

UFO

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More sightings

Residents remain puzzled by lights

By WHITNEY WHITE-ASHLEY
Staff Writer
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Questions and reports of new sightings continue to flood into the Empire-Tribune office. For nearly two weeks, area residents have been glued to the night skies and have witnessed, taped and photographed mysterious lights flashing across the sky.

Theories about the lights have ranged from military tests, to atmosphere phenomenon, to otherworldly visitors. But stories are starting to come in from across the state and from all types of people.

Lonnie Hammonds said he saw the lights in Hamilton County on Oct. 28 and 29.

"It was right on top of the mountains and it looked pretty close," Hammonds said. "It has to be something military."

Hammonds also said when the object started to move, it sounded like the sound barrier was broken.

"I've never seen anything like that and I'm 83," said Jimmie Butler of Dublin, who saw the lights on Oct. 23. Butler doesn't believe what she saw was any kind of plane.

Tarena Major, who has started watching the Stephenville

skies since spotting the lights last week isn't buying into the F-16 story either.

"You can see the fighter jets, but that's not what we're looking at," Major said.

Keith Aikens lives in White Settlement, where he's been busy deer hunting. He said he saw something while he was sitting in his deer stand that made him think he was crazy until a friend showed him reports in the E-T.

Aikens said the object hovered just above his stand. He was so frightened that he called 911.

"It was huge," Aikens said.

"I had no idea other people were seeing it too."

He also saw a video on the WFAA Web site that he said looked like what he saw - and he doesn't believe it was a plane.

"I live right next to Carswell (Air Force Base), about a block from the runway, and they weren't planes. I've seen the stealth; I've seen the space shuttle land out here and I've never seen anything like this," Aikens said.

Cody Miller of Dublin said he has seen something like it before, last fall. He was mow-

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LIGHTS

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ing on a "beautiful" and clear day when he noticed something metallic in the sky.

"It didn't have any windows or propellers. I was that close to it," Miller said.

He also didn't hear any sound.

Janice, a Stephenville resident who asked to not have her last name included, said she has noticed the lights since 2006.

"I have been seeing these lights for a long time. They're very prominent here," she said.

Janice believes the lights are coming from otherworldly creatures.

"I think they're looking for something and they haven't found it," Janice said.

She also said she doesn't think people should be afraid of what they are seeing.

The military continues to explain the sightings as nothing more than F-16s moving from the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base in Fort Worth to the Brownwood

Military Operation Area.

Alejandro T. Rojas, Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) director of public education, said they are continuing to evaluate the situation in Stephenville.

"We do have several wit-

nesses," Rojas said.

MUFON has also filed for copies of radar reports from the Federal Aviation Administration and the Naval Air Station in Fort Worth under the Freedom of Information Act.



STEPHENVILLE
EMPIRE-TRIBUNE

EMPIRE-TRIBUNE
Stephenville, Texas
November 2, 2008

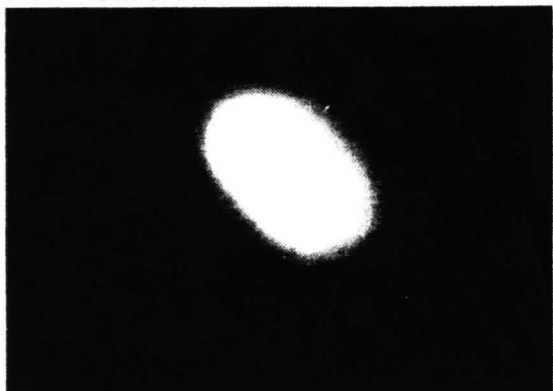


Photo contributed

A viewer from east Texas sent this photo to Jim Douglas at WFAA Channel 8, showing what she called a UFO.

Texas Press Clipping Bureau
Dallas TX 214-969-5570

BRIEFS

Another UFO reported near Stephenville

They're back. Another UFO sighting in the sky near Stephenville, that is. The city about 70 miles southeast of Fort Worth has been the epicenter of recent UFO sightings, and now someone has reported seeing a brightly lit object above it Tuesday with pulsing amber or orange lights and a smooth underbelly. "This seems to be a fairly major sighting," said Angelia Joiner, the local reporter who broke the original sighting stories and is, for better or worse, the area's resident expert on things out of this world. Her report on the sighting appears at www.reporternews.com.

— Bryon Okada

STAR TELEGRAM
Fort Worth, Texas
November 22, 2008

LAURINBURGEXCHANGE

LAURINBURG EXCHANGE

Laurinburg, NC

November 14, 2008

By Johnny Woodard

Laurinburg couple reports UFO sighting in Barnes Bridge area

Last Sunday, a Laurinburg businessman said he had an experience that he might have chalked up to an active imagination if it had happened to someone else.

Even now he is a little bit sheepish when talking about the incident lest someone call him a "nut".

He has declined to give his name.

On Sunday at approximately 6:15 p.m. the man and his wife were driving past General MaCarthur's Restaurant when they saw a startlingly bright light on the horizon.

"What in the world is that?" the man said he asked his wife.

His spouse proposed that it was the moon behind the clouds. Then she spotted the moon in another corner of the sky.

"That's not the moon," the man said to his wife, as the rectangular shaped unidentified flying object continued to float slowly.

"It was a really, really bright yellowish color," he said.

As the couple continued their drive, staring in awe of what was before them, the object began to change.

"We saw it probably 30 seconds or so and it split and divided into individual round bright lights -- one in the group of lights was moving back and forth, casually."

Skeptics of the supernatural offer many explanations for experiences like the Laurinburg couple had on Sunday. A popular one is that what people see when they see UFOs are often military aircraft. That explanation would seem to hold some water, considering the proximity of the Laurinburg-Maxton Airport and Fort Bragg, which will be expanding in the coming months.

"It was definitely nothing like anything that is possible from our military," said the man. "I have seen lights just like these in UFO television programs before, and there is no way they are airplanes, or anything else like that."

Skeptics have also proposed that those who see UFOs do so because they want to. Notable skeptic James Randi, founder of the James Randi Educational Foundation, claims that many people who report UFOs simply allowed themselves to make an ordinary experience extraordinary.

"Endless reports of UFOs have come in, most of them actually of weather balloons, science projects, meteors, regular airline flights, and other relatively mundane events," said Randi, who offers a \$1 million dollar prize to anyone who can provide irrefutable proof of supernatural activity.

"In most cases, sizes and distances have been given, though such figures simply cannot be determined without the use of proper instrumentation, a comparison object, or another properly recorded, independent report. It is an illusion most people have that they can tell the size and/or the distance of an object without these advantages, and it is just not true."

Randi also challenges the credibility of those who claim to have seen UFOs, saying that many people who believe they have had experiences with aliens also believe that they "have lived former lives, and can recall them."

Past lives are not something the Laurinburg man, a Christian clergyman, believes in.

"I don't want people to think I'm some kind of a UFO nut," he said of his not wishing to be identified. "The experience raises no anxiety -- I just look at it as an unusual experience."

The pastor and his wife are not the only ones to have reported UFO activity in this part of the state. In November of last year, a pair of Southern Pines teens recounted to The Pilot their experience with strange lights in the sky.

Jacob Cole and Ben Sizer reported sitting on the porch near Cole's Lake Auman home and noticing a "bright, big, green glow" in the sky. The time was, just like this week's sighting in Laurinburg, approximately 6:15 p.m. "It was fizzling, falling like it was on fire," Cole said. Cole reported that the object then split into smaller parts.

"My dad is big into astronomy," Cole said, "We've looked at planets, watched shooting stars and meteor showers before. This was nothing

like a meteor shower." Cole also added that there was no noise associated with the encounter.

There was also no sound during Sunday's sighting.

The couple continued driving in their car near Barnes Bridge Road, and noticed the objects move rapidly toward the direction of East Laurinburg. "Then they just disappeared."

This UFO sighting was the first for the wife, who had listened to her husband describe seeing three other strange flying objects over the past six months.

"I've seen single lights this year, very bright ... 'boy this is odd' I thought," the pastor said.

What the minister had seen at 5 a.m. while running, or late at night while taking out his dog could not compare to what he saw with his wife on Sunday, however.

The Laurinburg and Scotland County authorities received no calls over the weekend describing any unusual sightings.

That however, does not shake the couple's confidence in what they saw.

"Being a minister, and having read the Bible, I feel like it's something demonic.

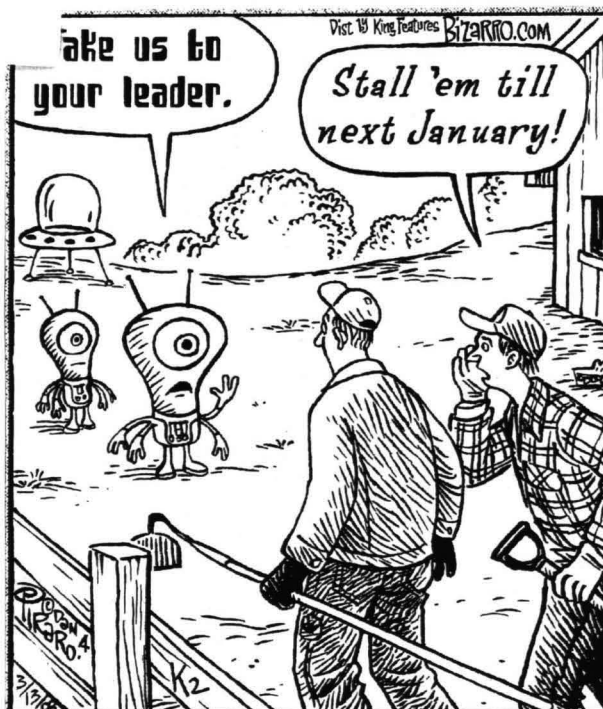
(According to the Bible) Satan is the prince of, and has power over the air, and in my estimation it is related to that in a spiritual way."

"It is likely Satan trying to show his power."

Whether it is aliens, or weather balloons, or demons that the Laurinburg couple actually saw, a few things are true.

Two ordinary people who are afraid to seem like "nuts", and who are respected business owners and community and church members have had a graphic and stirring encounter with something they cannot explain.

FUNNY TIMES MAGAZINE
Cleveland Hts., Ohio
November 2008



EMPIRE-TRIBUNE
Stephenville, Texas
October 30, 2008

October 30 2008

Texas Press Clipping Bureau

Thursday

Sightings continue to puzzle residents

www.empiretribune.com

By WHITNEY WHITE-ASHLEY
Staff Writer
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Recent unexplained lights spotted in the skies of Erath County continue to haunt residents who can't dismiss what they saw last week. New reports of lights spotted above Stephenville Tuesday night have witnesses like Sandy Bell of Freestone County talking about their experience.

Bell said she saw lights on the horizon last week and again on Tuesday when she went outside to feed her dogs shortly after 8 p.m.

"I have gotten into the habit of scanning the sky because of what happened last week," Bell said.

She saw an objet on the horizon to the south-

west.

"I watched it briefly, it was large (I was seeing it from far off), it had a definite red glow and had a faint strobe effect with a whitish blue light emitting around it," Bell said.

Bell and her boyfriend used a high power rifle scope to get a closer look.

"We could clearly see an oval or round object that had a red glow, it pulsated," Bell said. "Whatever this was, it was big because we were seeing it from a great distance from where it actually was."

The object looked more orange through the scope.

The object would occasionally throw a white or blue light. Bell said planes routinely fly

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SIGHTINGS

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along Interstate 45, but that this object did not resemble anything she had seen.

"We really could not believe our eyes. It finally just looked like it disappeared over the horizon (or lowered itself to a point we could not see) at exactly 8:33 p.m.," Bell said.

Stephenville residents also caught glimpses of the lights.

Junior Chacon was in the HEB parking lot around 7:45 p.m. Tuesday when he saw something in the sky towards Dublin that looked like a large star.

Then he noticed two sets of three lights that would turn on and off; they would move apart and then come back together.

He said there were about eight other people, including customers and employees, standing in the parking lot and watching the lights.

Clinton Holland was driving down Lingleville Highway with his friend Aaron Adams around 7:40 p.m. on Tuesday when they, and several other cars, pulled over to watch some lights they noticed on the

horizon.

Adams said it started as a single bright light sitting just above the power lines and was headed toward Dublin. He had a hard time telling if the light was blinking, or if the power line was obstructing his view.

Holland said he soon noticed multiple lights, but couldn't tell exactly what was happening. Lights kept "dropping" and disappearing, but he didn't know if something was actually falling from the sky or if the lights were rotating around an object.

Tarena Major was on Highway 377 in Stephenville when she made her husband pull over. They had noticed a bright light.

"I saw a big light that was kind of low, like a star," Major said.

Shortly after two smaller lights appeared on both sides of the large bright light, then they disappeared.

"It was a big light show, but definitely not airplanes," Major said.

Many people are still searching for or offering explanations for the big light show. Some believe they are intergalactic visitors, while others think they are top-secret military flight-tests.

United States Air Force Reserve Major Karl Lewis, public affairs officer at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base in Fort Worth, responded to the latest sightings and a series of questions about training schedules and tactics with a simple response.

"We routinely train, during the day and in the evenings, in the Brownwood

Military Operating Area (MOA)," Lewis said in an e-mail.

