

QUEST

VOL. FIVE NO. THREE (WHOLE NO. 27) MAY-JUNE, 1974 50¢



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By Cecil Michael

\$3.50

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EDITOR'S NOTES

This, our 27th issue, came out before its originally scheduled release due to the large response for subscriptions from our SAGA and FATE advertisements. We simply ran out of copies of QUEST#26.

Response to our plan of replacing issues of QUEST with a special booklet (i.e. IT'S UNCANNY, ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF MODERN WITCHCRAFT and ALIEN CONTACT) every few issues was just about half-for, half-against. Therefore, we have decided to drop this idea and continue with regularly scheduled issues every two months.

In 1973 two of our early publications - UFOs: THE UNKNOWN FACTOR by Erich Aggen, Jr. and MEN IN BLACK: STARTLING NEW EVIDENCE by Kurt Glemser - sold out. There are no plans to reprint either book.

In August, 1973, MY FRIEND FROM BEYOND EARTH by Frank Stranges went into its second printing after only ten months.

The same month we reprinted MY VISIT TO VENUS by Lobsang Rampa. This was originally a Saucerian Books publication selling for \$3.00. We took out the eight or so blank pages and printed the whole text. Our price? \$1.25.

In the future we hope to do the same with several other books and booklets. This has several advantages. One, the price is lower to the consumer. Two, the book is in stock at all times. Often in the case of books printed by other firms which we handle there is a rush on one particular title and we will be out of that book for three or four weeks. This problem would then be eliminated.

Another of our new printings is STRANGE CASE OF DR. M. K. JESSUP by Gray Barker. This too was a Saucerian Books publication which the original publisher ran out of. Due to the popularity of the book we reprinted it.

Readers may be interested in our top ten best sellers. They are as follows: 1)Mysterious Disappearances-Glemser 2)Bootlegs-"Cobra" 3)UFOs: A Venture Into Nowhere-Stamey 4)Flying Saucers And The Inner Earth-Glemser 5)Flying Saucers From Beyond Our Dimension-Glemser 6)Men In Black Report-Glemser 7)Flying Saucers and the Dark Forces-Stamey 8) My Friend From Beyond Earth-Stranges 9)Stranger at the Pentagon-Stranges 10)Alien Contact-Glemser.

We would like our readers to help us make QUEST a better magazine by answering the following questions and mailing them to us:

1. Would you continue to subscribe to QUEST if it went from its present 16 pages for 50¢ to 24 pages for 75¢? YES NO
2. Do you want to see more UFO coverage? YES NO
3. Do you want to see more Fortean coverage? YES NO
4. Do you want to see more coverage of controversial subjects such as drugs, sex, personal freedom, etc., etc.? YES NO
5. Do you think QUEST should remain bi-monthly? YES NO
6. Do you think QUEST should change to a monthly? YES NO

THE PAGANI!, second issue, is out! And like the first issue, it's a beauty! It contains writings and pictures of permanent value if you're into Paganism in a practicing religious way.

"THE PAGANI" is dedicated to the awakening religious-ecological, eco-psychic, consciousness which must go hand in hand with rational scientific efforts to save our Earth from the ravages of her youngest children. It will be our effort to present in these pages articles aimed at total cultural transformation. They will not all agree; many will contradict. ...it is the direction that is essential and that direction must rededicate itself to Earth as our mother and to vibrant life as our highest hope."

Get your copy for one dollar sent to THE PAGANI!, POB 2953, St. Louis, Mo. 63130. Send for it now. You'll be glad you did.

UFO SCARE Compiled by K. Glemser

A UFO blinked its lights twice on the night of September 23, 1973, then disappeared into the darkness, according to a Shelby County (Tenn.) sheriff's deputy P. L. Philalas.

Philalas said he and his partner, J. O. Davis, were driving on U.S. Highway 70 just east of Memphis when they saw the craft hovering overhead. The craft was 500 to 1,000 feet in the air.

"We couldn't see the craft itself, but only its light," he said.

"I flashed my spotlight on the vehicle which appeared to be traveling with us at about 15 m.p.h.," said Philalas.

"We let our blue light (on the police car) shine twice and then stopped. The vehicle then flashed its white beams twice and then both the white lights and red lights went out.

"It just disappeared. It made a whirring-type noise for about 30 seconds to a minute, then it was gone."

The FAA at Memphis International Airport said they detected no craft in the area nor was any to be there.

At least three other sightings were reported in the Memphis area that night and the next day.

On October 11, two Mississippi shipyard workers were fishing from an old pier in the Pascagoula River when a "fish-shaped" vehicle emitting a bluish haze approached from the sky.

Charles Hickson, 42, and 18-year-old Calvin Parker, both of Pascagoula claim that they were taken aboard the craft by three weird creatures with wrinkled skin, crab-claw hands and pointed ears.

The creatures were five feet tall and had pointed noses, two holes under the nose, and were pale in colour.

Dr. James Harder, of the University of California's engineering college, hypnotised the men and his examination convinced him that "it was no hoax."

Harder said, "I was able to regress each of them into the experience. Their reaction of fear and terror was evidence to me beyond a reasonable doubt that they were re-living an experience."

While Parker could not give a complete account because he had lost consciousness when taken aboard the craft, said Harder, Hickson "was so terrorised that I couldn't take him through the whole experience."

The men were also examined by Dr. Allen Hynek chairman of the Northwestern University Astronomy Department who said, "These are not imbalanced people. They are not crackpots. There was definitely something here that was not terrestrial."

Charles Hickson was given a lie detector test by Scott Glasgow, a polygraph specialist from New Orleans.

Look, in the sky is that UFO just a meteor?

By GARY OAKES
Star staff writer

UFOs are back.

