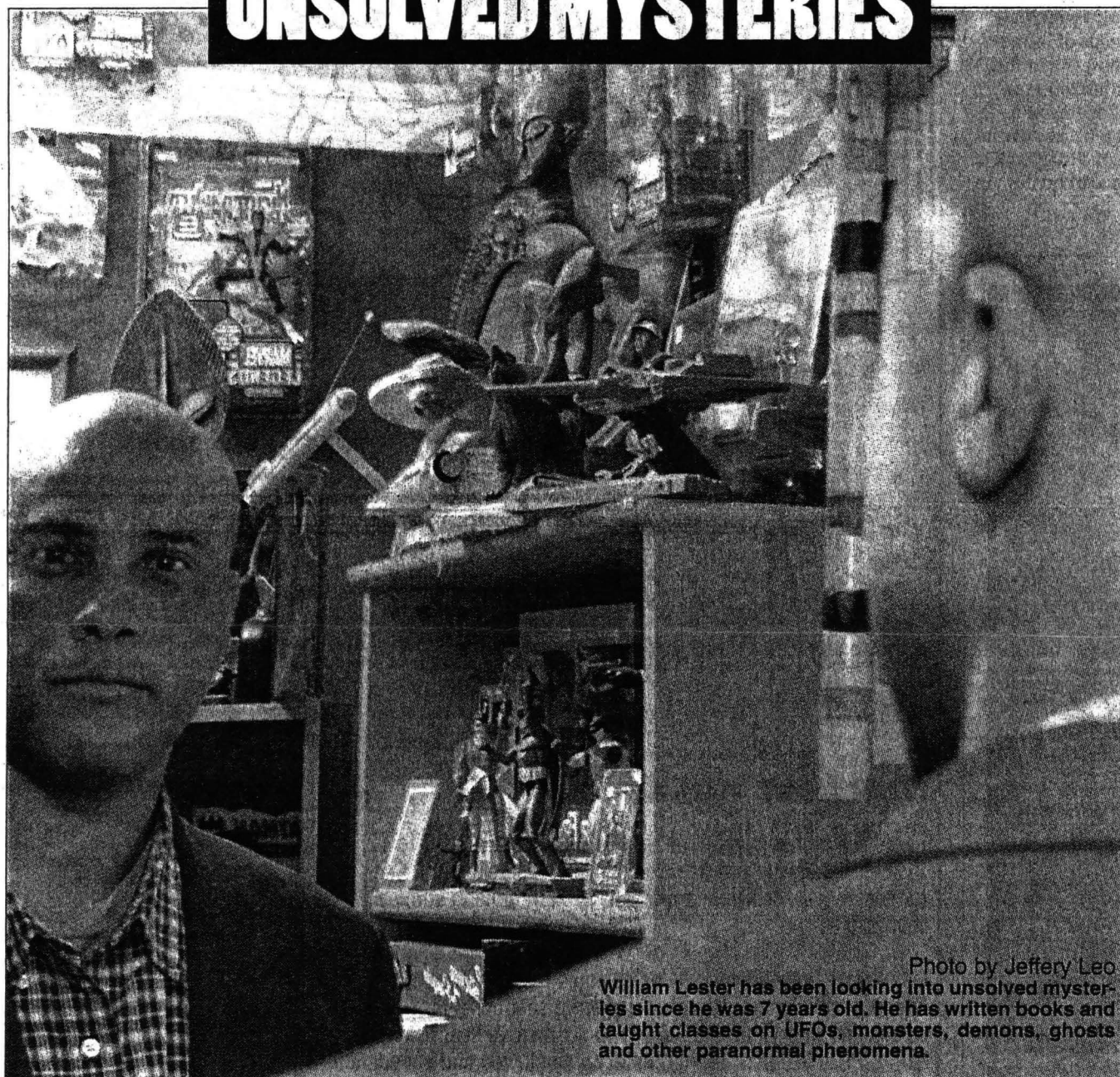


Photo by Jeffery Leo
William Lester has been looking into unsolved mysteries since he was 7 years old. He has written books and taught classes on UFOs, monsters, demons, ghosts and other paranormal phenomena.

Local man investigates paranormal

Author, teacher
of ghosts, UFOs,
monsters, other
unexplained
phenomena hosting
Halloween
conference

BY DANIEL SILLIMAN
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William A. Lester was standing in a driveway, talking to a couple. They had seeing things, they said, paranormal things. That's why Lester was there.

Lester was taking notes. How often did they see it? How fast did it fly? Did it hover? Did it look like anything they'd ever seen before?

It looked like a triangle, they said, a large black triangular object with a red light and it flew really low over their house but it didn't make any noise.

"That's really unusual," Lester said. "A conventional object, a conventional aircraft

of that size would have to make an incredible noise."

And then, while they were standing there talking, it flew overhead. It looked exactly like they said it looked, Lester said. It didn't make a noise and it flew so low that the red light shone on the roof.

"I know I was seeing something real. I saw it myself, so that was a real UFOs case," he said.

Lester, a Jonesboro resident, has a doctorate degree in parapsychology from the American Institute of Holistic Theology in Birmingham, Ala. He teaches classes at his own American Institute of Metaphysics and will be hosting a conference in Decatur in the end of October called the X-Conference.

(continued on page 2)

WANTED: UFO WITH SOYBEANS ATTACHED



John Greenwood / staff

JoAnne Scarpellini, an investigator for Massachusetts-based BLT Research Team Inc., takes soil samples at a crop circle site west of Geneseo Monday afternoon. The beanfield contains three 50-foot diameter circles, touching each other, with a smaller circle on the north and south. Ms. Scarpellini said she does not think the circles were man-made.

Crop circles sprout in Geneseo bean field

By Stephen Elliott
sellott@qconline.com

GENESEO — She's digging in a tattered portion of Jim Stahl's soybean field west of Geneseo for clues to the unknown.

The beans are swirled clockwise on top of the earth, like someone had taken a giant finger and twirled them around. Three such circles connect, each around 50 feet in diameter. There are two smaller circles nearby where the beans are smashed into the ground, some dead, some not.

They are known in the science community as crop circles.

"The only statement I can say now is it appears to be of an unknown origin," said field worker JoAnne Scarpellini, of St. Louis, Mo.

Unknown.

"Twilight Zone" unknown perhaps. Maybe it's simply a prank, but the evidence doesn't show this to be a joke involving pranks with planks, Ms. Scarpellini said.



John Greenwood / staff

These soybeans in a crop circle near Geneseo were bent at ground level, but half of the beans did not snap, as would normally happen.

"It would be extremely difficult to bend soybeans at the root without breaking them," Ms. Scarpellini said as she held a root in the warm afternoon sun. "And,

these are bent."

Mr. Stahl has been farming for more than 20 years. He's a man about common sense, about the earth, about making things grow. He's not inclined to come up with foolish notions.

He was hesitant when Ms. Scarpellini saw a story about his field this weekend and called him to investigate.

"He said, 'Tell me if you think it was man-made or not,'" Ms. Scarpellini said. "He didn't want all his friends to think he was nuttier than a fruitcake."

She doesn't think so.

"I noticed it on Saturday morning," Mr. Stahl said Monday. "But, my neighbor noticed something wrong in my beanfield Thursday evening."

"When I first looked at it, I thought kids were doing doughnuts. But, then I saw there was no entrance."

hoaxes.

"I've seen every kind of thing hoaxed. Yes, there are hoaxers, but that does not account for the totality of the phenomena reported," he said. "There are hoaxers, charlatans, thrill seekers. I deal with that small percentage of reports that tend to suggest real phenomena."

Paranormal studies abandon some parts of the accepted scientific method. Lester said he does use some traditional methods of investigation though, including observation and eye witnesses.

"Eye witness testimony can send you to the electric chair. You can't change the value of eye witness testimony because it makes you uncomfortable," Lester said. "There are millions and millions of reports of UFOs. If you have millions and millions of reports of anything, I don't think a rational person can say there's nothing there, that it's a mass hallucination or something."

Mainstream scientists can't accept paranormal phenomena, Lester said, because of the accepted scientific framework. The Western scientific method requires that something be reproduced in a lab to be accepted. Ghosts and UFOs and monsters can't be tested, Lester said, but they're still real.

"In Western cultures, reality is based on the ability to quantify something. A ghost is not something you reproduce on demand or contain within a lab environment, so by default mainstream science has to classify ghosts as unreal," Lester said. "The definition of reality is actually bigger than the scientific method can account for."

Mr. Stahl called the Henry County Sheriff's Department Saturday morning. He felt no urgency and said no one really had to come out. He just wanted to inform them of large, mysterious circles made in his soybeans. The wreckage might not amount to an acre, he said.

But it's a mystery, and these things bring out the curious.

Ms. Scarpellini, a retired neurochemist with Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, works for Massachusetts-based BLT Research Team Inc.

BLT has several hundred trained field-sampling personnel in the United States, Canada and Europe. They collect plant and soil samples for scientists to study from fields like Mr. Stahl's.

"We examine sites around the world," said BLT spokesperson Nancy Talbott. "We've been doing this for 15 years in 10 different countries. I don't know what's going on. I wish I could tell you. ... It happens the same everywhere. It can't be all these people are crazy."

Ms. Scarpellini said the soybeans weren't taken down mechanically. She said no object touched them to lean them over.

"They could tell if someone had a board and knocked them down," Mr. Stahl said.

Henry County Sheriff Gib Cady issued a press release saying, "If anyone happens to see a UFO with attached soybeans, please contact Henry County Crime Stoppers at (800) 227-2324 or the Henry County Sheriff's Office at (309) 937-3911."

He said what started out to be a joke has now sprouted interest from rural Henry County residents.

"I've got people calling me saying they saw something in their scope," Sheriff Cady said. "One said he saw something and is going to call me back later tonight."

He said this isn't the only time Henry County has had a mysterious moment.

"Heavens yes, there's always something unexplainable," he said. "One time south of Orion we had a deep depression in the ground. A perfect cookie cutter 25 feet wide, 7 feet deep."

"We didn't find anything then. We won't this time, either."

Ms. Talbott said there may be some sort of natural energy system, like a whirlwind, at work.

"If such a plasma vortex system exists, nobody in science knows about it," she said.

Ms. Talbot said there are also pranks involving crop circles, especially in Europe.

"They're just idiots," she said. "They make our work harder."

Ms. Scarpellini said BLT would like to do more soil and plant samplings on the farm in the coming weeks.

Mr. Stahl said he didn't necessarily want the attention. If things get out of control with the curious from this planet wandering his fields, he might just cut the whole thing down with his wing mower.

"I can back in there, and in two minutes, it'd be done," he said. "If this ever happened again, I probably wouldn't tell anybody."

(continued from page 1 - CLAYTON NEWS DAILY, Jonesboro, GA - Sept. 19, 2006)

He has written three books on paranormal phenomena, including "Star Messiah" which explored the possibility of a relationship between the rise of world religions and extraterrestrial and "Dimension X," which is a field guide to the paranormal.

"Some people see ghosts in every shadow, some people see UFOs in every sky, but everything is not a mystery," Lester said. "Some people investigate for the purposes of debunking, they go into the investigation with the assumption that it's got to be untrue. I go into the investigation, approach the research with the thought, 'I don't know.'"

Lester has been interested in paranormal phenomena since he was 7. He saw a documentary on the Loch Ness Monster, Big Foot and other things classified as "unsolved mysteries," and was fascinated. He began to read everything he could find on anything paranormal and, eventually, became an expert.

"One thing leads to another," he said, which might be an explanation of his research. Lester is a generalist, letting explorations of Big Foot sightings lead him to the study of ghosts which lead him to the study of UFOs which lead him to look at conspiracy theories. He describes himself as a generalist, interested in everything that's unexplained and unsolved.

He's seen a lot of things during the course of his investigations and research. Some of them he's convinced are real. Some he knows are



Courtesy photo

Author Robert Farrell travels the country in an alien-plastered RV, which is currently parked at a campground in Stockton.

The truth is out there

Author comes to town; hopes to meet fellow believers

BY AMY MAGINNIS-HONEY
DAILY REPUBLIC

Though he's had no close encounters, Robert Farrell, author of "Alien Log," has sighted a couple of UFOs. And, like the character in his book, Farrell has come to the conclusion we are not the only life form in the universe.

"Given the vast number of stars, almost countless, there has to be life out there. I believe it's life of extremely high quality because they have navigated their craft to visit us from time to time," he said.

Farrell, a retired associate professor emeritus from Penn State University, will be in Fairfield Sunday to discuss his book, answer questions and sign copies of the novel.

His interest in the topic goes back many years. His background in mechanical engineering fed the flames.

"I just couldn't leave it," he said of questions he had about UFOs and alien life. I thought others might have the same questions I have."

He hopes "Alien Log" will reach a wide audience. "I want to get the people who are on the fence," he said.

Farrell opted to give out the information through the dialogue of characters. At the end of the book, he lists 75 references by chapter.

The "modern era" of UFOlogy began in 1947 with pilot Kenneth Arnold seeing disc-shaped objects flying at high speed near Mt. Rainier in Washington State. It was followed by a farmer northwest of Roswell, N.M., finding a large amount of unusual debris scattered across his 75-acre ranch.

The Roswell story continues to

THEY'RE BELIEVERS

34%

of Americans believe in UFOs

Source: Opinion Dynamics 2004 national poll

thrive today. Farrell lives about a 12-hour drive from Roswell. However it didn't influence him.

"I'm certainly familiar with Roswell, but I only briefly mentioned it in my book. It was not the catalyst," Farrell said.

The book is dedicated to his son who died in a car crash in 1994, when he was 17.

"I wanted to do something to honor his memory. My son was going down the path of creative writing. As a tribute to him, I've developed a scholarship for creative writing at Penn State," he said.

He meets up with a fair share of believers and non-believers. In Texas, a couple showed at his lecture and later approached him:

"I believe they were struggling with a close encounter and abduction was occurring," Farrell said. "They became one of the more interesting encounters."

Believers, Farrell said, usually don't mind sharing their close encounter with the crowds gathered at his lectures. Non-believers are more likely to share their stories one-on-one. "We still have a situation where they feel stigmatized," Farrell said.

In the book, and through his lectures, Farrell said he presents evi-

dence that it's OK to be on the fence about the issue and that it's also OK to believe.

He recently finished the last chapter of an "Alien Log" sequel, which is really the beginning of more work, Farrell said.

"Now I have to go back and look at character development. That's an important part," he said. "The first thing for me is developing the storyline. Now I want to make the characters more real."

Then the book will go out to a couple of reviewers and be reviewed for the technical aspects as well as grammar. Then it will come back to Farrell again for any changes.

Farrell is 66. "I feel like I'm 25," he said. "I look in the mirror and I don't know who that guy is," he said.

He's always visualized "Alien Log" becoming a movie. The sequel would also be part of the script, because it picks up where the first book leaves off.

Choosing the actors and actresses is something he'll pass on.

"The main character is a 27-year-old woman. Other than my daughter (playing the role), I'll leave it up to the professional people," he said.

However, he definitely would like a say in the technical aspect of the movie.

Farrell is camped out at the KOA campground in Stockton while making a round of appearances at book stores in Northern California. He won't be driving his alien-plastered RV here, however. He'll travel by land in his car.

Reach Amy Maginnis-Honey at 427-6957 or amaginnis@dailyrepublic.net.

Meet the author



Robert Farrell, "Alien Log" 2 p.m. Sunday Barnes and Noble, 1600

Gateway Blvd., Fairfield 435-0484

"ALIEN LOG" EXCERPT:

"I do apologize for your treatment but it was necessary. You are about to see what few people on Earth have ever seen. With your top-secret clearance, you've probably seen things most civilians haven't, but to see what you are about to see requires the highest clearance. It will be considered treason if you ever mention what you will see here tonight. We are at war. Do you know the penalty for treason in wartime, Mr. Wilcox?"

WHAT IS A UFO?

Any object that flies and cannot initially be identified as an airplane, helicopter, blimp, balloon, kite or any other object that normally flies, is a UFO. Many flying objects that are listed as a UFO can later be identified as an object made on Earth, then they can be called an identified flying object.

Visiting a place that doesn't exist

MITCHELL SMYTH
Meridian Writers' Group

RACHEL, Nevada—Take a turn off State Route 375 here in south-central Nevada, drive up a gravel road and you come to a place that doesn't exist. That, anyway, is what the U.S. government says.

To you and me the huge swath of desert west of Rachel is known as Area 51. It's where—depending on which stories you believe—the U.S. military is testing top secret weapons; or building flying saucers from the wreckage of crashed extraterrestrial craft (as in *Independence Day*); or experimenting with something else that Buck Rogers or Anakin Skywalker would recognize.

Pentagon officials predictably deny all this—they even deny that Area 51 exists—although they admit there's a

gunnery and bombing range somewhere around here. Maybe, I thought, I should have a closer look, so I took the gravel road.

It stopped me short at a gate in a perimeter fence. "Warning. Restricted area," a sign said. Behind it, surveillance cameras swivelled this way and that on their stilts.

Deadly force

I was about to climb over the gate when I read the line in red paint on the sign: "Use of deadly force authorized." I decided to go no farther (though I did disobey the further warning: "Photography in this area is prohibited.")

"They wouldn't have shot you," UFO "expert" Chuck Clark assured me later. "But they'd certainly have arrested you if you'd gone in and you'd have been fined \$600. It's an expensive lesson."

Clark, author of *The Area 51*

The mystery surrounding Area 51 brings the curious to Nevada town

Handbook, has spent years trying to find out exactly what is happening in the top-secret installation.

He and the other residents of Rachel, the closest town to Area 51, know that something is going on in their backyard. They have all seen enough strange sights through the years. Many of these, Clark says, can be explained rationally. Flares, dropped for bomb tests, can be mistaken for UFOs.

And this is probably one of the places where top-secret aircraft, such as the U-2 spy plane of the 1950s and the B-2 Stealth bomber in the 1980s, were tested.

