

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT sighted near Ann Arbor, Mich., looked like this, according to the observers. They got together and made this composite sketch. (UPI Telephoto)

Ohio UFO Notebook

#26, 2004 Membership Issue

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Introduction

Editor, William E. Jones

This issue of the *Ohio UFO Notebook* contains a number of old newspaper clippings from the files of the late Earl Neff, an Ohio ufologist who exerted considerable influence on the flying saucer scene in the early years of the subject. As I was going through the hundreds of newspaper clippings he collected, I discovered a number that were very interesting, either because of the sighting(s) reported or the article's historic content. Because the news clippings are deteriorating very fast, the history that they represent will soon become unavailable unless someone has the patience to find them again by going through the microfilm files of the various newspapers represented here. That is unlikely. So, I am placing them here on the chance that an interested ufologist of the late 21st or early 22nd Centuries will find this issue in some library or collection. Given that we publish less than 200 copies (a small subscription base that I would like to enlarge), I suppose that is unlikely, but I am going to try. In the meantime I hope that you, the reader, find these articles as interesting as I did.

Follow-up With Beverly Gleason (McKittrick)

by Kenny Young

MUFON State Section Director for Kentucky

Filed August 6, 2003

This afternoon I placed a second call to Beverly Gleason at her home in Easton, Maryland. We spoke for about 15-minutes and I asked if she could recall, for certain, if *Esquire Magazine* was the first to print her story about Richard Nixon showing comedian Jackie Gleason, her late husband, alien bodies after a golf game while at Homestead Air Force Base in Florida.

Beverly said that she is certain that it was *Esquire Magazine* that first printed the story, and went on to describe how the article was the front page cover story of *Esquire*, carrying a picture of Jackie and some text regarding UFOs. She also said that the reporter who did the story still works there, and she could only recall his first name perhaps being "Ben."

She said that in the years after the *Esquire* report, other publications picked up the story - some of them she thought, directly from *Esquire*.

Going back to the Gleason/Nixon meetings for golf in Florida, she couldn't remember any specific date they met but said that her relationship with Jackie Gleason was good during that time frame. She said that she had even met with President Nixon herself, meeting him near a pool and having a drink with him.

She said that later, at the time of the *Esquire* article, her relationship with Jackie was not good. "I'll be honest with you, about the time the article appeared Jack and I were breaking up," she said. "And when he saw the *Esquire* article that just finished everything."

I asked her about the reports she had planned to write a book and whether or not she ever prepared a manuscript. She said that she did not have any written manuscript at any time and nothing otherwise prepared. There is nothing she had ever prepared in writing, she said, to document this first-hand.

"At the time Jack came home after his meeting with the President, he was so giddy and excited about seeing these little men," she said, "but in the years afterward I began to ask myself if any of this could really be true or if he was just telling me that... perhaps having been 'out' with someone?"

I asked her if she could recall any of his words, a more complete description of the 'little men' or any information such as where they came from or crashed, and Beverly laughed and reminded me of how many years ago this was. She then answered by saying: "You would be best off to

find that Esquire article, that probably contains my closest recollection of anything he said."

I told Beverly that in addition to doing research, I also was involved in writing and producing television documentaries. I asked her if she would feel comfortable going 'on camera' with this story and said that it would be tremendous to preserve her comments and experience on videotape. She said that she was not interested in going on television and thought the story concerning the 'little men' should be authenticated first. I said that the only real 'authentication' would come if the government announced having the bodies, and she said, "I guess you're right, but I guess I just don't want to go on camera with this."

I thanked her for talking with me and she again suggested I find the *Esquire Magazine* article.

Editor's Note: The above article is a follow-up to Kenny's original article in the 25th issue of the *Ohio UFO Notebook*. We have located an article from the *Miami Herald Times*, Tuesday, November 2, 1965 on page D-6 entitled "Bob Weaver Will Air Those Flying Objects" by Jack E. Anderson, Herald Radio-TV Editor. In the article is the following: "Jackie Gleason also will testify that although he has never seen a flying saucer other than the one that supports his cup of restorative on his weekly TV show, he believes in them." Don't you wonder what Gleason said on the show?

UFO Report, West Chester, Ohio, June 2, 2003

The Oz Factor is Present

by Donnie Blessing

MUFON State Section Director for Southern Ohio

Summary: A resident of West Chester, Ohio reports a dramatic sighting near his residence that was accompanied by a local power failure.

Greg M. (name on file) says he was awakened around 2:30 AM by the sound of his UPS system beeping to let him know the power was out in his home. Greg informed me that an UPS system is an uninterruptible power supply. Basically this is a battery backup to his computer. It can run his entire system with no utility power for about 2 hours. When its activated it signals an alarm to notify him that the power has been interrupted to the house so he can safely shut down the computer.

When Greg heard the beeping he thought maybe a storm was coming so he got out of bed and went downstairs to unplug the TV and stereo. That is when he noticed a strong smell emanating from the family room. It smelled like a high concentration of ozone. His *lotic breeze* (an air cleaner) smelled similar when being cleaned but the device was unplugged and had not been used for several days. Greg grabbed some candles and was getting ready to go back upstairs when he happened to gaze out the back window and spotted an object in the sky.

The witness claims that an oval or disk shaped object was visually observed. He stressed that the object was 'not quite exactly' oval or disc

shaped. When he first observed the object he believed it held stationary, but after a few minutes it began to wobble. Greg likened the wobble to a left to right motion but not like a pendulum swinging.

Greg estimated the object was around 1/4 to 3/4 miles distance from his location and at an elevation of 600 to 1,000 feet up. He said the shape could be clearly seen and if it had been closer, could almost be compared to the size of a bus. The bottom half of the object could be seen; being composed of luminous blue/violet light. On each end of the object were two lights of aqua blue color. These lights were reportedly spinning very fast and according to the witness, appeared to strobe or pulsate.

Greg stepped outside to get a better look at the object. Once outside the witness say, "The silence was so complete that it felt like I had walked into a sound proof room. There was not a sound of any kind. Not insects, cars, nothing. Not even a breeze could be felt. It was a very eerie feeling." At this time Greg noticed that lights were on across State Route 747 that he can see in the near distance. The state route runs not too far from his back yard. However, when checking the front of the house he noticed the lights were off on his street.

Going back in, the witness notes that his cats were nowhere in sight. They are usually with him or near by when he is up. I asked the witness if he had watched the object depart. Greg claims that he does not remember how it left. He states that he remembers standing out back gawking at the object in the stale silence.

The witness sounded perplexed as he related how he usually would have stood there as long it took for the object to leave or do something. He says that he honestly just remembers the parts leading up to the sighting. He says he watched it for 15-20 minutes and then went to bed. He said he did not remember going back to bed. Again, he says he would have stayed or called someone or done something besides dismissing it. He did not understand his actions in regard to this.

Upon awakening the next morning the witness says that a candle contained in glass he had left burning had exploded. He detailed how wax had been projected on the walls after the explosion and theorized that the glass container had been defective. He said he does not know why he did not awaken from the sound of the exploding candle.

Checking his UPS systems backup that records data during the power outage he noticed that the electricity had been off for 5 hours and 11 minutes. Greg states that this is impossible because he remembers waking up with plenty of time to get to work. His printout reads as follows: Outage event at 2:23:43s Eastern time, duration of outage 5 hours 11 minutes 03 seconds. So the power came back on at approx. 7:34 AM.

Greg sent me the full printout from his computer system that he translated for easier reading. This printout is on file.

Further Investigations: In an attempt to obtain more regarding the claim of a UFO sighting on June 2, 2003, near West Chester, Ohio, I placed a

telephone call to the Butler County, Ohio Sheriff's department, the receptionist offered one item from her log that may or may not be of relevance. At approx. 1:05 AM on June 2nd a house security system had been tripped at a location 3 miles from the claimant's home. No explanation was given for the home security system activation. I also contacted the West Chester City Police Dept. The receptionist there stated no UFO sightings had been reported for that time period. I also asked if any power outages had been reported. The receptionist told me that they do not do reports for that. I would need to contact the power company.

Cinergy Inquiry: Inquiry was made with CINERGY, the facility providing power to a large portion of Cincinnati and Southern Ohio. I contacted the Operations Planning Engineer. He is in charge of the data for power outages in the area. After pulling up the records for the area and the address given he advised me that no power outages had occurred on June 2, 2003 for the West Chester, Ohio area.

I also asked Greg to check with his neighbors to see if they saw anything on the night in question. He called me back saying that no one he talked to had been up at that time of night.

Assessment of situation: Greg sounded like an intelligent, coherent individual. In the early stages of the investigation Greg had told me that the power was only out in his house. Later he told me it was out on his street. I do not know the reason for the change in his story. With the evidence accumulated in the case and unless evidence surfaces on the contrary, I feel that the witness did indeed experience a UFO sighting.

This sighting was reported to Peter Davenport of the National UFO Reporting Center.

Investigator: Donnie Blessing, Phone: 513-681-4077 E-mail: Rdonolin@cs.com

Merom, Indiana Case, November 6, 1957

by Herb Taylor

Source: Project-1947 Discussion List, November 5, 2003

I feel that presenting some of the better (though lesser known) reports from the 1957 period is both important, and worthy of discussion. The Merom, Indiana case is a good example. Following are the basic details of this case;

At an unspecified time on the night of Nov. 6, 1957 a potentially very important event occurred near Merom, Indiana (30 miles south of Terre Haute, on the Wabash River that bounds Indiana on the west). Rene Gilham, a 33-year-old

ironworker, was at his farm home when he noticed an unusual light. He went outside and saw that a brightly luminous object was hovering overhead. Gilham estimated its size as 40 feet in diameter, and its altitude as 1000 feet. From this object there "beamed out" a light that "bathed his farm with an eerie, penetrating light".

He stood staring at this object for about ten minutes, during which time it was temporarily joined by a smaller object. Then the larger object also departed, "went straight up and headed west". As it did so, the light became more intense, and it emitted "a whirring noise like a high-speed electric motor gaining revolutions". Gilham's wife and children, and his father-in-law in the adjacent house, also saw the object but did not watch it continuously. "The other members of the family verified the fact that the object was so bright that it lighted the entire surroundings".

On the day after he had stared up at the UFO, Gilham's face began to itch and redden, and that night the "sunburn" was so painful that he went to a doctor on the morning of the 8th. The physician, Dr. Joseph Drake, found that Gilham's condition was not a rash such as might be caused by poison ivy or allergy, but a real burn, "similar to the burns that are inflicted on the face and eyes when working near an arc welder without a face mask". Gilham said that he had not been near a welder for three weeks.

Two days later, "his condition worsened", and he was taken to Mary Sherman hospital in nearby Sullivan, Indiana. Hospital staff members refused to talk to reporters about the case, and permitted no visitors. Notably, they refused to say by whose orders the patient was being held incommunicado. (The *Terre Haute Tribune*, after mentioning this, adds that it was known that "military authorities: had been informed about

the case.) However, it was announced on the 11th that "the swelling about the eyes and reddening of the skin had lessened today," and that Gilham was expected to be released the next day. Whether he was or not is not known, and nothing further is known about this intriguing event. (The only sources on this are the *Sullivan Times* of Nov. 11th, and the *Terre Haute Tribune* of Nov. 12th.)

(It may be of note to add that at approximately 6:30 P.M., on the evening of the 6th, numerous people in Sullivan, Indiana watched a glowing orange-red object in the southwest. The time and direction would seem to indicate misidentifications of Venus, but Merom is also southwest of Sullivan, and several of the Sullivan witnesses described a smaller, reddish object moving away from the larger object, and finally disappearing to the east. While the Sullivan observations may be corroborations of Gilham's sighting, the possibility remains tentative, because the time that Gilham saw the UFO was not given.)

The Merom, Indiana report is one of those that cried out for a full and thorough inquiry by competent investigators. Yet, to the best of my knowledge, this did not occur, either then or later. This is not a Blue Book case, nor am I aware of any investigation by civilian researchers. Does anyone know whether NICAP or APRO ever made any attempt to investigate this potentially important event? What a damn shame if they failed to pursue this matter! All we have are some newspaper articles that demanded follow-up. Something very interesting apparently occurred that night in Indiana, but apparent failure to conduct an all-out inquiry has ensured that what it was will never be known with any certainty. Hopefully insightful commentary by list members would be appreciated.

Ohio Sightings Continue - Large UFO Near Adams City

by Kenny Young

MUFON State Section Director for Kentucky

Date: September 13, 2003
Time: 12:00 a.m. to around 1:00 a.m.

Summary: This afternoon (September 13, 2003) an Adams County resident contacted the Cincinnati UFO Hotline (513-588-4548) to report a very unusual and tremendously large

object seen around midnight of early this same morning.

I spoke with 21-year old Mandy (name and phone number on file) for over 1-hour, taking notes on what she described as a spectacularly large object that was seen to the northeast of her

location on Silcott Road in Seaman, Ohio (off of Route 32). From the side of her house, she - along with three other witnesses (her mom, her sister and one of her friends) - observed a triangular-shaped formation of lights on one large object, the lights reportedly flashed in sequence and would simultaneously alternate in color from pinkish-red, blue, white to yellow. The triangular arrangement of lights were comprised of 4-or 5 lights with the peak of the triangle facing downward, at the bottom

The witness described the lights flashing as if in a train or row of lights. "The lights were on the outer edge," she said, "assuming the lights that were flashing in sequence were along a triangular outer edge." She said this flashing effect was vastly different than the twinkling of a star.

