

UFO

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THE CLIFTON RECORD

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009

UFOs Reported By Walnut Springs Residents, Others

By ANGELIA JOINER
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

WALNUT SPRINGS — Slightly more than a year after the first report of unknown objects in the night skies, now known as Stephenville Lights, more witnesses are surging forth.

Speculation abounds as to why the mysterious objects continue to fly over Erath County.

Bosque County and Walnut Springs resident Matt Collins and his mother, Sharla, and sister, Ashlee, have all said they have witnessed bright lights in the sky that defy explanation.

On Jan. 29, Matt said he and his sister were returning to their home on FM 203 shortly after 7 p.m. He said they had just been talking about the Stephenville sightings when his sister pointed and said, "Look at that," Collins said. "I thought she was kidding at first because we had just been talking about the Stephenville sightings."

"My sister saw three light sets but by the time I located them there was only one. The lights would come on and stay on for

about 20 seconds. Then it would go off and reappear a little to the right or left of where it was."

Matt said the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport air traffic route is near his home so he is accustomed to commercial and private aircraft.

Matt said the object appeared about 25 to 30 degrees off the horizon in the northwest sky towards Stephenville. He said he could definitely see a dark mass between the sets of lights.

"I'm not sure how close or far away it was," Matt said. "It could have been over Chalk Mountain. But, it was definitely in the direction of Stephenville."

Matt shoots photos and video regularly so he grabbed his camera and began shooting only to later find a completely black screen. In the excitement he had forgotten to take the lens filters off he had been using the previous day for shooting into the sun.

Matt and his sister went out the next night prepared with settings correct on the camera but nothing appeared.

Then on Jan. 31, it was back. This time it was about 9:30 p.m. shortly after Matt appeared on WB 33 (KDAFTV) news speaking about the sighting he had witnessed two nights before. Now he had the right camera settings, he said.

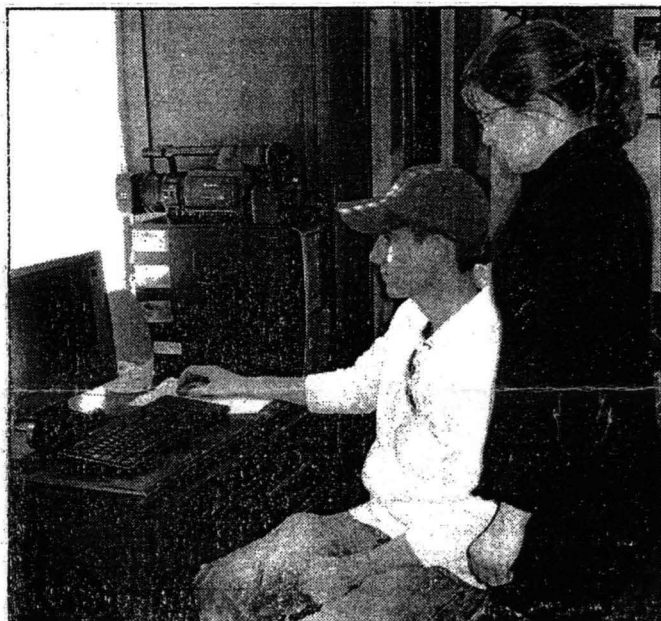
"I ran in the house and got my sister and woke up my mom," Matt said.

Sharla said she was amazed. "I always thought people that said they saw UFOs were crazy," Sharla said. She said she had always been skeptical of the stories.

"Now, I think there is definitely something out there that we don't know about," Sharla said.

She said at one point she thought she saw three lights but nobody else in the group did.

"It looked like three lights for just a couple of seconds, but since



UFO STUDY — Matt Collins, and his mother, Sharla Collins, of Walnut Springs have been working on the study of UFOs after recently seeing unexplained lights in the sky between their home and Stephenville.

— Photo By Angelia Joiner

no one else saw it I thought my eyes might have been playing tricks on me," Sharla said.

The family said the object was visible for about 15 minutes and had a red center but the outside of the light changed from red to yellow, to white and bright orange.

CNN news called Matt Monday and made arrangements to show the film in a future broadcast.

And, on the same night, Cody and Carrie Tedford and their uncle Dwayne Clover were turning right off of Loop 377 South in Stephenville to State Hwy 108 returning to their home in Hamilton.

As they were turning Cody said he caught something out of the

corner of his eye and began telling his uncle to look out the back window. Carrie pulled over beside the Stephenville Funeral Home as they tried to decide what the unusual sight was in the sky. Waiting for traffic to clear they make a U turn and parked in the Allsup's parking lot.

"I made a point to step out of the car because I thought something that large we should have been able to hear it," Clover said. "But, we couldn't hear anything."

Clover said his five-year-old niece riding in the back seat with him could also see the object and made comments like, "Wow! Look at that."

They agreed the object was fairly low in the skies but esti-

Continued next page →



Victoria Advocate
Victoria, TX 2-1-2009

CROSSROADS

Have you ever seen a UFO in the Crossroads area?

"Given the millions of billions of Earth-like planets, life elsewhere in the universe, without a doubt, does exist. In the vastness of the universe we are not alone."

— Albert Einstein

On occasion, I check in with the MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) Web site, just to see if any sightings have been reported in our area.

Specifically, I've been interested in the semi-famous events of a year ago over Stephenville, Texas. And since MUFON is the largest organization dedicated to the investigation of unidentified flying objects, I figure

www.mufon.com is the best place to find out all I can about such incidents as Stephenville.

On the night of Jan. 8, 2008, a bunch of witnesses and several radar sites saw or detected "something" in the skies over the Stephenville and Dublin areas of North Texas.

In an exhaustive report, MUFON studied the radar findings and carefully examined and compared witness sightings. Their conclusion was that a quite mysterious and definitely unidentified flying object was up there, and the military scrambled eight to 10 jets to the area for some reason they haven't explained.

You see, the Air Force records obtained by MUFON under the Freedom of Information Act were "linked out" to a large extent, and left more questions than they answered.

Was it a secret military aircraft of ours? Or was it an alien spacecraft being piloted by a little guy with great big eyes and a skinny little gray body?

Like so many other reports before it, the Stephenville lights mystery remains just that.

I wonder if there are Advocate read-

ers out there who have seen similar objects in the sky, objects they can't explain or completely identify.

If so, can I hear from you, please? Maybe we can get our own mystery going, although I guess the chance of solving it is minimal.

Still, if these things — whatever they are — fly over our area, I'd like to know about it. I might even wrap a blanket around me, get a video camera and stand watch some nights.

Just thinking about the possibilities makes your head swim, doesn't it? Recently, on the PBS program "The Universe," I heard that our own little galaxy,

our Milky Way, is so big and contains so many stars that it takes the Earth more than 2 million years to go around it once.

Think of all those stars — and all those potential planets like ours.

To those who might respond to my request, I will keep you anonymous if you like. I'd just like to know what you've seen.

Because, as "The X-Files" FBI agent, Fox Mulder, always says, "The truth is out there."

Jim Bishop is a senior editor for the Advocate. Leave him a message at 361-574-1210 or jbishop@vicad.com or comment on this column at www.victoriadvocate.com



Jim Bishop

NEWS TO ME



Man claims he saw strange object in sky above LP mill

By STEVEN ALFORD
The Lufkin Daily News

Thursday, February 19, 2009

A strange object in the sky Wednesday afternoon over a wood debris storage area on Old Mill Road caused a Lufkin man and his wife to call local authorities asking for answers.

"It didn't look like no plane," said Jerome Gardner, who lives across the street. "It was amazing, I've never seen anything like it."



Jerome Gardner, of Lufkin, points to a spot in the sky where he said he saw a possible UFO Wednesday afternoon over the former site of the Louisiana-Pacific paper mill on Old Mill Road.

Gardner said he was skeptical at first when his wife, Yolanda, told him about the large, round object hovering over the field at the former site of the Louisiana-Pacific paper mill.

But after looking at the object in the sky, Gardner quickly found himself climbing onto his roof to get a closer look.

"I freaked out and just thought, 'What in the world is that?'" he said.

Gardner described the flying object as a large white circle with a ball on the top and a white light shining onto the ground. At first, jets could be seen flying across the sky before the object appeared, but Gardner quickly realized what he was looking at was no jet.

"A jet leaves a white streak in the sky, and this wasn't like that," he said. "It was traveling real slow, like it was looking for something, then it turned around and took off across the sky very fast."

When asked if the object could have been a UFO, or a flying saucer, Gardner said he wouldn't count that out as a possibility.

"I don't know what it was but if I had to guess, I'd say a spacecraft," Gardner said. "It was strange enough for me to climb onto my roof for the first time to get a better look."

Officials at the Angelina County Sheriff's Office and the Lufkin Police Department said that neither office had received calls about the object Wednesday afternoon. A security guard working at the site said he had not seen anything strange in the sky.

Officials at the Angelina County Airport were not immediately available for comment at press time.

Gardner isn't alone. There have been several sightings recently of unknown objects in the Texas sky. A fireball seen over the weekend across the state has been described by authorities as most likely a meteor, and not space debris from two colliding satellites, as previously suspected.

The Federal Aviation Administration said the fireball appeared to be a natural phenomenon, and a University of North Texas astronomer said that it was probably a pickup truck-sized meteor with the consistency of concrete, according to a recent article in the Houston Chronicle.

The object was visible Sunday morning from Austin to Dallas and into East Texas. In Central Texas, the Williamson County Sheriff's Office received so many emergency calls that it sent a helicopter out to look for debris from a possible plane crash, according to the article.

Preston Starr, the observatory manager at the University of North Texas, said objects bombard the planet on a daily basis and those as large as the one spotted over the weekend enter the atmosphere about eight or 10 times a year, the article stated.

Whatever the cause of Wednesday's sighting, Gardner said he would keep watching the field at the old paper mill, looking for another glimpse of something "out of this world."

"I wish I'd grabbed my camera because I've never seen anything like that before," he said. "It was amazing, man."

YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome. We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

ALL NEWS WEB

2-23-2009

The Tucson Mountains UFO flap continues, new sightings.

Michael Cohen

Around two weeks ago All News Web reported on a number of witnesses who saw a rather impressive UFO in the Tucson Mountains area of Arizona. It appears as if whatever it was in sky then has stayed on in the area or returned for another visit, even bringing some friends along this time, prompting many locals to ask what is going on in the skies above them.