Still, he says, there have been other sightings that defy rational explanation. And

that's what brings the tourists, many of them "UFOlogists," to Rachel. The government's veil of secrecy helps fuel the rumours.

Many believe that in a morgue in Area 51 there are bodies of those little grey men allegedly recovered from the crash of a "flying saucer" in Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

"As they say in *The X-Files*,

"The truth is out there," says Rachel's Pat Travis, owner of The Little A'Le'Inn (pronounced "little alien.")

Population 98

The pub, restaurant and motel is gathering place for the curious. "Welcome UFOs and crews," one sign says. Another, beneath a drawing of a flying saucer, reads: "Self parking."

Rachel (population 98) is the only town on the 160 km stretch of two-lane blacktop Route 375 running alongside

Area 51.

To help the tourist trade, the residents persuaded the state to designate 375 the "Extraterrestrial Highway," and signs along the road now carry that name.

For more information on the Extraterrestrial Highway visit the U.S. transportation department's National Scenic Byways Program website at byways.org/browse/byways/2029.

For more on Rachel, visit rachel-nevada.com and travelnevada.com.

CAPITAL TIMES, Madison, WI - Aug. 10, 2006 CR: R. Heiden

Doug Moe
THE TALK



Did UFO gobble Truax jet?

Nearly 53 years later, they're still missing.

It all started about 12:30 that Monday afternoon, Nov. 23, 1953. The F-89 with Lt. John Schmidt and Capt. Glenn Collins took off for a short flight to test the afterburners of newly installed engines. The test went fine and the pilots provided instrument readings to the tower and headed back to base. Witnesses said the jet was flying low when there was an explosion on board.

The Capital Times reported: "The explosion hurled mud and plane parts over trees, broke upper limbs on some trees, shook buildings in the area, and cracked a storm window in one home in the vicinity." Both pilots died.

Less than six hours later, another F-89 was in the air over northern Michigan, with pilot Moncla and radar observer Wilson on board. The Capital Times reported that the plane and pilots "were part of a Truax Field contingent stationed temporarily at Kinross Air Base to substitute for Kinross personnel engaged in gunnery maneuvers at Yuma, Ariz."

The Kinross base was in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. A little after 8 p.m., radar at Kinross spotted a large unidentified object in restricted air space over the Soo Locks near the U.S.-Canadian border.

Moncla and Wilson were sent to track the unidentified craft. The facts of what happened next are in some dispute, but most seem to agree that radar tracking the F-89 showed it

closing in on the unidentified craft over Lake Superior. Then, inexplicably, the two radar blips—the F-89 and the unidentified craft—merged on the radar screen.

Donald Keyhoe, a UFO researcher, ex-Marine and director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, studied the incident and wrote the following about pilot Felix Moncla and his jet: "Guided by an Air Force Ground Control Intercept radar station, Moncla followed the unknown machine out over Lake Superior, flying at 500 miles an hour. Minutes later, a GCI controller was startled to see the blips of the jet and the UFO suddenly merge on the radar-scope. Whatever had happened, one thing was certain: The F-89 and the UFO were locked together."

That concurs with an early (Nov. 25) Capital Times report: "The Truax jet was followed on the radar screen at Kinross until its image merged with that of the plane it was checking—then it was lost."

According to the Canadian newspaper this week, Moncla's last words from the cockpit were, "I'm going in for a closer look."

According to Keyhoe, the Air Force quickly retracted the part of the story about the blips "merging," claiming the radar had been read incorrectly. And U.S. officials said the unidentified craft was an off-course Canadian airliner.

From the outset, Canadian air officials denied that any Canadian aircraft was in the area at that time.

If not, what was the blip, and what happened to the Truax F-89? Keyhoe says the Air Force gave Moncla's widow two versions of what they believed happened. She was first told he was likely flying too low and crashed into the lake; later another officer told her the jet had exploded at high altitude.

The UFO angle has proved irresistible to those inclined to believe in extraterrestrial visits. A Canadian UFO investigator, Gordon Heath, was quoted extensively in a story out of Alexandria, La., on the 50th anniversary of the disappearance in July 2003. Moncla was a native of Louisiana.

Heath said he's convinced that the U.S. government has covered up what really happened to that Truax jet. He said radar experts have told him the likelihood is that the plane was "swallowed up by the UFO."

Heath continued, "I have a strong inclination where all this is going. That Moncla and Wilson were captured by a UFO."

That was three years ago, and any definitive explanation of what happened to the second doomed Truax jet has not surfaced from wherever the truth may reside—the bottom of Lake Superior, perhaps, or somewhere beyond the stars.

Heard something Moe should know? Call 252-8446, write P.O. Box 8060, Madison, WI 53708, or e-mail dmoe@madison.com.

CAPITAL TIMES, Madison, WI - Aug. 29, 2006 CR: R. Heiden

Doug Moe
THE TALK



Lake discovery is likely Truax jet

Field contingent stationed temporarily at Kinross Air Base to substitute for Kinross personnel engaged in gunnery maneuvers at Yuma, Ariz."

In an incredible and tragic coincidence, the F-89 Scorpion temporarily stationed at Kinross was only one of two Truax F-89s to encounter serious difficulty on Nov. 23, 1953.

Shortly after noon that day, another F-89 Scorpion, this one at Truax with Lt. John Schmidt and Capt. Glenn Collins aboard, took off to test the afterburners of newly installed engines. While the test seemingly went fine, when the plane headed back toward Truax, witnesses below reported hearing an explosion, and then the jet crashed into a marsh in the Arboretum, killing both Schmidt and Collins.

It was less than six hours later that radar operators at Kinross, on Michigan's Upper Peninsula, spotted the UFO in restricted air space over the Soo Locks.

Moncla and Wilson went up in an F-89 Scorpion to track the unidentified craft. Back at Kinross, radar tracked their plane closing in on the UFO over Lake Superior. Moncla's last words from the cockpit were, "I'm going in for another look."

The Capital Times reported what happened next: "The Truax jet was followed on the radar screen at Kinross until its image merged with that of the plane it was checking—then it was lost."

That odd radar image—of the mystery craft seeming to swallow the Truax jet, then both disappearing from the screen—has fu-

eled the extraterrestrial theories. U.S. officials claimed the rogue blip on the screen was an off-course Canadian airliner, but Canadian authorities have denied that any of their planes were in the area.

In his 1955 book, "The Flying Saucer Conspiracy," Donald Keyhoe wrote: "The mystery craft and the F-89 came together far off-shore, about 100 miles from Sault Sainte Marie. ... As quickly as possible, search planes with flares were roaring over Lake Superior. After a fruitless night search, boats joined the hunt as American and Canadian flyers crisscrossed a hundred-mile area. But no trace was ever found of the missing men, the F-89—or the unknown machine."

But then, in October 1968, the Sault Daily Star newspaper carried a story headlined, "Do aircraft parts belong to missing F-89?" Two prospectors had found the parts, including a tail section, on the eastern shore of Lake Superior. The paper quoted Air Force sources saying the parts belonged to "a high performance military jet aircraft."

Years later, when Gord Heath, the UFO investigator I spoke with Monday, tried to get records from the Canadian government of the jet parts found in 1968, he was told no records existed.

Heath has spent much of the past five years trying to learn the fate of the missing Truax F-89. He has a Web site—www.ufobc.ca/kinross—devoted to it. He has made research trips to Marlinson and has a section on the city on his site. A documentary film crew from Canadian television accompanied Heath on his last trip here in July.

Now, suddenly, the Great Lakes Dive Co. find has considerably upped the ante on this 53-year-old mystery. You can learn more about the company, and view the sonar photos of the F-89, on its Web site, www.greatlakesdive.com.

The Web site explains that the group formed in 2001 out of "a yearning to explain some of the enduring mysteries of the Great Lakes." Late in 2005, members were searching for two sunken French minesweepers when circumstances led them to the area over which the F-89 had disappeared. Five days into their sonar search, the site notes, "the computer returned some amazing images." It is, they seem certain, the Truax F-89.

Their next plan to take underwater video of the plane, which seems in remarkably good condition in perhaps 500 feet of water. Heath, who has been in contact with the Great Lakes Dive Co., says its condition—part of the tail is missing—matches up with the parts that were purportedly found in 1968.

Heath does not believe that the discovery means there wasn't an extraterrestrial ship involved in the 1953 disappearance. What if they were after the crew and not the plane? The sonar photos indicate the cockpit canopy of the F-89 is still intact. In time we should learn if the bodies of Felix Moncla and Robert Wilson are inside. If they aren't, it won't mean aliens got them—they might have bailed out—but if they are, the extraterrestrial theory might be put to rest. Some dead men can tell tales.

Heard something Moe should know? Call 252-8446, write P.O. Box 8060, Madison, WI 53708, or e-mail dmoe@madison.com.



CHRIS RUSSELL | DISPATCH

David Crall uses a surveyor's wheel to measure the amount of corn destroyed by someone who drove through the fields to create circles.

Circling in on vandals

With heavy crop losses, farmers and sheriff want to stop pranksters

By Dana Wilson
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

KIRKPATRICK, Ohio — No self-respecting aliens would be that sloppy with their crop circles, or leave behind evidence of their cheap beer.

And farmers aren't amused with the result — acres of ruined cornstalks and losses in the thousands at the hands of vandals, according to local authorities.

Farmer Terry Crall works too hard to see his fields flattened in the name of someone's warped idea of fun.

He planted 550 acres in the spring,

and now he finds "circles" that look more like misshapen eggs cut into his crops in northern Marion County just weeks before the fall harvest.

"It seems like they can almost smell the best corn, and they're knocking it down," said Crall, 62, of Bucyrus. "I think the biggest problem the farmers have is, 'Why in the world would someone do this?'"

Crop circles have popped up in Ohio fields for years, attracting spectators and a few researchers who wonder

whether aliens were at work. This year, the damage in central Ohio cornfields is especially high and the likelihood that aliens are involved is pretty low.

Deputy sheriffs in Marion and Crawford counties are now keeping a closer watch on rural roads where farmers have reported about a dozen cases of crop-circle vandalism. And the Crawford County Farm Bureau is assisting by offering a \$1,500 reward for information leading to the arrest or conviction of the culprits.

Crawford County Sheriff Ron Shawber is investigating each of the seven complaints his office has received in recent weeks and ruled out aliens before scientists arrived last week to check them out.

"I said, 'Well, I think you're wasting your time with this one,'" Shawber said.

Whoever is responsible drives a large four-wheel vehicle that can easily trek off road.

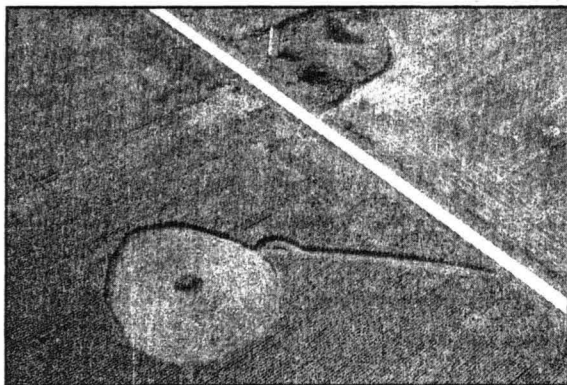
"The farmers, they're upset," Shawber said. "I wouldn't want to be out in the field and get caught by them."

Crall and his son, David, 26, walked their fields this week with a surveyor's wheel to measure the size of the circular shapes and calculate the loss.

The larger of the two circles measures about 160 feet in diameter. All together, the Cralls lost about an acre and estimate the damage will cost them \$470.

The figure includes the extra tilling and weed-control sprays they'll need next year to ensure the fallen corn doesn't spoil crop rotation.

"It's just mindless waste," Terry Crall said. "It's a lack of respect for the corn plant and



CRAIG HOLMAN | DISPATCH

Vandals are destroying corn, leaving behind crop circles such as this one along Crawford-Marion Line Road near Baker Road.

the process of growing food."

His son says the prank likely results from the same sense of rebellion that leads teenagers to bash mailboxes with baseball bats or knock over gravestones.

"The kids pull pranks, especially this time of the year," said Chely Broerman, office manager of Broerman Insurance Agency in Fredericktown. "It's just every year the farmers go through that."

Crop insurance commonly covers losses caused by weather or wildlife, but not vandalism, Broerman said. Some damage falls under property and casualty policies.

Richard Grau, of Bucyrus, said that in his 40 years of farming he's never seen damage

so widespread. His fields were among the first hit and he estimates he lost about a half acre.

"We don't get rich out here, and it just really ticks you off that they just go out and want to destroy stuff," Grau said. "That's the worst part of it. I can see having fun, but let's not get so destructive."

He and others think youngsters are to blame.

Farmer Ron Burkhardt joked, "Aliens don't typically leave beer cans or tire tracks."

He hasn't yet estimated how much his family lost but said it's at least a few acres. Burkhardt hopes his insurance will offer some relief.

"I don't think they realize the damages that they are doing,"

Burkhardt said. "The fun has gone way too far if indeed that's what it is."

Shawber has extra deputies patrolling at night but said finding crop-flatteners amid miles of corn-lined country roads isn't an easy task.

Judging from how the paths enter and exit the fields, he's confident that whoever is responsible knows the area.

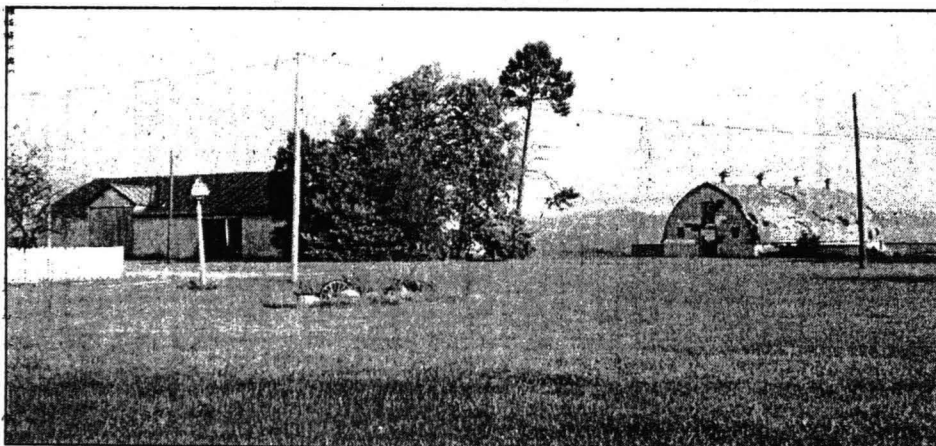
If caught, the vandals could face felony vandalism charges, depending on the amount of damage.

Crall, however, has his own punishment in mind.

He'd like to see them spend hours in the fields, picking up the corn ear by ear.

dwilson@dispatch.com

HERALD, Circleville, OH - Sept. 13, 2006 CR: J. Fry



Submitted photo

UFO event to take place

Visit the old Bruce Stevenson Farm, the site of America's first classic close encounter with a flying saucer (UFO) back on Feb. 1, 1948. The event, sponsored by the Roundtown UFO Society will take place from 5 to 8 p.m., Sept. 14 at the farm which is located two miles from Circleville at 2150 State Route 56 W. For more information call 477-6252 or email rufo@columbus.rr.com.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS,
Denver, CO - Sept. 14, 2006

YourHub.com | NEWS

POLICE NOTES

Incidents reported by Wheat Ridge Police

• The bright lights in the sky probably were not from a UFO, said the woman who reported a suspicious incident to police at 10 p.m. Aug. 24. Police responded to her call at her home on the 6300 block of West 38th Avenue at 1:36 p.m. Aug. 26, where they were told by the elderly resident that she had seen a large circle of about eight to 10 lights rising in the east sky, police said. The officer reported that the woman appeared in good mental health and was not gravely disabled. The woman stated she doesn't believe in UFOs and called because she was curious if anyone else had reported a similar sighting, reports said.



DAILY EXPRESS, London, England - Aug. 29, 2006

INSIDE THE GREAT UFO COVER-UP

According to a government adviser, the existence of alien craft has been hidden for 60 years. Now a new book may help to uncover the truth behind the real-life X Files

IT WAS just a short press release sent to a local newspaper but the statement released by the intelligence office at Roswell Army Air Field on July 8, 1947, had the potential to be the biggest story in history – proof that intelligent life forms from other worlds were visiting our own.

It said the military had come into possession of an Unidentified Flying Object which they were investigating. A few hours later they issued a release stating that the disc they recovered was a weather balloon. This odd behaviour has helped to preserve a host of conspiracy theories about Roswell. One of the most enduring is that an autopsy was carried out on at least one alien just after the object was recovered.

But while the Roswell mystery has influenced numerous films, books and hit sci-fi series The X Files, a new book reveals it was not the only such incident in our recent history. In *Need To Know*, Timothy Good, a UFO investigator who advised the House of Lords all-party UFO study group, as well as the American, French and Canadian military, says that there are at least 10 more examples of apparent UFO crashes – all of which he claims were covered up by governments. Many appeared to occur in the Forties and early Fifties, often, as with Roswell, in New Mexico.

In 1950 UFO investigator and journalist Frank Scully said he had conclusive evidence that a UFO had crashed near Farmington, at Aztec, New Mexico, on March 25, 1948. He interviewed several military intelligence personnel who claimed to have seen a crashed flying disc, 100ft in diameter. "The disc apparently incorporated large rings of metal, which revolved around a central, stabilised cabin, using an unfamiliar gear ratio," says Good. "There were no rivets, bolts, screws or signs of welding."

The investigators, said Scully, gained access to the craft by pushing a long pole through one of the UFO's broken portholes and pressing a button which caused a door to open. He claimed 16 three-and-a-half feet tall humanoid aliens were found inside.

Several people have corroborated his tale. These include a former military intelligence officer who claimed to have carried out an autopsy on the aliens; NASA engineer, Bob Oechsler, who said he was told by the former director of US Naval Intelligence how the craft had been put together; and Fred Reed, an employee of the Office of Strategic Services, who said he had been sent to clean the area and make it look as if nothing had happened.