She said the colors would change but do so in a unanimous fashion, all red or all yellow, etc., and would flash along the outer edge of the object in a slow sequence at first, then the flashing sequence escalated in speed after several minutes into the sighting.

The witness first observed the object when taking her dog outside around 12:00 a.m. midnight. The object caught her attention due to its brightness in the sky. She said that the full moon and planet Mars was visible from her residence (which has a good, unobstructed view of the sky), and noted a distinction between the object, the full moon and Mars. She said that the UFO was not quite as big as a full moon from her vantage point, but was less than 1/2 the size of the full moon from her perspective. She said this was a very large object and that it hovered in place for almost one hour at an elevation she estimated to be less than 45 degrees above the horizon.

She said that her mother, who is skeptical about UFOs, decided to have her report the object because it seemed to be so unusual. The witness aid that her sister is also skeptical but could not identify the object, nor could her friend who she also had take a look. They viewed the object, also looking at it through binoculars, until the object "went further off" from its original location and the four observers discontinued watching because there was "nothing else that seemed to be going on."

The witness said the large triangular object was estimated to have been 12-miles northeast of her location and situated above Belfast, Ohio (southern Highland County), hovering for a long time near Routes 73, Route 770 and Route 247.

When asked if the witness noted any unusual animal reaction, she said that coyotes were heard howling loudly during the time of the sighting, and also the previous evening. She used the term "ridiculous" to characterize the number and volume of coyote howls that were heard.

The weather conditions at the time were clear skies with a bright full moon.

Investigation: The Adams County Sheriff Department was contacted by telephone (937-544-2314) to find out if anyone had reported a UFO sighting sometime around midnight this morning. The dispatcher taking the call was interested in the report, saying she lived near Belfast, but that the office had received no calls on it. She took my number and said that it would be posted in the office for future reference in the event of any UFO calls.

Next, the Highland County Sheriff's office was contacted at 937-393-1421 to find out if anyone had reported a UFO near Belfast, Ohio after midnight. The dispatcher said he checked the daily log and could find no mention of a UFO complaint.

Comment: I view this witness as sincere and reliable. The location of Belfast, Ohio is nearly 5-miles northwest of the Serpent Mound State Memorial at Locust Grove, where a crop formation was discovered on August 12. I notified Nancy Talbott of BLT Research (Cambridge, Massachusetts) of this present UFO report. Nancy had additional questions so the witness was called back and together we spoke further with the witness by 3-way telephone conversation. Nancy Talbott also views the witness as credible. Additionally, the witness informs that her father - who was asleep at the time and did not see the UFO - had just returned from the store as we were talking on the phone and said that everyone at the store was talking about "a woman who came in and told of a 'UFO' seen last night." Mandy said she will try to follow up on this to see if she can get additional information as it might support her own account.

This UFO sighting is but one of many recent reports originating from Southern Ohio in the past few weeks. Details of the other sightings can be found at the website URL address <http://home.fuse.net/ufo>

Hillsboro, Ohio Sighting, Friday, August 22, 2003

More of the Oz Factor?

by Kenny Young, MUFON State Section Director for Kentucky and
Donnie Blessing, MUFON State Section Director for Southern Ohio

A resident of Hillsboro, Ohio reports a close encounter of a UFO near her home. After receiving the contact information from Bill Jones via the WUFOD database for Ohio MUFON, I contacted the witness and her mother. Details are as follows:

Witness #1: Amanda M., age: 11 1/2 and
Witness #2 Jayla S., age: 11, both of Hillsboro, Ohio in Highland County

Summary: On August 22, 2003 around 11 PM, Amanda and her friend Jayla were playing in the parking lot/driveway area of her residence. The residence is a townhouse/apartment complex. Her parents were both asleep inside the house. Amanda states that suddenly an enormous object could be seen about away from the complex in the eastern sky. The object moved closer until it was directly overhead of the town houses. Amanda explained that the object was so big that she could not think of anything the same size. The object was round in shape. The object moved till it was over top the two children. At this point it stopped and hovered. Amanda says she was more fascinated by this thing then scared. She says that it was just above the telephone pole that was near the parking lot.

Amanda describes the object having a rotating set of white lights around the center. Since it was dark she could not tell the color of the object itself. Looking up at the bottom there were two large white lights in the middle. One of the lights shined down on her. When this happened Amanda tried to talk to her friend telling her to look up but she could not hear a word she said to her friend.

The object made no noise but Amanda heard a sound like static coming from the object or near by. Amanda went on to describe a red light/screen towards the back. I asked if it was like a TV screen or window screen? She said it was more like a window screen. A square with many tiny holes and this screen was lit up red with black dots in some of the holes. Amanda says that she thought maybe these were figures

of people but she saw no movement. She also says that she feels she was being watched. I asked if there was anything she could compare the size of the screen to and she said that it was bigger then a standard door.

Note: This sounds like a grid pattern type of square that some people have described in UFO reports.

Total time that Amanda says the object was in view was approx. 10 minutes. The time that the object was directly overhead was approx. 3 minutes. This was just a guess as she did not have a watch. Amanda says that nothing unusual happened while she looked up at the object. It just suddenly turned off its lights and sped away at an incredible speed. It disappeared from sight in seconds moving off to the West.

Amanda says that she ran in the house and woke up her Mom. She told her Mom that she had seen a very strange object. Her mom's reaction was for Amanda to tell her about it in the morning.

I spoke with Amanda's Mom, Tisha, who told me the exact same story that Amanda had relayed to me, commenting that she was relieved that nothing had happened to her daughter. I asked Tisha if Amanda was interested in UFO stories and movies and she said not particularly. She never talked about UFOs. I asked Tisha if she was interested in UFOs and Tisha said not very much until this incident. I asked Amanda if she read a lot about UFOs and she said that she did not. She sometimes has seen them on TV. After the incident, Amanda and her Mom had gone onto the Internet to see if they could find the object Amanda had seen. All-in-all, I didn't get the impression that Amanda was really into UFO materials such as books and movies.

One interesting note: I just happened to ask if there was a power station close by. Tisha said there was a sub station directly across the street from their house. A.E.P. (American Electric Power Company) provides electric for the Hillsboro area. I suddenly felt a cold chill when

she said that. She went on to note that she was looking out the window over there as we talked and they were doing something with poles. However, there was no power outage on the night the UFO was sighted.

After hanging up I called the Highland County Sheriff's department at 937-393-1421. I spoke with a police officer who told me after checking his reports from August 22, that no reports of an unidentified flying object had been reported. However, he said that on that date there were severe storms in the area. He also stated that they often receive reports of bright objects in the skies that are due to Wright Patterson Air Force Base deploying flares over Rocky Fork Lake. The police are not informed when these will be deployed but that they happen about every two weeks.

I thanked the officer and called Hillsboro City police at 937-393-3411. They stated that they had not received any reports on that date. I next called the Ohio Highway Patrol in Wilmington at 937-382-2551. They stated that they had not received any reports.

I then called the toll free number for the A.E.P. out of Columbus at 1-877-237-2886. A company representative informed me that she could not tell me anything about the power company location on High Street in Hillsboro due to the 9-11 threat. I informed her I only wanted to know if a security guard was on duty on the night of August 22nd. I wanted to know if anyone had

seen any unidentified flying objects near the power plant. I was put on hold while she checked. About a minute later she came back and said that no one was on duty on that night Aug. 22 at the High Street location in Hillsboro.

Second witness account: On Sept. 2, 2003, Amanda's Mom called to say that Jayla was there and that she would speak to me.

Jayla stated that Amanda and herself were walking around the parking lot beside Amanda's home. She said that Amanda looked up as a bright light suddenly came over top of her. As Amanda looked up she became very still and Jayla punched at her to get her to move, asking what is it? Amanda began to speak but Jayla states she could not hear what she was saying. However, when Jayla spoke she noticed that she could hear herself. Jayla looked up and saw the bright white light shinning down on Amanda. Jayla said that she did not look closely at the object and so she could not describe it much. She also stated that the object turned off its lights and sped away at a very fast speed. It did not go straight up, but left in a horizontal position moving from west to east. Jayla said that she ran home after the sighting and her parents were up watching TV. She did not tell them about the UFO sighting because she thought they would not believe her.

If further details become available concerning this incident, they will be posted on Kenny Young's website at <http://home.fuse.net/ufo>.

"Monster" Object Said to Roam Ohio Skies

**September 22, 2003 - Around 7:30 pm., Gahanna (Franklin County)
by Kenny Young, MUFON State Section Director for Kentucky and
Donnie Blessing, MUFON State Section Director for Southern Ohio**

Thirty two (32) year old Daryl from Gahanna, Ohio (name changed, phone number on file) husband and father of two children, called to report sighting a massive UFO Monday evening. "This was not just a light in the sky," he said, "it was a huge black 'thing' shaped like a disc,"

There were four persons who reportedly saw the object. Along with the 32-year old primary claimant, other witnesses were his 31-year old wife, his 13-year old daughter and 9-year old son. All agree the object was something strange.

The four were driving north on Beaverbrook Road around 7:30 p.m. as dusk was setting in. There was still residual daylight visible when a massive aerial object became apparent to them. The disc-shaped object was in front of their car and slowly heading west, almost seeming to float silently.

"At first I thought it was a shadow but then I understood it was in the sky, and I'm still trying to comprehend what it was I saw," the witness said. "I've never been a UFO believer but I can't

deny what I saw. It was massive." He said further, "This thing was so large you could have put 3 or 4 "747 jetliners" inside of this thing," the witness alleged.

The immense object appeared directly in front of them and occupied a space, from their perspective, that filled the entire windshield of their 1994 Honda.

"The first thing I started looking for were wings. I kept trying to see wings," he said. "But there weren't any. The object looked like it was just floating, really low, just above treetops."

The witness discounts any possibility that the object was a blimp. "No, this could not have been a blimp, there were no markings at all."

When first seen by the family, there were lights around the object. There was some disagreement about the color of the lights; the daughter thought they were orange while the wife said there were multiple colored lights. The lights that were surrounding the disc-shaped object were non-flashing, according to the witness, but more or less changed color "in unison."

"What was very strange was when the lights went out and the object went totally black," the witness said.

The witness reports trying follow the soundless object in his car, and notes that it seemed to fly over an area that was not particularly isolated. "The object looked like it was going over the high school area," the witness reported, while also noting that he did not see any people or traffic in the area at the time. "It was just so huge, I still can't believe it," the claimant asserts. "At one point it blocked out the sun and we were in its shadow."

"It was so low that the trees were blocking it, it seemed like it took forever for the object to pass by because it was so slow. I could not discern any surface material, structure or color," he said. "This thing was pitch black after the lights went out, you couldn't see any surface detail."

The witness seemed awestruck even discussing the sighting. "It was a monster," he said. "I didn't know what to think, it was bigger than anything I've ever seen."

The witness could not tell how far away the UFO was because of its tremendous size, but it looked as if it was just behind the immediate treetops. It continued traveling until it was no longer visible behind the treetops, but their impression was that the object was incredibly low.

The object was reportedly visible over Gahanna, Ohio and the witness is certain that it should have been seen by others. The witness informs that he heard nothing in the news about this object and found it very strange that there's been nothing on TV or radio since the sighting. "I thought about calling the police, but they would just say we're nuts," the witness said.

The weather conditions at the time of the sighting were clear to partly cloudy.

Investigation The Gahanna police department was contacted at 614-471-8080 and the dispatcher taking the call said that she was not on duty yesterday and that there was no logbook available for her to check, but that Officer Jenkinson was the dispatcher on duty at the time. She was not familiar with any reports, however.

Comment: The witness said that his daughter and son have drawn sketches of the object and that their drawings were very similar. He said that he will hook up his scanner and try to get the sketches to me through E-mail. I also furnished him the phone number of Roger Pinson, investigator with N.I.D.S. (National Institute for Discovery Science) in Las Vegas, Nevada and encouraged the witness to report the sighting with N.I.D.S. also.

The witness sounded cogent and sincere. Clearly, this is an amazing sighting report to take. The sheer size of this object is absolutely phenomenal. The witness, who characterized this object as a "monster" due to its immense size, seemed to be clear thinking and certain this could not have been a blimp or other explainable object. In a case such as this, it is reasonable to assume there were other witnesses to the event. As an investigator taking this report, I acknowledge that it is an incredible account to relate but I choose to believe the witness in his sincerity.