Theories abound and the most popular one suggests that the craft are the work secret military projects. Another suggestion based on the conclusions of the investigations by South American Ufologist, Andrea Perez Simondini, regarding the recent Rosario sighting in Argentina where a 'UFO' was seen shooting a beam to earth, is that the craft are kites fitted with lighting, flown at night by hobbyists. Of course if neither of these explanations fit we need to consider the possibility that these craft belong to visitors from other planets.

The most recent sightings in the Tucson area occurred on the night of the 21st February. One witness, a 63 year old local woman who describes herself as 'too old for games', was at her daughter's house in the desert north east of Tucson when she and her family saw the UFOs. This occurred Last week and again on the above mentioned date. The first time they were to the south-east of her daughter's home and the second time they were to the west in the vicinity of penal County Airport.

'The main light was a large, whitish light and had several orangey red lights that came from it and circled the area. There also were two other white lights in the same area. On two occasions light came out of the main one towards the ground. The white light on the main one would go from a yellowish white to a bright white then back again. It also appeared to change shapes from round to oblong (horizontally) and back. It also had a green and blue along with red lights especially on the bottom' the witness noted in a rather graphic description. 'It was real' she concluded.

The witness took a few photos on her cell phone.

Another witness, a retired businessman from Tucson, also noticed the craft when he stopped his car on the side of the road to fix a tyre on the evening of the 21st of February. 'I looked up and saw the UFOs in the vicinity of the airport. The things looked pretty hi-tech. I doubt they were kites; the way they flew and looked they were either spaceships or secret Airforce projects. I have never seen anything quite like it'. He noted.

Many ufologists argue that there seems something odd and inherently contradictory about the official story the government rolls out whenever these sightings occur.

'On one hand we are assured that the military would not do anything in populated areas that would confuse or frighten locals and on the other we are assured that the government has no knowledge on the topic of UFOs. Yet the sightings are occurring and unless they are the work of truly world class hoaxers with almost supernatural abilities at keeping their identities secret they are probably either alien craft or secret military operations' one UFO expert commented.

HERALD BANNER

UFO visits Hunt County — mysterious object seen by resident, deputies

By BRAD KELLAR
Herald-Banner Staff

3-2-09

GREENVILLE — No one is sure exactly what it was which reportedly hovered through the Hunt County skies this past weekend, but several people said they saw something.

At least one civilian and three uniformed law enforcement officers reported seeing an unidentified flying object north of Greenville Saturday night.

Similar sightings were also reported near The Colony in Denton County, according to Hunt County Sheriff Randy Meeks.

Meeks said his office received the first call about the object at around 9:20 p.m. Saturday, from a woman who lives along Farm-To-Market Road 2358 near Webb Hill Country Club.

"She said it was hovering above her house," Meeks said. "It was real bright, then it went dim, then it went bright again. Then it moved away. It was moving from that area toward Dallas."

The witness said the object did not sound like an aircraft or a helicopter and noted one of her relatives in The Colony also reported seeing a similar phenomenon later that night. And, they were not alone.

"Three of my officers also saw a bright light," Meeks said, including the deputy who first responded to the sighting. "The officer who got the call was pretty close to Campbell."

Meeks said he personally checked with L-3 Communications Integrated Systems, the local defense contractor who operates out of Majors Field Municipal Airport in Greenville.

"They said they did not have anything in the air that night," Meeks said.

A They're baaack!

More mysterious objects reported in the skies near Stephenville

By Angella Joiner
Special to the Reporter-News

Speculation abounds as to why unknown objects continue to fly in the skies over Erath County.

Slightly more than a year after the first report of mysterious objects, now known as Stephenville Lights, more witnesses are coming forth. Walnut Springs resident Matt Collins and his mother, Sharla, and sister Ashlee have all said they have witnessed bright lights in the sky that defy explanation.

On Thursday Matt said he and his sister were returning to their home on FM 203 shortly after 7 p.m. He said they had just been talking about the Stephenville sightings when his sister pointed and said, "Look at that," Collins said. "I thought she was kidding at first because we had just been talking about the Stephenville sightings."

"My sister saw three light sets but by the time I located them there was only one. The lights would come on and stay on for about 20 seconds. Then it would go off and reappear a little to the right or left of where it was."

Matt said the air traffic route for Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport is near his home so he is accustomed to the presence of commercial and private aircraft.

Matt said the object appeared about 25 to 30 degrees off the horizon in the northwest sky toward Stephenville. He said he could definitely see a dark mass between the sets of lights.

"I'm not sure how close or far away it was," Matt said. "It could have been over Chalk Mountain. But, it was definitely in the direction of Stephenville."

Then on Saturday it was back. This time it was about 9:30 p.m., shortly after Matt appeared on the WB 33 (KDAF-TV of Dallas/Fort Worth) news discussing the sighting he had witnessed two nights before.

"I ran in the house and got my sister and woke up my mom," Matt said. He also took video footage of the incident, he said.

Sharla said she was amazed.

"I always thought people that said they saw UFOs were crazy," Sharla said. "Now, I think there is definitely something out there that we don't know about."

The family said the object was visible for about fifteen minutes and had a red center but that the outside of the light changed from red to yellow, to white and bright orange.

CNN called Matt on Monday and made arrangements to show the film he took in a future broadcast.

mated it could have been 60 degrees from the horizon and then made a slow descent to about 25 degrees.

"At first it appeared to be just sitting there hovering," Clover said. "But, that might have been because it was moving towards us and we couldn't tell that."

Cody said he thought it was over the courthouse and moving towards the City Limits bar on U.S. Hwy 377.

"We thought it was landing," Clover said.

All said they saw a double row of horizontal lights.

"It was big. I estimate the dimensions this way," Clover said. "The bottom row of lights was six to eight times larger than the distance between the horizontal rows of lights."

"I am not an alarmist - I don't go looking for these things," Clover said. "The top row appeared to have the color red and green or blue. The bottom appeared to be white like light coming out of

the bottom of a lampshade. It was a steady glow at the bottom."

Clover said he likes to watch airplanes and he works at a place where helicopters take off and land often so he was sure it was not one of those types of aircraft.

"I don't know what it was. We weren't frightened," Clover said. "We were just watching it trying to figure out what it was and it didn't fit for anything I knew. It was a clear descent and moving slowly and close enough to the ground to make you think it was landing."

Cody said the group drove on in the direction of U.S. Hwy 377 but couldn't find the object again.

A reporter from WB 33 said the Bosque county Sheriff's office dispatcher received four calls reporting something unusual.

A reliable source reported a Dublin police officer caught an unidentified flying object on camera on the evening of Jan. 29.

Two people in the Abilene area also reported sightings to the Mutual UFO Network web site.

From last page

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review
Pittsburgh, PA 2-17-09

'65 Kecksburg mystery on 'UFO Hunters' show

Nobody knows exactly what came down from the sky on Dec. 9, 1965, in Westmoreland County, landing in a secluded wooded section of Kecksburg in Mt. Pleasant Township.

Theories have suggested a weather balloon, a meteor, a missile, or perhaps it was something from another world that touched down on that cold, winter night.

The History Channel's "UFO Hunters" visited the site in September, spending three days interviewing local witnesses and those who have studied the incident.

The program, hosted by William J. Birnes, Pat Uskert and Dr. Ted Acworth, will air at 10 p.m. Wednesday.

History Channel hovers over Kecksburg

Wednesday's episode of
"UFO Hunters" explores
the 1965 mystery.

BY MARILYN FORBES
TRIBUNE-REVIEW NEWS SERVICE

What object came down from the sky, landing in a secluded wooded section of Kecksburg in Mt. Pleasant Township more than 40 years ago remains a mystery.

Theories have suggested a weather balloon, a meteor, a missile, or perhaps it was something from another world that touched down on that cold winter night.

The History Channel's "UFO Hunters" visited the site in September 2008. They spent three days interviewing local witnesses and others such as radio personality Stan Wall, who was manning the air waves that night at radio station WHJB, and Stan Gordon, recognized by many to be the foremost authority on the UFO incident.

"I've been interested in the Kecksburg incident since the night that it happened, and I've been researching it ever since," Gordon said. "Now the case has drawn not only national but international attention, and many people

want to know "what happened that night back in 1965?"

The History Channel show is not the only one that has delved into the incident. The subject has been treated on "Unsolved Mysteries," "Sightings," "Discovery Channel" and "Sci-Fi" station.

"The interesting thing about the Kecksburg incident is there were so many people involved," Gordon said. "The History Channel contacted me



Stan Gordon:
Leading expert
on the incident
in Kecksburg

and interviewed me both at home and at the site, and there were also many others who they talked to."

On Dec. 9, 1965, an object was spotted in the darkening skies, moving over Pittsburgh and heading to the Greensburg area.

"There were so many witnesses who saw something in the sky that night," Gordon said. "Hundreds of people saw what many thought was a plane on fire in the sky."

The object, unlike a natural occurrence such as a meteor, was reported to

change directions a series of times, finally landing in the woods near Kecksburg.

"Witnesses said that it didn't come crashing down but it came down slowly, like a controlled landing," Gordon said. "It landed, and then there was a puff of blue smoke that dissipated quickly."

The show will focus on what people witnessed and their feelings about what happened that night.

"People want answers," Gordon said. "More and more people are finally admitting that something did happen, and I think they want to know once and for all what that object was."

Witnesses tell of an acorn-shaped object, partially embedded in the ground, with what appeared to be strange hieroglyphic lettering. It is documented that witnesses saw masses of military personnel in the area and a large, flatbed truck leave the area with an item covered in a tarp.

Tribune-Review
Greensburg, PA 2-17-09

Cont.

"There are also accounts of someone having photographs of the object, Gordon said. The rumor has been circulating for years that there are black and white photographs out there, and if they would come forward, it would solve the mystery once and for all."

The History Channel's "UFO Hunters," hosted by William J. Birnes, Pat Uskert and Dr. Ted Acworth, will air at 10 p.m. Wednesday.

Viewpoint

Year in review for Ufology

Sightings of strange looking objects continued in our skies for the past year. Here are the highlights pertaining to this phenomenon:

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Machimura and Defense Minister Ishiba stated their beliefs in the existence of ufos.

On Jan. 2, the Wall Street Journal ran a story on page A1 about presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich's UFO sighting of 1982 with two other witnesses. He was questioned about this at a debate and affirmed it.

The Stephenville, Texas UFO sightings in January created heavy news coverage.

The UFOs were observed by many witnesses over several days. The Mutual UFO Network (of which I am a member) did an intensive investigation. They submitted around 300 sighting reports. FAA radar showed that an unidentified flying object was headed toward President George Bush's Crawford ranch.

