

UFO

NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

March 2007
Number 452

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

TRIBUNE, Chicago, IL - Jan. 7, 2007

THEY'RE HERE!

(Or so we'd like to think.)

A purported UFO sighting at O'Hare gives flight to hopes that we're not alone

By Jon Hilkevitch

It's rare for a newspaper story to emerge from the vast and dark unknown and hit at a primal level, tapping into the fact that many of us feel so alone

and confused about why we exist, and giving us a chance to hope, to dream.

Admittedly, those big thoughts were not on my mind when the director of a UFO-watching group first called to

offer an exclusive Chicago angle on what might be the biggest story of all humankind—a visit by an alien spaceship.

No, ET had not phoned home. But, said Peter Davenport of the National UFO Reporting Center, this was "an excellent, stunning case involving a gen-

uine UFO from some other part of our galaxy or our universe."

We've all read similar reports—and then put them back on the shelf—while waiting in the supermarket checkout line. I recall one tabloid front page announcing that aliens had abducted Newt Gingrich.

Not surprisingly, they gave Newt back.

Covering UFOs seemed to be stretching the definition of my job, transportation reporting. I looked at the clock on the newsroom wall and decided to give Mr. Davenport two minutes. But he was onto something.

The UFO story, published Monday, became the most-read piece to appear on chicagotri-

Jon Hilkevitch is the Tribune's transportation reporter.

bune.com. It was the top story on the Tribune Web site for four straight days, garnering more than 1 million page views from people around the world.

The reaction is proof that we live in a curious world. Maybe a curious universe too.

It turns conventional notions about what people want to read and hear about on their head. And it lays bare the reality that huge numbers of people explicitly mistrust the government, the military establishment and the aerospace industry when it comes to UFO sightings and research.

In our first of many phone conversations, Davenport assured me that highly credible individuals spotted a flying saucerlike object Nov. 7, and that it hovered over a major site on my Tribune beat: O'Hare International Airport.

So I interviewed the witnesses and tracked down some additional observers—pilots, ramp workers, mechanics and management officials at United Airlines.

They were all dead serious about what they saw, and the accounts—whether made from the tarmac or from 25 feet up in the cockpit of a Boeing 777—were consistent.

The unidentified aerial phenomenon was dark gray and shaped like a disc, it hovered in a fixed position above Concourse C of the United Airlines terminal, and it vanished with a burst of energy that cut a hole in the overcast skies.

The fact that officials at United Airlines and the Federal Aviation Administration initially denied any knowledge of the incident—despite evidence I had that they were well aware of it—made the story even more appealing.

Little did any of us know.

News organizations from a low-watt radio station in Delaware to a TV station in Australia phoned me to request interviews. Jay Leno cracked jokes on the "Tonight Show" about inebriated workers at O'Hare.

Ufologists contacted me in droves with thanks for treating the subject in a serious manner and congratulated the Tribune, as a leading member of the mainstream media, for publishing a story about an extra-terrestrial sighting.

The reaction is perplexing and somewhat discouraging. But clearly it speaks to the persistent fascination with the possibility that we're not alone in the universe, and there are mysteries of our existence still to be unraveled.

Dominique Callimanopulos understands why the UFO story is so seductive.

"When I was doing UFO research, I found that the sightings hit most people in a very child-wonder place," Callimanopulos said. She assisted the late Dr. John Mack, who became infamous at Harvard Medical School for researching UFO and alien encounters.

"People think this visit will be some sort of answer or sal-

vation, that beings from another world will be able to help us solve the mess we've made on this planet," said Callimanopulos, a board member of the John E. Mack Institute, found-

'If we were to find our cosmic friends, we would have a real family, finally.'

—Dominique Callimanopulos, a board member of the John E. Mack Institute

ed in honor of the Pulitzer Prize-winning physician.

"Everyone at some deep level does wonder why we are here. That is why there are so many religions in the world and conflicting belief systems," she said. "If we were to find our cosmic friends, we would have a real family, finally."

It would be nice if physical evidence existed to substantiate the claims made at O'Hare on Nov. 7. Airport surveillance cameras are trained on the airfield, not the heavens, and FAA radar has so far turned up nothing unusual.

How is it that someone smuggled a camera cell phone into a Baghdad execution chamber to chronicle the hanging of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein last month, but no one among the thousands of airport workers and travelers at O'Hare snapped a picture for

the cosmic family photo album?

The answer, along with an explanation about how the universe works, remains a mystery. We earthlings possess inquisitive minds, but we are, after all, only human.

jhilkevitch@tribune.com

DAILY NEWS-MINER, Fairbanks, AK - Nov. 22, 2006

UFO sighting

Nov. 16, 2006

To the editor:

On around Jan. 13, 2005, a large Unidentified Flying Object was seen hovering above the Fairbanks area for about 45 minutes between 8-9 p.m. So far we know two people witnessed the object.

A small team of volunteers researchers have begun to study and evaluate the object. The data we have collected so far, however, is not enough to determine its relative size as well as other pertinent information.

We invite others who have observed this object to assist us in our endeavor. You may contact us at 456-3805 or 322-0514.

Klinton Chace
Researcher
Fairbanks

UFOs? Who knows, but keep an eye to the skies

BY JAMIE SOTONOFF
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Are they watching us?

The UFO, or whatever it was, spotted at O'Hare International Airport Nov. 7 was just one of a dozen reported UFO sightings in the Chicago area during the past three months.

It was also part of a growing number of sightings by multiple witnesses in the Chicago area in the past few years, says Dr. Mark Rodeghier, scientific director of the Chicago-based Center for UFO Studies.

Alien spacecraft, some would have us believe, aren't only monitoring our big airport. They're scouting out Route 53, Wrigley Field and backyards from St. Charles to Wheeling.

Rodeghier can't explain why there's been an increase in UFO sightings here.

"It's not anything related to human behavior," he said. "It's not 'The X Files' thing. It's not the media. People aren't looking at the sky any differently. It's something else, but we don't know what that is."

The 1990s saw a drop-off in

reports locally, but the numbers surged again around the time of a "significant" sighting in Tinley Park in 2004 — when hundreds of people reported seeing a triangle with lights, Rodeghier said. It was even captured on video.

In November, a group of United Airlines employees, including some pilots, reported seeing a dark gray Frisbee-shaped thing hovering in the sky.

The FAA dismisses the idea, saying no one in the control tower saw anything, and nothing showed up on radar.

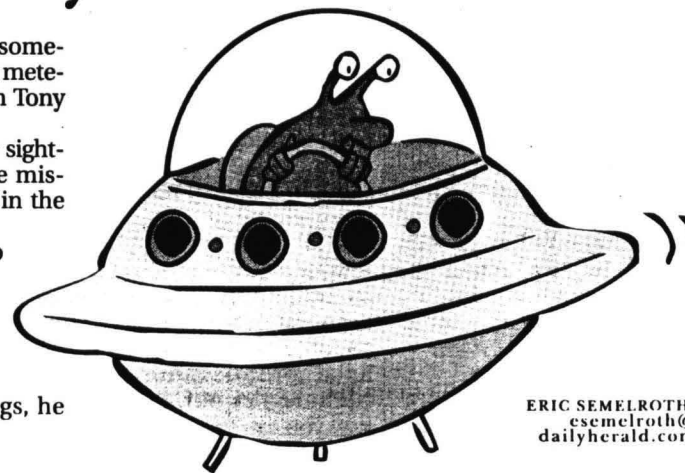
"Our guess is it was some type

of weather anomaly and someone should be talking to a meteorologist," FAA spokesman Tony Molinaro said.

Rodeghier admits many sightings end up being people misperceiving what they see in the sky.

"A single witness who sees a light at night can be many, many things," he says.

But there continue to be plenty of credible, unexplained sightings, he



Good morning

Internet needs less Saddam and Britney, more UFOs

Saddam Hussein can't drop dead without a cell phone camera recording his demise and a post-mortem sequel for distribution on the Internet.

Britney Spears can't totter through one night as a trollolp without photographic evidence popping up the Internet.

YouTube.com has video of a costumed Tigger appearing to punch a teen in the face at Walt Disney World.

Little kids can't drink from hoses, fat people can't sit in spindly chairs, old ladies can't get off poorly docked boats, and dads holding pinatas can't get hit in the crotch without cameras capturing the hilarity for TV's "America's Funniest Home Videos."

You can't even go to work without a camera recording you filling up with gas, buying coffee, running a yellow light, zipping through a toll booth or entering your office.

But search the Internet for a



Burt Constable

clip of the UFO reported hovering Nov. 7 above O'Hare International Airport, and you come up empty.

The story, reported Jan. 1 by Jon Hilkevitch of the

Chicago Tribune and appearing in international media outlets from CNN to late-night comics, said about a dozen people reported seeing "a flying saucer-like 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."

And yet, not a single O'Hare UFO image from a cell phone, security monitor, TV crew or camera-toting tourist has appeared to the masses.

"Yup, it's frustrating," says

Mary Kerfoot, a longtime UFO activist from Schaumburg, who wishes we all could see the otherworldly crafts and beings that she says she has seen. "Security cameras must not be pointing at the sky."

Scour popular UFO Web sites such as mufon.com, paradigm-researchgroup.org or nuforc.org and prepare to be less than dazzled. Bright lights, shaky video and fast-moving specks in the sky just don't impress a generation accustomed to the movie UFOs of "War of the Worlds," "Independence Day" or even the 30-year-old footage from "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

"You'd think it would be easy. Just reach up and take a picture," says Sam Maranto, a financial planner from Orland Park who is director of the Illinois Mutual UFO Network.

But it generally doesn't work out that way.

"I think most people are so

mesmerized, they don't want to take their eyes off it for one second," says Maranto, who includes himself in that number. "Anything that is genuine is emitting a frequency, and it looks more like a distortion. So you are never going to get a perfect picture. If you have one that is a perfect picture, you have to wonder if it is a hoax."

Besides, Maranto argues, Americans believe in plenty of things — from the existence of angels to the likelihood of a 2007 Cubs World Series — with far less physical evidence.

Kerfoot's son, Bob, says he was a "total skeptic" when he was "freaked out" by a strange, dark, diamond-like shape hovering in the sky Aug. 12 and zooming up and down above Woodfield Shopping Center in Schaumburg. A computer scientist, he isn't ready to conclude it was a UFO, a military craft or strange

atmospheric reflection. But he promises that if he ever sees something like that again, "I'll take a picture."

One definitive picture of something out of this world would make a world of difference to a cynical public.

"I'm not in the mood to take criticism," growls Peter B. Davenport, director of the National UFO Reporting Center in the state of Washington.

A month after he posted the O'Hare sighting on his Web site (www.nuforc.org), an exasperated Davenport finally tipped off the Tribune's Hilkevitch, who says it took him a while to win the confidence of witnesses, find additional sources and get the goods for his story.

"It's frustrating for me, too," says Davenport, who doesn't have the resources or power of the mainstream media. "I can do nothing about your disappointment. Give us a budget, give us a staff. Tell the govern-

ment to open their records."

Davenport says photos of the O'Hare event do exist, and (along with all the other UFO work he does every day), he's trying to get them made public.

The National UFO Reporting Center has data, "which I, and many others, consider to be very powerful evidence regarding that phenomenon," notes Davenport, who criticizes me and other reporters for not attending any of his hundreds of presentations.

"The problem is there does seem to be physical proof, but this ridicule factor is so prominent," Mary Kerfoot says. She says society won't believe in UFOs until the president of the United States actually says he has "credible evidence."

"Of course," Kerfoot says after a thoughtful reflection on the state of credibility today, "that wouldn't be the current administration."

said. Rodeghier encourages anyone who thinks he's seen a UFO to report it to his group at www.cufos.org or (773) 271-3611.

While the Chicago center's latest reports weren't available, here's a sampling of recent ones from the National UFO Reporting Center:

- West Dundee, 6:20 p.m. Dec. 2: A string of six equally spaced lights spotted less than 1,000 feet above a residential backyard.

- Chicago, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 19: A large boomerang-shaped object with faint yellow lights and a V-shape on the bottom reported near Wrigley Field.

- Palatine, 9 a.m. Nov. 9: A large black rectangle hanging in the sky in clear daylight, about one mile west of Route 53. Fades out of sight and reappears in white 45 seconds later.

- Aurora, 5 p.m. Nov. 7: Shiny silver, round object appears in the sky in a residential area.

- Chicago, 4:30 p.m. Nov. 7: A circular object hovers over the C terminal at O'Hare, leaving a hole in the clouds when it disappears.

- Wheeling, 9:20 p.m. Nov. 6: A string of orange lights seen in a residential area.

- Downers Grove, 9:15 p.m. Oct. 17: A chevron-shaped object with lights on the top and bottom floats around a residential area.

- St. Charles, 11 p.m. Oct. 5: A deep red light hovers over a rural area for 20 minutes. Something resembling sparks drops out of it. Eventually it shoots up into a heavy cloud cover area and disappears.

jsotonoff@dailyherald.com



Photo by John Bianchini
Daisy Scott-Dover points to the sky as she explains where she saw a UFO the previous evening.

Sean said that "normally" there are numerous UFO's traveling together in a triangular formation.

"We see them, well, I don't want to say we see them all the time, but it's happened before," Deanna said. "When they had that big sighting in Phoenix back in 1991, we saw the same lights here the night before. I guess it's just that no one ever calls it in or reports it here. This was pretty cool. I've never seen anything that detailed before...because it was so close."

Dover-Scott and Fredericks agreed that Leupp residents are no strangers to such events and cited similar experiences 15 and 17 years ago.

"We get so excited about these things," Fredericks said. "It was unbelievable because you hear of sightings, but when it happens to you...."

"I guess people don't talk about it because it's kind of a mystery," Deanna offered.

Drawings by Sean Dover

Witness Sean Dover explained that each time the UFO circled above Leupp, a different angle of the craft was revealed. In the sketches at left, Dover drew the various views he saw.

In the upper right drawing Dover exemplified a unique design evident on the sides of the craft.

In the lower left drawing, the underside of the craft is shown with the center circle representing the pulsating light reported by all viewers.

In the lower right drawing Dover depicted what he saw using Night Vision eyewear.

Leupp residents report another UFO sighting in nighttime sky

By Rebecca Schubert
The Observer

any noises that a helicopter or plane would have made flying that high," Sean said.

As the family viewed the events, their mother Daisy's friend and colleague Denise Fredericks, a fifth grade teacher at the Leupp Elementary School was witnessing the same things from her nearby home.

"I was coming home from my son's basketball game in Dilkon. When I came inside the house my husband said, 'Daisy just called and said there was something in the sky,' then I saw a triangular thing go overhead," Fredericks said.

Fredericks and Daisy Scott-Dover then met in the center of Leupp near the gas station and watched the events with approximately 30 other stargazers.

"There were two other planes and another aircraft that it looked like was refueling them," Fredericks said.

"It was flying straight and then it turned. It went toward Bird Springs and then turned toward Tolani Lake and then came back this way," she said.

Each of the witnesses described the object as triangular with three or four tiers. On the underside of the craft was a sphere with a pulsating light.

Fredericks and Scott-Dover said the UFO emitted a "yellowish" light and was approximately twice the size of the Leupp Elementary School gymnasium.