The following letter was received by Kenny Young in response to a report of this sighting that appeared on the Jeff Rense website:

Dear Kenny Young,

Re: unusual sighting by family in Gahanna, Ohio
on Jeff Rense site

I also saw a very, very large blimp like object floating in the skies of Ohio. The difference was I saw it Saturday, September 20, around 3:00 p.m. in the parking lot of Meijers [a super market store] in Lancaster, Ohio. I had just come out of Meijers after doing some grocery shopping. It was a bright sunny afternoon. Something caught my attention and I looked up into the sky. I saw a large silver covered object that looked like a blimp. I stood and studied it for a few minutes because it seemed to be going slower than a blimp, it seemed to be flowing on a steady course of an air stream, like it was gliding. I

looked back down at people in the parking lot but it seemed no one else was looking at it. It was traveling from the southeast to the northwest. It was high enough that it could have been a plane but it was not. There were no wings, it was silver reflecting sunlight, blimp shaped and I could hardly believe how slowly it was traveling. There was no little "basket" hanging under it like I've seen with blimps.

I request that you do not use my name but please feel free to use the information that I have given to you.

Sincerely,
Linda (Last name on file.)
Lancaster, Ohio

Interesting Ohio Cases – National UFO Reporting Center

<http://www.nuforc.org/>

Sighting Report

Occurred: 9/26/2003 00:30 (Entered as: 09/26/2003 0:30)

Reported: 9/26/2003 3:11:55 PM 15:11

Posted: 9/28/2003

Location: Centerville, OH

Shape: Chevron

Duration: 1 Minute

Very large craft flying or gliding between 1-2000 feet. No lights and no sound what so ever. Observed slightly after Midnight. Clear sky no moon. Looked like a wing shaped cloud from a distance. Then looked like a large eagle. But as it flew directly over I could see it was some kind of craft with large, wide wings. Saw thru binoculars the rear of craft. Had a network of faint tubular supports. It was huge and kind of scary. Traveled at a slow but steady speed. Reminded me of a glider, the way it flew traveling N to S.

I'm an amateur astronomer and have never seen anything like it before.



Sighting Report

Occurred: 8/25/2003 04:45 (Entered as: 08/25/03 04:45 AM)

Reported: 8/25/2003 6:32:35 PM 18:32

Posted: 8/28/2003

Location: Sunbury, OH

Shape: Triangle

Duration: 15 MIN

Large, red triangle over Delaware County.

As I was driving to work this morning I happened to look over my left shoulder across an empty field and saw a large red triangle, approximately two miles northeast of my location.

I had made a left from Wilson Rd. onto Berkshire Rd. and happened to glance out the drivers' side window. The triangular shape was distinct. The edges of the object were illuminated by a red band of individual lights. The lights did not flash. The object appeared to be either hovering or making a slow movement to the southwest in my direction. It was probably 15 degrees above the horizon.

I considered stopping for a better look, or making a call to the sheriff or a radio station, but I did not have time. As I was driving to work on Interstate 71, I tried to locate the object, but I could not see it.

The weird thing was that when I pulled into the parking lot at work (in the Polaris area of Columbus) at about 5:00 AM, I again saw the same triangle in the eastern sky, this time at a much higher elevation, probably 45 degrees above the horizon. It was probably four miles to the east. After looking at it for a few seconds, it seemed to fade away into the night sky.

When I got into my car at 4:40 AM, I saw nothing unusual. But the distance at which I saw it would have put it very near my house. I am hoping that there are other eyewitnesses.

Setting the Record Straight – President Reagan's Obsession with Aliens

by Jerome Clark

UFO Updates Mailing List, September 13, 2003

From time to time the more conspiracy-oriented UFO literature recounts a story about then-President Reagan who made several public statements about the likely consequences of invasion from outer space. Some have seen this as evidence that he knew of secret UFO wreckage or even of hidden contacts with extraterrestrials.

Recently, reading Lou Cannon's *President Reagan: The Role of a Lifetime* (Simon & Schuster, 1991), I found an illuminating discussion of Reagan's obsession with aliens on pages 60-64. It's too long to copy in its entirety, but essentially Cannon regarded as Reagan's best journalistic biographer, and author of no fewer than four books on his life and career – judges

this fascination to have its origins in the influence of movies on Reagan's imagination and character.

"In Hollywood he became an avid science-fiction fan," Cannon writes, "absorbed with a favorite theme of the genre: the invasion from outer space that prompts earthlings to put aside nationalistic quarrels and band together against an alien invader. Reagan liked this idea so much that he tried it out on Gorbachev in their first meeting in Geneva in 1985, saying that he was certain the United States and the Soviet Union would cooperate if Earth were threatened by an invasion from outer space. Reagan's idea was not part of the script, and it startled his advisers.... Gorbachev changed the subject. Reagan thought this meant he had scored a point, and he proudly repeated what he had said to Gorbachev to a

group of Maryland high school students after he returned to the United States. He also repeated it to his advisers, to mixed reactions."

Cannon reports further about what he calls "Reagan's preoccupation," which Reagan

brought up on a number of occasions to his top foreign-policy people, including Gen. Colin Powell, who took to calling it the "little green men" obsession. According to Cannon, Reagan's advisers would roll their eyes every time the boss broached the subject.

Texas A&M UFO Research Collection

by *Aggie Daily**, 10/5/2003

Boxes of research for one of the nation's largest UFO inquiries have found a home at Texas A&M University.

The papers cover reports of visits by space aliens to purported landing sites. Physical scientist Roy Craig was an investigator with the University of Colorado's Air Force-financed Condon Project. Nine boxes of files include Craig's investigative writings, correspondence and photographs as well as popular and scientific articles related to UFOs and aliens.

Aluminum shavings, globs of metal, even a lawn mower muffler found at the sites of purported UFO landings, are also available for examination at Texas A&M's Cushing Memorial Library.

The Condon Project report was compiled under the supervision of University of Colorado physicist Edward U. Condon. It was released 35 years ago. The Air Force used the report in 1969 as the basis for its decision to stop monitoring reported UFO sightings.

*Aggie Daily**, Office of University Relations, Texas A&M University, (A newspaper.)

Three Policemen Spot A UFO In Northern Indiana

UFO ROUNDUP, Volume 9, Number 2
January 14, 2004, Editor: Joseph Trainor

Three police officers who say a strange object drifted through the skies of Huntington, Indiana (population 17,450) "are trying to find someone else who saw it--whatever it was.

"Officer Chip Olinger was warming up his car Friday," December 26, 2003, "when he reported seeing a circular object in the sky and radioed officers Greg Hedrick and Randy Hoover, who also saw it."

All three say they watched as the object moved out of the northwest, drifted toward a church steeple, then [it] shot straight ahead north without a sound in an encounter that lasted less than a minute about 2:30 p.m.

The trio described the object as about the size of a hot-air balloon or a backyard trampoline. They said it was low enough in the sky that Olinger thought it might crash into the steeple. They say it stopped a few times and spun slowly, changing

shapes and, at one point, turned orange, probably from reflected sunlight.

"It wasn't any kind of flying saucer I can think of," Olinger told the Herald-Press, "And it wasn't like a '50s flying saucer. It was this big, but it didn't have a bulge in the middle."

As unusual as their sighting was, the three officers may have been the only witnesses. No one called city, county or Indiana State Police to report it.

"And, for a few days, they didn't say anything about it."

"We thought people would think we were crazy," Hoover said."

But now, the officers wonder if anyone else saw it and are hoping they come forward with their own accounts. Diane Redlich, a manager at Huntington Municipal Airport, said several

aircraft took off from the airport that afternoon, but there's no record of any out-of-the-ordinary craft making either a takeoff or a landing at Huntington. Bill Scott at Fort Wayne's Smith Field doesn't have any clues, either. "Other than Santa Claus heading home, I don't know what it could have been," he said.

Huntington, Indiana, is located at the junction of Highways 5 and 224 about 105 miles (168 kilometers) northeast of Indianapolis, the state capital. (See the Huntington, Indiana Herald-Press for January 5, 2004.

Many thanks to Steve Wilson Sr. and Jim Hickman for this newspaper article.

China: "The Truth is Out There"

Source: La Voz de Galicia (newspaper-Spain), 11-24-03

Half of the Chinese population believes in the existence of UFOs according to the results of a survey made known by the Outer Space Investigation Organization.

According to UFO expert Sun Shili, a professor at Wuhan University, this high number of believers in the existence of UFOs is closely linked to the growing popularity of "the paranormal" among the Chinese.

China is the country boasting the largest number of UFO enthusiast organizations in the world, adding to this the fact that "UFO" magazine, published by the OSIO, sells more than 400,000 copies a month.

Up until the reform and openness process spearheaded by Deng Xiaoping in the late '70s, the Chinese government and people believed that UFOs were spy planes sent from the USA, the scourge of Communism.

Currently one out of every five UFO sightings takes place in China, a country in which the

official news agency is still hesitant when it comes to publishing items of this kind, considering them mere superstition.

"Extraterrestrials are becoming interested in China, as they were interested in the USA during the 1950s," notes Sun, when explaining the large number of sightings in recent years.

The most spectacular sighting occurred in 1998, when a Chinese fighter played a game of cat-and-mouse with an alleged UFO for over 30 minutes in the vicinity of the Changzhou military facility (Xiangsu Province). The pilot, who described the object as a flying saucer straight out of a Hollywood sci-fi flick, was denied permission to open fire. Over 100 onlookers witnessed the event.

<http://www.lavozdegalicia.es/inicio/noticia.jsp?CAT=126&TEXT=100000041531>

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Translation (C) 2003. Scott Corrales, Institute of Hispanic Ufology (IHU). Special thanks to Gloria Coluchi.

Letters to MUFON of Ohio

Hi Bill:

I was on active duty at Tactical Air Command Headquarters Intelligence at Langley in 1965, and I was told by a Colonel friend that a Soviet satellite had crashed in Pennsylvania. No one wanted the Soviets to know we had their satellite. I assume this was Kecksburg. Later Foreign Technology Division personnel from Wright Patterson confirmed there was a Soviet Satellite recovery. A recovery of a Soviet satellite would likely be handled in the way it has been described by investigators.

Regards,

George Filer

Following is a wonderful non-flying saucer story told to Rick Hilberg by the late Gray Barker. I bet the first showing of the movie was a sell out.

Bill:

When he [Gray Barker] had his West Virginia theatre booking business back in the 1950s, he

inserted an ad in one of the area newspapers advertising a double feature, one of which was a Jane Russell picture with a still from said picture used in the ad showing her in a rather "busty" pose.

The caption for the ad was to be "TWO BIG HITS"... Well, you can guess the typo that appeared instead of the correct copy.

Rick Hilberg

Bits and Pieces

The State of Ufology

From: Richard Hall <hallrichard99.nu>
To: UFO Updates
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2004
Subject: State Of Ufology

Okay, here goes! The "State of Ufology" begins with the oxymoronic use of a term that implies that science is being done. In all likelihood, more science is being done here on this List and by a handful of private individuals than by the formal scientific community in its entirety. But (reflective of society in general) all too much of the discussion here and elsewhere consists of gullible acceptance of unverified information at face value, illogical "opinionizing," and wild surmise. So, the state of Ufology is pretty pitiful.

Why is this so? Two primary reasons: (1) Very little (almost no) money is available to support truly scientific projects by attracting well-qualified people; (2) kooks, con-men, and ax-grinders who form exploitative organizations and put on pseudo-scientific conferences continue to dominate the scene and to be what skeptical journalists and others see as constituting "Ufology". It's that simple.

Basically, there is no such thing in any meaningful sense as "Ufology". There are some very dedicated people who have tried hard, some for a very long time, to try to bring order and reason into the study of UFOs. With very little success overall.

Dick

Element 115 Discovered
by Larry Hatch
Project 1947 UFO Exchange

A joint effort by Lawrence Livermore
Laboratory scientists and others from the JINR

in Dubna, Russia have created a few precious atoms of Element 115.

Don't let this line fool you however: "The long lifetime observed for element 115 suggests that physicists might be getting closer to the "island of stability."

This long lifetime is something in the order of 90 milliseconds, just long enough to identify it by its immediate decay products. (Don't try this at home.) They managed to produce four whole atoms of the stuff.

Now try to imagine Bob Lazar taking a nice heavy lump of Element 115 home and plopping it on his kitchen table. Orange in color, I think he said.

Let's be generous and say the half-life of E-115 is 90 milliseconds, and that Lazar borrowed, oh heck, a whole kilogram of E-115 to play with. 90 milliseconds (ms) later, he has 500 grams left; another 90 ms and its 250 grams; 30 half-lives later, he has less than a microgram, lets say the eyelash off of a flea, and that's being generous indeed.

What happens to the original mass? It decays over and over into nuclear species to radioactive that aren't found in nature. I would not want to be riding with Bob Lazar he took this stuff home.

30 half lives? That's 30 x 90 milliseconds, or 2.7 seconds. Bob must have driven home awful fast.

Others may judge how likely it is for Lazar or anyone to take anything that radioactive out of the laboratories of "Area-51" (or whatever) at the Nevada Test site, on a whim, unchallenged.

For more news on "Element 115", enter just that quote as a Google search phrase

the apro bulletin

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VOL. 24, NO. 6

TUCSON, ARIZONA

OCTOBER 1976

THE KENTUCKY ABDUCTION

The end of the article is here:

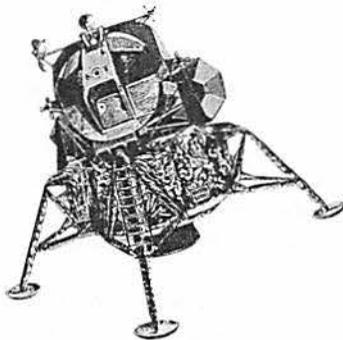
PAGE 6

Kentucky

(Continued from Page Five)

experience. We appreciate Mrs. Smith's desires, and will not comment on further information learned from her until such time as the book is published.