Unidentified Flying Objects allegedly have been seen over parts of the United States in recent weeks and now sightings have been reported over Metro.

But the watchers may have seen meteors or satellites.

"Anything that moves in the sky we get calls about," said a secretary at the University of Toronto's David Dunlap Observatory in Richmond Hill.

An official of the observatory said the Orionids meteor shower—large numbers of meteors all moving together along the same orbit—will pass over the Metro area Sunday. Best viewing time is about midnight and "they'll be visible all over the sky."

Although UFOs have been reported to Toronto newspapers, Metro police are not aware of any calls. "I don't think there's any law against being a UFO," an officer said.

Toronto Sta. Oct. 19, 1973

Hamburg woman spots UFOs

By WAYNE BRAUN

A wave of sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) seems to break out in an area every few years and the Waterloo Region is having its turn.

In the past several weeks, several Region residents have reported seeing strange objects in the sky above Kitchener, Bloomingdale and Philipsburg.

But, as yet, there have never been more than one or two people spotting the objects at a time, leaving doubts as to the authenticity of the reports.

And even if the reports are authentic, there still is the question of what the people are seeing. Experts in the United States have found that only about three per cent of all people who report UFO sightings actually see UFOs. The rest of the objects can be explained as light reflections from such things as weather balloons, planes or even birds.

Then there's the problem of defining what a UFO really is. Most people equate UFOs with strange spacemen in flying saucers, but a UFO is just what it says — an unidentified flying object.

Whether it is a spaceship or just some form of unidentified earthman's vehicle is anyone's guess.

The modern-day UFO was born in June, 1947, when a civilian pilot, Ken Arnold, reported seeing nine gleaming disc-like objects over mountain ranges near Mt. Rainier, Wash.

He estimated that the objects were 100 feet in diameter and were travelling at 1,200 miles an hour.

In January, 1948, one of the most unusual incidents involving UFOs took place in Madisonville, Ky. A large, circular object, glowing alternately red and white, was seen by hundreds of residents

and later was seen hovering over a U.S. air force base near Fort Knox.

An air force pilot was sent up to investigate and he reported by radio that it appeared metallic and was very large. Right after he sent his report, the plane crashed and he was killed. No one saw the flight because of heavy cloud cover and there were various explanations for the crash.

In 1952, an orange-red disc was spotted by air force pilots over North Bay. Because of its speed and its sudden change of directions, scientists said it could not have been a natural phenomenon.

Such sightings have continued for years and in 1964 a U.S. air force report of a 17-year study showed that only two or three per cent of the sightings were of objects that could not be explained logically.

Now the Soviets have gotten into the act too. The official news agency, Tass, reported that Soviet scientists have picked up radio signals which could come from an advanced civilization in outer space.

The signals, which have never been heard previously, are coming at regular intervals and have been heard at four widely-separated locations in the Soviet Union.

Even experienced observers can be led to believe they are seeing tangible objects when they see a meteorological mirage caused by a distant terrestrial object, the report said.

But that's little comfort for someone who sees what appears to be a flying saucer.

"There's something definitely going on out here," Mrs. Arthur Cook of RR 1, New Hamburg, said after seeing UFOs several nights.

She said the various objects she has seen around the farm on clear nights have come as low as "a few inches off the ground."

One object, she said, had a glowing white light that went out when a plane flew nearby and then a pale blue light that came on after the plane had passed.

Often the objects are behind the barn and Mrs. Cook believes she could get a better look if she went closer: "I'm scared to go past the barn and the barn's only 100 yards from the house."

One evening she said she saw a long object shaped like a bullet at the front and curved at the back. It had a red design on its side.

She thinks someone is investigating because often airplanes fly nearby at the same time she sees the objects. One plane flew just a few feet above the trees.

But often a bit of knowledge can throw out what appears to be a good UFO sighting.

Dave MacDonald, who works in the weather office at Waterloo-Wellington Airport, was driving on Highway 401 near the Doon interchange about 10 p.m. recently when he saw a white glow in the sky. The glow became alternately bright and dull.

For a moment, Mr. MacDonald thought he was seeing his first UFO, but then he realized it was the airport beacon, flashing its warning about eight miles away.

A mile away in any direction the beacon may not be visible because of atmospheric and other conditions.

So the next time you see what you think is a genuine UFO, try to analyse what it might be. Chances are it doesn't fall into the three-per-cent category of sightings that are unexplained.

"It is my opinion that he told the truth when he stated that he believes he saw a spaceship, that he was taken into the spaceship, and that he saw three creatures," Glasgow said.

Pascagoula authorities were swamped with countless other sightings the same week.

Sightings were also reported in other parts of the country.

John Lane, a taxi driver, in Gulfport, Mississippi told police that a blue object landed in front of his car, stalling it and causing the radio to go dead. He said he then heard a tapping sound on the windshield and saw a flesh-coloured creature with a crablike claw.

Kitchener-Waterloo Record October 29, 1973

In Louisiana, sheriff's deputies reported chasing five orange-red lights for 12 miles through woods.

Governor John Gilligan, of Ohio, said he and his wife had watched a "vertical-shaped amber-coloured" flying object for 30 minutes while driving in Michigan before it disappeared behind a cloud.

