



Star-Tribune drawing/MARNIA WORMUS

# 'Puzzles' from space

## *A mystery well and UFOs on the high plain*

By GREG BEAN

*Of the Star-Tribune Staff*

There are some strange things in the air over Pat McGuire's farm.

Located 30 miles north of Laramie on the high plains, the McGuire farm is five miles from the nearest neighbor.

The perfect place to go if you want to be alone.

And since 1973 something has been making the most of it.

Almost every night for the last seven years, Pat believes his farm has been visited by humanoid beings traveling in multi-colored UFOs.

His sightings are confirmed by his wife and eight children, as well as Dan and Ruth Grover, who also live on the farm.

"The UFOs are about 300 feet wide and about 60 feet tall," said McGuire, "and they are capable of amazing speed. One minute they can be hovering on the horizon and will look like a star. The next minute, in the blink of an eye, they can be right above you. There seems to be no limit as to how fast they can go."

McGUIRE'S STORY sounds a lot like a plot from the "Twilight Zone", and if it weren't for his obvious conviction, and the fact that there are many collaborating witnesses, the sightings could perhaps be easily credited to an extremely vivid imagination.

"I didn't believe him when Dan and I first moved out here," said Ruth Grover, "but when one of the things lands in the field in front of the house, or hovers directly overhead, it's hard to ignore. This summer has made a believer out of me."

McGuire said his children were frightened by the visits at first, but have become accustomed to them over the years.

"They don't scare me any more," said 6-year-old Julie McGuire, "but I don't like them because they scare the dogs."

Pat McGuire said the only time he has been frightened by a UFO was after he and his brother-in-law saw a hovering craft pick up a young calf one evening in 1976. In the weeks before the incident, two of McGuire's cattle had been mutilated within a few miles of his home.

"We could hear that calf bawling for quite a while," he said, "and when the UFO flew away the calf was gone. We never did find out where they took it."

There have been no mutilations and no



Star-Tribune/FRED SCHNELL

**VISITORS?** A University of Wyoming parapsychologist says UFO sightings are common in Wyoming, with its spectacular

other aggressive actions since 1976, and the McGuire family feels safe again.

**McGUIRE'S RELATIONSHIP** with the UFO beings began in 1971, he believes, with a compulsion to dig a well in the prairie basin country that is now his home. The land is 7,200 feet above sea level, and McGuire was told by geologists and drilling companies that there wasn't enough water in the basin for an irrigation well.

Several drilling companies refused to drill the well for him, saying that it was a waste of time.

McGuire, who lived in Wheatland at that time, bought the land outside of Laramie and started making plans to drill the well on his own.

"Somehow I knew there was water there," said McGuire, "so I got a friend to help me build a rig, bought an Army

scenery, and in Colorado. A rancher near Laramie is convinced he has had contact with travelers from 'another dimension.'

tank engine to pump the water, and started drilling."

The neighbors called McGuire crazy for drilling a well in the sagebrush country, and for expecting to find enough water for massive irrigation. So they were surprised when he tapped into an underground river at 350 feet.

**HIS WELL WAS A** gusher, and can now pump 8,000 gallons of pure, soft water per minute. He has turned his sagebrush desert into a 5,100-acre oasis of irrigated grassland.

McGuire's land is the only land in the area with enough water for cash farming, and drillers who have since tried to tap the underground river in other locations have all failed.

It wasn't until 1978 that McGuire began to understand what was happening.

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# UFO

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In that year he made contact with Dr. Leo Sprinkle, a noted parapsychologist and UFO authority at the University of Wyoming.

Sprinkle had been conducting an investigation of UFO phenomena, and was involved in psychological studies of UFO contactees. He was using hypnosis to draw an accurate picture of the experience from each contactee's subconscious.

Sprinkle agreed to work with McGuire and the tests were begun.

According to a psychiatrist working with Sprinkle, information about the UFO beings that had been lost in McGuire's subconscious was retrieved.

**UNDER HYPNOSIS**, McGuire reported that he had been taken aboard one of the spacecraft into an oval room, and that the aliens had telepathically instructed him to begin plans for the well.

The aliens were human in appearance, he said: 6 feet tall, about 200 pounds, large eyes, thin lips, bald and having no bridge on the nose.