After a thorough analysis the news media never printed the results that showed unknown craft had penetrated our airspace. In the August MUFON Journal (an issue is at the Circleville Library) there is a complete article given about this extraordinary event.

In summary it was a very good radar/visual case with many credible witnesses with radar return confirmation. When this sighting first broke in the news I was interviewed by Fox News out of New York. I gave them the contact information for the Texas Mufon investigators.

Albert Einstein made this statement years ago, "condemnation without investigation is the height of ignorance." This can be referred to skeptics of the ufo phenomenon.

A spokesman for NASA told the Associated Press that they had examined metallic fragments from the object that crashed at Kecksburg, Pennsylvania

over forty years ago and now claim it was from a re-entering Russian satellite.

Furthermore, the spokesman claims all records were lost. Note, if all records were lost than how do they know it was a Russian satellite? Also, the Russians have supposedly denied this.

In a book review of "Strange Company" the author Keith Chester made this statement about the "foe fighter" sightings of World War II.

"It was clear that American and British commanders were very worried about repeated encounters with unidentified and apparently highly advanced aircraft or, indeed, spacecraft over Europe and the Pacific."

Ufologist Stanton Friedman wrote that when press coverage is fair, people make ufo reports, like in the Texas sightings.

For decades it has been felt that the fear of ridicule is the major reason witnesses don't come forth and report their sightings.

He also stated that the subject of ufos was not brought up at a recent SETI conference. He said that obviously if aliens are visiting, who needs to listen for signals from outer space.

The city of Socorro, New Mexico, in conjunction with its historical society, is officially recognizing the ufo incident that occurred there on April 24, 1964.

It is felt that this is probably the first time a municipal government in the United States has ever officially recognized the historical reality of a ufo event.

A British television announcer interviewed former astronaut Edgar Mitchell and was surprised at what Mitchell stated about the ufo mystery. Mitchell has stated for years that several "insiders" told him that UFOs do exist.

Robert Hastings has written a new book, titled "UFOs and Nukes" Hastings contends that a

credible link exists between the appearance of nuclear weapons in the mid 1940s and the overall increase in UFO sightings since that time.

We at the Roundtown UFO Society have felt the same way for the past several years. Unidentified Flying Object related events have occurred at both U.S. and Soviet nuclear missile sites during the Cold War.

An Ohio truck driver, Tim Comstock, took three camera cell phone images of a UFO hovering over the Ohio River around 3:48a.m. on Oct. 24, 2008. It seemed to be drawing another unknown object up to it. The location was on Route 7, near Empire.

There have been several television shows about this subject. Most of these have been on the Discovery, History, and Science channels. The "UFO Hunters" on the History Channel had the Trumbull County case. Part of this event is when the ufo hovered over the policeman's patrol car. His engine completely stopped and didn't start back up again until the unknown object had left the area.

A new web site dealing with truck ufo reports has been started by a couple in Arizona. It is uforc.com and linked with our own site. I feel that many truck drivers have observed strange UFO sightings over the years, especially at night.

This is very interesting. Newly elected President Barack Obama has appointed John Podesta to be head of his transition team. Podesta in 2002 was with the UFO Disclosure Group on trying to gain access to secret government records about the ufo existence. I guess time will tell.

If you have any comments about this article, please feel free to contact me by phone at 477-6252, e-mail, rufos@columbus.rr.com, or visit our website at roundtownufosociety.com.

— Pete Hartinger
Roundtown UFO Society

Mysteries in the sky intrigue us

HEATHER LENDE

Published: March 4th, 2009 04:58 PM

HAINES -- My friend Joanne called Saturday night to ask if I saw what she saw in the sky. I was at the table, just finishing a moose stew dinner with the family and listening to the play-by-play on KHNS of the girls' high school basketball game down in Craig, on Prince of Wales Island. I hadn't been outside since an afternoon ski along the beach around Jones Point to the set tracks on the golf course and back. Then, the sun had been shining on white snow and it felt like spring, especially with the wind at my back. Now, I took the phone out on the back porch and looked up.

"See it?" Joanne said.

"No," I replied.

"You've got to, it's the brightest thing out there," she said. Then I went back in and got a coat and my glasses and binoculars. With the phone in one hand and the binocs in the other, I had Joanne direct me south down the inlet, toward Sullivan Island and low on the horizon, across from Rainbow Glacier. Sure enough, there among all the other stars was an extra-bright orb with flashing red, green and blue lights. It was low enough that my view was partially blocked by the neighbor's spruce trees.

With Joanne still on the line, explaining that she had been walking her cocker spaniel Harry when she saw whatever it was, I took the stairs up to the top of our house two at a time and focused the binoculars on the strange object in outer space from my bedroom window.

The double-paned energy-saving glass distorts things, so I opened the window to get a clear look.

"Have you called Hertz?" I asked Joanne, watching the thing twirl. "He has seen a UFO, so he'd know."

"Really? I didn't know that," she said, and decided to call the science teacher. "Fontenot will know," she said.

I asked her to share what she learned.

My husband and daughter weren't interested in the UFO. He said it was probably a satellite. She was busy ironing the squares of paper she had cut out of old grocery bags, crumpled, soaked in water and then hung to dry on two lines tied across our living room. She is student teaching in the first grade and the bags, she explained, would become covers for the children's make-believe, but educational, African adventure journals.

Joanne called back after talking to Fontenot. That's what we call Mark; some people have last names for first names in Haines. Hertz does too; his name is Irwin, but everyone, even the priest at his church, calls him Hertz. He is also an electrician, which figures. With a name like Hertz what else would he be? Certainly not a dentist.

Back to the light in the sky. Joanne said that Fontenot said it might be the International Space Station. "It was just a guess, though." He was finishing up a late supper too.

All the extra daylight and the sunshine that has come with it have kept a lot of us outside longer. Last Sunday, my husband and I went all the way up the Chilkat River to Turtle Rock and back on snowmachines. The weather and snow conditions were so nice that our party ran into half a dozen friends along the remote route, all of them smiling broadly and exclaiming about the great day.

After Joanne and I finished talking, I checked on the Internet and learned that the International Space Station was only visible in the early morning sky and that the comet Lulin was a possibility, except it seemed that we were four days too late to see it so clearly and it didn't look like our UFO.

It snowed the next night, and it is still snowing, so I haven't seen it again. I did see Hertz in the market on Monday, though. He hadn't looked in the sky on Saturday night. But he said that an old-timer, who is long gone, had once seen a hovering flying saucer out at Ten Mile about this time of year.

The one Hertz saw was in Montana, on the family farm when he was a kid. It appeared silent as snow, right above his shoulder, and was, he said, "big as a football field."

There's so much we can't explain. This morning a snowflake landed on the dark sleeve of my coat. It was perfect, like a crystal Christmas ornament.

How did something so fragile and so tiny fall all the way from heaven to Earth without breaking? They say that no two are alike, but how can anyone know that for sure?

I'm sure there's a good explanation for our flashing light and for the miracle of snowflakes. But a big part of me would rather not hear it, at least not at the end of long winter. I prefer to imagine a divine player is out there in the great beyond, spinning electric tops among the stars and gently shaking the last, perfect snowflakes of the season gently down on us.

Incident over Falls



J.D.
Mullane

Commentary

Denise Murter doesn't believe in intergalactic space-ships or Martians or even "grays" — those bug-eyed, gray-skinned creatures

that have stared blankly from the covers of supermarket tabs for decades.

At least she didn't believe in that stuff until April, when she saw a "bizarre" craft that zigzagged across the night sky, hovered near her home in Falls, and dropped stunningly beautiful "sparkly stuff" before silently vanishing in a blink.

"I don't even like science fiction. I haven't even watched 'Star Wars.' I'm not one of those people. I saw what I saw, and that's all I can say," she said.

Murter's story has caused a sensation among Ufologists — those who study unidentified flying objects. There has been an inexplicable spike in the number of UFO sightings over Bucks County since last spring, including one by a police officer who submitted a

Printing imperfections
present at scanning.

report of a weird craft flying near the Newtown interchange of I-95.

Some 120 sightings were reported in the last 12 months over the county. That is the most in the nation, and double the number in all of California, which had the second highest number of UFO reports, according to numbers compiled by the Mutual UFO Network.

Murter's sighting was called "most compelling" by a gathering of Ufologists at Bucks County Community College last weekend.

She delivered her account to a rapt, standing-room-only audience, some who came from Alaska and Tennessee to hear her story, and the stories of others who eyewitnessed what is now called the "Bucks County flap."

"This was not an airplane," Murter told me this week. "I grew up in the airline business. My father worked for TWA, my mother for Boeing. I used to spend weekends at the airport. I am very familiar with all kinds of aircraft."

She said she first spotted the craft in April, after her dog, a Yorkie that never growls, woke her up with persistent growling. She checked her condo for intruders. Finding none, she went outside, where she saw the bright object in the sky. She summoned her husband, who agreed it was weird.

"I have never seen anything like it in my life. We watched it for 40 minutes. It was skipping and hopping. Beautiful blue and green lights. There appeared to be tiny windows on it. There was absolutely no noise," she said.

It reappeared in May. She phoned her daughter and woke a neighbor. The object hovered over a portion of the Delaware Canal near the

Village of Pennbrook apartments.

"A glow came from it, a beam was coming down like it was checking out something," she said.

She took pictures, but when a UFO documentary crew from the Discovery Channel examined them, they determined she had taken a picture of the planet Jupiter, and other pictures were too blurry to identify for certain.

The object appeared twice more, Murter said. The most sensational occurred on July 12 when, again in the dead of night, she awoke to see the craft. It hovered about 500 feet over a tree in the yard. She said she stood transfixed for about 20 minutes.

"All of a sudden, all this white snow came out and went into one tree, then into another tree. I wasn't afraid. I had a calmness come over me. It was

See **MULLANE** Page B2
Continued from Page B1

almost magical. Sparkly stuff. Like diamonds. It lit up both trees. It looked like snow, but also like lightning bugs. Almost like Christmastime. Like fairy dust. Something magical. Non-stop twinkling — like in a Disney movie. I shut my eyes, then opened them again, and I thought, 'This is so weird.'"

After a few minutes, the sparkles, which had settled on the trees, were drawn back into the craft, which vanished into the sky, she said.

She was unable to get a peaceful night's rest that summer.

"People can laugh, but I saw what I saw. I'm 49 years old and I never before even thought about UFOs. Never had an interest," she said.

