

*Photo evidence sought*

# UFOs seen over lake

By MICHAEL CLARKSON  
Standard Staff

With apologies to swimmers and boaters, Lake Ontario seems to get more interesting in the fall.

The strings of sailing boats are being replaced by those famous and mysterious bright orange lights above the horizon, as seen from Niagara-on-the-Lake.

And that's fine with UFO investigators trying to solve an old riddle.

Theories are fun but Malcom Williams of Niagara Falls wants evidence.

He's trying to link several photographs taken of objects in the lake, as well as getting someone interested in financing a trek across the lake to take movie pictures of the moving lights.

"IT SEEMS ONE TYPE of unidentified craft is being seen by many people," Mr. Williams said. "Descriptions given by witnesses are similar."

Omni Magazine, a science publication in New York City, with a circulation of four million, has a photograph of the craft and is considering publishing it.

It matches the description of other sightings — a long, cylinder-shaped vehicle, light green and dull grey in color with a rounded nose.

Freelance writer Harry Lebelson of New York claims the photo was taken by a Niagara Falls, N.Y., man about five years ago near the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club.

"It's an unbelievable photo," says Mr. Lebelson. "This craft could be up to 140 yards

long and seems to have portholes. It was about a mile offshore when the picture was taken and was hovering on the water, moving slowly and apparently not making any sound."

The photo, taken with a 300 mm lens, was tested by a computer in the midwestern United States and is not a toy or model or fake, Mr. Lebelson told The Standard.

The magazine said it doesn't know when it will be published.

ACCORDING TO RESEARCH done by The Standard, the photo could show an experimental hovercraft, which was tested several times by a Toronto man in the lake from 1974 to 1976, but was never in regular passenger service between Niagara-on-the-Lake and Toronto.

Mr. Williams said he took a photo of a similar craft two years ago near the same spot.

"I watched it for about three seconds. It was about half-way across the lake and suddenly disappeared," he said.

"There seemed to be square windows in it."

The description also fits a photo taken of a UFO by a professor in Missouri.

Aeronautics engineer Harry Picken of Niagara-on-the-Lake has seen a carbon copy of the Omni photo. "I've never seen anything like it. There are a lot of optical illusions out on the lake, but it's definitely not an illusion," he said.

Mr. Picken said he would have to see the original of the photo before forming an opinion on what the vehicle is.