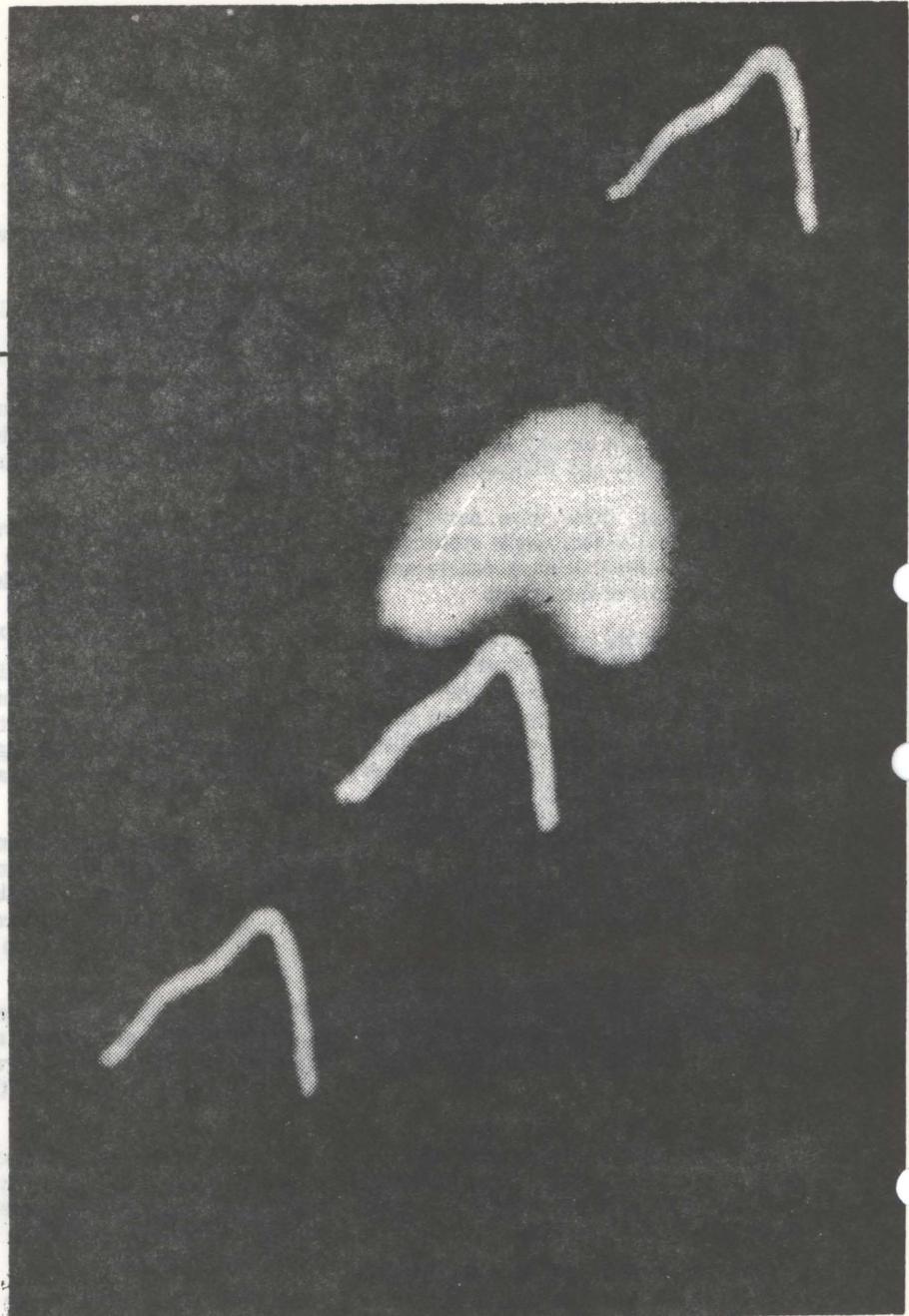
There was an unverified report from Ohio that a huge amber light had hovered over several areas then landed, breaking several fences and killing a cow.

In Falkeville, Alabama, policeman Jeff Greenshaw, responding to a call about a spaceship with blinking lights, reported he found no craft but did find a metallic-looking creature in the middle of the road. Greenshaw said the creature moved like a robot, made no sounds, had no features on its face and had a point on top of its head.

Meanwhile in South America, Peruvian architect Hugo Vega claimed he saw a flying saucer which "was the colour of burnished silver, it was shaped like an overturned soup plate with a cupola on top."

He offered a photograph of his sighting which took place about 54 miles from Lima.

October 17, brought UFO reports from Lancaster, New York. Police there were informed of a circular object with flashing lights. Police explained the sightings as jet air trans-



STRANGE LIGHTS-Ken Chamberlain, a photographer with the Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, took the picture of four strange lights early in October, 1973. Police officials say they received about 150 calls of UFO sightings at about the same time.

AP Wirephoto

DISINTER-DISSENER: An 88-page journal exposing the coming controversies and chaos. Timely articles about this mysterious Aquarian Age. Photos. Illustrations. \$1.00 for this large copy, Vol.2 No.1. Steve Erdmann, 4721 Louisiana Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63111.

SEX STARS



Jo Ann Harris ("The Beguiled")



Christina Lindberg ("Dog Days")



Raquel Welch ("One Million B.C.")