Now, she constantly looks into the night sky, observing the heavens for strange lights, searching, watching, wondering.

**Mullane's column appears
Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday.**

KYW NEWSRADIO

Philadelphia, PA

March 8, 2009

Bucks County UFO Sightings Are on The Rise

by KYW's Pat Loeb

Bucks County is the focus of world wide interest in unidentified flying object sightings. That's according to local UFO enthusiasts who meet monthly in Philadelphia's Fishtown section.

Bob Gardner is state section director of the Mutual UFO Network -- or MUFON. He's an expert on the Bucks County UFO sightings and a regular attendee of the UFO discussion group at the Germ bookshop on Frankford Avenue.

David Williams is the Germ's owner:

"It is a free form, open forum discussion. People can bring up any aspect they'd like to. There's always been a policy of don't laugh at anybody."

The discussion at the February meeting was freewheeling, indeed, touching on topics such as unidentified submerged objects, Operation Blue Beam -- a secret government project to create a holographic simulation of an alien invasion -- and the Bucks County sightings.

Gardner suggested that Bucks County sightings may be up in part because reporting them is losing its stigma. At least, it feels that way at Germ Books.

UFO sightings reported in Pa. in 2008

*Strange incidents
reported from 50
counties in the state.*

THE MOUNT PLEASANT JOURNAL
2-5-09

Encounters with strange creatures and sightings of mysterious objects in the sky were reported from many locations from throughout the Keystone State last year, according to Greensburg researcher Stan Gordon, who has been investigating and logging such reports for nearly 50 years.

During 2008, reports of unusual incidents originated from 50 counties in the Keystone State. That is an increase over 2007, when such reports were received from 37 counties. Some of the strange incidents reported included sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects, Bigfoot, giant birds, mountain lions, strange sounds and mysterious footprints.

Gordon, who began his interest into mysterious happenings at age 10 in 1959, began conducting on-scene investigations of such matters after the Kecksburg UFO incident in 1965.

In 1969 he started taking phone calls from the public, from those wanting to report alleged UFO sightings. In 1970, he founded the first of three volunteer scientifically oriented research groups that remained active for many years which investigated UFO sightings and Bigfoot encounters, as well as other strange events around the state.

Gordon continues to investigate and document such matters as an independent researcher. Gordon is also the primary investigator of the 1965 UFO crash incident near Kecksburg. The researcher continues to investigate that UFO incident which has gained international interest. He will be appearing on an upcoming History Channel, "UFO

Hunters" program scheduled to air Feb. 18.

When Gordon first began investigating UFO sightings and other strange reports, he found that while many sightings reported seemed initially odd, many were determined to be natural or man-made in origin. Many UFO sightings, for example, can be explained as bright planets and stars, meteors and searchlight beams. Some Bigfoot observations were determined to be large dogs or bear. In recent months, many UFO reports that Gordon received of a very bright light low in the southwestern sky was determined to be the planet Venus. But not all mysterious sightings can be explained away so easily.

Some of the more interesting 2008 mysterious events from Pennsylvania include:

- **Giant bird sightings.** There has been a history from Pennsylvania and other states of sightings of giant birds with enormous wingspans that are occasionally reported, and are commonly referred to as "thunderbirds." In recent years the reports of these huge flying creatures have increased.

Researcher Jim Brown investigated an incident which occurred on the afternoon of May 20, on a major roadway in Washington County. Motorists reportedly pulled off the road to watch as a huge dark-colored flying creature that looked more like a giant bat than a bird, circled low, and passed over some cars. One witness noticed that the wingspan extended beyond the edges of the two-lane highway. Additional such reports originated from Harrisburg to northern sections of the state.

- **Bigfoot sightings.** Over the

years there have been hundreds of sightings of huge hair-covered man-like or sometimes more ape-like creatures reported statewide. A

very active area is along the Chestnut Ridge in Westmoreland, Fayette, and Indiana counties. While such sightings are reportedly yearly, the number of such reports has dropped in recent years.

The Pennsylvania Bigfoot Society (PBS) received a report from Warren County in May, that a woman had seen such a creature climb up her lattice and onto her back deck. She watched it from her patio door as it climbed over the railing and departed. Gordon received a report that a man and his son in August, also in rural Warren County, observed a seven-foot-tall, hair-covered creature with very long swinging arms, cross a roadway with very long steps and enter a wooded area.

Gordon also received reports of strange screaming sounds coming from along the Chestnut Ridge near Latrobe. An experienced woodsman came across 18-inch-long, five-toed footprints, unlike anything he had ever seen before, while hiking in the Forbes State Forest above Rector on Aug. 22.

- **UFO sightings.** While a lot of UFO activity was reported from the eastern portions of the state, many UFO sightings were reported in western Pennsylvania and elsewhere. While spherical and disc-shaped objects were reported as well as formations of luminous objects, there were numerous triangular-shaped objects sighted as well.

On July 2, near Connellsville, witnesses observed a triangular-shaped object with a curved bottom and numerous lights. The silent

Cont.

object passed overhead and moved toward the Yough River. During the early morning hours of Aug. 12, in a rural area between Greensburg and Youngwood, a witness observed what was described as "two huge double headlights" side by side, and slightly yellow in color, hovering low just above the road. The silent lights rose up from the ground and moved off over the trees.

There were several independent UFO sightings reported from Westmoreland and Allegheny counties on Sept. 5. About 12:30 a.m., a glowing round white object with various colored lights was observed hovering in the western sky from New Stanton. The object suddenly disappeared from sight

after a few minutes. Soon after, a second object, shaped like a glowing football, moved rather fast across the sky, then suddenly stopped, then dropped lower toward the ground. With binoculars, the object appeared round, with evenly spaced lights.

It was during the early morning hours of Oct. 4 that two hunters in Elk County encountered something unusual. As they moved into a wooded area, they first noticed two baseball-sized glowing lights about 15 feet above the ground. Soon, they noticed multiple beams of light which seem to originate from about 10 feet from above the ground. Their attention, however, was drawn to a glowing human-like form, which was estimated to be about three feet tall. The movement

of the being gave the impression that it was gliding.

On that same date in nearby Tioga County, witnesses observed a silent bright solid cigar-shaped object approaching from the north, and suddenly fade out and vanish as it moved overhead.

Gordon continues to receive sighting reports from the public via his UFO Hotline at 724-838-7768. He also receives e-mail reports at paufo@comcast.net. His web site is www.stangordonufo.com. The Greensburg researcher also receives information from contacts he maintains with numerous researchers and organizations in the state, and from throughout the country as well.

**The Daily Record - Morris County,
New Jersey, USA**

February 18, 2009

**Prosecutor Investigates Red Lights,
Citing Possible Danger To
Aircraft**

By Abbott Koloff
The Daily Record

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office is investigating the red lights that have been spotted flying over Morris County on several occasions during the past month, most recently on Tuesday night, with officials saying they may present a hazard to airplanes.

Capt. Jeff Paul, a spokesman for Morris County Prosecutor Robert A. Bianchi, said on Wednesday that federal authorities have expressed concern that the objects - which could be flares attached to balloons - might be a threat to flights on their final approach to Newark Liberty International Airport.

"The Federal Aviation Administration advised us that they would issue an advisory to aircraft in the area," Paul said in a prepared statement.

FAA spokesman Jim Peters said a manager at a regional radar facility had expressed concerns to the prosecutor's office.

There had been widespread reports of the lights on Jan. 7 and Jan. 30, along with a smattering of reports to police and to the Daily Record on at least two other occasions before Tuesday night's sightings.

Morristown Police previously said the lights appeared to be a hoax, road flares attached to helium balloons. The lights were swaying, police said, and observers at Morristown Airport saw what appeared to be balloons.

Paul said "numerous" 911 calls were received on Tuesday night in Morris Plains, Morristown, Morris Township, Hanover, Denville, Parsippany, Montville and the Morris County Communications Dispatch center.

The lights appeared to be traveling north with the wind, he said, and air traffic controllers at Morristown Airport reported that they appeared to be at an altitude of about 2,500 feet.

Peter Davenport, who runs a Web site called the National UFO Reporting Center in Washington state, said he received about a half dozen reports from the Morris County area on Tuesday night, with one person telling him that drivers pulled to the side of a highway to watch the lights.

Dorian Vicente, 46, of Parsippany, said the lights caused traffic to slow on Route 80 East in Denville at 8:40 p.m. Tuesday as

people watched them floating overhead. There were nine lights, she said, and they were scattered at first. Then she said they aligned in a straight line. That's when she and several other cars pulled to the side of the highway to try and capture the lights on video.

"It was the weirdest thing," she said.

She said the lights then flickered out one by one.

Officials with the Morris County prosecutor's office called the military and determined that no military flights were in the area, Paul said. The prosecutor's office also contacted the FAA, the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, and the New Jersey State Police Regional Operations Intelligence Center.

"The investigation into this incident will continue," Paul said.

Abbott Koloff can be reached at (973) 428-6636 or akoloff@gannett.com

New Jersey

UFO probe: Call police if you find 'large bags'

BY ABBOTT KOLOFF • DAILY RECORD • Feb. 19, 2009

Witnesses to Tuesday night's flyover, when nine red lights appeared in the sky over the eastern part of the county, described what appeared to be "a festival decoration that floats in the air," Morris County Prosecutor Robert Bianchi said in a statement issued Thursday.

Bianchi wouldn't be more specific, citing concerns that people would go out and purchase the items. On Wednesday, the prosecutor's office announced it was investigating the red lights because of a potential danger to aircraft.

The Daily Record reported weeks ago that the lights appeared to be something called sky lanterns — inexpensive balloons powered by lighting wax-infused cloth, capable of reaching an elevation of about one mile and traveling for up to 10 miles.

Todd Schlosser, owner of a sky lantern distributorship in the Midwest, said at the time that the Morris lights looked like sky lanterns in videos he'd seen. Sky lanterns commonly are used to celebrate weddings, church festivals and other events, he said.

While Bianchi wouldn't say what he believes the lights to be, he asked Morris County residents near the intersection of Routes 10 and 202 to call authorities if

they find "large bags" on their property.

The red lights have been seen on several occasions, starting on Jan. 7, and on Tuesday police received numerous calls about them with witnesses saying they saw up to nine lights.

Bianchi said the lights were seen over Morris Plains and appeared to be traveling from the area of Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital toward Route 10 and Route 202, where "the fires burned out."

"It really is a public safety issue," Bianchi said. "What is a prank one minute can be a tragedy the next."