But for many, that answer isn't enough and they believe that what they saw in the night sky was not simply an F-16 in training.

Dwight Williams with Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene said their flight patterns usually head to the west.

"Most of our action is north and west. If we go east, we're going to the east coast," Williams said.

The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) has sent a field investigator to Stephenville to conduct field interviews with witnesses this week. The investigator will evaluate pictures, videos and testimony in an attempt to sort out the information.

**KEYE-TV (Online)**
Austin, TX
November 24, 2008

By Alexis Patterson

Austin Planetarium Looking Into Recent UFO Sightings

The Austin Planetarium is now investigating some strange sights in the sky - caught on tape. An astronomy expert is calling them unidentified flying objects - UFOs.

Some men who live in a Central Austin apartment building say they've seen bizarre things in the sky for months, but lately it's been more frequent. The men recorded their sightings on home video. Experts from the Austin Planetarium visited the apartment building area Friday night to see if they could also spot the objects.

Nothing appeared in the sky Friday that would convert any skeptics. But the home video show by Carl Lancaster and Doug McCullough may raise questions in some people's minds.

"Sometimes they go fast, sometimes they go slow. They make no noise," said McCullough.

McCullough and Lancaster aren't sure what they captured on video. The executive director of the Austin Planetarium doesn't know either.

"It doesn't look like anything I can recognize," said Torvald Hessel.

Hessel, an astronomer, says the objects don't move like an airplane.

"There's a military base close by, so that would be possible, and they are not going to tell you if they're flying something special," said Hessel.

But Hessel doesn't think the shapes are weather balloons, comets, or shooting stars.

"It's an unidentified flying object," said Hessel. "I'm not saying it's little green men at all. It's just something we see flying in the air, and we don't know what it is."

The Austin Planetarium plans to try to enhance the video to see if some answers can be identified. The video enhancement will take a few days at least. In the meantime, Lancaster and McCullough say they'll keep watching the sky.

Lancaster and McCullough say they first saw the objects back in April, then didn't see them again until September. They tell CBS42 they've consistently seen the objects since then.

Delavan resident makes claim of UFO sighting

By Michael Hoey
CORRESPONDENT

While most people associate Halloween with ghosts, monsters, and other various spooks, one Delavan resident had a different experience this Halloween.

On Oct. 31 Mary Hennerley, 49, of Autumn Lane in Delavan, reported seeing something strange in the sky as she returned home from Darien. It was just before 7 p.m., and the entire incident lasted just a few seconds.

Hennerley reported seeing what looked like a shooting star – which she has plenty of experience seeing in the past from her balcony. What was strange about this star was its path. Instead of moving in a downward motion toward the earth, it was moving very rapidly parallel to

the earth.

"It just caught my eye," she said. "It had a big tail behind it like an exhaust or vapor trail."

Within three or four seconds, it was gone. Hennerley's two children were in the car with her, but neither of them looked up in time to see anything.

Hennerley has no pictures or video to share. She said she is not looking for attention or a big payday. She just wants an explanation.

"I wasn't a believer in UFOs," she said. "Now I'm not so sure."

While now open to that possibility, she also seemed interested in whatever natural explanation there might be for what she saw and she is interested to know if anyone else saw anything strange

that night.

Local police departments in the City of Delavan, the Town of Delavan and the Village of Darien do not have any reports on record of any unusual sightings on Oct. 31, so Hennerley may have been the only one to witness the phenomenon.

"It was like nothing I had ever seen before," she said.

She described the object as round, about the size of a star. She was certain it was not an airplane or jet in her opinion. It was not all that far up in the sky, about 5,000 feet in her estimation.

Richard Dreiser, Yerkes Observatory public information director, offered a few man-made and natural explanations. He said no one at the observatory reported seeing anything unusual

on Oct. 31.

Man-made possibilities included the International Space Station or another satellite, though after hearing the full description of what Hennerley saw and where she saw it Dreiser thought a natural explanation was more likely.

According to Dreiser, we are currently in the midst of a meteor shower from the Orionids group of meteors. The shower peaked around Oct. 21 but is visible for about three weeks from Oct. 2 to Nov. 7.

"The timing fits perfectly," Dreiser said.

"Most people know about the meteor showers in August," he said. "Fewer know about these because of the colder weather."

Dreiser also said it would be

very difficult to accurately pinpoint where a meteor came from while in a moving vehicle. The parallel path of the object Hennerley described did not change his mind. He was fairly confident the object was a meteor.

Every year meteor showers occur as the result of debris from a comet's tail falling to earth. These pieces of debris can light up the sky but burn up and become microscopic bits before falling to earth. Meteors that leave a crater in the earth are actually pieces of asteroids.

Dreiser also said another meteor shower from the Taurids group could also have been visible that night. Many times meteor showers overlap and the one from Taurids is visible from Sept. 25 to Nov. 25.

ELKHORN INDEPENDENT
Elkhorn, Wisconsin
October 13, 2008
Cr: Richard Heiden

Katy Times

KATY TIMES
Katy, TX
November 4, 2008

By Tracy Dang

UFO making a sighting in small town Katy?

A strange flying object hovering over the area last month has caused some discussion amongst the community.

While some believe it is a helicopter or an airplane, others are entertaining the idea it may be a UFO.

It all started when I received a call from a Katy resident Oct. 23. She had noticed what she thought was a helicopter with a search light hovering back and forth over the Green Trails/Nottingham Country area.

As a former volunteer firefighter, she knew helicopters often respond to accident scenes and emergency situations, but LifeFlight sounds different and it does not have the bright lights.

She was curious to know what was going on and called several law enforcement agencies to see if she could find out. However, nobody was able to give her an answer.

Worried that an agency was looking for somebody – perhaps a wanted suspect – she called me to see if I had heard of anything.

I told her I didn't know of anything and assured her if there was a search or a chase going on, we would probably hear about it because agencies often times will use the media for help.

I didn't give the phone call another thought, but the next night, I heard what sounded like a helicopter flying over my neighborhood in the Green Trails subdivision around 9 or 10 p.m.

I decided to do some investigating on my own and called several law enforcement agencies including the Harris County Sheriff's Office, the Pct. 5 Constable's Office, Katy Police Department and even Houston Police Department.

"We don't have a helicopter."

"We don't have any activity going on in that area."

"It's all quiet tonight."

"Maybe it's a news copter."

I heard it again the next night but ignored it, determined not to be sucked back into the wild goose chase.

It wasn't until Sunday night that I gave it much thought again. I was approving comments on our Web site when I read one on the story "Aliens invade Katy."

A true original wrote, "Cute article. You should have some how fit in the two UFO sightings in Katy on the 23rd and 24th. See YouTube for (Katy, Texas UFO)."

Curious, I went to YouTube, and there it was – the object I saw in the sky.

Some entertained the thought of the object being a UFO.

One person said, "The two lights on the right hand side are communicating with each other, they are exchanging information. I have seen an almost exact replica of this exchange almost every night outside my window by Yankee Stadium for months now."

One person said, "That area is a common flight path for airplanes, whenever you look up in the sky their your pretty much guaranteed to see at least three airplanes at once. It's a good video and does look like what you say it is. Just in this particular case, it's not anything out of the ordinary."

I guess we may never know...

UFO sightings reported near Iredell

By Evan Moore
Bosque County News

They're back

UFO sightings around Dublin and Stephenville, which came in waves in January, have started up again, and among those who have spotted strange lights over the Erath County area is a Bosque County man.

Rene Benitez said he was driving from Meridian toward Iredell on Texas 6 about 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 28, when he saw a series of oval clusters of multi-colored lights in the direction of Stephenville.

"It was almost dark, but not quite and they were really plain," said Benitez. "I saw one, then there was another, then a

couple more."

The clusters included white, reddish-orange and red lights, said Benitez. They were visible for several minutes, he said.

The following night, Oct. 29, said Benitez, another man captured a different sort of light in the same area on videotape. That light, he said, was conical "like the top of a snow cone" and had a brighter light over it.

About the same time, two callers told Channel 25 News in Waco that they had seen lights in the Stephenville area. Those reports came on the heels of dozens of reports around Oct. 21 in the Stephenville area.

The Oct. 21 sightings were reported in the *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, which

carried the first stories of the sightings in January that brought numerous UFO specialists flocking to the Central Texas area.

Whatever Benitez saw, the federal government denies any part in.

A spokesman for Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene directed all calls to the Federal Aviation Administration. An FAA spokesman said that agency "has no reports of anything out of the ordinary," and no records of any strange aircraft in the area.

In January, Stephenville attracted worldwide attention over the sightings.

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Texas Press Clipping Bureau
Dallas TX 214-969-5570

BOSQUE COUNTY NEWS



BOSQUE COUNTY NEWS
Meridian, Texas
November 5, 2008

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The newspaper received calls from as far away as Finland and Japan and at least 50 persons reported seeing the lights.

Stephenville cashed in on the phenomenon. The town, known as the dairy capital of Texas, features a statue of a Holstein cow along its main thoroughfare. Af-

ter the January sightings, hundreds of persons flocked to the area and the Stephenville High School Science Club began selling T-shirts to cash in on the craze.

The shirts that sold for \$10 featured a picture of a Holstein cow being beamed up to a flying saucer.

Q&A 5 minutes with Walter Andrus Jr.

Walter Andrus Jr., 87, is a co-founder of the Mutual UFO Network, which bills itself as the largest UFO research organization in the world. He lives in Seguin.

How did you become interested in UFO phenomena?

"I've been interested ever since I had a sighting in Phoenix, Ariz., in August of 1948. So it's been a long time that I have been interested."

Can you describe your sighting?

"We were in Phoenix on vacation coming back from the West Coast going to Illinois, where we used to live. I was in downtown Phoenix having lunch, getting ready to head back to the airport. We were watching a plane in the sky, which was much more interesting than looking at storefronts. My son, who was only 5 at the time, pointed out four silver balloons. There were three objects flying in formation and one that was a straggler. It was 1 o'clock in the afternoon, the sun was very bright and there were no clouds in the sky.

"They began to move east to west, and then as they got north of us, they began to disappear in the clear sky. Other people on the street had been watching them also. That made us wonder what they could be since we heard about flying disks at Roswell the year before. I had another (sighting) in Seguin many, many, years later."



WALTER ANDRUS JR.: "We'd like to be part of the nation that solves the mystery of UFOs."

How did you start the organization?

"We started officially in 1969. There were some other organizations in existence, but they just weren't doing a very good job. We thought we could do better. Apparently we have, because we're here 40 years later and other organizations passed out long ago. We're the most active UFO organization on the planet Earth."

What was the feeling you had when you saw those objects?

"I had no fear. These objects are not going to hurt anyone. The modern era of flying saucers has been since 1947, but sightings go back in to biblical times. They had sightings back in 1893 all over the United States and they called them 'mysterious airships.' This is a subject that has been around a long time and we're trying to solve it through scientific measures. You fear the unknown, but there was no fear here."

What is it you hope to discover?

"Well, some of these objects seem extraterrestrial in nature. We'd like to be part of the nation that solves the mystery of UFOs."

San Antonio
Express-News

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS NEWS
San Antonio, Texas
November 26, 2008

'Believers' open to alien possibility

Some at a UFO conference describe personal encounters.

BY RICHARD ROBBINS
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Spaceships and talking ghosts. Apparently, it's a matter of believe or not.

And it appears that most of the people who attended Saturday's Paranormal-UFO Conference at Westmoreland County Community College near Youngwood were believers — true believers.

There was, for instance, the group calling itself the International Parapsychology Research Foundation that set up shop in the Science Building, just outside the doors to where the conference speakers were holding forth.

To a person, the members of the group looked and acted entirely normal. Two arms, two legs, two eyes, a nose, a mouth.

At the same time, to a person they professed a belief in the presence of ghosts, for instance, at the Civil War battlefield at Gettysburg.

SEE UFO • C3

Cristen Stephansky of Fair Oaks said it was actually possible to obtain infrared photographic evidence of soldiers, dead since the early days of July 1863, hanging around the battlefield in nonphysical states, as "orbs" or as glowing balls, as she explained, or even some-

times in fully formed bodies.

"It's energy that's left over," Stephansky explained, noting that she and her fellow ghost hunters apply to their work a "scientific procedure" that sounds reassuring, at least to the unscientific.

The chief investigator for the IPRF, Stephansky said, sure, "people are skeptical" of these claims, but then again a lot of folks are coming around to the group's way of thinking.

"What helps is all the shows on television," said Brian Barcus of Cranberry, an IPRF member.

There are several ways to spot a ghost, the group said.

One of the easiest, apparently, is with a digital recorder. Melanie Durish of Butler Township, Butler County, said that during a recent visit to an old graveyard near Moraine State Park she picked up the voice on her recorder of a young man.

She explained that she had stopped near a headstone and started to ask questions — not the kind of questions one might pose in order to probe the mystery of death but ordinary, everyday questions. At one point, she inquired about the fellow's age.

"24" came back the answer, discernible when the recorder was played back on a computer later.

It was all very "awesome," Durish noted.

John Ventre of Greensburg, president of the Pennsylvania Mutual UFO Network, planned yesterday's conference. He said

people who attended the conference "like to be scared."

Others "like to delve into the unexplainable."

All, he said, "have a mind open to new ideas."

