

AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD



By Rick R. Hilberg

FOREWORD

Rick Hilberg: Friend and confidant; ufologist; writer and lecturer as well as long-time colleague at *Flying Saucer Digest*.

Well, he's finally gone and done it. Rick has always been telling me that some day he would like to put together a short anthology of some of his favorite stories and cases from his long running column "Around And About The Saucer World." And while its been running in *Flying Saucer Digest* since 1970, Rick's column appeared in his two other personal publications, the "original" *UFO Magazine* (which was absorbed by FSD in 1970) as well as his *UFO Magazine News Bulletin*. In fact, 1998 marks his thirty-sixth year of actively reporting on the UFO scene.

As you are reading this booklet, maybe you will begin to see what Rick means when he says that the UFO mystery is not as complicated as some factions in UFO research would have us believe. It is his contention that UFO research as a whole has largely given up on *investigating* and *reporting* on what people continue to see in our skies - the true UFO *enigma*, as he prefers to call it. That's what you will find on the pages that follow, good solid UFO reports worthy of your consideration. However, Rick has also included the more "subjective" cases as well, as that is what is needed in a balanced investigation of the UFO enigma - something other investigators fail to address - something not forgotten by Rick's writings in *Flying Saucer Digest*.

Allan J. Manak
Senior Editor
Flying Saucer Digest

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A WORD BEFORE WE GO AROUND AND ABOUT...

I can't begin to express the amount of sheer *fun* it was to put together this anthology. I hope you find my selections as interesting as I found them to be while picking them for inclusion on the pages that follow.

Please note that I have tried to follow a chronological order in general, and that I have updated the references to time to reflect the current year of 1998 whenever practical.

I must thank my long-time colleague Allan J. Manak for enthusiastic support of my attempts to chronicle the dynamic and sometimes confusing UFO scene these many years. I also have to thank Benita "Bunny" Owens for her most welcomed cover art. And most of all, I have to thank Carol Hilberg for her twenty-six years of help in my sometimes quixotic quest for the solution to these elusive disks seen in our skies. - Rick Hilberg
SAUCER FRAGMENTS FROM THE PAST

In the early days of UFO research, long before Roswell was anything but a forgotten footnote, there were many claims of persons having recovered parts of the mysterious flying saucers. Most, if not all of these reports, later turned out to be clever - and sometimes not so clever hoaxes. Everything from old saw blades to paper plates were found, with newspapers giving full coverage to these silly events. But even though the published reports were skeptical regarding the validity of the "evidence", who is to say that behind the screen of joking sarcasm erected by the newspapers of that time there was some truth to the stories?

Early in the saucer era, on July 6, 1947, a jeweler named Norman Hargraves found an aluminum disk floating in the water on a beach near Trinity Bay, Texas. At first the papers gave little space to the find, Hargraves later saying the whole incident "...was all a joke". However, *The Houston Chronicle* said, "There are some mysterious facts contained in Hargraves' first report that lend credence to the tale." Supposedly the following was written on the disk: "Military secret of the United States of America, Army, Air Force M4339658. Anyone damaging or revealing description or whereabouts of this missile subject to prosecution by the U. S. Government. Call collect at once, LD 446, Army Air Forces Depot, Spokane, Washington."

Supposedly, Hargraves told a reporter from the same paper that a "Colonel Voyce" from Spokane Depot had cautioned him about revealing information about the disk. Hargraves also said the officer instructed him to turn the find over to the local police. The police in nearby Pelly denied that they had the disk in their possession. At this time Colonel R. W. Warren, Commanding Officer at Ellington Field, said his office would investigate the matter.

The following report was carried in the *Houston Press* of July 8th: "Norman Hargraves, former Boy Scout executive, admitted today it was he who perpetrated a flying saucer hoax that even Army authorities took seriously.

"A disk that made a crash landing near his home bore lettering and directions to notify an Army Air Force officer in Spokane, Washington, Mr. Hargraves told newspapermen.

"Ellington Field officers investigated the report late yesterday and pronounced it as false."

An aluminum disk twenty inches in diameter...quite an expensive hoax! Possibly Norman Hargraves indeed did find a crashed airfoil on the

beach, and from his description it seems hardly like a machine from outer space. It seems to me quite possible that Hargraves found some sort of Army test "saucer", as rumors from all parts of the country at that time told of secret U.S. tests to duplicate the saucers flight. Assuming that he did find a crashed American flying saucer, it would seem logical that the authorities would want the whole story squelched, hence the "confession" made by Hargraves.

While the Hargraves incident was being written off as a hoax, a man in Hillsboro, Texas found some mysterious "stuff" in his garden that just melted away when he touched it.

Bob Scott said that he found pieces of a four inch saucer-shaped object in his garden. It appeared "spidery and dusty" and gave off a light so bright he could not look directly at it. The object was about as thick as four pieces of tinfoil or silver but was translucent when examined on its side.

When Scott picked it up it seemed to dissolve slowly in his hand without any heat being felt. Again a strange object found, this time with some sort of built-in "self-destruct" mechanism. Was the Army playing with its little saucer prototypes that week?

Other saucer fragments were claimed found in October of 1948 by cattlemen near Montrose, Colorado. In April of the following year a Noah L. Clubb told he was requested to turn the fragments he had in his possession over to Air Force intelligence men. The Air Force men were reported to have spent two days searching a mile square section of rugged country some 15 miles west of Delta, where a second and longer segment was reportedly found.

The original segment of the circular rim-shaped piece was found by cattlemen identified only as the Calhoun brothers. When the two finds were pieced together they looked as if they were part of a wheel shaped instrument about four feet in diameter. The aluminum appearing device was about two inches across and one inch thick.

On the outer edge of the wheel were tube-like wicks about two inches long and made of brass. Some said that these even numbered wicks may have been part of some fuel feeding system.

Clubb said that the Air Force intelligence men were taking the two segments, one 14 and the other 26 inches long, to Lawry Field near Denver for examination. No more was heard about the fragments.

On December 18, 1950 the University of New Mexico announced that they were investigating, without success, an 18 inch sphere that was found by deer hunters a month previous. Dr. Lincoln LaPaz was unable to come up with any answer as to what the object was or who made it.

The find included the sphere, built of a light material possibly duraluminum, weighing seven pounds two ounces; an object resembling a large flower pot made of plastic embedded with nylon fibers; a cheap alarm clock equipped with an expensive micro switch, and three packages of photographic film of a type used in nuclear research. LaPaz suspected that the object was aloft on November 29, as the number 29 was written in ink with a ditto mark on a segment of the film. The film was manufactured by Ilford Limited of London, England and dated November 14, 1949.

Dr. LaPaz stated that only a few days after November 29 he received two reports of green fireballs in the general area of where the sphere was found. When asked whether he thought the find could be a hoax he stated, "You could hardly find a place to leave a hoax where it would be

less likely to be found."

In all of the above mentioned reports the finds seemed to be more than quickly fabricated hoaxes. They were all parts of some sort of real operating object. From examination, all the finds were identified as terrestrial material, in some cases common material. Then, may we not speculate that in the first few years after the increase in UFO reports following the war the government built and flew small craft in an attempt to duplicate the saucers? From the evidence at hand we may also speculate that these primitive devices crashed on several occasions, their parts being found by civilians.

What happened to the "mini saucer" project, if it existed, and what did they find out about the design and flight of the mysterious UFOs? 1
CLASSIC "SAUCER" FROM SALINAS, CALIFORNIA IN 1950

More than twenty persons reported seeing a saucer-shaped object in the Salinas area on March 11th. The various reports had the saucer diving on an automobile, looping the loop, and or speeding across the horizon at a low altitude.

The sheriff's office reported a "lot of calls" shortly after 8:00 p.m. (PST) by people claiming to have seen the mysterious object. Simultaneously, a number of calls were received by the local newspaper.

The sheriff's office said the first call came from Mrs. Sam Raguindin of nearby Chualar, who said the saucer "swooped down" over her automobile as she and her mother and two children were driving south from Salinas.

She said she at first thought the object was a shooting star but changed her mind when it swooped down toward the car.

"It looked like two dinner plates placed together," she said. "It came down to about 2,000 feet and as it came close it gave off a strong bluish-white light that hurt our eyes like a welder's torch."

She said it seemed to "loop the loop" and then sped away in a southerly direction at a high rate of speed.

"I'm still scared," Mrs. Raguindin said. "I hope I never see anything like that again."

The saucer was next reported by Hiram Don, a Chinese market owner, who said he saw it in the sky as he left his market to take some groceries to his car. He said it appeared bright in front and had a long fiery tail. It was traveling quite close to the ground, he said.

Most of the other reports were similar to the above two. 2
1952 OHIO INCIDENT IS ONE OF THE WEIRDEST I'VE EVER RUN ACROSS

Somehow it seems as if stories about alleged crashed UFOs seem to pop up constantly lately, told by people from all sorts of backgrounds, and in many instances seemingly reliable. Whether this stems from "wishful thinking" after hearing about many of the other similar claims that have been made by a number of UFO writers and investigators in recent years, or some desire to join the bandwagon I really can't say at this point. All I know is that these stories continue to surface, and that more and more of them have come to the attention of ufologists all over the country in recent years.

I have to run the above disclaimer to the story that will follow because I honestly don't know what to make of it. Like some or all of the crashed UFO stories it may be true, and then again it may not. That's because all of these stories are consistent with the UFO enigma as a whole, because they lack any hard physical evidence and we must rely solely on the testimony of the witness, or in several cases on easily

faked photographs. So until the day when we can actually get our hands on some sort of artifacts we will have to be content to sift through these stories hoping to come up with some clues to the mystery.

I received a call in late August of 1981 from John, a seemingly sincere man who doesn't want his last name used in this account, who was puzzled by a sighting that he had sometime in July. Since he could not remember the specific date, his report of a typical daylight disk that made a number of acute maneuvers including a ninety degree turn wouldn't be of much use to us in our statistical catalog of UFO reports, so I politely listened to his account and informed him that we had many like it in our files.

After asking me about UAPA's local chapter in the Cleveland area and our activities and whatnot, he was curious to know whether we had ever heard about people who claimed to have seen crashed UFOs, and whether we could place any stock in these reports. After I replied in the affirmative, and told him that we were interested in any such reports we might stumble onto, he told me that something happened to him when he was a young man that has puzzled him a great deal, and that he hasn't even told his family for fear they wouldn't believe him.

As best as John can remember, the incident took place in August of 1952. He was looking around in a downtown Cleveland stamp shop when he struck up a conversation with another customer. John said that they discussed stamps for a while, and generally seemed to enjoy each other's conversation. John described this new friend as a heavy set man of about 32, with a sort of dark complexion and a crew cut.

During the next several weeks they would meet to discuss stamps and sometimes to play a few games of chess over at John's house. John reported that his friend would win every one of their chess games, even though he was then a pretty fair chess player, and had won many games in a chess club when he was at school. John said at the time he felt as if this person could read his mind, because he seemed to know his next several moves.

John related that his friend (he never would give me his first name, and admitted that he had forgotten his last name) claimed that he was a chemical engineer for the state of Ohio, and worked with testing paint, or some similar line of work. He also seemed to know a great deal about technical subjects. John related that they would be walking down the street and his friend would suddenly start rattling off all kinds of detailed information regarding a passing car, or how some complicated piece of machinery worked. John said that it seemed that this man knew far more about any technical subject that even an engineer would know. He also noticed that the man always spoke testbook-perfect English, and though he claimed to be from Ohio he had a slight accent that John couldn't place.

After knowing him about three weeks, John was invited over to the man's house for dinner and an evening of chess. It was sometime after dinner when John said his friend got a photograph out of a drawer and handed it over asking whether he had ever heard about flying objects. John replied that he didn't know too much, but had read reports of them in the paper from time to time.