Bianchi said he was concerned about the "convergence of airspace" in the area, with planes heading to Newark Liberty International Airport, Morristown Airport, and helicopters flying into Morristown Memorial Hospital. The lights appeared to be about 2,500 feet in the air, the prosecutor's office has said.

The Federal Aviation Administration has expressed concerns about the lights interfering with air traffic and has issued a warning to aircraft heading into Newark, officials said.

Bianchi asked anyone with information about the lights to contact local police, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office Homeland Security Unit at (973) 285-2900 or the Morris County Sheriff's Office Crime Stopper Program at (973) COP-CALL or (973) 267-2255.

WBBH-TV [MSNBC](#)

Fri., March. 13, 2009

Cow abducted by UFO?

ANIMAS COUNTY: A rancher in Las Animas County, Colorado made a shocking and gruesome discovery over the weekend. He found a mutilated cow by the Purgatoire River.

The mutilated cow was discovered near the town of Weston, which is about 20 miles west of Trinidad. "First reaction, she's been mutilated," said Mike Duran.

Duran's cow was found dead with her udders and reproductive organs missing. "No tracks at all," said Duran. "No blood, no predators," he added.

Strange Lights Raise

Questions About UFO's

Bryan Rupp

Feb 22, 2009 KMBT TV Beaumont, TX

Something strange was seen in the sky over the Phoenix, Arizona valley on Saturday, February 21, 2009. Scottsdale residents reported seeing a light hovering over the city that could not be identified.

One local astronomer said the most likely culprit is the comet Lulin which can be seen from earth right now. However, that comet is supposed to seen in the eastern sky. Saturday's object was seen in the west.

History Channel spotlights Kecksburg's UFO incident

*'UFO Hunters' will
feature Kecksburg story
next Wednesday.*

THE MOUNT PLEASANT JOURNAL

The History Channel's "UFO Hunters" traveled to Westmoreland County last September to conduct their own investigation into Kecksburg UFO crash incident. The UFO Hunters hosts, William J. Birnes, Pat Uskert, and Dr. Ted Acworth, were accompanied by a large production crew.

Interviews were conducted with Greensburg's Stan Gordon, the principal investigator of the Kecksburg incident, who has been researching the case since it occurred in 1965. They also interviewed Robert Gatty, a former *Tribune-Review* reporter, who covered the story at the scene in 1965.

The crew also spoke with well known radio personality, Stan Wall, who was working for WHJB radio in Greensburg at the time, and has knowledge about the case. There were numerous other eyewitnesses interviewed, including some who actually saw the fallen object and others who observed the military presence on that day.

On Dec. 9, 1965, a mysterious object fell from the sky into a wooded ravine near Kecksburg,

the object fell, independent searchers made their way down into that wooded area and came across a strange metallic acorn-shaped object with odd hieroglyphic-like symbols that was semi-buried in the ground.

Hundreds of curiosity-seekers, as well as news reporters, descended on this quiet rural community that evening to try to gain a glimpse at what had fallen. The military, however, arrived on the scene within a relatively short time after the object had descended, and the area was cordoned off.

The next day the official

explanation was that observers had only observed a bright meteor in the sky, that nothing had fallen to the ground, and that a search of the area turned up nothing. That doesn't explain the military flatbed tractor-trailer truck that was seen carrying a large tarpaulin-covered object away from that area at a high rate of speed during the early morning hours of Dec. 10, 1965.

'The UFO Hunters' program is scheduled to air on the History Channel at 10 p.m. next Wednesday, Feb. 18.



JOURNAL PHOTO

Part of researcher Stan Gordon's extensive collection of materials on the Kecksburg UFO incident were on display at the Kecksburg Festival last fall. Gordon was among those interviewed for a History Channel feature on the Kecksburg incident airing next week.

Mount Pleasant Township. After

Pittsburgh region buzzes with UFO activity

The New Year has brought with it a flurry of unidentified flying object (UFO) reports in the greater Pittsburgh region.

The most interesting case occurred in the Pittsburgh suburb of White Oak on January 3. The witness was driving west on Lincoln Way toward the intersection of Route 48. He happened to look to his right when he noticed a bright string of lights forming on an obtuse, triangular-shaped formation hovering motionless above a Giant Eagle parking lot.

The witness admitted to being a poor judge of height and size, but claimed the object was huge and close to the ground. As he watched the object, more lights started to appear on the edges, and it appeared that all of the edges suddenly lit up with a brilliant flash before returning to the original light pattern.

At this point, the witness stated he started feeling "nervous, with a sinking feeling in his stomach". He stopped at a red light and looked back, but the object just seemed to vanish into thin air. The witness got back into his car and parked in a small parking lot at a nearby restaurant. He made a call to the local police to report the incident, and within 10 minutes an officer arrived on the scene, and the witness tried to describe what he had observed.

The officer didn't ask many questions and said that there wasn't much that he could do because the object obviously was gone. The officer suggested that the witness report the incident to a UFO group.

Other reported sightings in southwestern Pennsylvania

Moon Township - 2/10/09 - Two girls were driving home when they saw a huge flash that was yellow at first, then changed to a blue-green. It was a clear, cloudless night and the flash only lasted for a few seconds.

Bedford - 2/8/2009 - Two individuals were travelling on Interstate 99, heading towards Bedford to access Interstate 70. Watching from the passenger window, one witness described what he first thought was a planet, only to discover the object was more than one color. He described the object's appearance as multi-colored, almost rainbow-like. The object seemed to follow along the road for a period of time, then became stationary, until the witness realized their vehicle had pulled ahead of the light. The light would increase in intensity, until it was finally blocked out of sight by the treeline.

Green man fans swarm BCCC for UFO powwow

Alien enthusiasts leave the tin foil at home,
but hurry to Bucks after a year of sightings.

By Laura Irwin
Correspondent

Have you seen a ball of light, pulsing star-shaped object or silvery disc speeding across Bucks County skies?

You are not alone.

After a spike in alleged UFO activity over Bucks, more than 400 residents from the tri-state area beamed into Pennsylvania's Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) State Conference at Bucks County Community College on Jan. 24.

The organization, according to their Web site, scientifically investigates UFO sightings for the benefit of humanity. They affirmed that Pennsylvania holds the highest number of reported UFO sightings in the country.

But *UFO Magazine* editor and host of the History Channel's "UFO Hunters," Bill Birnes, says UFO sightings are a global phenomenon and the increase in reported sightings may have less to do with a spike in activity, and more to do with skywatchers trusting media accounts.

"The media used to say, 'If it bleeds, it leads.' But after [news outlets] began covering UFO sightings it's, 'If it hovers, we cover.'"

During the summer of 2008, local news covered a spike in supposed UFO

activity, specifically around the Oxford Valley Mall in Fairless

Hills. John Ventre, Pennsylvania state director for MUFON, said 77 of 138 UFO sightings over that summer were from the Philadelphia and Bucks County area.

According to MUFON's, those numbers continue to grow.

The number of reported sightings more than tripled from 2007, when 97 sightings were reported. There were 312 sightings in 2008.

These extra sightings also mean MUFON's membership numbers continue to grow, as new believers emerge.

When one thinks about UFO's, some might picture little, green men in a giant spaceship. But Dr. David Jacobs has spent his "entire adult life, give or take two years" unraveling the mystery that is alien abductions.

In a rousing presentation, the guest speaker and Temple University professor dissected the anatomy of an alien abduction.

This information, according to Jacobs, was retrieved during sessions of hypnosis from about 150 alien abductees. He then compiled his work into an abduction theory.

First, Jacobs says that being abducted only once is unlikely; whether frequently or infrequently, an abducted human will be taken continually.

He also says that abductions are "intergenerational."

"If your

mother was abducted it isn't probable that you'd be abducted too," he said.

"It's certain."

Jacobs said being abducted isn't about experimenting on human bodies, but rather research in an

effort to breed a "hybrid" — or half-human, half-alien.

But why would extra terrestrials travel millions of miles to do something like that?

"We don't know what the ultimate objective is," said Jacobs. But he added that the hybrids, after years of breeding, could end up looking human and assimilate into our world, using abducted humans to guide them through our culture so that they can fit in and "move into an apartment" or "get change from a cashier."

How do these UFO hunters know if someone is lying?

MUFON Field Investigator Bob Gardner looks first for collaboration. "Multiple reports from different people from different areas seeing the same occurrence is always a good start."

Not many attendees said they'd ever seen an unidentified flying object for certain, but all had an interest in believing other life forms visit Earth.

Cont.

Ray Orelman from Broomall said, "I've never seen a UFO, but I'd like to and I am a believer. How rare can it be if a couple million people talk about it? They can't all be psychotic."

When asked if speakers at the conference, who claim to have seen UFO's, are over-the-top in their claims, Orelman added, "I believe the speakers. Skeptics encourage believers to prove it makes these guys work hard."

Some attendees just love science fiction.

"It's ignorant to say we're alone, but I need physical proof," Brian Segal of Bensalem said. "You do have to assume that an alien's level of technology is absolutely ridiculous. You don't navigate across the cosmos and then crash into a windmill."

UFO's are said to come in many shapes and sizes. But if

you see one a ball of light, pulsing star-shaped craft or a silvery disc up in the sky, MUFON wants to know about it.

For more information or to report a UFO sighting, visit www.mufon.com.



This map, shown at Saturday's MUFON State Conference displays the rash of alleged UFO activity in the Delaware Valley.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

St. Louis Globe Democrat
St. Louis, MO 1-30-67

First Area UFO Sighting in '67 Reported by Granite City Officers

By JOHN AUBLE JR.
Globe-Democrat Staff Writer

A handful of Granite City police officers and two Madison County sheriff deputies stood spellbound in that city's Name-oki Valley Shopping Center for more than one hour tracking "something" in the dark early morning sky during the week-end.

It was the first official report of an unidentified flying object in the St. Louis area this year. Groups of residents here have reported 20 sightings since 1950.

The only other sighting recorded in the month of January occurred on Jan. 1, 1958, when "hundreds of residents" in Affton, Ferguson and Granite City saw a bright object in the sky over northeast St. Louis.

They called it a "vivid light" that blinked from red to blue to red. It was spotted later that evening over Springfield, Ill.

Officers in the latest sighting reported the same general description. Believers may wonder why the flying saucer waited nearly a decade to return.

There seems to be a pattern to sightings here.

For example, the first recorded sighting in August was on

Aug. 15, 1951, when a Baden housewife saw a saucer-shaped object with a bottom that "glowed crimson."