The UFO circled the area 15 times.

On the last turn, the craft lights went dark, then suddenly and rapidly illuminated. Finally, the UFO headed southeast toward Winslow.

According to the viewers, several other witnesses attempted to snap shots of the events. However, due to the darkness and distance from the ground, capturing the aircrafts in a photo was not possible.

Each of those interviewed said the events were unique due to the proximity of UFO to the ground, as well as the fact that it was traveling alone. However, it was not the first time they had experienced the presence of a UFO.

"It was really interesting to watch. I believe that it really was a UFO because of my family's history. I've seen [UFO'S] too many times to remember," Sean said. "Leupp is a hot spot for UFO's."

LEUPP—The possibility of life beyond earth is indubitable. So, we all wait on earth until that moment when something will attempt to make contact or visit this planet.

For residents in Leupp, the wait ended with the most recent incident of a UFO visiting the area reportedly took place at approximately 7:40 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 24.

According to Sean and Deanna Dover, they were driving home from Flagstaff toward Leupp when Deanna spotted a curious looking object above their Honda Accord.

"I saw a bright light and told my brother to watch it," Deanna, 20, said. "Then it disappeared, then reappeared. I didn't see it as much as he did, because I had to concentrate on driving."

"We were about 10 miles out of Leupp and my sister said she saw something," Sean, a senior at Sinaugua High School, said. "It had a circle around it and was about one-and-a-half miles above us. It had three lights and was a triangular shape. We kept on driving and when we reached Leupp we saw it had four lights," Sean said.

The UFO then flew over the Church of the Nazarene and the Leupp Public School, they said.

"When it reached the edge of town it went into stealth mode and had only one dim light," Sean remembered.

The pair drove through Leupp and rushed home to tell their parents what they'd experienced.

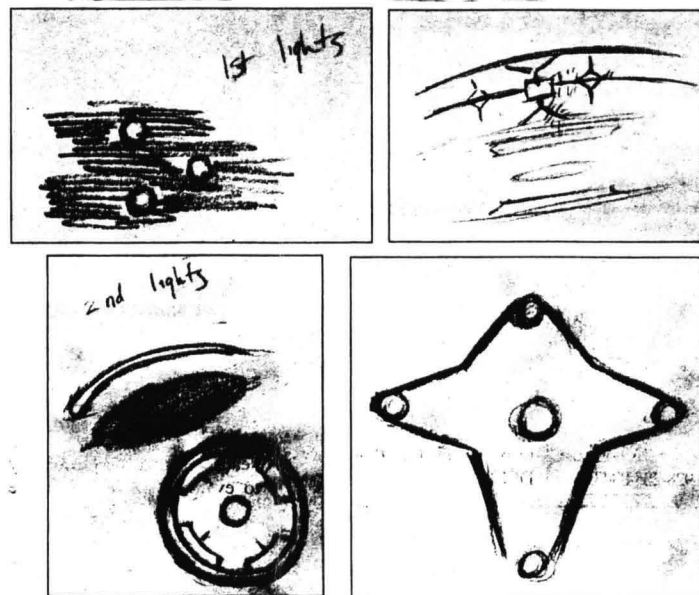
"We went inside and got my dad's Night Vision," Sean said explaining that his father is a Navajo Nation Police Ranger equipped with the special device enabling the user to see clearly in the dark.

Sean, Deanna and their parents then went outside to watch the object.

"Then two jets intercepted it in the air. They came from the southwest," Sean said. "Then it headed east. Eight minutes later it lost them and circled back to Leupp. When it got here it started blinking its lights."

Sean explained his confidence in the identification of the object as a UFO and not any other type of aircraft.

"It was traveling too fast to be an airplane and not emitting



CRUSADER, Chicago, IL - Jan. 6, 2007

EDITORIAL

ARE WE ALONE?

The subject of UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects) has been one that has perplexed, amused, and frustrated Americans for many years, and the question of whether or not we are alone has yet to be officially answered. Recently, however, on November 7, 2006, a group of airline employees at O'Hare Airport in Chicago insist that they saw a UFO. (The new term nowadays is Unidentified Aerial Phenomena). The object was first seen by a United ramp worker who was directing back a United plane at Gate C17, according to an account the worker provided to the National UFO Reporting Center in a Chicago Tribune article by Jon Hilkewich.

United officials denied any knowledge of the event, which was reported by more than a dozen United workers. Even though the Federal Aviation Administration said that its air traffic control tower did receive a call from a United supervisor asking if controllers had seen a mysterious elliptical-shaped craft sitting motionless over Concourse C of the United Terminal, they decided that the issue didn't warrant further investigation.

Witnesses to the incident are upset that their observations are being ignored by the government and airline and that what they saw is being attributed to a possible "weather phenomenon." Some witnesses were reportedly very shaken by the experience.

(continued on page 4)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver, CO - Jan. 24, 2007 CR: P. Noonan

San Luis hoping to save Snippy Funds sought to buy 'UFO victim'

By Deborah Frazier
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS

The kindness of strangers may save Snippy, the San Luis Valley mare that became the world's first reported alien animal mutilation.

Snippy's skeleton returns to

eBay on Feb. 26 at 5 p.m. with a minimum asking price of \$50,000 after a two-month reprieve that determined her ownership.

Carl Helm, Snippy's last owner, died in 2003, leaving a sizable estate that includes land, buildings, Snippy and his other collections.

"The heirs want to put her on eBay," said Frank Duran, who is marketing the skeleton. He declined to identify the heirs, who live elsewhere.

To keep Snippy in the place where she lived and died, the San Luis Valley Museum is seeking contributions for the purchase for a permanent exhibit.

In September 1967, Nellie Lewis, of Alamosa, reported that her mare, Lady, had been killed and mutilated by aliens who removed the appendages's brain and heart.

Over the years, Lady became Snippy, and the tale expanded to include radioactivity and a strange, sweet odor in the pasture where the horse died.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS FILE PHOTO
Veterinarian Wallace Leary holds bones from Snippy the horse, the first reputed victim of alien animal mutilation.

(continued from page 3 - CRUSADER,
Chicago, IL - Jan. 6, 2007)

The object was seen in broad daylight at 4:30 pm just before sunset. It was a large grey saucer-like object that some witnesses say resembled a rotating Frisbee, and performed incredible aerial maneuvers out of the technical range of known human aircraft.

The denial of the reports of credible witnesses by the airlines is not a new story. It brings to mind the situation in the 1940s when Kenneth Arnold, a pilot, reported a UFO. Though he was a trained professional, official accounts said that he had been chasing "the planet Venus." Other reports of sightings by credible witnesses have been attributed to "swamp gas," and other such nonsensical phenomena. And the granddaddy of cover-ups is the Roswell New Mexico incident, wherein it is said that actual alien bodies from a crashed UFO were retrieved by the U.S. government. According to UFO buffs, it is clear that the government is hiding something.

Many people question the motive of such a notion. If there are UFOs, why don't they make themselves known? The answer is that thousands and thousands of witnesses worldwide have reported sightings. Can they all be wrong? Are they all delusional?

One very strange story that has been around for years is that the U.S. government has entered into a partnership with a certain group of extraterrestrials and, in return for certain favors, have had access to advanced technologies. Allegedly, the microchip and stealth technology are examples of this trade.

The universe is incredibly vast, and it would be poor biological economy if humankind on Earth was all alone. And if it is true that we are not alone, and that there is a cover-up, there would be a good reason for keeping the secret. According to some, the news of other intelligent life stealthily visiting us would throw society into a panic and would cause a societal breakdown. Whatever the case, there is enough evidence to do honest investigations without treating the public as though they are naïve, delusional children. People deserve more than this.

EXAMINER, Independence, MO - Dec. 20, 2006

Seeing UFOs can happen more than once in a lifetime

Gary was a Kansas City Police officer in 1960. He and his partner Richard were working the "dog watch" from midnight to 8 a.m. one Saturday when they saw something strange in the sky.

"About 2 a.m., we drove to St. John and Hardesty and were sitting at the northeast corner of Budd Park," he said. While they were filling out reports, a bright light appeared and hovered above their car.

"There was no engine noise at all," he said. "Just as suddenly as it appeared, it shot away into the western sky from a dead stop to gone in the count of three."

"Dick and I just sat there and stared at each other and then I said, 'should we put this in our log report?' His response was,

FROM THE SHADOWS
AMAZING TALES OF THE PARANORMAL



JASON
OFFUTT

"well, I guess that depends on how much you like psychiatrists."

They had seen a UFO. And, no, they didn't report it.

Twenty-one Missouri UFO cases were reported this year to the Mutual UFO Network, an international investigation group. The cases range from witnesses reporting glowing spheres to seeing unidentified

craft. On rare occasions, a case will include contact, or telepathic communication.

"I was about four-and-a-half years old. I was sitting on the front steps to my house," Fred of Kansas City wrote in his MUFON report. "I saw, suddenly from the east, a UFO come into view. ... I kept mentally asking for a ride. I suddenly got a reply, 'no. Not now. Not yet.' Being a kid I got angry and shot three rolls of single-shot caps at it. A few minutes later, it flew back east."

This was in 1950.

Most reports don't include contact. Jim Johnson, director of the Kansas City chapter of MUFON, said the group's objective is to apply scientific methods to the investigation of UFOs. But simply seeing a strange light or reporting mental con-

tact isn't enough to attract MUFON's attention. The group needs physical proof, or at least corroboration in order to make the investigation worthwhile.

"It's hardly credible if only one person saw it," he said.

But, one-person reports make up the majority of UFO sightings, so the Kansas City area only has "one or two" UFO cases a year MUFON considers worthy of an investigation.

Gary's second encounter in 1979 might fit into that category.

Gary and another officer, Paul, decided at 11 p.m. to drive to Bennett Spring for trout fishing. Gary stopped at his house to pick up his son, fishing equip-

ment, and coffee.

They stopped in Cole Camp to use the outdoor restroom at a closed gas station.

"When we walked outside we were enveloped in light," he said. "We looked up and just like the first time, hovering right above us was a UFO."

The three of them rushed into the car and the UFO "left in a blink." They continued to Bennett Spring, but didn't sleep much that night.

"I occasionally see a show on the History Channel about UFO sightings and find myself thinking how incredible some of those stories are," Gary said. "If I find them hard to believe, how

can I expect those who have not seen to believe?"

Got a scary story? Ever played with a Ouija board, heard voices, seen a ghost, UFO or a creature you couldn't identify? Let Jason know about it: Jason Offutt c/o The Examiner, 410 S. Liberty, Independence, Mo. 64050, or jasonoffutt@hotmail.com. Include your name, address and telephone number. Your story might make an upcoming installment of "From the Shadows."

Jason Offutt is a syndicated columnist, author and fan of all things Fortean. His book of ghost stories, "Haunted Missouri," will soon be available at www.jasonoffutt.com and all major bookstores.

HERALD, Circleville, OH - Feb. 23, 2007 CR: J. Fry

Editorials

UFOs and psychology

Psychology is an important part of the UFO phenomenon.

UFO sighting reports have been kept to a minimum because many of the witnesses are reluctant to report them. However, this is slowly changing as more people are accepting this subject as a reality.

Many UFO witnesses have come forward in recent years and they have informed me about their dramatic sightings. I feel they are relieved that they have someone with whom they can confide in. I can see this change as I have studied this UFO subject since 1958.

Over the years they have been subjected to ridicule, harassment, and disbelief. This is because the skeptics have never seen a real UFO; talked to credible people who have seen them; or more importantly they have never researched the subject intently with all the evidence available to see.

To a lot of people when you mention UFOs they form a mental block. The fear of the unknown causes many to disregard this subject. As a great President once said, "You have nothing to fear, but fear itself."

Some can be psychologically disturbed if they find out that UFOs exist and since they would be technically advanced of us, some could accept this and others could not.

I have always enjoyed studying history, which of course, is of past events. Ufology, the study of the UFO phenomenon, represents the past, present, and the future. There are many UFOs still being seen, and who knows what the future holds?

On Nov. 7, 2006, a saucer shaped craft was seen hovering over Chicago's O'Hare Airport. It was a daylight sighting that lasted several minutes and the object left by creating a hole in the cloud cover above it. This event was witnessed by several United Airline personnel and it included pilots. It even made the CNN news. Since this occurred, many of the personnel have been told to keep quiet about this sighting. Who would want to talk and lose their jobs? This has happened many times over the years with other UFO sightings. However, after many years when they retire or in failing health, some of these witnesses have come forward and told about their personal experiences.

I know of a similar UFO sighting that occurred over Cleveland Hopkins Airport. Several years ago two witnesses, employees at the nearby NASA Lewis Center, saw a disc-shaped craft hover some 50 feet above them. The one witness described it to me in detail, as it was also a daylight sighting.

I recently had a person tell me that he prides himself on being a scientific skeptic. But with the different television programs about UFOs, like the History Channel, shows he has begun to wonder. I would welcome a debate with anyone on this subject. I try to stick with facts and only the facts. It is very easy to speculate.

Some witnesses to a UFO sighting will shrug their shoulders and say so what, because they can't do anything about it. Others, like myself, try to find out more about the mysterious phenomenon. Some have inquiring minds.

I have found repressed memories in many cases. Until someone is asked if they have ever seen a UFO, sometimes they will say they have, and are amazed at why they never recall it until asked. I have had many people tell me that they had forgotten about their own UFO sighting or experience until I mentioned the subject to them. For instance, a couple of years ago a witness didn't recall his sighting until I showed him a magazine article relating to the same time period and location he was at that described many UFO sightings. This occurred in Texas in August of 1965. You can try this yourself by using the one on one approach. Just ask the person if they have ever seen a UFO. Ask them when no one else is around. I have found out that you get a better response. Some people feel embarrassed or apprehensive when with a group of people if you ask this question.

If you have any questions or concerns about this subject, please contact me at 477-6252, rufos@columbus.rr.com or Roundtown UFO Society, PO Box 52, Circleville, OH 43113 or visit our Web site at www.roundtownufosociety.com.



Pete
Hartinger

Roundtown
UFO Society

NEWS-SENTINEL, Lodi, CA - Nov. 20, 2006

LODI UFOS?: Around 9 p.m. on election night, a Lodi woman called in to the News-Sentinel office to report strange lights hovering over southern Lodi near the intersection of Harney and West lanes.

She described at least three white, bright lights arranged in a straight line that hung motionless in the night sky.

"I think they know I'm looking for them."

James Carrion, the international director of the Mutual UFO Network, one of the largest groups in the world dedicated to examining sightings of unidentified flying objects and otherworldly phenomena



Brian Brainerd | The Denver Post

James Carrion's office has plenty of alien-inspired memorabilia, such as this model of a classic alien being. The office for the Mutual UFO Network headquarters has moved from Littleton to Carrion's home near Bellvue.