Another UFO expert, Dr James Harder, who is a professor of civil engineering, believes he has discovered evidence that the remains of a UFO, as well as alien corpses, may have been recovered from the



by
John Triggs

Sonoran desert in Arizona near New Mexico in the final months of 1941. His theory is based on an interview with the son of a member of the US Office of Naval Intelligence who helped to recover the aircraft and brought back pictures to show his family. Dr Harder says the witness, although only 10 at the time, clearly recalled that one image showed the dead body of an alien, three-and-a-half feet in height, being held by its wrist by a friend of his father.

GOOD says the large number of UFO encounters in and around New Mexico during the Forties is linked to the research into nuclear weapons, the Manhattan Project, which took place in Los Alamos, New Mexico. "I have no doubts that the reason for the increase in sightings lay in the inauguration of the nuclear age on Earth, necessitating increased surveillance and strategic reconnaissance by advanced intelligences," he says.

In August 1945, five weeks after the first atomic bomb was detonated in New Mexico's Jornada del Muerto desert, two boys on a ranch near San Antonio saw a flash of light followed by a crunching sound. The boys, Jose Padilla and Rene Baca, found a pear-shaped craft in a gorge and claimed they could see signs of movement. "Strange humanoid creatures were moving around in quick, darting movements," says Good. Two days later the boys, their father and a policeman found a craft but no bodies. Next day, army staff turned up, said it was an experimental balloon and recovered it with a crane.

New Mexico wasn't the only area

'Our nuclear age led to us being watched'

where UFOs crashed. According to Good, the earliest recorded incident occurred in spring, 1941. The Rev William Huffman, from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, was called to the site of an aircraft crash to administer the last rites to a fatally injured pilot. "On returning, he told the family it was not any kind of aircraft he had ever seen," says Good. "One large piece was still intact and appeared to have a round shape with no edges or seams and a very shiny metallic finish."

He also apparently saw three small bodies laid out. They were described as hairless, with large slanted eyes but small holes where the nose or ears

should have been; each was covered from head to foot in what looked like aluminium foil.

On July 18, 1943, a UFO apparently crashed in the middle of war-torn Europe. Polish prisoner of war Daniel Leger, who was at a German labour camp in Exelgroud, north of Gdansk, said he saw a craft shaped like a tall hat, embedded in sand dunes. He saw a woman pilot attempting to free it. "Dressed in a tight-fitting, one-piece, dark brown suit, she appeared to be 1.75m tall with long blonde hair, a slim waist and broad hips," says Good. "Her features were regular with white skin and slightly slanted, Asian-like eyes. She addressed him in an odd language he couldn't understand."

According to Leger, the female freed her craft, stepped inside and the two rings that made up the vehicle began to rotate in opposite directions. It took off, travelling at a speed much faster than any German plane he had ever seen.

Many believe that a more conventional-looking alien crashed in Kingman, Arizona, in 1953. In 1974 UFO investigator Raymond Fowler persuaded a former US Air Force engineer from the Wright Air Development Center in Ohio to sign a sworn affidavit in which he admitted taking part in the investigation of an unknown crashed object in the vicinity of Kingman at that time. The engineer used the pseudonym Fritz Werner but Good says his name was Arthur Stansel. The body of the only occupant of the craft was "about 4ft tall, dark brown complexion and had two eyes, two ears and a small round mouth. It was clothed in silvery metallic material and wore a skull cap of the same material".

On December 9, 1965, a strange event was witnessed by hundreds of residents of Kecksburg, Pennsylvania. They reported seeing an acorn-shaped, brownish object about 12ft high and 10-12ft in diameter flying through the sky. They said it flew low over their heads before crashing into a gully. James Romansky, a fire fighter sent to put out the blaze, said it was bronze coloured with no windows, doors or seams and had symbols on it which resembled Egyptian hieroglyphics. He stayed on the scene until ordered to leave by two men in trenchcoats closely followed by military staff, who took the object away while keeping witnesses back at gunpoint. Official files say the US Army investigated an object that had caused a fire and found nothing.

UFO debunkers claim the object could have been part of a Soviet spacecraft called Cosmos 96, which was launched to investigate the planet Venus but failed shortly after take-off, re-entering Earth's atmosphere on the same day as the reported UFO crash.

If the Kecksburg incident was a cover-up by the US military, it

would not be the last. According to RC Hecker, a UFO investigator for the Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation, on May 17, 1974, scanners at the Kirtland Air Force base in Albuquerque, New Mexico,

'Medics operated on a creature not of this world'

registered a burst of electromagnetic energy which threw instruments off the scale. According to an anonymous witness from the base, whom Hecker claims to have interviewed, the signal was traced to an area near Chilli, New Mexico, where a metallic, circular object approximately 60ft in diameter was recovered and moved into a hangar at the base. Hecker says that he has been ordered by an Air Force official to forget everything he was told by his contact.

In Brazil in January, 1996, the North American Aerospace Defense Command noticed an unidentified object entering Brazilian airspace. It informed the Brazilian Air Force in Tres Coracoes. A week later two witnesses said they had seen a large, cigar-shaped craft flying close to the ground, billowing smoke. It was travelling towards Varginha, South-east Brazil. Shortly after two teenage girls from the city reported seeing strange creatures.

MORE recently, in 2002, Dr Roger Lier, an American podiatrist with an interest in UFOs, visited the Hospital Humanitas in Varginha. He claims that several personnel there said they had been asked by the Brazilian military to perform surgery on the broken leg of an injured creature they said was "not of this world". It was described as bipedal, with dark brown shiny skin, a large head, large eyes and a tiny nose and mouth. After treatment the alien was taken away by the military who confiscated the medical records.

Whether you believe such incidents were covered up by the military, or made up by people seeking attention, it is obvious that until governments investigate the subject more openly, the rumours, if not the UFOs, will keep flying.

● To order *Need To Know* by Timothy Good, published today by Sidgwick & Jackson, price £13.99, send a cheque/PO payable to Express Bookshop to: Need To Know offer, PO Box 200, Fulmouth TR11 4WJ, call the Express Bookshop on 0871 4346091 or order online www.expressbookshop.com UK delivery is free.

No clue to mystery object in the sky

EVENING LEADER, Wrexham, England

Aug. 1, 2006

IN response to your article 'UFO Over River Dee' I would like to inform you that on Saturday July 22, I was standing at my kitchen sink when I noticed a diamond-shaped grey shape in the sky over the river Dee.

The sky was very hazy so I called my son and asked him to look from the bedroom window. He described the same thing but unfortunately before I was able to get my binoculars the

object had disappeared into the clouds. As trees obscure some of the view of the river I waited to see if it would re-appear, but it didn't.

I thought it may have been a microlight wing on an angle. I am a sceptic.

We cannot remember the time of sighting unfortunately as we joked it was a UFO and dis-

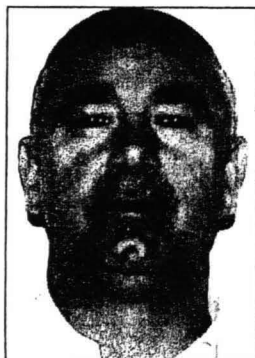
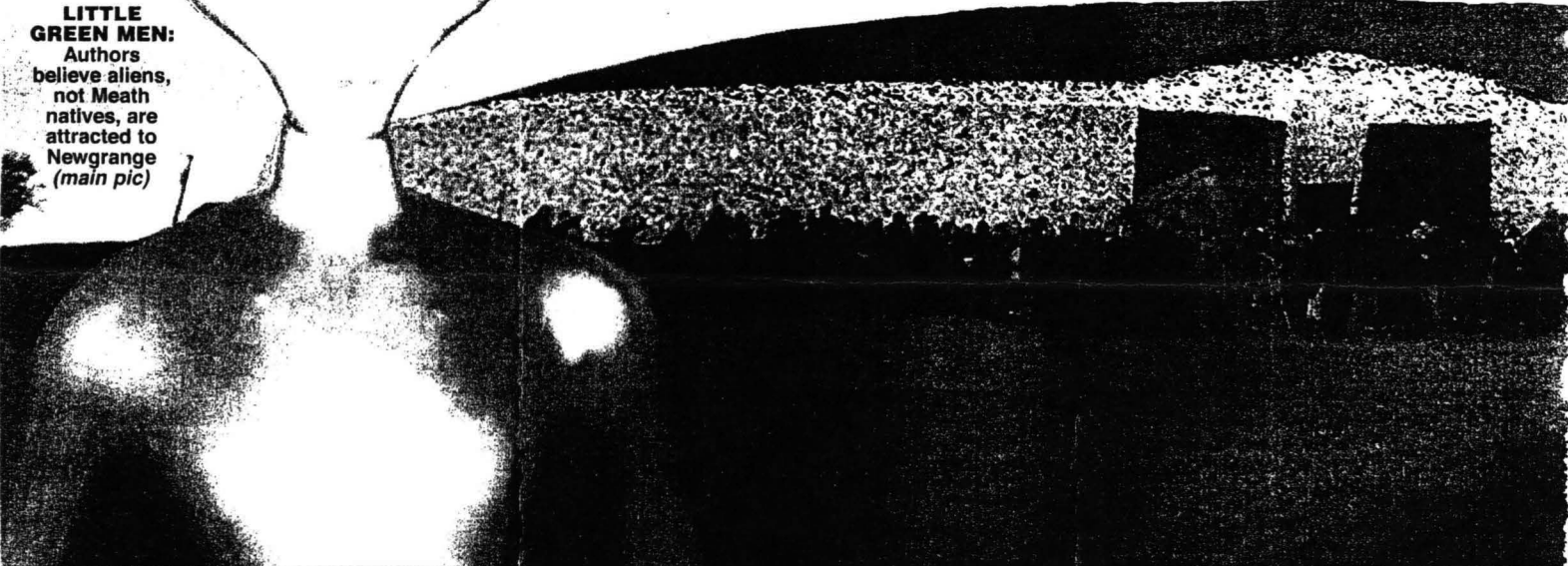
missed it until seeing your article. Even though our description is different I still think it's worth mentioning. This is not a crank letter so an explanation of what it was would be nice.

Name and address supplied
Greenfield. 6

A NEW BOOK CLAIMS IRISH PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCE OF

ALIEN ABDUCTION

LITTLE GREEN MEN: Authors believe aliens, not Meath natives, are attracted to Newgrange (main pic)



CONVINCED: Authors of the new book, Carl Nally and Dermot Butler (below)



A FARMER has described the terrifying night he claims he was abducted and probed by aliens who dumped him naked and confused back in his bed.

John McManus's graphic account of alien abduction is contained in a sensational new book about UFO activity in Ireland.

The Conspiracy of Silence - UFOs in Ireland for the first time puts together eyewitness testimony of alien activity in this country and the result makes Roswell pale into insignificance.

McManus described how he was taken by aliens in an incident that happened in the Dromkeal area of Co Cork on September 30 1992.

He woke to find himself lying naked on top of his bed at 4.45am surrounded by four 'humanoids'.

The beings, who were only four feet tall, pulled him downstairs and out the front door.

Probe

The next thing he could remember was coming into a circular room and lying on something resembling a couch.

McManus felt a sharp jab in the back of his neck and a probe was inserted into him.

He felt a sensation like an electric shock and passed out.

After that, he woke up on his bed with stones and mud all over the bedroom floor and dirt on the soles of his feet.

McManus went downstairs and found that the front door was wide open but there was no muck or stones on the stairs.

The authors of the book, Dermot Butler and Carl Nally, believe that



■ ANNE CAMPBELL

McManus's experience is closely linked to a UFO sighting at the nearby townland of Barnagearagh by his cousin, Rose Mahony.

At 5.15am on the same night, Rose and her two teenage children watched as a circular disc with lights around its perimeter hovered in the sky for 20 minutes before taking off.

This was not the first time that McManus had a UFO experience.

On 26 March 1994 he spotted five UFOs near his home and the following year, he watched as three disc-shaped crafts flying around the nearby hills.

As he went outside to take a closer look, a huge craft, described as being the size of an aircraft carrier, was now hovering some distance away.

Instantaneously it appeared almost overhead. Its component parts looked like "a city upside down" before it sped off, leaving McManus gobs-macked.

But McManus is not alone in his encounters with UFOs and bizarre alien creatures.

Butler and Nally have spent near-

ly two decades investigating sightings of UFOs in Ireland and elsewhere around the world.

They have established their own organisation - UFO and Paranormal Research Ireland (UPRI) - and are considered to be among the leading lights of flying saucer research in this country.

The results of their work make for compelling reading, even for those who are sceptical about the existence of little green men.

There have been hundreds of sightings of UFOs in Ireland over the century.

The rate of sightings peaked in the 1960s, tailed off by the time the 1990s arrived, but began to increase again post-2000.

Despite the fact that UFOs were debated in the Dail in 1981 and have been the subject of

numerous official investigations, Nally believes the government is covering up the existence of unexplained flying phenomena.

He goes even further to suggest it is possible that our Government "is part of a European-wide conspiracy to cover up UFO activity."

Although Ireland is not popularly

regarded as the place that UFOs usually choose to frequent, there have been an unnerving number of incidents reported by people who class themselves as non-believers.

According to Nally and Butler's research, the most UFOs have been sighted northwest of Dublin Airport near Newgrange and the Boyne Valley, closely followed by Roscommon and then Cork.

Nally told Star Sunday: "There is a simple enough explanation for this: these sites are full of ancient monuments and UFOs seem to be attracted to them. Newgrange is the oldest building in the world, remember."

Spooky

But Nally concedes that some UFO sightings could actually be secret super-powered government aircraft.

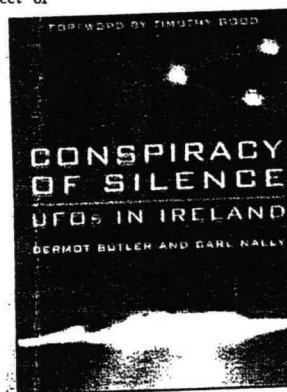
However, there is too much other evidence of paranormal activity for this explanation to fit every case.

The book also contains spine-chilling stories of encounters with spooky, almost human creatures.

Another farmer, James McCleary from Co Tipperary, claims to have had a run-in with a Men in Black-type figure.

The incident happened in June 1990 after a series of crop circles were found on three of McCleary's fields.

On the morning of the final formation, McCleary went for a Sunday stroll about



EVIDENCE: New research

(continued on page 8)

UFOS IS TOO COMPELLING TO IGNORE

● UFOs attracted to ancient sites like Newgrange

● As much UFO activity in Ireland as in America

● Claim Government tries to 'cover up' UFO activity



his property. As he walked away from the house, a man appeared from behind the shed and walked towards McCleary, who was on his own and immediately felt uneasy about the stranger.

He then realised as the strange man came into view that he looked as if he was dead.

The 'corpse' was dressed in a 1940s-style suit and spoke to him in unfamiliar broken English. McCleary noted that it troubled the pale stranger to speak at all.

Suddenly, the creepy man asked the farmer to tell "us" about the designs in his crops. McCleary wanted the man off his land and told him that he had work to do.

But the stranger said he better tell him about the circles or "bunches" as he called them "or else".

The farmer stood his ground and the Man In Black walked away from him, never to trouble him again.

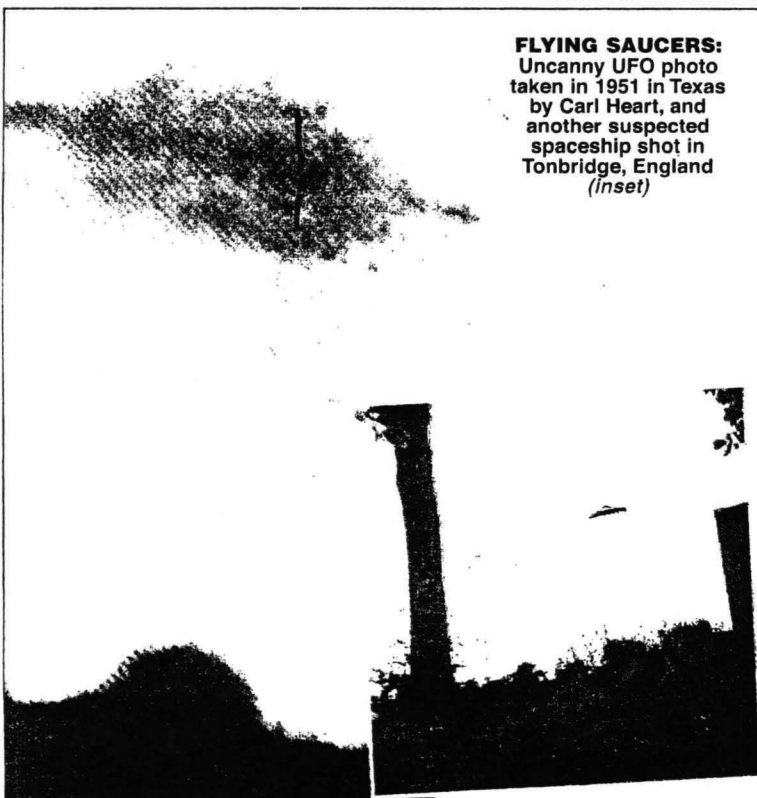
Evidence

Commercial and military pilots have also given the authors detailed accounts of their brushes with UFOs in Irish airspace, where brightly lit discs travelling at huge speeds have been seen flying close to the plane by trained personnel.

Nally reckons that ordinary Irish people will be swayed in their beliefs about UFOs once they see the detailed research and stacks of evidence supporting their existence.

He said: "Irish people are sceptical, but so many have come forward to tell of their own experiences. There are simply too many from a wide range of sources to just disregard."

● *Conspiracy of Silence - UFOs in Ireland* is published by Mercier Press and costs €12.99.



FLYING SAUCERS:
Uncanny UFO photo taken in 1951 in Texas by Carl Heart, and another suspected spaceship shot in Tonbridge, England (inset)

Plenty of theories after UFO sighting

THE UFO has landed! Well that's one possible explanation for a mysterious crop circle on a farm but then again, it could just be hungry birds.