Ventre, who called himself a business executive with an activist take on civic life (he sits on several nonprofit boards), said he grew up on science fiction and "black-and-white B movies."

UFOs were a "hobby," Ventre said, until he agreed to accept the presidency of the state chapter of Mutual UFO Network.

Then, "the more I looked at this thing the more I thought something was there," he said.

Ventre said evidence of UFOs "is hidden in plain sight."

He said World War II General of the Army Douglas MacArthur warned about coming to terms with an UFO alien invasion. He said President Jimmy Carter and President Ronald Reagan both reported spotting UFOs. He said UFO sightings doubled this past summer in Pennsylvania — from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia roughly along the course of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Ventre said he had no explanation for the latter phenomenon.

Butch Witkowski of Lancaster, chief investigator for the state MUFON, said it was a peculiar thing that while there have been many sightings of unidentified flying objects in the skies over the state, there has never been a confirmed sighting of an alien, or ET, in Pennsylvania.

But wait, Witkowski said, someday it's going to happen.

Richard Robbins can be reached at rrobbins@tribweb.com or 724-850-2868.

TRIBUNE-REVIEW
Greensburg, Pennsylvania
October 26, 2008

TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Alien hunters to gather here

Since January, the number of strange sightings in Bucks County has risen 700 percent, according to the Mutual UFO Network.

BY JAMES MCGINNIS
STAFF WRITER

Bucks County wants to believe.

What started with a single UFO sighting over a Middletown Mexican restaurant Jan. 26 has turned into a science fiction sensation.

Spaceships were spotted over Sesame Place.

Black boomerangs were reported over Citizens Bank Park during the Phillies National League Championship series.

An extraterrestrial even was seen recently in the men's department of the local JCPenney, smiling at our women.

With more than 50 reports from Bucks since

See UFO, Page A2

January, the Pennsylvania Mutual UFO Network says it now will gather here for its next alien hunter conference Jan. 24 at Bucks County Community College.

State MUFON coordinator John Ventre is scheduled to discuss what he calls the "Pennsylvania UFO Wave." The list of speakers also includes self-professed local abductees, including history professor David Jacobs of Temple University.

Bucks County also will be profiled in a documentary — "UFOs over Earth" — scheduled to air at 9 p.m. Monday on the Discovery Channel.

No doubt, MUFON will have a lot to talk about that day. The encounters reported to the organization are lengthy and, at times,

almost too incredible to believe.

On June 23, a woman reported seeing an "alien entity" in the JCPenney's men's section.

"He was standing by a clothes rack," the report said. "She described him as being male, no hair, gray skin, almond black eyes with a lumpy heavily wrinkled face." The alien appeared to be shopping and had a "pleasant smile" for ladies in the store.

Yet the woman told MUFON she decided to leave the scene "because she and her husband were planning to attend a movie."

(It's not known which outlet the aliens chose for their shopping spree, though several other sightings were reported near the Oxford Valley Mall.)

The spacecraft over Sesame Place was seen Oct. 18. As reported to MUFON, the craft had no wings, no windows and was able to instantly change direction.

Another report from Oct. 5 recounts "bright quick flickering lights" hovering and disappearing in the sky as well as "several quiet helicopters circling the area."

On Sept. 11, a man from Warrington reported a rumbling noise and a series of falling white lights.

On June 6, a Bucks County resident reported a strange object floating down Almshouse Road toward Newtown.

Derrick Pitts, chief astronomer for the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, urges residents not to jump to conclusions about strange celestial sightings. Often times, these objects are identifiable, Pitts said. And even if they can't be explained, that doesn't necessarily make them aliens.

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The Intelligencer
phillyburbs.com
In print and online

INTELLIGENCER
Doylstown, Pennsylvania
November 18, 2008

Muroc Air Field sightings part of first UFOs

July 1947 busy month for extraterrestrial visitations

EDWARDS AFB — On the same day in 1947 that officials at Roswell Army Air Field in New Mexico announced they were in possession of a "flying disc," an Air Force lieutenant was walking into an office at what was then Muroc Army Air Field when he heard an aircraft overhead and looked up.

He saw the plane, but to its left he saw two silvery objects of either spherical or disc-like shape, moving about 300 mph at 8,000 feet altitude, heading northwest toward Mojave and glinting in the sunlight.

First Lt. Joseph McHenry called to his secretary and two sergeants inside the office.

When they stepped outside, the lieutenant pointed into the sky directly over them and said, "Tell me what you see up there."

The others said they saw the two objects as well, flying in a straight line one behind the other.

The objects weren't birds, because they glinted in the sunlight.

They could not be weather balloons, because they were traveling against the prevailing wind, and at high speed, the four said.

"I have been flying in and have been around all types of aircraft since 1943 and never in my life have I seen anything such as this," Staff Sgt. Gerald Nauman told a Army Air Force counter-intelligence agent, who wrote a report classified "confidential."

"This was no hallucination," Staff Sgt. Joseph Ruvulo told the agent.

Both the Muroc and Roswell reports were part of a wave of sightings that introduced the term "flying saucer" to America.

The first widely publicized sighting came June 24, 1947, when an Idaho pilot and businessman reported nine bright metallic objects flying at tremendous speed near Mount Rainier in Washington.

Scores followed.

"People in widely separated places and from all walks of life be-

gan to report having seen shining, high-speed, strangely maneuvering objects in the sky," UFO researcher Ted Bloecher wrote in 1967.

"On July 4 the reports rose sharply and spontaneously, and for five days there was scarcely any part of the United States that had not been visited by these strangely elusive aerial objects," Bloecher added.

"The number of sightings crested on July 7, and during the next few days reports began to diminish until, about a week later, only a handful were being made from scattered sections of the country."

The airmen at Muroc were aware of the reports.

Just minutes before the lieutenant spotted the mysterious objects in the sky, he had told other airmen in the post exchange: "Someone will have to show me one of these discs before I will believe it."

Others at Muroc saw the same objects, or ones like them, possibly on the day before, according to documents now posted by UFO enthusiasts on the Internet.

After the Muroc lieutenant got his office co-workers to look at the objects, he ran into the base dispensary and got a nurse and about

seven other medical personnel.

By the time the others got outside, the objects had disappeared in the distance before the men got there.

However, three or four minutes after the two objects disappeared, the lieutenant and his secretary spotted another spherical or disc-like object traveling in circles at about 8,000 feet altitude over the north end of the airfield, turning too tightly to be a conventional airplane.

About two hours later, the base commander pointed out an object in the sky to Maj. Richard R. Shoop.

"I observed between five and eight miles to the north what appeared to be a thin metallic object. It appeared to be metallic because the method in which it was flying caused the sun to reflect like an apparently aluminum-colored surface," Shoop said in an affidavit now reproduced on several UFO Web sites.

"The object moved from an intermediate altitude in an oscillating fashion, almost to the surface of the ground and then started climbing again.

"It climbed to a fairly high alti-

Someone will
have to show me
one of these discs
before I will
believe it.

— First Lt. Joseph McHenry

tude and moved off slowly into the distance. The object appeared to be the size of a pursuit airplane but did not have the shape of a conventional plane.

"The time that the object was in view was approximately eight minutes."

Shoop added: "This same object was seen by my wife at the same time."

Five weeks after the July 8, 1947 sightings, an investigator talked to a test pilot, who said that he had seen a mysterious sphere on July 7, 1947, the day before the others.

Maj. J.C. Wise — who later became a brigadier general — said he was running an XP-84's engine on the ground when he noticed other people looking into the air.

In the sky about 10,000 to 12,000 feet altitude he said he saw a spherical object that he first assumed was a weather balloon.

"After looking at it for a while I noticed that it was oscillating in a forward whirling movement without losing altitude. It was traveling about 200 to 225 mph and heading from west to east," Wise said in an affidavit.

It looked to be five to 10 feet in diameter and was yellowish-white.

He said he didn't have time to chase it in a P-80 jet.

While Shoop said the object he saw had been pointed out to him by Muroc's commander, Col. Signa Gilkey, Gilkey didn't sign an affidavit.

More than a month after Shoop talked to the counter-intelligence agent, Gilkey told an intelligence officer investigating the sightings that he believed the object that Shoop saw was paper and of no significance.

"No further investigation of these incidents is being considered by this headquarters," according to an Aug. 18, 1947 memo from the 4th Air Force.

Compiled by Managing Editor Charles F. Bostwick.

**UFOs
reported**

Reports of unidentified flying objects were again in the news from the Stephenville area last week. The Herald-News received its first call of a UFO sighting Friday.

Less than a year ago, the Stephenville area received national and even international publicity when numerous sightings of UFOs were reported.

A caller from the Hico area last Friday morning, who requested not to be identified, told The Herald-News that she witnessed a strange lighted object in the sky twice last Thursday between 9-10 p.m.

She said she was outside between Hico and Olin when she saw a huge group of lights in the sky in the direction of Comanche.

"The lights were orangish to yellowish," she stated in the phone conversation, "and were kind of like stadium lights, but running up and down."

She said the first time she saw the lights for about 30 seconds and five or six jets appeared to be converging on it. The jets were not close enough for her to hear them, and then suddenly the lights disappeared.

About 10 minutes later, the lights again appeared and the jets immediately "scrambled" and again headed towards the lights.

She said the lights were present for about a minute this time before again disappearing. According to the caller, the object appeared to be stationary, and the lights were not blinking.

She told The Herald-News, "I've always been very skeptical about UFO sightings, but this was very real, it was humongous."

A friend was with the caller at the time of the sightings and verified the story, but also did not want to be identified.

The caller also told The Herald-News that she reported the sightings to the Stephenville Empire Tribune. She said a reporter told her that they had already received about 15 similar reports through the week, but with most of them on Thursday night.

A story by Whitney White-Ashley in the Sunday edition of the Stephenville Empire-Tribune included reports about UFOs from about a dozen people in the area. Most of the reports were very similar; one even used the same analogy of appearing like "stadium lights."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Here are a few clippings from the famous Levelland, Texas flap of November 1957

THE DAILY JOURNAL

THE DAILY JOURNAL
Commerce, TX
November 4, 1957

Thing Flames In West

They are still talking about the mysterious object in West Texas. Observers in the Levelland area told newsmen yesterday of at least five instances in which the engines of cars approaching the object Saturday night and early Sunday were unaccountably stalled. But, they said, their engines started up again as the phenomenon rose into the air.

Sheriff Weir Clem of Levelland said he observed the brilliant light of the thing but did not get a close view.

Police Patrolman A. J. Fowler, on duty in Levelland as reports poured in from startled residents, said at least 15 persons told of getting a good look and dozens sighted what appeared to be flashes of light.

Fowler said: "They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights."

The Air Defense filter center at El Paso has ordered the ground observer corps at Andrews, in West Texas, to go on 24-hour alert. The sheriff's office at Andrews reports it has been on a constant alert since strange flashes of light were seen around Brownfield, Monahans and in Andrews county.

An 18-year-old Levelland truck driver, Ronald Martin, says his truck engine died and the lights went out "when a big ball of fire" as he described it, dropped on the highway east of Levelland early yesterday. Martin says the object changed to a bluish green color when it settled on the highway, then changed to a fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

There were also reports of an unexplained light in the sky far across the state between Sherman and McKinney.

Congressman J. T. Rutherford of Texas, at his home in Odessa, has called for a statement from the Pentagon on this and other sightings. He said he was dispatching a telegram asking for an explanation from Air Force officials in Washington.

The congressman said: "If this thing is American, there should be some explanation—at least to people in the area—that it is an American experiment so they will not be alarmed."

THE PARIS NEWS
Paris, TX
November 4, 1957

The Paris News

Flying Object In Texas Puzzle

LEVELLAND, Tex. (AP)—Reports of a mystery object which one witness said flew around with a "great sound and rush of wind" had officials and the public puzzled today.

Newsmen and authorities had reports of sightings over a wide West Texas area Saturday and yesterday.

Peace officers checking areas where landings were reported were unable to find any trace. Reese AFB officials declined to say whether an investigation was being made.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand and part time barber here, told officers and newsmen, "I was driving out to a farm near the Pettit Community (west of here)

with a friend, Joe Salaz, when he first saw the thing. We first saw a flash of light in a field to our right, and we didn't think much about it at first.

"When it got near, the lights of my truck went out and the motor died. I jumped out of the truck

and hit the dirt because I was afraid. I called to Joe but he didn't get out. The thing passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind. It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. Then I got up and watched it go out of sight toward Levelland," he said.

Saucedo, a Korean War veteran, said it was "torpedo shaped" or like, "a rocket," but much larger.

Bill Wilkerson, Lubbock Morning Avalanche veteran police reporter who talked to Saucedo, said he appeared considerably agitated.

Ronald Martin, 18, a Levelland truck driver, said his truck engine died and the lights went out "when a big ball of fire dropped on the highway" east of here early Sunday. Martin said the object changed to a bluish green color when it settled on the highway, then changed to a fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

The Daily Review

The Daily Review, Hayward, CA, November 4, 1957

Mystery Object Called Inter-Planetary Craft

LEVELLAND, Tex. (AP)—A man who has spent 20 years studying aerial phenomena said today he believes a mysterious object seen in west Texas and New Mexico "was a space craft from one of the neighboring planets."