On Aug. 27, 1954, four McDonnell Co. employees saw a "dark red object" near the Lambert-St. Louis Airport.

Three years later, on Aug. 5, 1958, southwest county residents saw an object which they described the same way, adding that the crimson glow blinked on and off.

In 1963—again on Aug. 15—a woman at the Westwood Country Club said a red "flash" illuminated the ground there and then disappeared into the sky.

For some reason, sightings have been reported for every month except September and December. Most of them, seven in a three-year period, occurred in July.

More than half were seen between the hours of 7 and 11 p.m.

What did police see in Granite City?

"I don't know," said Patrolman Everett Kelley, "but it has made a believer out of me."

Patrolman Ralph Parmley first spotted it at about 3 a.m. Saturday hanging over the north-northwest sky.

"It was a ball of light that changed from red to blue to red," he said.

5 OFFICERS GAZE

He said it had a kind of dome with something on the bottom that looked "like a coffee cup." Officers Bill Harris, Robert

Continued on Page 13A

List of 20 Sightings

Following is a breakdown of the 20 sightings of strange objects in the sky by groups of St. Louis area residents since 1950. The first recorded sighting was in 1947 around Washington's Mount Rainier.

Date	Time	Description	Location
Aug. 15, 1951		Crimson-glow	Baden
Oct. 3, 1951		Reddish-brown ball	South City
June 19, 1952	7 p.m.	Silver object	Kirkwood-Berkeley
July 31, 1952	8:45 p.m.	Silver disc	Brentwood-U.C.
Feb. 26, 1953	1 p.m.	3 Silver discs	Bates-S, Grand
July 14, 1954	7:50 a.m.	Milk-white disc	Airport
Aug. 27, 1954	8 p.m.	Dark-red object	Airport
May 7, 1956		Crimson Metallic	Over City
Nov. 5, 1957	5:30 p.m.	Blue-halled object	Lemay-Overland
Jan. 1, 1958	7:30 p.m.	Bright light	Affton-Ferguson
Aug. 5, 1958	9 p.m.	White-red light	Southwest County
July 19, 1960	9:30 p.m.	Red object	Brentwood-Clayton
July 20, 1960	9:30 p.m.	Red object	Over City
July 21, 1960	10 p.m.	Red object	U.C.-Olivette
July 30, 1960	7 p.m.	Red-white light	W.G.-Clayton
Aug. 15, 1963	11 p.m.	Red flash	Westwood C.O.
Oct. 30, 1965	1 a.m.	Metallic object	Florissant
Mar. 25, 1966	7 p.m.	Flaming ball	Easton-Euclid
Mar. 27, 1966		Huge star	Southwest County
Apr. 17, 1966	10 a.m.	Orange disc	Lindbergh boulevard between New and Old Halls Ferry roads

UFO Is Sighted In Granite City

Continued from Page 1A

Astorian, Glen Wright, Al Young and Allen LeMaster gaze through the binoculars. So did Madison County Sheriff Deputy Delbert Clemmons.

"It acted a little unusual," Mr. Kelley said. Sergeant Harold Mitchell agreed, saying it moved down, then to the right and then down again before disappearing into the horizon.

There were other reports from the Missouri side—from Lemay, Meecham Park and Sulphur Springs road area about 7 p.m. Friday.

From as far away as Cairo, Ill., reports said that 20 observers saw an object that "flashed red" and hovered for some 20 minutes.

A Cairo member of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization said he had no idea as to the origin of the objects. A similar UFO was reported at Cairo last week.

It was a good week-end for flying saucers. They've captivated Americans for 20 years now and what makes it toughest on the "addicts" is that they still lack a single vestige of proof.

Metro-East Journal
Belleville, IL 8-2-65

UFOs in Illinois, Texas, Oklahoma

Those 'Things' Are Buzzing Again

Canton, Ill. (AP)

A number of Canton area residents called the city police station Sunday afternoon to report an ear-piercing warbling whine, and a strange, low flying object.

Patrolman Ray Widger said a flurry of such calls described exactly the sound of the new electronic state police squad car sirens which have been going into service recently. The Peoria state police said two of their cars answered auto crash calls in Fulton County at about the time the Canton reports came in.

Two Canton residents reported that they saw an unidentified flying object and that the warbling sounds apparently were emitted by it.

One man said the thing hovered 30 feet above the ground, and then flew south. A woman

reported it was moving slowly, very low, and was a saucer-shaped, three feet in diameter, one foot to 18 inches thick and pointy on top.

The radar station at Hanna City, 15 air miles northeast of Canton, reported no unidentified blips on its screens.

In Chicago, an Air Force spokesman said that since President Johnson discussed the Viet Nam war problems in a broadcast press conference Tuesday the Air Force UFO (Unidentified Flying Objects) investigation team has been looking into a flurry of new reports of flying saucer sightings by people in several areas of the country.

Oklahoma City, Okla. (AP)

Authorities in portions of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and

Kansas were deluged Sunday night and early today by reports of unidentified flying objects (UFO).

The Sedgwick County sheriff's office at Wichita, Kan., said the Weather Bureau tracked "several of them at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 feet."

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said Tinker Air Force Base here was tracking as many as four of the unidentified flying objects on its radar screen at one time, estimating their altitude at about 22,000 feet.

A Tinker spokesman refused to confirm or deny the radar observations.

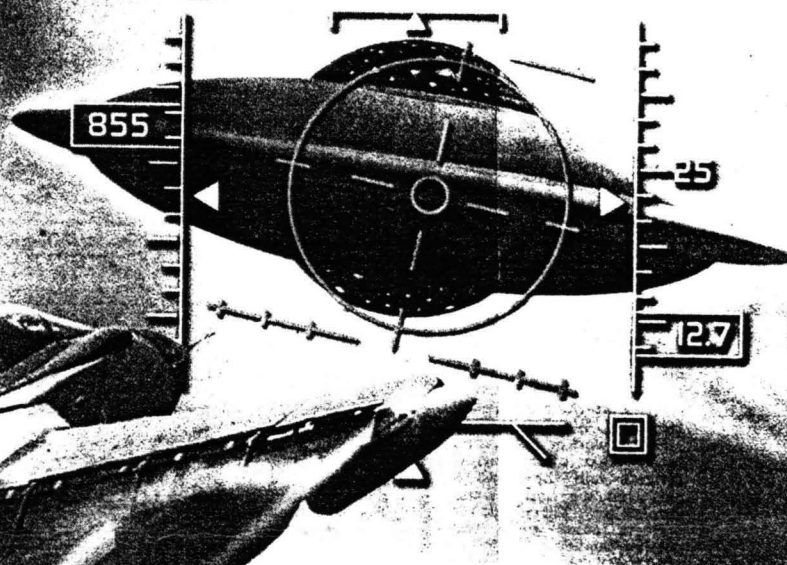
Spokesmen at Tinker and McConnell Air Force bases are referring all queries to the Air Force in Washington.



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

K.O. UFOs

RAF Top Guns are ordered to shoot down alien craft



The Sun
UK 1-26-09

Target . . . our mock-up of how an RAF pilot would attack an alien spaceship under directive

EXCLUSIVE by CHARLOTTE SPRATT and GARY O'SHEA

RAF pilots have tried to BLAST UFOs out of the sky under a top secret Government directive, it was claimed last night.

Nick Pope — who worked on the Ministry of Defence's UFO desk for three years — revealed the rules of engagement for the first time.

He claimed RAF pilots had fired at UFOs on several occasions — but failed to bring them down.

He added: "We know of cases where the order has been given to shoot down — with little effect to the UFO."

Mr Pope said the rules of engagement were drawn up after dozens of close encounters with suspect craft in British airspace.

RAF attacks on UFOs were "not automatic but happen when something in our airspace is deemed to be a threat".

He explained: "In the case of UFOs, whether the object is causing a threat is very much a pilot's judgment call."

Mr Pope, 43, from London, said the "shoot down" orders had been issued under the



Riddle . . . Sun P1 story

highly-classified directive since the beginning of the 1980s.

He believes a pattern has emerged in incidents already publicised in this country and abroad.

When a UFO is thought to be threatening a country's airspace, the drastic action has been taken.

He said: "There was a faction in the MoD who said 'We want to shoot down a UFO and that will resolve the issue one way or another'."

He claimed credible UFO witness statements had come from dozens of near-misses with planes, police helicopters and RAF jets in recent years. Earlier this month The Sun

told how a UFO was believed to have torn off a 65ft blade as it hit a wind turbine in Conisholme, Lincs.

Locals saw "strange lights" streaking towards the 290ft-tall power generator.

But any alien battles with the RAF will be kept secret, according to Mr Pope, who worked as a civil servant at the MoD for 21 years.

He said: "The public won't know unless it comes down in a heavily-populated area."

Weapons

He added: "I do believe we will bring one down. We're developing increasingly sophisticated weapons."

Mr Pope also rubbished the MoD's stance that UFOs pose no danger to the public, saying: "I think that's a line I wrote myself in the 1990s."

"But if they haven't investigated, how do they know it poses no threat?"

"They will try to play it down by talking about flying saucers and little green men. But there are MPs and ministers and a faction of the MoD who do believe in UFOs."

An MoD spokesman last night refused to comment on the directive.

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**The Western Daily Press - Bristol,
England, UK**

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Two Crop-Circle Experts Die Within Hours Of Each Other

The crop circle community has been left stunned after two of its leading lights died within hours of each other.

Dorset investigator and conference organiser David Kingston passed away last week after a year-long battle with cancer.

Meanwhile, the body of crop circle investigator Paul Vigay was found on the Hampshire coast at Southsea.

Mr Kingston was a prominent organiser in the crop circle and UFO research fields, running one of the biggest websites and holding a prominent annual conference in Dorchester.

The 70-year-old began full-time UFO research in 1976 and began investigating crop circles in the late 1980s. The Dorchester conferences began in the mid 1990s, after he started lecturing on UFOs, crop circles and conspiracy theories.

The conferences scheduled for this spring and summer were cancelled when Mr Kingston's health took a turn for the worse recently.

Fellow researcher and friend David Haith said: "His wife Mary and his family were at his bedside.

"He was a tireless worker for truth and through his website, conferences and lectures, encouraged a great number of people to go on their own explorations of the mysteries of the universe.

"Now David is en route to uncovering one of the greatest mysteries of all and we wish him a fond bon voyage on his last great journey," he added.

Mr Kingston, from Weymouth, said he first saw UFOs while serving with the RAF all over the world, and found his true calling when links were made between the new phenomenon of crop circles and UFOs in the late 1980s.

