

# UFO

## NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

February 2007  
Number 451

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



Alleged alien space craft have been photographed for decades. Above and below are a few examples of UFOs from around the world.

# MONTANA SIGHTINGS

## State a UFO hotspot dating back to 1950s

By STACY HASLEM  
Tribune Staff Writer

The story goes something like this:

The date was March 16, 1967. Missile maintenance crews from Malmstrom Air Force Base were camped out at a missile site about 30 miles north of Lewistown.

Suddenly an alarm horn sounded.

A Minuteman missile had gone off alert and become inoperable. Upset and believing that the maintenance personnel had failed to tell him they were doing work that would create this "off-alert" warning, a first lieutenant called the missile site.

He didn't get the response he was expecting.

An on-site security guard told him that no maintenance had been done on the missile that morning. A UFO hovering over the site was a more likely culprit, he said.

Soon other missiles started going off-line as well.

Within seconds, the other nine missiles

were down.

About 20 miles southeast at the Oscar flight, a topside airman reported to his below-ground crew commander that strange, nonaircraft lights were zigzagging around the sky.

The commander didn't take the report seriously and told the airman to call back if anything more significant happened.

After a few minutes, the airman called again, clearly frightened and shouting: "Sir, there's one hovering outside the front gate!"

"One what?"  
"A UFO. It's just sitting there. We're all looking at it. What do you want us to do?"

Moments later, several other Oscar missiles were down as well.

\*\*\*

This report and others like it have made north-central Montana a UFO hot spot dating back to the 1950s.

"It's been a pretty active area, and there are a lot of world-documented sightings going

## SEE RAY KELLY'S UFO VIDEO

It's short but sweet.  
[www.greatfalls Tribune.com/ufo](http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/ufo)

## INSIDE

More reader stories and other alleged Montana encounters are on 2-3L

way back," said Jeff Goodrich, state director of the Montana chapter of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

A video recording of two bright, silvery objects zipping around the sky on Aug. 15, 1950, brought national attention to the Electric City.

Nick Mariana, general manager of the Great Falls Electrics baseball team, noticed the

objects and quickly scrambled to record the incident on the 16-mm camera he kept in his glove box. The "Montana Movie," as it came to be known, is considered one of the best UFO films of all time.

More recently, a series of mysterious cow mutilations has locals baffled and questioning whether space aliens have perhaps paid us another visit.

## UFOs are for real

It's a fact: UFOs are out there. Astronomers, scientists, government officials and ufologists all agree on that. The dispute is whether little green or gray or purple men are piloting these aircraft, if that's even what the objects are.

Ray Kelly, owner of Kelly Signs, always has been a believer and even has a few sightings to boot.

"I've always felt this universe is just too vast for us to be the only people or living creatures," he said.

Kelly's first sighting came in the 1990s. As he pulled into his

(continued on page 2)

## READER STORIES

Folks have been reporting UFO sightings from all around the Big Sky State since the early 1950s.

Here's a look at some of the more recent sightings, which were submitted by Tribune readers:

\*\*\*

## Not an aircraft

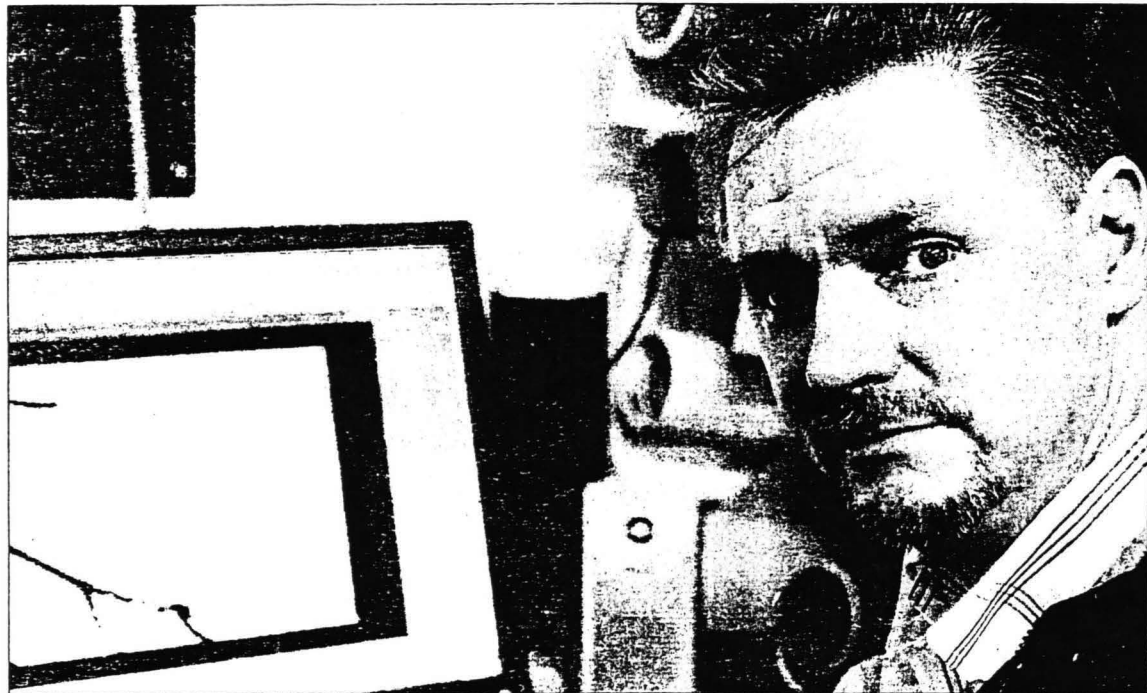
What I saw wasn't much, but it stuck with me in a big way. I didn't even share it with my father until 1995, and we have both been following sightings and cattle phenomena for years.

My parents' home is on Clark Avenue in Great Falls and their kitchen window used to have a wonderful view of the Anaconda Smokestack. I wish I had written down a date but at the time I was more concerned with burying what I saw deep in my mind.

I was up early one fall Sunday morning during the early '80s. At the time, I was in my early teens. Serving as an altar boy for the early mass at Saints Peter and Paul quite regularly, I often found myself making a quick breakfast — Cream of Wheat that morning. It was cooking on the stove as I stood in front of the window and admired the stack.

What I saw didn't last more than three or four seconds. The objects appeared about the size of a slightly elongated pencil lead. One of them came in from the east and the other from the west. They passed each other almost due north of the stack, and traveled on until it appeared they circled back toward one another. They passed one another again, and once again it appeared they circled back toward each other. This last time, however, they didn't pass each other. They stopped right next to each other, as I could see a

See READERS  
(continued on page 3)



TRIBUNE PHOTO/STUART S. WHITE

Ray Kelly has captured images of unidentified flying objects on video. See the video at [www.greatfalls Tribune.com/ufo](http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/ufo).

alley after work one night, a bright star caught his attention. Then, suddenly, it shot straight up.

Some years later, Kelly took direction from the popular 1990s television series "Sightings" and propped his Zenith camcorder on a tripod in his backyard and focused it on the sun's corona, or surrounding halo of light. If you block out the main part of the sun you'll catch bustling UFO activity in the outer rim, the theory suggests.

"These objects are kind of invisible to the naked eye until they fly into the corona," Kelly said.

Sure enough, Kelly captured glowing objects of all shapes and sizes moving at different speeds and directions in and out of the corona. He also recorded what he believes to be two UFOs traveling across the sky. One moves on a straight west-to-east plane. The other flies the same direction but instantly changes directions at two different intervals.

## UFO mania

The UFO era began in June 1947 when a Boise businessman and pilot named Kenneth Arnold reported nine mysterious objects flying around Mount Rainier in Washington. He described them as flying close together, saying their movement reminded him of a rock or saucer skipping across the top of water. He is credited for coining the term "flying saucers."

Following Arnold's sighting and the alleged crash at Roswell, N.M., where ufologists believe an extraterrestrial spacecraft and its alien occupants were recovered in July 1947, flying saucer mania began. The interest and curiosity in UFOs paired with the looming threat of nuclear attack by the Soviet Union had people nationwide and across Montana looking toward the heavens.

While the government opened an official investigation of UFOs, more reports trickled in from all over Big Sky Country. A couple weeks after Mariana's sighting, two Great Falls men reportedly saw a silvery mass over the eastern horizon near Geyser. They said the large, oblong object had a long tail and flew extremely high. It vanished over the western horizon in about eight seconds. The following week two Air Force veterans reported six amber-colored objects flying over Great Falls, passing each other at alternate intervals.

In November 1957, a Great Falls woman reported seeing an oblong, illuminated object that was twice as large as the moon



TRIBUNE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ROBIN LOZNAK

and had a flashing light on one end. Later that month a Sidney resident reported a white ball of fire with towering red columns rising up and green lights projecting from the base moving slowly across the sky.

Several UFO reports have come from MAFB and its missile sites.

The investigation that followed the 1967 missile incidents turned up no reasonable cause for the missile shutdowns, though a number of airmen as well as the deputy launch controller from that day have come forward to credit UFOs. However, the Air Force reportedly maintains that no UFO incident ever has affected national security.

Public affairs officials at Malmstrom say the base doesn't have any records related to UFOs.

The hodgepodge of reports over the years indicate that UFOs come in all shapes, sizes and colors and travel at various speeds. Some are described as balls of light that explode in the sky. Others resemble flying cars.

Of course, there also are curious reports of what "visitors" leave behind.

## Alien forensics?

The first Montana report of a mutilated cow came from the Sand Coulee area in August 1974. In the few years that followed, sheriff's deputies investigated more than 65 mutilation reports from Cascade, Judith Basin,

Chouteau, Teton and Pondera counties.

The most recent reported mutilation occurred on Oct. 9 of this year on a ranch in Valier. There are similarities to the mutilations of three decades ago.

What's left behind has raised doubt that the killings were caused by humans or predators.

Often the tongue, an eye and all or part of the ear are removed along with a portion of the udder, the genitals and the anus. Facial skin is scraped off with great precision, and the exposed bones are squeaky-clean. Many of the animals are drained of blood. There is no mess, no footprints and no one hears a sound.

What's even more bizarre, hungry predators steer clear of the carcasses for weeks.

The early cases from around the nation prompted a federally funded investigation that resulted in a 300-page report concluding the cows were killed by natural predators. Even still, ideas swarm about the mysteries, some pointing fingers at satanic cults, government or military conspiracies and, of course, space aliens.

## Local UFO group

Various groups have formed over the years to investigate UFO sightings, of which a majority are re-classified as IFOs, or identified flying objects.

"The vast majority of them are misidentified known objects, some probably classified aircraft," said Goodrich, who's retired from the military and works for a civilian contractor at MAFB. "I think a small number of them would very well be alien spacecraft."

Goodrich has been involved with MUFON, a national organization dedicated to finding scientific explanations for UFOs, for 25 years. As state director he assigns field investigators to Montana sightings. But with a dwindling statewide membership (currently eight members), Goodrich said it's impossible to investigate every report.

"The ones that are more worthy of investigation are daylight sightings of metallic objects," he said. "They are much fewer in number."

Goodrich said that when folks see a UFO they either should fill out the sighting report form online at [www.mufon.org](http://www.mufon.org) or call the National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC) telephone hotline, 206-722-3000, in Davenport, Wash.

Goodrich said local law enforcement officers and public relations officers at Malmstrom usually direct UFO-related calls to MUFON or NUFORC. The NUFORC hotline is staffed 24/7, so it may be the better route, he said.

And while Great Falls has a reputation for some of the more credible UFO reports, Goodrich said folks aren't going to get much attention without a photograph or other physical evidence.

"Anecdotal evidence doesn't really go very far as far as reaching a firm scientific conclusion," he said.

## Hogwash!

Arthur Alt, the author of the Tribune's daily Skywatch column who has a doctorate in science education and nine other degrees, doesn't believe aliens from outer space are visiting planet Earth, abducting its inhabitants and flying away with cow teat souvenirs.

"Everybody on this planet sees UFOs — unidentified flying objects," said Alt, a science professor at the University of Great Falls. "That does not translate into little green men flying spaceships. There is not one single solid thread of evidence that they exist."

Alt doesn't think the people who report UFOs are gullible or are telling tall tales. Rather they just have a hard time identifying what they see. Some of the explanations he offered for the misidentified objects in the sky

include weather balloons, planets, meteors, iridescent goose wings, and lenticular clouds, which actually resemble flying saucers.

He added that hallucinations and optical illusions also play tricks on the brain.

"Our brain works in a linear fashion," he said, adding he teaches his UGF students to think in a nonlinear fashion and manages to change most of their minds regarding flying saucers by the end of the semester.

Though Alt doesn't believe space aliens are visiting the Earth, he believes they exist.

"I'm absolutely convinced there is intelligent life in the universe outside the Earth," he said.

However, Alt theorizes that the amount of energy, time and food it would take to visit the Earth would not be worth it to any species. He said the nearest star system is about 4 1/2 light years away, which would mean a 10-years roundtrip for a vehicle traveling at the speed of light.

And for what purpose? Ten years is a lot of time just to satisfy curiosity, he said.

Alt added there's no good reason why aliens would collect samples of unintelligent animals like cows, noting the missing cow pieces wouldn't provide much information about reproducing the animal. He believes people, perhaps cult members, are responsible.

## Just another movie

Kelly doesn't have a theory on the cattle mutilations, but he does believe his video shows something of an extraterrestrial nature.

Relaxing in his lawn chair while barbecuing one afternoon, Kelly captured footage of an illuminated object moving across the sky. His video shows a UFO passing behind limbs of a tree and then eventually getting lost in the garble.

"I got pretty excited about it," Kelly said. "I showed my wife right away."

He reported the incident to MUFON and the "Coast to Coast" radio program, but it didn't amount to anything. He didn't pursue the effort further because he was satisfied enough.

"I finally saw one," he said. "I'm happy."

Kelly believes humans are being observed by other life forms from other planets or even dimensions.

"A lot of these could be government secret propulsion programs, too," he said.

And he doesn't believe UFOs pose any threat to himself, his family or mankind in general.

"I'm not afraid ... as long as I'm not a cow," he said.

Reach Tribune Staff Writer Stacy Haslem at 791-1490, 800-438-6600 or at [shaslem@greatfalls.annett.com](mailto:shaslem@greatfalls.annett.com).



# NUFORC

## National UFO Reporting Center lists hundreds of alleged Montana reports

The Washington-based National UFO Reporting Center is dedicated to the collection and dissemination of objective UFO data. The NUFORC Web site, [www.nuforc.org](http://www.nuforc.org), has an extensive database that files sightings according to state, event date, shape of UFO and date posted.

The site includes about 235 sightings from Montana, each listed with an event date, city, UFO shape and a brief summary. In most cases, the dates are approximated. NUFORC adds comments at the bottom of some listings, noting incidents that may have been a twinkling star or other celestial body.

Here's a sampling of reports from Big Sky Country:

### Boomerang shapes

I was stuck outside of the house waiting for my girlfriend and her family to come back home. We live in a residential area near the airport, and Malmstrom Air Force Base is about 10 or so miles away.

Around 9:30 p.m., I saw two shapes outlined under the clouds — pitch black, boomerang shape, no lights, not a sound. At an arm's distance they would be about the size of my hand. One was slightly smaller, or further away. I have no idea how high the clouds were that night, but I felt they were close.

I didn't think much of the sighting at first. There were lots of large birds flying south and I had seen them in the daytime flying in similar formation. But I kept my eye in the sky.

About five minutes later, a few more went nearly overhead — no sound, same shape. But these were not birds or crazy hang-gliders. They seemed to be going too slow to stay in the sky.

After that I saw something that made me scream ... and cuss just a bit. A triangle shape, with two rows of lights on all sides came just over a neighbor's house, about 200 feet down the road. Silent. Then it stopped completely and stood up as to

show off. It sat for maybe three or four seconds and faded into the stars.

— Great Falls, 10/5/05

### Soundless objects

First incident: At 21:55 I was outside and noticed a light in the sky moving. It looked just like a star. There were no flashing strobe lights on it, just a solid light. I watched the object move toward my location. I then went and got my wife to come out and look at it. My wife and I observed this object go directly above our location. Once it started passing by I noticed another object that looked identical. The new object was going towards the other object. It looked like they were about to collide because the new object appeared to pass right in front of the other. The objects continued their course for another minute, and then both

disappeared. There was no sound throughout the incident.

Second incident: I went back outside to look at the sky again, this time with my son who is 10 years old. At 22:25 my son and I noticed an object that looked just like the one I saw 30 minutes earlier — just a solid light that looked like the other stars in the sky. It made no noise. As my son and I watched this object go overhead again I noticed another object again that looked identical. This time both objects were parallel to each other. As we watched these objects, we noticed that one of the lights got extremely bright for less than five seconds, then went back to its normal setting. The objects were observed for another minute then again disappeared.

— Great Falls, 9/10/05

### Triangular fuselage

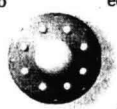
This is actually a case of two separate incidents exactly one week apart. A family friend is a landowner in central Montana near Harlowton. As such, he invited my family up to his place (great fishing and hunting) any time our hearts desired. Over the years my brothers and I became intimately familiar with every canyon and creek on the ranch. We also began to realize that a lot more seemed to be going on there than at first met the eye and everything culminated in the events I will describe.

On this particular evening, my brother and I had just exited a thick patch of trees after a long day of deer hunting. It was nearly dark, the first stars were out and we had about a mile walk back to our truck. Being aware of anomalies in the area, we were always on the lookout for ANYTHING out of the ordinary.

Upon looking to the eastern sky, we both saw three "stars" that seemed brighter than the rest. These lights were stationary and seemed to be regular stars out in space. We then continued on our hike to the truck and went home — nothing unusual. This is where it starts getting strange.

One week later almost to the minute, my brother and I emerged from the same patch of trees after hunting all day. As we

again surveyed our surroundings, we noticed the three stars from the week previous in the exact same place. Only this time they were a different color (orange) and seemed to be moving slightly in conjunction with each other. Really interested now, we watched as the formation of lights gradually picked up speed coming in roughly our direction (west). We then realized that we were in a bad situation and started for the truck at a fast



walk. Keeping an eye on the object, we observed it change to a more northerly direction and fly into a low cloud formation. By this point we could tell that this was no ordinary aircraft (as a student pilot with 10 years in aviation, I'm familiar with nearly all known a/c).

The object was close enough for us to see a structured triangular fuselage, dark in color. It made absolutely no sound. Upon the object entering the cloud, there was a flash of light similar to lightning but fluorescent green in color. This was immediately followed by the object emerging from the cloud in roughly a 10-degree bank. As the object made it's way clear of the cloud, we observed the "cloud" literally change shape until it appeared like a tornado but horizontal to the earth, not vertical, with the "foot" of the funnel pointing toward the object. At this point we broke into a sprint for the truck. As we ran, the object literally DRAGGED this "tornado" to the west. We could see that the whole eastern horizon was black now. Just as we reached the truck we were hit by huge gusts of wind and debris from the east and visibility was around two feet. Concerned now, we piled into the truck to find that this reliable vehicle was completely dead (it was just like in the movies!). With the nearest help miles away, we readied our rifles (made us feel better) and waited. Total elapsed time so far was approximately six minutes.