The expert is James A. Lee of Abilene, Tex., a member of the National Investigations committee on aerial phenomena and a director of inter-planetary space patrol, a West Texas organization which investigates "flying saucers" and similar objects.

Lee rushed here yesterday upon hearing of the latest object, seen by at least nine persons in two states.

Coinciding with Russia's launching of its second earth satellite, the "thing" would have caused little more alarm if small green men had jumped out of it.

The egg-shaped object, described as about 200 feet long and brilliant red, was glimpsed by at least five persons in the Levelland area, including the sheriff, three persons at Midland and another at Clovis, N. M.

James D. Long of Waco said he was driving on a farm-to-market road west of Levelland at 1:15 a.m. Sunday when he encountered the object sitting in the road.

He said it was oval-shaped, about 200 feet long and glowed like a neon sign. He got out of his car about 200 feet away to investigate but when he did the object suddenly took off with a roar straight up into the air.

Long said his engine coughed and died and his headlights suddenly went out. When he got his car started, he hurried back to town.



British News Clippings are courtesy of TIMOTHY GOOD
Spanish Translations courtesy JANE THOMAS GUMA

Forest of
Dean and
Wye Valley

REVIEW

FOREST OF DEAN & WYE VALLEY REVIEW
Lydney, Gloucestershire, England
October 10, 2008

THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE

Ghostly UFOs haunting Ross-Monmouth road

THEY hang silently in the sky, giant triangular craft the size of a petrol forecourt, cruising the A40 dual carriageway, sometimes singly, sometimes a pair in close formation.

They are not the stuff of science fiction but the down-to-earth sightings of a Monmouth man who regularly plies the A40.

Fearing ridicule he does not want to disclose his name but wants the sightings put on record for when the truth is finally known...

"These are not just lights in the sky. They are proper pieces of kit," he says, giving this account of his second sighting in Monmouth at 10pm on the night of Friday September 26 (he had seen a similar craft between Ross and Monmouth nine months ago):

"I was coming down the dual carriageway past the boys' school going towards the tunnels and I saw two large round lights hovering over Chippenham Park. I pulled over on the slip road that leads to Beech Road, then when I got out of the car to get a better look I saw the triangles where the lights had been.

"They were low enough to hit with a stone, about the height of two and a half lamp posts stacked on top of each other. There were several lights on them, arranged symmetrically on the underside (represented by black dots in the drawing) and there were white lights on the three points of each tri-



**The witness sketched this impression of the two UFOs seen flying over Monmouth.*

angle. I can't remember the exact layout of the lights on the underside except that there were at least three different colours, including white and red, and definitely a row of four blue lights along the back end.

"Each triangle was roughly the same as the size of the roof that sits over the forecourt of the Total garage at the bottom end of Monmouth, so a bit larger than a small passenger jet. They hovered for a second over Chippenham Park then started to slowly move towards me but slightly to my right. Both objects were clearly identical in every way and were moving slower than 5mph, taking at least 15 seconds just to pass over the dual carriageway. They were absolutely silent and there were no other cars on the road at the time.

"They were incredibly close together, around 5m apart at most, travel-

ling in formation, with one to the left of, and slightly further back than the other. After passing over the dual carriageway they both turned slightly left, keeping perfect formation, now

travelling towards the Kymin; then a few seconds later they split up, one continuing towards the Kymin and the other departing straight up the dual carriageway, maintaining the same speed

and height.

"I have no idea what the objects were, except that they were solid, flying craft, with no wings and making no noise. They were definitely no aircraft that I know of, including the B-2 Stealth Bomber, and they were definitely travelling too slow for normal winged flight.

"After some research into 'UFO' sightings it would seem that similar triangles have been seen by many people for over 20 years."

He sketched what the craft looked like for the Review and wonders if other people have seen them.

Warrington Guardian

WARRINGTON GUARDIAN
Warrington, Cheshire, England
October 16, 2008

Did you see UFO over Asda?

AN unidentified flying object was sighted hovering over Asda Cockhedge on Sunday night.

The UFO was reported to be a deep red triangular shaped light with other lights surrounding the body of the craft.

Ann Bradley, aged 49, of Greenings Court, was with her son when they spotted the strange object in the sky at 9.13pm.

She said: "I know it wasn't a

plane or a helicopter. I've never seen anything like it before. It was gliding quickly across the sky and then it just disappeared.

"I don't believe in anything like UFOs but this was really strange. It was changing shape and it seemed to go from being a triangular red light to a round shape, with lights moving around it."

The pair were able to see the object for about 30 seconds before it vanished.

THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE . . .

2 3 7 4



Ministry reveals UFO sightings

Declassified Government documents detailing encounters with UFOs have been revealed to the public for the first time - and Cannock Chase is once again at the forefront of sightings.

Silent, rotating lights around the Pye Green Tower, cigar-shaped objects hovering over Burntwood, and a 10ft hovering light over the Stafford Road are just some of the sightings investigated by the British Government in the search for answers, the papers show.

And the newly-released documents - dating from 1986 to 1992 - also reveal a ruck of letters and correspondence between the Ministry of Defence (MoD), Staffordshire Police and local MPs, as they tried to explain the phenomena.

Documents also reveal that each and every news report, rumour and sighting of mysterious objects during that period had been thoroughly investigated by the Ministry of Defence.

Some of the files only serve to debunk UFO mythology, such as the re-fuelling exercise in December 1987 which involved USAF F-111 aircraft being tailed by giant KC-135 tankers and which led hundreds of local people to report a UFO that was as 'big as a football field'.

But others still have experts baffled.

And here, The Post presents a round-up of all the sightings relating to our area - an historic hotspot for unexplained phenomena - contained in the documents, now available to the public.

An MoD spokesperson said this week: "The files include descriptions of alleged Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon, or 'UFO' sightings and subsequent MoD evaluations of the reports.

"The MoD receives a large number of requests each year for information relating to UFOs, and so has introduced a system to meet this demand by releasing these historic files in a structured way."

And there's more to come, the spokesperson said.

"The rest of the files are currently under review and will be added to The National Archives over the next three years.

"To date, independent experts have concluded that there are straightforward explanations behind alleged UFO reports, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena."

And the spokesperson added that the reports are only gathered by the Ministry of Defence to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity.

"We have no other interest or role

regarding UFO matters, and do not consider questions regarding the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life-forms."

So where do the MoD's comments - and the release of the files - leave those who have devoted their lives to searching for answers to the phenomena that has been spotted in Cannock's skies for centuries?

World-renowned paranormal investigator Nick Redfern, a leading light in the field and author of several UFO books, told The Post from his Dallas base: "On the one hand, it's encouraging to see the MoD finally release these files on UFOs in the Cannock area and over the Chase, as they give a good indication of what people have been seeing here over the years.

"But, on the other hand, it's clear to me from the MoD's comments that by saying they have no interest in determining if UFOs are extraterrestrial, they are clearly trying to distance themselves from the controversy - publicly, at least.

"It wouldn't surprise me if, perhaps behind closed doors, they know much more about what is really going on. Maybe these files are just the tip of the iceberg, and the bigger UFO secrets are still hidden."

● View the entire archive of newly-released files at: <http://ufos.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

Where and when they were seen

Ministry of Defence declassified files on UFO activity around Cannock Chase:

● Declassified MoD Document: DEFE 24/1927/1

Date and time and duration of sighting: November 12, 1987, 5.12pm, for five to ten minutes

Description: Single, silent, bright white light. Intensity was that of a lorry headlamp, rotating like a lighthouse light. No definable outline of object when light was off.

Exact Position Observed: Brindley Heath Car Park, Cannock Chase.

Direction in which object was first seen: Moving left to right, passing behind GPO tower (in Pye Green)

Distance and move-

ments: After moving left to right, object slowed and then hovered over treeline before descending. As it descended, a red light came on in addition to white light.

● Declassified MoD Document: DEFE 24/1951/1*

Date and time and duration of sighting: August 10, 1988, at 00.05hrs, for approximately 5 seconds

Description of object: White spherical light approx 10ft across, hazy at edges: no sound or smell.

Exact position observed: 25ft above ground. 25yds. Ahead of witness. Witness was seated in a motor vehicle on the A513 Rugeley to Stafford Road, facing West. The vehicle was stationary.

Direction in which

object was first seen: Travelling from South-East (Seven Springs) to North-West (Great Haywood)

Movements: Travelled in a straight line then disappeared over trees.

● Declassified MoD document DEFE 24/1928/1*

Date and time and duration of sighting: April 25 1988, 11.35am, 4minutes

Description: Caravan-sized object, round with blue light.

Exact position: Aldridge, Walsall.

Direction in which object was first seen: Behind car.

*Movements: Travelling 20 to 30 feet behind car.

● Declassified MoD document: DEFE 24/1928/1*

Date and time and duration: March 5, 1988, 04.45hrs, for approx 30

seconds.

Description: Cigar-shaped light approx 3.5metres long by 6metres wide. Intense light emitted throughout entire length and breadth of the object. No markings, completely silent.

Exact position observed: 800 metres away from the informant, object rose up from a copse of trees and came to rest just above tree height.

Direction in which object was first seen: South East from Hazel Slade, towards Burntwood.

Distance and movements: First seen approximately 800 metres away from informant, was stationary above tree for around 30 seconds, then crept slowly forward for a few metres, then disappeared from view.

CANNOCK CHASE POST
Cannock, Staffordshire, England
October 23, 2008

Cannock
Chase Post

WELLS
Journal

WELLS JOURNAL
Wells, Somerset, England
October 16, 2008

Can you identify UFO?

I live on the Portland Estate in Street. At 5.45pm on Thursday I noticed something small in the sky. I thought at first it was a balloon but it was the shape of a ring. I called my son (who is 25) and we both went outside to get a better look. We then noticed another,

they were silver and seemed to be travelling in a straight line in the direction of Meare. They appeared to tilt sometimes, not quite parallel with each other, the second a little way behind.

Can anyone tell me what they were?

Name supplied

NOTTINGHAM RECORDER
Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, England
October 30, 2008

UFO claim

A MAPPERLEY man claims to have seen a strange flying object.

Luke Joynes saw a fast-moving object flying through the sky at around 10.40pm on October 21.

The 21-year-old, of Marshall Hill Drive, said: "It had a distinctive dark orange colour and moved at a very fast pace much like a jet fighter. It had very sharp rigid edges and moved low through the sky. I literally saw it for about five seconds then it was gone."

MELTON TIMES

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30 OCT 2008

'UFO' over Asfordby

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? Or is it a UFO? Three Melton men fishing in Asfordby were amazed when three bright lights appeared in the sky on Friday, writes **Jonathan McGrady**.

Stuart Williams (46) went night fishing with his brother Craig and a friend at the lake off Hoby Road. Stuart was shouting over to his brother when something caught his eye.

Stuart said: "A bright light suddenly appeared out of nowhere, it moved quickly and in a weird pattern."

Knowing people wouldn't believe him when he told them the next day he filmed the 'UFO' on his camera phone - and you can see the pictures on our website.

He added: "I was really scared while I was filming, the lake at night is a pretty spooky place anyway. And I'm certainly less sceptical about UFO sightings now."

"If we didn't have so much fishing equipment we would have ran away."

A spokesman for East Midlands Airport said: "Air traffic control logs do not show any aircraft activity in the area at the stated time."

LOUTH LEADER WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2008

Brinkhill man claims to have spotted triangular craft hovering over village

²³⁷⁴ 'I'm worried UFOs might beam me up!'

A UFO witness from Brinkhill claims he is worried about being abducted by aliens after repeatedly seeing triangle-shaped aircraft near his home.

Eric Goring, 61, visited the Leader last week to recount his bizarre experiences after reading our articles on the Louth 'orange lights' UFOs published last month.

He said: "I have been watching these spaceships for six weeks now, and saw several last Wednesday, October 15. It was really spooky and I can say for sure that any explanation these are just Chinese lanterns is ridiculous."

Recounting his latest sighting, he said: "I was outside on my scooter at around 5am and watched them for an hour. There was no noise and they moved slowly, before shooting off at speed."

Mr Goring described the objects as triangular in shape and lined with lights. He drew a diagram, right, to illustrate, explaining: "Sometimes they shone a large searchlight from the bottom. I estimate they were around 50ft across in size."

Eric claimed he had a close encounter with the UFOs last

By Gemma Gadd

gemma.gadd@jpress.co.uk

month: "I saw one come over the fields and I almost walked under it as it was hovering in the air about 200ft above me. I didn't want to go too near it as I was worried about radiation."

He added: "I am worried they might beam me up."

Adamant they were not terrestrial aircraft, he said: "They were definitely from space and of alien origin. There were no vapour trails and I could see the edges of the crafts and they were triangular."