However, we laud these ladies for their bravery; theirs is a very interesting and hair-raising experience and we feel sympathy for them in that their greatest ordeal may well still lie ahead: the attacks of the skeptics.



The February first issue of the Kentucky Advocate, published at Danville, Kentucky, carried an article pertaining to UFO sightings in that general area, among which was the story told by Ms. Louise Smith, Ms. Mona Stafford and Mrs. Elaine Thomas about their drive home to Liberty from a late dinner at the Redwoods restaurant located five miles north of Stanford. The ladies said that at a point about one mile south of Stanford, they saw a huge disc-shaped object which was metallic gray with a white glowing dome. A row of red lights rotated around the middle and underneath were three or four red and yellow lights that burned steadily. A bluish beam of light issued from the bottom.

The newspaper did not carry a lot of detail but it was mentioned that when the women arrived home in Liberty, it was 1:25 a.m. Having left the restaurant at 11:15 p.m., they should have arrived home by midnight, indicating that there was a time loss of about one hour and 25 minutes.

The Kentucky Advocate article was forwarded to APRO by Field Investigator Bill Terry but meanwhile he put in a telephone call and asked if we felt the case was good enough for him to make the necessary 60 mile trip to talk to the ladies. After he had read the pertinent information, Mrs. Lorenzen said she thought it would be well worth the trip. A few days later he called back and told Headquarters he thought it was a case of abduction, and that the usual hypnosis procedures should be utilized.

A call was put in to Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, APRO's consultant in psychology and he was asked to travel to Liberty to interview the women and possibly use hypnotic procedures to relieve their anxiety and obtain any repressed information. Headquarters learned that his first free weekend for the trip would be the weekend of the 6th and 7th of March.

We will here relate the information obtained by our investigation and later explain why this report has not been published until now.

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Kentucky

(Continued from Page One)

It is important to note that although Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Thomas had known each other for many years, and Mrs. Stafford had known Mrs. Thomas for some time, Mrs. Smith had only gotten acquainted with Mona a few weeks previously.

On the evening in question, Mrs. Smith left work at the usual time and went home. She is employed as an extension assistant for the Casey County Extension Office where her duties consist of visiting families in the county, counseling them in food preparation and preservation, nutrition and gardening. She fixed herself a sandwich and soup, which she ate, then got into her 1967 Chevrolet which she had just purchased that day and drove to a service station to get gas in preparation for the next day.

While at the service station, Mona Stafford, who was driving by, spotted Louise's car, pulled her car into the station, whereupon Mrs. Smith asked her if she would come home with her and help her put the collar on a jacket she was making, as she was having trouble fitting it. The two ladies, each in her own car, drove to the Smith trailer home and set about the task. At about 8 p.m., Mrs. Thomas dropped by and the three lapsed into conversation about their favorite subject: art. Mrs. Stafford had planned to go to her sister's home to have her hair done and at about 9 p.m. said she'd better call her sister because it was getting late and besides, it was her (Mona's) birthday.

When Mrs. Smith learned about the birthday, she suggested that they all go over to the Redwoods for a late dinner and a sort of birthday celebration. Also, there was a painting on the wall of the restaurant which she had wanted to sketch. The restaurant, incidentally, is the only restaurant open at that time of night in that area.

The three drove the 29 miles to the restaurant, had their dinner and then pulled out sketch pads and went to work. A man at the restaurant asked Mrs. Smith to sketch him, which she did, and then she realized it was getting late, so the three paid their checks and left. Mrs. Smith drove, Mona sat in the middle of the front seat, with Mrs. Thomas on her right by the passenger window.

After Mona spotted the object, which was descending from their right to the left, she asked Louise to speed up as she thought it was a plane about to crash and she wanted to help any survivors. Mrs. Smith saw it clearly, but Mrs. Thomas didn't see it until it had stopped at treetop level at what they estimated to be one hundred yards ahead of them. All of the women said the object was huge, Louise describing it as "as big as a

football field," while Mrs. Stafford said it was at least as large as two houses.

Mrs. Smith said that the object rocked gently for perhaps two seconds, at which time she estimated its size, for it extended beyond the edges of the road and over the fields on both sides. Then the thing moved across the road to their left, circling behind and above some houses, and then apparently came back to the highway and swung in behind the car.

At a point in their journey about a quarter of a mile beyond the houses, the inside of the car was lit up with a bluish light which came from behind. Mrs. Smith said that at first she thought it was a state trooper approaching from behind, but realized almost immediately that it wasn't. At this point Louise and Mona were near panic. The car began to pull to the left and Louise screamed at Mona to help her control it. The speedometer was registering 85 miles per hour and both Mona and Mrs. Thomas shouted at Mrs. Smith to slow down. Louise held her foot in the air to show them and said, "I don't have my foot on the accelerator and I can't stop it!" Mona reached over and grabbed the wheel and they fought the force together. Then, quite suddenly, the women experienced a burning sensation in their eyes and Louise later described an additional pain which seemed to "go right through the top of my head! It was almost unbearable!"

The next sensation was that of some force pulling the car backward. Also, they got the feeling that the car was going over a series of "speed bumps" (raised ridges in a road which are meant to keep the speed of automobiles to a minimum). Mrs. Thomas began urging Louise to stop so that she could get a good look at the object, but Mona and Louise were too terrified. Elaine had only had a glimpse of the object as it had circled to their left and around behind him and was later to comment about the object's beauty. "I can't describe it," she said, "I've never seen red that beautiful. I wanted to get out and look at it."

Then, the women said, they saw a strange, wide, lighted road stretching as far as they could see ahead of them. At the same moment Mona noted a red light come on on the instrument panel which indicated that the engine had stalled, despite the sensation that they were moving very fast.

At what seemed to be a split second later the women saw a street light ahead and realized that they were coming into Hustonville, a full eight miles beyond where they had encountered the strange aircraft. They wondered among themselves how they had gotten there so fast, then became quiet while they proceeded on into Liberty.

When they arrived at Mrs. Smith's trailer, they all went inside. Mrs. Smith went into the bathroom, took off her glasses and splashed water on her face,

whereupon her hands and face began to burn with searing pain. All three had a red mark on the backs of their necks, measuring about three inches long and one inch wide, with clearly defined edges, giving the appearance of a new burn before it blisters. Louise and Elaine's marks were centrally located between the bases of their skulls and the top of the back, whereas Mona's was located to the left, behind her ear. They could not account for the marks, which disappeared two days later. All three were experiencing burning and tearing of their eyes, but Mona Stafford had a much more severe case of conjunctivitis (an inflammation of the conjunctiva membrane of the eyes).

Prior to washing her hands, Louise had taken off her watch and was startled to see that the hands of her watch were moving at an accelerated rate of speed, the minute hand moving at the speed of a second hand, and the hour hand was moving also. Upon experiencing the pain of the water on her hands and face she forgot about the phenomena of the watch and does not recall when it returned to normal or when she reset it.

Concluding that something was wrong, the three ladies went next door to the home of Mr. Lowell Lee, and told him what they had seen. He asked them to go into separate rooms and sketch the object and when finished, he found the resulting sketches to be almost identical.

Although all the women had trouble with their eyes, only Mona Stafford sought medical help, as her problem was so severe. The doctor who examined her found no explanation for the pain and tearing but gave her some eye drops which helped very little.

Bill Terry found out that all three of the women enjoy good reputations. Mrs. Smith, 44, is a tall, thin woman of 44 years who was widowed when a young woman and brought up her son and daughter by herself. She has two grandchildren and busies herself in her spare time with painting and sketching and gospel singing. She performs around Casey county with the Jubilee Echoes, consisting of herself, a 14-year-old boy singer and a bassist who is a police lieutenant in Danville. She is a lifelong member of the Baptist church and attends services regularly at the Poplar Springs Baptist Church in Liberty. Inquiries to such people as police personnel, her minister and employer, elicited only good comments. Several weeks after her experience she had lost 28½ of her normal weight of 125½ pounds.

Mona Stafford is 35, the former owner of an arts and crafts shop in Liberty and currently unemployed except for secretarial work which she does for her father, who owns a mobile trailer park. She was once married but has been

(See Kentucky - Page Four)

Kentucky

(Continued from Page Three)

divorced since 1970 and lives in a trailer home parked near her parents' home. She is a devout Christian, a member of the Hilltop Church of Christ near Liberty. She also lost weight amounting to 17 pounds but at this writing had regained 7.

Elaine Thomas is a 48 year-old-housewife who has lived in Casey County, Kentucky all of her life. She and her husband Otis live several miles out of Liberty. They have a grown daughter and three grandchildren. Mrs. Thomas is also a lifelong churchgoer and is a member of the Contown Church of Christ.

The foregoing information indicated to APRO's staff that the women were of good reputation, sincere, honest, and had no motivation to concoct a story so we proceeded with the investigation. It is at this juncture that we will explain the tardiness of the publication of this case.

Bill Terry met Dr. Sprinkle upon his arrival and the two proceeded to Mrs. Smith's home. They were met with a conglomeration of investigators from CUFOS and MUFON, who felt that they were "first" on the case and that APRO should not be allowed to enter. (They had preceded Mr. Terry to the Liberty site by only one day). Sprinkle, being a gentleman and a scholar did not want to intrude, and it was finally decided to call APRO Headquarters for an opinion. Mr. Lorenzen talked to Len Stringfield of CUFOS and MUFON, who wanted to use the services of Dr. Sprinkle but did not want the report to be sent to APRO. Mrs. Lorenzen pointed out that she had written a book (*Encounters with UFO Occupants*) specifically so that the proceeds would furnish APRO with the wherewithal to conduct such investigations, and that not only was APRO's money (air fare and expenses for Dr. Sprinkle) wasted, but Dr. Sprinkle's time away from his family was wasted as well.

It was finally decided that Dr. Sprinkle would conduct the hypnotic sessions but that there would have to be a mutual agreement concerning the release of the story. Also, during meetings before Sprinkle's arrival, some representative of MUFON or CUFOS had told Mrs. Smith (she doesn't recall who) that the ladies should be careful about having anything to do with APRO because "they would call in the National Enquirer" and they would receive much unwanted publicity. Later, in a letter from Jerry Black, a MUFON investigator and, consequently, a CUFOS investigator, suggested that the ladies contact the National Enquirer about their experience, which was a surprise considering their reluctance to have anything to do with that paper if APRO was on the case.

At any rate, it was for this reason, after the waste of several hundred dollars, APRO was unable to complete the case. Then, after the National Enquirer contacted the ladies, Dr. Sprinkle, because of his participation in the "Blue Ribbon Panel" of National Enquirer experts, was called upon to go back to Liberty and regress the women.

His report of the weekend of March 6 and 7 is quite sketchy except for his characterization of the three women as reliable, sincere, etc., because Saturday was largely wasted in quibbling about who should have "control of the case." Incidentally, the MUFON people wanted to make use of Sprinkle's expertise, "as long as he was there." But they admitted they neither had the consultants nor the funds to send in someone expert in hypnotic techniques to carry out the trance sessions.

On the 23rd of July, under the National Enquirer's aegis, a polygraph test was conducted on the three ladies, and James C. Young reported, in each case, that it was his opinion, based upon the polygraph examinations, that the ladies believed they were telling the truth to the listed questions.

In his report, Mr. Young made the following pertinent observation: "Prior to the examination of these three persons it was determined by the polygraphist that these persons had been previously interviewed by Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle and the above-mentioned members of the Mutual UFO Network. How much or how little these previous interviews played a part upon what these persons now believe about this alleged encounter cannot be determined by the polygraphist. I cannot discount the fact that previous interviews with these persons could influence their personal beliefs as to whether or not this alleged encounter did or did not occur."

Mr. Young makes a very good point, that being that interviewers showing sketches of UFO types to a witness before they make their own renderings of what they saw, is highly suggestive, as is the display of any drawings of occupants. This apparently was done by MUFON representatives prior to the polygraph test or the trance hypnosis carried out by Dr. Sprinkle on the next day, the 24th of July. APRO has a complete transcript of the trance sessions which have been examined by the staff. While Robert Pratt of the Enquirer, and Dr. Sprinkle, who has had extensive experience in this phase of UFO research, were careful not to lead the subjects, some very suggestive or leading questions were asked by Mr. Stringfield and Mr. Black of MUFON. It is just such errors that the skeptics will leap upon in attempts to discredit the investigative procedures or reliability of witness testimony in such cases.

We would like very much to quote in

polygraph tests and the hypnotic trance sessions, but space will not allow us to do so. Therefore, we summarize Dr. Sprinkle's findings from the hypnotic sessions.

