



MUFON

Mutual UFO Network

UFO HOTLINE:
1-800-UFO-2166

ARIZONA CHAPTER

Volume 5 / Issue 4

The Truth is Out There . . .

PROGRAM: Jim Dilettoso, Speaker re Multiple UFO Cases & Witnesses
MEETING DATE: Wednesday, April 24, 1996 ♦ **MEETING TIME:** 7:30 p.m. SHARP
LOCATION: 5636 E. McDowell Road - National Guard Armory
(East of 52nd St. on McDowell; then North on Bushmaster Blvd. into Armory)

Tom Taylor
State Director
602/967-6265

June Scherrer
Pima County Sect. Dir.
520/326-0078

"Whitey" Reese
Cochise County Sect. Dir.
520/378-245

Paul Ankney
Asst. State Director
602/840-1379

Doris Barley
Acting Yuma Co. Sect. Dir.
520/726-0570

Mary Hart
Newsletter Producer

Jim Ossipov
Maricopa Co. Sect. Dir.
602/752-2280

Richard Motzer
Field Investigator
602/998-3966

Chance Vallon
Mojave County Sect. Dir.
520/758-7250

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Those of you who missed last month's meeting missed something extra special! Richard Motzer did an outstanding job of creating a most interesting audio/visual presentation using Art Bell's radio interview with Richard Hoagland concerning his press conference which was carried live to the rest of the world but which was largely ignored by American press.

When CNN and C-Span and others were asked why they did not carry the press conference, they gave excuses such as "not newsworthy," "no available cameras" and the like. C-Span had a special "Richard Hoagland Information" telephone line set up - and when callers pressed #4, as directed, they were told only that they were not going to cover the news conference.

My phone started ringing a little after 7 a.m. from MUFON members thinking they'd written down the wrong time for the conference,

wrong station, or the like -- and my phone kept ringing all day - I even got a couple of calls from out of state with people wanting to know what happened. Everyone who called me was advised to call C-Span, CNN, or both. Everyone who called not only did so, but they also called me back to tell me the foregoing excuses and "Hoagland telephone line" story. Even though I didn't get to see the conference, it was rewarding that so many of you out there were interested enough to call me and then call the networks. I myself called each of the networks several times. Whether Richard Hoagland has something valid to say, *in their opinion*, they should let the public decide, not the networks! Amen.

New section directors have been appointed for Cochise County in southeast Arizona ("Whitey" Reese) and for Mojave County in northern Arizona (Chance Vallon). Thanks to both of them for volunteering to keep tabs on the UFO scene in their part of the state . . . now if I can only get someone in the Sedona/Oak Creek/

Flagstaff area! We've got exceptional people in that area, and the Sedona area is such a hotbed of UFO activity -- can't someone from that area please step forward and cover MUFON for your area?

As you can see, we are in for an exciting meeting again this month, as Jim Dilettoso will be our speaker. Many of you will remember him from the wonderful "mini-conference" hosted by him at his Tempe facility many months ago. Jim is an expert in video analysis and will be bringing some video footage from some rather unusual places -- such as the North Pole and Korea!

Please keep on the lookout for articles to submit to your newsletter, and keep writing those book reviews and UFO sighting articles. Remember, this is YOUR newsletter, and we are counting on you to contribute information for the good of the entire group.

A couple of other events are coming up soon; see the Calendar for

Autopsies find routine explanations for deaths of farm animals

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico

Autopsies have found routine explanations for the deaths of farm animals that have been popularly attributed to a mysterious blood-sucking creature, a government doctor said.

Goats, hens, rabbits and geese all fell prey last year. The reputed creature was a nocturnal killer that bit their necks and sucked out their blood.

Residents of this Spanish-speaking U.S. commonwealth dubbed the supposed creature "chupacabras," which translates as "goatsucker."

The mystery evoked both fear and satire, inspiring numerous news reports and commentary, songs and even an electronic computer game.

In an attempt to demystify the phenomenon, the Agriculture Department's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory has done about 20 autopsies of dead animals, supposedly victims of the "chupacabras," in the last three months.

"So far, we haven't found anything inexplicable," Hector Garcia, director of veterinary services, said Tuesday.