His conferences hosted lectures by the world's most prominent experts on UFOs and crop circles, including the British Government's former UFO investigator Nick Pope and Trojgs frontman Reg Presley.

Another to have lectured at the Dorchester spring conferences was Paul Vigay, a mathematician and computer expert who became one of the leading lights of the crop circle world.

His body was found on the shore at Southsea, near Portsmouth, last Thursday – police say the circumstances surrounding his death are not suspicious.

Mr Vigay, 44, was well known in the fields of Wiltshire and renowned among crop circle devotees as an expert at decoding the hidden meanings in crop circle patterns. "Paul was one of the brightest stars in the crop circle universe," said circle photographer and researcher Lucy Pringle.

"A talented mathematician, computer technician and a maker of electronic gadgets, he was one of the first researchers into the crop circle phenomenon in the early 1990s, where his talents were quickly recognised.

"He had an exceptional gift for investigation and often led the field in deciphering the mathematical aspects found in certain crop circles. He was amazingly articulate and he had a rare knack of being able to explain technical details in the simplest language. He has made a major contribution to the subject and

his place will not be easily filled," she added.

Mr Vigay's friend of 23 years Claire Diestler, 39, from Bedhampton, said she visited him for a cup of coffee last Tuesday. She said: "He was absolutely fine, that's why I am so shocked. There was absolutely no indication that anything was wrong. In fact he was quite jokey. We all feel a bit guilty having seen him.

"We are all worried we did not pick up on something."

Mrs Diestler added: "He was really interested in UFOs and anything a bit unusual like crop circles.

"He used to go to Wiltshire quite a lot to take photographs of them. He was really popular and had a lot of friends. He was very funny and we always had some great laughs," she said.

IS THIS A UFO?

IS THIS amazing picture of an Unidentified Flying Object over Great Bowden proof that we are not alone in the universe?

The photo, taken from the footbridge over the railway line at Great Bowden, appears to show a saucer-shaped object flying above the trees.

It was taken with a digital camera last summer by a railway enthusiast, who only noticed the object while downloading the picture to his computer.

The mystery photographer was initially reluctant to send the picture to The Mail but was recently persuaded to by a friend, who allowed us to reproduce the photograph on the agreement that both would remain anonymous.

The photographer's friend said: "I think you can see from the picture this does not look like a bird. However, I wouldn't like to venture any guesses.

"I personally don't believe in extra-terrestrial flying machines

By Ian O'Pray

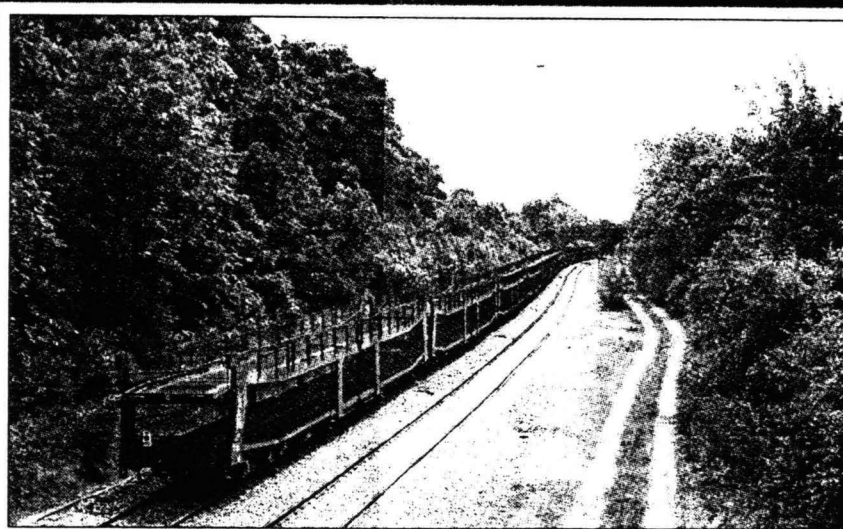
but I have to admit that I am a bit baffled by this one.

"I can say this though – the original picture is genuine and hasn't been messed with.

"There is actually a series of pictures that were taken, some with birds in them, and there is a distinct difference. This object only really appears in this one."

The picture was taken at about 2pm on June 6 last year – about three weeks before office worker Rachael Berry told The Mail she had seen a shiny, metallic-looking ball moving above fields near Brampton Valley Way in daylight.

A week later a couple reported seeing a saucer-shaped object hovering and moving in circles above the town's golf club at night while Caroline Marriott told The Mail she saw a trail of red lights 'snaking' towards the window of her flat in Welland Court, Harborough.



● The main photo is an enhancement of the photo above. You can see the unidentified object flying above a train at Great Bowden.

The reports of these sightings were picked up by UFO enthusiasts across the globe via our website and have been viewed by thousands of people.

In March 2007 more than a dozen people contacted The Mail after witnessing strange lights in the night sky above Harborough, but the puzzle was solved after it

emerged they were Chinese lanterns released at a party.

Visit our website www.harboroughmail.co.uk/ufo for more on the history of sightings in Harborough.

● What do you think? Email ian.opray@harboroughmail.co.uk or phone 01858 436005.

Harborough Mail
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TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS NEWS

UFO OVER SHENZHEN, CHINA SHINES VIOLET LIGHT OVER CITY

March 6, 2009

Several newspaper in Shenzhen, a city in the Guangdong province near Hong Kong, reported a slew of calls from baffled citizens in the city's district of Futian about several UFOs that hovered above the city for more than thirty minutes. The calls came in on February 23rd, at about 7:30 pm. The UFOs apparently shone a warm violet light over the ground before rocketing towards the south.

One Mrs. Zhou witnessed the UFOs from her balcony. She reported that two UFOs took off, while a third lingered a bit longer before exiting. She said, "I have no idea what they were. The last one was emitting the strangest violet light which was very bright."

Mr. Yip, nearby, also noticed the UFOs and observed a blue frame emitted from at least one of the ships, which appeared to come from the underside. Shenzhen, which has a population of about 8,000,000, has hosted dozens of UFO sightings over the past 24 months. Shenzhen is considered an economic boomtown, with an ultra-modern skyline; it's part of what China regards as its "Special Economic Zone."

This is a fascinating report with multiple witnesses, although no photographic or video documentation has emerged from the incident. We'll keep you posted on any updates from the happening as they emerge.

UFO turbine wreck in Germany for tests

EXCLUSIVE by BRIAN FLYNN

THE UFO wind turbine mystery went international yesterday as debris was sent to Germany for forensic analysis.

Experts there hope to explain how one of the 290ft-high generator's 65ft blades was ripped off.

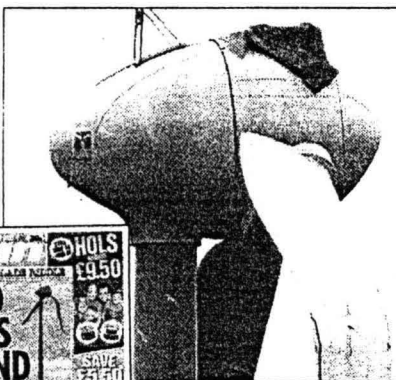
Local people claim a flying saucer hit and wrecked the turbine in Conisholme, Lincs.

And last night scientists at manufacturers Enercon dismissed a rival theory that a chunk of ice thrown from another turbine was the cause.

A source said: "It is impossible to get a lump of ice on a wind turbine blade big enough to cause that kind of damage, let alone be flung from one to another."

"Also, turbines have sensors in the blade. If they detect ice forming they turn themselves off."

"Additionally, any large lump of ice would not have melted so



Wrecked . . turbine and Thursday's Sun



quickly in the cold weather and would probably have left a dent in the ground. No debris was found other than remains of the turbine.

"If there is a rational explanation, the investigation will find it."

A lightning strike was also ruled out as there were no singe marks.

Owners Ecotricity last night confirmed the ice theory had been ruled out. The Sun exclusively

revealed the riddle on Thursday. Locals woken by a commotion reported seeing streaking white lights and a massive flashing ball of light with tentacles which seemed to reach the ground.

In the morning, one of the turbine's three giant blades had been torn off and another mangled.

Enercon has 13,000 similar turbines around the world - but has never encountered a case of such spectacular damage.

The results of its probe should be revealed within a week.

UFO expert Nick Pope called for the Ministry of Defence to take over the investigation.

He said: "The finding that ice was not to blame narrows down further the possible causes and makes a UFO more likely."

Ecotricity managing director Dale Vine said there was no evidence to point to a logical cause.

He said: "We've ruled out ice from other turbines or passing jets."

"We've examined the turbine, the fallen blade and the surrounding area. We have been crawling all over it. To make one of these blades fall off, or to bend it, takes a lot."

b.flynn@the-sun.co.uk

The Louth Leader - England, UK
February 9, 2009

UFO Turbine Results Are In - ET Is Innocent!

The damage to one of Ecotricity's wind turbines on Fen Lane, Conisholme, was not caused by a UFO a report has concluded.

Speculation reached fever pitch after a the Louth Leader reported a number of local people seeing strange lights in the sky in the vicinity of the wind park.

But, following several weeks of forensic examination of the turbines components the manufacturer, Enercon, has today ruled out 'collision' as a possible cause.

An interim report has concluded that bolts securing the blade to the hub of the turbine failed due to 'material fatigue'. The bolts used to attached the blade to the hub of the turbine exhibited classic signs of fatigue failure.

Enercon have ruled out bolt defect due to the nature of the failure and the investigation is now looking into 'supporting components' - those parts on either side of the bolts.

If one of these supporting components failed it would induce stress in the bolts beyond their design limits and cause failure. Further tests are currently being carried out.

Managing Director of Ecotricity, Dale Vince said: "We hope to have the results back in a few weeks. It's a job of separating cause from effect now - we can see which bits are broken, but which bits failed first is the bit that needs forensic investigation - it's all clever stuff"

Ecotricity continue to liaise closely with The Health & Safety Executive and East Lindsey council. A thorough inspection of all the turbines at Fen Farm Wind Park has been carried out.

Ecotricity, Enercon and the HSE have no concerns with the ongoing safety of this, or any other, wind park.

See Wednesday's paper for more details and people's views. What do you think to the conclusion?

Email: faye.preston@jpress.co.uk
or call 01507 353200

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Enigma . . radar screen

UFO in German jets alert

FIGHTER pilots were put on red alert in a UFO drama over Germany, it emerged yesterday.

Air traffic controllers tracked a mystery object speeding across the entire country.