John said he looked at the photograph and was amazed to see what appeared to be some sort of large machine that had crashed into the side of a hill. He said whatever it was, it was really badly damaged by the crash, because parts of its outer skin were shredded and laying around

all over the crash site, and that only a badly twisted frame remained that reminded him of an umbrella shape. He was sure, however, that whatever it was, it certainly wasn't any sort of aircraft that he was familiar with. John said that there were two bodies laying on the ground near the craft, and they appeared to be human shapes charred horribly as if by a great fire. He stated that he estimated them to be between four and five feet tall, but when asked how he could be sure of their height he replied that it was just a guess on his part.

He asked his friend just what the photograph showed, but got no reply, and the photograph was put back in its place and the two went on to a game of chess.

After not hearing from the man for a week, John decided to go over to his house to see if anything was wrong, as he usually heard from him every day or two. When he knocked on his friend's door he was startled to be confronted by an older woman who eyed him suspiciously. The really startling part was when he was told that it was impossible that his friend lived there, because the woman was the only one living in the house, and she had lived there most of her adult life! No, she had never seen or heard about anybody like him living in the neighborhood, and asked John to go away as evidently she thought he was either crazy or out to do her harm.

John said that he never again heard from the man, but several days after the incident with the woman he received a birthday card from his friend, but John was certain he had never mentioned that he had a birthday coming up.

That's the end of the story, and I have to admit that it sounds a lot like the mysterious empty house bit that Kenneth Arnold wrote about during his investigation of the Maury Island "hoax" in *The Coming of the Saucers*. All I can say is John appears to be puzzled by the whole affair of long ago, and would like someone to tell him exactly what was going on back in 1952. So would I! 3

1957 "TWO-DIMENSIONAL" MICHIGAN UFO

After a 1979 television news report on the activities of UAPA, I received a phone call from a man who had a very strange and unusual experience some years ago. He told me that only his family knew of what happened to him and another man one spring morning in 1957. He said that he was willing to share his experience because he knew that we could use the information, and that also his name would remain anonymous.

At the time in question the witness was just out of the service and working in a steel mill in the Detroit, Michigan area. He and another man from the plant would often rent a boat and go fishing on the Detroit River when they both got off work at 7:00 a.m.

One morning at about 9:30 a.m. they were drifting just off Elizabeth State Park near Trenton, Michigan when they saw an unusual object hovering over the water not far from the north bank of the river. Both witnesses later agreed that the UFO was between 20 and 30 feet above the river, and not more than half a mile from their boat. The object was football-shaped, metallic in color and completely noiseless. They estimated that it was quite large, no less than 100 feet long.

While they were watching in total amazement, the object suddenly began moving toward the opposite shore at a high rate of speed and made an "instant stop" 50 feet from shore. It remained there for what was estimated to be not more than ten seconds, when it suddenly went back near it's original position on the north bank, this time with a small

island visible to the witnesses behind the object.

After several more seconds both witnesses saw the object slowly seem to turn on edge, as if it were "a cardboard cutout". It turned until only a thin "edge" was visible, hardly more than six or seven inches thick. At this point the strange "two-dimensional" nature of the UFO struck the witnesses as being somewhat frightening in nature, and they both hurriedly brought in their fish lines and started the outboard motor to leave the area. At this same time the object, still looking flat as a pancake, sped off at high speed. And, as the two frightened witnesses were leaving the area, they both observed a Coast Guard rescue boat heading toward the area where the UFO was hovering before it shot off into the distance. However, the witnesses decided not to turn back and see what the Coast Guard boat was up to, but rather head for shore and call it quits for the day. They both watched the newspapers for several days to read about the incident possibly being reported by the Coast Guard or other people on the river, but saw no mention of the incident.

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1964- THE "FORGOTTEN FLAP"

It's really hard to believe that it has been thirty-four years since the Socorro, New Mexico sighting by Lonnie Zamora on April 24th of 1964. It was such a highly publicized incident, not to mention the first "landing" case to receive serious consideration by those more conservative UFOlogists, that many of us fail to realize that there was a very intense UFO flap going on at that time from just about all regions of the country. And while the sheer numbers of cases from the huge flap years of 1965 and 1966 tend to eclipse 1964, there were some very interesting cases from that year that have been pretty much forgotten in the passing years.

Many residents of Del Norte County in California reported sighting a ball-shaped object on the evening of February 8th. The Sheriff's office and FAA reported a call from a person at Fort Dick Beach stating that he and a group of 17 others sighted the UFO flying from north to south over the beach. The object was reported to be glowing and changing in color from orange to gold to white and seemed to have a long tail which did not glow. A fisherman tried to catch the object with a flashlight beam, but the UFO sped off as the beam was pointed towards it.

Another witness at Ninth and L Streets in Crescent City reported to the FAA that he sighted a similar object at about 8:55 p.m. over the nearby foothills. The FAA also stated that additional reports were received from the Cave Junction, Oregon area at about 8:00 p.m. of what may have been the same object sighted in California.

Hardly 48 hours after the Zamora encounter at Socorro, Orlando Gallegos and his family had just arrived at his father's house outside of Lamadera, New Mexico at about 12:30 a.m. on the 26th, when the younger Gallegos went outside to chase away some horses.

He was startled to see a strange object resting on the ground in a gravel area about 200 feet away. He reported that at this point he was afraid to approach any closer.

When he first sighted it, there was a ring of blue flame erupting from numerous jet-like openings around the bottom of the UFO, he said. There was no noise as he watched the thing, then the flames were suddenly turned off. He reported that he saw no signs of life or movement near the object.

Gallegos returned to the house and told his family, but no one

ventured outside to have a look. His wife described him as being "badly shaken" when he entered the house. He returned outside twice more to have a look at the object he described as being a bright metal without windows, as long as a telephone pole and about 14 feet in circumference. He said it was egg-shaped and resembled a large butane tank, very similar to what Zamora reported two days before at Socorro.

He said that upon going outside after the sun had come up that morning the object was gone, but the ground was still smoldering. Gallegos said he stayed away from the landing site all day, and later in the afternoon as he was returning to his home in Santa Fe he stopped Espanola Police Officer Nick Naranso and told him about what he saw. "I just had to tell somebody," Gallegos said. Espanola Police notified the New Mexico State Police, who twice inspected the landing site over the next 24 hours. Said Capt. Martin Virgil, State Police District Commander, "The ground was still smoldering and was charred over a large area."

Virgil said what looked like paw prints were found at the scene and depressions, similar to those found at Socorro, were also found. Virgil further stated that he thought the depressions may have been made by some sort of landing gear, and that he was certain Gallegos had seen something real.

"If you told me you saw it, I wouldn't believe it, but I saw it," said George Mitroplis of Albuquerque after his encounter with a UFO on the evening of April 26th.

"It was up ahead of me and to the right when I saw it come over the crest and then drop back behind the mountain," Mitroplis said. He said he was driving north on U.S. 85 one mile south of the New Mexico 180 junction about 10:30 p.m. when he sighted the UFO. "I wasn't just seeing things, because I stopped the car and after it went behind the mountain I could hear the noise like muffled jets. This thing was glowing like it was luminous. There were no lights," said Mitroplis. There was a glow underneath like exhaust fumes also.

He described the thing as appearing like an upside down bathtub. Mitroplis said he caught up with another car that had been ahead of him. "I caught up them and stopped them because I wanted to know if they had seen it too. There were two young men but they denied seeing anything...but they were acting strangely."

He said he first reported his sighting to the Truth or Consequences Police but they just laughed at him. He said he then went to Socorro where he learned of the Zamora encounter, and felt better that he was not alone in his reporting a strange aerial object.

On Friday, May 15th, a UFO was seen to take off from the side of Route 90 near Ashtabula, Ohio. The Highway Patrol reported that a man from California called to report on the object. He said it was as big as a tractor truck. The caller said the object changed color, turning to a bright orange color, hovered about eight feet off the ground and then took off and soared to about three or four hundred feet.

At this point the flame color became a blur and the object zoomed into the sky. This incident happened at about 11:30 p.m.

The motorist said a driver of a semi-trailer rig also saw the UFO and stopped to look. A source that had always been reliable told me that after the sighting, several Air Force cars were seen parked near the reported landing area with their lights on.

An orange-colored UFO was reported by an Industry, PA woman and her son at 11:05 p.m. on May 20th.

Mrs. Helen Jones, an employee at Snyder Elementary School told authorities that she and her son, Robert, 19, had seen the object for a period of time from four to five minutes. Attracted by a flickering light in the sky at a great distance, Mrs. Jones said she got a pair of binoculars and focused on the slow-moving object, which appeared to be oval in shape and with lighted windows.

The UFO was bright orange in color and the windows reflected a pale yellow light. The object appeared to be rotating continually while it moved across the field of view of the two witnesses. "It seemed to be spinning around like a top and I could see little windows, two of them," said Mrs. Jones. "It made no noise. It was such a funny looking thing. It didn't move very fast. It didn't look like it had any wings. I knew it wasn't a plane, they go over our house all the time," she said.

Yes, there were some very good multiple witness UFO sightings in the "forgotten flap" of 1964. 5

UFO ANSWERS "SIGNAL" IN 1964 CALIFORNIA ENCOUNTER

Four Pescadero residents saw and signaled a UFO over this small California town on November 2nd. But when it responded and moved toward them, they panicked and fled. This story was told to sheriff's deputies by Rudolph Huizen, a caretaker at the Butano Girl Scout Camp:

He said that about 8:15 p.m. he heard a dog barking. A friend, Duane Meyers, a local nurseryman, and he went outside to investigate. In the northeast they saw a very bright light about the size of a half-dollar moving erratically. "It was way up in the sky," said Huizen. "Just for kicks I flashed my flashlight. And that son-of-a-gun came down!" There was no sound noted, just the bright lighted object.

"It came down and settled over the trees about half a mile away and moved back and forth. When I flashed my flashlight at it again it lit up the sky like a full moon. It was about as big as a football."

Huizen and Meyers ran into the house, fetched their wives, and the four watched the object for a while, and signaled once more. Then it moved towards them. At this point they all fled into the house. "If you were standing in my shoes, you would have run too," said Huizen.

"Then it took off," said Huizen. "No jet plane could go that fast." All four witnesses reported that the object dimmed before it took off. 6

OVERVIEW OF THE WORLDWIDE UFO FLAP OF 1965

July 3

If I were asked for the first report of the flap, I would probably say the one reported in newspapers from coast-to-coast regarding a lens-shaped object at the South Pole would be "it".

On that date came official reports that a mysterious lens-shaped flying object, maneuvering and moving at a great speed, was sighted.

Mario Jahn Barrera, commander of a Chilean base, radioed his defense ministry that the object was "something real" and that it caused interference in the electromagnetic apparatus. In Buenos Aires the navy issued a communique saying the object was seen and photographed at Argentina's Antarctic base

The colors were given as "yellowing red, changing to green, yellow, white and orange."

The Argentine dispatch from a detachment at Deception, said the object was "neither balloon nor star nor aircraft." The report stressed the lack of sound and noted that the object stood still in space at times.

A Chilean corporal took pictures - but in total darkness. Further,

the base has no facilities for developing film. The men must wait eight months to be relieved and have the film developed on the mainland.

July 11 Portugal

Strange objects moving through space were reported sighted in two widely separated areas of Portugal. The Azores weather bureau said interference from one stopped its electromagnetic clocks.

The first reported mysterious flying object appeared in Motosinhos, near the northern city of Oporto, where Manuel Fernandes and his wife at first saw "some sort of luminous flattened balloon."

Fernandes, an employee of the fisherman's union, said "The strange object at first looked like a flattened balloon, but then as we both watched, it looked like a plate turned over.