The dust storm and confusion lasted about 10 minutes, and then the wind stopped and the dust settled. As visibility improved and things became quiet again, we could see objects — lots of them. Besides the original triangle a/c, which was now making a 40-

side neighborhood dogs barking. My dog was looking straight up, snarling, and had her fangs bared. I looked up and saw a single green light. I watched it for just a few seconds, then I looked down and said to my dog, "I certainly hope you are seeing what I am seeing." When I looked back up, the light was gone, the horses and dogs in the area were quiet.

At that time, this was a very rural area. The next day, I questioned a couple of neighbors, and none of them had heard anything. I was unable to determine how close this light was, there were no reference points and there was absolutely no sound but for the animals.

— Lolo, 3/15/78

### 'Flying car'

After a basketball game at the Butte Civic Center, eyewitnesses reported seeing an object described as "flying car" in the air. After awhile it appeared to explode as if it was a fireworks display and disappeared.

— Butte, 1/15/69

### Hovering cigar

It was a warm summer night in 1976. My husband and I had just left the local movie theater in Cut Bank. It was still light out at 9 p.m. as we drove up Railroad Street to the Point Drive-In for an ice cream cone.

As we neared our destination we could see something huge, long and cigar-shaped hovering over Tank Hill. In those days our craft just did not hover. There were colored lights on the bottom of this craft that sort of glowed off and on. It seemed like there were windows also, but I could not exactly tell what I was

seeing.

We stepped right in the middle of the street and got out of our car to get a better look. I noticed the people in the car behind us did the same. All of a sudden, the strange craft zoomed toward the airport at a tremendous speed and hovered there.

We jumped back in our car and headed through town toward the airport to see what the ominous-looking UFO was doing. It had moved so fast that our eyes could barely make out that it went toward the airport.

50nm circular flight pattern, we could see discs trailing the triangle, all moving independently. We were now using our 10x50 Zeiss binoculars and could see that the discs were definitely metallic in nature. The most impressive object however was a gigantic cylinder that descended from nowhere then hovered in an approximate 500-foot angle around a 1000 yards distance over a field.

Peter, I swear to you on my father's grave that along each side of this thing were "windows" in which it seemed like there was movement! It was around two football fields in length, approximately 700-1,000 feet in diameter, and bright silver in color. The front end glowed blue, intensifying the farther one got from the center, and the rear end glowed red in the same manner. What drew your eye though was the yellow and orange strobe exactly centered on the bottom. We watched this object in pure horror for about an hour until it ascended straight up and out of sight. It did not disappear in a split second but rose rapidly taking less than a minute to completely vanish.

Well, back to the other objects, which were by now in the company of several F-15's.

It was very easy to differentiate between the jets and the other objects. The F-15's flew around for about a half hour, then headed northwest in a tight formation and the triangle followed close behind, all disappearing over some hills. We never saw them again. The discs continued to maneuver throughout the area. We had pretty much resigned ourselves to our fate by this point and now felt the worst was over. It all became rather entertaining by midnight. We spent a cold night in the truck, falling asleep eventually watching these discs and their erratic flight.

— Harlowton, 11/24/93

### Unnerved animals

I was up late reading, had just let my dog inside, when she wanted to go out very badly. I opened the door, and she indicated that I follow her. Once outside, I heard the horses in our pasture, and the cattle across the road just going nuts with fear, and all of the out-

### Seven saucers

On the outskirts of Malmstrom Air Force Base, my parents, two sisters and two guests of my parents, my girlfriend and myself were on a cookout when seven saucer-shaped crafts flying in formation cruised across the sky. My father was a 22-year weather observer and guessed their altitude at 12,000 to 15,000 feet and their speed around 2,000 to 6,000 miles an hour. No alert from SAC at Malmstrom? They were traveling from southwest to northeast.

— Great Falls, 6/12/60

### Baseball disruption

From June 1956 to August 1959, we were stationed at Malmstrom Air Force Base. I don't recall which year it was, but in the summer during a baseball game, three balls of light came down and bounced around on the field and then suddenly took off. It was witnessed by hundreds of fans and it was big news at the time. They said it was ball lightning but it didn't go over with the locals who were used to Northern Lights, etc.

— Great Falls, 6/15/57

### Flashing lights

This summer, July or August, my boyfriend C.J. Aimsback and I took six of my little cousins swimming. We went to my uncle Joe Bear and auntie Sarah's house, one mile north, past Twins Lake, and asked (Sarah) if she wanted to come down to the river.

After swimming for hours, Sarah said to come up and eat. It must have been 5:30 or 6 p.m. when we went inside to eat, and then we sat around visiting. By this time, night had fallen. As we were getting ready to leave, I told C.J. to go start the truck and he yelled, "Lisa, come here." We

could see a small space between them, and with speed that I can only call incredible, they shot straight north toward Canada. Being around aircraft all of my life I know what they can do, and what I saw was no conventional aircraft.

— Erik Schabel, Riverbank, Calif.

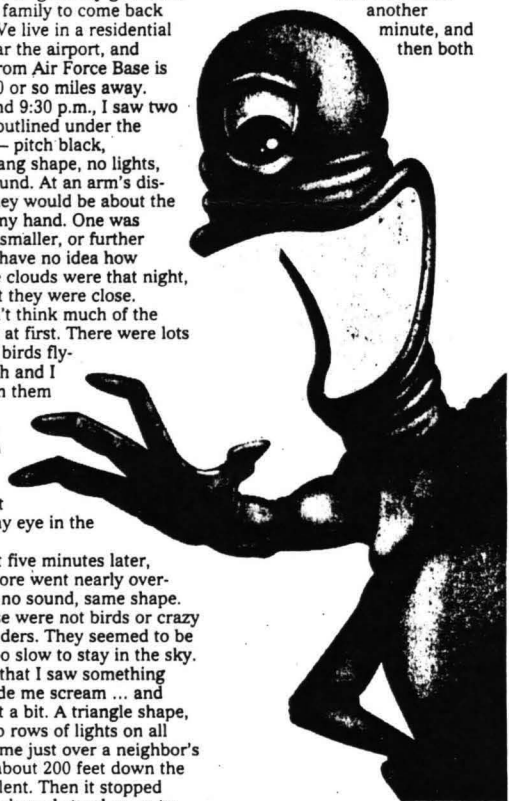
all ran outside and saw big lights — red, blue and white ... or was it green? — in the sky above my uncle Sassy's house, and then it moved right next to Joe Bear's house. They just sat there for about five minutes turning and turning in circles, then took off really fast. There were three of them. We watched them play in the sky for a few more minutes, then watched them go into Badger Canyon.

The cops on the scanner when we got home said they were planes. But, what do they know? They weren't as close as we were.

— Lisa Mae Little Dog, Brown-ing

### Twice in one year

I went grocery shopping with my mother-in-law and father-in-law in Cut Bank. We left Cut Bank around 7:30 p.m. and saw this blinking red light that looked like a Mercy Flight at the height a helicopter would be.



(continued from page 1 - ("Readers") - TRIBUNE, Great Falls, MT - Dec. 28, 2006)

## Getting Around

WITH JON HILKEVITCH



# What WAS that thing in the sky at O'Hare?

It sounds like a tired joke—but a group of airline employees insist they are in earnest, and they are upset that neither their bosses nor the government will take them seriously.

A flying saucerlike object hovered low over O'Hare International Airport for several minutes before bolting through thick clouds with such intense energy that it left an eerie hole in overcast skies, said some United Airlines employees who observed the phenomenon.

Was it an alien spaceship? A weather balloon lost in the airspace over the world's second-busiest airport? A top-secret military craft? Or simply a reflection from lights that played a trick on the eyes?

Officials at United professed no knowledge of the Nov. 7 event—which was reported to the airline by as many as a dozen of its own workers—when the Tribune started asking questions recently. But the Federal Aviation Administration said its air traffic control tower at O'Hare did receive a call from a United supervisor asking if controllers had spotted a mysterious elliptical-shaped craft sitting motionless over Concourse C of the United terminal.

No controllers saw the object, and a preliminary check of radar found nothing out of the ordinary, FAA spokeswoman Elizabeth Isham Cory said.

The FAA is not conducting a further investigation, Cory said. The theory is the sighting was caused by a "weather phenomenon," she said.

The UFO report has sparked some chuckles among controllers at O'Hare tower.

"To fly 7 million light years to O'Hare and then have to turn around and go home because your gate was occupied is simply unacceptable," said O'Hare controller and union official Craig Burzych.

Some of the witnesses, interviewed by the Tribune, said they are upset that neither the government nor the airline is probing the incident.

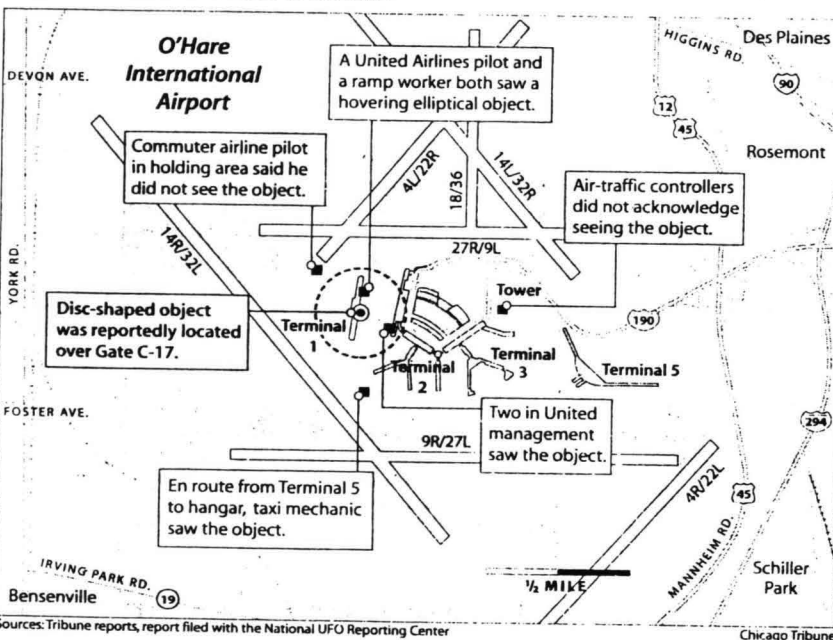
Whatever the object was, it could have interfered with O'Hare's radar and other equipment, and even created a collision risk, they said.

The Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (the term that extraterrestrial-watchers nowadays prefer over Unidentified Flying Object) was first seen by a United ramp worker who was directing back a United plane at Gate C17, according to an account the

## Witnesses tell of eerie sighting at O'Hare

On Nov. 7, United Airlines employees reported seeing a spinning disc-shaped object hovering above Terminal 1 at O'Hare International Airport.

### WHERE THE ALLEGED SIGHTINGS TOOK PLACE



Sources: Tribune reports, report filed with the National UFO Reporting Center

worker provided to the National UFO Reporting Center.

The sighting occurred during daylight, about 4:30 p.m., just before sunset.

All the witnesses said the object was dark gray and well defined in the overcast skies. They said the craft, estimated by different accounts to be 6 feet to 24 feet in diameter, did not display any lights.

Some said it looked like a rotating Frisbee, while others said it did not appear to be spinning. All agreed the object made no noise and it was at a fixed position in the sky, just below the 1,900-foot cloud deck, until shooting off into the clouds.

### Witnesses shaken by sighting

"I tend to be scientific by nature, and I don't understand why aliens would hover over a busy airport," said a United mechanic who was in the cockpit of a Boeing 777 that he was taxiing to a maintenance hangar when he observed the metallic-looking object above Gate C17.

"But I know that what I saw

and what a lot of other people saw stood out very clearly, and it definitely was not an [Earth] aircraft," the mechanic said.

One United employee appeared emotionally shaken by the sighting and "experienced some religious issues" over it, one co-worker said.

A United manager said he ran outside his office in Concourse B after hearing the report about the sighting on an internal airline radio frequency.

"I stood outside in the gate area not knowing what to think, just trying to figure out what it was," he said. "I knew no one would make a false call like that. But if somebody was bouncing a weather balloon or something else over O'Hare, we had to stop it because it was in very close proximity to our flight operations."

### Some joke, others research

The databases of various UFO-watching groups are full of accounts filed by pilots about sightings of unknown aircraft and anomalies that affected

navigational equipment on-board planes.

Whether any of the UFO incidents are real or merely the result of individual perceptions, some experts say the events pose a potential safety risk to pilots and their passengers.

"There have been documented cases where safety appears to have been implicated, and more and more we are coming to the point of view that we are dealing with an intelligent phenomenon," said Richard Haines, science director at the National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena, a private agency.

"We must be proactive before an aircraft goes down," said Haines, a former chief of the Space Human Factors Office at NASA's Ames Research Center. Haines is investigating the O'Hare incident. He said he has determined that no weather balloons were launched in the vicinity of O'Hare on Nov. 7.

"It's absurd that the military would be conducting aerial test

flights" near the airport, Haines said.

All the witnesses to the O'Hare event, who included at least several pilots, said they are certain based on the disc's appearance and flight characteristics that it was not an airplane, helicopter, weather balloon or any other craft known to man.

### United denies UFO report

They're not sure what was hanging out for several minutes in the restricted airspace, but they are upset that no one in power has taken the matter seriously.

A United spokeswoman said there is no record of the UFO report. She said United officials do not recall discussion of any such incident.

"There's nothing in the duty manager log, which is used to report unusual incidents," said United spokeswoman Megan McCarthy. "I checked around. There's no record of anything."

The pilots of the United plane being directed back from Gate C17 also were notified by United personnel of the sighting, and one of the pilots reportedly opened a windshield in the cockpit to get a better view of the object estimated to be hovering 1,500 feet above the ground.

The object was seen to suddenly accelerate straight up through the solid overcast skies, which the FAA reported had 1,900-foot cloud ceilings at the time.

"It was like somebody punched a hole in the sky," said one United employee.

Witnesses said they had a hard time visually tracking the object as it streaked through the dense clouds.

It left behind an open hole of clear air in the cloud layer, the witnesses said, adding that the hole disappeared within a few

*'I tend to be scientific by nature, and I don't understand why aliens would hover over a busy airport.'*

—United mechanic who says he saw object while in cockpit of Boeing 777

minutes.

The United employees interviewed by the Tribune spoke on condition of anonymity.

Some said they were interviewed by United officials and instructed to write reports and draw pictures of what they observed, and that they were advised by United officials to refrain from speaking about what they saw.

### Federal agency backtracks

Like United, the FAA originally told the Tribune that it had no information on the alleged UFO sighting. But the federal agency quickly reversed its position after the newspaper filed a Freedom of Information Act request.

An internal FAA review of air-traffic communications tapes, a step toward complying with the Tribune request, turned up the call by the United supervisor to an FAA manager in the airport tower, Cory said.

Cory said the weather might have factored into what the witnesses thought they saw.

"Our theory on this is that it was a weather phenomenon," she said. "That night was a perfect atmospheric condition in terms of low [cloud] ceiling and a lot of airport lights. When the lights shine up into the clouds, sometimes you can see funny things. That's our take on it."

Contact Getting Around at [jhilkevitch@tribune.com](mailto:jhilkevitch@tribune.com) or c/o the Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. Read recent columns at [chicagotribune.com/gettingaround](http://chicagotribune.com/gettingaround)

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - Jan. 14, 2007

# Greetings from Planet Earth

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

It's not surprising that the reported UFO sighting over O'Hare International Airport has captured the imaginations of many around the world. Who can resist a good UFO story? And this one's better than most. Generally, UFO sightings tend to happen in places like the Big Bend country of Texas, where there's lots of sky, plenty of dirt and not too many people.

But this one happened over O'Hare.

To recap, on Nov. 7, a dark gray flying saucer-like object—some said it was spinning, some not—hovered over the airport for several minutes before shooting through thick clouds with such speed that it left an eerie hole in the overcast sky. That was the account gleaned by Tribune transportation reporter Jon Hilkevitch from some United Airlines employees—including a pilot and a mechanic—who said they observed the phenomenon.

After decades of UFO suspicions, Area 51, The X-Files and Close Encounters of the Third Kind, you can almost write the rest of this script—er, news account—yourself.

The powers that be get snarky: Officials at United at first profess no knowledge of the incident. Strange, because it was reported to the airline by as many as a dozen of its own workers, Hilkevitch reports. Then the Federal Aviation Administration says its air traffic control tower at O'Hare did receive a call from a United supervisor asking if controllers had spotted a mysterious, elliptical-shaped craft sitting motionless over Concourse C of the United terminal.

But FAA spokeswoman Elizabeth Isham Cory says

no air traffic controllers saw the object, and a preliminary check of radar found nothing out of the ordinary.

(Meanwhile, in a top-secret military hangar on the shadowy outskirts of O'Hare, a team of elite scientists gathers to examine the silvery craft from another planet—oh, sorry, we let our imagination romp a little. Really.)

"Our theory on this is that it was a weather phenomenon," Cory says. "That night was a perfect atmospheric condition in terms of low (cloud) ceiling and a lot of airport lights. When the lights shine up into the clouds, sometimes you can see funny things."

### Theory?

How about the FAA releases radar data and the air-traffic communications voice tapes soon so we can see and hear what really happened—if anything.

Yes, we're having a bit of fun here.

We're of the opinion that if aliens do exist, and they did come to Earth, they'd probably want to do more than hover ominously over the world's second-busiest airport. The comedian Dennis Miller was quoted as saying, "Only man is a narcissistic enough species to think that a highly evolved alien life force would travel across billions and billions of light-years" just to snatch a few unfortunates for an intrusive medical exam.

Let the officials deny UFOs exist. They always do. But the more they blame some vague weather phenomenon, the more the O'Hare sighting will blaze in the firmament of ufology. We don't know what happened at O'Hare, but the thought that we're not alone in the universe, that aliens are traveling great distances to visit, is strangely comforting.



# Cleburne County's X-Files

By Wayne Ruple  
Cleburne News Editor

Alabama and Cleburne County have not been known for "hotbeds" of strange activity including UFO and Bigfoot sightings - despite the fact that National Forests seem to be a big factor in appearances of the latter.

However, some quick Internet searches turn up some strange activity over the years right here in Cleburne County including several sightings of strange lights and one reported incident of large footprints in the Talladega National Forest.

The "bigfoot" reports comes from the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization at [www.bfro.net](http://www.bfro.net)

Dated September, 1994 at Sweetwater Lake in the Talladega National Forest, the report states, "About seven years ago my wife and I were at a lake in the middle of the Talladega National Forest in Alabama. The lake was Sweetwater Lake. We were fishing in a small boat at the end of a slew early in the morning, we were the only ones at the lake, I think it was on a Wednesday and we were all alone. We heard something scream, it started out as a howl and turned into a long high pitched scream and it was so loud it echoed through the mountains. It made the hair stand up on the back of our necks. But that is not all. About a year before that my stepfather and I were hiking around the same lake, we liked to fish at a spillway way on the backside of the lake, and about 1/2 mile into the hike we crossed a fire brake about 20 feet wide, now keep in mind that we are a pretty good way back in the woods, we have crossed rocks thorns and briars and all kinds of rough ground. And right there across the dried mud in the fire brake is a set of foot prints dried into the mud. They were not huge, they were about the size of a full grown man but they did look human,

I just couldn't understand why a man would be this far back in the woods without shoes on. And over the years there is one thing I have thought about a bigfoot would have to grow up, so maybe it was a young Bigfoot."