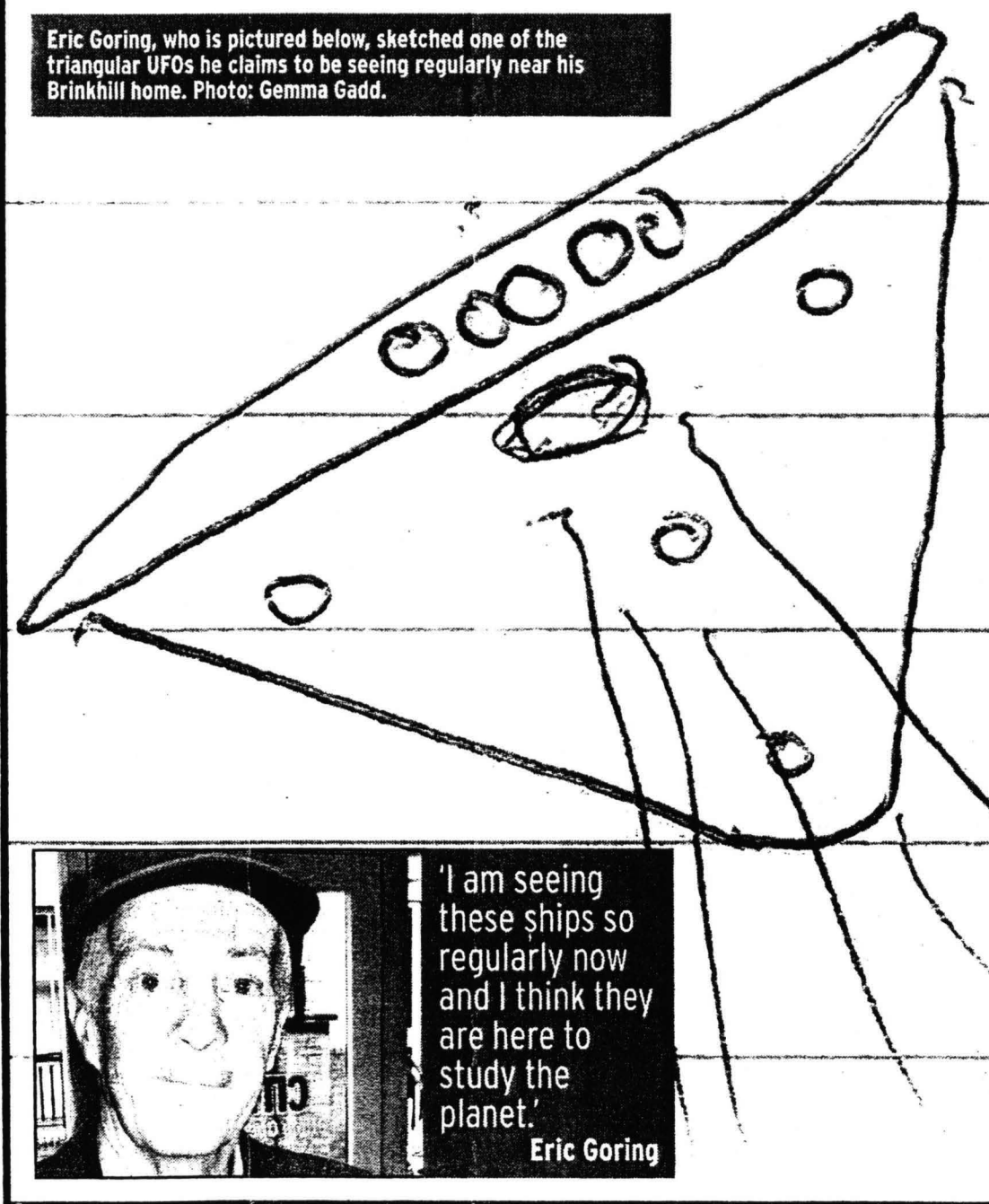
He added: "I am seeing these ships so regularly now and I think they are here to study the planet."

Eric now regularly scans the skies in the early hours of the morning to keep a watch out: "I am worried about it - somebody has to report these things as we really don't know what they're here for."

● Do you think they are UFOs? Have you seen something strange in the sky? Email gemma.gadd@jpress.co.uk

Go to our website www.louthleader.co.uk to see more of Eric's drawings of the craft.

Eric Goring, who is pictured below, sketched one of the triangular UFOs he claims to be seeing regularly near his Brinkhill home. Photo: Gemma Gadd.



'I am seeing these ships so regularly now and I think they are here to study the planet.'

Eric Goring

'We saw UFO over Cumbria'

Police investigate eye-witness claims

BY PHIL COLEMAN

MYSTERY surrounding a strange object seen in the night sky above Penrith deepened today as more people confirmed seeing it.

Cumbria Police said this week that officers spent an hour investigating the sighting on the night of September 22.

A local man rang the force's HQ and described seeing an oval shaped object traversing the clear night sky, brilliant white at the front with an orange mid section. In its wake, it left a stream of what appeared to be glowing debris, said the caller.

One Cumbrian UFO investigator has said the sighting is the latest of about a dozen in the skies above Cumbria in the last three months. Now another witness has come forward, confirming that he and a group of friends saw the object.

Derek Gove, 35, from Houghton, had just finished run-

ning a martial arts class in the village hall at Warwick Bridge when he and two friends spotted the unusual object in the sky.

He said: "We saw the bright object in the sky on the night of September 22, at about 9.45pm, the time the man from Penrith saw it."

"It was far larger than any shooting star we'd ever seen, and much brighter. It appeared white hot and glowing.

"It streaked across the sky from one side to the other, leaving a long bright trail behind it. As it was about halfway across the sky, several large chunks broke off.

“They fell away and also burned up, leaving smaller trails behind them, similar to images of the space shuttle Columbia breaking up.

"I'm no expert, but its trajectory, appearance, and trail con-

vinced us that it was either a very large meteorite, or perhaps even a satellite burning up in the atmosphere.

"As for it being reported 'at the height of a small aircraft,' we had no way of actually knowing what height it was at."

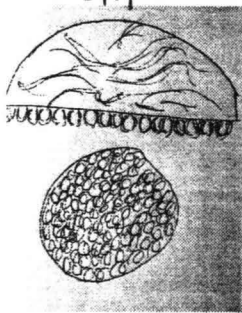
Cumbria Police contacted the RAF and scientists at the Seismic Research Centre in Edinburgh to see if they could throw any light on the object. Officers could find no explanation and concluded the object was natural.

The story has been discussed on websites across the world, while one watcher of the night sky in West Cumbria got in touch to say that he too saw a strange object in the sky over Braystones.

The man, Michael Dillon, said it was moving at speed, vertically, diagonally and horizontally.

email pcoleman@cngroup.co.uk

Mysterious fireball was 'nothing to worry about'



■ Stephen Pepper and his son Sonny and, inset, Stephen's drawing of the UFO
Photos :SM-R102808_096js and SM-R102808_110js

A mystery object floating in the skies above Uppingham has set tongues wagging this week.

Puzzled Rutlanders
have been questioning
their eyesight, their san-
ity and even their sobri-
ety after seeing a large
ball of flames streak
across the sky.

A father and son from Uppingham were the first to report their UFO sighting to the Rutland Times much to the relief of other readers.

Stephen Pepper and eight-year-old Sonny were travelling back to the town from Launde Abbey last Wednesday evening when they saw the object above Uppingham. They say it had a large dome shape on top with lights that looked like an erupting volcano. It stayed in the sky for a minute and then disappeared.

Stephen, of The Beeches, said: "I know for sure this was a UFO. If I had been stumbling out of the pub at the end of the night then I might have questioned myself but this was at 6.15pm

when I was driving home from work."

Bob Hicks, of Leicester, also spotted the UFO while walking his dog in fields near Bisbrooke. He was visiting relatives at the time and managed to capture the object on his mobile phone before it disappeared. He said: "I just put it down to a trick of the light."

Oakham man Jon Brackenridge, of Brooke Road, was relieved to read about Mr Pepper's story on the Rutland Times website this week. At around 6pm on Wednesday Jon was looking out of the windows of his second floor flat towards Uppingham.

He said: "At first I thought I was seeing things and my girlfriend was a bit sceptical so I put it to the back of my mind, but now I know somebody else has seen it too."

"I saw a incredibly bright light above the fields and knew it wasn't an aeroplane because I used to be in the RAF and know 99 per cent of the aircraft.

"I continued to look

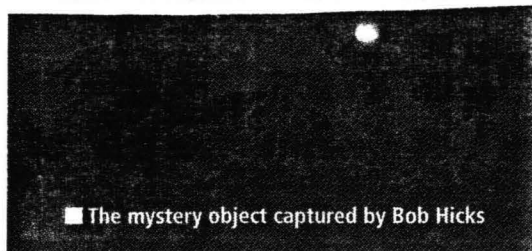
and after around 10 seconds the light plummeted downwards and disappeared. I ran outside as I then thought it might have been a plane crash but saw absolutely nothing in the fields."

But while these UFO spotters have their own theories about the glowing object, a Met Office weather forecaster and astronomer at RAF Wittering has his own suggestion. Julian Cooke believes it was an "unusually large" meteor.

He said: "Fireballs are meteors or meteorites which are brighter than normal and although they are not common, they are not that unusual either."

"There has been a meteor shower which was at its maximum last Tuesday and they do tend to spread over a few days either side. Most are the size of a grain of sand but they can be much larger and will burn for much longer or even explode in with a flash in the upper atmosphere.

"It is quite a sight but nothing to worry about."



■ The mystery object captured by Bob Hicks

Irish UFO tape to be beamed around the world

Ken Sweeney

FOOTAGE of an alleged UFO, which was filmed in Co Meath by a senior garda two months ago, is to be the main attraction of Ireland's first Paranormal Convention. The footage, filmed on a camera phone over Dunboyne on 3 August, will be shown to hundreds of UFO enthusiasts

expected at the event in Clontarf Castle, Dublin next week-end.

"What we have is the best film of a UFO ever filmed in Ireland and perhaps some of the best footage ever captured worldwide," said Carl Nally, co-founder of UFO and Paranormal Research Ireland.

"The man involved is a

high-ranking garda from Portlaoise. He was on his way back there from Dunboyne on 3 August at about 10.45pm when he spotted four triangular UFOs travelling over his head.

"It was such an amazing sight that he jumped out of his car and began filming the objects on his camera phone. What he caught was the

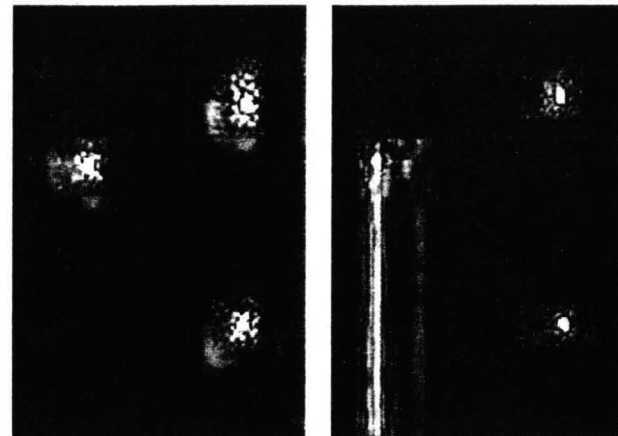
fourth triangular shaped UFO, turning anti-clockwise before shooting a beam down towards the Earth. It then can be seen flying off following the other UFOs in a northwest direction."

Nally says he has had interest in the footage from as far afield as Australia with various TV companies in touch looking for the footage to be

made available for documentaries.

A joint author of best selling Irish UFO book *Conspiracy of Silence*, Nally says the senior garda joins other credible witnesses, including an airline pilot and a town councillor, who all claim to have seen recent UFO activity in the skies around north Dublin and Meath.

These UFO witnesses are expected to talk about their experiences at the Clontarf convention. "People are becoming more open when it comes to discussing their supernatural and UFO experiences and we want to give these people a chance to meet others and ask questions," said Mark Guerin, the conference's organiser.



The UFOs spotted in Meath and (right) beaming light towards Earth

Croydon Advertiser

CROYDON ADVERTISER
Croydon, Surrey, England
October 3, 2008

More 'UFOs' spotted in the night sky

HAS there been yet more evidence of alien activity in the Croydon area?

A quiet evening-in turned to shock for Carrie Negri, 23, when she glanced out of her kitchen window in Chichester Road, East Croydon, on Saturday.

She said: "It sounds crazy but I saw seven bright orange missile-shaped lights which seemed to be travelling slowly in formation across the sky.

"I was so surprised that by the time I thought to grab my camera only five were visible.

"They seemed to be coming up from the Purley direction and all looked exactly the same size, shape and colour.

"My partner Robert Gillham said to me 'this is our lot'.

"They genuinely looked like missiles travelling together across the sky.

"I rang my father who works in Canary Wharf to warn him but he just said not to be so silly."

She has asked any Advertiser readers who witnessed any similar strange occurrences at around 10pm on Saturday to come forward.

The sighting comes just weeks after mysterious green and white lights were spotted hovering above the Tesco store at Purley Cross. It prompted calls from UFO experts for a public inquiry.

The unexplained close encounter is one of many recounted in military UFO documents released by the National Archives last week. The baffling incident caused the captain of an Alitalia plane, carrying 57 passengers, to shout: "Look out, look out!" to his co-pilot as he attempted to avert a mid-air collision at 22,000 feet.

The sighting lasted around 3.5 seconds before the strange craft disappeared from radar screens. Just over two hours later Brentwood Police received a report of a dark flying object.

IT HAS been revealed that a real Unidentified Flying Object almost certainly whizzed over Havering. Documents, released to the general public for the first time, state that 17-years ago, a mysterious missile-shaped UFO travelling at an estimated 120mph, almost caused an aeroplane en route from Milan to Heathrow to crash in the Kent countryside at 7.58pm on April 21, 1991.