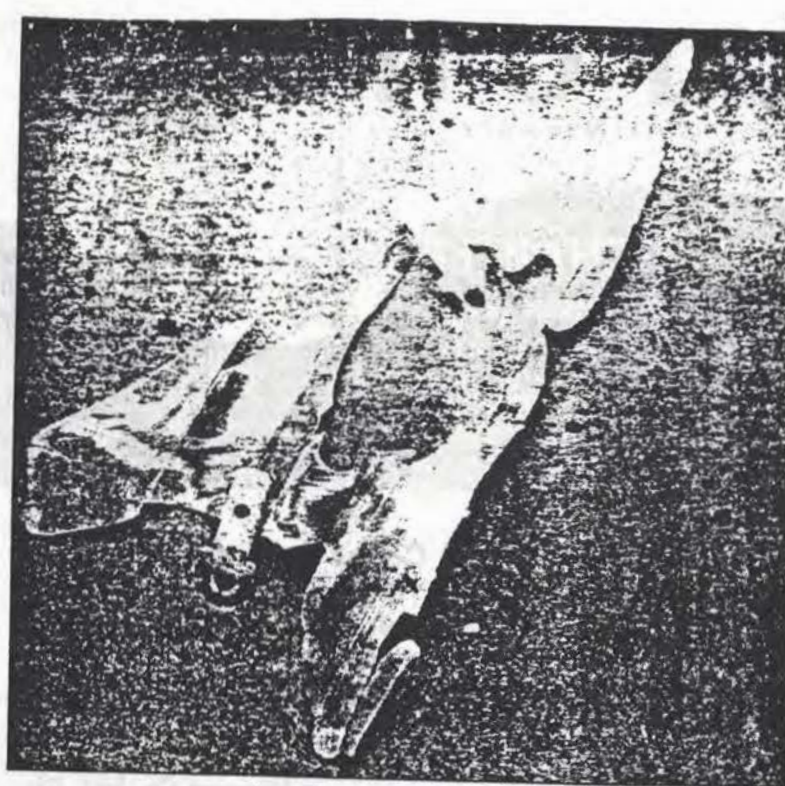
Many of the marks on the dead animals studied appeared to be dog bites, with most of the bites in the animals' necks and rear legs, Garcia said. Others died from pneumonia and hepatitis, he said.

But the victims' cardiovascular systems were intact contradicting reports they had been sucked dry of blood, Garcia said.

He said the reported number of deaths among Puerto Rico's 15 million to 20 million domestic animals increased last year because more people told the government about the deaths, inspired by the "chupacabras" mystery.

Garcia spoke to reporters invited to witness an autopsy he and other doctors conducted on a sheep killed in the small town of Paria de Lajas in southeastern Puerto Rico.

After examining marks in the sheep's neck, forensic tooth specialist Aracelis Ortiz said they appeared to have been caused by an animal bite. Further tests would determine what type of animal.



Associated Press

Metal, brought to the UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell N.M., to verify authenticity, is allegedly from the 1947 crash of a UFO near Roswell

Metal brought to museum to verify its authenticity

Associated Press

ROSWELL, N.M.

A mysterious piece of metal marked with intricate lines has been brought to Roswell's UFO Museum where administrators say it may be proof that an alien space ship crashed nearby almost 50 years ago.

The piece, which is framed, was brought to the museum last Sunday by a local citizen whose identity has not been made public.

"From the information we have, this is from a man who was stationed here and was part of the crew that helped pick it up," said Max Littell of the museum. "We are not saying one way or another that this is what it is, but we are going to do everything we can to find out."

For nearly half a century, a mysterious crash has fueled speculation about aliens in the New Mexico desert, Cold War secrecy and a government cover-up.

The Air Force has said the crash was probably a balloon launched as part of Project Mogul, a highly classified effort to detect Soviet nuclear weapons using balloons that carried radar reflectors and acoustic sensors.

But a General Accounting Office report on the incident released last summer triggered new speculation, not because it shed new light on the 1947 crash, but because it

showed that documents about the crash were destroyed.

Museum officials said photos of the piece of metal will be sent to a man who said he saw debris from the crash when he was 12 years old. Afterward, he said the museum plans to take a piece of the material to a metallurgist to determine what it is.