The man had another story which he relates, "I once worked with a man in Alabama that after we became friends, told me he and his whole family were picking huckleberries at Sweetwater Lake, the huckleberries grow wild all over the area.

He and his wife and two children were picking away when they all heard something in the trees. They all turned around to see a hairy man standing there. He said it was a little taller than a man and as soon as it saw them it ran off into the woods. It scared them so bad that they left."

The National UFO Reporting Center at [www.nuforc.org](http://www.nuforc.org) has this report of a church van being followed by a sphere of light as it passed through the Hollis Crossroads area in the fall of 1995.

The report states, "The multiple witnesses were all Georgia residents of that area, and attended the same church. The occasion leading to the event was a church trip to Anniston Alabama by this small group of church ladies. They were being driven in a large van by a male member of the congregation who was a prominent local businessman, and also known as a trusted community leader in that African-American neighborhood. Accounts vary, but there may have been 10+ total witnesses on this trip, this investigator interviewing six of

## UFO Sightings In Cleburne County

\***Hollis Crossroads** - Triangle - a few seconds - Low flying angular object - Jan. 28 2006.

\***Talladega National Forest, Sweetwater Lake** - Sphere - 30 minutes - Huge ball of light seen on the ground - 12/16/05

\***Trickum Valley** - Large hovering light - few minutes - followed deputies and fouled auto electronics - Summer 2003.

\***Trickum Valley** - UFO - few minutes - lot of wind in its wake. Summer 2002

\***Trickum Valley** - Odd shape - bubble shaped cockpit - Summer 2001

\***Cheaha Mountain** - Triangle - 40 min. - "I saw it hovering in the air and it chased me down a field, eye level to my driver side window. The field was right next to the road". - 12/16/99

\***Talladega National Forest at Oak Level** - Light - 2-3 hrs - "Parked at a hunting spot approx 2 a.m. with vehicle facing west. saw bright light moving north to south at speeds not humanly possible" - 4/26/99

\***Ranburne** - Unusual aircraft - few minutes on a regular basis - "a massive wide-screen television in the middle of the underside" - 1997.

\***Hollis Crossroads** - Sphere - less than 30 minutes - followed a church bus from Wedowee - 1995.

\***Talladega National Forest, Sweetwater Lake** - "And right there across the dried mud in the fire brake is a set of foot prints dried into the mud. They were not huge they were about the size of a full grown man but they did look human", - September 1994



them. This harrowing account was held confidential by these witnesses for about two years, only being discussed among their small group of friends. . . PW (one witness) stated that on the night in question, she and her church friends were riding up to nearby Anniston Alabama to play bingo. They were seated to the rear of their friend, the van driver, and as usual talking and having a nice ride, enjoying the nice clear weather.

"(Note.....the driving route was determined as follows; west out of Lagrange and across the adjacent state line into Alabama, then turning north on Alabama Hwy 431 which carries them to I-20 which is about 35-40 miles

distant to the north.)

"As the van approached the vicinity of Wedowee Alabama on Hwy 431, the witnesses decided to roll up all of the windows because of the poultry plant located just off the highway (Braswell's Farms). PW indicated that the odor of the production there was pretty strong, and this was something they normally did enroute to Anniston.

"As the van approached and passed the plant, PW and some others noticed what they thought was a large new light over the top of the building (which is located on a rise). It was large enough that they commented on it being newly

ward, rising, banking and flying off toward a nearby mountain.

When the odd shaped object moved from behind the trees the first time, the officer saw what appeared to be a man sitting inside a bubble-type "cockpit".

I later interviewed a resident of the area who said there has been a lot of large "cargo-type" planes which regularly fly through the area at almost tree-top level (you can see the pilots in them he said). He said there had always been reports of "unusual lights" and visible sightings of a lot of helicopters suspected of "hunting dope".

Another Ranburne resident said an unusual aircraft began flying over their home in 1997 and continued for many months - always at the same time. She said she assumed the aircraft was involved in drug interdiction work or practicing low level flying. She said the craft was very unusual looking with what appeared to be a massive wide-screen television in the middle of its underside. She said the craft made an extremely loud noise - far louder than any jet, bomber or cargo plane.

The National UFO Reporting Center has this report of a sighting in the Talladega National Forest near Oak Level which lasted about three hours.

"On the morning of January 31, 1996 my husband was unable to get back to sleep and left home shortly after 1 a.m. He arrived at his preferred hunting spot in the Oak Level area of Cleburne Co. . . . He planned to sleep in the truck until daybreak. When parked at the top of the mountain and facing west the glow of lights from the cities of Anniston (S.W.), Jacksonville (due west) and Piedmont (N.W.) are visible on a clear night which this was. Shortly after arriving he reclined the seat to nap but noticed a bright light over the city of Jacksonville. This he passed off as a bright star or the planet Venus. That is until the "star" started to move. He passed this off as a helicopter training flight from Ft. McClellan which lay just to the south of Jacksonville in the Anniston glow of lights. His assumption of a training flight was suddenly changed when this light darted at a humanly impossible speed to the north toward Piedmont. In less than a second the light hovered in the glow of Piedmont's lights having covered a distance of about 15 miles almost instantaneously. After a few minutes the craft darted back so that it was again over Jacksonville. This time he witnessed a beam flash downward. . . . He observed the movements of this light for quite some time and in fact became bored and eventually drifted off to sleep. After dozing for an hour or so he awoke to the same activity in the skies to the west. This soon after changed when the light was approached by a larger and brighter one which came from the west. The smaller began moving around it in a way that is most easily compared to insects flitting around a light. This seemed to have served to convey some type of message because at that point the smaller light headed straight in my husband's direction. The larger light faded backward! in the direction from which it had come (that of Sand Mtn. approx. 40 miles WNW of Jacksonville.) As the craft continued in his direction my husband chambered a shell into his deer rifle. This done the light almost instantly began backing away in the same direction taken by the larger as if it sensed danger."

And another report from NUFORC files concerning a huge ball of light observed for half an hour near Sweetwater Lake in the TNF.

"The exact location of the sighting was across from a dirt boat ramp on Sweetwater Lake, which our hiking trail passed by. As we broke into the field that runs along the lake and watershed, the fog was very thick. This is when we first noticed flashing that we assumed to be heat lighting or something similar. By the time we reached the boat ramp, we were away from the field and completely out of the fog.

The flashes were coming from three points. Two points were far away enough that the source could not be seen. The 3rd flashing was across the lake and only a short distance inland (I guessed around 100 yards at the most). The light was flashing at various intensity, length, and time. Ranging from a very small fraction of a second to nearly a second. The intensity also ranged from: just enough of a flash to see the low level clouds light up with a white ambient light, to a bizarre ball of light that peaked over the tree line by many feet. When the ball of light was large enough, it resembled plasma. The colors were red, yellow, white, purple,

(continued on page 6)

installed. One witness stated that it was not a light, but some "flying thing".

"Another witness commenting that no, it was just a new light. Then the other witness replying something to effect of "Well if that's so, here it comes"! The light flew down from over the plant and approached the moving van and then began to pace it as it drove north. The light was described as being round like a globe, about the size of a "dishpan" in diameter (bigger than a basketball). The light was described as being "yellowish", with the brightness of a lightbulb or street light. It continued to pace the van, with descriptions of the light varying it's distance and altitude to as low as about 12 feet and then back up to 100 feet or treetop level; .....sometimes over the van, sometimes beside it, but always pacing it. This episode began near Wedowee on Hwy 431. . . . During this wild ride, the ladies became frightened, trying to get down below the window level and still taking an occasional peek. The driver stated that he was trying to drive and look at the same time which he found difficult. He verified that the light appeared to be about 100 feet over the poultry plant before it swooped down and began following them. . . .

During this ride up to I-20, the PW at one time saw what she described as a shape within the light, a shape very similar to a "human embryo", which she indicated in her sketch. Further that it seemed to be "moving around" within the light. At another point, she recalled something like a beam projecting out that hurt her eyes, and those of her friend. Adding that they both later developed watery and sore eyes. Another witness did not describe a beam, but told of a "sparkling effect. Another witness described a "bad glare" that beamed through the window..... just suddenly clicking on.

"This activity continued as the van moved northwards closer to I-20, passing through the small Alabama "hill country". At one point, the vehicle drove through an underpass, finding the globe of light waiting on the other side.

"This light also demonstrated terrain avoidance maneuvers and continuously adjusted it's speed to that of the van.

"As this group finally reached the area of the intersection of Hwy 431 and I-20, the light flew off over a field, then accelerated steeply upwards, leaving a streak, then became the size of a star and vanished." Thus ends Toms Sheets, State Director

(continued from page 5 - CLEBURNE  
NEWS, Heflin, AL - Jan. 11, 2007)

etc. The ball also appeared to move around, by maybe 30 yards to the left or right.

"I should also note that the 'ball of light' as I've called it, was only 300 yards away at most, and completely silent. We watched the three flashes for about 30 minutes until they became quite infrequent.

And a third NUFORC report from Hollis concerning a triangle shaped object. "Me and three friends were on our way to An-niston in two separate vehicles. It was around 6 and it was dusk. There was still light in the sky and we could see an outline of the object we saw soon after. We had just turned at Hollis Cross-roads and were driving down the road when we saw what was either a very low flying object, or an enormous object at a higher altitude. It was triangular with a flashing green light on it. It moved slowly, or slower than a plane would, across our field of vision, which was the windshield since it was almost directly above us. We called our friends in the other vehicle to ask them if they saw it, and they said they had and described it like we did."

## UFO report stirs believers, skeptics

The story last week about an unscheduled flight over O'Hare International Airport generated a universe of opinions from near and very far out.

A man in Aurora said he came home from work on the same day as the O'Hare sighting, looked skyward in his back yard and spied a shiny round object hovering between two masses of clouds. And then it disappeared.

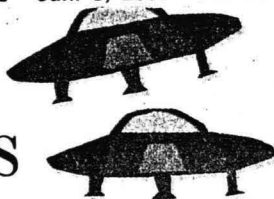
A woman from Ireland wrote to asked what the heck

### Getting Around

WITH JON HILKEVITCH was happening at "O'Hara."

A man named Montana said he had encounters with extraterrestrials in Romania and in Wichita, Kan. He expressed amazement that neither incident made the news.

It may never be known whether the phenomenon at O'Hare on Nov. 7—which was reported by numerous United Airlines employees—was an



actual UFO sighting, or much ado about nothing. But readers don't seem to mind offering their opinions.

Here's a sample from the more than 400 e-mails Getting Around has received:

"For those of us researchers who are convinced that UFO sightings reported by witnesses of the caliber of those at O'Hare are not triggered by errant weather balloons, swamp gas, the planet Venus, atmo-

spheric anomalies, secret government aircraft or outright hallucinations, your ongoing attempt to get to the bottom of what hovered that day over Gate C17 is extremely refreshing."

—C. Scott Littleton, professor of anthropology emeritus at Occidental College in Los Angeles.

"I have a different take on what happened at O'Hare. It's the obvious side-effect of the two-joint coffee break."

—Mike Maday, Spring Hill, Tenn.

"Hmm. Looks like we're being visited by advanced craft from other worlds, and not only is the U.S. government keen to cover up the details, so are many private corporations whose existence would be threatened by the free-energy technology that powers these vehicles."

—Andrew Johnson, United Kingdom

"While not directly admitting that E.T. had indeed phoned home, you appeared at least open to that possibility. It was a nice departure from the norm to see the witnesses treated as respectable observers rather than being portrayed as nuts or inebricated liars. Aliens may not have yet landed on the front lawn of the White House, but they appear to be toying with the idea if the O'Hare incident is any indication."

—John Oathout, Broken Arrow, Okla.

**'It's the obvious side-effect of the two-joint coffee break.'**

—Mike Maday, Spring Hill, Tenn.

"I wish that people would believe what we know we saw. I'm afraid to go outside, and I can't sleep. I've purchased a large caliber pistol and have installed a top-of-the-line security system. Needless to say, I've also canceled my family's camping trip to Indiana Dunes."

—Scared in Indiana

"I would have laughed at this story about a year ago, but I saw something very similar in the Detroit area. Others saw it too. I am glad people have stood up to the downplay[ing] of this issue. I too had to give myself a reality check, but it happened, and I was on my fifth cup of coffee."

—Thomas Fullerton

"I sat on a plane at the Port Columbus, Ohio, airport for at least an hour on the afternoon of Nov. 7. This flight was scheduled to arrive at O'Hare at 4:30 p.m. (the same time as the UFO sighting) The flight was further delayed for about another hour and circled the airport waiting to land. The pilot was not able to provide us with a reason for the delays. My daughter said when she arrived at the airport to pick me up around 4:30 that there were very many military personnel at the airport."

—Dennis Goethe, Durand, Ill.

"It should be clear to everyone that the U.S. government has been lying about UFOs since the first reports. They have been here before Earth's civilization began, and they'll be here after we've trashed our planet to death."

—Eli Pine

**'It should be clear to everyone that the U.S. government has been lying about UFOs since the first reports.'**

—Eli Pine

"I am a 67-year-old woman who has lived in the Chicago area for 65 of those years. I believe in UFOs because I've seen them—long time ago, when I was about 14 years old, walking my dog on the South Side of Chicago. It was two side-by-side cigar-shaped lights in the eastern sky. I remember that sight as clearly as I remember the exact moment I heard that Mayor [Richard J.] Daley had a heart attack and that Kennedy had been shot."

—Dorothy P. Schmidt

Finally, the mayor of Roswell, N.M., where it was reported in 1947 that an alien spacecraft was recovered on a nearby ranch, said he thinks the saucer-shaped craft at O'Hare must have taken a wrong turn.

"I'm hoping they were on their way to Roswell to help us celebrate our biggest UFO festival to date," Mayor Sam LaGrone said of the event scheduled for July 5 through 8.

"Even if the gates at O'Hare were full, we have plenty of landing space here in Roswell and we welcome any alien visitors to drop in and celebrate the 60th anniversary with us," LaGrone said.

Contact Getting Around at [jhilkevitch@tribune.com](mailto:jhilkevitch@tribune.com) or c/o the Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. Read recent columns at [www.chicagotribune.com/gettingaround](http://www.chicagotribune.com/gettingaround)

## On the surface of it, UFOs could lurk

For nearly 60 years, rumors have circulated of strange flying objects emerging from the ocean off our coast and disappearing in a fantastic flash of speed and light.

Sailors, fishermen, dockworkers, police officers, coastal residents and others have reported eerie otherworldly ships emerging from and submerging into local waters.

UFOs, it seems, have established an underwater base somewhere in the deep, dark recesses between the Channel Islands and the coastline between Long Beach and Santa Barbara.

Despite a tendency to scoff at such conspiracies, I decided to do a little investigating. You know, just to be sure.

To learn more, I contacted UFO researcher Preston Bennett of Los Angeles, who appeared on the recent History Channel special "Deep Sea UFOs."

Bennett reports more than 40 documented sightings off SoCal's coast since 1947, including several in and around Long Beach-San Pedro.

"In these types of cases, UFOs are seen moving into and out of the water, floating on the surface and also traveling beneath the surface," Bennett said via e-mail. "Many of these cases are well-verified, with witnesses including police officers, lifeguards, military personnel and other professionals."

Intrigued, I contacted Lt. Chuck Engbring of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Engbring wasn't familiar with any recent UFO sightings at his agency, but recalled an incident not long ago where passengers on a commercial flight departing LAX reported seeing an unfamiliar object ascend from the sea to the sky off Point Vicente in Rancho Palos Verdes.

That incident sounded



strangely similar to a sighting in early November at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. I called LAX.

Although no one could recall the Pointe Vicente incident, I was referred to a July 22, 2002, sighting of a flying triangle off the coast.

My next inquiry was to the LBPd.

They had nothing recent to report, but there's always the famous images captured by LBPd helicopter pilots on Dec. 25, 2004.

At around 11:30 p.m. that night, the chopper's videocamera recorded a strange glowing object floating through the Long Beach sky. They forwarded the tape to local military officials, who couldn't — or wouldn't — identify it.

A copy of the tape was even given to KABC and broadcast around the world, but nobody could figure out what it was.

Maybe there was something to this UFO stuff after all?

My next inquiry was at Long Beach Airport.

Airport Spokeswoman Sharon Diggs-Jackson said that in December, a resident reported seeing unusual lights moving erratically across the night sky.

Airport officials couldn't explain it.

As I learned during my research, such sightings date back to World War II, when reports of UFOs and USOs (unidentified submarine objects) began surfacing around the area.

The mother of all sightings probably occurred on the night of Feb. 24-25, 1942, in what became known as the "Battle of Los Angeles."

Jittery from the recent attack on Pearl Harbor, military personnel manning anti-aircraft weapons along the coast were ready for action when reports spread of "unidentified aircraft" approaching from sea.

When a bright object was spotted above Santa Monica Bay, shooting began, and "the air over Los Angeles erupted like a volcano," according to press reports at the time.

No enemy plane was ever found.

Many more incidents followed in the succeeding decades, though thankfully none involved heavy weapons.

On Aug. 8, 1954, a Japanese steam-ship, Alik, was floating off the coast of Long Beach when several crew members observed an underwater UFO, Bennett reported in a February 2006 article titled "Is There an Underwater UFO Base Off the Southern California Coast?"

As the intercepted radio message from the ship reads, "Saw fireball move in and out of sea without being doused. Left wake of white smoke; course erratic; vanished from sight."

This was all getting a bit too weird.

The Press-Telegram's new offices high above downtown Long Beach provide a perfect view of the port, harbor and beyond to Catalina Island.

Despite my deep skepticism during research into this column, I found myself staring out the window across the bay, hoping to catch a glimpse of something strange emerging from beneath.

I'll let you know if anything pops into view.

Kristopher Hanson can be reached at [kristopher.hanson@presstelegram.com](mailto:kristopher.hanson@presstelegram.com) or (562) 499-1466.



# MUFON turns UFO skeptics to believers

By VALERIE HISAM  
Rocky Mountain Collegian

For 22-year-old Kristen Cennington, seeing a UFO was strange enough once, but seeing one a second time turned her into a believer.

Cennington works with the Mutual UFO Network, an international organization that has recently landed its headquarters north of Fort Collins. MUFON, as it's better known to its members, aims to educate skeptics that UFOs do exist and field calls around the globe.

James Carrion, 41, is the newest director of MUFON and has taken the organization to Bellevue.

"We basically listen to peoples' stories that other officials don't want to listen to," Carrion said. "What we find, is that truth is much stranger than fiction."

Carrion has been interested in UFOs since he was boy where he naturally ended up doing field investigations after 10 years with the organization, which has been around since 1969.