Chris Wells was one of several readers who have contacted the *Banbury Guardian* following our story last month about Jamie Crawford of Hanwell Fields capturing a UFO on camera.

Driving home one evening, Mrs Wells was surprised to see a circular depression in a barley field near Banbury. "I thought 'hmm, there's a nice crop circle' and wondered idly to myself about how it might have been made," she said.

"Then a few days later I saw the front page of the *Banbury Guardian* and everything made sense!

"Seriously though, although I have difficulty believing it was aliens, I think it's fascinating; I've never seen a real life crop circle before and I'd love to



CROP CIRCLE: Reader Chris Wells suggested a UFO could have caused this circle but the farmer said it was probably rooks

know what makes them, especially the ones that are quite intricate. I have no theories on them, but I imagine they're probably something to do with weather or fertiliser."

The farmer, however, who wished to remain anonymous to discourage crop circle enthusiasts from trampling on his land, felt he had a more mundane answer - rooks.

He said: "Wheat barley is the first crop to ripen and when it's in its milky ripe stage it becomes targeted by rooks. They can knock a section down and before you know it more and more join in flattening out the barley all around."

"This happens every year, thankfully only for the short time the barley's milky ripe, but it's unusual that it's formed a circle."

Retired RAF pilot Marcus Wild of Banbury, who also contacted us following the story, suggested the image in Mr Crawford's picture was a military aircraft.

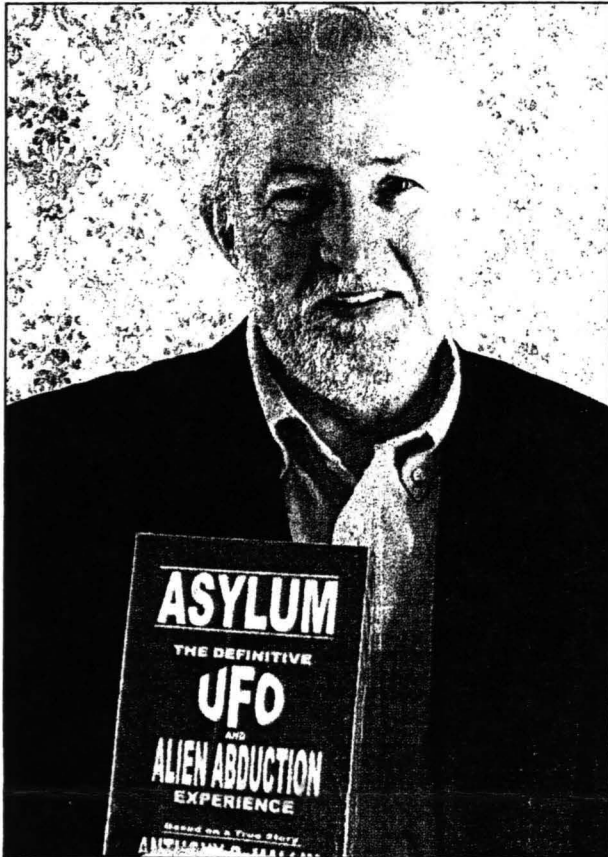
"What Jamie captured is more than likely a rear view of an F-18 Hornet which is in service with the US Navy and Marine Corps and often seen in this country," he said.

One man who does not believe it is all pie in the sky is UFO researcher Kevin Owen of Shipston-on-Stour, who belongs to two UFO groups - Contact International, based in Wheatley, and Phenomenon Research Association based in Derby.

A factory worker by day, he scours local radio and publications by night for sightings then tries to track down the witnesses and arrange a meeting with them.

Mr Owen, 42, claims to have seen three UFOs in his life time, all in the Shipston area and all with corroborating witnesses.

Tale of the night that aliens abducted 25,000 people



PROBING THE PARANORMAL: author Anthony Mallin

BURNHAM author Anthony Mallin has been enjoying worldwide success with the publication of his debut novel, *Asylum*.

The story, which recounts the paranormal tale of a Lincolnshire man, has been flying off the shelves with five-star reviews from WH Smith readers and internet shoppers.

The tale reflects in intimate detail the events of November 9, 1965, when the main character, Clive Powers, was allegedly abducted by aliens together with 25,000 other people in Grantham.

The recounting of the story is possible because of several events that have since happened to Clive which broke down his mind-blocking barriers, allowing him to remember that night.

Mallin also details the mysterious involvement of a local newspaper and the actions of the Ministry of Defence in the story, ending with a worldwide exclusive of photographs of alien entities at the site which were taken 40 years after the event.

And it was all down to a stroke of good luck that Anthony discovered the story.

He said: "It was literally handed to me. It was when I was working as a TV news reporter and had just finished covering a visit by the Princess Royal, Princess Anne.

"I was handed a piece of paper by someone in the crowd who said 'I think this may interest you'.

"I started researching the story, managed to find the man Clive Powers almost 10 years later and, five years after our first conversation, *Asylum* was finished."

The author has certainly led a varied and interesting life. He has lived all over the UK, including on a

By Lee Moran

lee.moran@cleveland.co.uk

remote island in the Orkneys, and moved to Burnham from London 15 years ago to provide a better life for his family.

His original career, as an electronics design engineer in the Ministry of Defence, spanned 35 years. He then became a TV news cameraman and journalist with Grampian TV.

And it was this varied background that has allowed Anthony to be open minded regarding the paranormal and other phenomena.

He said: "I believe it is a case of when, and not if, we find alien life form. I am certain they are out there.

"You may think that this kind of genre is on the fringe of interest but UFO and alien abduction material actually has a huge following, although people don't always admit it.

"I've had a tremendous response from the readers at the book signings up and down the country. I guess we're all just looking for that answer.

"At the book signing in Grantham, I was simply astounded by the fact that people had come to see me not only to buy a signed copy but to tell me that they, too, had remembered the lights and the feeling of that night in 1965."

Anthony hopes that the success of this book will allow him to continue writing full-time.

He said: "This book has opened a far bigger can of worms than I could ever have imagined. I have no idea where it will lead as every day something new is turning up.

"For *Asylum* alone I'm getting questions and interview requests from all over the world. It seems to have

really triggered something in people's imagination.

"My career as a writer is of total importance to me and I have several more books in the pipeline, including a very amusing account of all the neighbours I have had over the years. Obviously I've changed the names, but they will still know who they are.

"I also have a supernatural thriller, *Lonnie*, being released this October."

On the process of getting published, Anthony said: "It can be a really difficult task, and I would tell anyone wanting to do the same that they should just keep on pushing and never give up. Approach everyone you can and eventually you will get lucky, just as I did."

When asked why he wrote the book, Anthony turned serious and said: "I wrote this book because I thought the subject was far too important to ignore."

Asylum, by Anthony R Mallin, is available to buy in all good book stores and internet shops.

■ For your chance to win a rare signed copy of *Asylum*, all you have to do is tell us who was abducted by aliens. Was it:

- a) Clive Powers;
- b) Princess Anne;
- c) Anthony Mallin.

Send your answers to *Asylum* Competition, Burnham & Highbridge Times, 27a High Street, Bridgwater, TA6 3BG or email lee.moran@cleveland.co.uk with *ASYLUM* as the subject.

Entries must be received by midday on Friday, August 4. The editor's decision is final.

EVENING ECHO, Cork, Ireland - July 29, 2006

BOOK NEWS

THE aliens are among us, or so this book would have you believe. Dermot Butler and Carl Nally's *Conspiracy of Silence: UFOs in Ireland* is a trawl through the numerous eye-witness accounts of unidentified flying objects spotted over the skies of Ireland in the past 100 years and the seemingly uninterested reaction of officialdom to the growing number of reports.

Cork seems to be one of the hotspots for sightings, with aliens showing an unusually high interest in the Rebel County.

As far back as 1969 objects were seen in the sky over Macroom and Mallow, while in 1979 witnesses claimed to have seen UFOs near Whiddy Island, two days before the oil terminal explosion.

A number of Cork's UFO incidents in the 1990s were sighted by one man, a farmer, who, as well as being probed by 'four humanoids' in 1992, saw UFOs over the Coom-hola river Valley in 1994 and in 1995 was party to the sighting of a UFO the size of an aircraft carrier, which looked like 'a city hovering upside down' — a description which suggests that Cork's alien visitors closely model their vessels on Steven Spielberg's giant flying saucers in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*.

As is often the case with extra-terrestrials, they also show an unusual interest in Ireland's ancient history, with numerous sightings near stone circles and ancient burial grounds.

The authors discuss ancient Irish legends which speak of an association between women and birds and that "It is believed to have its origins with beings from outer space." Believed by whom, they don't specify.

As for the lack of interest by the authorities in UFO sightings — this could be (A) an indicator of a mass cover-up conspiracy or (B) a suspicion that perhaps UFO sightings tell us more about ourselves and the people that see them than they do about inhabitants of other planets.

This book is an enjoyable read, providing plenty of material for believers and conspiracy theorists, and plenty of unintentional entertainment for the more sceptical among us.

Des Breen



THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE, LIKE: Alien visitors have long been spotted in the skies over County Cork.

Our alien nation



Conspiracy of Silence: UFOs in Ireland, by Dermot Butler and Carl Nally. Mercier, 12.99

STAR, Shropshire, England - Aug. 22, 2006

Mystery lights are spotted at night

Two mystery UFOs were seen racing silently across the sky by amazed onlookers in Shropshire.

The unusual bright lights were seen at about 9pm last night by people in two areas of the county. Both described the lights as moving rapidly but without any sound.

Police officer Richard Emery saw the lights from Bayston Hill at 8.55pm. They appeared to be flying over the A49 in the Dorrington or Leebotwood area.

"I was going out to my vehicle and saw them. They were very bright and not like you would see on an aircraft or a helicopter," he said.

"They were well to the south of Bayston Hill and what I couldn't get over was the fact there was no sound with them. They were certainly not close enough to be two lights on one plane."

Security guard Robert Picken saw what he believes were the same lights above a wood just north of Craven Arms at 9pm.

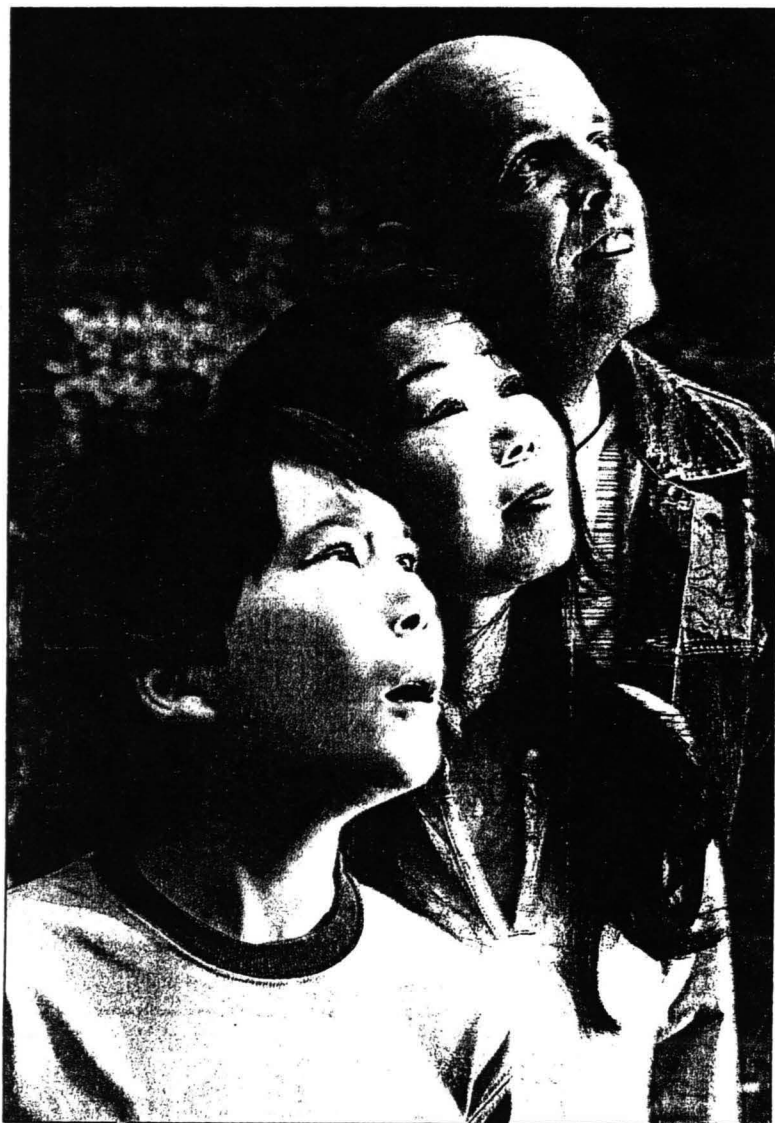
Mr Picken, who works at Land Rover supplier Britpart in Craven Arms, said: "I was going down towards my site and saw these lights coming over the wood heading towards us."

"Then they veered off to the right and vanished in mid air. It was frightening at the time it was happening."

Mr Picken, of Hereford, also said the mystery lights appeared to make no sound and moved very quickly through the air.

"I was a bit confused because nothing like it has ever happened to me before," he added.

ADRIAN KAJUMBA investigates the latest UFO sighting in the skies over Balham and Tooting



Is there anybody out there? Makoto Okuyama, Misako Okuyama and Pete Dacey saw the strange lights in the night sky. Deadlinex GH2545

Friday night's all light for frightening...

After the unexplained sightings of mysterious flying objects in Wandsworth's skies nearly two weeks ago, a baffled UFO expert has urged more people to come forward to help them discover what they were.

Gobsnacked witnesses watched on in amazement as two sets of bright orange lights flew eerily in formation through the skies above Balham and Tooting on Friday, August 4.

Onlookers tried to capture the action on film and mobile phones as the UFOs lit up for a short while and flew across the sky before shooting up and disappearing into the distance just before midnight.

The latest unexplained sightings have left Wandsworth's Mulders and Scullys, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and experts all scratching their heads.

But experts think the help of more witness accounts may help explain what they were.

Roy Lake, who has been studying UFOs for 50 years and is the chairman of London UFO Studies, said: "This is a lot more serious than people think it is."

"We have got things flying in the skies - they could be experimental craft, military aircraft or even a terrorist threat."

"Who is to say what they are?"

Let's find out. These objects in the sky do exist and this subject has been going on for many years.

"The more people who come forward on this, the greater chance we have finding out what this was."

Baffled Newham College site manager Peter Dacey, 48, saw the lights when he was on his way to a friend's house in Balham.

He said he saw four lights coming towards him at a steady speed before they went up into the sky and disappeared. Another four followed after that.

He said: "They were making no noise. There was an aeroplane further off that we could hear."

"There was no way they were fireworks. If it was a helicopter or a plane we would have heard something. I just can't work it out. It was unbelievable."

Peter's girlfriend Noriko Shimada, 46, a fashion designer from Balham, who was with him at the time said: "There was no sound, just the lights, so it was very weird. I have no idea what it could be."

Antonio Petrosino, manager of Double Espresso, in Balham High Road, also saw the lights after leaving work and was joined by staff from another restaurant staring into the skies in amazement.

He said: "Who knows what they were? It could be anything. I believe there is something out there. Definitely."

Mr Lake said: "You can rule out meteorites. They don't go up again and disappear, they normally burn out before disappearing."

"You can rule out aircraft because there was no noise whatsoever. Balloons wouldn't come across and go shooting up like that."

"And it couldn't be a glowing lantern with candles because there is no way they could stay alight. So what the hell were they then?"

An MOD spokeswoman said: "We are not aware of what these lights could be."

Have you seen any UFOs in Wandsworth? Contact the newsdesk on 020 8254 5397.

Visit our website at surrey-comet.co.uk for more local news stories.

A BRIEF RECENT HISTORY OF EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL ACTIVITY:

Sightings of UFOs and extra-terrestrial activity in the skies are not 'alien' to Wandsworth and south west London.

In March earlier this year the News reported how two work pals spotted an unidentified flying silver triangle in Putney while they sat at their office desks.

Then in February another reader contacted the paper after seeing "strange lights" in the sky.

And according to information released by the MOD under the Freedom of Information act earlier this year, reported UFO sightings have been recorded three times in Wimbledon in 2002 and twice more in Southfields.

EVENING POST, Reading, England - Aug. 25, 2006

UFO SIGHTINGS?: unexplained lights have been seen all over Reading

Is it a bird, is it a plane? Who knows but it's there

BY NATALIE SLATER

MORE sightings of UFOs over the skies of Reading have flooded into the *Evening Post*.

The reports follow an article on Monday describing how Avarind Donohoe saw strange lights above his house in Newtown on Saturday night.

Maxine Webb, of Walton Close, Woodley, called in to tell us she managed to catch the action on her camcorder on Saturday night.

She said: "It was really strange, there were about six lights that were mushroom-shaped that travelled through the sky, then came together before they went out."

"We watched them for a while as they were travelling really slowly. It was unexplainable."

Jordan Atkinson, 12, of Coventry Road, Newtown, was out playing with friends when he also saw the lights on Saturday.

He said: "They were an orangey colour and we saw one, then we saw another three that formed a triangle and later some more. We were watching them for about 15 minutes before they disappeared. My friend



CAUGHT ON FILM - From left, Amber Webb, neighbour Carrie-Ann Grant, Maxine, Jasmine and Isaac Webb watch the video recording of a bright light they saw on Saturday night

Picture: MIKE ENGLEFIELD (Ref 62435)

looked at them through binoculars and said they looked like balls of fire."

But it seems the strange action was not just on Saturday night.

Jean Hodgson, 81, of Wyndham Crescent, Woodley, was sitting in bed in the early hours of Wednesday, August 16, at about 2am, when she

saw some unusual activity.

She said: "It literally looked like a cluster of stars but it was pulsating."

"There were two lights outside a circle of lights and it came towards me really slowly before going over the house. I had a good look and I hadn't even been drinking anything."

One suggestion for the strange

sights was meteor activity that astronomers have said is likely to be visible this month from the Perseids Shower.