"The thing was very luminous, and had orange coloring and was nearly red at times," the couple said. "The saucer stopped at rather high altitude near the coast, for about three minutes. Then, with incredible velocity, it sped towards the north."

Some sort of interference stopped the electromagnetic clocks of the Villa Do Porto weather bureau in the Portuguese Azores archipelago, a spokesman said. He added a "cylindrical white object" circled around in the sky. He said the object was moving slowly northeast at an altitude of 24,000 to 30,000 feet.

July 12 Marion, South Carolina

UFOs were reported in the Pee Dee area at night - one case outside Florence and the other outside Marion.

The Marion report said that a "real bright object" flew along outside Marion. Jerry Coleman and Sonny Foxworth, both of Latta, reported seeing the object as they approached Marion from Latta. They said the object was flat and gave off a bright light.

About a half-hour later, Robert Sims of Florence said he sighted an object going west over Florence. The time was 8 p.m. and Sims said the object appeared to land near the Timmonsville Highway.

About the object Sims saw, he said it looked like "a big ball of fire and left a smoke trail." It is quite possible that Mr. Sims may have spotted a meteor.

Pepper Pike, Ohio

Mrs. William W. Kehres of Chagrin Falls, Ohio and her 11-year-old son, Grant, saw a brilliant and hovering UFO along Shaker Blvd. near Lander Road.

"I stopped the car so we could watch," she said. "It was oblong and very shiny - sort of metallic - and appeared to be hovering at about 5,000 feet."

In a moment the object disappeared, she reported. As the car started the object reappeared.

It began accelerating at a rapid rate and disappeared in the distance, she said.

Greenwood, Indiana

Two youngsters in northeast Greenwood viewed unidentified lights in the sky about 11 p.m. that evening.

"The first looked cigar-shaped and was larger than the second one which was more round and was only half as far away," described Michael Hughes, an 18-year-old, who was visiting his aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. William C Miller.

Teresa Owen, who was putting her bicycle into the garage, said she only saw the first light which she too described as cigar-shaped. She

viewed the strange sight at her home in Greenwood. Teresa, who will be a sixth-grader, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Owen.

Teresa said the cylindrical light "moved fast and was pretty high." She commented, "It didn't look like an airplane to me. It looked like a long streak and kept moving about. It didn't make any noise."

"The first one looked like a cigar in shape and moved faster and was higher than any jet I've ever seen," said Michael Hughes, who has taken an interest in science since high school.

"I watched it fly toward the moon and cut across a bright star before it was gone."

Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland

An unidentified flying object - or objects - spotted in the sky had thousands of persons and numerous agencies in at least four states baffled.

The general consensus of "experts" was that the object was a weather balloon. But if it was a balloon, no one was able to find out where it came from!

The FAA, which is generally informed on such matters, said it had no reports of any weather balloons being launched that day except one in Tyler, Texas. A spokesman said, however, that the Tyler balloon was launched only a short time before the first UFO report was made in Ohio that morning.

Late that night, the FAA at Columbus said to disregard its earlier information that the object was a weather balloon. It would not comment further.

A spokesman at Lockbourne AFB, near Columbus, said the object spotted in the Mideastern states was a satellite. He declined to comment.

A report that the object was "definitely" Venus came from Friend Kierstead, orbit analyst for the Akron-Canton Satellite Tracking Group which traces satellites for the government. Kierstead said the planet had become visible after moving within close range of the sun.

There was speculation by the FAA and research officials at Ohio State University, however, that the object spotted in Akron may not have been the same one seen in other states.

Lockbourne sent up a jet plane to get a closer look at the object, reported by several sources to have been hovering at about 60,000 to 80,000 feet. The pilot reported that he was no closer to the object at 31,000 feet - the highest he went - than when he was on the ground.

Officials at Wright Patterson AFB, near Dayton - home of the Air Force UFO center - said they did not know for sure what the object was or where it came from.

The chief meteorologist at the Columbus Weather Bureau said it appeared as "an inverted flow-through tea bag." Descriptions by others who watched the object through telescopes ranged from "tier-shaped," "cigar-shaped," "bell-shaped," to "round." Reports on the color varied widely from white to silver to orange.

Thousands of bewildered persons who saw it telephoned news media, weather bureaus, police officers - jamming switchboards.

July 17 Uruguay, Argentina

A youth was reported as saying he saw a four-legged object touch down for two minutes in broad daylight on a beach just across the River Plate in Uruguay.

He was quoted in Buenos Aires as saying the object shot skywards in a blinding flash after a tug hooted a siren.

One of several Uruguayans who claimed to have seen the object on Honda Beach said it had a circular center, with flattened, oval extensions on either side.

A local Roman Catholic review, commenting on the recent spate of strange sightings in Latin America, said if there had been visitors from other worlds one could be glad that they did not appear to harbor sinister intentions.

The description by the Uruguayan tallied with a photograph published in Buenos Aires on the front page of Sunday's tabloid newspaper *El Mundo*. It was claimed to have been taken as an unidentified flying object hovered over a gas plant in the southern city of Bahia Blanca.

El Mundo said it was submitting the negatives for local scientific investigation.

July 21 Anaheim, California

An Anaheim woman, her husband, and 13-year-old son reported that they saw a round, color-changing UFO in the skies over Orange County.

Mrs. Stephen Pallow said the object was first spotted by her son at 8:55 p.m. The boy raced home from Maxwell Park, where he had been watching an outdoor program, and told his mother he had seen the object.

"I was a little skeptical," she said, "but I went into the back yard and I saw it , too."

Mrs. Pallow said the object, traveling in a straight line from southeast to northwest, gave off "a white glow, but slowly changed colors." She indicated it had "arms of light, like rays."

"It slowly turned yellow-orange, then a bright orange," she added.

Mrs. Pallow's husband, who returned home in the midst of the 25 minute "UFO watch", also saw the object but, she said, "didn't want us to tell anybody - they would think we were crazy." However she said, "I'm sure we saw something."

Mrs. Pallow said she also watched the object through binoculars and it "appeared to be about the size of a nickel" as it moved toward Los Angeles.

"It wasn't a plane, I'm sure," she said, "because of the change of colors and the fact that it hovered."

July 22 Saco, Montana

Young Jeff and Tana Kappel were enjoying the warm summer evening and riding their horses around the yard of their home. Jeff called to his mother that he wanted to be helped off the horse.

As she came out of the house she glanced up and noted the sun glinted on something shiny. She saw an object that appeared to be shaped like a gourd or a slightly tipped bowling pin. She dashed into the house for the binoculars and observed the silver-colored object floating around about a quarter-mile high above the ground.

It left no vapor, emitted no sound, and in a few seconds drifted completely out of sight, leaving "an eerie feeling" with Mrs. Kappel.

July 31, August 1 - 2 Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Wyoming

Unidentified "blips" on the radar screen at the Wichita Weather Bureau has confirmed the presence of UFOs in the Southwest.

Visual sightings were reported from Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Kansas.

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said that Tinker Air Force Base at Oklahoma City was tracking as many as four. Tinker has refused to confirm or deny the report.

John Shockley, a Wichita weatherman, tracked "them" at different

times between two and six a.m. "mostly on the south side of the city."

"I don't know what we've got here," he said. "It looks about the size of a Cessna on the screen." Altitudes were 6,000 to 9,000 feet.

P. H. Messner, in charge of air traffic control installations for the FAA, said "We have no information on UFOs. I have no reports of any observed on our electronic equipment."

A spokesman at McConnel confirmed the FAA report, but noted that the FAA radar covers only a 30-mile radius, while the Weather Bureau covers about all of Kansas.

Numerous reports from citizens and law enforcement officials agree on the objects' bright lights. Descriptions of movement and shapes vary.

Deputy Sheriff Evertt Tucker, of Wellington, Kansas, said he and his wife saw one about 4:50 a.m., "moving rapidly to the north." He said a red vapor trailed behind the egg-shaped object.

Sightings of four mysterious craft flying in a diamond formation came from Chickasha, Cushing, Shawnee and Chandler, OK. Officers in three patrol cars at Shawnee said they watched the diamond formation shortly after 9 p.m. They said the strange craft moved in a northerly direction, and changed colors from red to white to blue-green, and moved from side to side at times.

Jack Sheets, of Wellington, KS, said he and four other men watched the objects from between 4:50 and 5:30 a.m.

The five were working in the yards of Santa Fe Railroad and watching the sky because of earlier reports concerning flying objects in the area. Sheets recalled four different aircraft "or whatever they were" passing across the sky in intervals of seven or eight minutes.

"The first two were a solid red light, no flashing or anything. They seemed to be at a very high altitude on a steady and even course at an even speed.

"The third was red, and after it passed straight over us, it turned white. The fourth was white from the first sighting until it was gone.

"They all seemed about the same type of movement, and pretty evenly-spaced in time. The third was the only one that changed color," Sheets emphasized.

Police in Dallas said the lights formed two triangular patterns and flashed from red to green to blue-white. They criss-crossed the area from 2:20 a.m. until dawn.

Tower guards at the Colorado State Penitentiary at Canon City, watched a bluish-white light about 20 minutes before it faded. It came back, brighter than before, and disappeared.

Two police officers from Caldwell, Kansas, said they were close enough to a flying saucer "to get a picture." The two, Dave Lowe and Eddie Roberts, are both rookies on the force.

"They can call me a liar or anything they want but I saw it," Lowe said. "I used to think all those people were crazy...I saw 'em in the sky myself and still thought I was nuts...but when I got close it was something other than like I've seen made by man and that's all there is to it."

Lowe and Roberts heard reports over the police radio that UFOs were moving in a southerly direction toward Wellington and Caldwell.

The two headed for the Caldwell Airport on the east side of town. They spotted a couple hovering high in the sky, but could not see them clearly.

When the objects disappeared, they went back to sipping coffee and

telling each other how absurd people were who said that they could tell definitely that the objects were not stars.

A radio report of a UFO tracked by radar north of Caldwell interrupted the conversation. They saw nothing at first, then Lowe noticed something behind a rise in the ground about 50 yards away. He thought at first it was car headlights.

"It looked like the halo of light a city has at night," Lowe related. "I jumped up on the car running board to take a closer look and it was bright as a hundred search lights."

Lowe described it as being white, red and bluish-green in color. It was impossible to separate the colors; they blended together, he said.

"It didn't look at all like what I thought a flying saucer would. It wasn't round and it was much longer than it was wide. Actually, it looked like an egg," he said. "It was a hundred yards long."

After regaining their composure, the two jumped in the squad car and raced after the object to get a closer look. As they pulled onto U.S. 81 and headed east, the object ducked behind a hedge row and they lost sight of it. "When it went behind the hedge row, the darn thing must have turned out the lights so we couldn't follow it," Lowe said. "Anyway we never saw the thing again."

Total time the object was seen at close-hand was about three minutes, they said.

"I mentioned several minutes before we saw it that I heard an engine running," Lowe said. "I thought it was an airplane, but we never saw one come in afterwards."

"It was nothing manmade like I've seen. It might have been something experimental, but I don't think so," Roberts said.

When the sun came up Monday morning, the pair returned to the field where it was thought the object touched down. The search failed to turn up any evidence that the saucer made a landing.

Some residents of the Justin and Ponder areas of north Texas said they saw a "flying saucer" land near Texas Highway 156 Monday night. However, investigation failed to turn up any evidence of a landing.

August 3 Hennepin and Anoka Counties, Minnesota (near Minneapolis)

At 12:25 a.m. law enforcement officers stared at the sky. Reports of UFOs had been received over the last three days in at least eight states. The nation was in the grip of another big saucer flap, similar to the one in 1952. The Air Force tried to brush-off the saucers currently being sighted as stars...only trouble was that the stars they mentioned were not visible in the Northern Hemisphere at the time.