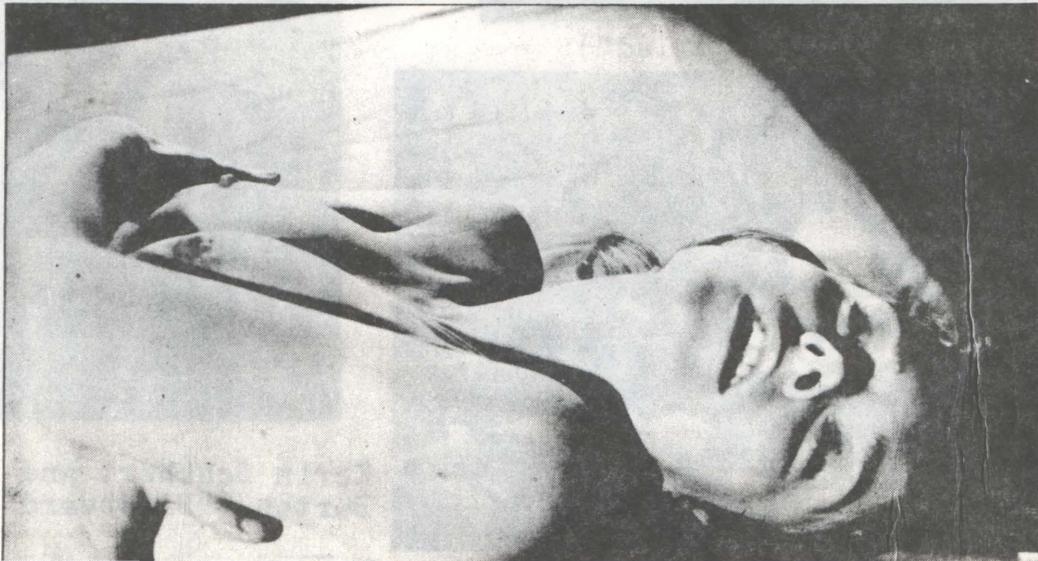


Karin Schubert and Richard Burton ("Bluebeard")

Sybil Danning ("The Woman
In Red Kills Seven Times")



Monica Gayle ("Sandra")



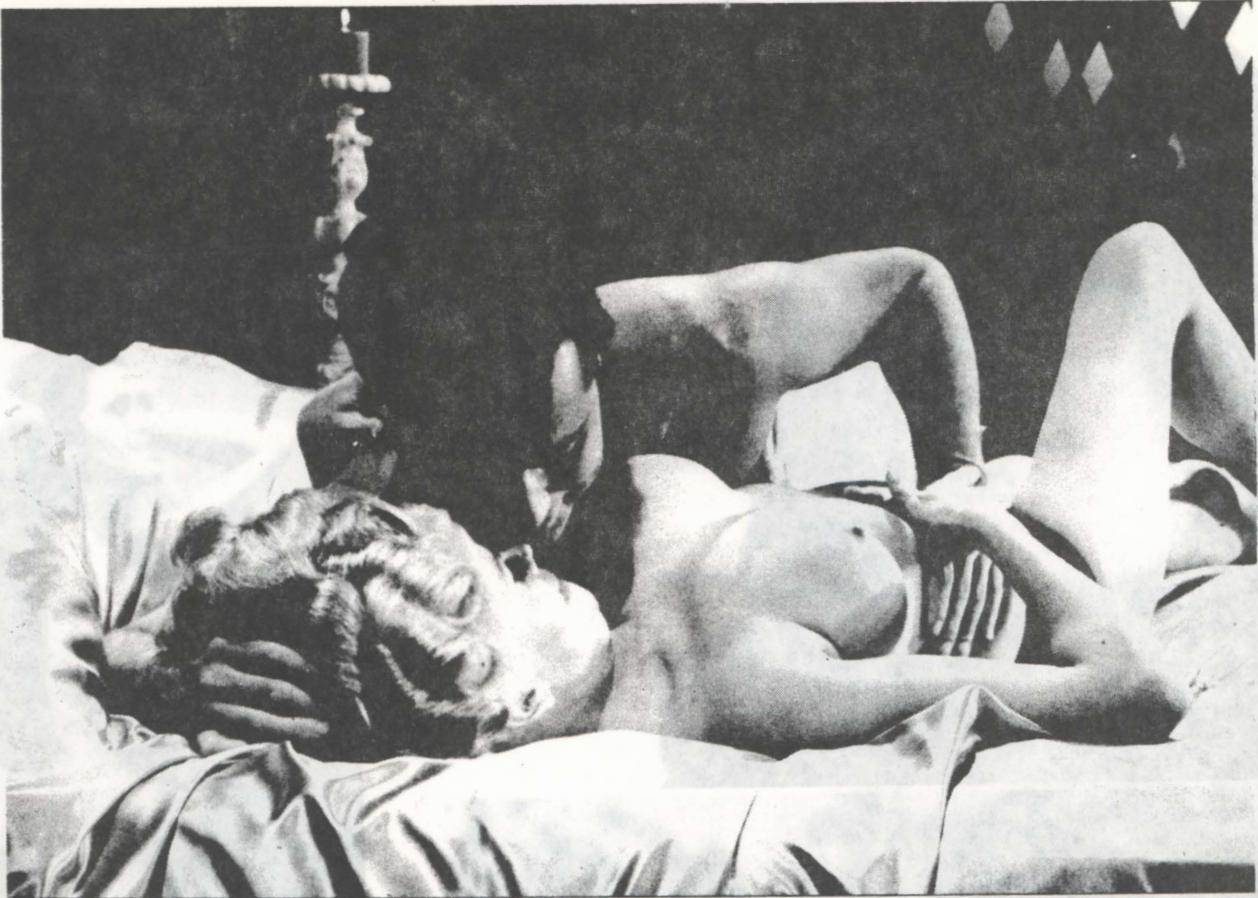
Kathrine Ross ("Butch Cassidy
And The Sundance Kid")



Alice Marie
("Africa Erotica")



Sylva Koscina ("Your
Pleasure Is Mine")



Marsha Jordan
("Lady Godiva Rides")

BACK ISSUE SALE

The following issues of QUEST are still available (most are in short supply): Nos. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24. All issues are 50¢ each, or 30¢ each when purchasing five or more.



Anne Libert
("Les Nanas En Folie")

Letters to the editor

Dear Mr. Glemser:

I am writing this letter to say that I am quite impressed with your company. You have filled every order that I've asked for and have even ordered books from other companies to complete some orders. I appreciate service like this and will continue to be a customer of yours for a long time to come.