But amateur astronomer Steve Harris, from Newbury Astronomical Society, said the descriptions did not match what he would have expected people to see. He said: " Meteors only last for a couple of seconds and although they do sometimes travel in groups, it is not very common."

"The more likely explanation is that it is space debris that has entered the atmosphere but it is strange that it was sighted on more than one occasion. I would think it was probably an aeroplane flying through low cloud."

Ananda Sirisena, one of Britain's leading ufologists from Caversham, who believes that it is highly likely that another life form exists, said: "It is hard to judge these things without seeing it directly but it does suggest intellectual control as the formations described seem very structured."

If you have seen any unidentified flying objects or can explain the phenomenon, call our newsroom on (0118) 918 3022.

Former BA worker tells how UFO flew over his home near airport

WORLD CUP? NO, IT'S A FLYING SAUCER!

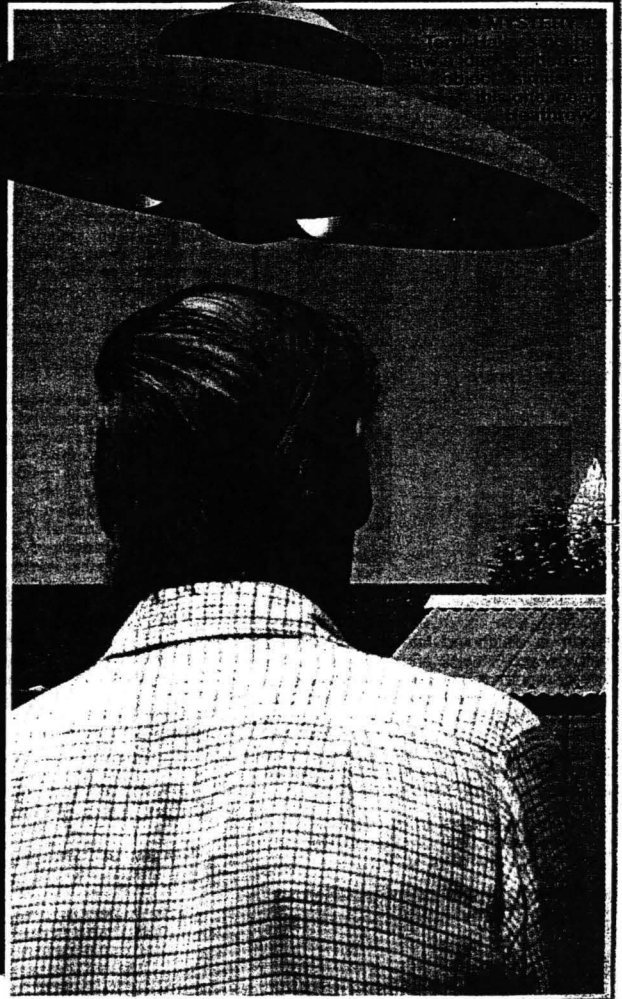
PERHAPS someone or something wants ET to phone home, or maybe it was a trial of the latest military technology. The truth is out there, somewhere.

And Staines residents Terry and

by Aidan Jones

Mary Haley would like to know it, and clear up exactly what the 'dark, spherical object' they saw over Heathrow's skies was.

It was just before 9pm on a clear summer evening in June, and the Hales - who are not UFO enthusiasts - were sitting in their patio in Hytheheld Avenue, flicking through



STANDARD, Ely, England - July 20, 2006

Is there anybody out there?

MY daughter and I read with interest the article on Mrs Edwards Tooke's UFO sighting on July 1 in Littleport.

We live north of Ely, near the sailing club and we too both saw this object. Yes, it was brown, yes it was crescent shaped, yes it was travelling east to west and yes, we saw the plane go over shortly afterwards.

We are also not UFO-interested people, but were certainly intrigued as to what this object may be.

Further information would be very interesting.

MIRIAM RAWSON

the newspapers.

"It was getting a bit chilly, so I got up to get a jumper, and that's when I saw it coming towards us in the sky between the hedge and the church," Terry, a retired British Airways worker, said.

"It looked like a large, dark rock, about the size of a jumbo jet. It was spherical and illuminated at the front, perhaps the sun was glinting off it, and it was travelling at a steady pace and not on any of the normal flight paths.

"Then, after a few seconds, it turned left and flew off. All the time it didn't make a sound, which is amazing for something that size. I've never seen anything like it."

And the former BA aircraft engineer should know, after a lifetime of fixing jets up close.

"I grabbed my wife and she couldn't believe it either, she said it was quite frightening," Terry said.

Although the whole incident lasted for about a minute, the Hales were so fixed on the object above them that they did not even think about fetching binoculars or a camera.

"It didn't have a constant light on it, or a particular colour, the best way to describe it would be as illuminated," Terry, 65, added.

The unidentified flying object sighting, which happened on June 9, has left the couple scratching their heads ever since.

Mary has searched for an explanation on the internet, but has so far drawn a blank.

National Air Traffic Services (NATS) said no unusual aircraft were reported at the airport on that day, but it would not be the first time a UFO has been recorded in the Heathrow vicinity.

Ministry of Defence (MoD) archives released this year revealed UFO sightings in Heathrow, Richmond,

Hounslow and Isleworth in 2003.

The MoD record for the Heathrow sighting reports: "A ball of light with no colour passed under an aircraft, front to back very fast."

Terry, who is not a conspiracy theorist or even a fan of the *X-Files*, is still baffled.

"I've never had an interest in aliens and that kind of thing, I'll only believe it the day they walk up to me in the street."

"People will probably think I'm some kind of nutter talking about this, but I know that I've never seen anything like it."

"I could be persuaded that it was some kind of military aircraft, the Americans hid the Stealth bomber for so long despite lots of sightings, didn't they, so I guess anything is possible."

Contact: If you've seen a UFO in the area or can explain what the Hales saw, call Skyport on 020 8538 2235.

GUARDIAN, Warrington, England - July 20, 2006

Lots of you saw UFO in sky

A UFO sighting prompted plenty of calls to the Warrington Guardian office.

We reported last week how a dark shape had been spotted above Orford at around 10.35pm on Monday, July 3.

Pamela Spencer, from Reynolds Street in Orford, said she saw a silvery, glittery object in the sky.

"It was a diamond shape," she said. "I thought it might be a small plane or helicopter."

Daniel Bates, from Mullen Close, in Dallam, said: "It stayed still, then it moved off at an amazing rate."

And Marion Beckett from Kingsway South, Westy, said she and her neighbour saw it, and that it was 'shaped like a great big pumpkin'.

She said: "It was different colours. I could swear I saw something shining on the bottom. Then it just drifted away. It wasn't speeding or anything. My neighbour and I just couldn't get over it. It seemed to come across from Latchford Locks."

STANDARD, Ely, England - July 13, 2006

Family baffled by sighting of UFO

HAVE you seen anything strange in the skies above Littleport?

A caller to the *Ely Standard* has asked for our readers' help in finding an explanation for a UFO that hovered in the sky over her garden during a family barbecue.

Sarah Edwards-Tooke has appealed for other witnesses to come forward after she saw an object in the sky at her Victoria Street home on Saturday, July 1, at 8.30pm.

"It was my dad's birthday and we were in the garden," said Mrs

Edwards-Tooke, 31.

"It was a lovely day and there wasn't much cloud cover and I saw this thing in the sky and thought 'I've no idea what that is'."

She said her father Mike, who she describes as a "plane nerd" fetched a pair of binoculars, but was unable to identify the mysterious dark-brown shape, which he estimated to be floating 1,500ft in the air.

The family were unable to take any pictures because their digital camera was not charged.

"It was moving more or less east to west and the wind was going south to north - so it couldn't have been a

balloon," Mrs Edwards said.

"It was crescent or wing-shaped, like a paraglider's parachute - dad said it had a teardrop-shaped body."

"We saw a plane going over afterwards that was considerably higher."

She said her father, her mother Mary, husband Jon and three year old Indigo all saw the object, which did not make any noise.

"I would like to make it absolutely clear that we're not saying it's aliens," Mrs Edwards-Tooke said.

"But I genuinely have no idea what it was."

A spokesman from nearby RAF

Mildenhall said it was the first time he had heard of a UFO sighting in Littleport.

"I've been in communications for five years and it's the first one," he said.

"We fly re-fuelling tankers and we also fly helicopters, so it may have been one of those aircraft - we are not testing any new aircraft."

The police told the *Ely Standard* they did not receive any UFO-related calls on July 1.

INFO: If you saw the mysterious object above the skies in Littleport, contact the *Ely Standard* on 01353 667831, or you can e-mail debbie.davies@archant.co.uk

WORLD'S FIRST THREE-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN

TOP OF THE CROPS

GROUND BREAKING: The three-dimensional crop circle which appeared alongside the White Horse at Uffington

Picture: Steve Alexander

WHEN IT comes to patterns etched into farmers' fields, these are the cream of the crop.

This crop circle — discovered in an Oxfordshire field — is believed to be the world's first three-dimensional one, and has already left experts reeling with wonder at who, or what, could have created it.

Freelance photographer and crop circle expert Steve Alexander caught it on camera a few days ago in fields near Wayland's Smithy Farm in Ashbury, near Uffington.

He believes the 360ft-wide creation is far too intricate to be man-made, saying: "There is something very strange and mysterious about it."

"Lots of people think crop circles are man-made, but the jury's still out for me."

"At this time of year when there are so few hours of darkness and with a design

By Emma-Kate Liddbury

so intricate it can hardly be people doing it on their way home from the pub."

Mr Alexander has had more than his fair share of weird crop circle experiences.

He said: "I have had some

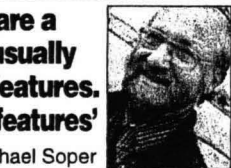
'Some crop circles are a hoax, but they are usually the ones with less features. This one has lots of features'

Crop circle expert Michael Soper

"It's a really complex subject."

"Everyone seems to be getting very excited about this one."

Mr Alexander found out about Oxfordshire's latest crop circle after receiving a call from an experts' website, which had been informed about the pattern



by a microlite pilot.

He then hired a helicopter to take him up into the Oxfordshire skies — and was amazed by what he saw.

"It's a very striking image," he said. "It really is impressive."

"I've never seen anything like it before, it is extremely

powerful. It almost looks like skyscrapers coming out of the field at you."

Having taken a look at it from the air, Mr Alexander is now going to investigate it from the ground.

He is planning a trip to Oxfordshire from his home on the South Coast over the next few days.

He said: "It's a ground-breaking formation."

"Normally the crops just lie flat but in this case the crop is weaved, so it will be interesting to take a closer look."

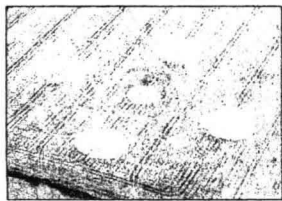
Oxford crop circle expert Michael Soper, who works for UFO research group Contact International, said: "This is an intriguing and interesting picture."

"Certainly some crop circles are a hoax, but they usually tend to be ones with less features, whereas this one has lots of features."

"It could have many meanings."

elidbury@nqo.com

EXPERTS IN THE FIELD



THIS is not the first crop circle to be found in Oxfordshire's fields.

Almost a year ago, crop circles in Garsington, near Oxford, attracted nationwide interest.

One central circle and four outer circles, left, appeared in fields either side of the B480.

Back then, after investigating them closely, Michael Soper said he struggled to believe they were a hoax.

According to experts, about 20 per cent of crop circles are caused by eddies in the earth's magnetic field.

The remainder, they

claim, are man-made hoaxes.

Crop circles occur around the world in grass and grain fields.

In Britain there have been a large number of hoaxes in Wiltshire, an area which is steeped in ancient legends and myths.

Man's close encounter with UFO

SOMETHING strange was spotted above the skies of Hoddesdon at midnight on Tuesday.

A 29-year-old town centre resident, who did not wish to be named, said he was standing on the balcony of his flat, speaking to his girlfriend on the phone, when he looked east towards Harlow and saw an unidentified flying object (UFO) move horizontally across the horizon from left to right.

"It was the speed of a shooting star, may be slightly slower, but five or six times the size, with a massive tail — like a fireball," he said.

"It turned into two green balls and disappeared. The whole thing took two seconds. I practically dropped the phone."

"I normally see lots of planes coming in and out of Stansted Airport but there wasn't a single plane around at the time this happened. Spooky!"

● Did you see anything similar over Hoddesdon that same night? If so, call the newsdesk on (01992) 414141.

HODDESDON & BROXBORNE MERCURY, England - July 21, 2006

Did you watch UFO's lights over Newtown?

A MAN claims to have spotted a UFO from his East Reading home this weekend.

Avarind Donohoe, 28, was standing outside his house in Coventry Road, Newtown, at about 9pm on Saturday, looking east, when he saw strange lights in the distance.

He said: "It's a UFO. It's an unidentified flying object."

"There were three lights in triangle form which were moving horizontally slowly."

"I couldn't make out the shape, it was just the lights I could see."

"It didn't look like a plane. It's a little bit strange."

Mr Donohoe said the orange-yellow lights also attracted the attention of a group of children who were playing nearby, and that they had stayed in the air for 10 minutes before disappearing.

He added: "By the time I went to get a camera it had gone."

Did you see the mysterious object over Reading on Saturday? Call (0118) 918 3025 if you can shed any light on the UFO's appearance.

EVENING POST, Reading, England - Aug. 21, 2006

Expert throws doubt on UFO mystery



Doubt - Phil Hoyle

A UFO expert has thrown fresh doubt on the origin of two mystery bright lights spotted on the Wrekin hill after he videoed two mystery objects in the skies.

Phil Hoyle was near the hill for the 25th anniversary of the reported abduction of three women, who claimed they had an encounter by the Shamrock Cafe on the old A5, when he noticed the two lights.

Mr Hoyle, of Sutton Farm, who runs a UFO investigations and research unit, said: "I travelled to the location that the ladies saw their UFO at about 11pm. I videoed two large and bright lights that seemed joined that flew towards the Wrekin."

"The lights flew over the Wrekin masts and then out of sight."

The original UFO encounter alleged by the three women, Val Wal-

ters, Rose Hawkins and Vivien Hayward, happened overnight between July 16 and 17 in 1981. Val is the only one still living in Shropshire with Rose now in Aberystwyth and Vivien emigrating to Canada.

Their story emerged after they underwent hypnotic regression and they believed they were taken aboard a spacecraft and examined by aliens. The trio were near the old

A5 turn-off for Uppington when they claim they saw strange lights.

Their car slowed down as if the handbrake was on as they reached the Shamrock cafe where the object vanished.

They later found they had 20 minutes they could not account for.

Mr Hoyle said anyone who saw a similar thing as he had, can contact him at Phil.Hoyle@ic24.net

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.]

September 1, 2006 — www.analuisacid.com.mx — Mexico: A Possible UFO in Culhuacan, Mexico City by Ana Luisa Cid — On Monday, August 7, 2006, the Cruz Molina family witnessed the transit of a possible UFO that traveled at low altitude over the district of Culhuacan, southeast of the Mexican capital. The video has a duration of 13 seconds and was recorded by Mr. Arturo Cruz Granados at 15:30 hours using a Sony TRV-328 camera.

The exulting voices of the eyewitnesses are heard on the recording, as well as the propeller sounds of a helicopter flying over the area. Almost at the end of the video, it can be seen that the object rotated on its own axis until it lost itself behind a house.

The first to become aware of the event was Aldair de Jesus, 13, who was looking through his bedroom window. When he noticed that something was flying over the trees, according to his own account, he reached for binoculars in order to see it better. Subsequently, his parents did the same. Mr. Cruz shot the video tape and says that he lost a great deal of time in preparing the camera. Therefore, the probable sighting had a duration in excess of the video. As part of the investigation, I interviewed the witnesses on two separate occasions, inspected the original recording and visited the site of the events, concluding that it was a real occurrence. The video is not a hoax and does not show signs of digital manipulation. Since the time I presented the video on Mexican television, I have received many e-mails from other people who claim having seen [the object] and who ratify that it was a UFO. However, no further evidence has been presented.

It is worth noting that a similar object was recorded in Azcapotzalco in northern Mexico City in September 2004.

Considering the possibility that it could have been some sort of balloon, it would have had to be one of considerable size, with a specific reason for moving horizontally over various sectors of Culhuacan, according to reports, further executing rotations at various speeds.

As a general rule, very large balloons are promotional in nature and are almost always moored. Very large "cantoya"-type balloons are used for special festivities or religious holidays of the Catholic church, which are usually celebrated on Sundays. For this reason, and unless another explanation for this video can be found, it is my belief that the Cruz Molina family obtained significant evidence for the investigation of the UFO phenomenon.

September 10, 2006 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina — [Editor's Note: Photos of mutilated animals evoke a number of responses in viewers, not all of them positive. They have not been included in this news item and will be available at <http://inexplicata.blogspot.com>] — ARGENTINA: Mare Mutilated in Santa Rosa, La Pampa — A report from Salvatore Valentin Carta — Santa Rosa - La Pampa: A mutilated mare, approximately 3 years old and almost certainly pregnant, was found on the north access road to Santa Rosa on National Route 35, Km 333. The mare was literally emptied out.

It also presented incisions in its eyesockets and its left jaw, showing incisions in its tongue. It can be estimated that it was in a mutilated condition with advanced decomposition taking place. The carcass appears to have been dragged out in the early morning hours of September 10 and left there.

One hundred meters away from the spot is a horse breeding farm. When consulted, they denied that the mutilated animal belonged to them. — CREDIT: Salvatore Valentin Carta

September 10, 2006 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina — ARGENTINA: CE-1 and CE-2 in Santa Rosa — A report from Salvatore Valentin Carta — Santa Rosa, La Pampa, Argentina: Northeastern sector of the aforementioned city and its outskirts.

On Saturday, August 26, 2006, Mrs. "O" had just finished watering her back yard. She estimates the time as somewhere between 19:50 and 20:10 because night was falling "without the sun being visible." It was then that something drew her attention.

