

Witnesses Sought In UFO Incident

By LARRY KERR
Courier Staff Writer

Several Labor Day weekend travelers on Route 119 were startled to see an object they have not been able to explain.

Stan Gordon of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, Greensburg, told *The Courier* today the incident occurred Sunday evening, Aug. 31, about 9 p.m.

"People going up both lanes of the highway observed a large, low-flying object they thought was going in for a landing or was going to crash on Route 119," said Gordon.

The sighting took place just south of the Volkswagen plant,

near a hill between Old Route 119 and the present Route 119.

Apparently, the object disappeared behind a bend or a hill and when the people who had seen it came around the bend, they saw a fire on the hillside.

"People on both sides stopped their cars... thinking a plane had crashed."

Several people jumped from their cars and put out the fire, although a call was made to 911 that a plane had crashed, said Gordon.

What people saw was an elongated object, about the size of a Lear jet fuselage. At one point it came within 100 feet of the

ground.

It had multiple rows of yellowish-green lights.

Gordon said there are several factors that make this sighting interesting.

One is the fire, though he admitted one might have nothing to do with the other.

"Of course, we can't positively relate the fire to the object," he conceded.

The fire burned a circle about 9 feet in diameter and another spot near that. Those areas have been photographed and samples taken. No test results are available from the samples yet.

Another factor is that several different people on both sides of the road and on different roads saw the object. Also Hunker area residents reported seeing it.

Among those who sighted it was a Federal Aviation Administration air traffic controller, passing through the area.

"He did not feel it was a normal aircraft he saw," claimed Gordon.

Gordon has gone public with the sighting now to try to convince any other witnesses to report what they saw.

He said since such objects are unexplained, all the group can do is try to learn what it can about them, and so the request for any additional information from other witnesses; witnesses who may be reluctant to come forward for one reason or another.

Gordon wanted to assure those persons they will be taken seriously.

"We take the report seriously. We're not going to ridicule them and we're not going to use their names."

This latest sighting is one of many that have occurred not only in recent weeks but throughout

this year. Gordon said he could not explain why there have been so many reports this year.

Another recent incident occurred on Aug. 12 when some Scottsdale residents and people from Monroeville saw another object. That sighting occurred in daylight hours.

"It's very rare to get daylight sightings," said Gordon, and on that day there were two.

Gordon said he's been involved in this activity for 21 years. The present group of volunteers was formed in 1961.

Anyone wishing to report Sunday's sighting or any other information may do so by calling 838-7768, 24 hours a day or by writing PASU, 6 Oak Hill Ave., Greensburg, Pa., 15061.