Thank you again for your fine books and excellent service. I couldn't believe how fast my last order arrived. It only took 7 days!

Mike Core

Dear Kurt:

Just got your Jan-Feb., 1974, issue and I must compliment you. It's got lots of good UFO and Fortean items. Now if I'm not being too nosey I'd like to ask you something. There are other editors besides yourself yet I never see any contributed material other than yours. Now just what do these other editors do?

Robert Schiller

*The other editors contribute much in the way of clippings, ideas and articles by writers other than themselves. The magazine couldn't do without these editors.

Dear Sir:

Your letter addressed to our Mr. Hervey has been passed on to me as Mr. Hervey is currently lecturing in Europe. We note that our invoice served to amuse you and would draw your attention to the fact that Mr. Hervey is an author of international repute and one of the few writers listed in the prestigious Guinness Book of Records. Our minimum fee for any of his articles is \$30. Nine articles were provided during May/1970-April/71. Under normal circumstances we would ask for \$270 by the way of payment, but in view of your statement that your circulation was "only in the hundreds" Mr. Hervey agreed to accept subscriptions in exchange for same.

You surely do not expect us to accept a few back issues of your journal, a book review, for which payment is never made, and a few used stamps valued @ 20¢ in exchange for Mss to the value of \$270.

Mr. Hervey is prepared to abide by previous agreement whereby you continue to provide him with free copies (as per your letter Sept 7/71) in exchange for the abovementioned Mss (plus back issues 9,10,14,16, 17) which were not received by him, failing which we would be reluctantly compelled to take steps to collect the full value of the Mss.

R. G. Hall
Hampton Press

*Personally I don't care what your minimum fee is. Mr. Hervey originally send the articles in exchange for issues of Quest. He send 9 articles, three of which weren't even published. I have yet to meet a publisher who will pay for articles he didn't print. You have no basis for sending an invoice as I never signed a contract. Quest is not a profit making venture and has never paid for any articles. Mr. Hervey was treated like all our contributors, that is he received a free issue of each

Letters to the editor

Quest zine in which his article was published. Actually he received the issues in between also. Now you are telling me he never received an issue of Quest. How the hell do you explain that in one of his letters he wrote: "I find Quest-UFO Report most invaluable in connection with my work on UFO books. You may quote me to that effect." The letter is in my files and signed by Mr. Hervey.

Mr. Hervey asked me to review his book which I did. He also asked me to run an ad for his book. This I did twice. I filled my part of the bargain but then more demands were made on me.

First Mr. Hervey asked me to send Canadian stamps for his son's collection. There were no further specifications. I send a number of stamps immediately although this had not been part of the original agreement. The next letter came with this message: "I am afraid that a few used or unused stamps would not even cover cost of typing mss and forwarding same to you, unless you can keep me regularly supplied with authentic UFO photos."

This was getting too much. The postage is 7¢ and the articles weren't written or typed exclusively for me. So the cost was only 7¢. As a matter of fact one article send "Dowse It" is a chapter in Mr. Hervey's "Strange Happenings". After all this it is little wonder I was amused by your invoice.

Now what have you to say?

Kurt Glemser

Satanic cult's leader convicted of murder

DELAND, Fla. (AP) — A South Carolina teen-ager described as the high priest of a satanic cult was found guilty of first-degree murder Thursday in the torture slaying of Ross Michael Cochran.

The 12-member circuit court jury deliberated 2½ hours before handing down the verdict against David Hester, 17, of Greenville.

The jury was scheduled to reconvene today to make a recommendation on a sentence of life or death. The state said it will seek the death penalty, which would be under a new law upheld by the state Supreme Court.

Hester was the first of six persons to be tried on first-degree murder charges in the death of Cochran, 17, of Fresno, Calif.

Police said Cochran was flogged with chains and slashed with broken glass in a satanic ceremony in nearby Daytona Beach last April 27. Police said he was subsequently taken to a wooded area where he was clubbed to death.

Deborah Shook, 22, of Daytona Beach, testified Wednesday she was the priestess of a satanic cult which killed Cochran and Hester was the high priest.

In closing arguments Thursday, defence lawyer Donald Jacobson told the jury: "I didn't put a ribbon in David Hester's hair. I said he was a nut, a kid of loose morals, a drug addict."

But Jacobson said Hester should be believed when he said he struck Cochran lightly on the head with a pine log to trick other members of the satanic cult into thinking Cochran was dead.

Jacobson called the act "the only decent thing in his life."

Miss Shook was among four of the six youths charged in the murder who were allowed to plead guilty to lesser charges in return for their testimony.

Cindy Black, 15, of Toronto pleaded guilty May 18 to a murder charge and is serving an indeterminate sentence at a state correctional school.

CAVEAT EMPTOR

ARE YOU BRAVE ENOUGH TO TRY IT?

A lot of people aren't. They'd rather go through life with their head in the sand.

But if you're ready to seek the truth, no matter what it may turn out to be — if you're willing to take the chance of having your view of the Way Things Are turned upside down — if you're able to overcome your fear of the Unknown, then CAVEAT EMPTOR is a magazine you ought to try.

Something is happening in the world today. Social structures are changing. Science is leading into unheard-of fields. Natural forces seem more unpredictable. Strange and unexplained phenomena are being reported everywhere. — Probably you know of some examples yourself. Some say it's the Age of Aquarius. Others say it's the beginning of the end.

We can't give you the Answer, but we'd like to share what we've learned, and also find out what you have to say.

Will you join us?

CAVEAT EMPTOR, P.O. Box 688, Coatesville, Pa. 19320

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BY LINDA THOMPSON

A SENSATIONAL sighting of a squad of flying saucers was reported over Hamilton yesterday.