He is not alone

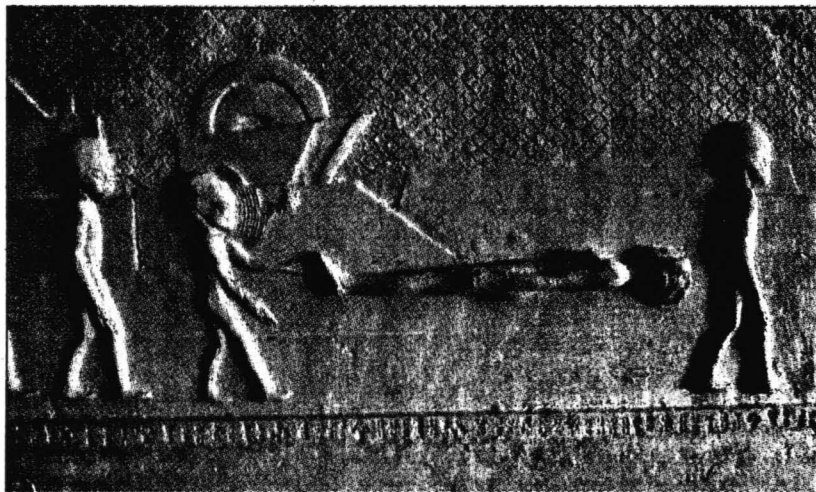
Larimer County man directs a global team of 400 investigators who look into reports of UFOs

By Monte Whaley, Denver Post Staff Writer

Bellvue — James Carrion will often look up at the stars shining over his hilltop home near this Larimer County community and wonder who or what is watching.

"I think they know I'm looking for them," said the 41-year-old former Army intelligence officer.

Carrion is international director of the Mutual UFO Network, one of the largest groups in the world dedicated to examining sightings of unidentified flying objects and otherworldly phenomena.



This Egyptian-style depiction of aliens was donated to MUFON, which has records of more than 13,000 reported UFO or alien sightings.

The nonprofit's world headquarters recently moved from a storefront in Littleton into Carrion's spacious home. He directs 400 field investigators — all certified by MUFON — to interview witnesses, examine possible landing sites and review weather and astronomical data to determine whether a sighting was a balloon, atmospheric blip or something unexplainable.

Most can be explained, Carrion said. But about 10 percent to 15 percent of the 2,400 cases the group takes on each year turn out to be something that escapes human logic, he said.

"And the people who make these reports are reliable and down-to-earth who saw something that can't be explained," he said.

MUFON is one of the more "reasonably objective" UFO groups operating out there, said Roger Culver, a Colorado State University astronomy professor.

Still, no individual or organization has been able to produce dead-on, irrefutable proof that alien beings sometimes visit us, Culver said.

He also finds it puzzling that no UFO or alien has slipped out from under the blanket of secrecy the govern-

(continued on page 6)

ment has supposedly thrown over UFOs.

"Our government can't keep a secret," Culver said. "Just once, in the public eye, I want to see side panels of a spacecraft with serial numbers on it on an alloy not found on Earth."

Carrion — who owns a computer training company — electronically catalogs reports of UFOs and other phenomena dating back to World War II and beyond.

In all, a long concrete storehouse at Carrion's home contains more than 13,000 reported cases of UFO sightings or alien contacts. They are among rows of metal and paper files as well as photo negatives of supposed UFO encounters.

Carrion also has on hand a green, bug-eyed alien lawn ornament and an alien "fetus" floating in a jar of water.

"Oh, that," said Carrion, pointing to a bulging garbage bag leaning up against the storeroom's wall. "That's not an alien baby. Just an old

Christmas tree."

Carrion said his wife doesn't seem to mind his hobby.

"She tolerates it," he said, adding that his 3-year-old son "doesn't know what Daddy does."

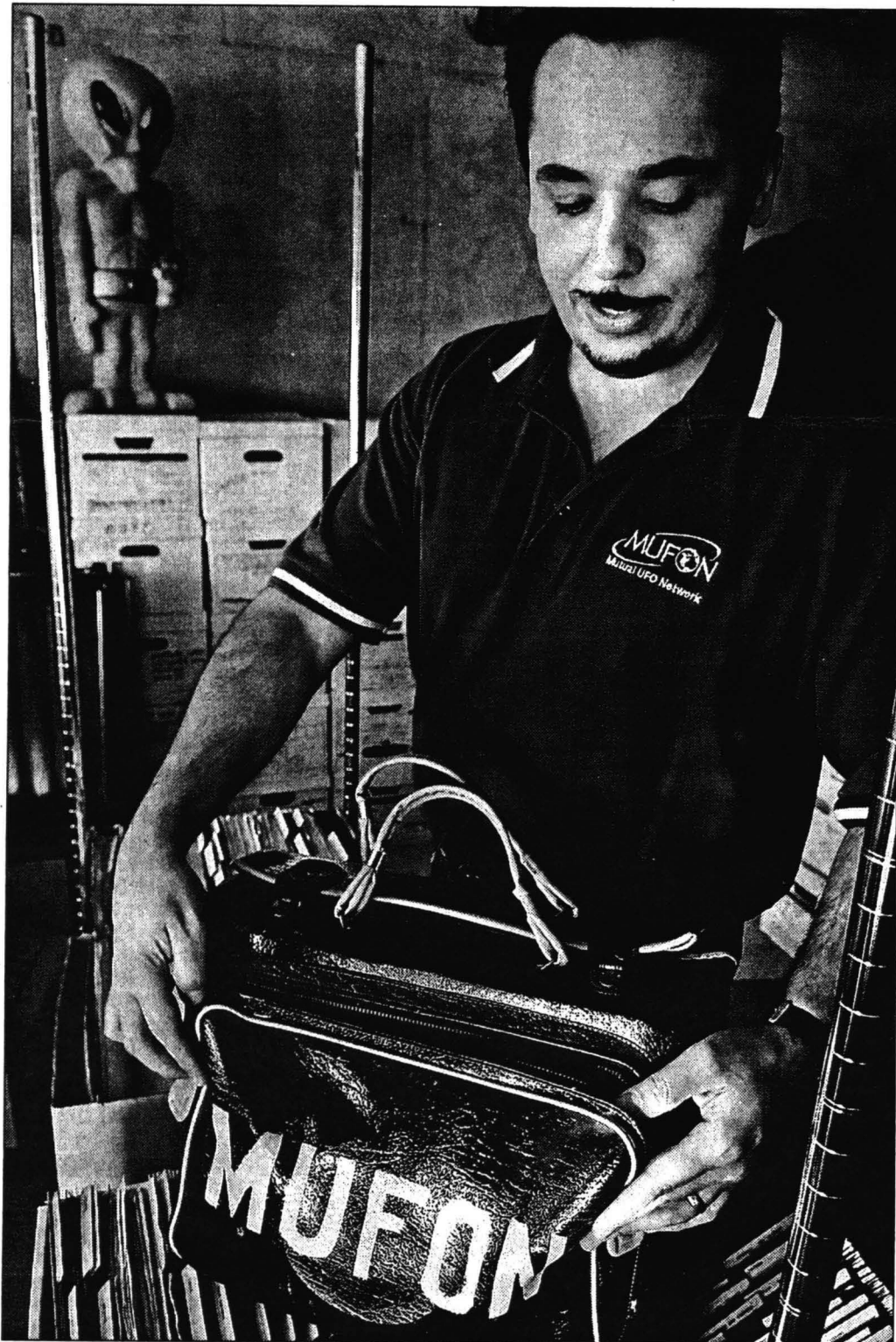
Carrion has never seen a UFO and is wary of those who quickly dismiss any reasonable explanation of a sighting.

"To them, this is like a religion, and they cling to that no matter what," he said.

But he also believes there are segments of the government working on aircraft and technology that occasionally crisscross our skies. Carrion is convinced the government is hiding information about scrapes people have with aircraft and entities that are not of this world.

"I have a passion for the truth," Carrion said. "Some people want to perpetuate this mystery, but I want to see a conclusion to this."

Staff writer Monte Whaley can be reached at 720-929-0907 or mwhaley@denverpost.com.



Photos by Brian Brainerd | The Denver Post

James Carrion, director of the Mutual UFO Network, opens a bag containing investigative tools at his Larimer County home. Carrion said he has never seen a UFO.

Of the 'UFO' sighting: Anomalies, ironies and loose threads

Life is full of strange little ironies. Sometimes, you pull at a loose thread and it improves your appearance. Other times, your sweater unravels. Over the past week, I pulled at a thread and strange things began to happen.

It began last Wednesday night, as I was counseling a couple in my country office. Bright movement suddenly caught my eye through the pitch blackness beyond the sliding glass door on the north side of the building. A spot of blue-white light had appeared, then rapidly expanded to form an oval, which then grew a comet-like tail as it traveled from a westerly to easterly direction.

I exclaimed in horror as I ran to the glass door to get a better look, as I initially thought it was a jet going down. It became brighter and larger, arcing across the sky in a shallow descent from about 30 degrees above the horizon, finally disappearing behind distant trees. The swirling colors of blues and whites were spectacular and the object appeared more like something entering the atmosphere than a falling jet, but I decided to play it safe and call 911.

The next day, WCNC-News 6 called and visited me after hearing my 911 report. Others had also called in the incident and by that evening, it was on the news – complete with Twilight Zone sound effects. The station's website streamed our 911 calls back to back and posted a photo somebody took.

Do you know that feeling when you pull a loose thread on your sweater and it keeps coming out as you feel that subtle sliding feeling in the area around it? You wish you could push it back in, but you can't.

When they aired the segment, of course it was nothing like I imagined it would be. Yes, it's a little disorienting to hear your 911 call being voiced over a scene of the trees in your backyard. The segment ended while I was trying to figure out how I was voiced over the old coat shown sitting in my office. Whew! Who knew? At least

On FAMILY



Granville Angell

Guest Columnist

that was over.

The next day, CNN called. They had acquired the intelligence gathered by WCNC-News 6, complete with website data. They were flying down to interview sighting witnesses and would I consider doing an interview?

"Your fifteen minutes is not up," the CNN representative quipped. I, however, thought to myself, "Well, since you put it that way..." I was supposed to say.

It was beginning to feel like I was losing the sleeve off my sweater. I wonder if glue would help?

I stalled a little, letting him give me more details to the growing story. It seems there were a number of witnesses. I ventured that I thought it might be a meteor – possibly, a copper-carrying bolide, although the colors weren't right, since I didn't see any green. He asked if it might be a real UFO. I assumed he meant the ones the aliens ride in.

"I think it was probably a meteor of some type," I assured him, thinking the story might go away. The weight of the irony was becoming overwhelming for me.

Although he was interested in my story because of my aviation and psychology backgrounds, I just had to tell him that I am also a research specialist with the Mutual UFO Network. I was hoping my opinion of the sighting might gain more credibility. (Our own George Fawcett, of Lincolnton, founded the NC chapter of this international research organization.)

I suggested that he might interview an atmospheric scientist preferably not government connected. His chuckle in response to that was familiar. Where had I heard that be-

fore? Surely, no. Was the press finally becoming seriously interested in UFOs? I dared not ask, but I did acquiesce to his request for an interview.

I thought of it as a reprieve when he didn't call until the first of this week. Maybe he discovered evidence supporting the meteor theory. I'm off the hook I thought, but the CNN producer called again. Darn.

I suggested maybe the story was getting too old to be of interest. Not at all, he assured me, adding there had been a number of anomalous sightings around the country recently and they were investigating these.

He mentioned the recent significant sighting of a UFO at Chicago's O'Hare Airport – probably of the real alien type, since it had been described as a metallic, disc-shaped object, hovering over Gate C17 before it punched a hole in the clouds when it shot straight up.

So, maybe you would like to concentrate on these I ventured, and leave the probable meteor sighting alone. Not at all. He explained he especially wanted to interview me because of my scientific background. I was flattered, I guess. And about to "outed."

As I prepare to be interviewed (as of this moment), it is a mystery as to where this CNN story will take us. For me it is ironic, because I have maintained a rather low public profile with regard to my MUFON activities, in spite of a lifetime of experience investigating the UFO phenomenon. It is ironic because I am now about to be interviewed about what I presently perceive as a natural event by a press that seems to be UFO hunting. It is also gratifying.

After many years of tongue-in-cheek humor at best and ridicule, at worst, the press and the media are beginning to take a serious look at the UFO phenomenon. More and more of us are coming to realize that we are not alone in this universe. Short of our spiritual quests, which we will come to learn involves embracing the above, nothing has more potential to

transform the human story.

In a world where we are daily reminded of our struggles to get along with each other, we are on the threshold of discovering company among the stars. As humanity on this planet reaches critical mass in its awareness of this reality, there will be no words beyond "awesome" sufficient-enough to describe the impact this experience will have on us. For many years, apparently well-meaning governments have acted on the belief that common humanity is not up to this formidable task. Many of us feel differently.

So come the interview, I expect to talk about the UFO that wasn't – to talk about the apparent bolide entering the Earth's atmosphere in a spectacular display before it burned itself out. Most UFO sightings are explainable as natural events, but many are not.

If we are serious about knowing the truth, we have to call things as we see them. You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear and you can't make a flying saucer out of a falling bolide. Trust me: the real deal is spectacular enough to convince anyone with eyes to see and an open mind.

We can't always know, when we pull the loose threads in our lives, whether our lives will become neater or become unraveled. But sometimes, we just have to pull that thread.

Granville Angell © 01/2007

Granville Angell, EdS, LPC, NCC, is the local author of The God-Shaped Hole – A Story of Comfort for The Child in All of Us. Email him: angell@transitions-counseling.com, call his private practice, TRANSITIONS at 704-276-1164; visit his web site: www.transitions-counseling.com, where you can read prior articles.

TRIBUNE, Chicago, IL - Jan. 21, 2007



Terry Armour

ARMOUR & CO.

Dan Aykroyd (right) is almost as passionate about UFOs as he is about the blues. So he has taken particular interest in recent reports that a group of United Airlines employees spotted an unknown object hovering at O'Hare Airport. Aykroyd, whose 90-minute DVD "Dan Aykroyd Unplugged on UFOs" explores unexplained sightings, tells us he's hot on the trail of the O'Hare incident. "I am hearing now from my researchers that there are photos and videotapes of it," Aykroyd told Armour & Co. "I welcome skepticism because that's how we will sort out whether this thing at O'Hare was a hoax."





FOREIGN NEWS

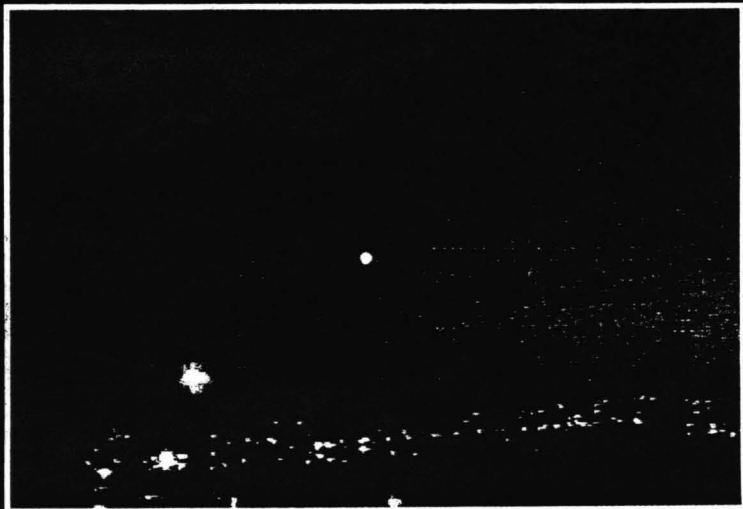
[All British clippings courtesy of Timothy Good, unless otherwise credited.]