Sky-gazing in the Minneapolis area began as Shorewood Patrolman Bob Force drove along Highway 7 in western Hennepin County. "Don't think I'm nuts or something," he told the radio dispatcher. "But something funny is going on. I just saw a star pass me up." Force later elaborated, "It appeared to go alongside me. Then, suddenly it was out in front. You got to see it to believe it."

For more than two hours afterward, other officers vindicated Force's eyesight, to say nothing of his sanity. Something was up there.

"It bobs like a cork...it dips like a falling star, then stops...it darts...it has a jerky motion...it's traveling northeastward..it's on the horizon...it's at a 20 degree angle...it changes colors...it's got a white glow in the middle, green lights on the sides and a red light on top...it's round...it's wedge-shaped...it's making U-turns..."

Among those calling in was a Blaine patrolman who reported sighting

an object just before 1 a.m. Anoka County dispatcher G.R. Van Dusen reacted skeptically. "Say," Van Dusen said, "Blaine's got an ordinance against flying saucers doesn't it?"

Along Highway 12 in western Hennepin County, within shouting distance of the Wayzata Country Club, stood seven squad cars, doors flung open. Officers had gathered there after Long Lake Police Chief Bill Kearin reported seeing a formation of strange objects.

Hennepin County Sgt. Chet Seviola, who remained dubious to the last, heard of Kearin's sighting and hurried to the scene. "I wanted to catch Bill in the act," Seviola said. "And there he was, pointing out seven objects in the shape of a cup."

"It was the Big Dipper. Why, he was even counting headlights on passing cars."

But Kearin insisted he had sighted phenomena that were neither stars, planets nor headlights. Officers from Spring Park and Wayzata agreed. "Those two over there," Kearin said, pointing to a pair of heavenly objects that seemed to bob and twinkle in red-and-green. "You can't tell me..."

While Hennepin and Anoka County officials staggered under the mystery of it all, the Ramsey County sheriff's office was getting no flying object reports whatsoever.

"No sir," said Patrolman Walter Fowler, the Ramsey County radio dispatcher. "Our men have too many better things to do than chase flying objects."

August 4 Abilene, Kansas

Don Tenopir, 44, a truck driver from Beatrice, OK, reported that he was buzzed by a flying saucer about 25 miles south of Abilene shortly before 2 a.m.

He gave this account to newsmen:

"I was driving north on Highway 15 about 25 miles south of Abilene. I was carrying a full load of peanuts and was en route to Lincoln, Nebraska. I guess it was about 1:30 a.m. when all of a sudden the lights on my truck went out. Then they came back on again.

"About this time this thing, saucer, or whatever, went over my truck with a sizzling or wind-like blowing sound. It scared the hell out of me. It seemed to almost touch the cab, maybe it was 20 feet in the air, and it just swooped down over the road and hovered there not more than 100 feet in front of me.

"I tell you I was standing on those brakes. I just don't know what was happening. It looked like it was going to fall right in the middle of the road, but it didn't.

"I got my rig stopped and about that time this thing raised up a bit and slowly took off to the west and then headed south. I don't know how long it was there. It seemed longer than 20 seconds, but I was just too damned scared to tell time.

"The thing looked round to me. I'd guess it was about 14 or 15 feet in diameter and sort of orange-colored. This thing was shooting off reddish rays, kind of in spurts. The rays weren't really steady, kind of flashing.

"The object appeared to be like a saucer. I'd guess it was about two feet thick and the edge was round. There was a hump, or something like that, in the middle. This hump stuck up about four feet or so. There was a dark spot in the hump, and this might have been a window or something. I just don't know." 7

1966 WAS AN ACTIVE YEAR ALSO

March 20 Ann Arbor, Michigan

At least 40 persons - 12 of them policemen - reported seeing an unidentified flying object over Ann Arbor, Michigan. Two sherrif's deputies said they saw eerie blinking lights - apparently on a flying object - rise above the trees, then dip again. Another policeman said he saw a formation of four or five saucers pass over his car. Six patrol cars chased the formation until it vanished. One of the machines got to "within ten feet" of a patrol car, said Patrolman Robert Huniwell.

Farmer Frank Mannor got to within 500 yards of a football-shaped saucer with a waffled skin and red lights. Mannor, who with his son observed the strange machine in a nearby swamp area, said the saucer took off with a sound like a ricocheting bullet. Dr. J. Allen Hynek and the Air Force later tried to explain this and later reports as glowing "swamp gas."

March 21 Michigan

A county Civil Defense director and 87 coeds said they watched a hovering saucer settle in a hollow (not a swamp as reported widely!) near Hillsdale College, MI. William Van Horn, who has been County Civil Defense director for 10 years, said he watched the object through binoculars for three hours. He said it looked round and oblong.

Miss Sara Robeck, a Hillsdale student, said that it appeared "as big as a house with a lot of lights around it." She reported that after the floodlights went out yellowish lights appeared on the craft. Then a red light glowed in the center.

March 25 Ohio

Everett Will, who lives near Upper Sandusky, Ohio told authorities he saw an object that looked like a top or Christmas tree upside down. Sheriff's deputies who examined the scene found nothing.

In Lucas County, Ohio, near Toledo, Deputies Robert Schultz and Stanley Nelepa reported seeing a huge object that had glowing red lights and a halo at tree-top level. It disappeared when they moved closer.

March 28 Georgia - Wisconsin

An airport control tower operator at Columbus, GA reported seeing a glowing, oblong object maneuvering high in the sky. The object was also tracked on radar in Columbus and in distant Atlanta. Doyle Palmer, who works at the Muscogee County airport, said he observed the greenish-white cigar-shaped machine and tracked it on radar for over an hour. Six Columbus policemen also observed the strange object.

Four police officers and a high school science teacher sighted a glowing green or white saucer over Green Bay, Wisconsin.

April 1 Ohio

Two Berea, Ohio policemen said they saw "an orange glow as big as a house" floating above some trees in the morning. "It must have been one of those UFOs seen in Michigan," said Patrolman Clarence T. Janowick when informed there was no moon out at the time. Patrolmen Janowick and John R. Galik Jr. said they saw the object on the morning of the 29th also. It was noted over Baldwin Lake in the south section of Berea at that time, and was visible for about 45 seconds. On the first it was sighted six blocks from the lake over the Ohio Turnpike administration building.

Ted Scott, a newsman at radio station WBEX in Chillicothe, Ohio said he saw two objects in the western sky and one in the east during the evening. All were described as red, green and blue pulsating lights.

In Springfield, Ohio a farmer said that he has no idea what caused a

burned spot in his five-inch-tall wheat field. Charles Schneider, 76, said the burned spot in the wheat is about 12 feet long, two feet wide at one end and wider at the other end.

The patch of wheat is dark brown in that area, he said, and the wheat around it is healthy and green. The earth seems to be exceptionally dry and crumbly in the burned area. Schneider said neighbors had suggested it might have been caused by a UFO. He said a neighbor, Dorothy Newsome, was driving along the road near the spot and saw a large, strange light momentarily, but could not identify it.

April 7 Colorado

Six Denver, CO teenagers were picnicking at a campsite in rugged terrain south of Denver when they saw some weird and terrifying sights.

Donald Otis, 17, said he and five others saw "four or five" objects rising out of a gully directly in front of a cooking area shelter where they had dinner. Patricia Retherford said she and three of the others saw what appeared to be the figure of a "really, really tall man" for a few seconds near the shelter.

Otis said that about 7:45 p.m., "We heard what sounded like footsteps - it was something weird - and Allen Scrivner and I went out to check. Then we heard a weird buzzing sound - it was something else." Otis said they walked about 100 yards in the darkness to a hill where they saw what looked like "a huge car, with red and white lights that looked like backup lights going on and off."

The boys then returned to the shelter where they were told about the dark figure. Kaye Hurley, another of the group, said, "I didn't get a good look - I was afraid to - but he was much taller than Allen, who is 6-foot-1."

Otis said they then started to drive away when they turned around and noticed a "pure white light - oval like an egg - rising straight up out of the gully in front of us.

"Then Mary screamed," he said, "and we all turned around and saw two others hovering near the first one. Then we saw another one with a weird red light. Its rays went straight up. Then it looked like it was starting right toward us and we took off."

April 17 Ohio

Shortly after 5 a.m., Deputies Dale F. Spaur and W.L. Neff, of the Portage Cnty, Ohio Sheriff's office, were driving along Route 14 south of Ravenna. They noticed an abandoned car parked along the south side of the road and went over to investigate. Deputy Spaur got out of the car and proceeded to approach the vehicle so he could check it out for police records. Suddenly he saw a blinding light come over the highway from the embankment on the south side of the road over a stand of trees.

Deputy Spaur was momentarily blinded by the object after looking directly at it. The saucer flooded the area with a bright white light. After questioning Deputy Spaur 16 hours after the encounter, he told me that the saucer he and Deputy Neff sighted must have been huge if it hovered closely over the highway. I would estimate the object to have been from 50 to 60 feet in diameter from Spaur's description. Spaur said he and Neff heard a definite hum coming from the machine.

After running back to the car, he and Deputy Neff started to chase the object from about 5:07 a.m. to close to 7:00 a.m., to a point near Freedom, PA. The object definitely was disk-shaped with a dome on top. It had two spotlights that at one time flooded the area surrounding a crane, around the bend from where the saucer was encountered near the

abandoned car. The two lights converged from the object to strike the ground, Spaur said.

Police Chief Gerald Buchert of Mantua, OH said he took a picture of an object during the time of the chase. The photo shows a half-disk at a great distance from the camera. The photo was only shown once on Cleveland television, and apparently was confiscated by Wright Patterson. I have a photograph taken directly from the TV screen showing the saucer Chief Buchert caught on film. The Air Force later said the object the two deputies chased was Venus! A neat trick, as Venus was not visible in the northeast where the domed saucer was observed during the 100 m.p.h. chase! 8

SOME PERSONAL REFLECTIONS ON A UFO "WINDOW AREA"

Much has been written during the past 30 years about areas located in scattered parts of the country where there has been constant UFO activity. These were termed "windows" by researcher-writer John Keel. Keel found these areas by watching and tabulating current UFO and related sub-phenomena reports. Often, looking into old newspaper files, he found that constant activity reached back into the 1800's.

When news of these window areas was made public in several articles in popular magazines in 1966-67, many researchers thought that by going to these areas one would find real, solid UFO "bases" - complete with hangars, equipment, and UFO-nauts. However, much to the chagrin of the ETH fans, no such physical equipment could be found. All that was ever found were more UFO reports. Period. This led many to scoff at claims of window areas outright.

After much time had passed, and we were able to keep a close watch on UFO reports in claimed high activity areas, we had to admit a striking correlation. This coincided with a diminishing belief in the ETH on our part in recent years.

The past years of futility experienced by the outer space saucer hunters is significant to the efficacy of the ETH itself. No UFOs have been tracked actually entering or leaving the atmosphere. It is true that astronauts have spotted unknown objects in the vicinity of the earth, but these unknowns could well be optical and/or natural space phenomena. Again, no astronaut has ever seen a giant mother ship from Venus roaring toward the earth from deep space. One can only assume that the elusive disks are "native" to the environs of our earth!

The ETH people are stuck with solid, material saucers. The ET saucers are piloted by living creatures they say; living creatures that need solid, physical UFOs to transport them. But not all UFOs are material objects. Hundreds of cases describe objects that have the ability to appear and disappear at will. Scores of cases end with words such as: "It just disappeared like one would turn off a light bulb."

Just like a light bulb! "Well," say the outer space fans, "the UFOs appear and disappear by turning their EM force fields on and off." Here physical effects are invented to fit phenomena observed. We cannot prove ET UFOs, let alone fantastic equipment able to make the craft invisible! There have also been a number of cases where seemingly solid UFOs have passed through terrestrial objects. This would explain why terrestrial weapons have never "shot down" a ship from outer space.