"If some metallurgist says there is nothing in the book like this, and he has got all of his degrees and is an expert source, then we are home free. That is it," said Littell.

THE YUMA (ARIZ.) DAILY SUN

Friday, March 29, 1996

Dr. Arthur Horn and a trip to England on crop circles.

See you at the meeting.

Tom Taylor
State Director

OUTING AT PAINTED ROCK STATE PARK

The weather was perfect; we didn't seem to lose anyone at the meeting places before starting out; and once there everyone had an enjoyable time . . . I guess that makes for a total success! About 30 people gathered from the Phoenix and Yuma areas (we were very happy to see Doris Barley and her husband there, and they even brought a couple of their friends) to swap UFO stories, discuss current events, and just get to know each other. We ate lunch, listened to the Art Bell tape (for those who hadn't heard it at the meeting) and explored the fantastic petroglyphs and surrounding desert area. It was a great day for travel and a picnic lunch, and we'll be doing it again next spring -- so if you didn't make it, be sure to plan to join us next time.

MEDIA WATCH by Tom Taylor

In the interest of keeping the UFO topic before the public, the following is a list of programs on the subject recently aired via television, radio and newspaper in recent weeks. We will attempt to list programs ahead of time whenever possible; unfortunately, we are often not notified of programs until it is too late to publish them in the Newsletter in time for members to view, hear or read them. In the case of TV and radio programs, ask at MUFON meetings to see if anyone is aware of someone who may have taped them to share.

Always be sure to check current TV listings before viewing!

All the other news programs have done reports on Area 51, so on March 17th it was "60 Minutes" turn. They focused on the toxic waste aspect. On March 20 I

received a phone call from the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle telling me they had a report come in at 2:00 a.m. from a Tempe resident reporting a gigantic flash of light. When I mentioned this to Paul Ankney the next day, he told me a friend of his had reported a similar flash that same night -- but no further details. Then the next day we started receiving calls at about 5:30 a.m. concerning an object sighted in the sky that morning. We turned on the radio and found that it was being covered as it was occurring. It turned out to be a rocket explosion at White Sands Proving Grounds in New Mexico. The article appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

On March 29th Bill Strauss broadcast his show live from the A.S.U. planetarium where the public was invited to view Comet Hyakutake through the university's telescope.

I guess by now everyone has heard about the piece of metal which was brought into the UFO Museum in Roswell a few weeks ago by a local resident. The piece of debris has undergone some testing and has found to be composed of silver and copper. Reports on the progress of this interesting story have been brought to light on Art Bell's Coast to Coast program (see details on this nightly program below). Although this "find" was given little attention in Phoenix area papers, Doris Barley brought us a very comprehensive article -- with photograph -- from the Yuma paper. It is reproduced elsewhere in this newsletter.

I received a fax just before the last meeting giving notice of a demonstration that was going to be held somewhere between Las Vegas and Area 51 in connection with the new soon-to-be-released movie entitled "Independence Day." MUFON is working on something special concerning this movie (similar to when "Fire in the Sky" was released), so as plans proceed we will keep members posted.

For those who get Art Bell's "After Dark" magazine, the most recent issue contains an excellent article on H.A.A.R.P. along with

some good photographs. The H.A.A.R.P. story was again featured on Sightings on Channel 15 on April 13th, as well as a 1960s Socorro sighting by a police official and other related stories.

Be sure to check the Calendar this month or pick up flyers concerning the many programs in the upcoming months.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS:

DREAMLAND - KFYI Radio, 910 AM, Sunday evenings, 8:00 p.m. - Art Bell hosts this interesting radio program. The program is aired on the following stations in other cities in Arizona: Globe: 1240 AM; Safford: 1230 AM; Tucson: 1400 AM; Kingman: 1230 AM; and Flagstaff: 600 AM.

UFO AZ/UFO TALKS - Channel 22, Dimension Cable, Monday and Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.; now also in Prescott on Channel 13 Friday nights at 9 p.m. and repeated on Tuesday at 3 p.m. Ted, Peggy and Jim co-host this continuing series featuring interesting guests and topics related to all aspects of the UFO experience. Related radio program in the Tucson area on KTUC, 1400 AM, 10:00 p.m. Sundays (after "Dreamland").