Not long after Cennington moved to Colorado in April, she noticed an unusual object in the sky while sitting on her porch one afternoon. The UFO appeared to be floating and when the shiny object shot straight up in the air and disappeared, there was no doubt in her mind that it was a flying saucer.

A few months later, Cennington saw another strange object floating in the sky and this time she thought, "It's coming to get me."

But Cennington's sightings have not been the only ones in the state, and in fact there are tens of thousands of UFO sightings all around the world each year. With the help of organizations like MUFON people are able to report any odd behavior and have an investigation take place.

"We have a mission," Carrion said. "It is a myth that only crazy people see the weird; most are competent observers that when they are seeing something that they can't ex-

*"We basically listen to people's stories that other officials don't want to listen to."*

James Carrion  
director of MUFON

plain and at first try to explain it, that then is when they call us."

Cennington, MUFON's local business manager, admits some callers could be potentially mentally ill.

"We get a lot of weird people and a lot that could be clinically crazy," Cennington said. "But I've realized it's not safe anywhere; it's all over the world. I didn't use to think about how an alien could come take you away."

Although Cennington has only worked with Carrion and MUFON for a few months, she is already a believer in the paranormal, while Carrion calls himself a skeptic believer — meaning that although he has never seen a UFO, "there is something to this phenomenon but I just don't know what it is."

"There is one of two things going on: One, either we have a higher intelligence controlling things and we don't know how extraterrestrials exhibit technology greater than ours. Or two, the government has exotic technology that we would like to be shared, but they are secretly maintaining it from the public."

But not all groups that study UFOs believe in the extra terrestrial life or the government-control theory. According to the Committee for the Skeptical Inquiry, not all answers are aliens or the government.

"We try to provide the alternative point of view," said Barry Karr, 41, the executive director for CSI. "With all of the TV shows today about aliens visiting the planet, in this particular category of UFOs, we look



SAM HERRIN | COLLEGIAN

James Carrion, the International Director of the Mutual UFO Network or MUFON, sits among his collection of extra terrestrial paraphernalia in his home in Bellvue Thursday evening.

at the claims and reports to see if there are other explanations that should be touched upon."

But for Karr, it isn't a matter as to if people are actually seeing UFOs, it is more a matter of the evidence that says that there is extraterrestrial life out there. Karr said that there is "no question that people are seeing things," but he just can't accept that they all have to do with aliens.

So are aliens really visiting Earth?

"I think it would be great if we did have evidence of life visiting us, but right now, we haven't got enough evidence that there is something visiting us from other planets," Karr said.

For Carrion and Cennington, other life out there is 100 percent possible, and they are just waiting for the phone calls and emails so that they can go and investigate another sighting.

"(Working at MUFON) has

definitely changed my perceptions of UFOs," Cennington said. "It has changed my perspective of what's really going on and what possibly is most definitely going on. There are the possibilities that you never really thought about before."

"There's thousands upon thousands of people seeing the same things, so there has to be something going on," Carrion said. "This isn't fiction, it is truly life imitating art where the truth is stranger than fiction, and some of things in our case files are way stranger than folks can imagine."

Staff writer Valerie Hisam can be reached at [news@collegian.com](mailto:news@collegian.com).

## MUTUAL UFO NETWORK INFORMATION:

221-1836  
[www.mufon.com](http://www.mufon.com)  
[hq@mufon.com](mailto:hq@mufon.com)

LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS, Lincolnton, NC - Jan. 8, 2007 CR: G. Fawcett

# Readers' Forum

## Ford's UFO legacy

The year was 1966 and (then) Congressman Ford, being a diligent politician, and in response to constituents, wrote concerning a well-known UFO swamp gas mystery at Dexter, Mich. that urged the Air Force to establish credibility regarding UFOs, and to produce the greatest enlightenment on this subject.

As the months passed, Ford said he would prefer a congressional investigation with witnesses to include reliable people from among those who said they had ever seen UFOs, but it never came to pass.

Perhaps to no one's surprise, after Ford became president, it seemed his interest in UFOs waned. Years later he would

comment, that during his public years in congress, as vice president and president, he made various requests for information on UFOs, only to have official authorities deny UFO allegations.

As the nation mourns former President Gerald Ford and remembers his many contributions, for those of us who pay atten-

tion to such [UFO] matters, we will also herald lesser known contributions he made in the effort to unravel the UFO enigma.

GEORGE D. FAWCETT  
Lincolnton

(Mr. Fawcett is the founder of MUFON-NC Inc., an association that researches UFO and related data.)

**WHAT WAS THAT LIGHT IN THE SKY?**

*Unknown Freaky Orb drew eyes, imaginations across area*



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHARLES MILLER  
Charles Miller of Kings Mountain submitted this photo he snapped outside his house Wednesday night.

Nope. All aircraft accounted for.  
Space junk? Errant satellite?  
Negative, says NORAD. No entries of the sizable man-made

Venus, perhaps? It's often a suspect in UFO sightings, particularly when it's as bright as it is right now.

Not Venus. It vanished beneath the horizon about 7 p.m.

Stricken plane?  
Large, bright green ball," says Brett Lay, who was headed to Chick-fil-A in Gastonia with his wife and four children after church. "Had a haze about it."

"Almost looked like a flare," reports Amy Bromberg, who was on Interstate 485. "Kind of creepy."

"A slow-moving bluish glow," says David Whitesides who works in Polkton and who watched it while soaking in his hot tub.

Something strange. And blue. Or green. Or blue-green.

About 8 p.m. Wednesday, something peculiar flashed in the sky - something twinkly, something colorful, something eye-catching.

Earthlings, you've had an otherworldly experience, a cosmic encounter.

BY MARK WASHBURN  
mwashburn@charlotteobserver.com

He then presented his findings,

and Roswell's relatively close proximity to atomic bomb and missile test sites.

Printz began by summarizing the facts behind the case: the "Flying Saucer" report issued to the press by Army brass; the way that report was quickly replaced by stories about a downed weather balloon;

and Roswell's relatively close proximity to atomic bomb and missile test sites.

"I'm not going to give you any off-the-wall experiences and thoughts," Printz told the 25 people in the audience. "But it is no secret to me that there is life beyond us. But is it visiting us? That's the question."

"That's the question"

associated with anything alien-and conspiracy-related.

During his talk, "The Roswell Incident: Fact or Fiction?," the Richmond resident sought to focus on facts, steering away from the sort of kitch that inevitably is associated with anything alien-and conspiracy-related.

"At the time, I wasn't a believer [in UFOs]," said Printz, who was studying archaeology at New Mexico Highlands University when the incident happened. "But for every long-standing myth or legend, there is a grain of truth somewhere."

Local astronomer and archaeologist Woody Printz explored those questions in a lecture at the EPOCH Assisted Living Center last night.

A weather balloon? A test aircraft? A UFO?

PITTSFIELD — What was it, exactly, that crash-landed in the desert near Roswell, N.M. in July 1947?

By Jessica Willis  
Berkshire Eagle Staff

**'I'm not going to give you any off-the-wall experiences and thoughts. But it is no secret to me that there is life beyond us.'**

— Local astronomer and archaeologist Woody Printz

which included a slideshow of photographs Printz took in 2000 when he visited Roswell and the nearby White Sands Missile Test Range.

### Suspicious over plaque

At the White Sands museum, he saw a primitive-looking, mushroom-shaped spacecraft that looked like it had been built by a "boilermaker," and when he noted that its plaque stated the contraption was part of the Voyager mission to Mars, he became suspicious.

"[The plaque] said it had a top speed of 1,100 miles an hour," he told the group. "Hovering would have been a major feat for that thing."

Printz, who has his commercial pilot's license and worked as a "human factors engineer" on NASA's Gemini space program in the mid-'60s, thought "it made absolutely no sense."

He recalled cringing in embarrassment as he went inside International UFO Museum in Roswell, which featured a flying saucer sculpture plastered against the side of the building.

"I thought, 'oh, this is dippy,'" he said.

His embarrassment disappeared when he was introduced to two key Roswell players: Lt. Walter Haut, the information officer on the base who was told to release — and

later bury — the flying saucer story, and Glenn Dennis, the mortician on the base who was ordered to leave the scene immediately after he commented on the crash debris he saw in a military ambulance.

"I was no longer the total skeptic," Printz said. "I believed something crashed there. Was it one of our own? I believe there was a cover-up."

He concluded the lecture by

objects they track.

OK. So ... alien object?

Bingo. But not the E.T. variety. "A fireball," says Daniel Caton, observatory director and astronomy professor at Appalachian State University in Boone.

Based on the reports, Caton believes it was an unusually bright meteor that burned up about 30 miles high in the atmosphere somewhere above Charlotte. Sightings came from more than 100 miles away.

Many witnesses say the light appeared to fizzle at the end and break into pieces, making it a special kind of fireball called a bolide. In the universe of meteors, they're A-List entertainers, known for their splashy finales.

showing segments from a SciFi Channel special about an archaeological dig that took place at the Roswell crash site in 2002 — which proved that something had, indeed, struck the ground some years ago.

"Was it the saucer bouncing off? We don't know," he said.

Despite the inconclusiveness of the findings, John Kusmech of Sandisfield said he appreciated Printz's level-headed approach to a decidedly flighty issue.

"I liked that he had a critical mind, and he wasn't nutty about it," he said.

His 11-year-old daughter Evangeline — also an alien buff — agreed.

"We all know it wasn't a weather balloon," she added.

Each day, an estimated 4 billion meteors burn up in Earth's atmosphere. Most are the size of sand grains, but rocks tumble in, too. NASA estimates that the Earth packs on several tons a day in meteors.

Some witnesses who contacted the Observer on Thursday wondered whether it could be debris from the recent anti-satellite test by China.

Probably not — but maybe, says Michael Kucharek, spokesman for the North American Aerospace Defense Command near Colorado Springs, Colo., which tracks satellites and space junk — everything from lost screwdrivers to astronaut gloves. He says he's been getting an unusually high number of calls this week about things spotted in the sky.

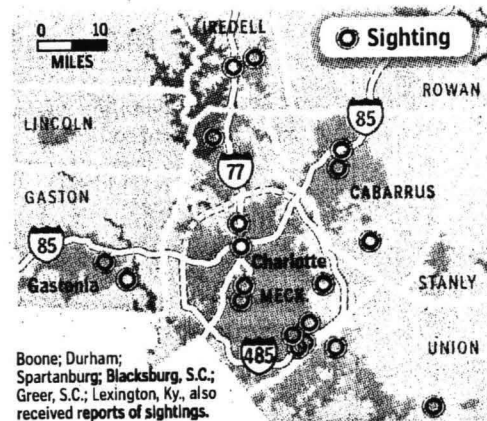
China's satellite-zapping exercise has probably increased space litter by about a million pieces, making it nearly as untidy as Interstate 77 in Charlotte.

"It's anybody's guess," Kucharek says, "what direction this stuff has gone."

ON WWW.CHARLOTTE.COM/news  
Readers tell what they saw

### Cosmic Moment Shared by Many

Readers reported seeing a blue-green light in the sky Wednesday night from these locations.\*



\*Other witnesses didn't specify location.

STAFF MAP





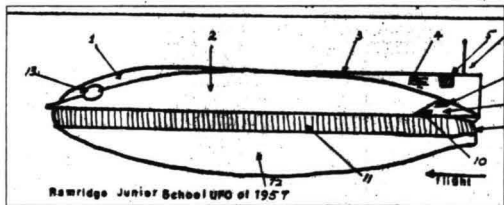
# FOREIGN NEWS

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

NEWS, Luton, England - Aug. 30, 2006

# Watch out for aliens

## Red lights in the sky



by Andy Gayler

FORGET conspiracy theories - a good old dose of public humiliation will work wonders for forcing people to keep their "wacky" experiences very much to themselves.

And it's the reason that a number of Lutonians reading our summer stories about UFO sightings were happy to tell The Luton News they had seen something extraordinary, but they just didn't really want to go in the paper with it.

Bill Dillon's openness was the exception that paved the way for some of the town's more mysterious stories to come to light when he agreed to tell readers about his childhood encounter at Ramridge Junior school in 1957.

The story reminded people of a number of other infamous sightings in the Luton area from an era when encounters with UFOs seemed as common as modern-day terror alerts.

One of the best remembered mysteries was an incident on February 9, 1962, when 35-year-old Ronald Wildman lost the power in his car on a deserted Ivinghoe Road at 3.30am. Mr Wildman told The Luton News at the time: "I'm a pretty normal bloke and I'm not scared of anything. But this was fantastic. It was something I never expected to see."

The vehicle collection driver from St Margaret's Avenue was taking a car to a customer in Swansea when the phenomenon, like something out of the movie *Closing Encounters of the Third Kind* stopped

him in his tracks near the village of Aston Clinton.

"It was about 20 or 30 feet above the ground and at least 40 feet across," he said.

"There was a haze round it, like a halo round the moon. As soon as I came within 20 yards of it, the speed of my car dropped right down to about 20mph. I changed into second and put my foot flat on the accelerator. Nothing happened."

"I'm a motor mechanic and I know there was nothing wrong with that engine," he said. "I got a better look at the thing. It was oval-shaped and white with black marks at regular intervals round it."

"They could have been port-holes. Then it moved off towards Aylesbury at a terrific speed, gradually getting higher and the power came back to my car."

Mr Wildman said he followed the mysterious object for a few seconds but couldn't keep up and said it was definitely solid because it brushed particles of frost from the tree-tops onto his windscreen.

After the incident, the driver stopped the first policeman he saw and later told his story at the police station.

The story was reported in the LN, our then sister paper the Saturday Telegraph and later ended up in Project Blue Book archives, the US government-led investigation into UFOs. The Luton News tried to find out if Mr Wildman was still in the town but were unable to track down him. If you have any information, contact us on 01582 700663.



**SKY WATCH:** Bill Dillon, a witness to the Ramridge encounter and a sketch of the mysterious object (above). Right, The Luton News report of Chris Robinson's 1971 experience and below the Luton News report of the 1962 Ivinghoe Road incident



## Hunt for more UFO witnesses

WHEN Bill Dillon's UFO story resurfaced, thanks to the efforts of The Luton News, the former Ramridge Junior schoolboy was drawn back into the controversial debate about flying saucers.

Now retired and living in the west country, Bill has been working with the author John Hanson to complete the chapter on the 1957 Luton sighting for a six-volume book on UFO events in the UK since the 1940s.

"We're constantly in contact on the phone, getting on well, actually," Bill said. "I've got a lot of faith in him - he's very determined and very resourceful."

The two 'ufologists' are still trying to find other witnesses to the Ramridge event and are on the lookout for anyone who may have been at the school at the time.

The UFO was seen in the summer of 1957 near the Luton school and had a life-long impact on the 11-year-old Bill.

Bill was invited onto a BBC Three Counties day-time radio show to talk about the experience with the government's UFO expert Nick Pope.

If you have seen a UFO, or were at Ramridge Junior School in 1957 or remember either the Ivinghoe Road or Caddington events, drop us a line. The details for contacting the News/Gazette are published on page 2.

## QUESTION Was a logical explanation given for the mysterious events which took place in and around Broad Haven, Pembrokeshire in 1977? What do the children who were at Broad Haven Primary School then think about them now?

THE West Wales 'flap' of 1977 is second only to the Warminster 'Thing' in British UFO history. Documents released following a Freedom of Information request I made in 2005 revealed how a secret investigation by the RAF Police was launched into claims that alien craft and their tall humanoid occupants were taking a particular interest in the Welsh coastline. The media dubbed the area the Welsh Triangle.

At lunchtime on February 4, 15 schoolchildren at Broad Haven Primary School said they watched a silver cigar-shaped UFO in fields behind their school. Some of the group, aged nine to 11, claimed they saw a silver man with pointed ears emerge from the craft.

Their stories were dismissed as fantasy but the children were so adamant they had seen something unusual that they handed a petition to the police station. Their head teacher later asked them to draw the UFO and was amazed at the similarities of the pictures.

Journalists and TV crews flocked to the Welsh coast from all corners of the UK. Soon the main topic of conversation in the principality was flying saucers.

By May, 'lights in the sky' had been overtaken by stories of giant humanoid figures in spacesuits, similar to those used by astronauts, seen prowling around the remote countryside late at night.

One outbreak of strange phenomena appeared to cluster around the Coombs family at Ripperston Farm. Dairyman Billy Coombs, his wife Pauline and their five children told of several close encounters with UFOs and their occupants, which left a trail of burned out cars and TV sets, and

spiralling electricity bills.

On April 23, as the couple watched a late-night movie, they were terrified by the appearance of a 7ft tall figure in a spacesuit framed in their sitting room window.

Investigators were impressed by the couple's genuine terror. The policeman who responded to their 999 call said, in 1996, that in all his 26 years' service 'that was the most frightened family I have ever seen'.

In 1977, the Ministry of Defence asked the RAF Police to inquire into the 'sightings'. Its report suggested that a prankster had been at work in West Wales.

The jokers had been inspired by the newspaper headlines about Broad Haven school. They 'borrowed' asbestos suits manufactured by a local firm for use by fire crews at the nearby Milford Haven oil refinery. With their inbuilt helmets and dark visors, these gave them a monstrous appearance.

In 1996, BBC presenter Ray Gosling tracked down one of the 'spacemen' for a Radio 4 documentary on the West Wales flap, and Milford Haven's Round Table member Glyn Edwards confessed his part to the Western Mail.

He described the spaceman outfit as having: "... a solid in-built helmet so I would have looked about 7ft tall. Alien sightings were all the rage, so I took a stroll around for a bit of fun. When I visited the garden of a certain lady, who later called the police, I had to dive into a hedge because she appeared to be aiming a rifle or a shotgun at me."

However, despite Gosling's attempts to persuade the witnesses from Broad Haven school to confess, the boys - now in their 40s - stuck by their story. One of them, David Davies, told him: "I did see something unexplained that day and I will stick to that story for the rest of my life." The Welsh Triangle may hold its secrets for some years to come.

Dr David Clarke, Media studies department, Sheffield Hallam University

DAILY MAIL, London, England - Oct. 11, 2006

## COMBE FLOREY

WIL The speaker for the November meeting was Alan Foster, who showed slides on 'UFOs and Crop Formations.'

Alan, a writer, researcher and lecturer on the subject, was returning from his confirmation into the church in April, 1973, when he experienced his own UFO encounter.

He described the Disclosure Project in May, 2001, when over 20 high-level personnel gave their own experiences of UFOs and ETs, and pushed for open congressional hearings.

There have been many well documented encounters over the years, and Alan explained that ETs fall into three categories - those with negative intent, observers, and those of a caring and compassionate nature.

Alan showed many amazing slides of incredibly intricate crop formations into which much research has been done since 1990. They apparently cause no damage to crops, but bring about a change in cellular structure and are created in seconds.

Some 80% of these appear in a triangular area south of Swindon, but they have appeared all over the world.

This was also the AGM, and those wishing to stand for office were voted in unanimously. Sue Mackay, president for the past four years, is standing down and Lesley Topps will take over.

Gill Marshall read the treasurer's report and Annie Chadwick, secretary, gave the annual report.