It was a "dark red" object with the appearance of a plow disc (60 cm in diameter) with lights around it, but the lights "were not solid, and it looked like each of them was a small spiral" - this term was accompanied by an association with a fly-swatter. Technically speaking, it was a vortex.

The object remained static between a three-line barbed wire fence used as a separation between another neighboring house and behind a brick oven, almost along the same visual plane.

"That thing there" seemed odd to her, but she didn't give it much importance, getting back into her house because "it was starting to get cold." The next day she noticed that the soil was drier than normal and with a more solid consistency. I have ascertained that the barbed wire is darkened or covered by something resembling oxide; it is high resistance galvanized wire measuring 3mm thick and was put up a year ago.

The two dogs did not bark on this occasion. Upon visiting her farm, a "fairy ring" was clearly visible on the property, measuring 2.50m in diameter. Mrs. O was startled, as she hadn't stopped to think about it.

She also indicated that five days before this event, on Monday, August 21, at 21:00 hours, as she brought in her husband's bicycle (he had just come in from work and gone straight to bed), she saw a light to the northwest that she described as "a very large bottle shooting fire outward" (plasma ionization?). The neighborhood dogs were quite alarmed. The object was near a construction site two blocks distant from her point of view. These are the last three city blocks in that area of Santa Rosa. In the morning, she looked into the matter because she thought it could be people engaged in some activity, but found the grass as though burned and very dry with regard to the surrounding vegetation. Her information was corroborated when I visited the site she pointed out. — CREDIT: Salvatore Valentin Carta

September 12, 2006 — www.analuisacid.com.mx — MEXICO: UFO OVER SUSULA, YUCATAN — Gustavo Aleman, director of the *Ovni Merida* group, managed to record on video a possible luminous UFO last Friday on September 1, 2006.

According to the account provided by the researchers who were there with him -- Emilio Cetz and Victor Mis -- the time was 11:33 pm and they were getting ready for a skywatch when Gustavo told them that there was a flash in the sky.

Gustavo Aleman's report: "I saw a flash in the sky and summoned my colleagues to confirm what I was

seeing. When we tried to videotape it, the object came closer to the site and that's how we managed to record it, although at that point it was in plain sight. A few seconds elapsed and the object went away. We didn't see it again. We immediately broke camp and tried to locate it elsewhere along the highway, but it wasn't possible ... it was either a mere chance or it was our lucky day."

Ana Luisa Cid remarks: In December 2004, Emilio Getz obtained one of the best recordings of an unidentified flying object, also in the skies of Yucatan and very similar to the Susula video. Although there was a confusion that year with certain "cantoya"-type balloons that feature luminaries around them, the *Ovni Merida* video is something altogether different in my opinion, following the premise that the researchers themselves (Aleman and Getz) discovered the foregoing error, proving that they are qualified to make such a distinction. However, if their current video should have an explanation, I am certain that they will be the first to make this known; they have always acted with honesty and are renowned throughout Mexico for their excellent UFO research.

[By using] filters with Corel Photo-paint 12: Upon increasing the brightness in the photos and applying solarization, relief and contour filters, no upper structure can be seen, provisionally dismissing the possibility that it could be a balloon. I believe that there is a significant probability that a UFO has been recorded; the witnesses state that the object went away in a matter of seconds. My congratulations to the entire *Ovni Merida* team for the work they perform, and my thanks for their trust.

To See More Images: <http://www.analuisacid.com/susula.htm>

September 17, 2006 — *Centro de Estudios UFO, Argentina* — ARGENTINA: UFOs IN LA PAMPA — A report from Quique Mario, CEUFO — There has been noticeable UFO activity in our region over the past few weeks.

On Friday at 20:10 hours, there were several witnesses to the vertical descent of a light having the relative size of a soccer ball, ranging in color from white to sky blue. What was most remarkable about it was its vertical trajectory. The episode was seen to the west of the city of Santa Rosa, capital of La Pampa Province, Argentinean Patagonia.

At 20:00 hours, we received a report concerning the presence of another object with a size similar to that of an elongated football, swept backward, having the general shape of "a pear," to the southwest of the town of Macachin, some 150 km SE of Santa Rosa. Another resident driving along the road from the Province of Buenos Aires heading into La Pampa also described a phenomenon whose description matched the former.

Only minutes ago, dozens of witnesses informed me of the transit of two strange objects flying west to east at regular speed, one ahead of the other. Eyewitnesses reported that they resembled "the lights of two cars, one ahead of the other." The observation lasted nearly 3 minutes and surprisingly, the lights "went out."

In recent weeks, animals have been found mutilated in bizarre fashion in western La Pampa, while the presence of "lights" is reported nearly on a daily basis. The *Centro de Estudios UFO* will visit the area in order to compile more details and eyewitness accounts.

We would thank anyone from Argentina having matching details to please advise us in order to establish possible correlations. — CREDIT: Quique Mario, CEUFO

September 17, 2006 — *La Nacion Latina* [www.lanacionlatina.com/index.php?idcategoria=14216] — Colombia: UFO's "Stalk" Palermo — Several reports from local residents reveal the presence of lights and unidentified objects in space. The alleged UFOs appear to sympathize with certain politicians and campaigning seasons. The photo of the municipal representative ratifies other accounts from peasants and villagers. Disbelief is widespread among residents.

Agitation has seized the municipality of Palermo, a quiet community some 20 km from Neiva, due to sightings of lights and objects that fly and appear over the fields. And with good reason. For some fifteen years, back when the sightings occurred in the district of Otas, Campoalegre, the glances of these alleged objects from beyond the Earth appear to have concentrated themselves on Palermo, where they have given rise to surprise, admiration, fear and stories that range from absolute belief to the most forceful skepticism.

Some say that the UFOs have political sympathies, because they are mostly seen when elections are taking place or the day prior to voting; strange movements of lights and devices have even been recorded on cameras, such as the 2004 case when Javier Urazan accompanied a seismic research team and found a small object recorded on one of his photos whose nature they could not determine. The same occurred with the representative eight days ago.

To Juan Alberto Bernal, 37, a resident of Palermo who has devoted a considerable part of his life to promotional ads, the subject merely represents another reality in his life, as he has been a witness to it. "It would be very selfish to believe that in such a wide universe, a small planet like ours is the only one harboring life. Fifteen years ago I saw three strange objects with lights on Cerro El Bache. One crossed, the other descended and they zig-zagged around. I wasn't the only witness. At the time, which was also an electoral season, Sixto Francisco Cerquera, Neiva's former mayor, also saw them and can attest to it," said Bernal.

On the Campaign Trail

The former Neivan official acknowledges that around that time he was campaigning for a seat in the Huila assembly, and in fact he observed the phenomenon with his wife, Fabiola Araujo, who was with him.

"It was getting dark and we were coming in from a rural area. As we approached the town, my wife and I saw a light in the sky, but we thought it was a plane; then we stopped the car to see what it was. The fact of the matter is that it wasn't a plane, because when we pulled over, the light remained still. When we moved the car, the light followed our movements. That night, the lights had gone out in our town, and when the object stopped over the town church before vanishing, the light was restored to the town immediately. It was mysterious, but real," says the attorney and former political leader.

Juan Alberto Bernal recalls that a peasant witnessed the landing of a vehicle on the property of Juan Antonio Carrera Mejia, former mayor of Palermo and current candidate for mayor of Neiva. Three shining men descended from the object; the occupants and their vehicle later vanished into the vastness of the sky.

"The peasant said that those were things of God and that the three characters who came down were angels sent to Earth, but they returned to heaven," remarks Bernal.

Regarding this story, Carrera Mejia said that six years ago, at La Laguna, his farm, peasants witnessed this phenomenon, which subsequently became magnified. "That was the story. I didn't worry much about it, but I would lie if I told you that I don't believe in these things. There must be something beyond our Earth in such a large universe," said Carrera.

The Official Speaks

Community headman William Percy Gonzalez said that the photo delivered to and published by *La Nacion*, showing an alleged UFO, is not a fraud and certainly was not a means of drawing attention to the fact that he is running in next year's elections to reach the town's foremost political position.

"The document is there for anyone who wants to inspect it. At no time were we hunting for strange objects. We were merely doing field work when a strange object was picked up on a photo. Even the person we were visiting, Don Alirio Rivera Manchola, in Alto Pijao, came around later and had no knowledge of the event, and we showed him the image. His reaction was one of considerable nervousness and he developed goosebumps, because that same night he'd heard a tremendous explosion in the air, and that a very large boulder had broken off from higher up the mountain."

He notes that he isn't very interested in making this highly curious case known, arguing that people know him well in the mountain municipalities' 54 trails due to the job he has been doing as community headman.

Seismic Research

Faiber Urazan, a Palermo resident who had accompanied a seismic exploration team for an oil company, recalls that they were involved in the Upar 2D seismic project and that several photographs were taken.

"That day, several photos of the landscape were taken from the El Vergel trail, and in one of them -- upon downloading to a computer -- there appears an object that was not seen in plain sight. That was one evidence. 'With all the talk going around, we associated with what was being rumored. Just like there's life on Earth, so it must be in other galaxies,' said Urazan.

But one of the most touching stories was experienced two years ago by nine people, who in the company of their children, went camping to El Pailon to spend the night somewhere different and share stories with their friends and loved ones -- a sort of spiritual retreat in the country.

Everything was going normally and after dinner and prayer, around 11:30 PM, a light appeared in the sky.

"Toward the side of the cordillera we saw a light changing colors. It gave off shades of brilliant blue and red, growing and shrinking. All of us who were present there saw the phenomenon. We hadn't had a drop to drink, so there was no thought of a hallucination. It is said that there are three extraterrestrial bases in this area. One of them in the La Tatacoa Desert, another in Cerro Pacande and in this cordillera. They say they come here for a metal that can be found in that mountain," explained Sandra Liliana Manchoa, a businesswoman who participated in the excursion.

Levdy Patricia Trujillo, an occupational health student at Neiva's Universidad Surcolombiana, also participated in the camping excursion and agrees with what she saw that evening.

"When we went out for a walk, we saw something like a small star that began to grow and issued bright flashes in a single place, changing size constantly. We were scared. I was very nervous and couldn't sleep out of fear, and that's how I was until 4 AM. Every time I woke up, I would see the same thing. We think it was a UFO, there's no other explanation," she said.

The fact is that UFOs appear to have been stalking Palermo for many years and each of the eyewitness accounts lends credibility to the presence of extraterrestrials over the town, which is protected by Santa Rosalia, its patroness. — CREDIT: Virgilio Sanchez-Ocejo, *Miami UFO Center*

September 18, 2006 — *CIUFOS/LA PAMPA*, La Pampa, Argentina — Argentina: New Cattle Mutilation Reports from La Pampa — New cases involving animal mutilations were made known through information provided by the La Pampa Provincial Police and corroborated by researchers from *CIUFOS-LA PAMPA*.

It was verified that in a rural farm located in the vicinity of the "Padre Buodo" wilderness, located at the crossing of National Routes No. 35 and 152, Jurisdiction of General Acha, two black Aberdeen Angus heifers and a calf of the same type and color appeared to have been mutilated, presenting signs of bodily damage similar to others detected recently.

The deaths, according to the veterinarians consulted, occurred some 10 days prior to the date of their discovery. Moreover, in the locality of Quehue, on Provincial Route 18, km 94, at the "San Emilio" farm, another Black Angus calf was found dead and mutilated. A similar fate befell a cow (same breed and color) found between the localities of Quehue and Utracan, to the north of General Acha, on Provincial Rt. 9.

It should be noted that there has been an increase in cattle mutilations in this province, with specimens of the Aberdeen Angus breed being predominant. — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves, *CIUFOS/LA PAMPA*

September 18, 2006 — *Fundacion Cosmos* — MEXICO: POLICEMAN REPORTS SEEING "TWO WITCHES" — ***Although the sighting took place weeks ago, he made it known this morning*** — Monterrey, Mexico (18 Sept 06) - A policeman from Santa Catarina claimed having seen two witches while on a routine patrol near a graveyard several months ago. He only made this information known today.

Gerardo Garza Carbajal explained his experience with the supernatural very near the Panteon Municipal, a few meters from the road to Villa Garcia. "It was nighttime, I stayed behind to stand guard on my own and suddenly someone started pelting me with stones. Then I saw two people with wings and wrinkled faces."

"I was so scared that I got into my squad car. I could hear them laughing in an ugly way, flying a short distance. I thought they were witches--I saw them very close," said the officer, who has a long service record with the local police.

Garza Carbajal said that he immediately requested backup, and in a matter of minutes was surrounded by several municipal police cars, even some from the Ministerial Police.

"The witches flew off, but the police officers who came to my aid saw what I saw. They can attest to the fact that I didn't imagine anything. What I saw was real. I'd never been so scared before," said the officer. He added that he was subsequently taken to a medical center, since his blood pressure dropped excessively. He soon recovered from the powerful shock.

Witnesses to this event stated that they do not know for sure if two witches were involved, but are indeed certain that they have no explanation for this phenomenon. — CREDIT: Marco Reynoso

September 19, 2006 — *CIUFOS/LA PAMPA*, La Pampa, Argentina — ARGENTINA: MUTILATED COW IN GENERAL ACHA — Another black Aberdeen Angus cow - this time pregnant - was found dead and mutilated at km17 of Provincial Route No. 152, jurisdiction of General Acha, a locality some 110km south of Santa Rosa, La Pampa.

The animal was missing its right ear, presented a large incision in the udder and an absence of genitals and anus. Only a large hole measuring some 25 centimeters in diameter was found, with its edges cauterized, and through which 40 centimeters of the dead front legs of its unborn calf protruded.

The animal's death is estimated to have occurred 10 days ago and goes on to form part of the numerous cases reported in the area, which have the aforementioned Pampean locality as their epicenter. — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves

September 19, 2006 — www.ovni.net — PUERTO RICO: UFOs REPORTED IN NORTHERN P.R. ***A report from Lucy Guzman** — This week kicked off with reports of UFOs over the northern area of the island: Manati (Monday, 11 a.m.), Bayamon (Monday night), Arecibo (Tuesday, 12:30 pm).

All sightings occurred at an approximate altitude of 1,500 to 3,000 feet.

One [object] was a white cylinder that remained static for 3 minutes, having the apparent size of a commercial airliner. It vanished in the blink of an eye.

Another was rectangular with peaks at its edges, matte silver in color. This object began to dissolve after it became stationary.

The other [object was described] as a moving grid of lights that later becomes stationary, etc. All of the eyewitnesses are aware of aircraft, and state that they are neither airplanes nor helicopters.

The entire island should be on alert, with photo and video cameras ready. Anyone able to do so should be on the lookout between 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 pm. and from 9 p.m. to midnight. Their trajectory is from east to west at low altitude (1,500 -3000 feet), approximately below cloud level. — CREDIT: Lucy Guzman

September 25, 2006 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina — Argentina: Intense UFO Activity in the Argentinean Delta Region — Taller Glaucoart managed to conduct observations for 4 consecutive days from the Argentinean Delta observing that UFO activity at said location is completely abnormal and extraordinary. Some island-dwellers confirmed that it is indeed possible to see large stars that appear and travel over the Delta's tributary rivers.

But on Sunday, September 17, 2006, the activity literally became an "intense wave" at 19:40 hours - two lenticular objects, flying in parallel formation, shone above the western side of the islands. It was impressive to witness to record these two sources of light as they floated and traveled slowly over the Samiento River toward the north (Parana River) from a southward direction, with a magnitude of -1.6 (this was captured on video). Minutes later, after some anomalous pulsations, they traversed the delta's skies, but at 20:05 hours, another extraordinary event occurred: another parallel formation of lenticular bodies of light crossed the Tigre in an eastward direction, crossing the area's rivers. But what stunned all of the onlookers present was that the first of the two lenticular objects had an astounding magnitude of -10, a brilliance nearly 5 or 6 times greater than that of the planet Venus.

The phenomenon could not be captured on video (and we do not quite understand why). Apparently the observed UFO was already starting to generate an "EM" effect and the Sony Camcorder's battery went dead. Cell phones used to make calls could not find a signal. In the full silence of the islands, to observe the parallel formation crossing the delta's rivers was a lovely sight.

For 4 days, Taller Glaucoart was able to capture more than 5 UFOs [on tape], appearing suddenly with intense, high-magnitude flashes. It is interesting to note and remark that the Argentinean Delta is under intense and completely anomalous UFO activity, perhaps even greater than the notorious activity in the skies over Cordoba. — CREDIT: Taller Glaucoart, Guillermo Gimenez and Ricardo D'Angelo

September 25, 2006 — www.26noticias.com.ar, Argentina — ARGENTINA: UFO SIGHTINGS IN LA PAMPA AND BUENOS AIRES — Aside from sightings of strange luminous objects in our skies, at least a dozen reports of mysteriously mutilated bovines have been received.

The cases occurred in Santa Rosa, capital of La Pampa; in Carihue and Pehuajo, in the interior of the province of Buenos Aires, and in the locality of Florida in the suburbs of Buenos Aires itself, where two intense lights, circulating at high speed, captured the attention of eyewitnesses.

The cases recorded can be added to the ones that have been reported over the past 20 days, which have a greater presence in the interior of La Pampa, explained Luis Burgos, president of the Fundacion Argentina de Ovnilogia (FAO).

According to Burgos, the intense "flying saucer" activity is the result of the arrival of springtime (in the southern hemisphere), which is "the Martians" favorite season.

September 26, 2006 — *El Tribuno*, Salta, Argentina — ARGENTINA: STRANGE OBJECT FALLS FROM SKY — Incident occurred in the local sewage treatment plant — ***It toppled an antenna located on an office roof; an eyewitness offered a clear description of the object** — Crews of volunteer fire fighters and the provincial police have been looking for an object that fell into one of the vats of the Aguas de Salta sewage treatment plant, located some three kilometers east of the city of Metan. The mysterious event was reported to the local sheriffs office by custodian Carlos Alberto Fernandez, who reported that the event occurred in the early hours of Sunday while he performed inspection and maintenance tasks on the premises.