The Extraordinary - Monday MORNINGS, 12:30 - 1:30 a.m. (set your VCRs), Channel 15.

Encounters - Mondays at 7:00 p.m., Channel 10.

Unsolved Mysteries - Fridays at 7:00 p.m., Channel 12.

X Files - Fridays at 8:00 p.m., Channel 10.

Sightings - Saturdays and Sundays at 10:30 p.m., Channel 15.

Paranormal Borderline - Tuesdays, 8:00 p.m., Channel 45.

Late Night Cosmic Contact - Thursdays, 9:30 - 10:30 p.m., Channel 63 - TCI Tucson Public Access - starting April 18, this new talk show featuring Chris Maynard and guests who believe they have experienced contact with life from other worlds. Chris also examines national contact cases to evaluate

facts, comparisons and trends of this growing phenomenon.

Classified Ads

Don't forget that we can advertise for you in the newsletter!! Up to three-line ads are \$5.00; business-card sized ads are \$10 [we can reproduce your business card as the ad]. Larger ads -- see Tom Taylor for price. Submit your ad and payment by the first of the month to have it appear in that month's newsletter issue.

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Thanks to those submitting articles and book reviews, and if you haven't done so, here's an invitation to add to YOUR newsletter by doing so. Handwritten and typewriter-created articles are fine, but if you do have a computer, it saves time for Mary (who types the Newsletter and works two jobs) if you can submit your articles on diskette. However, PLEASE save your articles in WordPerfect 5.1 or ASCII (DOS text) format.

If your articles are not on diskette, you can send them to Tom at 1433 W. Huntington, Tempe, AZ 85282 or fax them to Mary Hart at 957-7410 or 852-3688. If faxing, please put "for Mary Hart" on your cover sheet. Thanks.

WE'RE ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB!

Thanks to the efforts of Larry Noack, each month's MUFON-AZ Newsletter will now be available to users of the World Wide Web [Internet]. The MUFON-AZ masthead does not appear on the Web, but the text is all there. For those wishing to access the Newsletter on the internet, the "address" is:

<http://www.xroads.com/~noack/mufon.html>

Calendar

April 20, 1996 - Saturday, 1:00-4:30 p.m., Tucson group meeting. Wilmot Library, 530 N. Wilmot Rd.

Shawn Atlantic will speak on "Extraterrestrials: Historical and Present." Contact June (phone on page 1) for further information.

May - Yuma group meeting. Contact Doris Barley (phone on page 1) for exact date - not confirmed as of press time.

May 3-5 - Greenville, South Carolina - 2nd Annual UFO Research Conference. For details, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Sharron Kluge, 102 Woodridge Circle, Greenville SC 29607 or call 864/675-9238.

May 19, 1996 - Sunday, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. - "Humanity's Extraterrestrial Origins" at the National Guard Armory on McDowell in Phoenix. Dr. Arthur and Lynette Horn, speakers. See flyer at this month's MUFON meeting or call 602/494-9279 for additional information. \$8.00 for MUFON-AZ members, \$10.00 for non-members.

June 27 - July 8, 1995 - "Preparing for Contact in England" crop circle tour by Mystical Journey, Ltd./Lyssa Royal. \$3,199.00 per person. See flyer at this month's meeting or phone 1-800-879-6519 for additional information.

June 27-29, 1996 - 17th Rocky Mtn. UFO Conference, University of Wyoming School of Extended Studies, Laramie, Wyoming. Leo Sprinkle, Derrel Sims, Randolph Winters, Ron Russell, Wendelle Stevens and others are scheduled. See flyer at this month's meeting or phone 1-800-448-7801 for details.

July 5-7, 1996 - MUFON's 27th International Symposium in Greensboro, North Carolina; Holiday Inn, Joseph Koury Convention Center. Advance registration is \$55.00. Send to MUFON 1996 UFO Symposium, P.O. Box 5149, Greensboro, NC 27403-5149. For room reservations, call 1-800-242-6556. The special room rate is \$72 for one to three people per room per night. Be sure to mention you're going for the MUFON Symposium.