Sue was presented with a beautiful rug planted with hyacinths and thanked by Mary Rowbotham, vice-president before refreshments were provided by Barbara Hawkesworth and Lynda Flitton.

At the next meeting on December 19 Sue will show members how to make a floral table decoration for Christmas and a festive 'paddle'.

New members are always welcome on the third Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm in Combe Florey village hall.

COUNTY GAZETTE, Somerset, England - Dec. 7, 2006

EXPRESS & ECHO, Exeter, England - Dec. 7, 2006

## Dog walker reports eerie UFO sighting

A WOMAN walking her dog has reported seeing a strange unexplained light in the sky which suddenly disappeared.

The woman and her 11-year-old daughter were on the Maer open area behind Exmouth seafront when they saw the bright light at about 4pm yesterday.

She said the eerie light

appeared over the Foxholes area at the eastern end of the seafront. It seemed to grow brighter and move towards them, and had a plume of grey smoke at the rear. But then after about 30 seconds the light disappeared.

The sighting follows a report on Monday afternoon of a UFO leaving a trail of smoke over

Budleigh Salterton, three miles to the east of Exmouth. Police said that report probably related to a military aircraft.

The mother-of-three, who asked not to be named, said: "We saw this bright light in the sky... I presumed it was some kind of helicopter with an extra-bright searchlight. It was getting closer

and closer and I thought it was going to land on the Maer. I said to my daughter, 'I can't hear any noise.' She said 'Look at all the grey and black smoke coming out behind it.' I was just looking at the smoke, then it vanished."

A Coastguard spokesman said he was unaware of any incident at that time.

# Secrets of the greatest alien mystery to be revealed at conference

BY HOWARD WILLIAMSON

STILL the debate goes on about Roswell – the most famous incident in UFO history.

Is there anything more to be said about the alleged recovery in 1947 of a crashed space craft and occupants in New Mexico?

Well, yes, there is – and a Leeds audience will be the ones to hear it.

An Italian researcher called Maurizio Baiata will reveal secrets to the Great British UFO Show in Headingley next month.

He is one of nine speakers brought together by *UFO DATA* magazine, published from an office in Kippax, east Leeds.

Editor Russell Callaghan, a deputy Post Office manager in his other life, said: "Something happened at Roswell and it has been very well cleansed over the years.

"The US military has changed its story three times as people have come forward with new information.

"I think people are going to be surprised by Maurizio's lecture



**MILITARY COVER-UP:** Russell Callaghan believes there are still many interesting stories to come out of Roswell PICTURE: MARK BICKERDIKE

## UFO hunter makes contact...with host of expert speakers



**ET HAS LANDED?** Model of an alien at Roswell's UFO centre

and his new information about Col Philip J Corso who wrote a book in 1996 called *The Day After Roswell*.

"In this he claimed that inventions like integrated circuits and fibre optics were developed from what was found after the crash at Roswell.

"Maurizio was the first man to interview him before the publication of his book and he wrote notes in his diaries. He is bringing them with him and will share them with the people of Leeds.

"The big stuff about Roswell is out in the open but some of the smaller stuff is interesting as well."

A well-known UFO sceptic, Andy Roberts, has been lined up to talk about his investigations into so-called "foo fight-

ers" – mysterious craft which buzzed both Allied and Axis aircraft during the Second World War.

"His conclusion is that the origin of the foo fighters is unknown," said Russell. "There is no evidence that they were secret German weapons. In fact, there is more evidence to sug-

gest they were UFOs than that they were Nazi craft."

Among other speakers are Tony Coppin of Selby who has video footage of UFO encounters; and Odd-Gunnar Roed from Norway who will discuss the UFO experience in Scandinavia.

The UFO Show will be staged

at the Leeds Rugby League Supporters Club on October 21 and 22. Tickets are £15 a day or £25 for two days and there are a few left.

Visitors are coming from all over the world.

"The show will demonstrate that UFOs are still here and that research into them is far from

dead," said Russell.

"Buzz Aldrin, the second man on the Moon, said in a *History Channel* documentary this year that all three astronauts on board Apollo 11 observed a UFO shadowing their mission."

Further information: Leeds 286 5566 or 07957 223 358. [howard.williamson@ypn.co.uk](mailto:howard.williamson@ypn.co.uk)

EVENING POST, Bristol, England - Sept. 13, 2006

### Soapbox: Strange lights in the sky

I AM a retired police officer with the West Midlands police who has spent the last 11 years researching various reports of strange phenomena which have been seen in and around the skies of the UK, going back to the 1940s.

So far, I've compiled enough for five volumes.

Bristol itself was "home" to a series of strange reports of "zig zagging" lights over the Hartcliffe area some years ago, which has never been explained away, although reports involving identical phenomena have been reported over such locations as Newton Hill, Harston Hill, Cambridgeshire, and Birmingham in 1974.

I've been in contact with Peter Tate, now in his early 70s, who is a veteran UFO researcher from the Bristol area, and he has shared his extensive library of UFO documents collected over the years.

I recently spoke to Peter about an incident that took place in Arnos Park on April 27, 1968.

The Reverend Anthony Millican was out walking with his wife when they came across a glowing, dome-shaped object hovering above the ground. The sighting was reported to the police, who made a search of the area, but nothing was found.

I'm hoping that someone out there may know where Mr Millican is so that I may have the opportunity to speak to him about the incident.

Perhaps some readers have their own strange stories they wish to bring to my attention. I can be contacted on 0121 445 0340 or by writing to the address below.

John Hanson,  
31 Red Lion Street,  
Alvechurch,  
Worcestershire  
B48 7LG

● WE were looking out of the window last Friday night at about 10.30pm and saw about 30 bright lights travelling across the sky from the direction of the airport towards Wales.

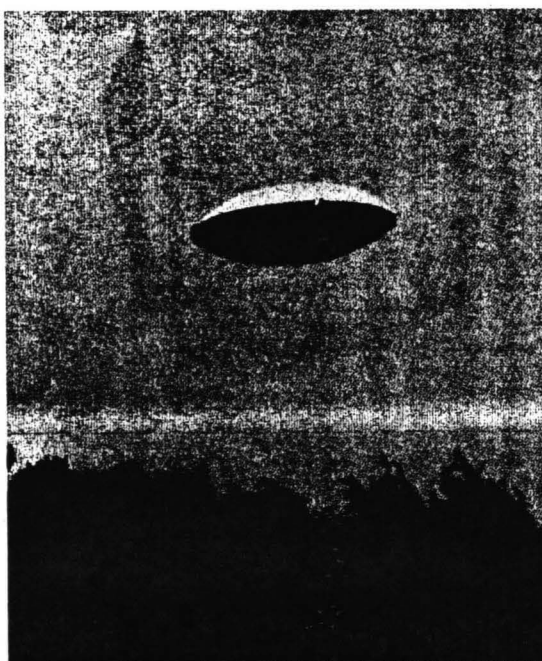
On looking through binoculars, it looked like it was a burning mass.

We phoned the airport the next morning and were told that it was a laser light show from Newport.

This is not very likely as you would have seen the beam of light from Wales.

I have been on the internet and cannot find a laser show advertised. If it was in fact a laser show, then how can it be allowed to take place across the flight path of a major airport?

Gareth Miles,  
Yatton,  
North Somerset.



**Mysterious:** Unidentified flying objects are the subjects of two readers' letters

ECHO, Loughborough, England  
Sept. 22, 2006

### More lights in sky

"It was about 11.30pm on Saturday. I just couldn't believe it. I thought 'what on earth is going on?'"

"I even opened the window and I thought I was seeing things."

Myra Hur, of Hathern, said: "I saw the same thing a few months ago from the back bedroom window. I happened to look up and they were quite clear. I thought 'surely they are not planes'. The lights were very high and in a formation. One veered off towards Shepshed."

MORE reports of strange orange lights in the sky have come into the *Echo* since last week's story of a strange triangular formation spotted above Quorn.

Karl Stones says he and his wife, Patricia, saw the bright lights on Saturday, September 9, and he was hoping that someone had seen the same thing.

A woman in Chapman Street, Loughborough, who did not wish to be named, said: "I saw these lights in Loughborough."

"I couldn't get over it. I had drawn the blinds and I saw these three big orange triangular lights. I got in bed and then got out again to see if they were still there because I kept thinking about them."





ray.marshall@ncjmedia.co.uk

# Remember When

A BLAST FROM THE PAST  
WITH RAY MARSHALL

## North a hotbed of sightings - but are they flying saucers?

IT has been a long time since little green men in flying saucers or flying cigars have visited the North East.

We haven't seen any unexplained flashing or zooming lights in the sky for many a year. It seems the Martians or Venusians have grown tired of us, or maybe it is getting too warm for them and they have given up on our planet as being an attractive place to colonise.

After all we have just about bled the earth dry ourselves, the TV's rubbish and there are too many foreign players in the Premiership.

Add to that the fact they probably couldn't get to grips with the Geordie lingo and you can see why they are now giving us a wide berth.

But that wasn't the case back in the 1950s, 60s and 70s when there were numerous sightings around the North East and in Northumberland in particular.

In 1972 the Evening Chronicle carried a report about a massive silver-coloured flying saucer "as big as five or six jumbo jets" according to one witness, hovering over Westerhope.

One resident of that district said he saw it while out walking with his friend. "It was bright silver and just hovering in the sky. I certainly didn't mistake it for a helicopter or a jet," he said.

Our witness said a plane passed under the object and it then rose vertically into the clouds, very quickly. His friend had also observed it.

It was also seen by a bus driver who said it disappeared behind clouds near his home in Dunston.

"I have never seen anything so beautiful in all my life. It was brilliant white with a rounded front and tapering tail," he said.

There was one instance in Peterlee which was later explained when everyone in the town thought they had seen a UFO.

One man said he saw a brightly glowing light floating down to earth on the end of a six foot long rectangular object.

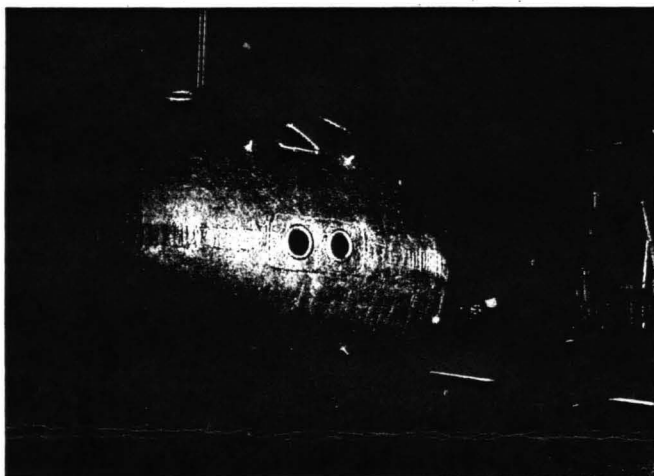
"I couldn't believe my eyes," he said. "I watched it come down to earth from a height of about 100 feet."

He watched the object pass over the rooftops of a house just around the corner and followed it in his car.

"People were standing on front-door steps wondering what it was and children were running to where they thought it had landed."

The police, meanwhile, were inundated by calls but after a thorough search of the area, nothing was found.

# THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE



WHAT IS IT? A silver object with antennae and portholes like this was said to have been seen over Tyneside a few years ago

At this stage it was turning into a Quatermass adventure, but then up stepped two brothers to solve the problem which turned out to be a load of hot air.

"We caused the great Peterlee flying saucer scare," they said.

"We filled a 16ft long polythene bag with hot air and then let it fly. To give greater effect they attached a small fire lighter to the bottom of the bag so it would glow in the sky."

"We had no idea it would cause so much panic when we set it off," said one

brother. "We were just playing about and wondered what would happen when the bag was filled with hot air."

Over the months there were numerous sightings of UFOs over Hebburn and Bill Quay. In Hexham one man saw a flying tadpole and in Stocksfield a witness described it as a flying pencil.

At the same time a Tyneside publication, called Orbit, produced by the Tyneside UFO Society, ran reports about aliens being spotted emerging from their space craft in towns and cities all over the world.

A Newcastle teacher saw a UFO heading east, high over Denton Bank. It stopped just over the horizon and was stationary for about 10 seconds.

"Then it vanished in a low cloud, but left vapour trails visible for about seven minutes. It was a tremendous size."

Four boys telephoned the Chronicle one day in 1955 to announce they had seen a flying saucer over Ponteland.

They were sitting in a garden in Runnymede Avenue when one looked and shouted: "Look, a flying saucer."

First they ran around to the police station and reported it to the constable's wife. Then they ran to a neighbour's house to ring the Chronicle.

One told our reporter: "It seemed to come from nowhere. We looked up and there it was. It was like a plate with another plate on top of it, upside down. There were little black dots round the sides which looked like windows."

As the boys watched it the object rose into the air and disappeared into the cloud. They heard a high-pitched droning noise as it vanished.

"It was as big as a jet plane," said one. "It was low enough for anyone in it to have a good look at what was going on down here."

The Ponteland police officer told the Chronicle: "I've been told all about it but there's not much I can do."

■ I was wondering if anybody who claims to have seen a flying saucer or such like is willing to share their experiences with Remember When.

Write to me, Ray Marshall, Remember When, Evening Chronicle, Groat Market, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1ED or e-mail ray.marshall@ncjmedia.co.uk

Also you can phone 0191 2016239.

IS IT A UFO? Artist's impression of a flying saucer sighted over the Tyne Bridge in 1977



## Bright, pulsating light seen in the evening sky

CAN you explain this? I can't! 1992: One early evening in the late autumn/early winter between 5.30pm and 6pm, I was travelling through Syston.

The dark nights had set in and I turned off Melton Road, near the Midland Railway Hotel, to take me to the Fossey Way roundabout.

I was in a line of traffic after turning right towards Six Hills (A46).

Cars were parked on the north-bound side, so I remained stationary to wait for oncoming traffic. There must have been three or four cars in front of me also waiting.

As I waited, I noticed slightly to my right what I thought was a sodium street lamp, which seemed to be

much brighter than the rest. I moved my head from left to right thinking it may be a reflection from the car window.

I wound down the car window. By this time the traffic had started moving and, due to the traffic behind me, I was forced to go forward.

I was fascinated by this light, which I could identify now as being some distance away. It seemed to be stationary in the sky.

I accelerated, trying to watch the traffic and the light. It was pulsating. I had to find somewhere to pull in. Once stationary, with the window still down, I could see it was a sphere or round mass. Around the outside was a silver, misty ring,

which you sometimes associate with the moon on a clear night.

To the top left centre was what I can only describe as a vapour trail.

This was formed like two or three turns of a corkscrew and also seemed to reflect in the silver misty ring which surrounded the pulsating orange light.

As I fumbled for the door handle, my eyes glued to this incredible sight, the light became intense, bright and large, and before I could get out of the car, it diminished in size to a pinhead and disappeared.

Was I dreaming? No, I wasn't, I was in the car travelling home from work! This is no prank, nor is it a story made up for any financial

gain. Have you ever experienced anything weird or supernatural? Give me a call on 07899 786 851.

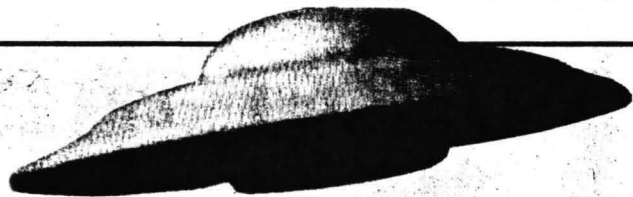
Ian Waters, Thurmaston.

DID anybody else see a flying object on the night of Saturday, September 9, at about 10.45pm?

It was a large oval, bright orange light, with a diamond-like shape in the middle. It came across quite low from the east of Churchill Road and Silverdale Drive, Thurmaston.

There was no sound from the UFO. It flew up quite quickly into the sky and disappeared.

Mr M Cox, Thurmaston.



# Strange lights in sky were UFOs says teenager



**CONVINCED:** Ben Hueso says he saw an UFO on two successive nights from his back garden in Branston. Picture: Mariana Teixeira. Picture reference: 6-4191-7.

**SCHOOLBOY Ben Hueso is convinced that strange lights in the night sky could be proof of extra-terrestrial life.**

Ben (13) claims he saw two UFOs in the sky above his garden in Branston, near Lincoln, on two consecutive evenings.

He says he saw two lights rotate and speed across the sky on Monday night and then again on Tuesday night.

Members of Ben's family also witnessed the strange lights that Ben says cannot be explained.

"It was a very clear night and I was

by Aleisha Scott

aleisha.scott@lincolnsirecho.co.uk

lying down looking up at the sky when I saw flashing lights to my left," said Ben, a pupil at Branston Community College.

"At first I thought it was a plane but I looked again and there were two stars really close together that started revolving around each other.

"I called my auntie to come out and she saw one of the lights.

"One of them shot off in a westerly direction then a few other lights started moving.

"All the lights shot off to the same point and then disappeared."

Ben went into the garden the next night and at around 9.40pm saw the lights again.

"The same thing happened again, both times it lasted about three minutes," he said.

Since the first sighting the family's phone lines have gone down.

"After I saw the lights on Monday I rushed in to phone my friend and the line was really crackly before it cut off," said Ben.

"Since then the phones have been dead.

"There is no way they could just be stars, they were moving really fast, I really think it could be a UFO," he said.

"I've asked around the village but no-one else seems to have seen anything, except one person we know who says he saw something strange three weeks ago.

"I have never really thought about UFOs and aliens before but now I'm really interested."

Mum Joanne said: "Ben was telling me to come outside and look but by the time I got outside I just saw what looked like a shooting star.

"Ben hasn't been off the Internet since he saw the lights and he's e-mailed the MoD.

"The problem with the phones is a bit spooky. A BT engineer came and fixed the problem but an hour after he left it went down again."

A spokesman for RAF Waddington said they had not received similar reports of suspicious activity over Branston.

"We do not have any other reports of UFOs on those nights," he said.

"There were no military aircraft flying on those nights.

"The weather office here says there was nothing untoward with the weather that might have caused any phenomenon."

## HAVE YOU SEEN A STRANGE OBJECT?

E-mail yourview@lincolnsirecho.co.uk

LONDON PAPER, London, England - Sept. 25, 2006

## FLYING SAUCER SECURITY FEAR

# MoD covered up UFO sightings

HANNAH SUMMERS  
for thelondonpaper

AMEN IN BLACK-style unit was set up by Ministry of Defence chiefs who feared UFOs were threatening British security, newly unearthed documents reveal.

Despite denying the existence of UFOs, the MoD was desperate to conceal its long-held interest in reports of flying saucers and monitored all sightings through a unit named DI55. A DI55 report found under the Freedom of Information Act by David Clarke, a lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University, detailed 10,000 UFO sightings.

The documents claimed the existence of UFOs was "indisputable" - but they were not alien saucers flown by little green men. Experts stated



**FLYING SAUCER** | Documents reveal security fears

that rare plasmas created by "more than one set of weather and electrically charged conditions" were responsible.