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Coventry, England - Dec. 15, 2006

ForumSPECIAL LIVE CHAT FROM OUR WEBSITE
- AND YOU CAN JOIN IN

Readers spot UFO flying over the city

A STRANGE ball of light was spotted across the Coventry skyline earlier this week. Ever since curious readers have been contacting the Telegraph with their accounts of the mystery phenomenon. Some are convinced it could have been a UFO or a shooting star. Others are not so sure. Either way it's got you talking, especially on the Telegraph's website forum. Here's what members said...



ANYBODY see a very low shooting star over Coventry around 10pm on Monday night? Too quick to be a plane, too low to be a star, couldn't work it out? Small ball of white light.

Lozinger

... THAT'S interesting. Makes you wonder. I certainly believe that there's more than us "here". I think we would be very shallow to think that we are the only beings in the universe. Why should we be? Too many sightings of UFOs etc have been reported to allow us to think otherwise.

Minx

BEING as it is near Christmas time,

perhaps it was the light that was guiding the three wise men? Perhaps the 2nd coming will be in Coventry? Would bring some much needed tourism to the city as Lady Godiva is a bit outdated now.

Killer87

I'D love to be abducted by aliens!

Brianna

I SAW it too, over Earlsdon way! And some of you mock Lozinger, I didn't know what it was and was about to create a post of my own! It was very strange, it was flying across sky one minute and then just went!

Srtrock

I THINK I saw it - it was bright and there one minute and gone the next, also it was fast and in the sky. I thought nothing of it at the time but as others have seen it I'm sure it was a UFO - no in fact it WAS a UFO.

BobBones

I SAY 2nd coming.

Fast_Eddie

NOT likely.

BobBones

ALIENS, pah! Why would a race sophisticated enough to build a

ship capable of travelling millions of light years waste most of their little green alien lives travelling to whizz about over Earlsdon for a few minutes? Da Vinci's is good but not that good...

Pablo

IT MUST have been a UFO. If it was a guiding star I doubt there are three wise men in Coventry.

Ozzycris

IT'S a sign... Judgement day is coming

BarryChuckle



DID you see the mysterious UFO shooting across the Coventry skyline? Give us your opinions by visiting www.iccoventry.co.uk/forums or write to the Letters Page, Coventry Telegraph, Corporation Street, Coventry, CV1 1FP, or email letter@coventry-telegraph.co.uk.

And if you managed to get a mobile phone picture of the UFO, text it to 07738 544874 and make sure covnews is the first word of your accompanying text message.

IRELAND ON SUNDAY, Dublin, Ireland - Aug. 27, 2006

Give me photos and I'll believe



A UFO landing in Steven Spielberg's ET

IT IS now 21 years since Ireland was gripped by the tale of a moving statue in Ballinspittle. Thousands flocked in summer 1985 and firmly believed that it was moving. I even recall hardened journalists berating the doubters.

So why are we so sceptical when it comes to UFOs? This is the question asked in a fascinating new book by two Dubliners who have spent the past 20 years studying UFOs in Ireland and the rest of the world. It has over 250 pages of eye-witness

accounts of sightings in Ireland - some extraordinarily convincing. It is clear from the many stories that the UFO phenomenon is as real in Ireland as it is abroad.

The only disconcerting thing about the book is the absence of photos. Surely in this age of camera phones and digital cameras, there must be at least one printable image of a UFO?

● *Conspiracy Of Silence: UFOs In Ireland*, by Dermot Butler and Carl Nally (Mercier Press, €12.99).

Space station suggestion for UFO sightings

RESIDENTS of Long Eaton have been calling the *Advertiser* and *News* with sightings of the UFO ever since we first reported it's appearance in Grasmere Road two weeks ago.

Since then Carol Clarke and her husband have taken more footage.

We showed the footage to astronomer Alan Heath who believes that one bright light caught on camera could be the International Space Station - that can be seen occasionally around this time of year.

On the video there is footage of two lights, one is stationary and the other is moving. Alan thinks this could be a spaceship refuelling at the space station.

One resident of Bonsall Street also saw the light around 10pm on Sunday night.

She said it looked like it was moving over the Tesco store and to the Breaston area.

She said: "My son and I were in the car when we saw it. I pulled over and he got out to look."

"There was no sound but what we saw definitely was an orange light, about 30 feet above the houses."

"It was moving quite fast in one direction and it was going in a definite direction."

The footage has now been sent to a UFO specialist and results will be published in a future edition.

ADVERTISER, Long Eaton, England - Sept. 7, 2006

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Derby, England - Sept. 28, 2006

UFO sightings over county

RE: UFO spotted at Swanwick, Opinion, September 23) - I too have seen this particular UFO on two occasions. Thankfully, I have seen many UFOs in the last 10 years and pay particular attention to logging them for my own records in my diary.

The first sighting of this orange circular disc was on Friday, July 7, at 7:30pm. It was true north of Derby and at an elevation of about 45 degrees in the distance. My partner and I were waiting at a bus stop in Chaddesden when I noticed it moving very slowly west to east, then it would immediately disappear, and reappear much closer in the distance, and would then move south to north. The speed involved in this manoeuvre would have been impossible by any aircraft. Even with my limited scientific knowledge I knew this. A fellow waiting passenger noticed it from start to finish.

The second occasion that I saw this orange disc was on Sunday, July 23. I was returning from Manchester on the Transpeak coach. The weather was glorious with not a cloud in the sky, so I was enjoying the marvellous Derbyshire countryside.

As we were heading into Milford I noticed a large orange disc suddenly materialise in the west. It seemed very large and was rotating, I observed it for about 30 seconds and then it suddenly disappeared.

The time was about 7.55-8pm.

Many of you may be sceptical, but I know what I have seen. I have also seen many UFOs that have been reported worldwide, such as the black triangle which flew over me and a convoy of lorries on the M1, a couple of years ago. I also saw the flying cross hovering over Ilkeston many years ago.

Name and address supplied.

Strange sighting puzzles couple

A mysterious white object has left a couple spooked after they spotted it as they drove along the A5 towards Telford.

Richard and Linda Ortyl were heading from Cannock when they both saw a solid white shape on the left hand side of the road at 12.10am on Saturday. The pair, who live in south Manchester, at first thought the shape could have been an animal.

They said: "This shape was about 1ft wide by 3ft or 4ft long. It quickly glided up the side of the hedges, over the top and curled around a wide tree."

"Our initial thoughts were that it was a white fox because of the shape and size, but the movement was too fast, it came off the ground and the movement was not animal-like." They added: "The shape was also a solid white mass with no definable features of legs or tails or wings."

Shropshire UFO expert Phil Hoyle said today over the years there had been a number of unusual sightings on the A5.

STAR, Shropshire, England - Oct. 2, 2006

Is it a bird, is it a plane - or a UFO?

by Katrina McKeever

ARE we alone? A Handforth man may have the answer after capturing a photograph of what he believes to be an Unidentified Flying Object.

Eugene Keher, 52, shot this picture of a strange metallic brown coloured object hovering 200 feet above Cleve Hill in Cheltenham on his camera earlier this year.

A mature student, Eugene, of Spath Lane, spotted the shape which looks uncannily like a flying saucer, hovering in the sky when he went down to Cheltenham for the races.

He went for a wander after the days racing to take snaps of the scenery when he hit the jackpot by spotting the object and got clicking.

"I was by myself at the time and I got really excited, I wanted to tell somebody, but then I thought don't stand there analysing it - get a photograph of it", he said.

UFO enthusiast Eugene had not taken a snap all day as he was told not to take pictures of the horses during the day as it stresses them out before they race.

So he had a full roll of film at his disposal when he saw the saucer, which is just visible in the sky high above Cheltenham, close to GCHQ.

He thinks this could be proof



EUGENE with the photograph and, inset, a close-up of the object.

at last that alien life forms do enter our planet.

He said: "It has quite clearly got a dome shape and the bottom looks like landing gear, it is not a shape you would think could fly. It is definitely not a weather balloon

and I don't know what else it could be."

Eugene now plans to submit his pictures to UFO fanzines, where enthusiasts are building up a file of alien sightings and mystery hot spots across the globe.

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Grimsby, England - Dec. 5, 2006

Similar sightings reported of UFO between Grimsby and Louth

Mysterious sky object was seen by others

THE truth is out there... somewhere.

More fuel has been added to the space debate over the sighting of a UFO between Grimsby and Louth.

Grimsby Telegraph readers have reported similar encounters to the sighting by Jay Navas as he drove north along the A16.

The sight of a streaking light with a trail-like a shooting star and a orangy-colour after glow forced Jay to stop his car, get out and have a closer look.

He said it levelled off towards the North Sea and had a flashing strobe light which continued to move across the horizon at a phenomenal speed.

By PETER CRAIG

peter.craig@grimsbytelegraph.co.uk

A Grainthorpe woman also claims she saw the UFO.

And Steven Fello, of Ladysmith Road, Grimsby said he saw lights in the sky, but dismissed the sighting as a meteor shower, which have been widely reported on the south coast of England.

"Having read the Telegraph report, I wonder just what it was," he said.

"I only saw it for a couple of seconds when it disappeared from view, but it was moving over the Grant Thorold Park area."

Mr Fello has read newspaper reports in Australia describing similar events.

He said: "Whether they are one and the same or different remains to be seen. There have also been thousands of reportings in the Brighton area recently, of red globes appearing below the cloud line then disappearing. Are all the sightings meteors as we are lead to believe? Who knows?"

Mr Fello added: "If it was a Thursday night as Mr Navas suggested then maybe the aliens have heard that late-night shopping has begun in the town. Or it could have been Father Christmas doing a practice run."

Another Telegraph reader said: "I was coming out of my backdoor when I saw an object travelling at speed, with a trail. I also thought that it was a shooting star but it seemed too low to be this."



● Flashback to Ufo sighting story.

Latest UFO theory

TOP secret jets could be being tested over the North Sea.

That's the latest theory from Jay Navas, of Odlin Court, Grimsby.

The lead singer with a Guns 'n' Roses tribute band said he also had received contacts from Telegraph readers.

He said there were reports of a new proto-type of plane.

The craft is powered by a pulse-detonation wave engine fuelled with liquid methane. Jay said: "It could theoretically propel a hypersonic aircraft towards Mach 10 at an altitude in excess of 180,000 feet."

UFO SPECIAL INVESTIGATION + UFO SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

Searching for the truth....

AFTER last week's Advertiser reported the mysterious lights in the sky around Grasmere Road in Long Eaton, we had many calls and decided to investigate further as to what they could be...

ARE UFOs visiting Long Eaton? – that is the question that the *Advertiser* and *News* posed last week after seeing footage of mysterious lights in the sky.

We asked local astronomer and weatherman Alan Heath what he thought of the footage.

He has been an astronomer for 54 years and is an observer for the British Astronomer Association.

At first he thought the light could be Arcturus – a bright star that appears orange in colour and at this time of year is currently in the North West position.

He said: "From what I've seen Arcturus is a likely culprit and it will be around for some time, until November."

However, he went on to say that if they are moving then of course it could not be a star. Mr Heath said that when he had dealt with UFO sightings in the past people did not tend to want a 'real' explanation of what it could be.

He added: "I need a lot more information to find out exactly what they are."

Last week we spoke to Roy Lake the chairman of London UFO Studies. He did not see the footage but said from the

description it did not sound like the Chinese Lanterns.

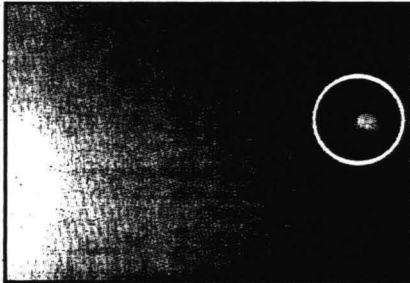
However, one of the UFOs capturing the imagination of scores of people in Long Eaton crash landed in a garden tree.

Ken Gilmour spotted the 'lights' travelling overhead the night before the greyish white 3ft high and 18ins diameter object impaled itself on his tree on Thursday morning.

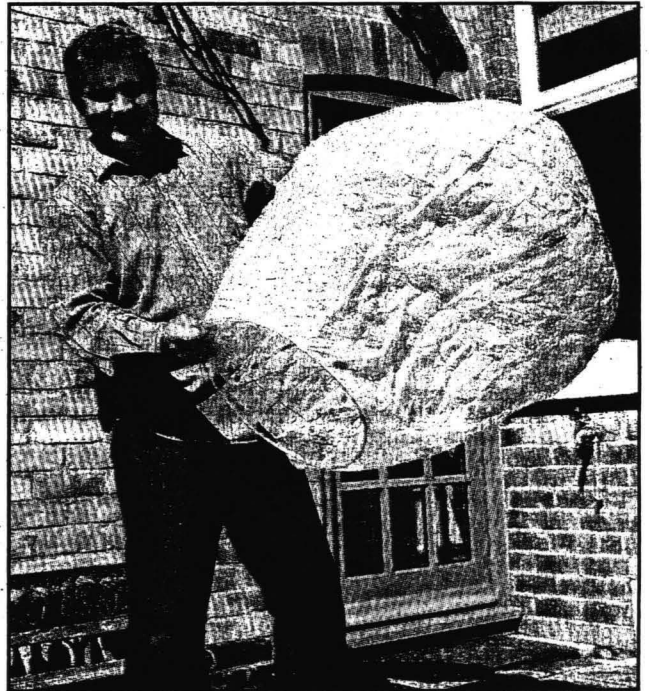
The hot air balloon type contraption was made of tissue paper covering a metal rim, sounding suspiciously like a type of Chinese Lantern a number of residents called the newsdesk about.

The lanterns are made from mulberry paper and a natural bamboo rim. They can be lit from home and they are said to float gracefully in the sky.

Once the wick has burned out the lanterns float to the ground.



The 'UFO' in question. CNF



Ken Gilmour and the Chinese Lantern 'UFO' which landed in his garden. IMG-9071

Calls flood in from public

THE phone has rung white hot to the *Advertiser* and *News* all week as numerous people called to say they had spotted the mysterious objects hovering in the night sky above Long Eaton.

But even as sightings of the bright sparks were rationalised away by various callers claiming they were 'Chinese Lanterns', some townsfolk remain sceptical.

One woman claims to have seen strange lights every year for the past few years, but normally around October. And last Thursday she believes she saw a military jet.

She said: "They were definitely orange this time. I saw the jet in the same space of time."

"Normally they're not orange coloured, normally they're white."

"The white ones have flashed as though someone is switching a light on and off and then it vanishes."

She described the orange lights as moving quite slowly before vanishing.

Another witness in Long Eaton was so concerned they dialled 999, while others watched the 'eerie', 'beautiful' orange and red glow.

Another woman dismissed the 'Chinese Lantern' explanation, saying the lights moved 'with purpose' travelling up into outer space and 'returning with a friend' moments later.

And one man confessed he had seen an unexplainable light hovering above the railway track close to the canal bank near Trent Lock when he was a child. He watched it before it lifted upwards, making no sound.