July 18-21, 1996 - International Tesla Symposium, Colorado Springs, CO. For details, write: International

Tesla Society, P.O. Box 5639, Colorado Springs, CO 80931 or call 719/475-0918.

LETTER FROM DIMITRI TO T. DAVID SPENCER

"Dear Mr. Spencer,

"With a great pleasure I have found in the last two issues your column of Current Cases, which have not appeared since the beginning of 1994.

"I keep records of all sightings from various sources, and yours is the most reliable and to the point. Some interesting cases must be discarded because of the vagueness in time or location, such as 'last year one Friday evening' or 'southeast Asia.'

"What puzzles me is that your cases do not indicate location. Two of them mention 'north-central Texas.' Texas is large, so this is not sufficiently precise. Location, as well as date, is a very important component of each case; so I wonder whether this omission is deliberate, and if so, why the secrecy?

"Your otherwise very important column loses much by this omission. Can it be corrected?

Dimitri Ossipov
Maricopa County
Section Director"

REPLY:

"Dear Dimitri:

"I am glad you take interest in the Current Cases column of the *Journal*. There have been 223 cases published since 1990, and I am making an effort to provide materials every month now. Unfortunately, circumstances may occasionally cause a month to be skipped.

"Your interest in detail is appreciated, and because of your letter, I will supply warranted information. Please understand, however, that there are cases for which special sensitivity must be given. There are many witnesses and MUFON personnel who worry that

too much information may be leaked to the public. Several have expressed a high degree of concern that cases are being computerized, primarily due to fear of access by the FBI or other government agency. Partly to reduce their fear, I do not maintain connections to networks. I have committed that [public] access to details will be controlled.

"No published MUFON report should either identify the witness or make the identification easy without the express and documented consent of the witness. [ED. NOTE: We follow this practice of anonymity where requested.] The North Central Texas cases you referred to are among those requiring sensitive handling. When a small farming community reviews a report regarding someone in the area, it is very easy for them to deduce the person involved. In these Texas cases, that would be unacceptable.

"I wish you well as Section Director and hope that your area may soon be contributing to our database with investigated cases. Good luck!

T. David Spencer"

POSSIBLE UFO SIGHTING IN LAKE DENISON AREA

Yvon Beaulieu, a retired professor, swears that what he saw Thursday evening [December 7, 1995] was not at all a meteorite.

Taking advantage of a beautiful cold and clear evening to take their usual walk, the Beaulieu couple had the surprise of their life Thursday evening when, in the space of a few seconds, a phenomenon which is firmly believed to be a UFO appeared.

Mr. Yvon Beaulieu, a retired science teacher who lives in the Lake Denison area, is indeed convinced that it was a UFO.

"We were walking on the road when all of a sudden my wife clenched my arm to point out to me that there was something in the sky. I no sooner raised my head before I was surprised to notice a lighted object which was flying. The object was as big as a house and seemed to

have white lights in the front. I can't say exactly what shape it was, but there was also a turquoise blue trail behind it. We lost sight of it because of the height of the trees (woods)," explained Mr. Beaulieu, so intrigued and interested by the experience to which he had been a witness.

Mr. Beaulieu explained that he was limited by the short duration of the sighting -- too limited a time to admire that which he had seen. Moreover, this situation was not without him recalling a similar phenomenon to which he had been a witness more than 30 years earlier in St. Jean-sur-Richelieu.

"That happened very quickly, perhaps 2 - 3 seconds, and the object traveled from the northeast to the southwest. This movement was not in a straight line but in an arc. It wasn't so high-traveling; it was at a low altitude and not making any noise. Briefly, I thought the object resembled greatly that which I had seen before, and I never thought it was a meteorite," claimed Mr. Beaulieu, who means to pursue his inquiry in order to get answers to his questions.

Since the day following the sighting, Mr. Beaulieu has communicated with the observatory at Mt. Mégantic and with the University of Montreal to learn more, but in vain.

"From the moment we spoke I haven't yet received a response from Mt. Mégantic while the University responded quickly to me that it must be a meteorite without any explanation. This response didn't satisfy me, and I intend to pursue my research, and I invite anyone who might have witnessed this same phenomenon Thursday night to contact me," said Mr. Beaulieu.