Added with other incidents, and other sub-phenomena such as the "men in black" and the confusing contactee phenomena, we find events which do not conform to our physical laws. These events are discussed at great length in such books as *Passport To Magonia* and *Operation Trojan Horse*.

So if the UFOs and their related phenomena are not physical, we must explore other areas in order to find a *workable* answer. The theory that UFOs are non-physical (in our sense) manifestations from some other "place" or reality seems to fit the data. This would explain the "window" areas, where UFOs seemingly appear year after year. They do not have bases there, the area is just where they "appear" from someplace else.

Looking back in this light I can see parts of the puzzle fall into place. Over the years I have participated in many attempts to spot the UFOs. These "skywatches" were often held in rural areas or in the city, at the home of one of the participants.

A curious fact emerged during the period from 1964 to 1966. Phenomena were seen in a particular area of Cleveland on an almost constant basis. This fact was discussed at length informally at the 1967 Congress in New York with Allen Greenfield, Eugene Steinberg, Jim Moseley and others.

It is difficult for a UFO writer to tell of his own UFO reports, for many readers assume immediately that he is making up the reports - or worse yet, he is a little on the strange side! But the fact remains that I, along with others, have sighted unknown phenomena on occasions from various locations. The important part being that one particular location in Cleveland was an almost constant source of activity - a window area, if you will. To give the reader some idea of the kinds of phenomena sighted in the small window I will briefly cite some of the more interesting reports.

In July of 1965 three objects, like satellites, were sighted at 15 minute intervals coming from, respectively, the north, south, and east. One of these "lights" was photographed by this writer using a two minute exposure on Tri-X film. The object appeared as a faint line on the negative, too weak to reproduce in print, but in my files for anyone who is interested. On this particular night the objects were spotted with both the naked eye and binoculars. They did not correspond to flyovers of any scheduled satellites. There were many other sightings of similar objects from 1964 - 1966.

Another particularly interesting report came from the same location on October 9, 1965 when a round object with flashing lights completely around its edge, was sighted by hundreds of persons on Cleveland's west side. There was a 2200 foot cloud cover with light drizzle that evening, so the object had to be flying below that altitude.

On the evening of May 6, 1966 this writer along with others, sighted a large oval of ghostly-white light swiftly moving from west to east. The object seemed to have bands of a duller color running along the bottom. It was soundless, and seemed to be at a low altitude.

Another interesting series of sightings took place in October-November 1966, when V-formations of bluish-white lights were seen flying over, and sometimes maneuvering in turns. These objects were also spotted with both binoculars and the naked eye.

Why the concentration of sightings in one particular area? Was it indeed a small window where who-knows-what appears from goodness-knows-where? Why weren't sightings made other times at locations only blocks away? 9

A SAMPLER OF 1968 CASES

A Monroe County, Ohio boy claimed he was burned on the arm by a UFO March 19 along Route 145 near the community of Wilson. Gregory Wells,

13, had gone to the nearby home of his grandparents to get a bucket of water and was returning to his family's trailer residence when the UFO appeared and hovered over a tree some 25 to 30 feet off the ground. Suddenly a beam shot from the lower part of the object knocking him to the ground. The boy's mother used the water her son was carrying to put out the fire that started in surrounding grass as the burning jacket was removed. A hole was burned in a heavy sweat shirt Gregory was wearing.

There was no trace of abnormal radioactivity at the scene, and Gregory reported having seen the object hovering the evening of the 17th.

On April 9 Lee Rowland and his wife Emma saw a UFO over their home in Washington Courthouse, Ohio. They were standing in front of their house at about 8:30 p.m. when a large ball of fire appeared near the ground about 1½ miles north in an open field.

Rowland said as he watched, the object rose into the sky at a 45° turn and was last seen headed north. "While watching it leave," he said, "another object appeared coming in the direction of my home."

The second object was traveling north to south just above the trees. He said it was about 50 feet in diameter, flat with a bright blue light around it and a white dome on top.

On May 31 Bill Pokorny of Elvira, Iowa claims he saw a UFO land in his field. Pokorny was starting his tractor when he spotted what looked like a "foreign car" in his field. After looking closer he saw that the object was a six-foot square "box-shaped object." He said it looked like weathered tin and was grayish in color. Pokorny said, "The shine on the inner part was so bright, I called my daughter to look." Then two panel-shaped objects slid out of the sides of the UFO and the shape of the over-all object changed from a box to an oval. The object then began to spin in a counter-clockwise direction as it sat on the ground in the cornfield. Pokorny then ran to get his binoculars, but by the time he got back the object had left. Neither he nor his daughter saw the UFO leave.

On the night of June 5 Mrs. Almer Finnerty of Saco, PA saw a cigar-shaped object, a bright orange red in color, moving in a northerly direction. She reported that the UFO remained stationary above the horizon and slowly disappeared at about 8:25 p.m.

Nine ruby lights were seen by thousands of people in Seattle, Washington on the night of July 7 soaring over Puget Sound. Rudy Malaspina, a real estate salesman, was flying his plane to Boeing Field when he spotted the objects.

"I could hardly receive the center. Then the center handed me to Boeing Tower and I noticed right directly in front of me nine vertical lights on a collision course.

"We were closing fast. I said, 'This is a military formation!' and I turned right. These nine lights made a right oblique turn instantly. You're not supposed to turn without directions from the tower, but I turned.

"Just two seconds later, I looked over my shoulder to see where this formation was going and I saw it right over the southern tip of Green Lake. It was a bright moonlit night and the lake was a perfect reflector.

"Well, four rockets were fired from these objects, and they were not flares, they were rockets. Three of them hit southeast of Green Lake."

Malaspina then called the tower and told them a military formation was shooting missiles. They replied they had no knowledge of such a

formation in the area. The objects were described as red oscillating bright and then dim.

"Then I sighted them over West Seattle and they were stationary. I was doing 360° turns beneath them, using the moon and the edge of Elliott Bay as reference points. They were stationary, then they flew back across Elliott Bay from the north end of West Seattle, over Queen Anne Hill and then came back toward me.

"I chopped my recognition lights and they came back toward me. When I put my lights back on, they went away from me. They were definitely aircraft. I wouldn't believe it myself but I saw it and figure this. My magnetic compass was reading 300° when I made my landing at Boeing Field and it should have read 130°. And my clock in the plane stopped at 10:35 p.m." 10

"ALIENS" FEATURED IN 1970 OHIO CASE

The late Gray Barker related the following account in one of his many publications from Raymond Latko of Lakewood:

"It was 6:35 a.m., Monday, Aug. 24, 1970. Location: Lindberg and West Roads, Olmsted Falls, Ohio.

"Three of us had just arrived at the bus stop when we saw two strange figures approaching in the road which crossed our bus route.

"The two figures were dressed in glowing orange suits from head to foot; only their faces were uncovered. Their skin was yellowish. The headdresses were conical and they were carrying a disc-like object above their heads. They were about five feet tall.

"They approached within about 50 feet of a small house, then walked side by side away from us to a railroad about 600 feet from our corner. As they stood at the railroad, a car stopped in front of them for about ten seconds, then sped away. The figures then walked a short distance toward us and as we were boarding the bus, one of them extended his arm upward. We could see that it was wearing a cape. I would have approached them, but was unsure of the consequences.

"Later that night I checked the area and found a spot near the road about 100 feet beyond the place they were seen that morning where the high grass was quite disturbed. It was twisted and matted, and there were two fresh paths going to this spot. A few days later I talked with the children who lived in the house which the figures approached. A girl, about nine, said that at about 9:00 that Monday morning she saw an object like a huge bubble come down from the sky to that very same place I found. She said two figures were waiting there. When the vehicle landed, they entered. It then rose and quickly disappeared." 11

RUNDOWN ON THE GREAT 1973 UFO WAVE

Although there were reports from residents of Florida during the last two weeks of August telling of seeing varied-colored lights in the sky, a photograph touched things off on the first day of September.

The photograph was taken by Chester A. Tatum, publisher of the local newspaper in the southern Georgia town of Camilla. It was a night shot taken with a Polaroid camera of an object that he said had a ribbed design and "some sort of center down the middle." The photo itself shows what appears to be an illuminated oval with a small rectangular dark area in the center.

On the night of September 3, a visibly frightened motorist rushed into a police station in Athens, GA to report that a "bright - flashing object" had swooped down towards his car. Police said that the unidentified man reported that the object, with "one bright light and

four flashing lights," came to within 15 feet of the ground before swerving off into the sky. The officers gave the opinion that the motorist had really seen something.

Early on September 8 two Army MPs had a frightening experience while on patrol at the deactivated Hunter Air Force Base outside of Savannah, GA. Randy Shade and Burt Burns were on patrol when they first spotted the mysterious intruder. According to Burns, it was first spotted as "a cluster of lights in the sky about 2,000 feet up. The lights tracked across the sky flashing red and orange, blue and white."

After disappearing behind some trees in the distance for some minutes, the visitor returned some time around 2:45 a.m. After hovering over one end of the now-deserted military base runway, it began moving toward the car containing the two startled MPs. They then saw that the object was saucer-shaped and apparently metallic. As the saucer neared the car Shade raced away with the UFO in hot pursuit at speeds up to 100 m.p.h. The 75 foot diameter craft seemed to follow the car only several feet above the roof.

Shade kept up the high speed flight from the UFO for nearly a mile only to finally cut the wheels of the car, and slide onto the grass on the side of the pavement. Said Shade, "The UFO then went back up to tree-top level and skimmed off into the distance." The two MPs reported that the lighted disk made no sound during the encounter.

Georgia was again the scene of an unusual aerial report, when on September 10 Ress Clanton of Griffin saw a "golden ball" fall from the sky. Clanton said that the object was not in free fall, but seemed to be under control as it descended. The roughly egg-sized thing apparently destroyed itself when it hit the ground leaving a hole a foot long and four to five inches deep. Researchers from a nearby agricultural experiment station took soil samples, and reported that the ground at the impact site was 300 degrees.

On the evening of September 24 Shelby County Sheriff's Deputy P.L. Pilalas and his partner J.O. Davis spotted a UFO on U.S. 70 just east of Memphis. They reported that the craft was hovering at from 500 to 1000 feet altitude, and that it had two bright spotlights that were shining beams downward, and two red lights glowing at the extremities of the craft.

According to the two, the object was making a whirring noise, and disappeared after twice flashing its spotlights.

On September 29 Memphis again was the scene for further UFO reports. On that Saturday evening an object, alternately shining brightly and faintly, was visible over the Memphis area for about four hours. "I know it sounds fantastic, but it's true," said Policeman Flanning Glover of suburban Collierville. "If I was by myself I'd say I was nuts, but there were plenty of witnesses." At least four other Shelby County law officers saw the object. Glover said that the moving light appeared orange at times, and then changed back to white.

"I wouldn't say it had more than one light," he said. "The light I saw was kind of orange and then it would get bright and seemed to turn white. Then it would go out and come back on a different color. We put a spotlight on it and it just went out, then it reappeared in a different place."

In Obion County, fronting the Kentucky border, Sheriff Nathan Cunningham said he saw three different UFOs the next night, and heard one as it flew over his house. Cunningham reported that he talked to 20

people who had similar UFO sightings.

In the same area as the Cunningham report, George and Vicki Rogers said a bright red light swooped close enough to the earth to light up an acre and a half of land that same evening, nearly causing a seven-car accident near Reelfoot Lake on Highway 78. "We were just coming home and I just glanced over to my left in a field, and there was a six or seven foot bright red light. It was so bright I couldn't see what caused it," said Rogers.