History of sightings in the town

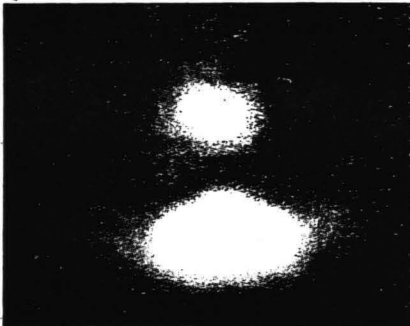
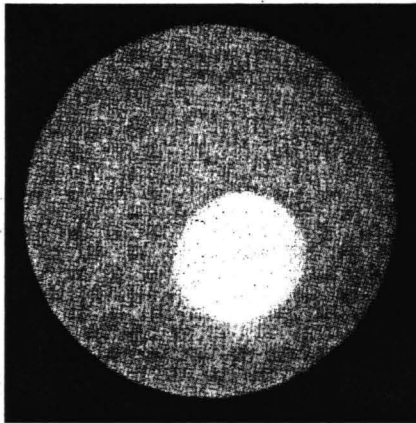
LONG Eaton is not immune to possible UFO sightings as astronomer Alan Heath knows too well.

Sightings of a bright light appeared over the town in August 1968 and were reported in the *Long Eaton Advertiser*.

He discovered that this light was in fact

a weather balloon. Later on in the same year, on December 21, another two lights appeared close together in the evening sky.

The smaller light in the picture is in fact Apollo 8 on the way to the moon and its discharge of liquid oxygen.



Left: The mysterious light that turned to the weather balloon. CNF
Above: Apollo 8 on the way to the moon. CNF

OSWESTRY & BORDER COUNTIES ADVERTIZER, England - Nov. 22, 2006

Mysterious orange lights

A MYSTERIOUS formation of orange lights in the sky above Oswestry on Friday evening which has left residents spooked, is likely to be the curse of the Chinese lantern.

Russ Kellett, the head of investigation for flying saucers in North England, told the *Advertiser* how people are inflating Chinese lanterns (similar to plastic bags) with a small amount of heat from something such as fire lighter and then sending them thousands of feet up in the air to fool people into thinking they have spotted a UFO.

"These hoaxes are a worry to us and in some cases people are doing it deliberately to run rings around us researchers. As the former Minister of Defence official, Nick Pope, recently said, we are wide open to alien attack!"

Deputy Editor of the *Advertiser*, Peter Danby, who is just one of the witnesses to the weird happening which occurred at around 7pm, described the moment as about a dozen orange glows in the sky on a really clear night.

"The lights were moving slowly, smoothly and quietly across the sky, at about 3,000 feet in the air. It was obvious that it was not an aeroplane as you could see those also passing by," he said.

Investigations have confirmed that no helicopters were flying from the RAF base in Shawbury and there is no record of anything being reported to the police.

If you witnessed this strange sight and know what it was and/or have any pictures or footage call Richard Jones at *The Advertiser* on 01691 655321.

ECHO, Liverpool, England - Oct. 3, 2006

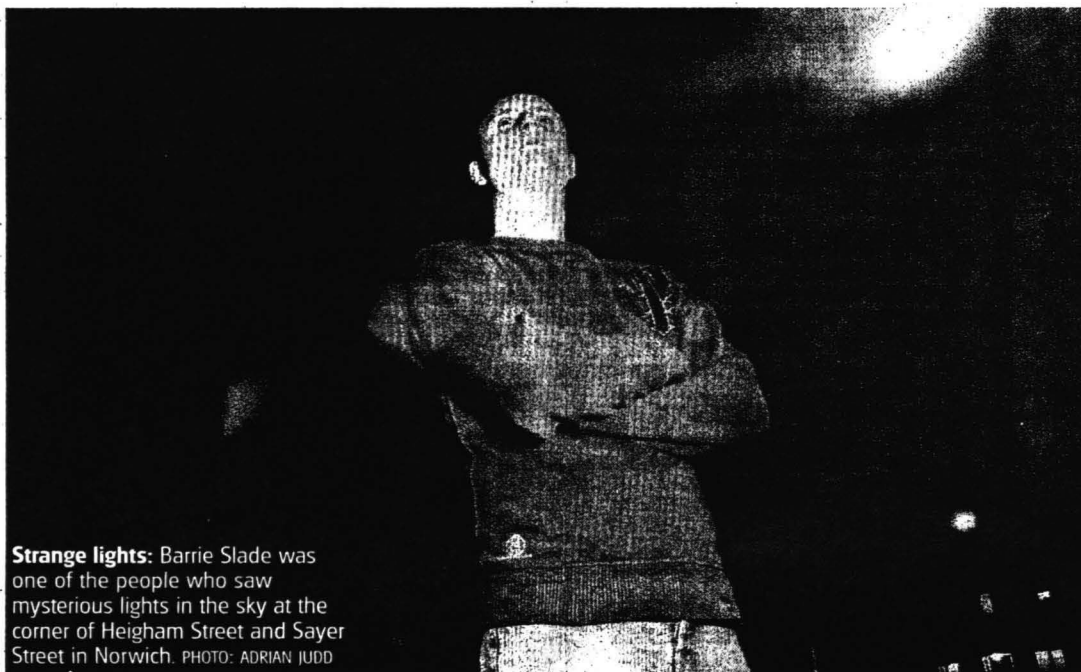
I AM in the process of completing my first volume of UFO reports and experiences that have taken place in and around the UK going back to the early 1940s, *Haunted Skies*.

I want to trace Robert Hirst, who was 13 and living with his mother, Mrs Margaret McCutcheon, in Mottram Close, Kirkby.

They saw a peculiar object, with two aerials making a buzzing noise, showing a red light hovering just over the garden of their house on the evening of May 7, 1966, before taking off over the rooftops of nearby houses.

Can anyone fill in the missing piece of this UFO jigsaw and put me in touch with Robert so I may speak to him.

John Hanson, retired police officer, 31 Red Lion St, Alvechurch, B48 7LG, Worcestershire



Strange lights: Barrie Slade was one of the people who saw mysterious lights in the sky at the corner of Heigham Street and Sayer Street in Norwich. PHOTO: ADRIAN JUDD

Have you seen the lights?

SNAPSHOT
Several people have reported seeing an eerie triangle of orange lights hovering silently above the city. The Norfolk UFO Society is collating the reports and interviewing witnesses.

The truth is out there somewhere... but people in the city are scratching their heads after more sightings of unidentified flying objects.

Over the past couple of months, baffled readers have contacted the Evening News to say they have spotted strange lights in the sky.

This week a fresh spate of sightings on Tuesday night left families across the city wondering what they had seen.

Barrie Slade, 25, who lives in Clifton Street, said he was stunned to see an unusual orange glow in the sky while out walking his dog down Heigham Street at 10.20pm.

The father-of-one said: "At first I saw one orange light and then it was followed by three more orange lights really close to it and it was moving diagonally in the sky. It was quite slow and then it disappeared in the distance."

He texted a friend in Old Catton, who also saw two lights. Mr Slade, a chef, who went to Broadland High School in Wroxham, added: "They made a triangular shape. I thought it can't be a plane because planes have flashing lights but these were silent and it was just an orange glow. I don't think it was

UFO reports

→ In August, several witnesses reported seeing a UFO flying over Hellesdon. They said a bright red ball appeared above Low Road, glowed then turned blue. A triangular black craft then appeared 50ft in the air which pulsed lights, but there was no sound and it eventually shot off in silence.

→ In September, Kerry Neal of Thorpe St Andrew spotted a similar silent hovering aircraft near Acle. She said she saw lights and an object hovering which then disappeared.

→ In 1997 David Spoor, from Oulton Broad, filmed several UFOs in the Lowestoft area. On one occasion he was closing the door of his home when captured on film a metallic saucer-shaped object. He was later invited on an expenses-paid trip to a UFO convention in the USA.

→ In April 1996, sightings of an unusual bright white light in the sky were reported to the Norfolk UFO Society from all over the city.

a hot air balloon because they normally send off a flame."

Miles Ward, 26, saw the lights from outside his house in Jex Road at 11pm. He said: "My neighbour told me to look up and then right down towards the city centre. I could see four bright red lights coming in my direction and then they stopped. My wife took a picture but they did not show up."

About 20 minutes later he saw three lights in the same place, which stayed for five minutes and then faded out. He said: "It looked like they were above Heigham Street. They were at

the same sort of height as an aeroplane but they stopped for three or four minutes and there was no noise. The way it was moving was eerie."

Heather Allen, who lives in Netherwood Green, Lakenham, saw the lights at 10.40pm above the woods near her house.

The 56-year-old grandmother said: "I saw five or six yellowy-orange bright lights in the sky at the back of the woods. They were floating. They were in a line behind each other. Then they went out towards Trowse. They were about the height of a helicopter but there was no noise. It just did not seem like anything I could recognise."

John Sayer, treasurer of the Norfolk UFO Society, said he had received two reports. He said one witness from Unthank Road saw three yellowish bright lights at 10.15pm and another person in Lakenham saw four orange lights which stopped and circled a small white light at 10.30pm. "We are collating reports on it and interviewing witnesses. It does sound like a genuine anomalous sighting," he said.

→ Have you spotted a UFO? E-mail naomi.canton@archant.co.uk or telephone 01603 772418.

→ If you manage to get a picture of a UFO, please e-mail it to us at news24@archant.co.uk

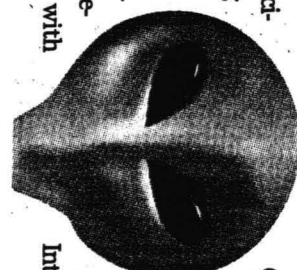
Naomi Canton
naomi.canton@archant.co.uk

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NEW BOOK

17th-Century Jesuit missionaries credited with Canada's first UFO sighting

They were likely too busy covering in terror to appreciate the milestone at the time, but Jesuit missionaries living in 17th-century New France recorded Canada's first UFO sighting. That's according to an author and self-described "ufologist" who says more Canadians than ever are convinced they are seeing unusual objects — even alien spacecraft — in the firmament. Chris Rutkowski, co-author with



Geoff Dittman of the new book *The Canadian UFO Report: The Best Cases Revealed*, says opinion polls suggest one in 10 Canadians — some three million of us — have seen a UFO. From 1994 to 2004, official Canadian UFO accounts more than quadrupled, from 189 to 862, as sighters took advantage of Internet reporting sites. *CanWest News Service*

NATIONAL POST, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - Aug. 8, 2006



Encounters of the Toon kind...

Records reveal UFO sightings in region's sky

IT COULD be a case for Mulder and Scully.

It seems the North East has become a hotspot for paranormal activity.

The Chronicle has accessed top secret Ministry of Defence records of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) in the region.

And over the last few months there has been somewhat of a flurry of sightings.

We tapped into records dating back to 2002 and found four reports of UFOs hovering over the North East, three of which happened in 2006.

In July 29, there were two separate reports from people living near Durham. The first one, timed at 10pm, states: "Six yellow/orange lights were travelling in a line. They were staggered from South to North."

And 40 minutes later, a second

By ADAM JUPP

adam.jupp@ncjmedia.co.uk

eagle-eyed member of the public reported: "Nine balls of orange light were following each other and drifting Northwards."

Coincidence? You decide.

A third report, logged as "some time in 2006", is traced to an individual in Hetton-le-Hole, also near Durham. It reads "There were many lights seen up in the sky."

Prior to these three sightings, the last one was in 2003. On that occasion, someone living in Gateshead contacted military bosses with their concerns.

The report is described as: "One black orb with five or six tassels underneath it."

Northumbria

University sociologist Lee Barron, who lectures on UFOs and abductions, thinks the way

UFOs appear on television and in films influences the nature of reported sightings. He said: "When you look at some of the earlier records of abductions, they were almost identical to episodes of the Twilight Zone or Outer Limits."

"And if you think of the upsurge in media since the 60s, we have been living with aliens for decades. The emergence of reports of triangular UFOs in the 80s was people spotting the stealth aircraft in the skies."

Dr Barron added: "Commentators say that the more life is revealed for some people, the less magical it becomes so people retreat into some sort of mystery and want to believe there are things out there."

"But, of course, the concept of UFOs is perfectly fine, it doesn't just mean unidentified flying objects, it could mean anything, but for most people, it's typically some sort of alien life form."

"But when it comes to tassels

hanging from orbs, I have no idea what the explanation could be."

A Ministry of Defence spokeswoman said: "The Ministry of Defence examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity."

"Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported."

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

Alien mysteries

THERE is a long history of UFO reports in the North East.

In September, 1976, two women at Fencehouses claimed to have been hypnotically attracted towards a small, oval-shaped UFO and seeing two beings the size of large dolls with round eyes.

In February, 1978, a 21-year-old Killingworth nurse reported seeing a cigar-shaped object from a distance of only a few feet as it glided between houses and then rose towards nearby flats.

In September, 1979, a Felling family claimed to have been tormented by the occupants of a UFO, whose description matched the Fencehouses sightings exactly three years before.

In 1980 design engineer Les Baisdon was among hundreds of people who spotted UFO activity in the region at the same time. He and his two young sons were walking near their Ashington home when they saw four or five objects, described as cigar-shaped with tails which glowed, moving in formation through the clouds.

In March, 1982, two Northumbria police officers saw a UFO hover over the Tyne Valley for more than an hour.

On New Year's Day, 1982, Wallsend photographer Wendy Garratt reported seeing a mysterious flying object 10 to 15 times larger than a star which could be seen quite clearly.

HAVE YOU SPOTTED A UFO?

Call us on (0191) 201 6446, e-mail ec.news@ncjmedia.co.uk or write to The Evening Chronicle, Groat Market, Newcastle NE1 1ED

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.]

January 17, 2007 — *www.analuisacid.com* — MEXICO: Tamaulipas UFO Sighting — According to a news item published in the January 17, 2007 edition of Reynoso's *La Tarde* newspaper, an unidentified flying object with multicolored lights was reported over the town of Rio Bravo (state of Tamaulipas). The event occurred around midnight.

Witnesses from the Las Americas district stated that it was an extremely brilliant circular object that hovered over some homes, causing alarm among locals, who reported the unusual experience to the newspaper. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid

January 22, 2007 — *El Tribuno*, Salta, Argentina — ARGENTINA: SEARCH FOR ALLEGED UFO CALLED OFF — **Team reached impact site but found nothing** — Provincial police decided to abandon the search for the alleged unidentified flying object that locals claimed collided last Thursday against the slopes of the mountain ranges located to the West of the Departments of Rosario de Lerma and Chicoana. The ground search team, made up of 15 members of the Provincial Police, National Gendarmerie and backwoodsmen reached the site on Cerro El Manzano where the object supposedly crashed on Saturday afternoon, at an elevation of 4,200 meters. They combed the entire area and found nothing.

Yesterday, police suspected that what the locals had seen "was the reflection of the sun over the ice in the area, and which accumulated due to a fall of hail."

As far as noise perceived in the sector goes, one of the researchers stated that "they were detonations of the devices used by tobacco-growers to fight hailstorms."