"...Mrs. Smith suffered much as she relived the experience. The behaviors, e.g., weeping, moaning, tossing her head, shuddering, and shaking, etc., were evident to those of us who observed her, especially as she seemed to "relive" an experience of a fluid material covering her face. Her smile, and evident relief in "seeing the street light" at the end of her hour and one-half loss-of-time experience was dramatic and indicated that she was "safe" in the car, once again, and returning home with her friends." Sprinkle then goes on to recount Louise's claim that her pet parakeet, who, according to her claims and the claims of others who observed the bird, refused to have anything to do with her after the UFO experience. Others could approach the bird and it would not react wildly; however, whenever Louise came close to the bird, the bird would flutter and move away from her. The bird died within weeks after the UFO experience.

Mona Stafford... "responded well to the hypnotic suggestions and she was able to describe impressions which led her to believe that she had been taken out of the car, and that she was alone on a white table or bed. She saw a large "eye" which seemed to be observing her. She felt as if a bright white light was shining on her and that there was "power" or energy which transfixed her and held her to the table or bed. She experienced a variety of physiological reactions, including the impressions that her right arm was pinned or fastened; her left leg forced back under her, with pain to the ankle and foot; pressure on the fingers of the left hand, as if they were forced or squeezed in some way; a feeling of being examined by four or five short humanoids who sat around in "surgical masks" and "surgical garments" while observing her. At one point, she sensed that she was either experiencing out-of-the body travel, or else she was waiting outside of a large room in which she could view another person, probably a woman, lying on a white bed or observation table. She perceived a long tunnel, or a view of the sky, as if she had been transported to an area inside a large mountain or volcano. Although she wept and moaned and experienced a great deal of fatigue as a result of the "reliving" of the experience, she felt better the next day; she expressed the belief to me that she now had a better understanding of what happened during the loss-of-time experience.

"...Mrs. Thomas had been rather quiet during the initial interview in March, 1976, although it was obvious that she is perceptive and aware of other people's attitudes and feelings. Like the

(See Kentucky - Page Five)

Kentucky

(See Kentucky - Page Four)

others, she has lost weight, but she has also experienced some personality changes. She dresses a bit more colorfully now, and she is more willing to talk and to share her ideas with others. She, too, experienced a similar reaction during the hypnotic techniques: she apparently was responding well to suggestions to go deeper; when she "relived" the UFO experience, she experienced a great deal of emotional reaction. Her main impression was that she was taken away from her two friends, and that she was placed in a "chamber" with a window on the side. She seemed to recall figures which moved back and forth in front of the window of the chamber as if she were being observed. Her impression was that the observers were four-foot-tall humanoids, with dark eyes, and grey skin. One disturbing aspect of the experience was the memory that she had some kind of contraption or "covering" that was placed around her neck; whenever she tried to speak, or think, the contraption or "covering" was tightened, and she experienced a choking sensation during these moments. At first, Mrs. Thomas interpreted the memories as indication that she was being choked by hands or that she was being prevented from calling out to her friends; later, however, she came to the tentative conclusion that an experiment was being conducted, and the experiment was to learn more about her intellectual and emotional processes. She recalled a "bullet-shaped" object, about an inch and one half in diameter, being placed on her left chest; she previously had experienced pain and a red spot at that location.

During the polygraph examination, and during the initial hypnotic sessions, each UFO witness was interviewed separately from the other witnesses. After the initial description of impressions, the women were invited to attend the additional hypnosis sessions, so that each woman could observe the reaction of the other two women. During these sessions, there was much emotional reaction, which seemed to arise from two conditions: the compassion of the witnesses for their friend, who was "reliving" the experience and releasing emotional reactions to the experience; also, it seems as if the description by one witness would "trigger" a memory on the part of another witness, even if the experiences seemed to be "similar" or "different."

"Certain similarities were observed: a feeling of anxiety on the part of each witness regarding a specific aspect of the experience. For Ms. Smith, it was the "wall" and the "gate" beyond which she was afraid to "move psychologically"; for

Ms. Stafford it was the "eye" which she observed and the impression that something evil or bad would be learned if she allowed the eye to "control" her; for Ms. Thomas, it was the "blackness" which seemed to be the feared condition or cause for anxiety. Each woman seemed to experience the impression that she had been taken out of the car and placed elsewhere without her friends and without verbal communication. For Ms. Smith, the lack of verbal communication was most distressing; although she had the feeling of "mental communication" that she would be returned after the "experiment."

Differences were noted in that each woman seemed to have a somewhat different kind of "examination," and in a different "location." Ms. Smith did not have a clear impression of the location, although she did recall a feeling of lying down and being examined; Ms. Stafford had the impression of being in a "volcano or mountainside," with a room in which a bright light was shining on a white table with white clothed persons or humanoids sitting around and observing her; Mrs. Thomas recalled impressions of being in the dark chamber with grey light permitting a view of the humanoids who were apparently observing her."

In his conclusive paragraphs Dr. Sprinkle reports:

"In my opinion, each woman is describing a "real" experience, and they are using their intelligence and perceptivity as accurately as possible in order to describe the impressions which they obtained during the hypnotic regressions session. Although there is uncertainty about their impressions, especially in regard to how each person could be transported out of the car and relocated in the car, the impressions during the "loss of time" experience are similar to those of other UFO witnesses who apparently have experienced an abduction and examination during their UFO sighting.

"Although it is not possible to claim absolutely that a physical examination and abduction has taken place, I believe that the tentative hypothesis of abduction and examination is the best hypothesis to explain the apparent loss-of-time experience, the apparent physical and emotional reactions of the witnesses to the UFO sighting: the anxiety and the reactions of the witnesses to their experiences which have occurred after their UFO sighting. An interesting subsequent event is the concern of the women that they were "re-experiencing" the physical symptoms which had been experienced for several days following the January 1976 sightings. . . . When I called them on July 26th, the women said that they were re-experiencing some of the same kinds of symptoms, e.g., fatigue, listlessness, sensitivity to skin, burning

feeling on the face and eyes, fluid discharge, etc.

"I tried to reassure the ladies that it is not an uncommon experience in hypnotic regression that persons - after "reliving" earlier emotional experiences - may re-experience some of the symptoms which accompany those emotional reactions.

"In my opinion, the UFO experiences of these women are a good example of the type of apparent abduction and examination which seems to be occurring to more UFO witnesses. I believe that the investigation could be continued with the hopes of obtaining further information about their experiences. However, the present evidence suggests to me that the women have cooperated sincerely and openly in describing their reactions to their UFO sighting and loss-of-time experience, and the polygraph examination and hypnotic regression sessions have been useful in uncovering their impressions of the UFO sighting and subsequent events.

"I believe the case is a good example of UFO experiences, because of the number and character of the witnesses. . . and because of the results of further investigation through polygraph examinations and hypnotic regression sessions."

Dr. Sprinkle alludes to "subsequent events." Conversations with Mrs. Smith since the regressive hypnotic sessions took place yielded two very interesting bits of information: Mrs. Stafford had been having trouble sleeping, would not stay home, and would go to her parents' home or that of a friend, and curl up on the floor to sleep. She also has said repeatedly that she would not live "to see another birthday." Hopefully this is only a fear and not a portent of things to come.

Also, in the fall of 1976, Mrs. Smith was overcome by an inexplicable urge to go back to the scene of the original sighting. On August 1 she did return to the site, got out of her car, and "heard" the words: "feel of your hands." When she did so, she realized that three rings, which she habitually wore, a small gold ring, a pearl ring, and a gold ring with onyx and a small diamond, were gone. On the 26th of September, Mrs. Smith walked out onto the stoop of her trailer home and found the onyx and diamond ring lying there. For some inexplicable reason, she scooped up the ring, walked to the creek which runs by her home, and threw it into the water.

This, then, is the entire story of the Kentucky abduction. At last contact with Mrs. Lorenzen by telephone, Mrs. Smith intimated that she was beginning to have recall of the whole experience, and asked that Mrs. Lorenzen not divulge the details as she was writing a book about the

(See Kentucky - Page Six)

Saucer Attacked Me, Pilot Declares

By CHARLES TRACY, *Aviation Editor*

Within minutes after his hair-raising experience, I talked to a veteran Air Force pilot who excitedly reported that his F-51 fighter plane was attacked repeatedly by a flying saucer.

The incident, never before revealed to the public, occurred a year ago at 8000 feet over Augusta, Ga., on a warm, sunny, clear day. The pilot's own startling story is in the files in Washington.

I never saw the official report, and in repeating the pilot's conversation with me, I am violating no security.

The pilot was First Lieut. George Kinman of Birmingham, Ala., veteran of seven years' service, including action in World War II. He was stationed at Lawson Air Force Base, Columbus, Ga., with the 117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing. I was assistant wing operations officer. (Charles Tracy, an Air Force captain in World War II, was called back into service in 1950, was discharged five months ago.)



CHARLES TRACY

Our outfit was preparing for overseas duty and we were running a lot of practice missions. We sent photo planes out to get pictures of bridges, airfields, etc. At times we would dispatch pilots over the harbors to count the ships and report. This was to test their accuracy in visual reconnaissance.

It was while returning from one of these practice missions that Lieut. Kinman had the daylight scared out of him. He was over Augusta, about 80 miles or 20 minutes flying time from home base.

"I was cruising at about 250 mph," he told me after making a somewhat shaky landing in his Mustang, a single-engine job equipped with cameras but no guns.

"All of a sudden I noticed something ahead, closing in on me head-on," Kinman reported. "Before I could take evasive action—before I even thought of it, in fact—this thing dipped abruptly and passed underneath, just missing my propeller."

He described "the thing" as "definitely of disc shape . . . white . . . pretty thick . . . it looked like an oval . . . it was about twice as big as my plane . . . it had no visible protrusions like motors, guns, windows, smoke or fire."

Kinman said he immediately turned around but couldn't see anything. (The F-51 Mustang has a bubble canopy which affords excellent vision in all directions.)

Within 15 seconds, he estimated, the disc came directly at him again and once more dipped suddenly at the last possible moment to avoid a collision. This happened repeatedly, he said, for from five to 10 minutes.

Each time, he said, he would look back, but by then the strange object had disappeared. Kinman tried to put his plane in position to use the cameras in his fuselage, adjusted to shoot the ground while in level flight. He was not successful and his films, when developed, showed nothing.

"I was upset and scared by the whole thing," Kinman told me. "While this was going on I radioed the nearest Civil Aero-

navitics Authority traffic control center. (This is routine procedure for a pilot who sights unscheduled air traffic.)

"On its final pass at me, the disc whirled upward. I thought it was going to take a piece of my canopy with it." Then, he said, it disappeared.

After landing, Kinman, his face chalk-white, walked into the operations offices at Lawson and told the airdrome officer, "I just saw something very strange, like a flying saucer. What should I do?"

I was called. I heard part of Kinman's story and informed him the Air Force had a formal intelligence report he would be required to fill out. I stood by as he went over details with

Turn to Second Front Page

Attacked by Saucer, Pilot States

(Continued From Page One)

an intelligence officer.

Kinman was reluctant to volunteer details and had to be "pumped." He seemed to think we'd belittle his reports, maybe think he was out of his head. He wouldn't estimate the speed of the "disc," but said "it was awfully fast."

Several days later his report was sent to Washington. Kinman was called to Macon, Ga., where the Air Materials Command has a big base, and interviewed by high Air Force officers.

Some Laughed

A few fellows at the base, when the story got around, were inclined to poo-poo the idea. They thought Kinman was pulling a fast one. But the higher-up officers thought it was a serious incident.

Knowing Kinman's experience, ability, observant powers and reputation for truth, I see no reason to doubt a word he said.

He still is a pilot with the 117th, flying jets in Germany.

To my knowledge, Kinman's was the first and only report of an actual attack by a flying saucer, but the carefully guarded Air Force files may contain stories to match his.

I, for one, wouldn't be surprised.

Saucers Sighted as Steel Strike Ends

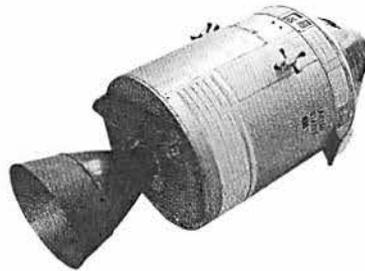
Unexpected by-product of the steel strike's end has been a rash

of "flying saucer" reports from Ohio and West Virginia.

Officers at the Canton Air Force Filter Center said the lighting of mill furnaces after an eight week shutdown brought a flood of "saucer sightings" from Operation Skywatch observers before the first ton of post-strike steel was poured.

The sightings, they said, were determined to be reflections of the big mill fires.

Some other "saucers" reported by civilian lookouts were definitely identified as stars.



The Cleveland Plain Dealer
Sunday, March 15, 1959, page 8A

Saucer Men Mapping Earth, Teacher Says

Plain Dealer Bureau

AKRON, O., March 14 — Prof. Charles Maney of Defiance (O.) College tonight told an audience of flying saucer buffs in the YMCA that a study of sightings of unidentified flying objects has shown that they are operated by intelligent beings, probably making a survey of parts of the earth.

"A map showing reported sightings for Nov. 7, 1957, follows a similar straight-line pattern as shown in massive French sightings in the late summer and fall of 1954," said the head of the college's physics department.