On September 30 Mrs. Barbara Marquardt was driving on Bagley Road in Olmsted Twp., OH and saw a green ball-like object hovering in the sky at about 3:30 a.m. "It was about three normal houses in height above the ground," she said. "Suddenly it fell to the ground, not straight down, but in a curve." Police said another woman in the area called, and reported that she heard some sort of small explosion near the scene at about the same time.

A physics professor investigating a reported encounter with a UFO by a truck driver near Cape Girardeau, Missouri on the third, said it caused the driver's eyeglasses to be damaged by internal heat from an unknown source. Eddie Doyle Webb was blinded for several hours after the incident. He recovered his vision, but saw an eye specialist in St. Louis.

Webb said he was driving his rig about dawn that morning when he saw a bright light or aluminum object in the air behind him, "coming up real fast." Webb then awakened his wife who was in the cab with him, but she said that she couldn't see anything. "Then, I stuck my head out of the window and a large ball of fire struck me in the face," Webb said. "My glasses fell off and I couldn't see. But I got the truck stopped." One of the lenses of his glasses fell out of the plastic frame which was warped. Sgt. Ed Wright of the Highway Patrol took Webb's glasses to Dr. Harley Rutledge, head of the Southwest Missouri State physics department, for an analysis.

Rutledge, who had been working for some months to identify the elusive UFOs, said he put the glasses under a microscope and "it appeared they were heated internally. The plastic apparently got hot and the mold came to the surface. The heat warped the plastic, causing the lens to fall out."

Rutledge said he planned more tests on the glasses. He stated that there appears to be "some residue which we hope to put through some chemical tests."

Later on the evening of the third, a National Park Ranger saw a UFO the size of a two-bedroom house over the Tupelo, Mississippi area. The object was in sight about 15 minutes and was flashing red, green and yellow lights. The Ranger, Thomas E. Westmoreland, said the object he saw had lights different from those used on aircraft.

"I know it sounds strange, and I can assure you I'm sober," he said. "It was approximately 1,000 feet in altitude and roughly the size of a two-bedroom house or a little smaller. It had red, green and yellow flashing lights - not the standard beacon type you have on aircraft. They were circular and they were rotating continuously." Westmoreland in later interviews said he thought the object was some U. S. test device.

At the same time in the city of Cornith not far from the Ranger's encounter, Arlin Mohundro, sales manager for a local radio station, said he saw an object that hovered about 100 feet off the ground behind the radio station. "It's lights are red and green and white," he said.

"When it gets close it had kind of a black color. The lights are flashing and it looks like it might be the size of an automobile, but it's oval in shape."

On the evening of October 9, at least 15 sightings of UFOs, all "covered with red, green and blue lights" were reported in southwestern Ohio flying at about tree top level. The UFOs, sighted in the Dayton-Cincinnati area, were reported to have not been picked up on radar by Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

The first sighting was reported shortly after 8 p.m. by a policeman in New Lebanon Twp. "He didn't want to say he saw it, but he said it," according to Montgomery County Sheriff's Deputy Michael Sullivan.

"The officer said it was oblong and covered with lights. It appeared stationary in the sky about tree top level for several minutes until he tried to shine his spot light on it," Sullivan said. It then zoomed toward him and then shot straight up in the air after he turned out his light, and disappeared.

Sullivan said the reported sightings lasted from a split second in time to as much as 12 minutes. "They would be behind the trees and come up and fly away...as if you startled them or something."

On the same night police in Eaton, Indiana said they tracked a strange flying object that flashed red, white and blue lights for several hours. Military radar at nearby Baer Field picked up the UFO, but could not identify it.

Sheriff's Deputies in Pine, Louisiana were following UFOs with their cruisers on the evening of the 10th. Deputy Michael Moore said that one of the five orange-reddish objects almost "attacked" a police car.

"One of our deputies was scared pretty bad," Moore said. "He turned on his red lights, and they came down at his patrol car. He turned them off and they just vanished like in a cloud...Our deputies spotted five of them, and a bunch of witnesses saw them too."

In another sighting reported near Slidell, across Lake Pontchartrain from New Orleans, Lloyd Mercier said he saw an object while he was driving home that was "approximately 15 or 20 feet in diameter, and it had a streak about a foot wide straight through the middle. I'd say it was approximately 125 to 200 feet in the air, and gradually it disappeared. It took five or six minutes. All I could see was a red glow. It looked like it came straight out of the waters of Lake Pontchartrain."

On the evening of the 11th two shipyard workers from Gautier, Mississippi were fishing from an old pier on the Pascagoula River when a "fish-shaped" object, emitting a bluish haze, approached from the sky. Charles Hickson and Calvin Parker have maintained throughout intense questioning that they were taken aboard the craft by three creatures with wrinkled skin, crab-claw hands and pointed ears. The two men said the creatures gave them some sort of exam by an eye-like scanning device.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek and Dr. James Harder flew in to give the men an interview during hypnosis. Said Hynek afterward, "There is no question in my mind that these men have had a very terrifying experience. Under no circumstances should they be ridiculed. Let's protect these men."

On the 16th an Ohio woman claimed that three UFOs forced her car off the road. Said Mrs. Shirley Johnson of Chillicothe, "The kids and I were driving home from my mother's home when three huge lights - two white and one greenish - zoomed down. Two white lights were on either side of my car while the green one was in front."

She said the lights suddenly swooped back up into the sky and left without emitting any sound.

While police officers of the town of Greenfield, Ohio were sighting UFOs at the same time Mrs. Johnson and her children were, one Greenfield officer said he chased one for several miles in his cruiser. Patrolman Mike Conlin said it was an object about 100 feet in diameter, and glowed with a bright white light. "It had a red area on top of it as if it was overheated. There was a dull humming sound that increased in frequency as the object increased its speed."

The next day Ohio Governor Gilligan admitted that he and his wife had spotted a UFO on the 15th, while on the way home from a trip to Michigan. He said the object was in sight for about 35 minutes along Route 23 out of Ann Arbor. The Governor described the object as a vertical beam of light, amber in color. 12

1974 "TRUCK-SIZED" MYSTERY OBJECT

A UFO "bigger than a wrecker truck" and spewing flames buzzed northwest Rochester, Minn. before disappearing, of all places, near the old city dumping area. Among those persons reporting the strange object was a Rochester policeman and a service station operator.

Patrolman James Preiss, driving a squad car, and James Kuhlman, who runs a Clark service station and who was driving his tow truck, pursued the UFO along Elton Hills streets until losing sight of it as it neared the old city dump.

"I was really terrified when I first saw it," Kuhlman said. He said that it was about 11:25 p.m. on February 19th, when he was driving past the Hillcrest Shopping Center when he saw the object in the sky, "flying at about 100 feet, towards me." Kuhlman said that he then pulled his truck into the shopping center and parked. "It scared the hell out of me," he said.

Kuhlman described the UFO as bigger than a wrecker truck with a "kind of white dome shell on top." He said it seemed to be powered by what looked like several small afterburners flaming toward the ground from the bottom of the object.

"It cruised slowly right over my head in a northeasterly direction," said Kuhlman, who gave chase in his truck. He was joined in the pursuit by Patrolman Preiss, who spotted it as he drove north on U.S. 52. He turned east at the 19th Street NW exit to follow the object into Elton Hills.

"Whatever it was, it was seen to have flames coming from it," Preiss reported.

Kuhlman, who has a citizens' band radio in his truck, said he heard chatter on his radio from Elton Hills residents who were talking about the strange object. Kuhlman stated that he and Preiss stopped to compare notes about the UFO to make sure they had seen the same thing. A second police car was sent to help search for the UFO, but it had vanished.

The control tower at Rochester Municipal Airport said nothing strange was seen in the sky at the time, and that no radar contact was made. 13

UFO TAKES CONTROL OF TRUCK IN 1976 KENTUCKY CASE

A strange aerial object terrorized over 17 residents near the town of Gravel Switch on what had been a calm and serene July 18th. "People ain't gonna believe us, but we saw it," said Mrs. Judy Taylor, one of the witnesses. "It was just round looking like a hornet's nest with red and blue and green lights on it."

Charlie and Doris Gilpin were the first persons to encounter the object. They were driving on Highway 68 in Marion County about 10 p.m. returning from church.

"We were headed down the road," said Mrs. Gilpin, "and we looked up above and saw something hovering over the road. And I said, 'I want to see what this is.' So we went on down, and got scared and stopped the truck. And about the time we stopped; this thing started toward us - this object; I don't know what it was. And I tried to back up, and the thing took control of the truck.

"The truck commenced swaying all over the road, and I finally got it turned around. And it seemed like something had ahold of the truck where we couldn't take off. And we went up the road about a quarter of a mile, and it just headed over the truck right up through there. And it seemed like something was holding us all the time. I looked down and the speedometer said 70 or 80 but yet we wasn't getting nowhere fast. And this morning - Monday - I went back to the same place and it took two minutes, where it took 15 or 20 minutes to get there before when this object was over us. It seemed like this object was holding us back all the time, but when we turned into the drive, it turned us loose and it seemed like we was just a flying."

The Gilpins had turned the truck into the first available driveway, one belonging to Judy Taylor's sister.

Doris Gilpin recounts what happened next. "When I got out of the truck and ran toward the house to get up on the porch of the house, the object had gotten up over the top of the house then. And it was so close to the ground that I could hear the humming sound of it and I could feel the breeze, you know, the air coming out of it."

The object remained in that area near Gravel Switch from about 10 p.m. until 1 a.m., witnesses reported.

The object repeatedly zoomed and floated around the sky, once chasing Mrs. Judy Taylor, who came by her sister's home where the Gilpins had taken refuge from the UFO to deliver her nephew from church. When Mrs. Taylor left - she says that she waited until she thought the object was gone - the UFO followed along beside her car for a distance.

Mrs. Taylor's son, Jackie, actually saw some sort of doors open underneath the craft. He says that the doors slid open as if someone or something wanted to peer out.

Mrs. Taylor said that another witness near Danville saw the UFO hover over Boyle County High for some time before the Gravel Switch sightings, and then shoot off toward Marion County.

Some of the witnesses reported the sighting to the Marion County Sheriff's Department. Apparently concerned about possible radiation from the strange object, the sheriff's department instructed them to go see a doctor. A reading of the Gilpin truck was also taken, with no radiation being reported. 14

HUGE BOOMERANG SIGHTED IN 1981 PENNSYLVANIA CASE

At 7:00 p.m. on the evening of February 5th, nine people gathered at a farmhouse just outside of Duncannon, PA had an experience with a UFO they won't soon forget.

"I heard it coming," said Dan Barrick, one of the residents of the two family house. "The rumbling noise grew louder, and I thought for a while that the furnace was on fire."

He and his son, Butch, rushed to the kitchen door to see a huge object flying over the house. "It was shaped like a boomerang and had at

least five lights on the back and several more on the front," Mr. Barrick related. "It was three or four times as big as any jet plane I've ever seen, and it was up pretty high."

Barrick told his son to tell the others what was going on, and to bring them all outside to have a look.

By the time the others made it outside, the object had already passed over the house and could only be seen from the rear. Said Jimmy Roush, "The thing looked like a flying saucer. It was egg-shaped with at least three lights on the back. I don't know what it was, but it wasn't a plane or a helicopter."

The witnesses all agreed that it was three to four times the size of a jet airliner, and was in sight for about 15 to 20 minutes before it was lost to sight beyond Cove Mountain. They also said that it moved much slower than a jet aircraft. 15

1982 NOCTURNAL LIGHTS STARTLES OHIO WITNESS

The UAPA UFO Report Center received a call from a man employed by one of the major downtown Cleveland office buildings who had a series of nocturnal light sightings the evening of April 20th. UAPA investigators have yet to find an explanation for what was observed by the 26-year-old witness.

The witness was up on the roof of the building at about 8:00 p.m. that evening inspecting equipment on the penthouse and also taking the temperature of the outside air for the building log. It was a clear and rather cool night, and he happened to look toward the west and gaze briefly at the stars, something he is fond of doing as he grew up in a rural area and still lives far from the city and its lights.