The revelations show the MoD's edgy stance towards UFO investigators, as for in-

stance when enthusiast Julian Hennessy asked to see records of sightings in 1976 but was denied on grounds that the files were of little value to serious investigators. A note from the UFO desk to the

## OFF THE PLANET

- July 1981: Three women "see" UFO and suffer time lapse
- November 1995: Brian Curry videos orange object in Scotland
- May 1997: Triangular object spotted over Prestwick
- September 2005: Orange lights in sky in Hornchurch, Essex
- October 2005: Craft hovers in sky in Berkshire

MoD's head of security reads: "It is undesirable that even a hint of this should become public"

It said the unit was consulting on ways of erasing the official records.

WEEKLY NEWS, Newbury, England - Nov. 9, 2006

## More sightings of UFOs in local area reported

ARE they Apache helicopters, Chinese lanterns or UFOs? The mysterious lights spotted over the Newbury area, which recently baffled local people and experts alike have been revived with a fresh spate of sightings.

Newbury Astronomical Society member Steve Harris has suggested that the lights might be from a new type of Apache helicopter, but UFO expert Rob Whitehead, of the Lancashire Anomalous Phenomena Investigation Society, said that they could be Chinese sky lanterns.

Three people have reported seeing unusual objects in the sky, from blazing fireballs to light formations which left drivers on the M4 braking to catch a glimpse.

The sightings will add to the mystery surrounding the lights. In late September, the *Newbury Weekly News* was inundated with calls from people who had witnessed triangular formations of lights hovering over Greenham Common.

Christine Prater, of Marsh Lane, Curridge, saw two bright orange lights silently streaking across the sky at great speed on October 22. She said: "It was going very fast, and it was not a plane. I thought at first it was, but it was going much too fast. I could not hear anything either. No noise."

Anna Burnett, from Lambourn, said that she was travelling eastbound along the M4 between junctions 13 and 14 on October 25 when she saw three strange bright lights over the motorway in a pyramid formation.

She said: "The lights were so close together that it didn't seem they were planes."

Sadie Ives, of Newbury, also reported seeing a huge fireball moving across the sky on October 26.

Anyone with any information can telephone NWN reporter Robert Rowlands on (01635) 564533.

GUARDIAN, Banbury, England - Oct. 19, 2006

## Face to face with aliens

I AM reinvestigating a wave of UFO reports that struck the Banbury area during August/September 1971.

They involved sightings of strange lights and pulsating noises in the sky which appear to have been brought to the attention of the Banbury-based UFO researcher Keith Palmer who was also responsible for organising various sky watches during this period.

Over the years I have tried unsuccessfully to ascertain what happened to Mr Palmer, who was living in Burton Dassett and keenly interested in the UFO subject.

Although many weird things were seen in the sky during this period, one of the strangest incidents involved lorry driver Leonard Delman who was driving along the Oxford to Banbury road on the evening of September 27, 1971.

He encountered what he took to be a man dressed in white standing in the road near to the Bodicote flyover.

After braking heavily Len got out the cab expecting the worst. Imagine his shock when he came face to face with a 'humanoid' wearing what appeared to be some sort of tubing from the head leading to a pack on its back.

With one single bound it jumped over the hedge and made off across the field, at which point two other lorries stopped, the drivers jumped out and stood with Len watching.

Then all of a sudden a disc-shaped object took off.

The matter was reported to police who said their officers and members of the public had seen something strange the previous evening although they declined to disclose any further information.

I have discovered that people in Wantage had also seen what they described as a 'creature' early in the morning of September 25.

Does anyone out there remember these UFO reports? Was one of your readers responsible for playing some sort of elaborate hoax? Does anyone know the whereabouts of Len or any of the other lorry drivers?

I can be contacted at the address below.

John Hanson  
31 Red Lion Street  
Alvechurch  
Worcestershire  
B48 7LG

## UFO spotted at Swanwick

I WOULD just like to ask, has anyone seen the bright orange light passing over in the night sky recently?

My wife and both daughters first encountered this last Thursday night, September 14, at about 8:30pm. Tonight, Tuesday, September 19, at about 8:50pm, both my wife and I witnessed a bright orange ball of light travelling from the south west, to the north east of our village. There was no sound or any other lights to suggest it was a normal aircraft.

Can anyone enlighten me on this?

John Peach,  
Broadway,  
Swanwick.



# 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.]

---

December 18, 2006 — *www.analuisacid.com.mx* — MEXICO: RECENT SIGHTING IN TEPEXPAN — [Another UFO video was] recorded by Victor Gabriel Gonzalez on December 10, 2006 over the town of Tepexpan, State of Mexico.

The alleged UFO traveled from south to north, changing its shape in a noticeable manner.

The sighting had a duration of 15 minutes and the video was recorded at 3:00 in the afternoon. — CREDIT: Prof. Ana Luisa Cid

---

December 2006 — *www.analuisacid.com* — Mexico: UFO over Chiquihuite Hill — UFO Reports from Mexico, December 23-4, 2006 by Ana Luisa Cid — 23 December 2006 — On this date, at 4:55 p.m., I saw an object in the sky that headed rapidly toward Chiquihuite Hill to the North of Mexico City.

At first I considered the possibility that it could be a balloon. However, I dismissed this option when I saw the object make an abrupt stop and remain static near the left slope of the mountain, presenting a shape different from the original one.

24 December 2006 — A video similar to the previous one was recorded by Mr. Carlos Rodriguez Lopez on December 24 at 3:11 P.M.

According to the eyewitness, the object remained static at an elevation of approximately 50 meters over the right slope of Chiquihuite Hill. It subsequently descended into the vegetation and an hour later, headed toward the rear of the hill.

It should be noted that in this case the object also presented changes in its shape.

Sincerely,

Profra. Ana Luisa Cid

---

January 12, 2007 — *Fundacion Cosmos A.C.*, Mexico — MEXICO: New Development in the Hualahuises Animal Attacks — On the evening of January 10, it was reported that an unknown predator attacked and killed six sheep, due to the strange and violent manner of their deaths, at Rancho Las Hanacahuillas, Municipality of Hualahuises, located in the state of Nuevo Leon.

Upon inspecting the carcasses of the dead animals, it has been discovered that aside from having exsanguinated the dead sheep, according to the rancher's own report, Mr. Ines Ramos says that the creature "took the hearts out of two sheep" -- something that has further mystified experts. For the time being, municipal authorities are alert to any other strange event, similar to this one, that could come about in the area. It was believed at first that a puma could be involved, or wild dogs, but this new evidence has confused experts, leading many to suspect an attack by a legendary creature such as the 'Chupacabras'.

This attack would represent the third time that similar events have been reported on this ranch. The first event occurred several years ago when only a single sheep was found dead. Then two were found dead, and on this occasion the victims could well reach seven in number.

The mystery continues. — CREDIT: Marco Reynoso

---

January 11, 2007 — *Fundacion Cosmos, A.C.*, Mexico — MEXICO: New Mystery Animal Attack — An "unknown predator" has struck again, this time preying on some farm animals in the Region Citricola of the state of Nuevo Leon. Some suspect that it could be a reappearance of the Chupacabras.

Last night, at 10:50 pm, it was reported that in Rancho Las Hanacahuillas, municipality of Hualahuises, Nuevo Leon, some sheep had been found slain with strange wounds to their necks. Mrs. Maria del Rosario Rodriguez, the daughter-in-law of the ranch owner, reported the discovery to authorities. Upon reaching the site, elements of the Hualahuises Police found six dead sheep with puncture-like orifices on their necks, as well as three similarly wounded sheep that clung to life. The owner of the ranch, Mr. Ines Ramos Barrera, 59, suspects an attack by a puma or another animal, although municipal police believe that wild dogs may have been involved, although they lack proof, since the animal carcasses had not been devoured.

Furthermore, the few traces left at the site do not make clear, to the police, what type of animal could have been involved. No footprints were found. Some have remarked that it could be an attack by the "Chupacabras," whose trademark consists in leaving wounds on the necks of its victims and drawing their blood. The case is still under investigation by the authorities. — CREDIT: Marco Reynoso

---

January 12, 2007 — *CIUFOS-LA PAMPA*, La Pampa, Argentina — ARGENTINA: LIGHTS OVER LA PAMPA — \*\*A report from Raul Oscar Chaves\*\* — As has been occurring in recent times, sightings of strange lights over La Pampa have gone on to become a daily event.

On January 12, 2007, between 22:00 and 23:00 hours, four lights were seen over Santa Rosa. After increasing their size suddenly, reaching dimensions roughly 4 times the size of Venus, they would gradually diminish until disappearing altogether.

Three of them were detected some 45 degrees to the East on radial 090 in a South/North direction, being seen at their greatest splendor in some 15 seconds, with a 15-20 minute interval between sightings. The fourth luminosity was detected on radial 035, some 45 degrees over the horizon, with a SSE - NNW direction, remaining visible for some 10 seconds before gradually disappearing.

Five witnesses agreed that the colors of these lights fluctuated between yellow, blue, fluorescent green and amber. Moreover, residents of the "El Guanaco" ranch located in the wilderness of the same name, some 35 km north of Santa Rosa saw at 23:00 that same evening the transit of a green, blue and white light from East to West.

This light had a "sort of tail..." from which "...four lesser lights, white in color..." broke off slowly and progressively. The witnesses stressed that they looked like "the windows of a bus," stressing the unusual nature of the phenomenon. While it is possible to see lights in this area, they have never had the size and intensity detected in this case.

In recent times, these events have become frequent and detected all across the geography of the

Pampas.

January 15, 2007 — *www.analuisacid.com* — Mexican Airliner Crew Observes UFO — Flight engineer Loe Gonzalez informed researcher Alfonso Salazar of the observation of an unidentified flying object during a domestic flight between the city of Villahermosa (Tabasco) and Mexico City, adding that the probable UFO irradiated a very powerful white light. He indicated that the pilot, the first officer and himself were witnesses to the sighting from the cockpit of their Boeing 737-200, registration XA-MAF.

According to their account, the object flew alongside the aircraft, placing itself some 1500 meters to the left of the airliner.

The crew lost the UFO from sight when it flew at high speed along the vicinity of the Popocatepetl Volcano, entering a dense cloud bank.

The witness does not remember the exact date of the sighting, estimating that it took place between the months of September-October, 2006. He specified that it occurred shortly after taking off from Villahermosa, roughly around 6:50 p.m.

"It wasn't picked up on the Ticas radar, a situation indicating that it wasn't another airplane, aside from the impressive speed at which it peeled away from the airliner," explains Alfonso Salazar, adding that he has it on the best authority that some pilots are currently traveling with their own cameras or camcorders in order to pick up these unexplained aerial phenomena. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid and Alfonso Salazar

January 15, 2007 — *CIUFOS-LAPAMPA*, La Pampa, Argentina — ARGENTINA: LUMINOUS OBJECT OVER SANTA ISABEL — \*\*A report from Raul Oscar Chaves\*\* — Luis Alberto Lopez, 41, lives in Santa Isabel, a Pampean community located some 300 km west of Santa Rosa and carries out rural duties at the La Loma Alta ranch near that town, in a region known as La Puntilla.

In mid-December 2006, being alone in the field and due to the intense summer heat, he decided to sleep outdoors, in the backyard of his house. At 0200 hrs., he heard the whining of his dog, sleeping nearby, and subsequently heard the sounds made by the remaining animals, prompting him to wake up immediately.

It was at that moment, still in the bed on which he rested, that he saw with certain fear and considerable astonishment, the flight of a luminous UFO over the animal pens located near the house. The object had three lights around it - one white, another yellow and another blue "...shifting toward purple". The luminous object, which did not fly over the house but managed to flood it with light, projected an intense white light over an area of approximately 50 meters, issuing "...an almost imperceptible whistling sound, like that of a wire in the wind," but no buzzing sounds whatsoever. "The silence was almost complete."

Lopez went on to say that: "...the light moved over the animal pens, lighting them from an altitude calculated at some 50 - 80 meters," moving at a given time to some 200 meters from the house, "where it remained static, suspended in the air" for an estimated three minutes before suddenly vanishing toward the north of the location.

This semi-arid area is thinly populated and the presence of aircraft, or fly-overs of any kind, are not customary. Lopez believes that this circumstance is of great importance when stating that the light he saw was indeed a UFO, as in his area, sightings of these are indeed customary.

January 18, 2007 — *CIUFOS-LA PAMPA*, La Pampa, Argentina — ARGENTINA: ANOTHER UFO BUZZES SANTA ROSA — On December 28, 2006, the time being 17:00 hours, residents of the Plan 5000 neighborhood, located in the southern section of the city of Santa Rosa, La Pampa, were witnesses to the maneuvers of a shining silvery object.

Liliana Contreras, of legal age and a master builder by trade, was performing a job in front of her house and looked up to see an object she defined as "...having a flattened, elongated shape, with rounded edges, like a flattened Rugby ball, silver in color but very shiny."

The witness adds that the object was moving from the NNE toward the NNW, viewing it some 45 degrees toward the North.

When the roof of the house hindered her viewing, she quickly raced to the back of the house, continuing her viewing of the object until it became lost due to the sunlight. She maintains that "...the silvery object maintained a well-defined and level trajectory."

This sighting was corroborated by her brother Eduardo, who in the company of a friend on his way back home, witnessed the same phenomena. — CREDIT: Raul Oscar Chaves

January 19, 2007 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina and *El Tribuno*, Salta, Argentina — ARGENTINA: POLICE SEARCHES FOR STRANGE OBJECT THAT FELL FROM SKIES — \*\*\* Rosario de Lerma and Chicoana / Numerous witnesses say it was a "fireball"\*\*\* — \*\*\*Area combed for 6 hours in the El Puyil wilderness, but nightfall brought operations to a close\*\*\* — Personnel from the sheriffs' offices of Campo Quijano and Rosario de Lerma were looking - until 20:00 hours yesterday - for an unidentified flying object (UFO) that allegedly fell in the mountains to the west of Rosario de Lima and Chicoana, in a wilderness known as El Puyil.

Research activities began around 10:30 the day before, when a woman identified as Beatriz Prieto nervously reported that "a fireball, looking like an airplane in flames, fell into the hills." Her call was soon joined by dozens of others reporting the same, adding that "whatever it was, it caused a great explosion when it came into contact with the ground."

Victor Copa, sheriff inspector and chief of Provincial Police Regional Unit 1, told *El Tribuno* that judging from the accounts "all of this indicates that whatever it was fell to earth from space, impacting the jungle mountain ranges to the West of the Departments of Chicoana and Rosario de Larma, where the search was concentrated."

Sources with the Direccion de Aviacion Civil and spokespersons of the Argentinean Air Force in the "Martin Miguel de Guemes" airport at El Aybal dismissed the possibility that an aircraft could have been in flight over the area at the time. "We have no flights recorded. There are no reports of missing planes or anything similar."

Nonetheless, given the avalanche of phone calls and the certainty that "something" crashed at El Puyil, the state aeronautics entity sent a small plane to fly over the area, although the effort was fruitless: the hills were covered by dense low fog.

Dardo Gustavo Tolaba, head of the Chicoana deputy sheriff's office, said: "We carried out a surface inspection and observation with binoculars, but with no results due to poor visibility. What's strange is that neither smoke nor land disturbance were observed. It's clear that there was some strange phenomenon [at work]," said the officer.

Moreover, the police sent a group of expeditionaries to Corralito in Rosario de Lerma, where there were numerous accounts from locals concerning the event. The team was made up of 20 members of the Mounted Police, Canine and High-Risk Operations Group (GOPAR), who combed the area for six hours until nightfall.



Tasks will begin at dawn once more.

Senior sub-officer Osvaldo Mejia, Air Force officer of the day at the Salta Airport, stated that "we recorded all of the flights that were supposed to fly over the area, including international ones, and all of them reached their destinations. There was no contact with the control towers and a search of air club records shows no missing planes." The Salta Airport lacks a radar, and for this reason each flight must present its flight plan before take-off, showing the route and altitude to be maintained during its flight.

The strange situation was double-checked with the Cordoba radar, which also records airplane movements over the area where the crash occurred. No anomalies were detected. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez

---

January 20, 2007 — *El Tribuno*, Salta, Argentina — ARGENTINA: MYSTERY CONTINUES REGARDING UFO CRASH ON EL MANZANO — Police determined that the impact occurred against one of the peak's slopes at an altitude of 4200 meters and at 100 km from Quijano. A team is heading out today with elements to rescue persons living or dead.

A great mobilization of security personnel, media - domestic and foreign - and a growing rumor among the locals were the result of the news concerning the collision of an Unidentified Flying Object on mid-morning Thursday to the west of the Departments of Rosario de Lerma and Chicoana.

The nature of the body that collided against the slopes of the El Manzano mountain is still undetermined, but numerous witnesses claim having seen a fireball falling at high speed against the Andean massif.

Dardo Gustavo Tolaba, chief of the Chicoana Sheriffs' Office, claims that they managed to see the object. "We cannot say exactly what it is, really. It could be an aircraft, perhaps space junk, a meteorite or something unknown. The fact is that we were able to focus on it with high resolution binoculars during our approach and we managed to establish that it was something large and metallic. We cannot dismiss the possibility that it could be a manned object, so our duty is to reach the goal and recover anyone there, dead or alive," said the officer.

It all started when Beatriz Prieto of the Las Palmas farm informed police over the phone that an object had crashed. "it looked like an airplane in flames" said the woman. Later, other locals confirmed her report and added more details. "It exploded when it hit ground," added numerous witnesses.

Victor Copa, head of Regional Unit 1, requested the object's location via GPS. It was thus possible to define the point of impact and ascertain that it was an artificial object. With this information, a Civil Aviation airplane took off early yesterday: to photograph it, but was unable to reach the appropriate altitude and returned to the airport.

A team of rescuers and high mountain specialists composed of four members of the Firefighting Division of the Provincial Police and three gendarmes from Squadron 22 of San Antonio de Los Cobres, as well as a backwoodsman sergeant first class, will leave at 5 am today toward El Manzano to find the UFO that crashed against its slopes. They will carry personal oxygen equipment, radio gear and stretchers for transporting the dead or injured. The police group will be headed by Federico Delgado and composed by corporal Marcelo Beas, a mountain rescue instructor, corporal Esteban Romero and Agent Enrique Velez.

Accompanying them will be Sgt. Benito Barboza of the Rosario de Lerma sheriffs' office, since he is a backwoodsman from the Department of Los Andes. It is estimated that [reaching the site] will take some 48 hours.

Yesterday morning, at the request of the Police, a Cessna 182 of the Salta Aero Club piloted by Jorge McIntyre tried to reach the site unsuccessfully. "This is a Civil Aeronautics Safety committee that is constituted whenever cases of this type occur," said Javier Debenedetto, president of the Salta Aero Club. The site in question was at an elevation higher than the Cessna's flight ability. He said the object in question is possibly "some space junk, that's what we tend to believe. To be a plane it would have to be a large one to fly at that altitude, since an ultralight or light-engine plane cannot cross those peaks." — CREDIT: Mercedes Casas

---

January 20, 2007 — *EL TIEMPO.COM*, Colombia — COLOMBIA: UFO OVER NOBSA (BOYAGA) — Some locals claim that the objects had lights, were shiny and changed colors. An expert cautions that they weren't terrestrial.