Did a UFO zoom over borough?

By SHEENA MCKENZIE

that had no engine, noise or lights. Although no reports exist, it almost certainly would have passed over Havering. The case was investigated by the Civil Aviation Authority and military experts were forced to rule out the possibility of it being a missile, weather balloon, or space rocket.

Their final conclusion was that the craft was in fact a UFO.

Just weeks after the UFO sighting, a family did report seeing three orbs flying over Rise Park, Romford.

A witness said on the UFO Info website: "It was a clear, warm evening. My mother called me to come into her room and look up at the sky. On looking up, I saw three orbs in the sky coming together at what appeared to be slow speed. The event went on for at least 15 to 20 minutes.

"We then lost sight of two of the orbs and the third began to move away. It moved faster and faster until it was out of our visual range."

ROMFORD & HAVERING WEEKLY POST
Romford, Essex, England
October 31, 2008

'Missile' near to airliner

A PASSENGER jet coming in to land at Heathrow had a near miss with a UFO, the MoD files revealed.

The Alitalia flight's captain, Achille Zaghetto, was at 22,000ft when he saw the brown, 10ft-long, missile-shaped object 1,000ft above him.

He said: "At once I said, 'Look out' to my co-pilot, who looked and saw what I'd seen." Air traffic controllers also reported an unidentified object on their screens.

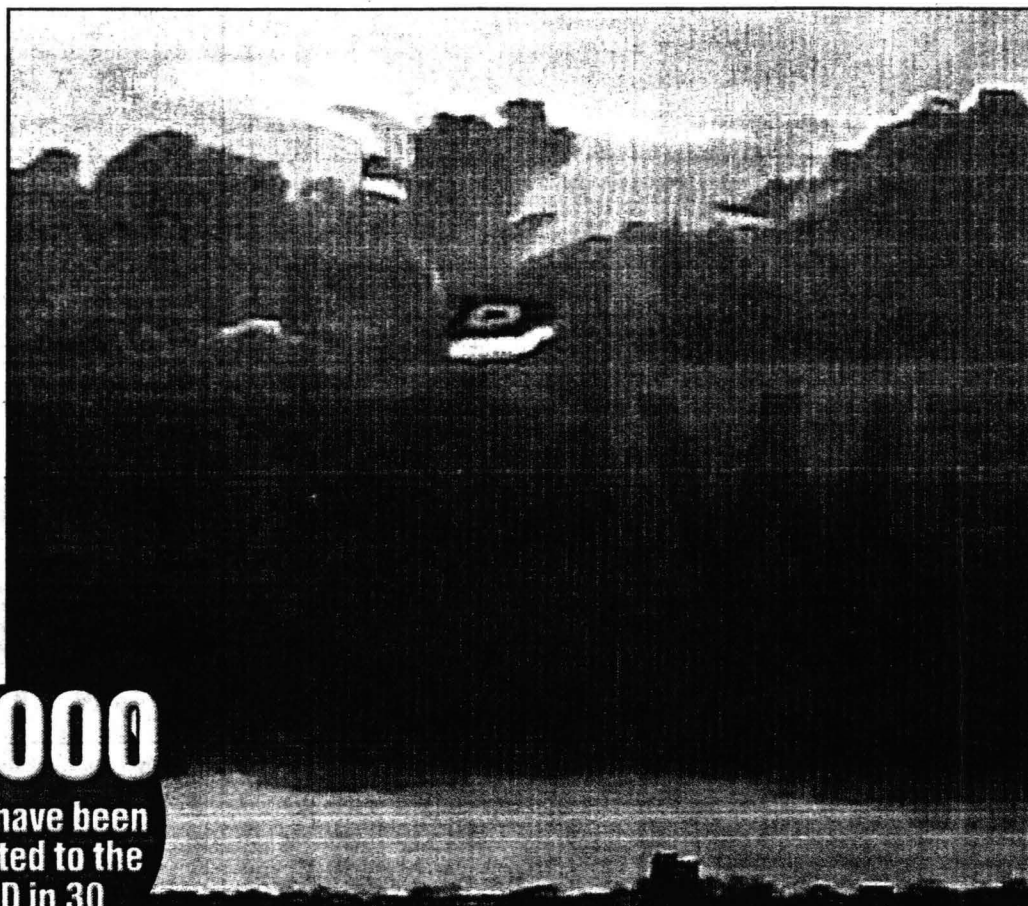
The incident in 1991 over Lydd, Kent, was investigated — but after ruling out a missile, weather balloon or space rocket, the MoD left the matter unsolved.

The National Archives files also included a letter from a woman claiming that SHE was an alien.

She said she was from a planet of "warrior women" and her spaceship came down in Britain during World War Two.

She included a sketch of herself in flowing robes with a male alien. The MoD appears not to have replied to her letter.

11,000
UFOs have been reported to the MOD in 30 years



'BEST PROOF YET'

A "FLYING saucer" is photographed in daylight over a town — in a snap hailed as one of the most important ever pieces of evidence of alien life.

The UFO shot across the sky in front of clouds above Dudley in the West Midlands.

A startled visitor to Dudley Castle captured the amazing image, and sent it to a police detective who collects UFO sightings.

Yesterday DC Gary Heseltine, 48, said: "It's a very intriguing photograph that was taken purely by chance."

"If it's genuine then it could be one of the most convincing pieces of evidence about aliens from the UK ever." The photo

EXCLUSIVE by VIRGINIA WHEELER

was taken by a 57-year-old nanny on a day out last April. DC Heseltine, of Wakefield, West Yorks, has now handed it over for study to a former US navy physicist who specialises in photo analysis.

The British Transport Police officer will reveal the findings at the UFO Data Magazine annual conference in Pontefract, West Yorks, on October 25.

5%
Are unexplained — but most are planes, stars, planets or satellites

RAF ordered me to shoot down massive UFO over Norwich



Locked on . . . Sabre jet had UFO in sights

A FORMER Top Gun told yesterday how he was ordered to shoot down a massive UFO — over NORWICH.

RAF controllers told US pilot Milton Torres to "lock on" and launch all 24 of his rockets over the city.

But as he came within seconds of firing at the alien intruder — "the size of an aircraft carrier" on his radar — it vanished at 10,000mph.

The amazing close encounter is revealed in secret Ministry of Defence X-Files which are declassified today.

Milton said: "It was some kind of alien snooping over England. I guess we'll never know what it was."

The incident happened in 1957 when Milton was a 26-year-old US Air Force

EXCLUSIVE by JOHN COLES

lieutenant based at RAF Manston in Kent. At 11pm one night he was ordered to scramble in his F-86D Sabre fighter to attack a "bogey" hovering above Norfolk.

Speaking about it publicly for the first time, he said: "I was told I would be firing a complete salvo, all 24 rockets. I was pumped up — this was the sort of thing that happened before a war."

He got the UFO on his radar and closed for the attack at the Sabre's top speed of almost 700mph — then it disappeared off his screen in a flash.

Milton, now 77, said: "I was smoking, as fast as I could go. This thing had a different propulsion system. It was not an airplane."

The flyer said he was visited afterwards by a sinister security official and warned not to tell anyone — so he kept silent until now.

The close encounter is in 19 files made available online yesterday by the National Archives.

j.coles@the-sun.co.uk
Get the latest UFO news at thesun.co.uk/britishxfiles

Tale . . . Milton as pilot, and now



BRITAIN'S X FILES REVEALED

TOP GUN VS ALIEN

SUN

Circulation ('000): 3,149
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20 OCT 2008

THE Sun

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London, England
October 20, 2008

Monday, October 20, 2008 **SUN** 23

26 SEP 2008

Lights in sky don't mean Jack...



By Martin Shaw

COMMUNITY stalwart Jack Bunn believes he has solved the mystery of so-called UFOs seen plaguing the night skies in Batley and Dewsbury.

Jack (pictured above), 88, has captured two of the mystery 'craft' and said: "The truth is right here."

In recent weeks many people have reported white lights in the sky.

Jack, of High Street, Hanging Heaton, has a great view of the skyline over the Grange Valley but believes this UFO mystery isn't other worldly and has a solution much closer to home.

At 6am last Saturday Jack's son Barry found two white balloons down at his smallholding, off High Street.

The balloons are made of a very light yet strong white plastic and have wires crafted inside.

Jack's theory is that a firelighter is placed on a wire

inside the balloon and the heat causes the balloon to fill with warm air and float on the night sky, like a miniature hot air balloon.

When the firelighter burns itself out the balloon crashes to earth - but not until it has puzzled skywatchers below.

Jack said: "Apparently they were all out of Hanging Heaton Working Men's Club the other night wondering what these lights were.

"I reckon we've solved the mystery and if anybody wants to see a real-life UFO they can come and see me. I've captured two of them!

"I don't believe in Little Green Men but I think there is something out there..."

• Have you seen a UFO? Do you believe Jack's theory that the lights in the sky were a prank? E-mail news@dewsburypress.co.uk or ring Dom Howson on 01924 439498 and tell us your story.

UFOs sighted over North Kirklees

ARE aliens travelling hundreds of light years through space to visit the Heavy Woollen district?

That's the question puzzling a family in Thornhill and two friends in Batley after they all saw strange lights in the sky.

Twins James and Jonathon Maguire, 17, of Thornhill Edge, watched strange lights in the sky one evening until they disappeared over the horizon.

The next night, the lights returned and Jonathon told his sceptical stepdad David Butcher.

Mr Butcher, 40, said: "We rushed out and just over the houses above our street you could see these lights. We were out there till 10 o'clock."

He said there was one very bright light in the sky towards the Emley Moor TV tower and a row of smaller, coloured lights. He even managed to capture them on his digital camera.

Mr Butcher said: "I thought it was an aircraft at first but it was just sat there and wasn't making a noise at all."

He said: "I've lived up here since I was born and I've never seen anything like it. I'm very sceptical but not after what I saw.

"I actually think they're UFOs because they make no noise, no

nothing. They're just big lights in the sky."

Meanwhile, strange hovering lights have also been seen in the Batley skies.

Mick Jones, 48, of Dark Lane, and friend Mark Hinchcliffe saw something strange hovering over his garage roof.

He said: "Me and my mate were watching television and we saw a bright light hovering above my garage.

"There were three of them together, hovering in a triangular shape. They were really bright orange.

"They were there, just above us but making no noise. It was a scary experience. Then they just disappeared. It was unbelievable. My neighbour saw it as well."

YOU can watch footage of the twins' sighting and judge for yourself whether it is proof of a close encounter.

Visit www.batleynews.co.uk to watch the video filmed on a digital camera.



Un turista aseguró haber fotografiado sobre la cúpula de una iglesia un Objeto Volador No Identificado (OVNI), que segundos después desapareció, mientras visitaba la ciudad entrerriana de Concordia.

El episodio es el segundo de las mismas características ocurrido en territorio entrerriano en la misma semana, cuando un hombre también captó un objeto extraño en el momento en el que tomaba la fotografía de su hija adolescente.

La última imagen fue tomada el mediodía del viernes, en el marco de una jornada soleada, con una computadora notebook que tiene incorporada una cámara fotográfica, desde el centro de la Plaza 25 de Mayo, de Concordia, la segunda en importancia de la provincia.

En la captura, que fue difundida por el diario local El Heraldo, se ve un objeto grisáceo entre las dos 'puntas'

A strange object is seen in the image between the two crosses on the cupola of the San Antonio de Padua Cathedral, in the center of that city (Concordia-Tr.)

While he was visiting the city of Concordia in Entre Ríos a tourist claimed he photographed an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) over the cupola of a church, which disappeared a few seconds later.

The episode is the second of its kind this week in Entre Ríos, when a man also captured a strange object while he was photographing his teenage daughter.

The latter image was taken last Friday at noontime, a sunny day, in Concordia in the center of the Plaza 25 de Mayo, the second most important square of the province, with the camera incorporated to a notebook.

de la Catedral San Antonio de Padua, que se ubica frente a la plaza principal de esa ciudad situada al noreste del territorio entrerriano.

Asimismo, en otra fotografía captada segundos después, el objeto ya no aparece en la imagen, lo que fue interpretado por el autor como un indicio de que se movía a gran velocidad.

La simultaneidad de ambas fotografías se ve reforzada por el reloj que se ubica en una de las torres de la Catedral, ya que en ambas imágenes las agujas marcan el mismo minuto, las 11:45 de la mañana.

Si bien en Concordia no se había difundido un fenómeno semejante, en la cercana ciudad uruguaya de Salto, los lugareños hablan de la existencia de un 'ovnidromo', por los constantes reportes sobre apariciones de objetos desconocidos en el cielo.

En tanto, el episodio ocurrido en Paraná se produjo el 21 de octubre pasado cuando un hombre llamado Miguel Ángel Osuna tomaba fotografías de su hija de 15 años en el Parque Urquiza, de la ciudad de Paraná.

Cuando Osuna llevó el archivo de la imagen de una casa de fotografía para ampliarla, el empleado del local notó la presencia de un objeto alargado que parecía moverse velozmente.

The photo, which was published in the local El Heraldo newspaper, shows a grayish object in between the two "points" of the San Antonio de Padua Cathedral which is located by the main square in that city, northeast of the Entre Ríos province.