Investigators have checked and excluded conventional aircraft, weather balloons and freak atmospheric conditions.

Axel Raab of Germany's air traffic safety office, the DFS, said: "We have ruled out all the conventional possibilities - it is a mystery."

There were dozens of reports of the object as it flew across southern Germany on January 19.

It vanished above an area used by US troops on training exercises.

Mr Raab said: "It confused radar operators because it kept flicking on and off the screen. Then it simply vanished."

Allnewsweb 2-28-09

**Greece: Clear UFO sighting near Corinth,
multiple witnesses**

Michael Cohen

It appears that visitors from other worlds are taking a real interest in Greece. Greek newspaper 'Espresso' recently reported that earlier this month on Tuesday February 3 a clear UFO sighting occurred on the Peloponnese Peninsula near the Isthmus of Corinth. The UFO was witnessed and reported to local the police by a number of people.

One of the witnesses, Mr Patapios Palaiologou, a 42 year old worker at a local casino was driving his daughter to school when he saw the UFO.

'The time was 8am in the morning and I was with my daughter in our car. It was a sunny day and the sky was totally clear. . Suddenly, I saw a huge object over the small hillside opposite the village where we live. . It looked like nothing I had ever seen before and I could not believe it. I pointed it out to my stunned daughter. I got out of the car to get a better look. It appeared to be it about 400 meters above ground and it was huge, about 300 meters in diameter. It looked like the planet Saturn with a red ring around it and was metallic silver in colour'.

According to Mr. Paleologos, the UFO remained suspended for about ten seconds, and then the ring began to vibrate at an incredibly fast pace..All of a sudden the object started to tremble very strongly and a few seconds later I saw a terribly intense glow on its right side. Then it disappeared! Indeed, it was incredible. . I am confused. On the one hand I am happy to have witnessed such an event, on the other hand I know that few will believe me.'

Mr Palaiologou reported the incident to the police and noted that they were extremely supportive, jotting down all details and mentioning that others had witnessed the same UFO near the same hill and some of the sightings had even occurred a week before. One other witness turned out to be an aunt of Mr Palaiologou, a Mrs Roula, who also remains shocked by what she saw 'I wish I knew what it was' she commented.

Perhaps alien visitors are scanning ancient historic sites to gain an insight into human beings strange, often aggressive nature. Perhaps they themselves helped create these ancient civilisations and still like to keep an eye on their creations. Some ufologists might argue that the visiting aliens are trying to understand the amusing phenomenon whereby so many human beings and their elected officials refuse to believe in their(the aliens) presence here: even as they make it so obvious.

CPH Post Denmark

1/29/2009

Secret UFO Archives Opened

Secret UFO archives opened The Danish Air Force has opened its UFO archives, providing information on over 15,000 reported extraterrestrial sightings to the public UFO archives are now readily available to the public, detailing sightings from over the last 30 years. The Danish Air Force published the archive online yesterday because it felt that 'there was nothing secret in the files'. The Air Force said that most of the sightings remained 'unidentified' because the details were not precise enough. However, some of the reports contained enough description to rule out the

UFOs as aircraft, weather phenomenon or paper lanterns. Not all of the sightings were centred over Denmark and one event over Greenland is attracting attention. On the 5 January, 1981 at 12:50 a flaming, square disc was seen approximately 45 degrees over the frozen land near Thule Air Base. It then vanished as suddenly as it had appeared. Coincidentally, radar stations at the American base recorded an unidentified flying object on its radar at 12:50. Air Force Captain Thomas Petersen, who has an extensive knowledge of the files, commented that any unresolved sightings are handed over to the Scandinavian UFO Centre, if they request it. He added that the Air Force's main mission was to defend Denmark against threat, 'and UFOs are not a known threat'.



THE Ω MEGA

Thompson Rivers University's Independent Student Newspaper

Sasquatch: The Chase



Photo provided
Sasquatch hunters John Myles, left, and Bill Miller hold mouldings of footprints they have found in the woods. Miller claims these are conclusive evidence to Sasquatches being in the Harrison, B.C. area.

Brandi Schier - Campus Editor

From the Feb 04 print edition

Updated: Today at 04:51 PM

The legend of the Sasquatch is one which has intrigued many people for centuries. Stories stem from Aboriginal oral tradition and from accounts from the first pioneers in the west. It's a story that refuses to fade away, even without undisputable evidence.

It's twisted within the history of B.C. and has become undetachable from the province's image, especially in the area around Harrison Hot Springs, where some of the first dedicated Sasquatch hunters began to codify their experiences.

A hotbed for Sasquatch activity, Bill Miller has taken up where others left off and has made the Sasquatch his life. Relocated to Canada for parts of the year from Illinois, almost everyday he is in the wilderness of southern interior B.C. exploring, tracking or responding to possible sightings. He's armed only with camera equipment and bear spray while he takes his six wheel drive Polaris into places few, if any, people have ever been before.

Soft-spoken, yet passionate, believing deeply in the animal's existence, one gets the feeling he could speak for months on subject. His research spiders out to animal biology and he can cite supporting evidence from across the globe.

But this wasn't how he thought his life would go. He had no way of knowing one night on a fishing boat in northern Minnesota would set him on a path that would lead him to where he is today.

"It all goes back to that night in Minnesota," Miller said, before he ever had any thoughts of the creature. "This thing ran by us from left to right," Miller explained. "All I can say is it was upright, big—bigger than I was, big enough you could hear those feet thumping the ground."

The incident left Miller's mind until he returned to the area almost two decades later, sparking the research which led him to Harrison, at first just for visits and later to live.

Ten years and over \$100,000 later he is still out there. He doesn't have any income coming out of his research, unlike other hunters who try and capitalize on the tourist draw of the myth.

"I don't charge for anything related to the Bigfoot field," he said,

Continued next page →

Shropshire has reinforced its reputation as home of the weird and wonderful after a new spate of big cat and UFO sightings.

Investigators say the county is among the top 10 locations in Britain for bizarre happenings.

And reports from Shropshire Star readers are still flooding in.

The latest big cat sighting was reported by 89-year-old retired farmer Stan Hulme, of Preston Gubbals Road, Bomere Heath, near Shrewsbury.

He said he saw what he described as a "big old cat", much bigger than the average feline, prowling around in a field near Myddle Hill yesterday.

"It was just going across the field," he said.

"To start with I thought it was a sheep but there was nothing else in the field. I watched it for a while but I wasn't worried. It was bigger than a dog but smaller than a sheep and was happily walking around and didn't seem frightened. It's an amazing thing."

The Big Cat Society has investigated previous sightings all over Shropshire, with Telford being a particular hot spot.

Meanwhile, the Shropshire Star has also received several reports of unidentified flying objects from callers.

It follows a story in yesterday's paper about pensioner John Ward, of Woodside, Telford, who spotted five strange lights near Wrekin Retail Park, Wellington on Saturday evening.

Trish Fryer, of St Georges, Telford, and George Cooper, of Knockin, both got in touch to say they had seen unusual bright lights in the sky.

explaining he never has wanted to have anything he has found or learned to be considered commercialized. "It would seem like I had a motive to make it up. I just tell it the way it is."

Although people may have the impression the myth has lured him away from a productive life, it's just the opposite. He has fought and beat cancer twice. On his last chemotherapy treatment the chemo was sent into his dominant hand burning the inside and leaving it with little function and not a lot of employment options. Then hard times hit again with an accident, when he broke his femur in 20 places. The upside of this to him is the pain was too great for his regular pain medications, which were making him lethargic. So he quit taking them all together.

"After a while it [the pain] becomes part of you. I make it work, I hide it the best I can and rather than just sit around doing nothing," Miller said. "I've got this interest that kinda found me. So I have discovered a way in which to utilize my time where at the end of the day, I've had a good day."

"I make the best out of it, it's the hand I was dealt. The only other alternative is to not do anything, just exist and wait and let your life go by and I'm trying very hard not to do that."

Over the last 10 years he has found five good sets of footprints from deep in the bush. He claims to have seen the animal once near Harrison and once missed one by about 60 seconds.

Miller said he wishes every time he went out he found some evidence, but the reality is those occasions are few and far between. 2006 was the last time he had found anything he could classify as conclusive until a sighting last fall.

"I was getting very discouraged, even the reports were dying down. But

then [in the fall] I saw some tracks again and someone else had seen the animal. I missed it by a day, but that's OK. It doesn't have to be me. It's good, it renews my faith to stay at it."

He realizes science will need a body to accept the animal's existence but believes other people should look closer and have an open mind.

"I don't blame people for being skeptical, I'm skeptical," he said, adding the evidence of a sighting has to add for up for him.

He believes the general public is ignorant of the evidence that is out there and said people dismiss the possibility without giving it any thought. Miller said if he sits down with anyone, even the most hard-nosed skeptic, and goes through all the evidence, he can leave them scratching their heads.

"We've got an animal here that is unclassified that people are reporting seeing that really exists out here. And all I want people to do is be educated about what I've seen and then make up their own minds."

He hopes that if the animal can be caught and classified it would prompt large tracts of land to be protected which would in turn be beneficial for all species.

Miller realizes others before him have died broke and alone, with not a lot to show for their efforts. But he believes his goal is attainable and he will be able to move on once he has achieved it.

"So I've gone too far to turn back now, as they say," he said. "I think it's important, and I'm going to stay with it as long as I am able to, until I have achieved my goal. I want to get a good film of it."

"I could use help sometimes, but I always think that victory has 1,000 fathers and defeat is an orphan—it's an

old saying," he said, acknowledging the loneliness and frustration which comes with the job. "I know when that day comes and I'm successful, I'll get plenty of pats on the back, but in the in-between time it's hard to find people who will come out with you or help support what you do."

But despite these hard times and the ridicule he and the other believers faced, Miller said it's all worth it.

"Every turn of everyday I'm out there, I'm seeing something new. If nothing else, I've seen scenery that only God could paint. I've seen streams and lakes so clean you can drink out of them. To me, that is beautiful, it's unbelievable. "I'm constantly learning and seeing things that never cease to amaze me. And for that, that's a blessing in itself. "It's an adventure and I love it. When life stops becoming an adventure for me, then I'm just existing. And I don't want to end my life thinking all I did was exist. And I'm doing what I love and what I'm meant to do in a place where I love to be. And it's been beautiful for the most part."

In an age where many people don't feel satisfied with their jobs and their place in society, Miller provides a refreshing counterweight, showing its OK to go against the grain and do what makes you happy. Even if the majority of the population thinks you are chasing shadows.