Given the police verdict, the flight by the National Gendarmerie's Pilatus PC-6 with the purpose of flying over the area, scheduled for 7 a.m. yesterday, was suspended.

The situation began when Beatriz Prieto, a worker at the Las Palmas ranch, informed police over the phone that an object had crashed. "it looked like an airplane in flames," she said. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez, *Planeta UFO*

January 22, 2007 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina — ARGENTINA: Researcher Report on the Salta UFO Search — **A Report from Mercedes Casas (Salta, Argentina)** — Yesterday I paid a visit to the sheriffs' offices of Chicoana, Rosario de la Frontera and Campo Quijano to have a chat with members of the police force. At Chicoana they were aware of the fallen object, but almost next to nothing about the expedition designed to find it. I was told that the expedition fell under the jurisdiction of Rosario and Quijano. In Rosario I was told that they had guided the members of the search team as close to the site as they could, but the rest of the way had to be done on horseback. They had indeed received word that it was a metallic object because a sheen had been detected at the alleged impact area during one of the overflights.

The sheriff wasn't in at the time, but the officer who assisted me told me that was all they knew. They didn't tell me much in Quijano, the last place I visited, which goes to show that the news story wasn't as important for people living in the area.

The only thing that has given me pause - and ought to be taken into consideration - is that one of the police officers, when discussing the subject of the absence of missing airplane reports, asked me to bear in mind that due to drug-trafficking problems in [northern Argentina], it was possible that we could be dealing with a small drug-running aircraft which of course had not filed a flight plan.

In any event, I was advised of the approximate location of Cerro El Manzano, located in Rio Toro ravine, bordering Campo Quijano. It is a ravine surrounded by mountains, traversed by the famous Tren a las Nubes (Train to the Clouds - to those who don't know it, it is a train that leaves the Salta station and heads west to the Puna, reaching the Chilean border. A tourist attraction).

Photos of the area in question will be submitted later. — CREDIT: Mercedes Casas

February 1, 2007 — *www.analuisacid.com* — Airliner Crew Records UFO on Cellphone — **A report from Ana Luisa Cid** — On January 28, 2007, flight mechanic Enrique Morales Piedras recorded -- on his cellphone -- a spherical object crossing the skies over the region of the Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl volcanoes.

According to a report given to researcher Alfonso Salazar, he was aboard a Boeing 737-2000, registration XA-MAC, flying between Mexico City and Puerto Vallarta.

The witness says the flight took off at 9:20 a.m. toward Texcoco on runway 5 right. The airliner began to rise and at an elevation of 10,000 feet, followed the Toluca VOR. At this time Mr. Morales Piedras began to make a recording with his cellphone, since the view was inspiring, the volcanoes were covered in snow and the weather was completely clear and sunny.

As he recorded the scenery, the airliner's captain said: "Look, what's that over there?", pointing straight ahead. It was at that moment that he recorded - in the eleven o'clock position - a spherical, seemingly metallic object at an estimated distance of 200 meters. The time was 9:23 a.m.

"What is most relevant of this evidence upon reviewing the video, aside from seeing the sphere, the audio picks up the TICAS alarm, which repeats: "Traffic, traffic..." meaning that the on-board collision avoidance radar picked up the flying object, which then moved to the left and sped away quickly," concluded researcher Alfonso Salazar, adding that as soon as he has the witness's authorization, he will release the recording. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid and Alfonso Salazar

February 2, 2007 — *Por Esto*, Merida, Yucatan; *El Diario*, Yucatan; *www.analuisacid.com* — MEXICO: OBJECT CAUSES WONDERMENT IN MERIDA, YUCATAN — On the evening of January 27, 2007, at 8:30 p.m., dozens of people informed the local media of Merida, Yucatan, of the presence of [an] unidentified flying object in the sky, which they described as having a circular shape with eight surrounding lights, adding that the object made oscillating movements and that it vanished into the horizon after a few minutes.

This sighting was captured on video by Mr. Rene Couoh Chacon from the Vicente Solis district, showing

the evidence to reporters from the *Por Esto* newspaper and Mexican researchers Gustavo Aleman and Prof. Silvestre Leal of the OVNI MERIDA group.

According to the witnesses, around 6 p.m. and before the sighting of the alleged UFO, a kind of shooting star crossed the firmament from west to east, but it had a rectangular shape and a trail of light.

Victor Lara Martinez, a reporter for the *Por Esto* daily, says that one woman interviewed stated that some onlookers heard the alleged UFO make a noise similar to that of helicopters, although its shape did not correspond at all to the means of transportation in question.

Researchers from OVNI MERIDA are currently analyzing the video, saying that they wish to ascertain if a UFO or a balloon was involved, moreover because said community manufactures large "Cantoya"-type balloons surrounded by luminaries. However, and without dismissing the possibility *a priori*, we believe the residents of the town in question can identify one of those balloons correctly and the sighting would not have been the cause for such a commotion, one that was even worthy of mention in the press.

It should be noted that reports of nocturnal UFOs over Mexico were received on this same date. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid, Gustavo Aleman and Prof. Silvestre Leal

February 5, 2007 — *Diario El Mexicano* and www.analuisacid.com — MEXICO: UFOs REPORTED IN BAJA CALIFORNIA by Jose I. Ibarra Gonzalez — TIJUANA - Over 40 unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were sighted by residents of the Altabrisa district around 10:40 a.m. yesterday morning (Sunday, February 4).

They stated that these objects were shiny and in formation, although not in geometric order. They remained for over 10 minutes in the northern part of the sky and then headed toward Playas de Tijuana (West).

"There were 38 in the first group, then they headed toward Playas, and another group of 5 or 6 appeared, heading off in the same direction," according to one of the witnesses.

Residents of this district, located to the side of the Universidad Autonoma de Baja California, stated that they were very surprised by what they had seen in the sky yesterday.

"At the time that the shining objects were there, an airplane went past. They must have seen them," said one of the locals.

Moreover, Enrique Valle Alvarez, manager of the Abelardo L. Rodriguez International Airport at Tijuana, stated that no aircraft sent out any alert whatsoever.

He said that the Control Tower did not report any unusual situations. However, it is possible that the Air Navigation Services of the Mexican Air Space may have more information. "There were no incidents and nothing was reported to me," he said. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid and Jose Ibarra Gonzalez

February 7, 2007 — *Diario de Yucatan* — MEXICO: ALLEGED UFO OVER MOTUL — Yucatan - Police Blotter — Alleged UFO Over Motul — A red dot is seen to move in the sky in a sequence of photos — A light supposedly originating from an unidentified flying object was discovered on the night of the celebrations of Our Lady of Candelaria by two women who were taking an evening constitutional in the city of Motul.

The sky was clear and the moon was unclouded. The time was 11:00 p.m. when Lucy Aracely Bacelis Castro and her cousin Margely Bacelis Escalante went outside to enjoy the breeze. After being on the street for a while, Aracely looked skyward and was startled by a very bright moon. "Why don't you take a photo of it?" suggested Margely. Aracely took out her cell phone and trained it on the heavenly body, but upon seeing the image onscreen, she was startled to see a red light on the moon. Intrigued by this, she took other photos and the red dot was in all of them.

"The sequence shows that the object is moving," claims Aracely, who would like to find out what the light in question happened to be. "A cousin says that the dot is a galactic stone (sic) that appears every 18 years; but could it be possible that 18 years just happened to roll around on that exact day?"

The women are interested in contacting Jaime Maussan, a journalist who researches the UFO phenomenon, to dispel their doubts. "It's interesting that this should have happened to us," they say. However, others who have seen the photos have expressed their apprehension. "I don't know what it means, but I don't like it one bit," says Guadalupe Escalante. "I'm somewhat surprised. If they're really extraterrestrials, I hope they go away," she added.

During the months of June, July and August last year, UFO watchers were pleased by the alleged manifestation of lights in the sky which could be seen from different directions in Ticul, in the southern end of the state. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez, *Planeta UFO*

February 7, 2007 — *Diario Milenio* [www.milenio.com] — CHILE: Chilean Army Discloses Recordings and Secret Contacts with UFOs — The evidence was presented before one thousand people at the 10th International UFO Congress, which highlighted a video taken seven years ago, showing moments in which Navy vessels and helicopters pursue a UFO that was even picked up on radar.

Santiago de Chile - The Chilean Army revealed to the UFO community classified material regarding recordings and encounters between the military and UFOs over the past 30 years, according to the *El Mercurio* newspaper today. The evidence was presented at the 10th International UFO Congress, highlighting the display of a video that captures a UFO pursuit by surface vessels and helicopters of the Chilean Navy seven years ago, according to Rodrigo Fuenzalida, director of the Agrupacion de Investigaciones Ovnologicas (AION).

Another pursuit took place on March 27, 2000 when a Citation 2 military aircraft crossed an unidentified flying object, measuring 40 meters in length, at an altitude of 1000 meters and 100 kilometers away from the Chilean capital.

Disclosure of this information was authorized by Oscar Izurieta, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, and forms part of an official investigation undertaken by Rodrigo Bravo, captain of the Army's 5th Division, who participates in the congress, which is being held at the Vina del Mar resort 120 kilometers distant from Santiago de Chile. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez, *Planeta UFO*

February 7, 2007 — *Planeta UFO*, Argentina and *El Dragon Invisible* — Costa Rica: UFO over Cerro Chirripo (2006) by Gilda Aburto, San Jose, Costa Rica — The Southern Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, traversed by the Cordillera de Talamanca, has been traditionally known for its numerous UFO sightings. Cerro de la Muerte and Chirripo form part of this mountainous massif. Many peasants claim having seen strange objects flying across the sky while they engaged in their farm duties. There are even those who claim having had contact with beings from other planets in a region that runs from San Isidro de El General to Buenos Aires de Punta Arenas, near the Panamanian border.

Also told is the anecdote involving a trucker who was stranded one cold afternoon amid the fog of Cerro de la Muerte at an altitude of 3,490 meters. He was concerned about his fate when suddenly, a reptilian creature approached him to repair his truck. Despite the initial terror, he felt himself invaded by a great sense of calm at the visitor's presence, whose aid allowed him to continue his journey.

Cerro Chirripo, with an elevation 3,820 meters, is the country's highest peak. It is 150 km southeast of San Jose and was declared a National Park in 1975. Average temperatures range between five and twenty degrees Celsius, but wind chills can lower them to -3 or -6 Celsius. Persons sensitive to energy fields believe that in the area known as Los Crestones, they have been able to perceive an extraordinary force that alters compasses and other instruments. It is incredibly steep, and its ascent is only possible on foot or on horseback, taking between eight and ten hours to achieve.

Cerro Chirripo is in the news again. On July 8, 2006, a group of 14 tourists undertook the arduous, steep climb to the summit. Luis Carlos Lizano, owner of a San Jose computer shop, was part of the group. They commenced their climb at 3:30 a.m., and stopped at 5 a.m. to watch the sun rising behind the mountains. They were at the location known as El Llano, from which they could see Valle de El General. None of the expeditionaries noticed anything strange in the sky at the time the photos were taken. It was only later, when Luis Carlos transferred his photos to a computer, that he was startled to see a strange saucer-shaped object in one of them. Lizano admits that he "didn't believe in that stuff until it happened" to him. The photo, taken with a Nikon digital camera, will be analyzed by international experts to ascertain its authenticity. — CREDIT: Guillermo Gimenez and Carlos Alberto Iurchuk

February 8, 2007 — www.eluniversal.com.mx and EFE news agency — CHILE: CHILEAN ARMY DISCLOSES PILOT-UFO ENCOUNTERS — **Captain Rodrigo Bravo recounted the experiences of several pilots with unidentified flying objects during an international conference on the subject, presenting Videos and photographs** — 07:45 a.m. - the Chilean Army, during an unprecedented event, disclosed last night a series of sightings and encounters between military pilots and unidentified flying objects (UFO).

Captain Rodrigo Bravo, with authorization of the Army Command, took part in an international discussion of the subject, held in the resort city of Vina del Mar, in which he disclosed "spectacular" experiences in various parts of Chile.

Bravo presented videos and photographs during the meeting while discussing the encounters that pilots of his branch had undergone in the past 10 years.

Chile, with 15.5 million inhabitants, ranks fifth in the world when it comes to the highest number of UFO sightings, after the United States, Peru, Brazil and Russia.

Over 600 sightings have been recorded in this country, particularly in the northern region, over the past 60 years. This area has also been the scenario for cases considered startling, including "CE3K"-type contacts with extraterrestrials.

The Army officer recalled that on April 2, 1997, in the city of Arica's Chacalluyta airport, the pilot of a T-212 fighter aircraft witnessed an elongated orange object in the sky for nine minutes.

Another incident of similar characteristics took place in early 2000 in the southern region of Los Lagos, while three military helicopters flew by in broad daylight.

"The crew members witnessed an object on the ground that swiftly rose to the same altitude as the aircraft, positioning itself in front of them, almost on a collision course," said Captain Bravo to an audience that saturated the facilities of the Vina del Mar municipal theater.

He added that the unidentified flying object vanished at high speed after engaging in zig-zagging movements.

Subsequently, on March 18 of that year, in the locality of Graneros, some 70 kilometers south of Santiago, the crew of a military aircraft claimed having seen an elongated, lead-colored object that took off at high speed after having flown beside them.

"All of these cases are certified by the Comité de Estudios de Fenómenos Aéreos Anómalos (CEFFA), the best suited in Chile for this type of research," added the military man.

Rodrigo Fuenzalida, director of the Agrupación de Investigaciones Ovniológicas de Chile told EFE that having the Army's cooperation sets the example for mature behavior on the part of "this institution, which consented to open its files and have them subjected to serious scrutiny."

Fuenzalida maintains that all that is needed now is for the Government to assume a similar posture and support the opening of these files which occurred in such countries as Brazil.

UFO sightings "are no longer a novelty" and experts claim that 60 million people worldwide have witnessed this phenomenon, although only ten percent of these experiences are made known, due to the fear of being ridiculed. — CREDIT: Marco Reynoso, *Fundación Cosmos, A.C.*

February 8, 2007 — *Diario Renacer*, Angol, Chile — CHILE: UFO Videotape Causes a Stir Nationwide — Raul Gajardo Leopold's latest video recording, in which he claims that his son picked up an unidentified flying object over Angol in the first few days of February, was seen throughout the entire country after the video was aired during a newscast on the Megavisión network.

According to Gajardo, this recording was made in the "El Mirador" district of Angol, and the UFO phenomenon was witnessed by four other people besides himself after 11 p.m.; his son, Raul Gajardo Torres, who made the recording; Ulises Benavides Vega, and Ricardo Rojas and his 14 year-old son, Ricardo Rojas Aedo.