Also, on another photo snapped seconds later, the object does no longer appear in the image, which was interpreted by the author as an indication that it was moving at high speed.

The simultaneity of both pictures is reinforced by the clock in one of the Cathedral's towers, because in both images the hands show the same minute, 11.45 am.

Although no similar phenomenon had been made public in Concordia before, in the nearby Uruguayan city of Salto the locals speak of the existence of a "UFOdrome", because of the constant reports of unknown objects in the sky.

Meanwhile, the episode that happened in Paraná (also in Entre Ríos province-Tr.) took place last October 21st when a man by the name of Miguel Angel Osuna was taking pictures of his 15 year old daughter in the Parque Urquiza, in the city of Paraná.

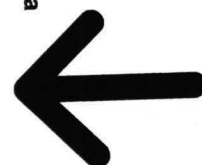
When Osuna took the saved image to a photo store to have it enlarged, the employee noticed an elongated object that seemed to move at great speed.

Translation: Jane Thomas Guma

Fotografían un supuesto Ovi
En la imagen se ve un objeto extraño entre las dos cruces de cúpula de la Catedral San Antonio de Padua, ubicada en el centro de esa ciudad

30noticias.com.ar(Online)
Rosario, Santa Fe Province, Argentina
November 2, 2008

30 IN
30 NOTICIAS



EL DIARIO DE
Atacama

El Diario de Atacama
Atacama, Chile
November 6, 2008

Strange lights seen in the Atacama sky



Brunilda González, the just reelected mayor from Caldera, saw a strange phenomenon when she and her family were traveling with her car on highway 5 through the Caserón sector. At around 9 pm she saw towards the coast an object that lit up the sky and moved from side to side. "We saw a very intense light in the sky and thought it was a plane, but it changed direction in a sudden and unusual way. All of a sudden it went away and then it returned", explained the officer, who said that when she was a child she also had an encounter with a UFO in Mejillones.

Another witness was the communicator from Caldera, Francisco Carrasco, who said that he saw something similar as well and even took photos. "In the Playa Las Machas sector, at approx. 9.50 pm, I saw the object in the sky above the Bahía Inglesa hill. It moved and stopped, was a green and orange light, very high up, but quite bright; it then moved towards Caldera and changed course to the North towards the sea. I went to the Calderilla sector trying to follow its course and that was when I noticed it started to go down very fast and then get lost behind the rocks. I was very far away and could only take two photos. It was also strange when the horizon lit up like a sunset at 10 o'clock at night", said Carrasco.

Translation: Jane Thomas Guma



26noticias.com.ar

26 Noticias (Online)
Rosario, Argentina
November 6, 2008

LA CIENCIA NO ENCUENTRA
EXPLICACIONES

Apareció un extraño ser en Península Valdés



Bicho raro aparecido en Península
Valdés (Foto: Diario Jornada)

No se sabe si es un animal que sufrió una malformación en alguna etapa de su gestación o alguno que hasta el momento no es conocido. Lo cierto es que Roberto Gómez, un vecino del barrio El Porvenir de Puerto Madryn, halló este extraño ser uqe causa asombró a toda esa comunidad chubutense.

Las especulaciones entre la gente que vio a este extraño bicho fueron varias. Algunos hablan de la contaminación y otros de la presencia de seres extraterrestres, todo por la ansiedad de poder encontrar una respuesta certera a tan extraña criatura, comenta el diario Jornada.

Tiene dos orejas muy similares a las de los corderos, cuatro patas y el pelaje parecido al de los gatos. Lo más llamativo es el enorme ojo en el centro de la cabeza, en muy buen estado de conservación a diferencia de otras partes del cuerpo. Hasta ahora la ciencia no ha dado respuestas.

SCIENCE CAN'T EXPLAIN IT

STRANGE CREATURE SHOWED UP IN PENINSULA VALDES

It's unknown whether this is an animal that suffered a malformation during the gestation period or an up to now unknown creature. The thing is that Roberto Gómez, a resident of the El Porvenir district in Puerto Madryn, found this strange being that amazed the whole community.

Speculations among people who saw this strange animal were varied. Some mention contamination and others talk about the presence of extraterrestrial beings, all anxious to find a true solution to such a strange creature, said the Jornada newspaper.

It has two ears similar to lambs', four legs and fur that looks like a cat's. Most surprising is the enormous eye in the middle of the head, very well conserved not like the other parts of the body. Up to now science has not issued any reports.

Translation: Jane Thomas Guma

HOUSTON-TODAY.com

Houston-Today (Online)
Houston, British Columbia
December 04, 2008

Mormon missionaries find sasquatch print

Two missionaries with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints received a scare on the night of Dec. 2 when they saw what they think was a set of sasquatch footprints outside of their Burns Lake home.

Tyler Beck and Brad Blazzard are in B.C. for two years, rotating in different communities throughout the Smithers and Burns Lake area for the past seven months.

"The first thing we thought was that someone was playing a trick on us," Beck said. "But we don't know anyone our age who would do that and our house in on the southside, so pretty much in the middle of nowhere."

The footprints, which Beck said was about 20 inches long is right in front of Beck's porch, leading to the path where the pair keep their wood shed.

Beck said prior to finding the footprint at 9:30 p.m. on the night of Dec. 2, he didn't really believe in the possibility of bigfoot.

"I still don't know what to think," he said. "I have heard some pretty ridiculous things about bigfoot but now I am leaning toward the edge of thinking it may be possible."

The house sits in front of a lake and Beck said in the four-and-a-half months he has been there, he has seen all manner of coyotes and wolves. This is the first time he has seen any sign of the fabled creature.

In addition to a rash of sightings in the Bulkley Valley in the summer and fall, Larry Sommerfield, a self-proclaimed sasquatch hunter from Terrace had a cast that he claimed was a sasquatch print.

Sommerfield was reluctant to tell The Terrace Standard how he came into possession of the 16-inch long cast, except to say that it was made in mid-August from a footprint found in a gravel pit just east of the Kitselas First Nation's subdivision east of Terrace on Highway 16.

Brian Vike, Director of HBCC UFO research is still trying to verify three sasquatch sightings in Moricetown.

"Since I got the initial call, I've had no other information," Vike told the Houston Today. "As near as I can tell, the sightings all happened after the end of September but I have called and called but no one is calling me back."

The lady who called on the morning of Halloween, told Vike that there had been a rash of sightings on the native reserve. Unfortunately without talking to someone who could give a first-person account, Vike said the information is hearsay at best.

Vike got the details from the first account from the woman's mother.

"Allegedly, she was walking out to the mailbox and this thing walked in front of her," Vike said. "But I called and called and got nowhere so I am thinking this is a little fishy."

Another women apparently told friends that she had seen a sasquatch peeking in someone's window.

The last report allegedly involved a school bus driver who saw the creature standing in a field.

A sighting in Houston in late July by Delores Harrie captured international media attention.

Harrie saw the creature out at her home on Buck Flats Road on July 28.

At 5:45 a.m. that morning, Harrie heard her dogs barking at the door. When she went down to investigate she saw that someone or something

was rattling the door handle.

She eventually opened the door and the dogs were out like a shot, sniffing out something on the east side of her property.

When she looked out at the side of her house, she saw a creature that was walking on two legs.

"It was huge and it had long hair, not fur — kind of like the kind you see on an ox and a reddish brown, the colour of the trees that are killed by the pine beetle," said the woman. "And it moved so fast, by the time I opened my door it had run from the porch to the other side of the house."

Once outside, the dogs pursued the creature it continued along a dried-up ravine and disappeared into a forested area. Her oldest dog didn't return for three hours.

"I was worried but what do you do, tell people your dog is chasing bigfoot?" she asked. "I drove up and down the road, looking for him and eventually he came back."

After Harrie's report, there was a report on Telkwa High Road and sightings in Campbell River.

"I have been here for almost five months trying to do good work and I end up with bigfoot prints in front of my house," Beck said.



TIMES-STANDARD
Eureka, CA
October 30, 2008

By John Driscoll

Birth of Bigfoot



The Humboldt Times
Lumberjacks Come From
Behind, Beal S.F. 13-12
S.A.P.P. and U.S.
Humboldt County
School System

Maybe it was bad light or bad mushrooms. Maybe it was someone in a stitched-up bear skin creeping up on the bonfire to scare the wits out of his brother. Or maybe it really was a rare primate that wandered near camp in the dark several thousand years ago that caught someone's eye.

However it happened, Sasquatch was hatched into the human consciousness, long, long ago.

But Bigfoot strode into the picture just 50 years ago this month. Born in the pages of the Humboldt Times by columnist Andrew Genzoli, the word Bigfoot was to become the new operating title for the hairy beast of lore.

In Bluff Creek off the Klamath River this month in 1958, Jerry Crew and his road construction crew found tracks of a Sasquatch, the story goes. Crew made a plaster cast of the impressions, and brought them into the Times on Oct. 4.

Genzoli recorded that the men called the creature Big Foot.

"There is a mystery in the mountains of northeastern Humboldt County, waiting for a solution ... Who is making the huge 16-inch tracks in the vicinity of Bluff Creek?" Genzoli wrote in the front page story below a classic photo of Crew with a plaster cast of the big foot. "Are the tracks a human hoax? Or, are they actual marks of a huge but harmless wild-man, traveling through the wilderness? Can this be some legendary sized animal?"

It's difficult to know how seriously Genzoli took the story, and he raises some questions about the claim and introduces skeptics to balance the piece.

Then things started getting weird. A \$1,000 reward was offered to anyone who could explain the mystery, which was, proclaimed the Times' sister paper the Humboldt Standard, either a hoax or "a mentally deficient, overgrown boy gone wild."

Only 10 days later, it was Times reporter Bill Chambers on the case. Chambers reported that the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office was convinced they had the man responsible for the footprints in Bluff Creek, and that he would confess.

But when construction worker Ray Wallace -- the supposed hoaxer -- was contacted by the Times about the allegations, he reacted angrily.

"I'm not going in. If they want to put out a warrant I'm going to sue them for slander -- and I won't fool around about it!" Wallace said. "If they think they're going to make a laughing stock out of me, they've got another thing coming."

Wallace's brother W.R. "Shorty" Wallace insisted that no one would work all day in the Bluff Creek country and then run around planting footprints.

The Oct. 15 Times edition featured a huge photo spread, with Chambers reporting that "Bigfoot has been seen." Two construction workers had seen a Sasquatch and told him all about it. The Standard on Oct. 16 said the witnesses were, "Two husky construction workers with good eyesight," in an effort to eliminate doubt.

Now look, anyone who's ever been the victim of a good hoax knows just how seriously it can be taken by its perpetrators. Things take on an overblown quality. Characters involved in successful hoaxes play different roles to satisfy the victim or victims who take different approaches to interpreting a mystery.

Shorty Wallace's explanation that no one would stomp around making footprints after work is obvious bunk in hindsight. His role likely was to instill doubt. Ray Wallace's vehement denial of the allegation -- even threatening to go to the courts -- was likely meant to make him the untouchable martyr.

The husky construction workers with good eyesight were probably enlisted to play the role of true believers. Jerry Crew provided the ever-important introduction of evidence, to get the ball rolling and feel out initial reactions.

We now know the whole thing was a hoax -- or a brash attempt to claim credit for one. Late in 2002, Ray Wallace died at the age of 84 in Washington. But he didn't take Bigfoot to the grave with him; he had spilled his guts to a few members of his family. The man who insisted he'd "sue the - for slander" had confessed to being the original Bigfoot hoaxer, his son and nephew told the Seattle Times.

What was surprising was what the Times-Standard -- that descendant of the original Bigfoot newspapers --

learned upon news of Wallace's death. The Times-Standard called June Beal, wife of deceased Times editor L.W. "Scoop" Beal, to find out if she knew anything about it. June Beal was a perpetually pleasant person who until shortly before her death in July 2007 visited the newsroom regularly to chat.

June Beal told the Times-Standard that she'd been mum on the topic for nearly five decades, even as she watched it spiral out of control. Finally, with Wallace's death, she was willing to share her secret.

"They were in on this hoax," June Beal said of her husband and Wallace. "It was just a fun thing and the fun got out of hand."

It certainly explains Chambers' almost complete lack of skepticism in his reporting at the time. It also shows how newspapers -- especially at the time -- had an incredible influence on events, as Bigfoot became infused into the minds of the adventurous, the scared and the gullible.

Bigfoot made a massive resurgence when Roger Patterson supposedly filmed a Bigfoot near Bluff Creek in 1967. That footage is still some of the most relied on for both skeptics and believers regarding the existence of Sasquatch.

To be sure, the Sasquatch and the wild man have long been a part of myth and legend. And as Idaho State University researcher Jeff Meldrum -- a primary advocate of the existence of the man-beast -- said, not all the footprints cast in plaster over the years could possibly have been hoaxes.

This goes back to the rule for misinformation and general trickery: Just because you made it up, doesn't mean it isn't true.

THE Willits News

THE WILLITS NEWS
Willits, CA
October 29, 2008

By Linda Williams/TWN Staff
Writer

Bigfoot sighting on Highway 101

During the height of the smoke from Mendocino Lightning Complex fires, a Laytonville man had an encounter with an apelike creature while driving north of Willits on Highway 101 near Shimmins Ridge Road.