UFO, meteorite or whatever, the phenomenon was seen at 1955 hours Thursday evening in a place situated midway between Richmond and Danville.

Guy Marchand
La Tribune, Sherbrooke
Richmond, PQ, Canada
12/9/95

CHUPACABRAS MYSTERY DEEPENS: VETS DISAGREE ON EVIDENCE

Chupacabras--Fact or Fantasy? No One Has Definite Answer Yet. By Karl Ross, Star Staff.

Is it fact or fantasy? The chupacabras, that is, the bloodsucking beast said to be ravaging animals throughout the countryside [of Puerto Rico]. The government veterinarian charged with investigating a rash of reported animal mutilations says the attacks can be pinned on packs of stray dogs.

A fellow veterinarian, however, says at least several cases in which he has conducted post-mortem examinations suggest the culprit is a rare beast indeed.

Both colleagues are careful about criticizing the other's findings. Although they refrain from trading charges and countercharges of "kook" or "cover-up," the forensic evidence each presents clashes.

Hector Garcia, Director of Veterinary Services at the Department of Agriculture, says his boss, Agriculture Secretary Neftali Soto, instructed him to keep tabs on the reported animal killings in October as chupacabras hysteria crested.

Government officials estimate close to 100 cases of unexplained attacks, mostly on farm animals but also on some family pets, have been reported during 1995. Of those, agriculture officials have visited the scene of a dozen or so attacks. (NOTE: independent researcher Jorge Martin says there have been far more cases than those acknowledged by local authorities.)

Garcia said many of the facts surrounding the slayings have been grossly distorted. For starters, he said that the name chupacabras -- literally "goat sucker" -- is a misnomer. Media reports claiming the furry victims were "sucked dry" were dead wrong, he said.

"If [predators in alleged chupacabras attacks] were sucking blood, they would have gone for the jugular vein or carotid artery," Garcia

said, naming the main circulatory passages in the neck. "In every case these were perfectly intact."

In all the cases of animal slayings his team examined, Garcia said the bite marks were consistent with those of dogs. The most likely scenario for the killings is similar to that witnessed by his grandfather years ago on his Morovis farm, when stray dogs tore apart 17 goats, he said. He added that his grandfather tried to scare them away with a revolver, but couldn't.

Carlos Soto, a Levittown veterinarian trained at Kansas State University, realizes he is going out on a limb by going public with findings that support the existence of a new breed of predator fitting the m.o. of the chupacabras.

"We know there are lots of things out there that could be killing animals," Soto said. "We know there are dogs, monkeys, exotic pets in places like the Tortuguero Lagoon. We know there are people practicing santeria [a folk religion that includes animal sacrifices]. But in addition, there is something new out there that we don't know about. And that's what this is."

Soto says he doesn't know how else to explain what happened to the seven rabbits, six sheep and Doberman pinscher whose remains were entrusted to him.

Consider Pepper, the 5-year-old Doberman pinscher Soto examined back in April. Five hours after it was reportedly killed by asphyxiation, the body exhibited only limited signs of rigor mortis and blood samples failed to coagulate. Illness or poisoning could account for such symptoms, though Soto said he doesn't believe that to be the case.

"She was a healthy animal," he was told by the owners concerning how the 95-lb. attack dog died. They told Soto they saw the whole thing. What he described as a pajarraco, or giant bird, about three feet tall with long talons and a greyish-black coat, leapt at Pepper from a palm tree and choked it to death.

The freezer at Soto's clinic contains yet another forensic conundrum: two of the seven rabbits killed in October by twin puncture wounds entering beneath the right side of the jaw and extending into the brain. The wounds are about the diameter of a drinking straw and, according to Soto, run 3 - 4 inches deep, meaning that if the rabbits were killed by an animal, its teeth were twice as long as the canine fangs on even the largest dog.

"If it was a dog or a monkey, there would have been extensive tissue damage caused by the upper teeth," said Soto, who concurred with Garcia that blood was not drained from the animal's corpses. The rabbits were delivered to him more than 12 hours after their demise, and as with the Doberman, the rabbits showed no signs of rigor mortis, he said.