He said that a flying object shaped like a black cloud, and heading from the north, crashed into the VHF antenna installed over a material storage shack. After that, it fell into the dark waters of one of the vats.

Fernandez said that he was able to see the situation clearly because it was a starry night. "I was standing exactly some 30 meters from where the event occurred," he told authorities. He explained that as a result of the powerful impact by the unknown object, the metal structure of the antenna was bent in a southward direction. The cables and moorings that held the antenna were also severed.

Elements of Regional Unit 3 and criminalists reported to the scene of the events, attesting to the situation reported by the employee of the "Star" security company.

The vat into which the object fell, according to the employee, has a depth of 5 meters. Firefighter crews under the command of adjutant Carlos Reyes have been probing the waters with hooks in order to find a trace of the unknown object. "Nothing strange has been found so far, but we will continue to investigate," said Reyes.

Elements of the Accident Division of the city of Salta were also present under the direction of Mauricio Silvestre. The group performed a site inspection without being able to identify the nature of the phenomenon in question. Sergio Castellanos, prosecutor for the Metan District, was also involved in the case.

One of the experts remarked that he dismissed the possibility that a powerful gust of wind could have bent the antenna. "It is plainly visible that it was struck by something heavy, otherwise it wouldn't have been left flush with the roof of the shack to which it was attached," he said.

To add further mystery to the case, Oscar Fernandez, an employee of the Aguas de Salta company who also works in the plant, told *El Tribuno* that "strange things are always going on here, both in broad daylight and at night, I think that this is a real mystery, something supernatural," adding that "all of those who work here have anecdotes over the strange things that have taken place." The man abstained from providing details. — CREDIT: Mercedes Casas



Cattle deaths mystify Colorado ranchers

By Dan Cunningham,
Contributor

KIRK and EADS, Colo. — Mysterious cattle deaths have puzzled two ranching families in eastern Colorado this year.

Though 90 miles apart, the strange incidents near Kirk and Eads have left some wondering if cattle mutilations are on the rise again after relative quiet since the 1980s.

Chuck Bowen of the Sand Creek area near Chivington, Colo., has lost two Black Angus cows and a calf in recent months. His father, Buster Bowen, lost several head mysteriously back in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Ninety miles to the north, Larry Brachtenbach also lost two Black Angus cows this year from strange deaths — and about 15 overall since 1973. His farm and ranch operation covers more than 2,000 acres, started from scratch more than 30 years ago.

Both long-time ranchers, the Bowen and Brachtenbach families are familiar with losing a cow now and then. "The strange thing is, the spot (where the latest cow died) was strange," said Brachtenbach, who ranches and farms about five miles south of Kim with his wife, Betty.

"She was lying between two soapweeds. No sign of a struggle. She was perfectly healthy and we never saw her sick."

When first discovered, soon after her death, the cow had a missing tongue and reproductive tract, similar to reports of two decades ago.

Brachtenbach said the area surrounding her was "mashed down" in places.

Both he and his son, Matt, noted that there was a broad trail of mashed down plants and grass leading from the cow to a spot about ten yards upslope.

Matt said it was as if the cow had gone down at the higher point of the hill and then been dragged to its final resting place. But the men could see no tire tracks or indications that anyone else had been on the property at the time of the animal's death. And what would have dragged something so heavy?

Also strange, was a spot of sandy ground about two feet square that had been apparently dug up and removed.

"Like someone took a soil sample," Larry said. While no blood was initially evident at the scene, a few days later blood had oozed from the corpse and dried.

The cow died in late June, while another Black Angus died in early June. It also had a missing sex organ and tongue, Brachtenbach said.

Ninety miles south in the Sand Creek area east of Eads, Chuck Bowen runs more than 90 head of mixed-breed cattle on land that encompasses what may be the actual historic Sand Creek Massacre Site. The ranch is about 18 miles east of Eads and 40 miles north of Lamar.

Bowen discovered a dead cow on February 13, just one day after it died. A second cow died around April 1. Neither of his cows had a missing tongue or reproductive tract, Bowen said.

But both Bowen cows had something mysterious in common. A strip of hide had been removed from the left side of the head on both cows, like they had been skinned or scraped with a sharp knife.

In neither case was there any sign of a struggle. When the second cow was found, she had been in the act of birthing a calf. A calf was half out, feet first, with no sign of it being stuck. It appeared that a natural birth was underway, Bowen said. There was no indication the cow was thrashing around or in difficulty, as can happen while birthing.

Blood had poured out from the scalped area on one of the cows found in February, but not the later one.

Bowen carries a metal detector with him for when he occasionally searches for artifacts. The detector will indicate what kind of metal is being detected.

When he passed the detector over one of the cows, he got a reading that there was metal foil — but the foil reading was picked up along the entire body, and not just in the stomach area, which would have been the case if the animal had swallowed some.

Bowen said he cannot remember getting a foil reading before this one. And he has not run his detector over any of the surviving cows because they are difficult to

get close to unless in a pen.

As for the dead cows, he said, "they died instantly. Bang, and they were dead."

Both ranchers reported their cows behaved strangely around the dead animals.

Bowen said Kiowa County Sheriff Forrest Frazee investigated both incidents at his ranch and concluded the deaths were unnatural. There was no sign of a bullet wound or animal attack.

The scalped hide from the sides of their heads added to the mystery. No lightning was involved, both ranchers said.

In both counties the men contacted neighbors to see if they had lost any stock mysteriously. The answer was negative.

While both of the Bowen cows that died this year had hide scraped from their faces, Brachtenbach recalled something similar 16 years ago. The cow that died around 1990 was a registered Simmental and an autopsy was performed on her. "The vet did not know what the cause was, but her heart was perforated like being poked with 100 holes."

"And she was laying on her side and there was a six-inch piece of hide taken out, as if



Photo by Dan Cunningham
Larry Brachtenbach of Kirk, Colo., looks at the site where a 2-foot section of grass was cut out

it was taken with a cookie cutter. We had seen her just the day before. On her side was white powder. Her eyes, tongue and female organs were missing," Brachtenbach said.

"We have had cattle for 30 years. I would say there were two that were killed by coyotes,"

Brachtenbach said. "Coyotes won't eat a cow that has been doctored," Matt Brachtenbach said.

The first suspicious cow death in the family was discovered in the early 1970s by Larry Brachtenbach and his father-in-law, Vall Kordes.

By then, Kordes had been ranching for years and he told his son-in-law "he had never seen anything like it before in his life. The first one was a bull calf which had been turned out."

Matt Brachtenbach has viewed Linda Moulton Howe's classic video on cattle mutilations. His father, curious about the ongoing loss of cattle, has also researched the mystery.

The elder rancher wonders if someone is trying to leave a sign of their presence. He recalled more than one cow has had its hide removed, with the incision cutting into a cow's bag but leaving two

teats intact as they cut around them with somewhat square corners.

Likewise, Bowen questioned what might be going on when he heard of a report about a mutilated horse near Fort Morgan earlier this year.

He contacted a Denver television station but never heard back from them. But he said a Denver Post reporter did get in touch with him and so did a woman researcher from New Mexico, who might have been Ms. Howe, he said.

The Bowen incident has been extensively written up and posted on the subscription area of her website, Earthfiles. It includes photos of the Bowen cattle.

Bowen said there were no tire marks at either site this year. If anyone came into his property, they would have walked in or flown in by helicopter.

But neither ranching family saw any suspicious lights or activities near their pastures. However, both families can report unusual sightings over the years that are not easily explained.

Bowen said he and his wife Sherri saw a strange light flying in the distance while they were in the same pasture where they lost the two cows and calf this year.

"A number of years ago in the same area we saw a light going across the sky at an enormous speed. It would zig and zag across the sky. It would go up and down. Then

at the end there was a flash of light."

Matt had a more recent story to tell. "I was going to Stratton this winter and saw lights twice."

He said the lights were not linked to communication towers. "Three lights would come on in unison, and then would go off. Then they would go on right to left, then left to right. Other people have said they have seen the same thing. My mom was with me and she saw the same. It was too high to be a radio tower, and too high to be yard lights."

Last winter, when Matt's son was born, Larry and Betty were driving on Highway 36 near Last Chance. There was a skiff of snow on the ground and it was turning to vapor and rising in the morning sun.

Approaching a Conservation Reserve Program field along the road they were surprised to see five columns of vapor and snow rising from the ground to the sky. The vortex columns were similar to dust devils that form in the summer heat — but this was winter.

"They were perfect pillars from the cloud cover down," said Larry. He added that a woman had stopped and was filming it with a camcorder. Larry returned to the site two other mornings but did not see a recurrence of the strange sighting.

Hair suit for the hirsute

Here now, from deep in Atoka County (that's down southeast for those of you from these parts), CFN is pleased to bring you "Bigfoot: The 2006 Saga."

Seems the "fleeing furry freak," as The Oklahoman's Penny Cockerell worded it (dare we detect a modicum of mockery?), has been making the rounds there, scaring two youngsters and, more recently, a woman on her porch for an

Yikes! CFN would've liked to have seen that. At any rate, ole Boggy Bottom seems to have a case of the runs — after a three-minute interlude (and apparently no offer of a ciggy), the creature snorted loudly and vanished, the story reported.

The excitement eventually garnered Marlow a panic attack and ambulance visit (we make this up not). Police officers (from the Unidentified Big Beast Department?) searching her property turned up neither hide nor hair of the creature.

Nevertheless, the sightings were enough to bring Bigfoot seeker C. Thomas Biscardi of California 2,300 miles to the town of 200.

"This is what I do for a living (!)," he told Cockerell in a follow-up story last week. "The Bigfoot hunter is here in town, and we'll get to the bottom of this before the end of the day."

Er, the boggy bottom? We're still waiting for word.

According to the Oke, Biscardi believes

early morning smoke.

Caney resident Jackie Marlow, 52, was gazing at the wooded area on her acreage just before 8 a.m. a few weeks back when what locals refer to as the "Boggy Bottom Monster" — a swamp-dweller of the Bigfoot variety — apparently showed up, according to the story.

"It had very long legs, and it had a head," Marlow told the Oke. "... It was a big reddish-brown tall thing, and it scared the fire out of me."

there are about 3,500 migratory Bigfoots (Bigfeet?) — his most recent sighting was just outside Paris, Texas, proving, of course, that while Atoka is the creature's county, Paris must be its hometown.

Not to make the elusive swamp-dweller the butt of all our jokes, we offer this plea to Atoka County residents: Change its name. Or buy it a diaper. "Boggy Bottom Monster"? You might as well call it "Mister Doo-doo."

In the meantime, if this all sounds a bit familiar — we accolade you, faithful reader. The Oke ran southeastern Oklahoma Bigfoot coverage 'bout the same time last August (duly noted in CFN) and Oklahoma Today's 2005 September-

October issue featured the critter. We might suspect a slow-news-month plot, but, perhaps, the joke's on all of us. One Oke comment in particular gives CFN pause: "Atoka County has even capitalized on its Bigfoot legacy. (A resident) recalls one weekend last year when locals brought a tour bus through and had a man dressed in a Bigfoot

costume appear at various stops."

Hmm ... hair suit for the hirsute?



Handle unidentified animal deaths carefully

Investigators recommend approaching situation in a well-disciplined manner

By Dan Cunningham,
Contributor

LAS ANIMAS, Colo. — The apparent return of a few "unidentified animal deaths" (UAD) — or cattle mutilations — may prompt some cattlemen to wonder what to do.

When the local sheriff is called, he or she may or may not respond. Or they may not have the experience to do a meaningful investigation.

If too many people are told, the site can be trampled by the curious, which can disrupt the pastoral lives of the cows that need to be relaxed so they can gain weight more efficiently.

And, of course, there is always the possibility that too many neighbors may start "poking fun" when the owner of a UAD visits his favorite watering hole at the café or bar.

But a cow that has died from an unusual or unidentified cause is not a laughing matter. It represents monetary loss that an insurance company may or may not reimburse. Two veteran UAD investigators recommend that any UAD be approached in a disciplined, reasonable manner.

Both law and insurance offices are a good place to report the incident. But beyond that, it may make sense to seek help from people who are experienced investigators of these type of incidents.

When Manuel Sanchez found a mutilated cow in Costilla County in early July, it drew the attention of Thomas B. Peay, who has a quarter-section horse ranch near Sanford, Colo.

He has learned the art of investigating UAD's from Christopher O'Brien, author of *The Mysterious Valley*, a litany of strange incidents in the San Luis Valley in recent years. O'Brien has two more books forthcoming in the near future, including one that will focus on his conclusions regarding UAD's.

Peay is now the person to contact about Colorado incidents since O'Brien now lives in Sedona, Ariz. Peay said any contacts made with him will be treated confidentially and in the manner requested. He can be contacted at 719-672-0348 or 719-672-0348. Peay is also working with an other UAD research group — BLT Research out of Cambridge, Mass. According to Peay, this group will support investigations with veterinarians that will go into the field to perform onsite autopsies if the cow is still fresh; 1 or 2 days dead.

He visited the site where Sanchez lost his cow. And he also visited Kirk, Colo., where the *Ag Journal* reported the deaths of some apparently mutilated cows earlier this year.

Peay's trained eye determined that the latest dead cow

was in an approximate 54 by 29-foot area that "had been flattened down", exactly as it looked when Larry Brachtenbach first drove up to the site.

Peay follows protocols recommended by O'Brien, who has looked at more than 200 UAD's, many in the San Luis Valley, which he thinks plays an important role in the mystery.

Surgical and rubber gloves, a respirator, specimen jars, scalpels, scissors, pliers, sterile tubes, Vicks Vapo-rub (to ward off the odor), magnifying glass, tarps and "Do Not Enter" signs are among the items a good investigator takes to the scene.

It also helps to have a Geiger counter, tri-field meter and battery-operated black-light to aid in the study, according to the protocols compiled by O'Brien.

Peay follows the same procedures as his mentor, O'Brien, who developed the trust of stockmen as he looked into 200 or so UAD's.

Of those, "potentially 40 were legitimate," O'Brien told *Ag Journal*.

Most of the mutilations he considered genuine were located in the San Luis Valley or northern New Mexico.

"I cannot prove anything as to who perpetrates them, or who is behind them" O'Brien said.

In the cases he classifies as genuine UAD's, he found evidence of high-heat, or laser, on some of the carcasses.

"I have learned a lot (about UAD's) since the 1980s," O'Brien said.

He prefers to keep his studies low key because "when you publicize activities you get more noise and people go out

and report mundane things." The barrage of reports, though well intentioned, can distract investigators from the genuine events worthy of study.

From autumn of 1997 through the spring of 1998, "there was a little bit of (UAD) activity," O'Brien said. "Then the bottom dropped out."

There have been few reports the past six years, he noted, though there is evidence of increased activity in southwest Nebraska and northeast Colorado.

The death of the Sanchez cow, and unusual UAD's near Kirk and Eads, Colo., this year have focused interest on these mysterious events once again. O'Brien said many UAD's seem to happen in the spring and fall time of year.

While UAD's were inactive in the United States in recent years, O'Brien said there have been more than 3,600 cases of cattle mutilations in Brazil since 2000.

"A lot of really good science is being done on cases down there," O'Brien said.

When he lived in the San Luis Valley, O'Brien said he became "a center for weirdness in counties." When a sheriff's office heard of an unusual incident, they would contact O'Brien directly or ask the caller to do so.

One very unusual item is the prairie lizards that are observed at one location in the San Luis Valley. Apparently tracing back to Indian lore, these are about three feet long and have no legs. They appear translucent on either end, and more opaque in the middle where they are thicker. They undulate and can pass through solid walls.

O'Brien says the lizards are reported in an area several hundred yards wide and about a third of a mile long. This area also includes the home formerly occupied by a successful inventor and musician.

"You usually see them out of the corner of your eye," O'Brien seems to think mutilations are caused by man, and not beings from outer space.

However, he has learned of another strange event.

"On July 4 in 2003 or 2004, there was intriguing activity near Questa, N.M. (a town between the Colorado border and Taos, N.M.)

He said numerous witnesses reported a "huge grandmother craft in the sky inside a lenticular cloud." Estimated to be as long as three miles, the object was observed "shooting out hundreds of smaller objects over a three hour period."

"A guy from Kansas estimated there were more than 400 of the smaller objects...they were leaving and returning on a regular basis. The object just hung there while clouds went by." (A lenticular cloud is formed as air passes over a mountain. It is above the mountain and usually forms at a right angle to the wind motion.)

So, obviously O'Brien, and now Peay, have heard a lot of weird stories. But progress is being made in how to make sense of them.

O'Brien has connected with a medical pathologist in Denver who is willing to travel and look at some of the cases. And he has "lined up people to test soil samples."

"We can do kick-ass science," O'Brien said

AMERICAN, Talihina, OK - June 29, 2006

Bigfoot Again!

By Eddie Owens

Another visitor to Kiamichi Country reports having a strange experience while visiting our area.

Garry Brown of Warner, Oklahoma encountered something very unusual while on a turkey hunting trip over the Easter week-end. He was camped "a couple of miles south of Nashoba and back in the mountains."

"After supper on the evening of Good Friday, I retired to my camper and put a John Wayne movie on my portable TV," he says. "While watching the movie I became aware of a very powerful and disgusting odor."

The odor was so bad, that Mr. Brown thought he would have to move his camper to a better location if it persisted.

"It went away after about five minutes or so," he says. "Then, the same thing happened Saturday night. When I later read Mr. Athenson's description of the smell that was in last week's Clayton Today, I thought that was exactly like I described to my wife when I got home."

Mr. Brown's experience didn't end there.

"Easter Sunday I went to bed

but was restless and couldn't sleep. At 2:45 a.m. I became aware of what sounded like voices. I can't really describe the sound they were making, but it was like a combination of wailing and grunting," said Mr. Brown. "Somehow I got the impression that they were trying to communicate."

These noises lasted between five and ten minutes according to Brown, during which time all other forest sounds stopped.