Shocked residents watched in awe as about 40 unidentified flying objects hovered over Hamilton East for a period of several minutes.

They were observed by two men through a pair of binoculars.

One of the men, farm-worker Alex Henderson, saw the first UFO early in the afternoon from his sunporch in Sillary Street.

"I was looking into the sky while enjoying the sunshine and saw this 'thing' hanging in the sky.

Good look

"It was still there, unmoving, when I came back with binoculars to have a closer look," Alec told Sunday News.

"A friend was with me and we both had a good look at it.

"It was pretty high, about

30,000 feet, but still big and round and a dark green colour.

"Then it was covered by a dark cloud—but five minutes later we were still watching and it was still there, just hovering.

"Suddenly it disappeared.

"Later we were having a cup of tea and all these black things appeared out of the cloud.

"I thought they were birds but looking through the binoculars proved they certainly weren't birds.

"They were round dumpy

UFOS

BUZZ

CITY

things, about 40 and in tight formation.

"We both saw them and then they disappeared towards Cambridge.

"They were pretty big, too large for birds," Mr Henderson said.

A thunderstorm broke over Hamilton a few moments later and further sightings were impossible.

Laughed at

"I'd swear I didn't believe in UFO's and flying saucers but after seeing those things I'm beginning to think differently."

Mr Henderson was concerned enough to telephone the airport, but airport officials laughed at his suggestion.

"We saw them all right and there's no natural explanation for them," Mr Henderson said.



The Blob's back and this time it's in N.Y.

SPENCERPORT, N.Y. (UPI) — "The Blob" has arrived in New York State. Jim Guarnere of this Monroe County community said a brother, or at least a cousin, of the famous blob reported recently in Texas has shown up in his backyard.

Guarnere said his son, Chris, 12, first discovered it in a planter last Friday. Since then, Guarnere added, it has been oozing out of the soil. A Garland, Tex., housewife found a similar substance in her backyard two weeks ago.

Experts have theorized that the Texas blob was simply a type of mutated bacteria or fungi. George Miller, a Monroe County soils expert, said the "Spencerport Blob" also is nothing more than a fungus.

Weather research balloons prompt rash of UFO reports

ATLANTA, (AP) — Weather research balloons have prompted a new rash of reports of unidentified flying objects throughout the southern United States and UFO-bugged authorities are bracing for more reports.

At least two offices of the National Weather Service reported separate launchings of weather balloons.

A huge balloon, 150 feet in diameter, was launched at Palestine, Tex., and authorities say it drifted over Mississippi at a 50,000-foot altitude. The weather service at Montgomery Ala., also reported launching a balloon to an altitude of about 85,000 feet.

Meanwhile, officials at Elgin Air Force Base in Florida announced high-atmospheric rocket tests and cautioned that the rockets could easily be mistaken for UFOs.

Air force officials said the rockets will release glowing clouds of red, green, blue and yellow gasses.

Despite official explanations, residents in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina inundated local sheriff's offices with reports of UFOs.

More than 1,000 cars jammed Interstate 10 near the border of Alabama and Mississippi recently when a Mobile, Ala, television station reported that it would attempt to film UFOs. The station said an unidentified woman psychic said UFOs would be in the area 16 miles west of Mobile. None was sighted.

The Alabama state patrol said it had reports of UFOs at Dothan, Troy, Birmingham, Gadsden and Tuscaloosa.

In Mississippi, objects were sighted over Jackson and Yazoo City. In Georgia, objects were reported spotted over Atlanta, Athens, Rome and Macon.

Mystery substance

SKY FALLING?

Associated Press

ALDEN, N.Y. — A chunk of frozen green substance fell from the sky through the roof of a house here, narrowly missing the woman who lives there, Erie County sheriff's deputies reported.

Esther Kochanowicz told deputies that something came through the roof and struck her favorite chair four feet from where she was standing.

Deputies said the "something" was a block they estimated to be about 1½ feet in diameter, and weighing between 50 and 75 pounds. It shattered into little pieces throughout the room after tearing a hole more than two feet wide through the roof, they said. Officials from the Federal Aviation Administration were investigating.

Vancouver Province
May 31, 1973

GOLDWATER BELIEVES IN SPACE CREATURES

ELLENSBURG, Wash. (AP) — Senator Barry Goldwater, a retired United States Air Force general, says he believes the earth has been visited by creatures from outer space.

"I've been flying now for 44 years, and I'm the last guy that's going to say I don't believe they're up there," the Arizona Republican said during a question-and-answer session following a speech at Central Washington State College on Tuesday.

"I've never seen one," Goldwater said. "But when air force pilots, navy pilots, airline pilots tell me they see something come up on their wing that wasn't an airplane, I have to believe them."

Kitchener-Waterloo Record, Wed., Nov. 7, 1973

Space engineer finds UFO proof in Bible

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — An engineer who helped develop the Skylab space shuttle and Saturn V rocket says he believes beings from outer space landed on earth 2,600 years ago using equipment more advanced than anything man can have within the next 20 years.

During 18 months of working in his spare time, Josef Blumrich said he applied space technology to the Old Testament text of Ezekiel and came up with engineering drawings of what a craft described by the Hebrew prophet looked like and how it moved about.

"It all started in the fall of 1970 when I got a German version of Erich Von Daniken's Chariot of the Gods and was

convinced it was the same old nonsense," he said.

"When I came to the passages about Ezekiel I put Von Daniken's book away and took one of my Bibles. I told my wife, 'I will show you where he is wrong!'"

But, to his surprise, Blumrich saw things that made sense to him:

"In chapter one, Ezekiel speaks at length about the structure. It just so happens that I have myself designed such things."