Raul Gajardo noted that the UFO was seen for over a minute at an approximate distance of one kilometer and 200 meters over the Pino Huacho sector to the northeast of Angol. The ufologist added that the UFO was a large, orange, cylinder-shaped object--similar to a pencil--that lay horizontally in the sky, having a whitish light at its core. He further added that they could clearly see reddish dots on either end, and that two smaller spherical objects were launched upward and downward at a given moment. The researcher also added that it is possible to see several UFO phenomena on a daily basis, within a 3-hour observation period. For this reason, he says, "I believe that we are at a peak period, because only two could be seen in October and November. Now, on the other hand, we can see many more." — CREDIT: Raul Nunez, *IIEE*

February 8, 2007 — *Diario Austral de Temuco* — UFO reported over downtown Villarrica: witnesses tell their stories — The community of Villarrica is stunned by the sighting of an unidentified flying object on Tuesday morning over the city's downtown district. The sighting took place at 0700 hours on Tuesday (002.06.07) while a group of workers waited for the bus at the Rural Terminal and vendors for the International Fair set up their stands for the day's displays. They looked up to the sky to see an enormous object that hung in the air above for nearly 5 seconds. The situation was such that all are in agreement over seeing a large UFO, and that the object was also pursued by other yellow lights at the same time over Villarrica.

The Witnesses Speak

Luis Obregon was one of the first to see this UFO. According to his account, it was after 7 a.m. "I was waiting for the bus with some friends to get to work. At that time we saw a giant light in the sky, orange in color, with several lights behind it. All of us who were at the Terminal saw it." The appearance of this UFO at the int-

ersection of Matta and Vicente Reyes streets left everyone astonished. "I was staring at it and couldn't believe it. It was a large vessel with very powerful lights. Behind it were some 15 smaller lights that glowed brightly. It was evidently a UFO because it was broad daylight and that was the only thing in the sky," added Obregon.

But he and his friends weren't the only ones to see the craft. Workers for the International Fair of Native Products, operating two blocks away from the bus station, also saw the craft. "I was with my father and we were going to the countryside to look for stuff. Then we saw something in the sky that we at first took for a flare, but that was impossible at the time. It was an orange-colored craft with several lights, that remained sort of parked in the sky and then fell," said young Andres Gutierrez. The 15 year-old says that while he felt no fear, he was impressed by the object's speed and its quick movements in the air. "It was a fast ship with powerful movements, like a comet or a flare," he said.

Another worker, who preferred to remain anonymous so as to avoid problems with his co-workers, saw the craft at that same time. "It was after seven o'clock in the morning, perhaps 7:10, when I was off to take the bus. That's when I saw the UFO. It was a huge ship and it stopped right above us. Before that, I wasn't much of a believer, but after I saw it, I had no doubt that there is life on other worlds."

But this wasn't the only case. Even the community of Quino, 5 kilometers from Victoria, was buzzed by a UFO that caused consternation among locals. — CREDIT: Raul Nunez, *IIEE*

February 11, 2007 — *www.analuisacid.com* and *Periodico Express* — UFOs OVER NAYARIT, MEXICO — According to the news item that appeared on February 11, 2007 in *Periodico Express*, students of the Fray Pedro de Gante School in the town of Ahuacatlan witnessed the transit of a group of spherical objects that crossed the skies over Nayarit.

According to one of the boys, Hugo Alberto Rodriguez Gonzalez, the spheres flew from one place to another toward the El Ceboruco volcano, informing his teacher, who explained to the class that [what they were seeing] could not possibly be space junk.

The instructor told her students that it was the first time she had witnessed something out of the ordinary, particularly because the possible UFOs changed colors.

The newspaper report states that one individual took photos of this event with a cell phone camera. However, this visual material has not yet been made available. — CREDIT: Ana Luisa Cid and Francisco J. Nieves

CREDIT: Jane Thomas Guma

February 20, 2007 — *Salta*, Salta province, Argentina — Neighbors from Rosario de Lerma recall similar events — THEY CLAIM THE OBJECT THAT FELL IN THE HILLS WAS A UFO — They don't believe it could have been a device launched to dissipate hail. They claim they are sure where it is by Jaime Barrera, *El Tribuno* — Many Rosario de Lerma and Quijano residents claim to be sure the unidentified flying object that was seen crossing the skies last Thursday, January 18, could not have been a bomb to dissipate a hail storm.

"It looked rather like an enormous silvery ball that gave off flames from its rear, flew at high altitude and at a speed different from that of any other plane seen around here," they said. I don't know how they can say it was an effect from the sun on accumulated hail, that wasn't a plane nor a bomb for hail. It left a long contrail at high altitude. It disappeared behind some clouds over the top of the El Manzano hill. I never saw a hail explosion at that altitude, even less a plane in that area," said Ariel, a rental car driver who makes daily trips from Rosario to Quijano and who, together with four passengers, saw the strange phenomenon that afternoon after 2:30.

The sighting was so clear that the passengers got off the car after noticing that a strange object was moving in the sky. "It came from East to West. It was silver and round. Considering the altitude at which it flew maybe it didn't fall in these hills, it may have fallen farther towards the interior of the Cordillera," they said.

That same afternoon, 911 received a wave of calls warning about the crash and subsequent explosion of an unidentified flying object in the area of Chicoana. One report was made by Beatriz Prieto, a vendor in the Las Palmas farm, who claimed that "it looked like a plane on fire" and "it exploded when it crashed."

The provincial police mobilized personnel to track the jurisdictions of Chicoana and Rosario de Lerma, with negative results. The fact is that the Andean chain surpasses 5,000 meters in altitude and has a series of ravines and foothills that give rise to other higher and lower hills. Those ravines go up to the foothills of the Acay, a snow-capped mountain, and enter the solitary attitude of the Cerro Negro (Black Hill) which has an altitude of 5,050 meters.

The immensity of this area could easily hide an object that fell from the skies. Especially when testimonies speak of a fiery ball that was lost around El Manzano.

"Twelve years ago a similar event occurred in the Golgota area, in the Quebrada del Toro, they said it was space junk, but we never saw a single piece of that object that fell from the sky. The same happens now only a few kilometers to the South. Either it is too much coincidence or somebody is aiming at us using us as a dumpster."

A history with several repetitions

On August 4, 1995, in Finca Incamayo, some 35 kilometers West of Quijano, where locals saw how an object crashed. Nearby homes shook and panic spread among the residents and the animals, which reacted with unusual nervousness. Dogs and cats refused to leave their houses while the horses neighed and stampeded away.

At that time geologists Ricardo Alonso and Ricardo Sureda visited the area of impact and later stated that "a strange object crashed there with unusual violence. It probably was a meteorite."

Already in April of 1956, a "flying cigar" was reported flying four times over the salt marsh of Arizaro, near Tolar Grande. In 1996, some truckers that were passing through Tastil saw a light that seemed to follow them and the truck mysteriously lost its brakes. A couple of years ago, tourists in the area said they were chased by an object that flew at half altitude above route 51.



Arturo "Homie" Martínez with a naturally formed object he found the same day he and a friend had a "hair-raising experience" in the mountains.

Gerald Garner Jr.

Interesting find becomes scary experience for Costilla man

By Jerry A. Padilla
The Taos News

In the interest of protecting a fragile ecosystem and a potentially rare and misunderstood species, the exact location of the following experience is best not revealed. Suffice it to say, the unusual encounter occurred in a canyon of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains near the Colorado-New Mexico border in northern Taos County.

Arturo "Homie" Martínez, 67, of Costilla said he decided "to tell *The Taos News* about my experience because many people I've shared the information with don't seem to take me serious. However, many do, and they have encouraged me to come forward with my story."

Martínez, originally of Arroyo Hondo, has spent a lifetime in the mountains, canyons and wilds of Northern New Mexico and southern Colorado, and can identify all the native wildlife, plants and animals, whatever the season or conditions. Not long ago, he and a person he calls a "super friend" had a frightening, but very interesting experience while scouting for elk in preparation for a hunt. His friend has chosen to remain anonymous.

Martínez made personal notes about what happened in this mountain canyon area Sept. 27. "I, myself, and my friend set out to scout for game, but something weird happened."

He explained that earlier the first day, while scouting in stands of aspens within sight of the community of Amalia from up high, Martínez found an interesting, naturally formed piece

of aspen tree that strongly resembled a human face. "Nobody carved it, it grew that way and I decided to bring it back."

After leaving the object at home, Martínez and friend returned to another area several miles away from where they had been earlier in the day. This time, while driving on another fork of the rough road, they found many tops of aspen trees cleanly broken off that were strewn over the road. "We decided to investigate who was breaking the trees and throwing them on the road. I asked my friend, 'Who would want to do this?'"

Martínez explained, "These were aspens ranging in size from 3 to 4 inches to 6 to 8 inches in diameter, cleanly broken about 13 to 15 feet up the trunk of the trees. There were no tracks of bear or elk, or human tracks — no tracks of any kind, no sawdust at the bottom of the trees and what was strange, it was as if they were thrown several feet away from where they were broken. There were two big aspens completely uprooted and thrown away from where they had been growing. If bears had broken them, they would have left claw marks. Bears leave a smell on trees they scratch or break."

"Elk in rutting battles leave the ground very disturbed. It wasn't, and seeing many broken trees we continued on to investigate who or what was breaking them. The broken tree tops were lying in the road as if something or someone wanted to say, 'Nobody is welcome here.' Rounding a curve, my tire blew out and things started getting very scary," he continued.

"We could hear elk bugling up high-

er and we decided to walk back down since it was late afternoon," Martínez said. "We needed to get a spare, and come back to change the tire. We were taking our time checking out more broken trees, and there was easily over a 100 broken the same way. That's when I heard the scariest noise I have ever heard in my life."

"It started at first, sounding like an elk bugling, then turned into a scary roar so loud it kept echoing through the canyon," he continued. "The elk up high stopped bugling. It kept making that noise at us, it reminded me of the noise the devil made in 'The Exorcist' movie. Whatever was making the noise started breaking trees and throwing them in our direction a few seconds later."

"Then I saw a huge creature moving through the edge of an aspen grove, about 30 to 40 feet from me. It walked upright, but hunched over, maybe 6 feet tall bent over, and standing straight was 7 to 8 feet tall with very dark fur all over. It was not a bear. Bears don't walk like humans. I am convinced I saw what many call Sasquatch. Even with my gun, I was very scared and we left in a hurry. It seemed to be following in the edge of the trees, breaking more, throwing them toward us and making that awful noise. It was almost dark and we had to get out of there," he recounted.

The two men fled down the mountain, and Martínez said every time the creature roared the noise continued reverberating through the entire area. "I felt like at any moment something was going to grab me from behind all

the way out of there."

They arrived on foot in Costilla well after dark, deciding no matter how scared they felt, it was necessary to return to the canyon, change the blown tire and bring Martínez's vehicle back.

The two men returned to where the vehicle was parked, and by the time they changed the spare it was after 2 a.m. on Sept. 28.

"We decided to stay until daylight and try to find out what it really was we had experienced," Martínez continued, "It was deathly quiet the whole time, nothing moving, no elk bugling, not a sound at all. At sunrise, we checked around, found more aspens broken the same way. Nothing else happened to us. There was no sign of anything out of the ordinary except more broken trees."

Not finding any other evidence of their frightening experience of the afternoon before, Martínez and his friend returned home.

"Like I said, I know what I saw. I know it is not a bear or any other of the wildlife I have seen around here all my life. I decided to tell my story because America, wake up, these creatures exist," he said. "Every time I go into the mountains anywhere from now on I will have a camera and an audio recorder with me. I have had other people tell me that even though they wish to remain anonymous, they have had similar experiences over the years, but don't say much because they get ridiculed. I know what I saw and heard."

■ espanol@taosnews.com

DAILY NEWS, West Bend, WI - Nov. 10, 2006

Is 'Bigfoot' roaming around Holy Hill?

By GAY GRIESBACH
Daily News Staff

Mysterious creature reportedly took deer carcass from truck

A mysterious sighting in Washington County has area officials and residents bewildered, bemused and amused.

A man contracted by the Department of Natural Resources to pick up road kill came to the Washington County Sheriff's Department to report a 7-foot-tall

"animal" had taken a deer out of the back of his pickup truck at about 1 a.m. Thursday, Sheriff Brian Rahn said.

According to the report, the man loaded a deer carcass into the back of his truck on Highway 167 near Station Way, got into the cab and prepared to drive away

when a large black animal, very wide and larger than a bear, jumped into the back of his pickup and dragged out the carcass he had just loaded.

"He was horrified and took off out of there," said Rahn.

During his retreat, the man also lost an all-terrain-vehicle

ramp that he used to ease carcasses into the truck.

Deputies went to the location near Holy Hill after the man reported the incident — at about 4 a.m. Thursday — and could find nothing, including the ATV ramp, Rahn said.

"I don't believe we have Bigfoot

running around Washington County," said Rahn.

However, deputies will do an additional follow up on the report, he said.

"It will take more than this report to convince me," Rahn said.

Dick Liethen lives on Troll Hill

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(continued from page 17 - DAILY
NEWS, West Bend, WI - Nov. 10, 2006)

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Sept. 18, 2006 CR: G. Conway

Road, just through the woods from the reported sighting.

He was out hunting this morning, but didn't catch sight of anything unusual.

"If I'm not hunting, I'm out walking the woods and I've never seen anything," said Liethen. "But the gentleman must have seen something.

He was pretty shook up."

Liethen has a camera set up in the woods to record passing wildlife, but said he has not recorded any images of an animal matching the description.

The sighting has added to Liethen's daily chores, however.

"Since this happened I will be taking out the garbage and getting the mail. My wife says, 'you do it,' but the paper might wait until it's light out," said Liethen.

Highway Commissioner Ken Pesch was amused by the report.

"That's one way to get rid of them," said Pesch of the pilfered carcass.

Reports of dead animals are sent to the Sheriff's Department and the state Department of Natural Resources contracts with the man to have the carcasses removed, Pesch said.

"We can't touch those carcasses. You need a license, so if they catch Bigfoot, they might want to check his license," said Pesch.



In this photo released by Seekers-Malaysia, its founder Syed Abdullah Syed Hussien (left), looks on as a DNA expert inspects one of three mummified ghoullike dolls for DNA testing at University Malaya in Kuala Lumpur. The group of Malaysian ghost hunters say they have a footprint mould of the mythical Bigfoot creature and will sell it to raise funds to determine if the three mummies are real.

MERIDIAN BOOSTER, Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada - Jan. 19, 2007

Does Bigfoot exist?

JOHN B. SPIGOTT
STAFF WRITER

If Edmonton native Todd Standing is right, the elusive Bigfoot may be elusive no more.

Standing will be hosting a documentary showing tonight at the Vic Juba Community Theatre about the legendary creature, and says he not only knows where Bigfoot lives, but has also seen one.

"I'm showing the third video, a video which hasn't been publicly released yet," said Standing. "It's going to be the most definitive piece of Bigfoot evidence ever."

Standing said he had a kinesthetic - an expert on motion related to body movement - do an analysis on the footage and was told by the kinesthetic that the fastest man in the world could not do it in 24 seconds, while the bipedal animal on film did it in 17 seconds.

"There are no special effects done to the tape," said Standing. "If no human being could have done it ... what did it? I'm not saying believe me, but all I want is to get a CNN or a NBC type media to come with me, and I'll prove to everyone."

"You know what? I probably wouldn't believe me. But give me an opportunity, and I'll go out and I'll prove it."

A close friend of Standing's had a run-in with Bigfoot in the region known as Sylvan, which got Standing interested in the possibility of delving into the Bigfoot myth for himself. All Standing will reveal about the location of Sylvan is that it is in the North American Rocky Mountains.