He was surprised by an amber-gold starlike object in the west that suddenly seemed to drop toward the ground, and then quickly make a turning maneuver toward the northwest and disappear.

Said the witness: "I was kind of startled, not believing what I had seen. Then after about one to two minutes later, I looked straight up and noticed two starlike amber objects moving over fast. I could tell that they were way up in space, as I watched them disappear over the lake (located to the north of the witness)."

Approximately eight seconds later, the witness saw eight of the amber-gold lights in a horizontal line coming at him out of the southeast at a very high rate of speed. As they passed over him they began to change into a "V" formation, with one light lagging behind for a second or two before it put on a burst of speed to catch up and join the others in the formation. The formation of lights was soon out of sight, but not before the witness noticed that the lights seemed to get darker in color towards their centers before they disappeared. 16

1982 NORTH CAROLINA REPORTS INVESTIGATED BY GEORGE FAWCETT

A last-minute check back with Douglas Airport radar revealed that the recent UFO sightings over the Timken Plant (Lincolnton), the McGuire Nuclear Plant (Lake Norman) and the Cherokee Nuclear Station (Gaffney, S.C.) were not picked up, due to the low altitude at which they flew as reported by eyewitnesses.

"And the six to eight planes reported by Timken security guards and others after the UFO sightings in the Lincolnton area were also not picked up on radar, as they should have been at that altitude," Deputy Chief Ben Wenning stated.

Other "mystery airplanes" have been reported in Lincoln and Gaston Counties in recent months, UFO investigator George D. Fawcett said, in

early December.

At 7:55 p.m. Friday night, October 15, Sgt. Frank Olszewski, a guard at the Timken Plant, along with Security Officer Patricia Chapman, and an unnamed wife of a Timken employee observed three brightly-lighted bronze objects maneuvering in the skies above the plant located off Highway 27 East in Lincolnton.

At the departure of the mystery objects, six to eight planes appeared in the area, as if they were searching for the UFOs.

On Saturday night, October 16th at 7:30 p.m., Penny Keener, a Lincolnton food convenience store manager spotted three yellow-lighted objects moving in the air in the vicinity of the Timken Company.

The only other Timken sighting occurred at 9:10 when David Deaton, a Lincolnton welder by trade, watched a bright star-like object circling the Timken plant area, before it dropped below or behind a group of nearby trees. This encounter occurred on Wed. night, October 20th.

Earlier on October 15th at 1:15 a.m., Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Ruppe were startled by a sound outside their home, that increased from a low pitch to a high pitch intense noise. Carol, 37, and Wayne, 40, looked out the windows of their home and saw a glowing orangish-yellow oval object, about the size of a car, maneuver over their neighbors' home about 20 feet above the roof. The object had "beams of light" at each end and it moved above the power lines in the neighborhood. Their neighbor's two dogs started a barking frenzy while the UFO was in the area. The strange object was maneuvering about three miles from the nearby Cherokee Nuclear Station for five minutes in a straight line flight from west to east.

On Monday morning, October 18th at 7:20 a.m., two employees at the McGuire Nuclear Plant on Lake Norman, Gary Fortenberry and Jimmy Baumgardner, reported seeing a round disc-shaped metallic object maneuvering near the switch yard opposite the McGuire Nuclear Plant. The object, which had four landing legs on it, was flying at about a 250-foot altitude, above a fog bank. Fortenberry and Baumgardner watched the UFO for over one-half minute, while driving to work on Highway 73. The two witnesses estimated that the UFO was about 150 feet in diameter.

Previous UFO sightings in the area have resulted in the loss of power output at the McGuire Plant.

A check with the Air Traffic Control radar at Douglas brought a promise to check on these new series of UFO sightings from the Lincolnton, Lake Norman and Gaffney areas.

Ben Wenning, Deputy Chief and Air Traffic Manager at Douglas Airport stated that Security Guards at the nuclear plants are to report such UFO sightings directly to the Atomic Energy Commission and not to his office. But Wenning did promise to check for possible radar confirmations of the visual sightings and report back to George Fawcett, Lincolnton UFO investigator, who has been contacted by the nine eyewitnesses through direct phone calls or through the Lincoln County Communications Center.

"A large number of recent UFO sightings have been reported near nuclear plants, power lines and substations, as well as large bodies of water," Fawcett stated. 17

1988 UFO PRESAGES STORM IN NORTH CAROLINA

Savannah Welborn and her husband sighted a silent and wingless UFO just before a severe thunderstorm rocked the area near King, North Carolina on May 23rd.

"It was the most fascinating thing," she told newsmen. "I just stood there in awe. It was unbelievable."

It was around 9:00 p.m. when her husband went out to feed their animals where they live in the Meadows Community, she said. It hadn't started raining yet, but the thunder and lightning had begun.

"The only reason he (her husband) was out then was because he was getting hay for the animals. We were running late with the feeding. That's when he spotted it over the mountain."

When he saw the UFO he ran inside and got Mrs. Welborn. Together they watched as the huge object came over Sauratown Mountain, lighting most of it up. They watched it for ten minutes, at one point from as close as 100 feet away.

"It moved slowly towards us," she said. "It got to the big oak and turned. It was barely moving. It was fiery red inside. There were no wings, but it had a rudder, like a boat, with blue and white lights.

"The whole thing was about as big as a house," she continued. "The whole front end was yellow lights. I could hear a humming (she likened it to an air conditioner running), but my husband didn't hear it. It was so strange. I had never seen anything like it."

She said that it got so close when it was turning, that had she had her binoculars, she could have seen inside it.

"I've read about these things, but never seen anything like it. It went up and out, towards Walnut Cove, and then disappeared from view."

When asked if possibly they had confused the UFO for some common object such as an aircraft, or possibly some sort of natural phenomena, Mrs. Welborn was emphatic in the negative.

"Absolutely not," she said. "Lightning flashed on both sides of it when it was coming over the mountain. Lightning wouldn't have moved towards us anyway. This came closer and closer. When it turned it could have fallen over." 18

1989 ABDUCTION IN MARINE CITY, MICHIGAN

The following fascinating account comes from one of our regular readers. It's part of a letter that addresses other matters as well, and is on file with the UAPA:

"I'm not even sure if I should be writing to you about this because right now it's hearsay and I don't have permission of this man to give his name or address. In fact, he would like to forget the whole thing. He's afraid that people would think that he's crazy. He's very confused right now and a little afraid.

"My sisters and I have always had a great interest in UFOs and we have discussed this man's encounter among ourselves, but I feel some professional input is needed. I don't doubt anyone's word on UFOs, but you have more experience in this field. If you print anything about this encounter, I am asking you not to print my name. As I said, right now it's hearsay to me, but I don't want to cause this man any more distress than he's under already.

"I know you are a very busy man, but I need some output on this matter. Should I forget it, try to talk to this man and urge him to contact you or do you think it might be a hoax? I'm really confused right now. It's one thing to read about UFOs in another state, but when it happens close to home, that's another matter. I will try to tell you all I know about this man, his wife and the encounter to help you understand what type of man he is, and if his encounter fits any pattern.

"He told her (the witness' wife) that the night before, October 19th, four little men came into their bedroom and carried him out of the house, out the back door and into the garden area. He remembers lying on

his stomach, and these little men were doing something to his neck and back. He said they told him that they were 'giving him something.' The next thing he remembers is that they were gone, and he was really mad because he had to walk back to the house through the mud. He said, 'They didn't even have the decency to carry me back.' He said he had no real fear of them, but he is very concerned that people will think he's crazy.

"Two or three days after the encounter his lower back still ached and he said he remembered seeing these little men on a few occasions as a child. They also went to the garden and found the tracks of his bare feet there.

"His wife, although she can't recall any recent contact, also remembers encounters as a child. In fact, she said that to this day if she sees anything in the sky that looks blimp-shaped, she runs in fear.

"So, what do you think? is this just hearsay or might there be some merit to this story?

"I do remember that on Thursday, October 18th we had quite a storm that night. High winds and rain. Friday night, October 19th was a beautiful starlit night. I remember how clear the sky was that night, it was cold and crisp out." 19

1989 "ALIEN BEING" CASE IN FLORIDA SHOPPING CENTER

At 4:30 a.m. on December 7th, some "thing" walked through the Colonial Palms Shopping Center in Miami.

Whatever it was, it was big and ugly enough to scare the daylights out of the night watchman, who ran from the center and phoned police.

The result was one of the most unusual police reports ever seen, complete with a composite sketch of the "thing" drawn by the guard, whom police identified as 27-year-old Tony Arias.

Arias described the "thing" as being 7 feet 5 inches tall, weighing 150 pounds, bald with a "big head and cat eyes."

The sketch he drew for police resembles some sort of alien. On the bottom of the drawing, officer Juan Santana wrote: "This sketch was provided by the reporter. We are not joking, this is what he drew."

"I've been on the force for 18 years and this is one of the weirdest reports I've ever read," said Sgt. Joe Wyche of Metro's Kendall Station.

Arias works the midnight shift at the mall, 13601 South Dixie Highway. He has no phone at home and could not be reached for comment.

The phone number listed for his employer, King Security, was disconnected.

According to police, Arias called at 4:30 a.m. and Officer Santana responded. Arias immediately told Santana he had not been drinking, then tried to explain what he had seen.

Santana wrote: "Upon my arrival an extensive search was conducted for the described 'thing' with negative results. Reporter thinks he also saw two other 'things' with the first one."

Wyche said there isn't much police can do about Arias' bizarre sighting.

"My first thought was that it was someone in some kind of scary costume," Wyche said. "But I just don't know. Whatever he saw shook him up enough to call us."

There are no plans to open a special hot line for any additional sightings of the "thing" police said. 20

1993 NORTHEAST ALABAMA "MINI-FLAP"

This 1993 "mini-flap" caused quite a stir in Alabama. Our first report is by Darrell Norman of NYT Regional Newspapers, and has a

dateline of February 7th:

A week of reports of strange lights over DeKalb County has police officials building a file on the county's latest encounter with UFOs.

Sue Johnson was drying her hair about 5 a.m. Jan. 28th when a noise she cannot describe brought her to the kitchen window of her home in Dogtown.

What she saw practically in her backyard was some sort of airborne object, covered with glimmering red, green and white lights, and moving slowly below the treetops.

It was just after 8 p.m. Saturday when Karen Twilley got a call from her mother-in-law across the road in Lickskillet, telling her to go outside and look at the strange lights.

When she, her husband and son got outside, they were shocked by a different kind of light show. In one direction they saw three triangle-shaped objects covered in red and white blinking lights, in the other a single large globe-shaped white light.

Then Tuesday about 9 p.m. Susanne Austin and Ernest G. "Gene" Mooney, both of Geraldine, saw a strange light in the sky from different places but in the same direction.

"It's been going on a week now," Sgt. Ron Ogletree, commander of the Gadson trooper post, said Wednesday. "We are investigating each reported sighting and trying to put together a complete file.

"We are treating all of them seriously because these are serious people. They are not publicity seekers who made all this up to get their name in the papers."

It was in 1988 that huge crowds of people flocked Fyffe after numerous reports of UFO sightings. Streets of the Sand Mountain town took on a carnival atmosphere.

Johnson, 29, said she first thought the object out her window was a helicopter, but she could no longer hear the sound that attracted her. Opening her door, she said, she saw an array of lights about 50 feet straight ahead and could make out its shape.

"It was bigger than an automobile, and it was thicker in the middle than it was on the ends," Johnson said. "I tried to make a drawing of it for the troopers, but I couldn't get on paper what I saw with my eyes."

She said the object moved laterally so slowly that it appeared almost stationary. The lights that covered it did not actually blink on and off, but glimmered or shimmered "like a bunch of gnats."