"This animal stepped onto the southbound lane near where the guardrail stops," says LoPinto. "It was very smoky and incredibly hot, at least 100 degrees but still daylight. It ran really fast, directly into the path of a small truck, which had pulled out to pass me, after the lanes had expanded from two lanes to four.

EYE-WITNESSES SEE BIGFOOT



Continued On Next Page >>

"The creature was completely black and looked all freaked out. I pointed at it so the other driver could see it and hit my brakes, hard. I didn't think I could stop in time and was sure I was going to hit it. Miraculously the passing truck missed the creature and sped out of sight.

"As the creature ran toward me, I saw it was least seven feet tall. The animal never slowed down as it ran on its hind legs like a man.

"I thought, 'it looks like a guy in a gorilla suit.' When it got to middle of the freeway, I could see it clearly. Its whole head was covered in black hair. I couldn't see any ears. As I was braking hard to make a panic stop the creature put its arms down and started running on four legs, bounding across the freeway. It had giant arms; they were very long and covered with fur.

"When my car finally stopped, I looked out the windshield and it stopped about 25 feet in front of me at the edge of the road. It was at eye level with me as I sat in the car.

"I had no idea what it was. It was covered with hair down to the ground. I looked at its face and it was completely flat without a nose. It turned his whole body toward me—its neck was stiff. We made eye contact. Its face was yellow or gold like a ripe banana. It had holes for its nostrils and a smooth and shiny forehead with ridges instead of eyebrows. It had a simian face.

"I saw a red glow coming back from its eyes; it may have been a reflection from my headlights. Its mouth was closed and it had thin lips, it didn't show any teeth and made no sound, at all. Then it turned and leapt down into the ditch and up the hillside. I was freaked out."

At first, Chris LoPinto had no idea what he had seen; he thought it might have been an escaped zoo or circus animal. He called the Department of Fish and Game biologist and found there were no apelike animals native to North America and that no such creature had been reported lost in the area. LoPinto filed an incident report with them. LoPinto also filed a police report with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department.

After finding no help from official sources, LoPinto began researching the internet to find answers and found groups devoted to tracking big foot.

He contacted a Bigfoot Society group to report his sighting and was contacted by a Bigfoot field researcher Tom Yamarone.

"I've interviewed 40 eyewitnesses and spoken with at least a dozen others," says Yamarone. "Chris' account is consistent with other reports, and it was spotted in a likely area. The red glowing eyes are also consistent with others' observations. The unique aspects of Chris' account are the close proximity to the creature, that he had a good look the face and eyes and that the creature propelled itself with its front arms."

LoPinto still doesn't know what he saw, but he is sure of the details. He also thinks, whatever the creature was, it was obviously disturbed by the heavy smoke and fires throughout the area.

There have been a number of Bigfoot sightings in Mendocino and Humboldt counties according to various Bigfoot sighting lists.

A "paranormal" observer in December 2007 reported seeing a large animal standing on two legs at her car. She reported it patted the window of her car several times before running away at high speed.

In May 2004, a group of six hikers north of Highway 162 near Murry Range reported finding a series of unusual large tracks. One of the witnesses said, according to the report written by Yamarone, "a friend saw one [a Bigfoot] cross Highway 162 just outside of town as he was driving to work in Willits." Yamarone also notes there are many Bigfoot stories about extending across generations in the Round Valley area.

In 1961 and 1962, a series of Bigfoot tracks were reported by a Bob Titmus northeast of Covelo. In 1962 in a remote area near Fort Bragg, Robert Hatfield reported seeing a Bigfoot standing head and shoulders above a six foot fence. Hatfield later rounded the corner of a house and walked right into the creature. Hatfield was "knocked to the ground and scrambles to the house on all fours.

A neighbor in the house tries to close the door to prevent the creature from getting in. Bigfoot then runs off leaving a large muddy "handprint" on the door.

PressRepublican.com
The Online Community and News Source for Clinton,
Essex and Franklin Counties of Northeastern New York

PRESS REPUBLICAN (Online)
Plattsburg, New York
September 28, 2008

By Lohr McKinstry
Staff Writer

Lake Champlain expedition searches for Champy

PORT HENRY -- It may be that Champ, the Lake Champlain monster, is getting more reclusive.

Another expedition will be held next summer, said organizer Ruby Anderson of Naugatuck, Conn.

"We have learned some important things through Champ Expedition 2008 -- like make sure you have backup equipment in case of problems with cameras (and) cell phones."

The group will once again be headquartered at Button Bay State Park and Campground near Vergennes, Vt., she said.

"We chose this location because there have been several sightings of Champ at Button Bay. Our own sighting of Champ in 2007 also took place in Button Bay. All evidence seems to indicate a family group of Champtany in the Button Bay area."

"Champtany" is the designation Champ Quest Director Dennis Hall gave to Champ several years ago.

"It was my own sighting that got me researching and studying Champ," Anderson said.

"Myself and my daughter, Precious, and her friend, Tori, had a Champ sighting at Button Bay State Park on July 17, 2007.

"My brother, Gary, also had a sighting of a baby Champ at Button Bay State Park back in 2001."

Many Champ sightings have been either in Button Bay on the Vermont side or in Bulwagga Bay off Port Henry. Researchers have offered theories that Champ could be anything from a plesiosaur to a large sturgeon. Most agree there would have to be a breeding colony of the creatures in the lake for it survive over the years.

Anderson described the 2007 sighting at Button Bay.

"(We) were sitting on the cliffs a short ways from the Nature Center at Button Bay State Park. We saw what looked like a large school of fish some distance out that was moving toward us.

"Shortly after, we saw a large, dark-colored animal with three to four humps, around 30 feet long, come to the surface. It moved across in front of us, then turned and went back out then turned right and continued across the lake for some distance before it headed back out into deeper water and submerging."

She said the sighting was at about 12:15 in the afternoon.

"I am fairly convinced that there was a large school of fish, and the animal was probably feeding on them. I was later told an ex-Marine had been there on vacation and had also seen and described the same animal.

"During our 2008 expedition, I saw nothing even remotely resembling the animal we saw in 2007."

This year, Anderson organized an expedition at the end of July, and participants camped at Button Bay for a week.

"We had teams by the lake in shifts equipped with a high-speed video recorder with zoom lens and infrared for evening hours. We were using decoys to try to lure Champ in closer to get better footage."

They're trying to be thorough with their search for Champ, she said.

"While our goal is to find proof of Champ, identifying things that could be mistaken for Champ is also important. It helps in sorting out reported sightings and identifying actual Champ sightings from misidentifications.

VENTURA COUNTY STAR

Camarillo, CA

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By Wendy Dager

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Over decades, ongoing tales of the Billiwhack Monster of Santa Paula cast long shadows of doubt

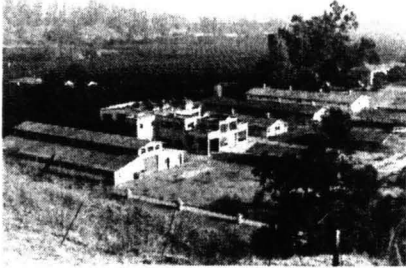


Photo courtesy of JohnNicholsGallery.com
The Billiwhack Dairy in Santa Paula is seen in this undated vintage photo. The now-long-defunct dairy was the reported site of the Billiwhack Monster sightings.

Everyone loves a great story, especially when it's accompanied by a good scare. And nothing is more frightening than when the object of these stories is right in your backyard.

The Pacific Northwest is home to Bigfoot sightings, New Jersey is the birthplace of the Jersey Devil, West Virginia has Mothman and its so-called prophecies, but here in Ventura County, we've got our very own legend.

The Beast of Billiwhack.

Half man, half sheep — or goat — with white fur and giant ram's horns, the Beast of Billiwhack — also spelled Billiwhack and also called the Billiwhack Monster — was said to hang out at Santa Paula's now-defunct Billiwhack Dairy, where its first recorded sighting was sometime during the 1950s.

It's alleged that a 9-year-old boy came home with scratches across his arms and back and told his parents he was attacked by this strange beast — but maybe, just maybe, because he didn't want to tell Mom and Dad what he was really doing on private property.

After that, the sightings continued — mostly by children and teenagers — and, according to a 1964 Los Angeles Times article, deputies found one young trespasser holding a sword, intending to "slay the beast."

Another youth said he'd come across a "snarling, hairy man in a hole."

The article also says that a woman who leased the property once had to hold a group of 43 monster-seeking children at bay with a shotgun until the authorities arrived.

The stories about the beast and its supposed origins became more elaborate, just like the old-fashioned game of telephone, except on a much more sinister level.

It all started innocently and innovatively enough, when Swiss immigrant and Harvard graduate August Rübel established Santa Paula's Billiwhack Dairy in the 1920s as part of a bigger operation that included gold mining, oil drilling and a stock farm.

The dairy portion of the farm, built around 1924, was at that time state-of-the-art, but it foundered and soon went out of business.

Rübel and his wife then purchased historic Rancho Camulos in nearby Piru, and that's where they raised their five children.

Rübel's two surviving daughters, Nathalie Trefzger, 80, and Shirley Lorenz, 81, had little knowledge of the Billiwhack legend.

Lorenz, of Palos Verdes, knew there had been talk of some sort of ghost at the dairy long after their family left, but Trefzger, of Auburn, hadn't heard about it at all.

Both women have fond memories of Rancho Camulos, originally part of a 48,612-acre Mexican land grant given to the del Valle family. The remaining 1,800 acres is still owned by Rübel's descendants, with 40 acres designated as a historic landmark.

According to his children and the employees of the Rancho Camulos Museum, August Rübel made it his goal to preserve and maintain the integrity of the land and its rich history.

Rübel died in 1943 while serving in the American Field Service in Tunisia during World War II, when the ambulance he was driving hit a German land mine.

Lorenz and Trefzger were at an East Coast boarding school when they got the news of his death; more than 50 years later, they speak of him with an abiding love and admiration.

"Dad did so many wonderful things in such a short time," Trefzger said.

Monster tale grows

Still, if no good deed goes unpunished, that might explain how Rübel's European roots and military service somehow got twisted by local storytellers into a fantasy that became the monster.

Eventually, the child's story of the Billiwhack Beast evolved into a fictional tale of how agents of the OSS — Office of Strategic Services, predecessor to the CIA — kidnapped Nazi scientists and stuffed them into secret, underground rooms at the dairy, where they were ordered to create a super-soldier.

The legend — attributed by historians and Internet sites to the local rumor mill — has the Nazis, unwilling to aid the OSS, instead deciding to undermine them by developing a monstrous being — half man, half sheep, and capable of incredible evil.

The story continues that the Nazi scientists, realizing their mistake, ended up destroying this race of mutants, except for one — the big, angry sheeplike dude that escaped and became the Beast of Billiwhack.

Certainly the stuff of low-rent horror flicks and not what you'd call the real deal, but there are some believers — or want-to-believers.

"The monster is an old yarn," said Oak View resident Richard Senate.
"Whether it's true or not, I don't know."

Senate is a folklorist, author and ghost hunter who keeps an archive of the Billiwhack Monster's reported sightings.

"It's 8 or 9 feet tall and covered with white fur," Senate said. "It's got the head of a goat, with the horns of a ram, which gives it a bad attitude."

This bad attitude, Senate says, has caused it to scare folks by picking up boulders or wielding tree limbs. It is alleged to dine on rabbits — and the occasional family pet.

The monster also has been the object of teenagers' tales of brazen bravado.

"A fellow told me he tackled it and it was like a refrigerator with white fur," Senate said. "It picked him up and threw him into a tree."

AWOL beast

Apparently, the Billiwhack Monster has gone missing, as Senate's most recent notification of a sighting was in 1992. According to Senate, the spiky-haired young man who reported it then "said he heard something in the brush and saw its cloven hooves, and then it reared up its head," Senate said.

Senate had doubts about the youth's veracity, though he said most of the stories were told to him quite convincingly. Still, he said, he'd have to see it himself to believe its existence.

"It sounds very much like a Bigfoot critter, or it might be a mutant or someone in a costume," Senate said. "Whatever it is, it's certainly part of our folklore."

Indeed, the Beast of Billiwhack was featured several years ago in Santa Paula's annual Ghostwalk, a theater fundraiser, with longtime Santa Paula resident Louie Hengehold portraying a shepherd who comes to a sad end at the hands — or, rather, hooves — of the monster.

The Ghostwalk's fictionalized tale of something that's certainly already fiction is just part of what makes a myth endure the test of time.

"Ghost legends like that depend on who's telling the story," Hengehold said. "They're going to fit it to where you're at."

Warning signs

Hengehold, 50, who grew up in the close-knit community of Santa Paula, heard the monster tale from a cousin long ago but maintains a sort of cheerful skepticism.

And Hengehold's not the only one who thinks the beast is more bull than sheep.

Marsh Meyers of the Tucson, Ariz.-based paranormal travelogue Outcast Earth (<http://www.outcastearth.com>) approaches this story and similar legends with what he and his team call a "jaundiced eye."

"Outcast Earth's issue with the Billiwhack Monster tale was that there was little to no traceable documentation about the monster," Meyers said in an e-mail interview.