He said that by using mathematical formulas, he was able to determine the craft was similar to a child's spinning top, concave on the bottom with a crew compartment above.

He believes it was used as a shuttle vehicle between the

earth and an orbiting mother ship—the same technique used by the U.S. moon visitors

who left their craft in orbit and touched down in a lunar lander.

Kitchener-Waterloo Record
October 19, 1973

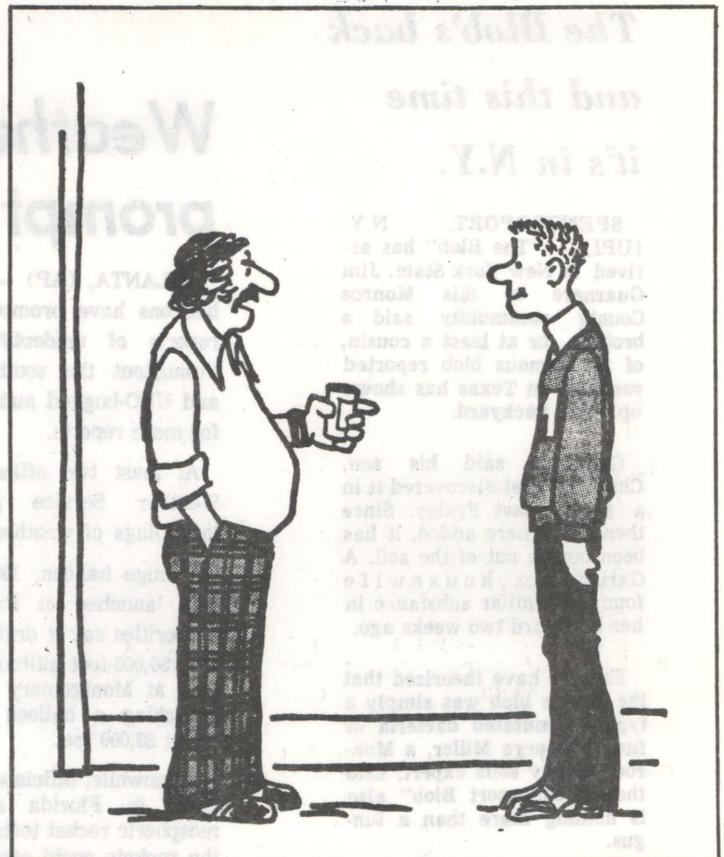
Visitor wouldn't surprise spaceman

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (UPI) — Skylab 1 crew chief Pete Conrad says he's never seen a visitor from space "but if somebody showed up, it wouldn't surprise me.

"There are 100 million suns out there somewhere, with planets around them like ours," he told newsmen yesterday. "We would be remiss if we thought we were the only life in the universe."

Conrad had been asked his views on a recent rash of sightings of unidentified flying objects across the South.

The Toronto Sun, Friday, September 7, 1973



"You got that haircut to bug me, didn't you, son?"

A bit wacky — but these cults soothe the soul

By RHONA KANE
Staff Writer

New religions and cult groups have been springing up overnight in recent years, with each one seeming wackier and even more unlikely than the one before.

One group communes with the universe by eating only dandelions and sunflower seeds, another furthers peace — and, one would think, the sale of headache tablets — by standing on their heads for umpteen hours each day.

There is even a space-age sect who believe that Jesus is alive, and well and living on Venus. Only his prophets have updated operations these days and whizz around in flying saucers instead of those rusty old chariots of fire.

Crazy? Not at all, says British experimental psychologist and author Christopher Evans. The sudden boom of home-made religion, is just a normal development of 20th century living, he believes.

"People like to have a purpose to their lives," says Evans. "If they don't find the answer in the old style religion, they will find it somewhere else.

"With the decline of orthodox faiths and the failure of science to come up with a satisfying alternative, they have simply resorted to devising a religion after their own formula. It was almost inevitable," he says.

Evans, who has made a long-term study of off-beat religions and produced one book on the subject — *Cults of Unreason* — admits that many of the sects appear comical, eccentric and extremely strange. But they should not always be dismissed as just another lunatic fringe, he warns.

"After all, one knows nothing about the founders and organizers of great religions of the past, or what kind of people they were," he says.

"Jesus, for example, might conceivably have been a con man who latched on to something that simply outgrew him and overtook him. And now, 2,000 years later, what do we know?"

Among the most intriguing of today's instant religions are the so-called flying saucer cults. One of the biggest of these is the Aetherius Society, which believes in messages coming from outer space.

"They sound eccentric at first," says Evans. "But they are, in fact, a genuine religious body. They have meetings of a religious kind at which they listen to trance addresses from their leader, instead of sermons.

"He relays messages from different planets, telling what difficulties the world is in and what must be improved. Then they all sit around in a circle, thinking good thoughts. If you think about it, it's just another way of praying."

For Evans, curiosity about off-beat cults and sects is a hobby, but an engrossing one. "I'm interested in human beings and the strange things they get up to," he says. "And as a human being who gets up to strange things, I am very sympathetic to them."

In the 70s one of the most fascinating things is that one can watch the complete birth, growth and development of a religion over a period of 10 to 20 years, he says. "It really is incredible. After all, it used to take a thousand years. And who knows which one will be predominant a thousand years from now?"

Not all present-day sects have positive qualities, however. "A few way-out groups foster a bleak, destructive philosophy, rather than simply existing to fulfill the basic human need for answers," says Evans.

"Some of the new religions are enriching, some are harmless. Most supply people with a purpose to their lives. But any sects that set out to harm somebody else are bad, simply by human definition.

"However updated a faith may be, with spaceship prophets and instructions from the galaxy, religion still remains essentially a force for good."