Jose Guio, a plastic arts instructor whose workshop is in Dicho, in Nobsa (Boyaca) was taking photos of the sky at 4:30 pm on December 31, 2006, when his eyes fell upon an elliptical object like an (American rules) football, crossing the sky.

It was easy for Guio to focus on it with his camera lens. According to him, it floated in a single place for 40 minutes and then moved slowly toward a mountain known as Cruz de Aranda. Guio's eyes weren't the only one to see a UFO over the municipality's airspace.

Ramiro Barragan, the town mayor, said that he had seen two figures similar to the one described by the teacher "suspended in the air" on January 7.

He was at a vineyard located at Puntalarga at 3:30 p.m., and was able to see through binoculars that the object changed colors. It shifted from yellow to black to white. Adolfo Zarate, former secretary of Development for Nobsa, was another witness. "It spun on its axis and was orange-colored. Then another object showed up," said Zarate.

On January 7, the alleged UFOs also flew over the Duitama bullring near Nobsa. Several fans of the "corrida" at the local fair saw 3 glowing objects in the sky.

Alvaro Bonilla, a member of Contacto Ovni Colombia -- an organization devoted to this phenomenon -- traveled to Nobsa to collect information and after analyzing the photos claimed that they were non-terrestrial objects. "This is evident from their characteristics and the way they flew."

This could perhaps have something to do with an alleged magnetic power concentrated in the region's mountains. According to Jaime Viancha, an Nobsa historian, a team of engineers climbed Cerro Gavilan five years ago, next to Cruz de Aranda (where the majority of the objects have been seen) and the compasses they carried with them went haywire. Rafael Garcia, an official with Ingeominas, added that there are no reports to certify this theory.

For the time being, the residents of Nobsa are happy that their municipality, aside from tourists, is also visited by ETs. — CREDIT: Alex Sender

---

## CREDIT: Jane Thomas Guma

---

January 8, 2007 — *El Tribuno*, (Police section), Online edition, Salta, Argentina — It's one of the most mysterious and divulged cases of this type of phenomena — An expedition is planned to rescue a UFO that fell in Anta 12 years ago — They want to find an answer to an event that caused commotion but to which an explanation could never be found. Private pilot Tony Galvano, a witness to the event, will head the mission to the Sierras Coloradas (Red Hills) in Anta. — Juan Antonio Abarzua, *El Tribuno* — An expedition to rescue a

large unidentified flying object (UFO) that allegedly fell in the forested area of Anta's Sierras Coloradas on August 17, 1995 and which at the time mobilized the national and international press, is being prepared by members of a group of Argentine and Brazilian investigators.

The trip is being organized by private pilot Tony Galvano from Joaquin V. Gonzalez; Antonio Zuleta, from Cachi, a reporter, cameraman and Andes mountaineer and Brazilian Eduard Gauche, a physicist-mathematician professor at the Universidad do Desenvolvimento do Estado in Santa Catarina (Brazil) (University of Development-Tr.).

Gaivano was one of the main protagonists of the story because when the event took place he immediately boarded one of his spraying planes and began the unsuccessful search of the fallen machine, and for 15 days he experienced a series of events as fantastic as they were startling, worthy of a science fiction thriller, at which time all kinds of things happened to him including the crashing of his own plane on a hill after a failure that could not be explained to this date.

Meanwhile, Zuleta has become famous - as hundreds of internet sites prove which reproduce his photos and movies - after having been able to capture impressive images of luminous objects of different shapes, sizes and colors flying over the skies in the "calchaquies" valleys.

As to the Brazilian Gauche, thanks to Zuleta's videos and photos, he has turned into a fanatic of the area due to the recurrence of sightings and claims that "evidently there is something here that attracts whoever operates these UFOs. I'm inclined - he ventured - to believe that it's due to the many deposits of radioactive minerals and rare earths in that region."

The man from Santa Catarina has been coming every year for fifteen years to search for answers to the mysteries regarding the UFOs.

The group plans to start the search during the dry season - between autumn and winter of this year - accompanied by Andean mountaineers trained in survival, trekking and rappelling since the Sierras Coloradas, located some 60 kilometers SW of J.V. Gonzalez (a town in Salta-Tr.) are steep, the foliage is almost impenetrable, there are dangerous herds of wild boars and the land is very uneven, full of canyons and orographic traps.

#### Gaivano's account

The falling of the subject UFO happened, according to Galvano, on August 17, 1995 at 2:45 pm, on a sunny, clear day with excellent visibility.

And his version is fantastic: "It was - he said - a kind of flying saucer of approx. 250 meters diameter, bright metallic color. It flew fast from North to South and was followed by two other objects, probably missiles, that hit it. There are thousands of witnesses that saw the incident and there are even photos of the event.

The object did not disintegrate but started to fail and crashed. A few minutes later a loud explosion was heard followed by a strong earthquake that was felt in an area 300 kilometers around. The people from Gonzalez ran out to the streets, as also those from El Galpon, Coronel Olleris, El Quebrachal, Gaona and other towns. Panic scenes ensued.

A while later a column of black dense smoke started to cover the sky. It was amazing. I had never seen anything like it. It seemed to be solid because not a ray of light was able to pass behind it.

I ran to the airfield, boarded my ultralight FlyStar plane, took off and went to investigate. I could see the people below in the streets and fields, astonished at what happened. I flew and flew but could not find the point of impact. Visibility was terrible because of the smoke that had extended for kilometers and I had to return," he said.

#### The expeditions

When he remembers the experience, Galvano gets excited. "That same afternoon the radios would not stop repeating people's accounts about the event. They all gave their own version and at the same time asked for explanations. I met with the then intendant, Irma Caro, who authorized us to organize a search party to solve the mystery of the UFO that allegedly was impacted by two missiles. We covered large extensions but found nothing.

A couple of days later I again boarded my plane and started to search and suddenly in an esplanade, on a kind of plateau, I saw something strange: there was a five kilometers long by 600 meters wide trace where the effect of the heat caused by the friction of a giant and very heavy body could be seen. I flew over the site at low altitude and was impressed: the trees, mostly red quebrachos and carobs, had been thrown out of that newly made ravine. At the bottom a bright white powder could be seen like aluminum turned into talcum.

The trunks remaining around the scar and the closest trees all had strange wounds: it seemed as if they had been sprayed with acid. Suddenly my plane started to fail. The engine seemed to want to fall off, I lost attitude, did my best to be able to settle down my beloved FlyStar and prepared myself for the crash. I was knocked around but unhurt. And once on the ground I picked up that strange powder. I had never seen anything like it.

It was later analyzed at the La Plata University because I sent them samples and the result was unexpected: it was a compound of 90% pure potassium that does not exist on this planet. The remaining 2% was an unknown material. The trace ended by a precipice and lower down there were canyons and ravines covered with dense jungle foliage, but nothing else could be seen. We kept on investigating for days, but with no luck, he said.

#### The men in black

Galvano, the pilot-witness of an event "that I'll never be able to forget," said that after 15 days "more strange things began to happen": "Some guys dressed in black, armed, driving 4x4 trucks and all terrain vehicles showed up all over the place. They took command of the search and the investigation.

They didn't speak to us and one day one of them asked me to forget the whole thing. That man was an Argentine and his words were engraved in my memory: 'Get lost, Galvano, things are quite heavy-handed,' he warned me. After that I started to get nightly phone calls but no one spoke. The pressure was such that I accepted the advice of the mysterious fellow countryman who was part of the 'men in black' group and for a time I went to Joaquin V. Gonzalez. Today, the only thing I know is that they found nothing because up to two years ago they could still be seen around, although at a minimum."

In spite of the time passed, the pilot from Joaquin V. Gonzalez does not want to abandon his adventure and he is confident that this year, together with his friends, he will unravel the mystery of that strange day that changed his life.





# Man Bat tale tops 2006 for weirdness

## RANDOM ERUPTIONS



By RANDY ERICKSON

As we start another year, I know there are at least a few among us who will look back at 2006 and say, "Whoa, what a weird year that was!" In fact, 2006 might be the year that puts the Coulee Region on the map ... for weirdness.

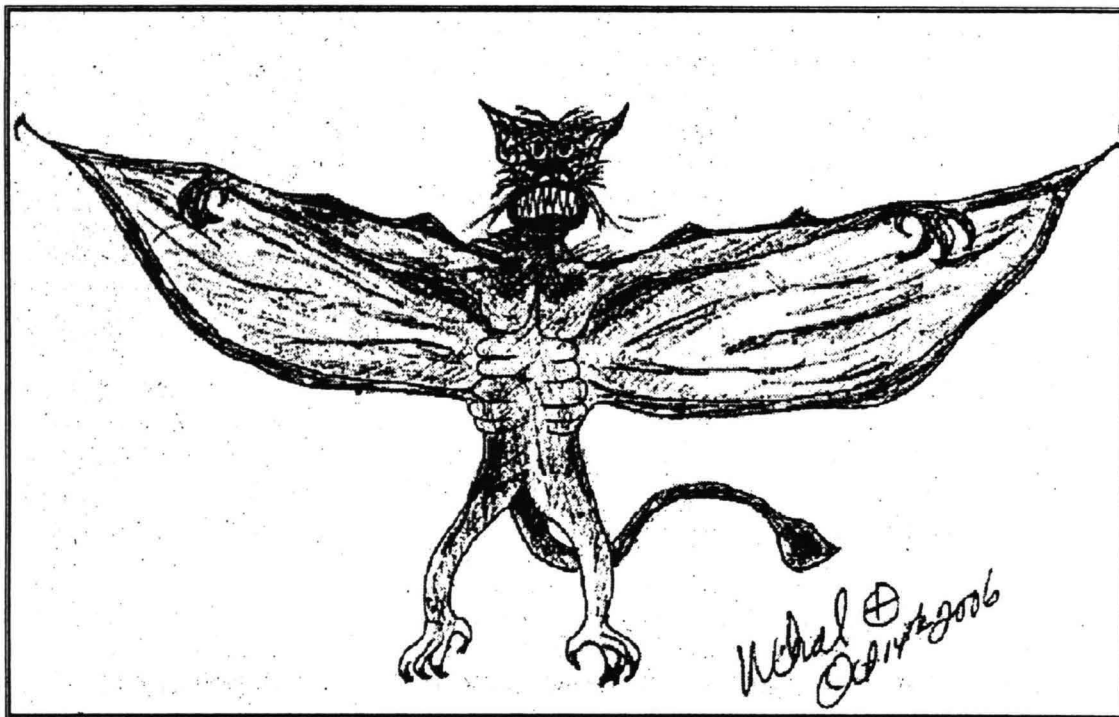
By far the weirdest news of the year was something we haven't reported on ... UNTIL NOW! Now it can be told, the strange, bizarre and kinda spooky story of the Beast of Briggs Road, the Man Bat.

I have to admit that this won't be news to some of our readers, especially those tapped into weird news sources. The encounter on Holmen's Briggs Road between two area residents and a creature that combined features of a human and a bat was first reported in mid-October on a Web site published by author Linda Godfrey — [www.cnb-scene.com](http://www.cnb-scene.com).

Godfrey got her start writing about weirdness back in 1992, after the New Year's Eve 1991 sighting outside Elkhorn, Wis., of a strange man-dog/wolf creature, something akin to a werewolf. Godfrey, a part-time reporter at the local newspaper, had drawing skills in addition to her writing chops. Being a slow news week because of the holiday, she latched onto the story and gave it a big splash in the paper: THE BEAST OF BRAY ROAD.

"We thought people would just get a chuckle and it'd go away after a few weeks," Godfrey said.

It didn't go away, though. That was the start of something big for Godfrey, who soon was getting calls from other people who had seen similar beasts. Now that she's got several books out on cryptozoological phenomena and general weirdness,



A La Crosse man drew this picture a few weeks after his encounter in Holmen with a creature with features of a man and a bat — the Man Bat of Briggs Road.

■ **ON THE WEB:** Check out the online version of this story at [www.couleenews.com](http://www.couleenews.com) for links to Linda Godfrey's account of the Beast of Briggs Road.

plus Web sites devoted to those things, she's gotten the reputation as the person to go to with strange tales.

And that's just what those two area men did after their Sept. 26 encounter on Briggs Road. Maybe they would have come to me first if they'd known I'd investigated a report of a ghostly cat-headed snake demon during my tenure at the La Crosse Tribune.

But they didn't, so their tale comes courtesy of the interviews and on-site investigation Godfrey did several weeks after the sighting. (Godfrey said she would contact one of the witnesses and ask him to contact me, but there has been no word so far.)

According to Godfrey's account, a 53-year-old La Crosse man and his 25-year-old son were driving on Briggs Road in Holmen at about 9:30 p.m. on that Tuesday. Suddenly, a creature that resembled the demonic vampire out of "Bram Stoker's Dracula" or "Van Helsing" flew right at their windshield, flying straight up into the night sky just inches from striking the glass.

In a written description, the

older man — who would only give Godfrey his Cherokee name, Wohali — said the creature had leathery wings like a bat, only these wings stretched 10 to 12 feet from tip to tip.

The creature had pronounced ribs, human-like legs with claws for toes and arm-like appendages tipped with claws. The creature's eyes glowed yellow, and the face had a snarling expression, with rows of sharp teeth.

To Wohali, the creature seemed hungry. It also seemed angry to have been seen and gave an unearthly howl as it flew out of sight.

Both Wohali and his son became violently sick to their stomach, and Wohali remained ill for a week after the encounter. The son was so shaken up by the incident that he would not talk to Godfrey about it, she said, but Wohali was willing to relive the experience for Godfrey because he wanted people to "know what is out there."

Godfrey isn't so sure exactly "what is out there" on Briggs Road, but she hopes that news of the sighting will inspire others to come forward if they have seen a strange creature in the

area.

"You can speculate until the cows come home — or until the werewolves come home — and you don't know," Godfrey said. "I don't know and don't claim to know what these creatures are."

Wohali's account and his sincerity convinced Godfrey that he had a "credible sighting" of something she has not heard described before.

"He certainly has nothing to gain by making it up" — or talking about it, she said. "He believes the more he talks about it, the more power it gives the creature."

One thing's for sure: Godfrey plans to include the Briggs Road episode in "Strange Wisconsin," one of several books she has in the works. She expects the book to be out by next fall.

Although she can't explain the weird experiences people around the state have reported, Godfrey said she feels it is important that somebody record those experiences. The Man Bat of Briggs Road ranks right up there as far as notable weird experiences.

"I do think this sighting that Wohali had is an extremely interesting and exciting sighting," Godfrey said. "I do think it should have some serious consideration given to it."

# Poltergeist hunter says paranormal is quite normal

By Bella English  
The Boston Globe

WOONSOCKET, R.I. — Paul Eno looks more like a professor than a ghostbuster: beard, spectacles, navy blazer, blue shirt, overstuffed bookshelves in his office. His philosophy of life is to "love God, love my children and love my wife."

But over 35 years as a paranormal investigator, Eno, 53, says he has chased away hundreds of pesky poltergeists and grumpy ghosts. He claims to have witnessed levitations and apparitions, and says he was once injured when a self-hurling television set nicked him in the leg.



Paul Eno

Here's how he described the scene at that house in Bridgeport, Conn.: "A mirror in Marcy's room fell, and the kitchen table turned over twice. ... The drapes in the living room kept falling to the floor, and the portable television there turned around every few minutes. At one point, Marcy was sitting in the kitchen and her chair began to rise" off the floor.

Many times, he has brushed up against the "psychic cold" of an otherworldly presence. He has photographed faces and figures that he believes have no earthly explanation.

Many of these stories and photos appear in the five books he has written on the subject, including his new memoir: "Turning Home: God, Ghosts and Human Destiny." He writes: "I was to be injured by poltergeists, insulted and taunted by nonhuman voices, stalked by 'spirit orbs' and touched by presences that I can only describe as angelic or even divine."

## 'Village of Voices'

Eno's offbeat calling had its roots in 1971, when he was studying at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, Conn. He and five other teenagers began to investigate an alleged haunting at the infamous "Village of Voices" in Bara Hack, an abandoned hamlet in northeast Connecticut. During four visits over two years, he says, they witnessed apparitions, teleportation — objects moving by themselves — and photographic and auditory "anomalies."

Eno earned a philosophy degree from Wadhams Hall Seminary College in Ogdensburg, N.Y., and studied philosophy and psychology at Trinity College in Hartford, where he became fascinated with quantum physics.

In his latest book published by his own company, New River Press, he writes that the paranormal is in fact normal: ghosts, poltergeists and other spirits, extrasensory perception, UFOs and "close encounters," "unknown or unexplained animals," clairvoyance, displacements or slips in time and space and "appearing or disappearing people, places or things for which there's no explanation."

In other words, what you might encounter in a Stephen King novel or a Steven Spielberg film.

Instead of the universe, Eno believes in the "multiverse": parallel worlds existing simultaneously. In his multiverse, people who are dead in our world are alive in other worlds, and there are worlds in which we are currently dead. Those worlds, he believes, overlap like bubbles in a diagram, and in that overlap, the inhabitants of each world can interact if the circumstances are right.

Needless to say, there are doubters. Michael Shermer, publisher of the California-based Skeptic Magazine and director of the Skeptic Society, has studied many paranormal

claims. "They're telling ghost stories and urban legends, which we've always liked," he says. "All they have are anecdotes and stories that are unconfirmed."

But what of Eno's reliance on quantum physics, the power of electromagnetic fields that he says attracts alien entities? What of his gaussmeter that he says spikes in the presence of the otherworldly?

Shermer isn't impressed. "When they go into a haunted house, they bring their electronic equipment and say, 'Ooh, look, we've got this spike here.' But what's the baseline on the building? All kinds of things can give anomalous electrical readings. You can't just turn around and say there's a ghost here."

But Eno says he takes a scientific approach, at times using parapsychologists, a psychiatric social worker, clergymen, a soil engineer, electrical engineer, medical doctor, an expert in death and dying and photography analyst. (Is that a ghost or just a double exposure?)

Some cases can get complicated, such as the family in Burrillville, R.I. In 1998, after a friend of theirs heard Eno lecture, they called him. Their house, they said, was haunted by apparitions who would also talk, mimicking the mother's voice. Kitchen cabinets would open and close on their own. There were unexplained footsteps and pounding sounds.

With his gaussmeter, Eno picked up a powerful electromagnetic field in the back yard, then saw the ghost. "It was tall, glowing and shimmering. ... There was only a thin, whitish blankness where a face ought to have been," he writes in "Footsteps in the Attic." Other times, a spirit resembling a little girl haunted the family. Using religious icons and holy water, Eno blessed each room in the house, and things quieted down.

"His work is outstanding," says Steven Hanley, 53, who lives in the house. "For a while there, the presence was running rampant, but things have calmed down now. Paul said to think of the house as an electromagnetic force field, with God surrounding it, and that should help out, and it did. My wife feels it every now and then, but I don't." He adds: "I never would have believed in ghosts before."