"It was eerie," says Brown, "Not a whippoorwill, cricket, tree frog or anything else was making a sound."

"I could hear three distinct voices making these sounds," said Brown. "One sounded low and guttural and the other two were higher pitched. Have you seen that Fed-X commercial where the two cavemen are talking? That's what it reminded me of."

"I didn't go outside, just looked out the windows of my camper. It was a bright moonlit night, but I couldn't see anything. I had been propped up on my elbows in bed all this time and wasn't going outside."

Mr. Brown stated that there was no smell that Sunday

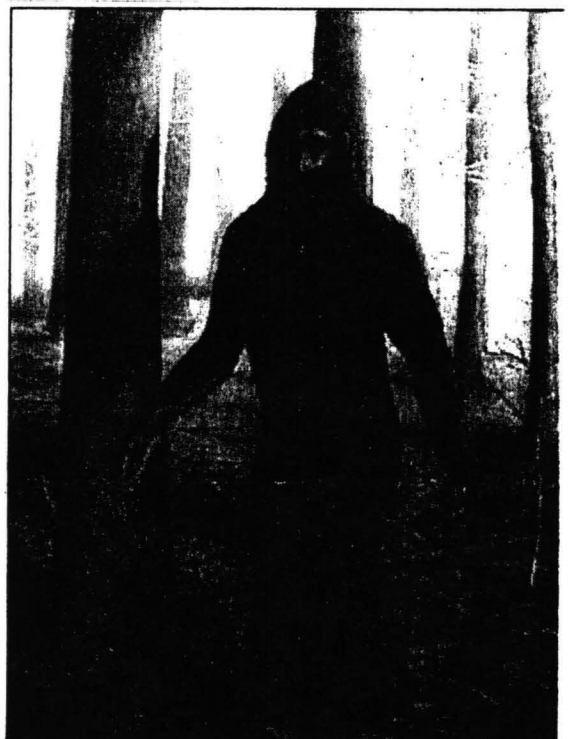
night, and he guessed the origin of the noises was some 25 to 30 yards from his camper.

"I've been back to the area on two occasions since Easter," says Brown, "trying to see if I can duplicate the experience, but no luck."

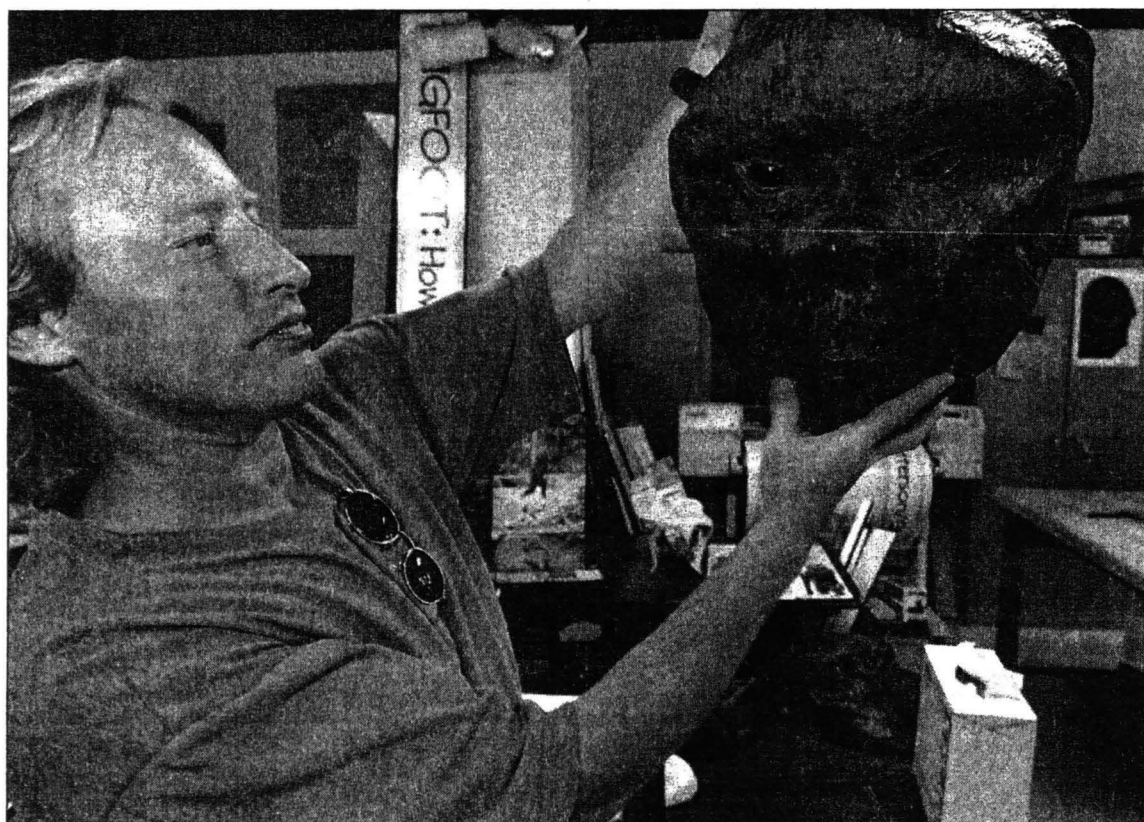
So... what did Mr. Brown encounter in the woods on Easter night?

"I don't know what it was," says Brown, "but I can't imagine anyone going to that much trouble to play a trick. Besides, I don't think anyone could mix anything to make that smell."

Like Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Brown is reluctant to put a name to his encounter, but knows that it was something out of the ordinary.



HEALTH · SCIENCE



BILL SCHAEFER/THE IDAHO STATE JOURNAL

Dave Mead, exhibits director at the Idaho Museum of Natural History in Pocatello, holds up a life-size plaster cast of a purported image of Bigfoot that will be part of the museum's Bigfoot display. The exhibit will open Friday.

Idaho celebrates Bigfoot

A state museum will open a display featuring artifacts of the elusive and legendary creature.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POCATELLO, Idaho — The director of the Idaho Museum of Natural History says it won't matter whether Bigfoot is farce or fact when a new exhibit opens Friday.

Linda Deck, who also is curator of the Bigfoot exhibit, said the museum is taking a neutral position and simply displaying artifacts that involve the legendary creature that some say lives secretly in the Northwest.

"As human beings we make sense of our world in a variety of different ways," Deck told the Idaho State Journal. "We've got our myths, legends and beliefs and a very scien-

tific way of knowing about our world, too, where we make hypotheses and test things and learn and change what we think."

But for Bigfoot believers, it could be a treasure trove.

Included in the exhibit is the Patterson-Gimlin film that shows a large creature striding away before turning and looking directly at the camera.

In the clip the creature steps on a branch. That branch is included in the exhibit. The branch was used to calculate the creature's height at 6-foot-6, said Dave Mead, exhibits director at the museum.

A flannel jacket worn by the late Rene Dahinden, who spent 40 years in search of Bigfoot, is on display. He wore the jacket during a series of commercials for Kokanee beer.

Other objects in the exhibit include American Indian depictions of Bigfoot, a stick thought to have been twisted by one of the

creatures, art and sculptures of Bigfoot, hair samples said to be from a Bigfoot, a cast of an impression said to be of a Bigfoot's elbow, and other evidence gathered by people involved in the search for Bigfoot.

Jeff Meldrum, an anatomy professor at Idaho State University and a local Bigfoot expert, said the exhibit will give visitors a new way to consider the subject.

"I think the (museum's) approach is a very thought-provoking one that recognizes there are a variety of dimensions to the experience of Bigfoot," Meldrum said. "The exhibit attempts to use the topic of Bigfoot as a springboard to analyze different ways of knowing. A variety of those things intersect with the subject matter at hand."

Mead said he expects the Bigfoot exhibit to rival an exhibit the museum had 15 years ago that featured automated dinosaurs.

"Bigfoot is along the same lines of attraction," Mead said. "He's mysterious and big."

SUN, Hartshorne, OK

June 29, 2006

Honobia's Big Foot Festival

Dear Editor,

Last year the town of Honobia, Oklahoma had national media coverage with the sightings of Big Foot. Out of these sightings came the idea of a festival- Honobia Big Foot Festival. National Geographic, Discovery Channel, Daily Oklahoman to mention a few brought attention to SE Oklahoma.

This year with sightings still going on Honobia will be having its 2nd Annual Big Foot Festival on Oct. 6, 7 & 8.

Festivals such as Big Foot, Wilburton, Antlers, Talihina and others help boost our economy. These festivals are so important to bring in outsiders to buy groceries, gas, lodging, real estate and more. The sales tax from the sales helps our towns.

That is why prior advertising is so important — bring in the public and the money! Coverage during the event is also important to put these events on the map — Travelok.com for the future.

Thank you for listening to my request.

C Chase

TIMES PAST

A monster lurks in Lake Elsinore

Los Angeles Times
YEARS

Sept. 13, 1934: A Riverside County rancher named C.B. Greenstreet

caused a stir when he said he had seen "the terrifying monster said to inhabit Lake Elsinore," The Times reported.

Greenstreet, described in the newspaper as "a widely known and reputable valley rancher," said he had spotted the monster in the afternoon.

"It was 100 feet long and had a 30-foot tail," he said. "I know you think I'm crazy, but I saw it — we all saw it, my wife and two children — and my little girl was terrified."

The monster, he said, "would move along near the surface of the water lazy-like and then all at once would swish that huge tail and dart like lightning half the length of the lake."

The Times noted that sightings in the past — by a family the previous spring, various residents in 1915 and by Indians, who described such a creature's frequent appearances in their legends.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO - July 31, 2006 Fish from heaven

A cloudburst over the northern Indian village of Manna unleashed a rain of small fish that sent villagers into the streets to collect them as they fell. "Initially, no one noticed it. But soon, we saw some slushy objects on the ground and noticed some slight movement," shopkeeper Abubaker told the *Hindustan Times*. Meteorologists agreed that the pencil-thin fish were probably scooped up by a waterspout and carried high into the atmosphere before falling on Manna.

CR: P. Noonan

Is there such thing as the supernatural? I wish I could tell

CITIZEN-TIMES, Asheville, NC - Aug. 13, 2006 CR: J. Fisher



Bob Terrell
COLUMNIST

Land together 18 times and shared many a story with each other.

We were talking the other day and the subject evolved to the supernatural.

As a boy, Tom had a newspaper route. One of his customers was an elderly woman named Mrs. Rowe.

She had promised to give him some lemon seeds, and on Saturday when he made his rounds to collect for the paper, she came to the door,

paid him, and said, "Here are the lemon seeds you wanted." She put a half-dozen seeds in his hand.

When he reached home he showed the seeds to his mother and said, "Mrs. Rowe gave these to me."

"Which Mrs. Rowe?" his mother asked. "Margaret Rowe, the teacher, or the other Mrs. Rowe."

"It was the other one," Tom said.

His mother paled. "Tom," she said, "Mrs. Rowe couldn't have given you those seeds."

"She did," he said. "She came to the door when I knocked and paid for the paper and gave me the seeds."

"Mrs. Rowe," Tom's mother said slowly, "died Wednesday and was buried yesterday."

To this day, many, many years later, Tom insists that it was Mrs. Rowe who gave him the seeds. "I know it was," he said. "It wasn't just someone at her house. It was Mrs. Rowe."

His story triggered a couple of memories in my mind. When I was in the Army at Ford Ord, Calif., beside the Pacific Ocean at Monterey, several of us went to Watsonville one Saturday to see the 1952 Miss California beauty pageant.

None of us had ever been to Watsonville, but as we walked down a long street toward the pageant grounds, I suddenly knew where we were.

I began telling the guys the names of the cross streets before we came to them, and I knew them all. Even I couldn't believe it, and it darned near blew my mind. Had I been there before? Maybe a lot of years before?

On another occasion, I rode from California home to Sylva with a friend named Bo Mashburn, who had been discharged the day before and had purchased a new Chevrolet.

As we entered Arizona, I remarked to Bo that the only

time I had ever been in Arizona was a week after I joined the Army in 1951 and we rode a troop train across the state.

Suddenly, just as in Watsonville, I knew where we were. Everything looked familiar. We stopped for a Coke at a roadside store and when we went on down the road, I told him, "I've been here before."

"When?" he asked. I had told him when we left that I had never been to Arizona except on that troop train.

"I don't know when," I told him, "but around that next curve is a log house sitting on the hillside beside a lone pine tree."

We rounded the curve, and there on the hillside was a huge pine — but no cabin.

However, an old chimney stood exactly where I remembered the cabin to be.

I don't know the answers to these unusual incidents, but they occurred just as I said. Will someone offer an explanation without mentioning John Barleycorn?

He didn't cause the incident. Neither of us had had anything but a Coke to drink.

Do I believe in the super-

natural and such? I don't even know the answer to that.

This is the opinion of Bob Terrell. He can be reached at b_terrell@bellsouth.net.

'THIS IS SOMETHING I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE'

It's dead, whatever it is

Odd carcass has Maine town citing lore of mystery creature

BY MARK LAFLAMME
Sun Journal of Lewiston, Maine

TURNER, Maine — An animal found dead along power lines over the weekend may be the mystery creature that has roamed the area for years, mauling dogs and frightening residents.

Or it could be a wild dog.

It depends on who you ask.

The animal was found along Route 4 on Saturday after neighbors say it was struck by a car. The carcass was photographed and inspected by several people who live in the area, but nobody seems to know what it might be.

"This is something I've never seen before," said Mike O'Donnell, who lives near the area where the animal was found. "It's an evil-looking thing. It looks like half-rodent, half-dog."

Wildlife officials and animal control officers told about the find declined to go to Turner to examine the remains.

Loren Coleman, considered by some to be the leading cryptozoologist in the world, said one thing is clear: The creature found in Turner is not likely somebody's pet.

"It certainly doesn't look like a chow or any kind of domesticated dog that I've seen," Coleman said after reviewing photos of the animal. "It may be a hybrid between a dog and a wolf."

The animal was described as charcoal gray and weighing between 40 and 50 pounds. It had a bushy tail, an extremely short snout and short ears. There were also curled fangs hanging over the lips.

"It looked like something out of a Stephen King story," O'Donnell said.

Since 1991, residents across Androscoggin County have reported seeing and hearing a beast that defies classical description. Theories have ranged from a fisher, a coyote, a hyena or a dingo to more fanciful ideas: some believe the local creature is Maine's own Chupacabra — Spanish for goat-sucker. The name comes from the creature's reported habit of attacking and drinking the blood of livestock.

In 2004, Turner's mysterious creature was



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

Michelle O'Donnell photographed the remains of this animal that was hit and killed by a car in Turner, Maine, and she has asked for help identifying it. Experts say it is likely that it isn't a dog, but they stop short of saying it's the creature of local legend that has mauled dogs and frightened residents for 10 years.

blamed for attacking and killing a 16-year-old Doberman in Wales. Last year, it was a suspect when a Rottweiler was mauled in Greene. Others have reported seeing it or hearing its screams at night.

Witnesses have said that the animal had eyes that glowed in the night.

Dana Johnson, a professional trapper known as "The Creature Catcher," examined the photographs Tuesday night. His guess: a black coyote with abnormal features.

Coleman, the cryptozoologist who has been studying wildlife for 46 years and who has written 27 books on the subject, said he was bothered by the ears and the snout of the creature found in Turner. It reminded him of a case years ago in northern Maine in which an animal shot by a hunter could not be identified.

So perplexing was that case, wildlife officials sent away for DNA analysis. In the end, it was declared a rare wolf-dog hybrid.

Group on Bigfoot's trail

By Eddie Glenn
CNHI News Service

STILWELL — Whether there's anything out there, a lot of people are definitely out there looking for it.

Not all the people searching through the woods of eastern Oklahoma for Bigfoot are big-city video documentarians. And not all the people who experience sightings are actively looking for a big, hairy creature: They just happen to see one, and may not even want to talk about it.

and fruit bait to attract the beast. They record sounds that respond to the calls.

Members of the group have actually seen primate-looking animals through night vision scopes, and have recorded sounds that have been identified as primate vocalizations.

"We've actually got three different recordings of something screaming," he said, adding that a researcher at the University of Texas in Austin has analyzed the sounds.

"He actually identified it as a primate."

Lee said members of the organization usually stay in Oklahoma — specifically Green Country, or the north-eastern corner of the state — on their Bigfoot expeditions, but occasionally go into Arkansas as well.

In addition to night scope sightings and Bigfoot calls, the group has also had encounters with rock-throwers — rock-throwing Bigfeet, according to Lee.

"We've actually had one

But members of an organization based in Stilwell is hoping folks who may have had a Bigfoot encounter will let them know, so they can put the information in their database, and hopefully use it to prove the existence of a creature that, so far, has been pretty difficult to find.

"We've been doing this since 2000," said D.W. Lee, senior field investigator for the Green Country Bigfoot Research Center. "A lot of sightings go unreported because the people who have the sightings are afraid

people will think they're crazy."

Lee said GCBR investigators are local people who aren't interested in making a public spectacle out of Bigfoot sightings. They're just trying to gather data.

"A lot of people feel better about talking to local people rather than strangers," said Lee. "If someone sees a Bigfoot, we're not going to ridicule them or laugh at them."

Lee said the GCBR often takes field trips to search for Bigfoot, using call blasts of recordings

of them hit the vehicle we were in," he said. "And we've had one of our researchers almost hit in the head."

Lee suggests that folks who want to go on a Bigfoot expedition of their own not carry firearms, so they don't get mistaken for illegal hunters by game wardens.

He also recommended wearing boots (there are a lot of rattlesnakes out there) and carrying a camera and an audio tape-recorder.

Cologne and perfume, he

added, will keep any Bigfoot in the area away.

"They can smell you from a mile away if you're wearing cologne," said Lee.

Lee said anyone interested in taking part in a Bigfoot search can contact the organization through their Web site, www.greencountrybigfoot.info.

"We don't take a lot of people with us," he said. "But when skeptics do go out, and something happens, they come back believers."