He said a Frenchman, Aine Michel, made an exhaustive study and wrote a book reporting that many Frenchmen came in contact with occupants of space ships during that time.

"The French study is probably the first instance where we can glean some actual and factual information from a mass group of sightings," he said. "We may get some information on the character and intelligence of the occupants."

His talk was sponsored by the UFO Research Committee of Akron, a newly formed group.

Prof. Maney said the travelers from space have mastered a science we are not yet familiar with, a science that may be 500 to 1,000 years ahead of us.

"The U.S. government has really not gone at this in a forthright way," he said.

Prof. Maney is a member of the National Investigations Committee of Aerial Phenomenon, a nonprofit private organization established to study unidentified flying objects.

Forgotten Ohio Ufologist?

SCIENCE IN THE NEWS—

Do We Have 'Visitor' From Outer Space?

© New York Times Service
By WALTER SULLIVAN

NEW YORK—A leading radio astronomer has suggested that a satellite dispatched by another civilization may be in orbit around our sun.

He believes it may have a recorded message to be broadcast when properly activated by radio. This could include a television image of the constellation from which it was sent.

This startling suggestion has been put forth by Dr. R. N. Bracewell, a professor at Stanford University, and co-author of a text on radio astronomy. His reasoning has been published in the British scientific journal, *Nature*.

Strange Radio "Echoes"

He notes that, in 1927, 1928 and 1934, strange radio "echoes" were heard that have never been adequately explained. In a telephone interview he said it was unlikely, but not entirely impossible, that these were emissions from an interstellar messenger.

Prof. Bracewell has gone one long step beyond those astronomers who in recent years have argued that there almost certainly are intelligent beings elsewhere in the univers. He believes it possible that such societies, within our own galaxy, have long since established contact with one another.

This "ancient association" would be composed of civilizations "incredibly more advanced" than our own. Such a galactic community may be try-

ing to "seek us out by special means that we cannot guess," according to Prof. Bracewell.

"Listening in" on Stars

He questions whether such communities would blindly transmit radio signals towards other stars in the hope of provoking a response. This week the first attempt to pick up such signals is coming to an end.

It began April 8 at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank, W. Va., where, for limited periods, a great 85-foot dish antenna was trained on one or the other of two neighboring stars.

The search for signals, known as Project Ozma (for the queen in "The Wizard of Oz"), was directed at two of the three nearest stars believed capable of having habitable planets: Tau Ceti and Epsilon Eridani. The third, Epsilon Indi, is below the West Virginia horizon.

Nothing Apparently Heard

The experiment has, in effect, been a test run with almost a negligible expectation of hearing anything. Indeed, nothing appears to have been heard.

Prof. Bracewell's doubts concerning the likelihood of direct radio signals are based on his view that the chances are slim of finding a civilization as close as these three stars. We must have about 1,000 candidates to enjoy any likelihood of success, he believes, and this means looking out to a distance of 100 light years.

The three nearer stars are about 10 light years away, one light year being the distance traveled by light in a year at 186,000 miles a second. Prof. Bracewell considers it unlikely that even a highly advanced civilization would undertake to beam extremely powerful radio signals continuously at 1,000 stars.

If some community had begun sending such signals towards the solar system early in the earth's history, it would already have been doing so about four billion years with no results. A more practical scheme, he believes, would be to "spray" the 1,000 candidate stars with satellites. These would orbit in silence, awaiting the dawn of a civilization advanced enough to make use of radio.

8 Spot 'Saucer'

Disc Leaves S.L. Pilot After Chase

By Darlene Galbraith
Tribune Correspondent

What began as a routine flight Monday noon for a Salt Lake City pilot turned into an exciting chase and launched an investigation by Air Force officials into a report of a "flying saucer."

PILOT WALDO J. Harris, 631 Garfield Ave. (1831 S. State), was the first to sight an "unidentified object" while he was preparing for takeoff on a flight from Utah Central Airport, 3200 W. 2100 South. At least seven other witnesses sighted the same object from the ground.

Mr. Harris, a Salt Lake real estate and insurance salesman, and veteran pilot, told Hill Air Force Base security officials that he first sighted what he thought was another airplane when he turned onto the airport runway ready to begin his flight.

"**AT FIRST I** thought it was another plane south of the field," Mr. Harris said, "but when I was airborne I was surprised to find the object was still in the same position as when I had first sighted it."

IT WAS THEN, Mr. Harris reported, that he decided to investigate.

"I changed my heading," Mr. Harris continued, "and flew toward what appeared to be a large disc, hovering with a rocking motion at an altitude of between 6,500 and 7,000 feet."

THE PILOT radioed back to Utah Central Airport that he had sighted what he thought to be a "flying saucer" and was going to attempt to get a closer view.

Mr. Harris told officials that he estimated the distance between his plane and the object at about five miles at the time of the sighting.

HE HAD REACHED a point about three miles from it when "it suddenly moved upward like an elevator and began to move south."

His observations of the object, he reported, showed it to be a light gray disc which he estimated to measure at least 50 feet across and about four feet thick at the widest point.

"**THERE WERE** no openings visible, no vapor trail or exhaust smoke, yet I am sure it was a controlled craft from the performance during my observation," Mr. Harris continued.

The pilot followed the "saucer" when it began its flight and then was able to observe it again when it suddenly halted and began hovering at a point almost directly over the Utah Lake Omni station.

"**AFTER HOVERING** there," Mr. Harris said, "it moved straight up, then began to move west at an extremely accelerated rate of speed and disappeared within a few seconds."

During his entire flight, Mr. Harris maintained radio communication with both the Utah Central Airport and the Provo Airport.

In addition, he relayed the information to the FAA communications tower at the Salt Lake Municipal Airport.

Salt Lake City, had just landed and reported:

"It wasn't there when I came in."

OTHER WITNESSES, some of whom used binoculars to watch the object, were Mr. and Mrs. Jay Galbraith, 1564-600 East, owners and operators of the airport; Clyde Card and Duane Sinclair, both of Lincoln, Neb., who were preparing for a flight; Robert Butler, 1274 E. 6600 South, an employe of Ute Aeromotive, based at the field, and Russ Woods, 291 E. 700 North, Provo, an airport employe.

ALL OF THE witnesses reported watching the object for "more than 15 minutes."

Mr. Redmond reported that "whatever it was seemed to be rocking while hovering almost stationary just south of the field. At times, as it turned, it almost looked like a zeppelin."

"**WE PASSED** the field glasses around," Mr. Redmond continued, "and all of us had a good view."

All the witnesses agreed that when the object moved, it was at a terrific rate of speed.

(**THE U.S. Weather Bureau** said that the prevailing winds measured by a weather balloon at 10 a.m. shortly before the object was sighted, were clocked at two miles an hour and were from a southeasterly direction.

The next weather balloon was sent aloft at 4 p.m. when the winds at the 7,000 level were registered as being from the northwest and about five miles an hour.)

Seven witnesses at Utah Central Airport reported sighting the object from the ground.

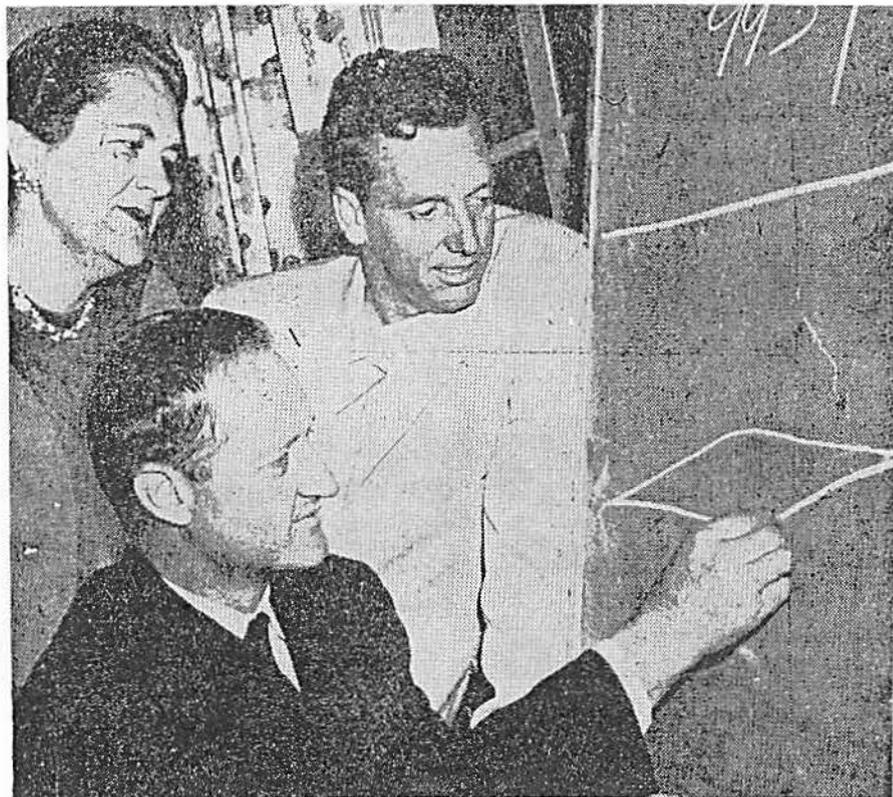
ONE OF THEM, Virgil S. Redmond, 6266 S. 2005 West.

THE AIR FORCE said late Monday an investigator from Hill Air Force Base security division had conducted a routine investigation of the reported sightings of an unidentified flying object Monday noon.

The findings will now be forwarded to Air Force headquarters in Washington, D.C., for evaluation.

A base spokesman said the long range search radar at the base had not reported anything unusual during the day, although the range of surveillance radar does not usually extend into the south Salt Lake City area.

The Salt Lake Tribune
Tuesday Morning
October 3, 1961
Front Page
'Saucer' Soars in S.L. Sky



Waldo J. Harris sketches the unidentified Monday to Mrs. Jay Galbraith and Virgil S. object he sighted and chased while flying Redmond. The pair saw object from ground.

40 Describe Landing of Flying Saucer

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—(UPI)—At least 40 persons saw an eerie unidentified flying object land in a swamp near here last night, police said today. Twelve witnesses were policemen.

Officers said four sister ships hovered above the object until it took off with a warbling sound like the echo of a ricocheting bullet.

Patrolman Robert Hunawill said one of the objects passed over his car as he and other officers rushed to the scene. He said it looked like it was taking off and joining the other four objects.

Frank Mannor, 47, a farmer, and his son, Ronald, 19, said they approached within 500 yards of the object. It lay in a swamp, they said, with pulsating haloed lights on each end. Mannor said it was pitted "like coral rock" and about the length of a car. He drew a picture of it,

showing its shape about that of a football.

"There seemed to be a kind of fog underneath it," Mannor said.

He said his son said, "look at that horrible thing!" and the craft vanished. Two deputies, Mannor's son-in-law and other witnesses said it zipped over the tree tops.

Two Washtenaw County sheriff's deputies said they saw blinking lights—apparently from the object—rise above the trees, then dip again.

Hunawill said he saw "four of those lights hovering over the area" in a quarter circle above the object on the ground.

"The light went out over the center object (the one on the ground) and then it flew over the top of us," Hunawill said.

ROBERT TAYLOR, Dexter police

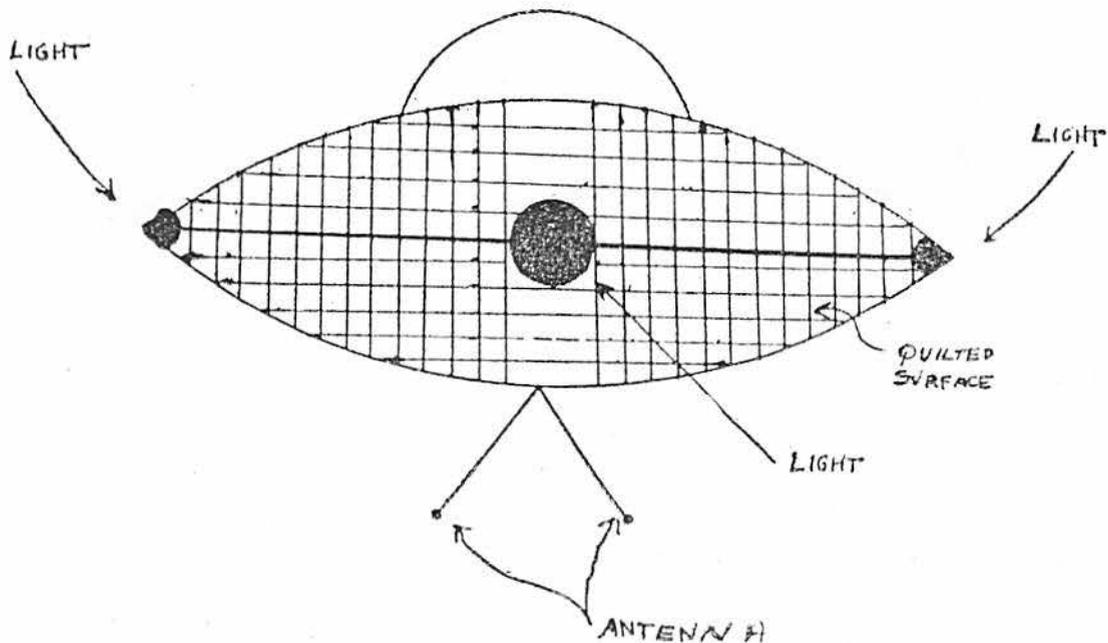
chief, said he watched the object from Mannor's home on a knoll overlooking the 300-acre swamp about 12 miles northwest of here.