Eno believes that negative energy attracts "parasites." So why aren't more people plagued by poltergeists? "You can have a lot of stress at home, but if the electromagnetic field isn't right, they can't get in there," he says. Conversely, positive vibes — love, faith, humor — seem to "cut off the food supply to these things."

Eno doesn't place much faith in mediums: "If it's pretending to be Grandpa Pete, half the time it's a parasite looking for something to eat," he says, referring to negative energy. But sometimes, he says, it really is Grandpa saying hello from the beyond.

## No Ouija boards

People should beware of Ouija boards, which Eno says attract dangerous spirits. "You're ringing the dinner bell, for goodness' sake!" he says. The one time he used a board, in the 7th grade, it told his friend he was going to die in 1985. He did, in a scuba diving accident, Eno says. ("According to the stupid board, I still have a long way to go.")

A fellow of the American Society for Psychical Research, Eno speaks on the paranormal several times a month, most recently in Ireland. On his Web site, he refers to himself as "one of the world's most experienced paranormal investigators."

DAILY SUN, Conway, NH - Nov. 24, 2006

# Myth versus reality of Sasquatch in the Ossipee Range



Hiking  
Ed Parsons

My friend Peter Samuelson, 65, of Fryeburg, has been prospecting in these mountains for more than 40 years. Back in the late 1960s, when I was being introduced to the area by working summers up at the AMC, he was already prospecting far and wide in the mountains, carrying heavy packs of supplies in, and heavy packs of stones out.

His many stories about the mountains — a few of which I have taken part in — have been part of my own mythology of the White Mountains. Recently, with my interest in helping to save the Ossipee Range from the burden of a private racetrack on its fragile slopes, he approached me to remind me of his Sasquatch story in the Ossipees, and lightheartedly suggested I write a third column on the Ossipee Range, which might include his story.

At first I found the idea amusing and certainly possible. But, then I realized he had honestly told me the story of what he and his friend Holly saw that day in the mountains — there is no reason to think otherwise — and an interpretation of the events should be left up to the reader. Even Samuelson himself isn't sure at all what actually happened.

A story about the myth versus reality of the Sasquatch certainly emphasizes the wildness of the Ossipee Range, a place that should be preserved for future generations instead of irresponsibly exploited in the name of a temporary addiction to oil.

It was mid-summer, 1979. Samuelson, his dog named Kat, and his girlfriend Holly Swaffield, then of Wolfeboro, were out prospecting in the Ossipee Range.

"We drove in the Gilman Valley Road, parked at the gate and continued up the old road past the Tamworth/Ossipee town line," he said. "Then we cut into the woods on the right and headed west up Bald Mountain."

The ledgey Bald Mountain is taller than Mount Whittier and is located just south of it. From its open ledges, you can look directly below to Connor Pond, located in the center of the range.

"We bushwhacked in two miles, up to the ledges on Bald," Samuelson said. "The area contains a lot of Conway granite and we were looking for contact zones, edges where two types of rock meet. Along these zones, it is possible to dig for pockets of beryls or topaz crystals."

As the trees opened up before them, and Connor Pond became visible far below to their left, they saw a strange

sight about 100 yards ahead on the ledges.

"It was a small structure, yet made of big stones, stacked on each other," he said. "The roof was flat and made of thatched hemlock bows. There was an opening, like a rustic doorway. We saw a giant man-like creature inside, about seven feet high, and back to us. It was totally covered with tangled gray hair about three inches long."

In the same instant that this all became visible to them, Kat began growling intensely and the creature started to make loud noises indicating it was upset.

"I can't describe the noise," said Samuelson. "Anyway, Holly freaked and we all felt threatened. We high-tailed it out of there immediately, in the direction we had come. Only later, part way down the mountain, did we pause and ask ourselves, 'What did we see?'"

They had both carried cameras, but in the urgency to leave never thought to take a picture.

Over the next few days, they told various acquaintances of their experience. Asked how these people reacted, Samuelson said with a smile, "You know how."

A few months later, Holly excitedly called him and said she had been to the Wolfeboro Library and found a fascinating story. During a midwinter thaw in the 1890s, a person in a cabin on the shore of Connor Pond, located in the center of the Ossipee Range, saw an alarming thing. A dog had wandered out on the thawing pond. It fell through the ice and was floundering vainly for a long time to get out. Suddenly a large hairy human-like creature came out of the woods from the direction of Bald Mountain, reached out long arms and rescued the dog, then immediately disappeared back in the woods from the direction it first appeared.

That old story added a little continuity to their own experience, no matter how unbelievable. Still, it took Samuelson a year to get his courage and curiosity up enough to return alone to the site of their mysterious and alarming encounter on Bald Mountain. Holly wouldn't go with him. As he walked out onto the ledges, he was struck again; this time because there was absolutely no sign of the structure they had seen the year before. He picked over the area thoroughly, looking for the slightest dent in the ledges where the big stones might have rested, stones that would normally take two or three people to move.

There was nothing.

Columnist Ed Parsons can be contacted at [mtsandrivers@yahoo.com](mailto:mtsandrivers@yahoo.com).

# Science Takes the Fiction Out of the Invisibility Cloak

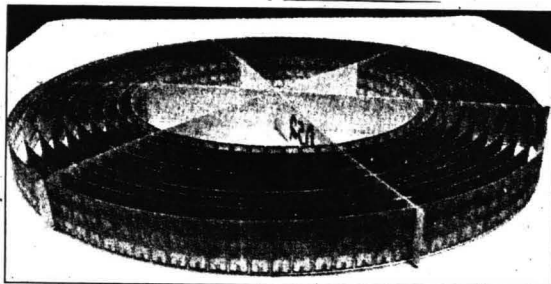
By THOMAS H. MAUGH II  
Times Staff Writer

Taking a page from movies and comic books, researchers at Duke University have developed what they call an "invisibility cloak," a rudimentary device that hides objects by bending electromagnetic waves so that they flow around the object like water around a rock.

Because none of the waves are reflected back at the observer, the object seems invisible.

Their device, reported today in the online version of the journal Science, works only with microwave radiation — not visible light waves — and only in two dimensions. And it does not yet provide complete invisibility; it produces a small shadow that can be detected.

But it represents a proof of principle for a theory first pub-



Duke University

**NOW YOU SEE IT:** This metamaterial device deflects microwave beams to render an object inside virtually invisible.

lished only five months ago.

"It's a very good achievement," physicist Ulf Leonhardt of the University of St. Andrews in Britain told Science. "It's surprising that it's as simple as it is and that it works so well."

TIMES, Los Angeles, CA 18

Oct. 20, 2006

CR: D. Connelly/K. Larson



# Ogopogo

by Gregory Mark Schroeder

What some call the cousin of the Loch Ness Monster I saw from the shore of Okanagan Lake the summer of my sixteenth year. I was working for a carpenter named Guido, a taut plug of muscle and emotion, building a house no more than one hundred feet from the beach.

In those years, you might not see a cloud for six weeks and the temperature would climb over a hundred degrees every day. We wore cut-offs, steel-toed work boots and leather pouches that we stripped off at lunch time to run into the water and wash off the sawdust that clung to our sweat.

Okanagan Lake is deep, more than fifteen hundred feet in places, and long too, ninety miles in the shape of a ragged "S" that stretches from Vernon to Penticton, with Kelowna and the floating bridge in the middle. When they built the bridge and the divers were attaching the cables that anchored the hollow sections of concrete on top to the solid blocks of concrete that steadied it from two hundred feet below, sturgeon, sometimes eight feet long, would mingle with the men, but they were docile giants. Occasionally, when the span that lifted to let boats and barges through was raised, a car would not stop and for seven

days we would wait. Then the bodies would float to the surface. Always seven days. The lake gave up its secrets in its own time. Okanagan Lake is the home of the Ogopogo.

There is a statue of the beast at the north-east corner of city park, where Bernard Avenue bends into Abbott Street, a vertically undulating sea-serpent with turquoise curls rising and falling from a sculpted head that looks like the noggin of a Great Dane with scales overlaid and a cartoon grin parged on. That is the statue we tied Carol Rice to on graduation night and then called the police to say that someone was bound to the Ogopogo and screaming nonsense.

The real Ogopogo was not green. Nor was it a joke to people who had lived there for long. My brother-in-law's father, an old man already when my brother-in-law was conceived, was the first white child born in Kelowna, and his mother was half native. They knew about the Ogopogo.

There were pictures from time to time, never very good on account of being taken from so far away as to be grainy, or from so close as to cause the photographer to shake. Still, every summer or two the Daily Courier would print a picture with an editor's circle around the relevant smudge.

Once, while water-skiing with the Hansen boys, we found an inner tube in the middle of the lake, halfway to Rattlesnake

Island, with a flag on top and a rope beneath. It wasn't one of those diver's flags so we started pulling on the rope and kept pulling and pulling until after three hundred feet of braided yellow line we pulled up a treble hook a foot long with a whole chicken skewered on its tines. I guess someone thought Ogopogo would not only find the needle in a haystack but would impale itself on the proverbial point for the flavour of a bone-in chicken. I have never heard of anyone who has searched for the Ogopogo and found it. Its discovery has only ever been inadvertent.

Guido and I were working on the sub-floor of the house on the shore and there were no walls up yet, no clouds nor wind, and not a ripple in the lake. Guido saw it first. Three black humps gliding through the water, each about six feet long with six feet between the end of one hump and the beginning of the next. The distance between them did not change, even when, after one hundred yards of moving in one direction, the humps turned and went the opposite way. Each wake folded into the one before it with a precision that seemed unlikely of three sturgeons in a synchronized pod. After swimming half as far back as it had come from the first point, the creature thrashed — and disappeared.

Whenever I tell this story I get a certain look from the listener. People tilt their heads back, as if to indicate the increasing

distance between their minds and the words coming from my mouth. Their eyebrows go up while their eyelids go slightly down, and their jaw drops just enough to relinquish the "uh-huh" that comes with acknowledgment but without acceptance.

It is the same response that an alcoholic gets from a person who has never touched a bottle or that someone struggling with emotional illness gets from one who has never known a moment's depression. But in these cases we are often told just what to do, what they would do. But we are not them, and they are not us. We know something others can not.

We all have an Ogopogo.

Greg Schroeder has inspired audiences totaling over 300,000 on five continents with stories that help people find their place, and the way ahead in life. Greg was raised in the Okanagan Valley and his encounters with people ranging from cab drivers in Bombay to the widows of Rwanda have distilled themselves into stories of intensity and compassion. Greg has been interviewed for radio and television and has written and co-produced a show for CBC Radio. After two decades of caring for people as a minister, Greg now devotes his time to writing and his business, Integro Insights, which helps people bring together the strands of life through personal coaching, consulting and conferences. Greg has three great, grown children, rides a Honda VFR 750 and plays the violin. n

STATESMAN [Utah State Univ.], Logan, UT - Dec. 8, 2006

## Monsterologist speaks of Bear Lake Monster

*Will Bagley warns people to be on the lookout for world-wide phenomenon he believes is still 'alive and lurking'*

By SHANNON McCLEVE  
Staff Writer

Will Bagley, a self-proclaimed monsterologist, presented evidence of the Bear Lake Monster Wednesday night at the Logan City Justice Building.

Bagley is the editor of the series "Kingdom in the West" and other historical novels. He is currently working on a multi-volume history of the Oregon and California Trail, titled "The Long and Perilous Journey."

"This is a subject that, of course, invites speculation and ridicule. The histories of the Bear Lake Monster should be taken into serious consideration," Bagley said. "This is a world-wide phenomenon."

He said there has been much physical evidence of the monster. There was a skull found, he said, with a single horn sticking out the top. He said even though there have been many accounts of Bear Lake Monster sightings, there isn't a detailed description of it.

There have been many

attempts to capture the monster, he said, noting one man even built a contraption with steel wire and baited the monster with sheep meat. The meat was always gone, but no one ever captured the monster, he said.

"The reason the monster hasn't been captured is because we are dealing with a exceptionally intelligent creature," Bagley said.

The anthropological evidence is shown by the American Indians, he said. They gave accounts of people being eaten by the monster while in the lake. He said they were chased out of the lake by the monster on multiple occasions.

After the first few stories came out about the monster, people from all over Utah came out with their sides of the Bear Lake Monster stories, Bagley said.

"This was a topic generated all around Utah," he said. "A number of prominent Utah officials in the early days either saw the monster themselves or truly believed in the monster's existence."

During the year without a summer, after Krakatoa erupted, he

said people were reporting seeing lake creatures everywhere. They were reporting the monsters as more than 300 feet long, he said.

Even though he didn't give an account of himself ever seeing the monster, he said he is still a big believer.

"I am proud to be Utah's biggest advocate for the Bear Lake Monster," he said.

Bagley's last words to the listeners were, "Be on the lookout for the Bear Lake Monster, because it is still alive and lurking."

-shanmcl@cc.usu.edu



Tyler Larson/tmlarson@cc.usu.edu

SELF-PROCLAIMED monsterologist spoke Thursday at the Logan City Justice Building about his belief in the Bear Lake Monster. He said there has been physical evidence found proving the monster's existence.

HERALD, Calgary, Alberta, Canada - Dec. 15, 2006 CR: W. Benedict

## Saskatchewan woman claims she saw sasquatch

CANWEST NEWS SERVICE  
SASKATOON

A woman from northern Saskatchewan claims she saw a sasquatch that left behind evidence of its existence described by an expert as "the find of the century."

Shaylane Beatty, 20, thought she saw a bear by the side of the road on her drive from Deschambault Lake to Prince Albert, Sask. But as she drove closer, she says she saw the animal was walking on two legs.

"I've heard the stories before and I didn't believe them. Then I saw the sasquatch," Beatty said.

About 2 1/2 metres tall, muscular with long, floppy arms attached to broad shoulders and covered in dark brown hair, Beatty said the creature isn't like anything she's seen before.

Returning to the area the next day, Beatty and her two uncles found nearly a hundred footprints measuring 50 centimetres in length in the deep snow, she said.

"My uncles were struggling to walk

through the same snow the sasquatch just breezed through," Beatty said.

Tom Biscardi, a sasquatch researcher for 33 years, says Beatty definitely saw some sort of primate.

The footprints are impressive evidence of the creature's northern wanderings, he added.

Beatty's uncles sent Biscardi a hair sample for analysis.

Jeff Meldrum, a professor of anatomy at Idaho State University and author of Sasquatch: Legend Meets Science, said three sasquatch sightings have been recorded in Saskatchewan.

"As long as there's forest cover and an area is sparsely populated, there is space to harbour any number of creatures," Meldrum said.

# Town gets Snippy about skeleton of mutilated horse

**RICH TOSCHES**  
*Rocky Mountain Ranger*

## Alamosa

She stands quietly at the back of an empty room inside Dell's Insurance Agency just off the main street. She is little more than bones and big shiny teeth. And she is at the center of a controversy involving an eBay auction, lawyers and ownership rights.

Here you might ask the obvious question: What the heck is Nicole Richie doing in a vacant room in an insurance office in a small Colorado potato town?

The bones, of course, are not those of the cracker-nibbling Hollywood actress. They are the bones of Snippy, a horse that — depending on who you talk to — was A) ravaged by creepy aliens from a UFO in a bizarre animal mutilation experiment 39 years ago or B) shot in the behind by a couple of gun-toting teenagers who were all liquored up.

Another possibility involves aliens beaming themselves across the galaxy in some type of molecular reconstruction vehicle, landing on Harry King's ranch just north of town, shooting Snippy in the buttocks with a rifle and then vanishing back into the stars, although frankly that scenario seems a little far-fetched.

Snippy, a 3-year-old Appaloosa, died in a meadow in the middle of the night early in September 1967. Some people said there was no blood around the carcass. Sheriff's investigators and veterinarians studied the case and determined positively, without question, that Snippy was dead all right.

They didn't agree on anything else.

But the alien mutilation theory hung around like Leonard Nimoy at a Star Trek convention. Alamosa veterinarian Wallace Leary was so intrigued by the idea that extraterrestrials had whacked the horse that in 1968 he had Snippy's skeleton mounted on a metal platform, her

bones held together by wires and screws.

In that condition, Snippy traveled around the San Luis Valley town. She spent a few years on the sidewalk in front of the Chamber of Commerce. She was in a museum for a while. She ended up in an abandoned house on Carl Heflin's ranch for as long as two decades.

No one seems to know how Heflin obtained the horse bones. They do know he liked to collect things. He had, for example, two railroad cars resting on his property. One was filled with fiberglass shower stalls. The other boxcar was stuffed full of doors.

But Heflin died in 2003. He left the shower stalls, the vast collection of doors and Snippy to a beneficiary, reportedly a nephew. A few months ago Snippy was dusted off. Heflin heirs wondered what the skeleton might be worth. Someone mentioned eBay, the Internet auction site that makes it possible, perhaps, to purchase a chunk of Babe Ruth's earwax.

Frank Duran, a marketing specialist with Dell's Insurance, was hired to sell the skeleton. The minimum bid would be \$50,000.

Huh?

"Snippy was the very first horse thought to be involved in alien mutilations," Duran said as he led a reporter through the insurance office and into the room where Snippy stood on her platform. "Maybe she was abducted by aliens. Maybe she was the first."

Then Duran moved to the horse's rump and pointed out a pair of indentations and fragmented bones.

"A vet said those are bullet wounds," Duran said. "The sheriff thought maybe a couple of local kids did it. Who knows, really. A lot of people still believe the UFO story."

What does Duran think? Well, he thinks a horse that died during freaky medical experimentation by aliens from a universe far, far away is worth a lot more on eBay than a horse that was shot in the rump. The auction

was set to begin last week. The Valley Courier newspaper in Alamosa made the announcement.

Suddenly, a lot of people began laying claim to Snippy. Relatives of the late Nellie Lewis, the woman who owned the living Snippy, said they still owned the skeleton. And the Alamosa Chamber of Commerce hired an attorney and argued the bones were given to the chamber decades ago.

On Friday, Chamber of Commerce president Debora Goodman started a Save Snippy fund. "I'm going to put up a fight to get Snippy," she said. "She's an icon to this valley. It's important that she stay here and represent that mysterious period in our history."

Sylvia Lobato writes for the Valley Courier. Her mother was Nellie Lewis' best friend.

"I remember the day in '67 when Nellie called our house," Lobato said. "My mother got off the phone and said, 'Flying saucers killed Nellie's horse.'"

Lobato, her mother and others rushed out to the ranch.

"From the neck up that horse was peeled. It was just pure white bones," she said. "The horse had only been dead for a night but it looked like it had been dead for months."

"Nellie was there with us and she found a piece of metal next to the horse. It was covered in horse hair. When she picked it up it burned her hand and she screamed and dropped it. Her hand was badly burned. I was there. I saw it."

Down the street at the insurance office, Frank Duran said he hoped the legal dust would settle so he could get on with the eBay auction. In the big room that will soon be home to the accounting department, he glanced at the reassembled bones of the Appaloosa.

"It's pretty weird," he said. "They say Snippy's tracks ended 100 feet from where her body was found."

And he smiled.

Staff writer Rich Tosches writes each Wednesday and Sunday. He can be reached at [rtosches@denverpost.com](mailto:rtosches@denverpost.com).