"I was really frightened," she said. "I wanted to keep seeing it, but I wanted to get away from it at the same time."

The object disappeared while she was moving from one door to the other. She said she had it in constant sight for about five minutes.

The objects seen at Lickskillet lingered longer. Twilley, 29, said they were visible for a total of about 45 minutes, counting the time of the first sightings by her in-laws.

The three triangular objects were high in the sky, and each was larger than an airplane.

"They were in constant motion, but there wasn't any sound," Twilley said. "The red and white lights kept blinking. My in-laws saw the other source of light move in and later just vanish, but I only saw it when it was shining constant.

"I felt shock and excitement, but they were too far away for me to get scared," she said. "The first thing I thought of was those cows that had been mutilated. We have cows around here."

Her reference was to recent reports of cattle found dead in Marshall and DeKalb counties with their teeth and sexual organs removed and the blood drained from their bodies.

Then Tuesday night, Austin, 24, said she watched a strange light in the sky for about 45 minutes beginning about 8:45.

Austin, chief dispatcher at Geraldine Police Dept., lives at the Geraldine city limits to the east. She said she and her husband went outside after hearing chatter about lights in the sky on a scanner.

"What we saw was definitely not a falling star," Austin said.

Austin said that by looking back toward Crossville and Kilpatrick, she watched a light source high in the sky that was "shaped like a spinning top. It did not have defined edges, but had instead a misty blur around it."

Mrs. Austin said she took some pictures, but was not optimistic that the film captured what she saw.

"It was a cheap camera, and the light was pretty high," she said.

Mooney, 59, who lives on the south city limit of Geraldine, was returning home from a restaurant with sandwiches about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday when he saw a bright light in the sky ahead.

"It was still at first, then it took off over the top of the trees and stopped again," Mooney said. "It never did move again, but it stayed there, shining bright."

Mooney said the light appeared in the direction of Albertville. It was about the size of a dinner plate, and it had a reddish glow. It was first at a 45° angle from the ground, but moved down to about 10 feet above the tree line.

Mooney does not discount a connection between the sightings and recent cattle mutilations on the ground.

Ogletree said the aerial sightings and reports of cattle being mutilated are "both interesting and important stories," which were being pursued independently, but said he had no reason to connect them. 21

LIGHTED UFO SIGHTED IN OREGON

23-year-old Bryan Baquet told his mother not to tell anyone what they had witnessed in the wilderness sky over his parents home between 8:30 and 9:30 on Monday night, March 27, 1995.

Bryan lives at Coral Creek Ranch, three miles down the Imnaha River from where his parents live near the confluence of Horse Creek and Imnaha River on the Dug Bar Road.

"No one will believe us," Bryan told his mother.

But when Rick Swart and Barbara Kriley of the *Wallowa County Chieftain* caught up with Diane Baquet on the road to Dug Bar the next day, she'd had second thoughts after discussing the happenings with her husband, Russ, and employer, area rancher Don Hubbard.

"I'm getting old," Mrs. Baquet, 50, told the *Chieftain* journalists, "and I don't care if anybody believes me. I know what I saw."

What Bryan and Diane Baquet believe they saw was a hovering alien space craft. At first what they saw looked like a meteor. Then the streaking light stopped over the middle of the river above their place, where it hovered for nearly an hour.

According to The *Chieftain* account, Mrs. Baquet described the image as a round circle of white light with a column of light rising straight up from the center and two other columns of light extending out of the bottom in a triangular pattern. In addition, she said, the white ball was emitting bars of white towards the ground and around the walls of the

canyon, and red, blue and white light from what appeared to be some sort of beacon.

Bryan Baquet said that from a distance the image looked like a saucer but through his binoculars it looked "more round above the lights." His mother described the magnified appearance of the image "like a brain...with veins running over the top of it."

"With the reflection from the lights we couldn't see the bottom but could see a round dome, just like an outline, above the lights," Bryan said.

Both Baquets said the image moved from point to point at lightning speed, including right angles, and there was no motor noise associated with the lights.

According to separate accounts from both witnesses, the image darted over a knob on the west side of the Imnaha River referred to by locals as "Crazyman's Point," where it seemed to hover for another five minutes before all signs of light disappeared.

By 11 p.m. the image was gone and Bryan decided to leave for home. Mrs. Baquet said she worried that what they just witnessed might have been an alien spacecraft and that it might follow Bryan's headlights.

As Bryan was leaving, his mother told him, "If they come back and chase you, shut off your lights and crawl under your pickup."

Diane Baquet later described the incident: "It's an eerie feeling, because it's like something you have no control over...you know what you see but your mind doesn't want to accept it." At one point she considered going back into the house and turning off the kerosene lamps but decided that if the object was an alien spacecraft its occupants were already aware of the family's presence. She estimated the object was about the size of a helicopter.

The *Chieftain* checked with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, who that week had been using a helicopter crew to spot salmon redds on the Imnaha River.

Vic Coggins, ODFW area biologist, said his crew and chopper had been out on Monday morning but had not flown after dark that day. 22

1995 CIGAR-SHAPED UFO IN SIVERTON, OREGON

It started at the south end of town, hovering silently about 500 feet above the ground, its lights flickering. For nearly 10 minutes the cigar-shaped object darted about, heading north; it turned northeast and disappeared.

Then, the phones started ringing.

"The whole town has been calling," said 21-year-old Sarah Doran, who was working for the local police April 3rd when the strange object - a UFO - was sighted about 10 p.m. above this small farming town of 6,500 people. "Calls started coming in about an hour after the sighting."

As of Wednesday night, about 15 calls had been logged. And more reports were coming in as word of the sighting spread.

Callers described the object as a cigar-shaped flickering light with what appeared to be a balloon floating on top. The noiseless object moved around quickly 500 to 600 feet above the ground for nearly 10 minutes.

Asked whether anything like this has occurred before, Doran quickly said, "Not on my shift."

Police have made a cursory investigation and have no explanation for the object.

"I called flight services; there were no planes in the area," Doran

said. "I called the weather service and came up with nothing. It's not being looked into because who would investigate it?" 23

UFO OR MYSTERY AIRCRAFT IN ALABAMA?

Did some residents near Walker Springs have a close encounter of a third kind June 16th 1995, or was it just some wayward airplane or helicopter pilot that disturbed the night's peacefulness?

Clay Larrimore, director of the Clarke County Emergency Management Agency, said state officials reported no filed flight plans for any aircraft in the area at that time Saturday night.

But Mrs. Morris Moore knows that something - a UFO since it is an "unidentified flying object" - hovered over their home near the intersection of County Routes 10 and 19 northwest of Walker Springs around 11:20 p.m. making a terrible racket.

"I said, 'Morris, wake up,' what is that noise?" she said.

She said the object had been right over their home when they awoke, making a "suction sound."

"I went out the front door and Morris went out the back," to investigate. By then the object was "across a 40-acre field" but still just above the tree tops.

She couldn't make out a shape but said there was a "round red glowing light" on top of it. She said her husband said once it moved away from their house it didn't make much noise.

"It rattled the dishes and the whole house shook," she said. "The cows even went to bellowing."

She said she didn't know how the UFO moved in so close above their home, given all of the tall trees nearby.

John Waddill is a neighbor. He said he didn't hear anything but it "shook up" his son and daughter-in-law, the Warren Waddills, who live nearby.

Waddill said another neighbor, Arvis Lolley, "thought the thing was going to land in his garden."

Larrimore told Mrs. Moore if anything happens again to report it.

She hopes that won't be necessary though. "I don't know what it was but I hope it never comes back." 24

1996 "V-SHAPED" OBJECT OVER ALBANY, OREGON

John and Marjorie Friedrichsen know it's a crazy story. But on the other hand, they say, they still don't know what the bright lights they saw on February 13th actually were.

The couple were out walking their dog at about 10:30 that night near their home at 432 Calapooia St. when they first noticed the lights in the eastern sky, above Lebanon.

"I saw this V-shaped contraption, perfectly still, motionless," Marjorie said. "It was mostly white and blue, with a little red and green towards the ends."

The Friedrichsens counted at least 17 of the strange lights. One especially bright one was more northeast than the others.

"The major portion made a large circle," John said.

"Every one of them was an identical shape, like a wide-open V," Marjorie said.

The two called the police and the *Democrat-Herald* to see if any other sightings had been reported. None had, but when John contacted a retired Air Force friend, he said he's seen strange lights as well.

In the morning, when Marjorie went outside at 5 a.m. to get the paper, the lights were still there. Fog obscured them shortly afterward,

however.

John says he knows many such sightings are dismissed as weather balloons. "But to have so many up in the middle of the night?" he asked.

A former pilot, John said he knows what other aircraft look like in the sky at night and this didn't match any of them. "The closest thing it could have been was a chopper, but choppers don't sit still in the same place for six hours," he said.

A similar sighting was reported February 16th when two people told Linn County sheriff's deputies they saw what they thought was an airplane crash near Highway 99E and Highway 34 in Tangent.

The "crash" was reported about 1 a.m. No plane was found in the area. Air control tower staff at the Salem airport said they had seen what looked like a meteor about the same time. Several Lebanon police officers reported seeing the same thing. 25

1997 ACTIVITY IN NORTH CAROLINA

An odd sight appeared in the sky over Blowing Rock March 16th that caused at least one resident there to wonder if a UFO was passing by.

Elizabeth Free called the *Watauga Democrat* to ask if anyone else had reported seeing the luminous silver disc that flew through the sky at about 11 a.m. and headed toward Lenoir.

When asked about what she had observed, Free said the UFO appeared to be "just cruising" toward Lenoir, and added that she hadn't been the only one to witness it.

A friend of hers and her husband who were driving from Lenoir to Blowing Rock also watched the UFO passing back and forth in the sky in view of U.S. 321.

The friend, a manager of a retail business in Lenoir, told Free that she and her husband watched the object throughout the entire drive up the mountain.

Oddly enough, the object wasn't alone in the sky. Three jets that Free said appeared to be military aircraft flew with the object, one behind and two below as if they were escorting it. The silver, disc-shaped craft, which was a little larger than the jets, flew at the same speed as the planes.

The description of the UFOs flight pattern differs greatly from most sighting reports that tell of a sudden, dramatic appearance, usually late at night or in the early morning and usually only seen by one person, followed by a rocket-like burst of speed that causes the object to "shoot away."

"We wondered if we were all playing on the same sheet of music or if we were hallucinating," said Free, a real estate broker and investor who has lived in Blowing Rock for 20 years.

She was sitting in the living room of her home on Rocky Knob Road, looking out her sliding glass doors over the Pisgah National Forest when she looked up and saw the object.

"I usually don't pay attention to what I see, but I do when other people see the same thing," she said, adding that three other people, including two customers of the store her friend manages, also watched the silver disc as it passed over Lenoir.

"I can't imagine that a commercial or private plane would follow something like that; the military could have been testing something or it could have been a UFO. People see different things. The husband of my friend isn't a particularly open-minded person; he considers himself a logical, practical person, and he called her to tell her to look at it.

The fact that he saw it kind of blows the theory that only 'intuitive' people see them," Free said.

A deputy at the Caldwell County Sherrif's Office said that no reports of a UFO had been made, and suggested that what Free and her friends had seen might have been the Hale-Bopp comet.

Free, who had been reluctant at first to describe the UFO and then to "go on record," disagreed. "No, that wasn't the comet. It looked like it was glowing but it was a metallic disc," she said with certainty.

Jerry Burns, editor of the *Blowing Rocket* newspaper, said he received one other call from a resident who had seen the UFO. He told the man it was probably the comet.

Free was relieved to hear that she hadn't been the only one to see the UFO, but remained pragmatic about her experience. 26

FOOTNOTES

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