"I saw a red glow down in the swamp," Taylor said. "It was a pulsating bright red and then it grew dimmer. I put the binoculars on it and saw that there was a light on each end of the thing."

Orange Ball Seen. By Eight in Indiana

LA PORTE, Ind. — (UPI) — Eight persons said they saw a strange orange ball with antenna-like appendages flying over the city during the weekend.

A motorist said the ball dogged his car and repeatedly flared into a blinding burst of light, forcing him to stop along the road until it passed.



UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT sighted near Ann Arbor, Mich., looked like this, according to the observers. They got together and made this composite sketch. (UPI Telephoto)

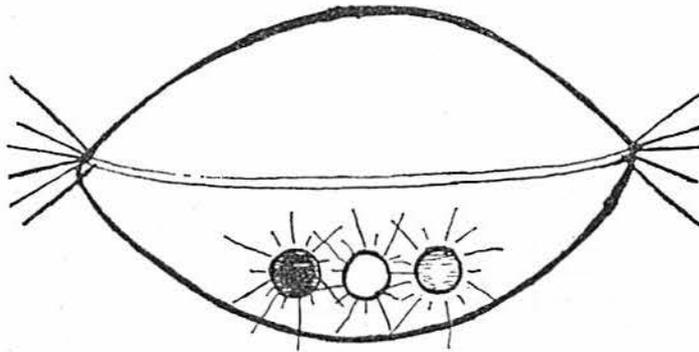
Detroit Free Press

Friday, March 25, 1966

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

Page 3, Section A

Air Force to Explain 'Saucers'



HERE'S HOW Tuesday night's flying saucer looked to Susan Merrill, 12, of Hillsdale, Mich. She estimated it was between 20 and 25 feet across. Three lights in the center were red, white and green.

AP Photo

What are those mysterious, glowing, flying objects that have aroused so much furor in southeastern Michigan this week?

The Air Force said Thursday that it expects to come up with a reasonable, logical answer sometime Friday.

The Air Force investigation, said Maj. Hector Quintanilla, of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, O., is "beginning to shape up. We hope to have a reasonable explanation sometime tomorrow."

QUINTANILLA is the project officer in charge of the Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) office.

The Air Force, which has been checking out UFO reports for nearly 20 years, has come up with some dandy explanations in the past. Quintanilla didn't indicate which of

them might fit the current Michigan situation or whether we might be able to add a new one to the collection.

But enough people have seen these apparitions, with their flashing colored lights and weird flight patterns, for the Air Force to send one of their top civilian investigators, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, to check into the situation.

Hynek, astrophysicist at Northwestern University, has been looking into UFOs for 18 years for the Air Force and says that so far he has found no evidence to indicate that any of the mysterious sights in the sky are the result of "extraterrestrial intelligence."

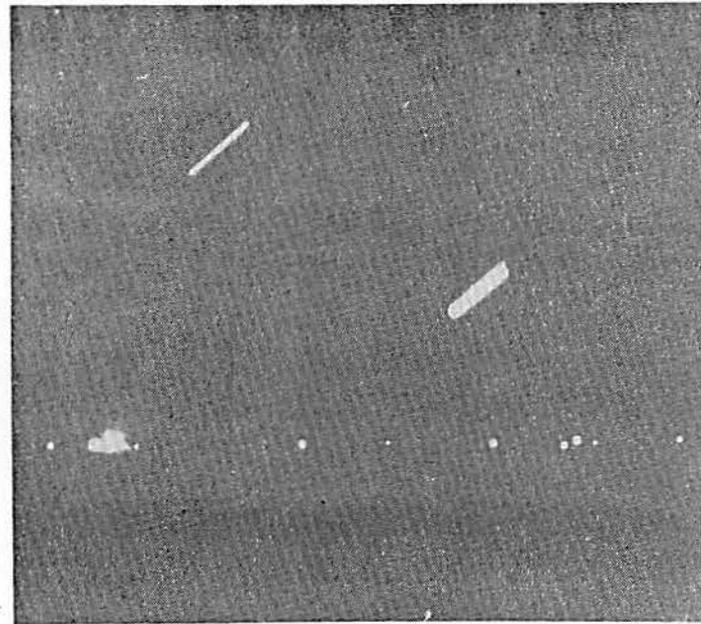
HE EXPLAINED that this means that

they aren't little green men from Mars or Venus swooping down on us with their anti-gravity-powered space saucers.

So the official Air Force explanation isn't expected to satisfy those who watched the saucers soaring over Dexter, Hillsdale, Warren, Clinton Township and various other places.

It may agree with Alfred Dickens, of York, Pa., a maintenance man for the York County Gas Co., who snorts at saucers and says the phenomena are merely balls of "damp gas" seeping from swamps and marshes.

Also called "Jack-o-Lanterns," they form in warm, still air and are blown by light breezes so that they dance around, he said.



THIS PICTURE of two flying objects in the early-morning sky 15 miles southeast of Ann Arbor was made March 16 by a deputy sheriff with a subminiature camera. Deputy David Fitzpatrick made the shot at 5:30 a.m. and with other officers watched the objects for more than two hours. Street lights can be seen near bottom of picture.

AP Photo

Expert Dismisses Flying Saucers as Swamp Gas

DETROIT (UPI) —An Air Force scientist Friday dismissed mass reports of weird flying objects as luminous swamp gas. But he admitted he couldn't prove it.

"A dismal swamp is a most unlikely place for a visit from outer space," Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a Northwestern University astrophysicist and Air Force consultant, told a crowded news conference.

As Hynek talked reports of unidentified flying objects continued to pour in to police and other authorities from Maine to the Rockies. A truck driver said an eerie object followed alongside his truck in a terror-filled 15 mile ride early Friday from Cassopolis, Mich., to Niles, Mich.

In Washington, House Repub-

lican Leader Gerald Ford called for a full-blown congressional investigation of UFO sightings. He said Air Force investigators "have come up with nothing conclusive" for years and a study by a congressional committee would be "a very wholesome thing."

Hynek, a goateed man, spent three days investigating reports of witnesses that strange glowing objects hovered in a swamp near Ann Arbor, Mich., Sunday night and in a swampy hollow behind a college dormitory at Hillsdale, Mich., Monday night.

He said his swamp gas theory applied to those sightings only and he had nothing to say about scores of other reports which followed, in Michigan and elsewhere.

Hynek said he had nothing to say about scores of other reports which followed, in Michigan and elsewhere.

Hynek said he read his statement to the Pentagon "as a courtesy" before facing newsmen Friday but the Pentagon did not censor it.

"I'm not a whipping boy or a paid stooge" for the Air Force, he said.

He said "rotty vegetation" produces swamp gas which "can be trapped by ice and winter conditions," then suddenly released "in some quantity" when the ground thaws.

"The flame is a form of chemical luminescence and its low temperature is one of its peculiar features," he said.

He said swamp gas sometimes makes "popping noises" and this could account for a report by Frank Mannor, 47, and his son, Ronald, 19, that they heard the object take off



DR. ALLEN HYNEK

from the swamp near their home Sunday night with a sound like the echo of a ricocheting bullet.

Mannor and his son described the object's form as roughly football shaped with a pitted surface "like coral rock." "But Hynek said they were 500 yards from the object and this was too far to be sure.

"I emphasize in conclusion that I cannot prove in a court of law that this is the full explanation of these sightings," Hynek said.

He said few of the witnesses reported seeing anything except lights. The witnesses Sunday night at Dexter, near Ann Arbor, included 12 policemen and at least 40 other persons. At Hillsdale college the following night the weird phenomenon

was watched for four hours by an assistant dean, a veteran civil defense director and 87 co-eds.

Two of the Hillsdale co-eds told United Press International they vaguely saw the object itself and watched it veer past their dormitory into the swampy hollow. Hynek, however, said the witnesses saw the objects, or the lights, only in the swamp.

Hynek is chief scientific adviser to the Air Force's Project Blue Book program to investigate UFO sightings. He said he has checked more than 100 of them including some he could not explain.

Photos Of Moon, Venus
Hynek said at Hillsdale College he understood "certain young men have played pranks

with flares." He said a picture showing odd lights in the sky, widely published in newspapers and on television, had "no reference" to the sightings and was merely a "time exposure of the crescent moon and the planet Venus."

Hynek said no sensible pilot, from this world or another, would pick a swamp for a landing.

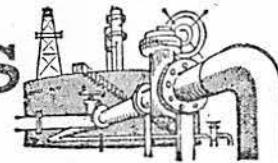
"A dismal swamp is a most unlikely place for a visit from outer space," he said. "It is not a place where a helicopter would hover for several hours, or where a soundless secret device would likely be tested. UFO sightings came Friday

from Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Maine, Colorado, Texas, Indiana, Oklahoma and Florida.



Daily Times-News

Over a Century Serving Mid-State Michigan



UFOs—Truth or Fiction?

By DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK
World Book Encyclopedia Science Service

WASHINGTON — Whichever one says, or thinks about flying saucers, one thing is a fact. UFO reports exist, and any discussion of unidentified flying objects must start with them.

In this country the responsibility for checking into such reports was given to the Air Force and, over the course of years, they have come up with logical explanations for 19 out of 20 reports submitted to them.

This is a very good batting average, but some vocal segments of the public challenge the Air Force results and the entire manner in which the Air Force has handled the UFO phenomenon.

As astronomical consultant to the Air Force in these matters for nearly the past 20 years, I have watched the whole UFO pagant unfold from an excellent vantage point. I have attempted to remain as open-minded as circumstances permitted, despite the fact that the subject seemed utterly ridiculous.

Many of us believed, in the early days of the modern UFO era, that all the reports were a fad or craze that would subside in a matter of months. Yet, in the last two years more reports were submitted to the Air Force than in the first four years of this period (mid 1947 to mid 1951).

The persistence of UFO reports is a prime factor in the UFO phenomenon, and one that I have recommended for special study. Why are sober, intelligent citizens, often very well thought of in the community, moved to report UFO's in the first place? What is it they really see?

Mindful of the lessons of the past — such as the refusal to accept fossils as evidences of evolution, overlooking the existence of X-rays, and the complete discounting of stories of "stones that fell from the sky" — I wondered whether I was entirely right in a strict adherence to the working hypothesis that all UFO reports had to be misidentifications of ordinary things like balloons, aircraft, etc. or hallucinations, or hoaxes.

MIGHT there not be a needle in this awful haystack of seemingly nonsensical reports? Was there a possible "signal" in the "noise" or static, represented by the flood of easily explainable reports?

Why take UFO's seriously at all. Aren't 19 out of 20 reports explained an entirely satisfactory result? Too many people say no.



Frank Mannor Explains Sighting to Dr. J. Allen Hynek
... the Dexter, Mich., man saw mysterious lights on March 20

Do such unexplained UFO reports, made by several competent witnesses who had ample time to observe, really exist? Unfortunately, (or fortunately, depending on one's point of view) the answer is yes. The crux of the matter is that, largely because of the activities of the cranks, the "true believers", the wishful thinkers, the UFO phenomenon acquired the odor of the beliefs of a fanatic cult.

But the striking thing shown by a continued looking at UFO reports — monitoring the noise level, so to speak — is that the truly puzzling reports do not in general come from the cranks and from low IQ people.

The most interesting reports are by people who can express themselves well, and who often have tried to solve the problem themselves but without success. They want an answer.

It is for such people, that I have suggested, in hearings before the House Committee on Armed Services, that selected scientists be asked to take a long, quiet look at reports made by responsible people. I believe the scientific fraternity owes such people the courtesy of a sincere examination of their reports.

More importantly, there may be lurking in the best UFO reports hidden scientific "pay dirt," as a mite of radium was hidden in tons of pitchblende. But such an in-

vestigation would keep faith with the surprisingly many who really would like to have the UFO phenomenon put to rest, one way or the other.

To that end, I have over the course of years set aside those UFO reports which interested me the most and for which I could find no cogent explanation, but for whose investigation sufficient funds and manpower could not be allocated.

Such reports can be studied profitably even at this late date. Perhaps more important would be establishment of a small, well-trained investigation team with quick reaction capabilities, so that well-reported incidents might be given immediate attention before a UFO story is distorted and is rap-

idly transformed into a bothersome legend.

These selected cases were chosen primarily on the basis of reliability and number of observers rather than on the exotic nature of the sighting. But all the cases are most unusual once the reliability of the observers is granted.

Cases in which optical aids were given preference; in two of the cases, telescopes, cameras or binoculars were used.

Four of the sightings were made by professional astronomers while on duty at their respective observatories and five others were made by technical specialists, including one reported by the associate director of one of the nation's ranking technical laboratories. The median number of observers is five.

All but three of the sightings were made at night and involve brilliantly illuminated "craft" maneuvering in the air. No "landings" have been included.