But that wasn't all. Soto said one of the rabbits displayed a wound on the back of the neck in the form of a perfectly carved circle, and several strands of muscle tissue were cleanly stripped. He noted that the same rabbit's jaw muscle was missing, apparently severed from the inside of the mouth. But it wasn't until he sliced open the rabbit as a standard part of the autopsy that Soto saw "what really freaked me out."

Though the rabbit bore no outward scars, its trachea and esophagus were missing. Soto said, "The animal can't breathe without a trachea. If it was a human who did this, he would have to be a darned good surgeon, and I would like to enroll in his class."

The second rabbit did not exhibit the circular wound, Soto said, but there was something else bizarre. Something, he said, had pierced its stomach and extracted a jagged piece of tissue from the liver in a procedure similar to that of a biopsy. "It was like it was taking a small sample of the liver tissue and that's all."

The final case Soto examined occurred in early December at the Canovanas farm of Police Lt. Jorge Rivera, director of the Carolina Homicide Division. The victims of

this attack were six sheep. Soto said the bodies were stamped with clusters of strange puncture wounds, some in pairs and others in the form of triangles "like the finger holes in a bowling ball."

Again, Soto said he could not match the wounds with those of any known predator.

And as outlandish as the implications of such findings seem to be, none of Soto's colleagues have publicly challenged them. Not even Garcia, the Agriculture official handed the job of finding out if there is a serial killer taking animals, large and small alike, in the countryside.

Garcia acknowledges he doesn't have much time for investigating the chupacabras capers, though officials at La Fortaleza are clearly leery about calls from tourists as far away as California asking if it is safe to visit the island.

"We have 10 programs here that are important to industry, and I can't abandon a program every time there's a chupacabras sighting," Garcia said. "I don't have time for wild goose chases."

At the same time, Garcia was reluctant to dismiss Soto's findings, which appear to be the exception rather than the rule, outright. "Pathology is a very exact science," Garcia said. "But in every morgue there's a John Doe in the freezer whose cause of death is unknown."

Article Provided to Doris Barley
by Linda Moulton Howe



FLIGHT THERMIS ON MOON NASA denies lunar cover-up

By Jeff Barker
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The last thing NASA wanted to be doing Thursday was responding to claims that an ancient civilization left artifacts on the moon.

The space agency would have preferred to talk instead about its plans to explore Mars.

Or about an educational campaign that will be unveiled today by Apollo 13 astronaut Jim Lovell to rekindle public support for space research.

No such luck.

Instead, National Aeronautics and Space Administration officials found themselves responding to accusations

NASA rejects scientists' 'findings' of lunar ruins

— NASA, from page A1

that they have suppressed evidence of lunar ruins of a lost race.

The charges were made Thursday morning by a team of scientists led by Richard Hoagland, a science writer and researcher. Hoagland rented a room at the National Press Club to present his findings of "ancient artificial structures on the Moon."

Hoagland has attracted attention from frequent appearances on the Art Bell syndicated radio show, *Coast to Coast*, which is heard nationwide on about 250 affiliate stations, including seven in Arizona and, in Phoenix, on KFYI-AM (910) at midnight.

Hoagland said some of the photographic evidence came from an aerospace engineer who once handled lunar pictures and rock samples for NASA. Hoagland said he obtained additional photos directly from NASA of various Apollo missions, then enhanced them with a computer.

Hoagland and his group said the computer enhancements reveal "an extraordinary, highly geometric, glittering glass object ... hanging more than nine miles above the surface of the moon."

He also displayed a fuzzy slide that he said depicted a bowling-pin shaped lunar feature that "is simply baffling ... unless it's an ancient artifact from a former civilization which colonized the moon."

"Whatever we're looking at is very old. It is someone who has gone before," Hoagland said. "There is a possibility that this someone, if the human history is a little different than we think it is, may in fact be somehow connected to ourselves. These are the

resonant questions that demand and beg for answers."

NASA was not amused.

"It's simply not true that we found any evidence of artificial structures on the moon during the Apollo program," said Doug Isbell, a NASA spokesman.