Standing embarked on several expeditions to Sylvan beginning in 2005 in search of Bigfoot, and says after three expeditions he still didn't believe that Bigfoot definitively existed. It wasn't until he saw the nocturnal behaviour of an unidentified animal that he started to change from skeptic to believer.

"It was what I saw at night ... no animal could have done the things we witnessed," said Standing. "It wasn't a ghost out there either - it was flesh and blood. There's something out there no one knows about."

Standing says he became a believer when he heard an animal traverse 200 metres of dense bush and climb a 50 foot rock face straight up.

"When I heard that in 40 seconds, I became a believer," said Standing. "I couldn't deny what I heard."

Although Standing says he could easily go public with the information he has now and show people exactly what it takes to capture these animals, he wants to make sure the animals are protected from people who might hunt them

Meet the man who says he's got the proof

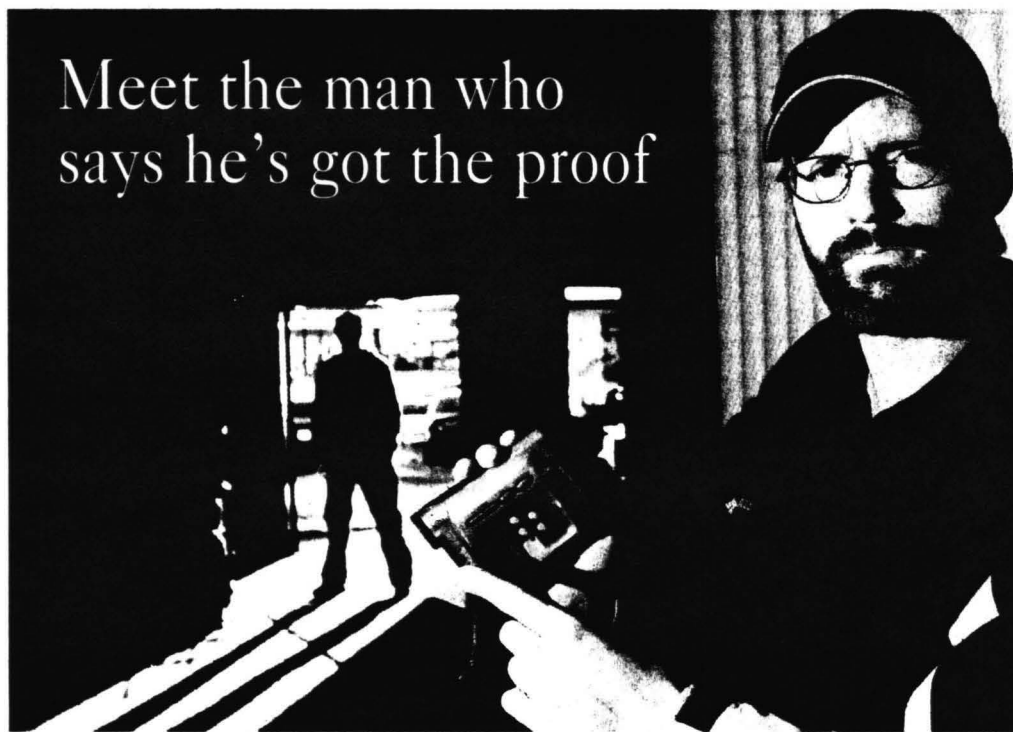


PHOTO BY KEVIN HILL

Todd Standing poses here with the video camera on which he claims to have captured footage of a sasquatch. Standing will be presenting his documentary, *Sylvan*, at the Vic Juba Theatre today.

They evade people as a community," said Standing. "I believe they have a special sensory perception, but I can't prove that yet. All I know is they triangulate themselves in an area of the mountains wherever they feel comfortable and when people come, they have daywatchers, so they just back away."

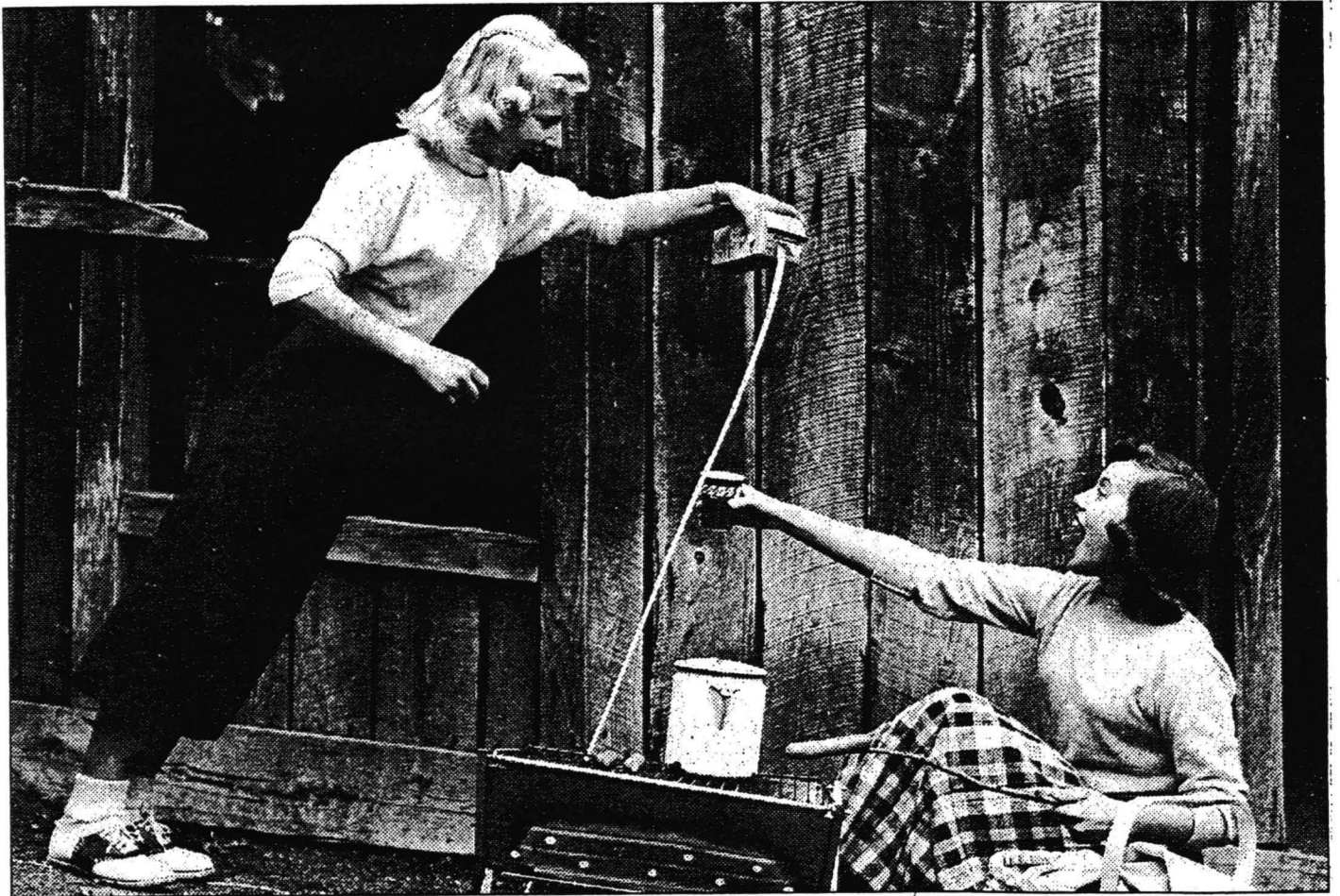
Death threats, angry letters and furious people all come with the territory for a man who is trying to prove what some say simply cannot exist.

"Some people are just ignorant and rude about things," said Standing. "But for the most part, I get tremendous support from the people and places I go to."

Standing said his next video will focus on obtaining physical evidence of Bigfoot, something he doesn't foresee as being a big problem.

"The only reason we were unable to get physical evidence last time is because it was raining 90 per cent of the time," said Standing. "When you're looking for hair samples in the muck and the rain, it's just not going to happen. But we came back with the video samples, which are very conclusive, and we want to carry on with our research and in the spring do another expedition."

The documentary shows at 7 p.m., 8 p.m., and 9 p.m. tonight at the Vic Juba, and all proceeds for the non-profit event will be donated to the Lloydminster SPCA.



Wisconsin Historical Society | The Associated Press

This 1957 publicity photo shows milk seemingly being poured at an angle, demonstrating the "gravity vortex" of the Wonder Spot in Lake Delton, Wis. The tourist attraction has been sold to the village, which wants to build a road through the crevice where it stands.

Wis. Wonder Spot is closed

Attraction known as "gravity vortex" has been sold

By Todd Richmond
The Associated Press

Lake Delton, Wis. — In a wooded ravine tucked away from the water parks, restaurants and mega-resorts that dominate this tourist town, a piece of history is quietly dying.

After more than half a century of wowing tourists (and causing probably more than a few cases of nausea), the Wonder Spot, a mysterious cabin where people can't stand up straight, water runs uphill and chairs balance on two legs, is no more.

Owner Bill Carney has sold the iconic attraction to the village of Lake Delton for \$300,000. The village wants to build a road through the crevice where the Wonder Spot has stood since the 1950s.

Now, the Wonder Spot, one of

more than a dozen sites around the nation dubbed "gravity vortexes" and a throwback to post-war, family-oriented tourist attractions, has a date with a bulldozer.

"We're kind of wondering how the town is going to deal with the gravitational forces under the road. That might be an issue with driving and how you bank a curve," joked Doug Kirby, publisher of RoadsideAmerica.com, which catalogs odd tourist attractions.

Kirby's site lists the Wonder Spot as one of 21 so-called "mystery spots." Lake Wales, Fla., has Spook Hill. Irish Hills, Mich., has Mystery Hill. California has the Mystery Spot in Santa Cruz.

The story behind each one is similar: Gravity doesn't work in them. Visitors seem to grow smaller, can't stand up straight

and can barely walk.

Promotions boast that strange forces in the spots trump the laws of physics. Others say they're just elaborate hoaxes.

"It seems like to spend a lot of scientific effort to debunk these places, you're just sucking the fun out of a tourist attraction a lot of people enjoy," Kirby said.

The Wonder Spot lies just off U.S. 12, the main drag between Lake Delton and Wisconsin Dells in south-central Wisconsin.

Together, the two cities constitute Wisconsin's answer to Las Vegas. The corridor between them is packed with water parks, giant resorts, museums, hotels and restaurants. The area convention bureau boasts that the region is the water-park capital of the world.

Bear Lake Monster? Yes, says historian

By Kelly Hafen
staff writer

The first documented siting of the Bear Lake Monster was in July of 1868 by a number of pioneer settlers.

Their recorded witness was not only the beginning of a number of personal accounts of the Bear Lake Monster as well as other such aquatic species in Northern Utah, says Monsterologist Will Bagley, but also the beginning of a sort of identity for people who live in the area.

"It is those stories that make us a people and make us who we are," he said. "The telling of that human experience is abso-

lutely a wonderful adventure."

In a talk titled "The Bear Lake Monster and Utah's Other Infamous Aquatic Animals," Bagley spoke Thursday to his audience about what he says is evidence that supports the existence of this reptilian beast located in the Caribbean of the Rocky Mountains. The speech was funded by the Utah Humanities Council and given to a full room at the Logan Justice Center.

"The history of the Bear Lake Monsters deserves serious consideration," Bagley said, explaining that the Bear Lake Monster(s) travels in pods, which indicates there may be more

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Photo courtesy USU Special Collections
The Bear Lake Monster nipping at the heels of the Shoshone in an early day siting.

than one freshwater serpent.

As Utah's self-proclaimed leading monsterologist, a historical consultant and an author of several books, Bagley defended that this creature, which has been described as a sort of serpent no shorter than 195 feet that can travel up to 60 mph, is supported by anthropological evidence from Shoshone tales relating to the Bear Lake Monster.

But he said the most compelling evidence was established by early leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the many supportive

articles printed in the Deseret Morning News.

Bagley cites several prominent religious members, including Brigham Young, George Q. Cannon, John Taylor, Lorenzo Snow and Joseph F. Smith, as strong believers in the Bear Lake Monster. All but Brigham Young claimed they had seen the serpent, he said.

"The Deseret News refuses to back down on reporting about the Bear Lake Monster," he said. "And although he never saw, Brigham Young not only believed in the Bear Lake Monster, he invested in the

Bear Lake Monster."

In devising a trap for the Monster, early settlers made use of 300 yards of steel cable, a buoy and a rope used as a leader for a hook baited with a sheep. Bagley said Brigham Young himself donated the rope to trap the Caribbean serpent.

"This is among the most compelling pieces of evidences about the Bear Lake Monster," Bagley said.

Bagley said the trap was successful because sheep often disappeared. But the Bear Lake Monster was never caught.

"Clearly we're dealing not with a resilient animal that can deal with a number of environmental challenges. But one that is very smart and can figure out how to get sheep off of a hook," he said.

Besides the Bear Lake Monster and among the belief of lake monsters worldwide, Bagley entertains the idea of several "Other Infamous Aquatic Outlaws" throughout Utah. He includes in the list of inhabited waters Panguitch, Sevier, Utah and the Great Salt lakes.

He said there have been more recent and more believable reports on the existence of a Utah Lake monster.

Among reports of sitings of a Utah Lake monster from duck hunters, fishermen and children, there has been physi-

cal evidence in the form of a recovered skull exhibiting a single horn. "Which indicates that we have a unicorn-style lake monster in Utah Lake," Bagley quipped.

Stories of a Salt Lake monster lacked credibility, Bagley said. This monster is described as more reptilian, resembling a crocodile. But crocodiles would have a hard time living in water as salty as the Great Salt Lake, Bagley said.

"All the reports come of the Salt Lake Monster from scurrilous gentiles who were all drunk out of their heads when they actually spotted the Salt Lake Monster," he said. "We have been unable to link the Salt Lake Monster in with the family of lake monsters that I believe survive to this day in Utah."

But even Bagley admitted he once had his doubts about the Bear Lake Monster. He questioned its existence until he heard a personal story about an encounter with the creature from Bear Lake resident Brian Hirschi, who owns the pontoon-boat replica of the Bear Lake Monster.

Hirschi told Bagley that it was his "civic duty that finally compelled Brian to come forward to warn people to be on the lookout for the Bear Lake Monster because it is still alive and lurking," Bagley said.

OBSERVER, Charlotte, NC - Jan. 27, 2007 CR: J. Fisher

Peter Tompkins, journalist, author, spy

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. — Peter Tompkins, a former journalist, World War II spy and best-selling author, has died. Tompkins, 87, died Wednesday morning at his home, according to the Melvin T. Strider Colonial Funeral Home.



Tompkins

He served as a war correspondent for the New York Herald Tribune and NBC before he joined the U.S. Office of Strategic Services, the precursor to the CIA, in 1941. Because he had grown up in Italy, Tompkins was sent to Rome prior to the invasion of Italy in 1944. He wrote about his experiences in the 1962 book "A Spy in Rome."

He wrote or co-authored more than a dozen books, including "The Secret Life of Plants" and "Secrets of the Great Pyramid." — ASSOCIATED PRESS