They were dressed in black. The only ornamentation on their bodies were silver belt buckles with raised stars, similar to the Star of David.

McGuire related that the beings were not necessarily from outer space, but instead were from "another dimension," perhaps our descendants who had somehow conquered time travel and were influencing their race's past.

He was told by the beings, he recalled, that the vehicle they travel in is propelled by a sophisticated magnetic system. If the destination of the vehicle is a distant planet, the magnetic system is simply locked onto the planet, and the planet's magnetic pull draws the craft to it at unimaginable speeds.

McGuire was informed, he said, that no speed is too great for the craft to achieve. It can also hover motionless indefinitely — or perform seemingly impossible maneuvers.

"I was told that they were monitoring my well for some reason," said McGuire. "I figure if they want to do it, there is nothing I can do to stop them."

"I decided to take a shot at them one time and they paralyzed me from the neck down until they left. I don't believe I'll try that again."

**LEO SPRINKLE** believes McGuire's experiences have been real.

"The only question in my mind is whether it was a face-to-face encounter, mental programming, or an out-of-body experience," said Sprinkle.

"McGuire's account is very similar to the accounts of the other 200 or more contactees I have worked with. His descriptions of the craft and the beings are similar."

Sprinkle, who claims to have sighted UFOs himself on two occasions, said that

skepticism over the existence of alien beings is normal.

"It is always more impressive if we observe them ourselves," he said, "because we tend to believe our own observations."

"There are more than 100 sightings in the world each day, many of them in southern Wyoming and northern Colorado."

"I believe that the contactees are chosen as pace setters to spread the word and get people used to the idea that we are not alone. If the beings revealed themselves too soon without preparation, people would be frightened."

"If they give us a puzzle though, we have to think about it."

**"THE WAY I SEE IT** there are two possibilities. Either they can reveal themselves in a few years, or they can never reveal themselves and continue to coach us in the things we do."

"If they continue to coach us, we could be the race in the spaceships in the next generations."

Sprinkle believes the cattle mutilations are part of a study being conducted by the aliens rather than an overt act of aggression.

"The theory or hypothesis I like best is that the beings are testing some sort of poisoning on our planet and use animals to monitor the effects of the poison."

"The mutilations seem to occur downwind from nuclear sites, so the aliens could be checking the effects of radiation on mammals."

"I don't know if that is the best or the correct hypothesis, but it makes sense to me."

"It almost seems like they are tapping our heads to get our attention."

**MCGUIRE BELIEVES** that the beings will make contact with the human race in the very near future, perhaps this summer.

"They are getting more and more casual about letting us observe them," he said. "In fact, they want to be observed."

"Why would they do that if they weren't planning something?"

When that happens, McGuire says he will be among the first to say hello.

"They haven't hurt me, and they certainly could have. There is no sense in being afraid of something you can't control."

Until then the entire McGuire clan is content to sit back and watch the nightly show, but they don't pay the UFOs as much attention as they used to.

Patrick McGuire Jr., 10 years old, and the only boy in a family with seven girls, summarized the attitude of the family.

"The UFOs used to be pretty exciting, especially the first time you see one up close."

"After that it's kind of like going to school ... not such a big deal after the first day."

## 'Watching the show'

At Pat McGuire's invitation, Dr. Richard F. Fleck from the University of Wyoming, *Star-Tribune* photographer Richard Foertsch and this reporter visited the McGuire Farm to "watch the show," as Pat called it.

Camped on a hillside overlooking the vast basin in which the farm sits, our cameras at the ready, we settled back to get a look at our first UFO.

Nothing happened until 3:00 a.m., when a strange light appeared on the horizon.

The object flashed blue, red, yellow and bright white lights in sequence.

The landscape was too dark to allow a photograph with perspective, and the object was too far away to recognize any exact detail.

Slowly, the object began to move straight up and down in the air, perhaps several hundred feet at a time.

Soon it stopped its up and down motion and began to rock back and forth across the sky, performing a sort of cosmic dance.

For perhaps 10 or 15 minutes the object continued its undulations and then flashed across the sky.

McGuire claims we witnessed the performance of a UFO.

While we cannot be certain of what we saw, none of us left the McGuire Farm with as much skepticism as we arrived with.

Perhaps we can return.

— GREG BEAN