"There certainly are some scientific questions we don't understand," Isbell said. "But we did not go back (to the moon) because of any alien artifacts. It's clear that we believe their theories are not true."

Isbell said NASA is just as interested in finding signs of life

outside the Earth as anybody else.

He cited the Mars exploration program, which includes two planned launches later this year of interplanetary spacecraft to take pictures and analyze rocks.

"In the long term, we're looking at the question of whether there ever was life on Mars, microbial or higher," Isbell said.

Hoagland's theories were met with skepticism from some of the reporters and observers at the briefing.

Hoagland was asked whether he had any connections to paranormal researchers, or to Bigfoot. He said no.

MOONSTRUCK: The Enterprise Mission, a group that believes there is a mile-high face on Mars, says a new analysis of scratches and blurs on NASA moon photographs are actually giant glass domes and other remains of an ancient civilization. Richard Hoagland, who heads the group, said at a Washington press conference that NASA and the Apollo 12 and 14 astronauts who took the photos hid the information, fearing a global panic. "Absolutely, totally false," said Dwayne Brown, a NASA spokesman.

USA TODAY • FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1996

The Arizona Republic

Friday, March 22, 1996

Metal piece could hold key to New Mexico UFO mystery

The Associated Press

ROSWELL, N.M. — A mysterious piece of metal marked with intricate lines has been brought to Roswell's UFO Museum, where administrators say it may be proof that an alien space ship crashed nearby almost 50 years ago.

The piece, which is framed, was brought to the museum last Sunday by a local citizen whose identity has not been made public.

"From the information we have, this is from a man who was stationed here and was part of the crew that helped pick it up," said Max Littell of the museum. "We are not saying one way or another that this is what it is, but we are going to do everything we can to find out."

For nearly half a century, a mysterious crash has fueled

"If some metallurgist says there is nothing in the book like this, and he has got all of his degrees and is an expert source, then we are home free. That is it."

— Max Littell

speculation about aliens in the New Mexico desert, Cold War secrecy and a government cover-up.

The Air Force has said the crash was probably a balloon launched as part of Project Mogul, a highly classified effort to detect Soviet nuclear weapons using balloons that carried radar reflectors and acoustic sensors.

But a General Accounting

Office report on the incident released last summer triggered new speculation, not because it shed new light on the 1947 crash, but because it showed that documents about the crash were destroyed.

Museum officials said photos of the piece of metal will be sent to a man who said he saw debris from the crash when he was 12 years old. Afterward, he said the museum plans to take a piece of the material to a metallurgist to determine what it is.

"If some metallurgist says there is nothing in the book like this, and he has got all of his degrees and is an expert source, then we are home free. That is it," said Littell.

Littell urged anyone else who might have another piece of mysterious metal to bring it to the museum for comparison.

Suspense builds in lumberyard

WALTHAM, Quebec — Workers at a lumberyard are wondering whether they had a close encounter of the third kind.

A mysterious diamond-shaped object landed at Waltham Dry Kilns on Tuesday.

Employee Hector Brochur was on his coffee break at about 10 a.m. when he noticed the small, silver-colored object. He described it as some kind of "star," but doesn't believe it was a UFO.

When he approached it, he said, it lifted off the ground again.

Environment Canada officials said it doesn't belong to them or the local weather office. Officials from CFB Petawawa, across the Ottawa River from Waltham, said it didn't come from them.

"I wish we did know what that was because we'd all be rich," one official said.

Compiled from reports by the Associated Press and Canadian Press

The Arizona Republic/The Phoenix Gazette

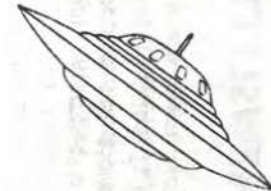
Thursday, March 21, 1996



***UFO mystery
is now solved:
It was a missile***

Saturday, March 23, 1996

The Arizona Republic



A smoky white curlicue wiggling through the skies of eastern Arizona was created by a 40-foot Hera missile launched at 5:30 Friday morning from White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico.

Mark Henle/Staff photographer
"As that rocket motor burns . . . it leaves a contrail behind that is illuminated by the sun," said Jim Eckles, a missile-range spokesman. The missile test was conducted by the Army.

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