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Salem witchcraft trial testimony released

Friday, July 13, 1973 ***

Province

Associated Press
SALEM, Mass. — Witchcraft hysteria swept this seaport town nearly three centuries ago. Now the witch trial to their deaths is being published.

The Essex County commissioners are in the process of signing a contract for publication of the Salem Witchcraft Papers, testimony from the witchcraft trials.

Included in the trial records is Benjamin Hutchinson's statement that his wife was tortured by a witch: "My wife was much afflicted after the last execution with violent pains in her heart and teeth and all parts of her body . . . she being in such excessive misery that she said she believed that she had had a spell cast upon her.

Mary Walcott, 16, was one of the group of teen-age girls who would scream and cry and even go into convulsions, claiming they were being attacked by invisible witches. The girls later named the witches as friends and neighbors ranging in age from a five-year-old child to a grandmother.

And from the interrogation of Mary Black, an accused witch, on April 22, 1692, by the Salem magistrate:

Q: "Tell me, be you a witch?"
A: Silence.
Q: "How long have you been a witch?"
A: "I cannot tell."
Q: "But have you been a witch?"
A: "I cannot tell you."
Q: "Why do you hurt these folks?"
A: "I hurt nobody."

Q: "Do you prick these girls?"
A: "No, I pin my neckcloth."
Q: "Well, take out a pin and pin it again."
The transcript continues: "She did so, and all of the afflicted cried and they were pricked. Mary Walcott was pricked in the arm till the blood came, Abigail Williams was pricked in the stomach and Mary Lewis was pricked in the foot."

Masochists dance in trance

By MURRAY J. BROWN
UPI Travel Editor

JOGJAKARTA, Indonesia — The bullwhip snapped like a rifle shot as it slashed across the backs and buttocks of the six young men prancing and cavorting like high-spirited horses on the oven-hot grounds of the temple courtyard.

I winced in sympathy but the dancers never even flinched. The Indonesians — men, women and children — crowded into the compound looked on impassively.

For this was the legendary "horse trance dance" of Eastern Java in which participants work themselves into a state of self-hypnosis in which they feel no pain.

Straddling a bamboo frame woven in the shape of the upper part of a horse, they danced to pipe, drum and gong until they collapsed or reached such a frenzy they had to be

overpowered by the whip-snapper and his assistants.

During the hour-long performance, the man with the whip — identified as a village chief — fed some of his "horses" with grass. He also stuck pins, without drawing blood, in and out of the cheeks of a boy who also swallowed a couple of double-edged razor blades.

The dance in the village temple at Mbener, Bugisan, was one of the highlights of a tour of Jogjakarta

Jogjakarta, usually called Jogya, is the cultural, historical and educational centre of Central and Eastern Java. It also must be the bicycle capital of the world — the streets are wall to wall with all types of two-wheeled vehicles. Our guide said it had been estimated there were at least 150,000 in this city of 325,000.

Not many tourists come to Jogya.

English has replaced Dutch as the second language in this archipelago. The children were particularly friendly.

Jogya is known for its batik and silver and some of Indonesia's most famous artists live in or near it and their paintings and sculpture are displayed at their homes and in art galleries and museums.

Jogya is dominated by the Sultan's palace, an outstanding example of classical Javanese architecture with its exquisitely-decorated pavilions.

No visit — no matter how brief — could be complete without seeing the 8th Century Buddhist temple of Borobudur, about 25 miles northwest of Jogya, one of the world's largest. Built on the summit of a steep hill with a series of square and circular terraces, the main stone stupa stands 125 feet high.

Equally spectacular is the Hindu temple complex of Prambana, built in the 9th Century, and the largest in Indonesia. The complex, about 12 miles northeast of Jogya, is the site of the famous Ramayana ballet festival held during the full moon from May through September.

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Spaceship in Texas was hoax

United Press International

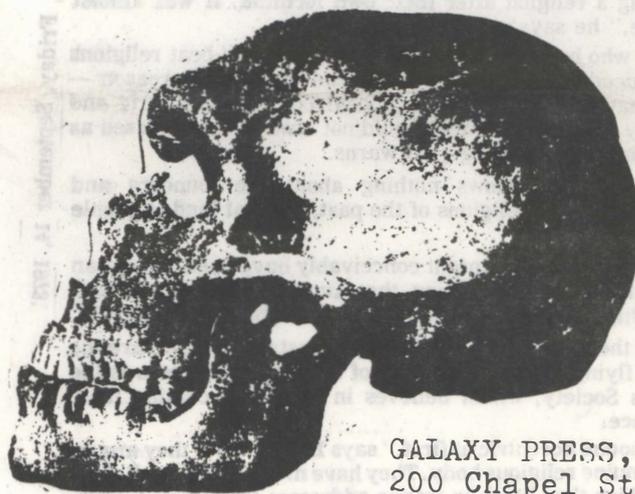
TUCSON, Ariz. — The alleged crash of a "spaceship" and the burial of its dead pilot at Aurora, Texas, in April of 1967 is a "patent hoax," says L. J. Lorenzen, international director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization based here.

"Recent news stories concerning the findings of mysterious bits of metal at the site of the alleged crash concern nothing more than an aluminum alloy, and there's nothing mysterious about that," he said.

"There's every indication that the bits of aluminum alloy arrived on the Proctor property since 1967 and probably within the last 60 days."

"The important point in the whole story is the fact that in 1967 Alfred E. Kraus, director of the Kilgore Research Institute at West Texas State University, undertook an exhaustive investigation of the Judge Proctor farm where the spaceship was supposed to have crashed, and using a metal detector, found nothing but very ordinary bits of colored metal objects such as rings from horses' bridles, stove lids and 1932 license plates," said Lorenzen.

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