Exclusive!

These Saucers

If the mysterious "bogeys" over Guam were not invaders from outer space, what were they? Here's the inside story

There is a popular belief, backed by very articulate spokesmen, that the U.S. Air Force, out of pure orneriness, prejudice or something, refuses to admit that Flying Saucers, emanating from outer space, are even possible.

The fact is that the Air Force is keenly aware of the subject. About 11,000 cases of UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) sightings repose in the automated files of Project Blue Book, the name of the Air Force operation devoted exclusively to UFOs, and others are being added all the time. All except 700 have been identified by now, as misinterpretations of natural phenomena or as man-made devices. The rest either have eluded investigation or are awaiting it.

Until last year not a single one of all 11,000 cases, including the minority still unidentified, remotely suggested that U.S. security was being threatened by creatures from other worlds.

But last year, toward the end of July, the situation changed. A coded message expressing great concern about UFOs was sent to the Pentagon from Headquarters of the Strategic Air Command's Third Air Division, based on the Pacific Island of Guam. The big SAC installation would most certainly be an object of unusual strategic interest to an enemy of the United States — whether he came from outer space or from somewhere on Earth. For since June, 1965, Andersen Air Force Base on that island has been the staging area for B-52s on their way to bomb Vietnam.

The Air Force assigned a special team

Only four months after the great planes became engaged in this assignment, Unidentified Flying Objects started to appear on the radar scopes at Guam. The opening sentence of a report on these UFOs states: "Since October, 1965, FAA (Federal Aviation Agency) radar operators at Andersen AFB, Guam, had noticed radar beacon returns which had no known or identifiable source."

The radar sightings reached a peak during June of last year, and the Strategic Air Command became still more concerned. The Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Research and Development formed a special Electronics Team to look into the matter. Assigned to the mystery were 10 men — military and civilian — who were among the cream of Air Force specialists in science and technology.

A report of their findings was classified SECRET until a few weeks ago, when a copy of it was given to me by Lt. Colonel George Freeman, Chief of the Civil Branch, Community Relations Division (Information), in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. Colonel Freeman is also the official Pentagon spokesman for Project Blue Book. He said that he was able to place the document in my hands because he had deleted two short sections containing special technical information about the type and

amount of radar equipment involved. My copy is marked "Copy 5 of 30 copies."

The report reads like a spy thriller. At the time of its inception nobody could be sure that the United States, perhaps the world, was not about to be attacked by unknown alien forces from the sky or space. And that "nobody" was a very small minority of experts in various fields of science, technology and electronics intelligence. The rest of America was blissfully unaware of what was happening.

The investigators requested in advance that Elint (Electronic Intelligence) aircraft be standing by when they reached Guam. On arriving, they conferred with radar and weather specialists and then sat down in the darkened radar control center to watch the luminous tracking screens. A short time later they saw their first "bogy" (radar-operator jargon for an Unidentified Flying Object).

A classic UFO flight pattern

In the words of one team member, Lyall Rowlandson, "The radar IFF (Identification-Friend-or-Foe) return was not peculiar to known traffic and, in addition, radar height-finder returns indicated the apparent object had remarkable ability to quickly change its altitude. The object generally appeared north-northeast of the station and proceeded inbound until it changed direction toward the north-northwest. Its turning point varied from over the (radar) site to several miles north of the site."

This flight pattern was well-known — it had been almost classical with certain types of UFO reported over the U.S. and around the world. As the team's final report stated: "The speed and altitude variations did not fit any known aircraft, manned or unmanned. No . . . satellites have orbits compatible with the existing (radar) echo locations."

Stranger still, no one had actually seen a UFO near Guam. All sightings were by radar, although on a number of occasions aircraft had been hurried to the apparent UFO locations. These aircraft had attempted to intercept the unknown objects and, as they approached the intercept location, they would observe an unusual configuration on their air-borne radar that seemed to coincide with the UFO's posi-

tion on ground-based radar. They also experienced some electronic interference on their scopes.

But each time they arrived at the location — no target was visible!

The UFOs apparently came from the direction of Rota Island, some 55 miles northeast of Andersen Air Force Base. They flew a straight track from east to west, according to the trails displayed by the radar sets, and usually appeared at an altitude of 30,000 feet or higher. They descended rapidly as they approached Guam, until they were recorded at less than 1,000 feet over the SAC base. Their speed also varied radically, slowing down from about 250 knots to 50 knots and then speeding up to 300 knots or faster as they dashed out of radar range.

Duration of the "bogeys," or UFOs, in flight around the base was also perplexing — and disturbing. They remained within range of the radars for from 17 minutes to 51 minutes. Sometimes one would disappear for as long as 25 minutes — and then return again to harass the radar operators. It was as if they were consciously carrying out some sort of reconnaissance mission and trying, at the same time, to confuse the electronics experts.

Probably the most eerie effect of the UFOs was that some of them answered when they were interrogated by VHF (Very High Frequency) radio. Their answers, however, were far from conventional.

Had the UFOs cracked our secret codes?

All aircraft operating in the Pacific area, both civil and military, are required to carry SIF/IFF ("Selective Identification Feature/Identification-Friend-or-Foe") — radio equipment with electronic coders and decoders which can be interrogated by ground-based equipment and which respond automatically to identify themselves. The codes for military as well as civil aircraft are changed daily and are classified SECRET.

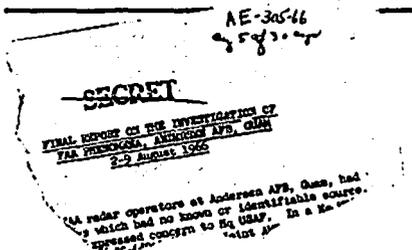
Puzzle: When a Guam UFO was interrogated in one code, the answer came back in another code — equally official, but wrong! Had the UFOs cracked our codes? If so, they hadn't cracked them completely. And if they were playing some joke on the Air Force electronic experts, they were inspiring more bewilderment than laughter.

The Electronics Team members only worked that much harder to solve the puzzle. They plotted the strange tracks of the UFOs on navigation charts and tried to correlate these tracks with conventional flights of aircraft in the area. (The two never jibed.) Studying all possible clues with the fervor of a Sherlock Holmes, they eliminated one after another as a cause of electronic disturbances that might be related to the appearance of UFOs. They finally decided that there were only two possible answers:

1. visitors from outer space.
2. radar echoes from beyond the horizon.

If the first was improbable, the second was "impossible." A radar pulse travels in the same way as a ray of light. It is stopped by hills and buildings and cannot bend itself over the horizon. So how could radar echoes come within range of the Guam radar sets from a distance greater than the horizon?

That was the question the team set out to

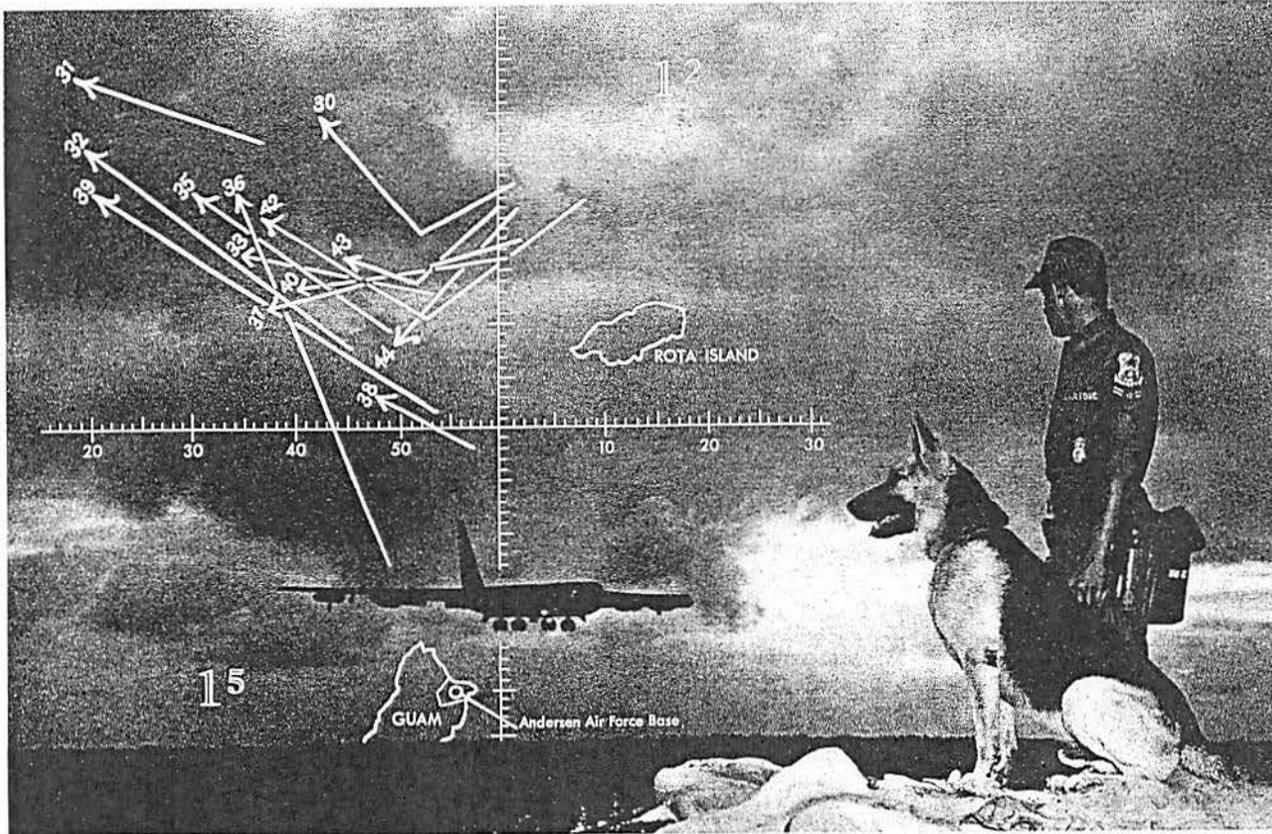


"The report reads like a spy thriller.

At the time of its inception nobody could be sure that the United States, perhaps the world, was not about to be attacked by unknown alien forces from the sky or space."

THIS WEEK Magazine
May 7, 1967, pp 4 & 5

Nearly Fooled The Air Force



SENTRY and his dog at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam. Superimposed are actual Air Force trackings of various UFOs picked up by radar in the Guam-Rota area during July, 1966

answer — on August 8, six days after they arrived on Guam — for if it couldn't be answered, they would have to accept the outer-space hypothesis and leave our defenses baffled and uncertain.

They decided on a dramatic test. A huge C-141 Starlifter jet cargo plane, equipped with SIF/IFF equipment, was scheduled to fly from Wake Island to Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines. It flew at an altitude of 35,000 feet, about 250 nautical miles north of Guam — beyond the horizon. It did not show on the Guam radar screens — but a UFO coming from nearby Rota Island did show.

To oversimplify, this is what happened next: The UFO was interrogated by SIF/IFF in the official code. It answered in the "wrong" code.

By radio, of a type that can travel beyond the horizon, the C-141 was interrogated by the official code. It responded, this time, in the correct code.

The pilot of the C-141 was then asked to turn off his SIF/IFF. He did so. Again the UFO was interrogated. This time it did not answer.

When the C-141 pilot switched on his equipment again, the UFO again became voluble and answered an official signal with a "wrong" response.

"Impossible" — but here's the solution

The C-141 Starlifter, of course, had both codes set into its SIF/IFF equipment. Obviously both the "wrong" and the "right" answers had come from the test plane! It was evident now how a UFO could answer interrogations by radar from Guam with equipment carried aboard aircraft far away from Guam!

Impossible or not, the unidentified objects with their strange maneuvers were identified positively as aircraft flying beyond the horizon. A message to this effect was sent to the Air Force in Washington, and the Pentagon quieted down.

But how could the Electronics Team members be so sure of their UFO identification? The answer: a simple matter of atmospheric physics. With certain temperature variations, portions of the atmos-

phere act as giant, invisible lenses that can "bend" light rays from one part of the Earth to another, over many miles and across horizons. In fact, this is what causes mirages over the deserts. Since radar waves act the same as light rays, they can be focused in the same way, whether the lens be made of glass, wire or — as in the case of the mysterious "bogeys" of Guam — electrified portions of the atmosphere.

The sharp increase in UFO sightings at Guam last June was the result of a sharp increase in aircraft carrying supplies to Southeast Asia.

The "impossible" solution was a tribute to Air Force scientific teamwork. After all, the Guam UFOs *might* have been real — and little green men or white-robed humanoids *might* have been preparing to take over the human race. The men in the Pentagon were shaken up enough to believe U.S. security was possibly being threatened.

It's good to know they are not the scoffers about an attack from outer space that many UFO buffs would have us believe.

(THE END)

"I think we're going to say that this one was authentic."

Jeffrey Wilson | crop-circle researcher



PHOTO COURTESY OF HIGHLAND COUNTY PRESS

An aerial view shows the symmetry of the design discovered in farmer Dale Mark's bean field near Bainbridge. One team of researchers says the crop circle isn't man-made but another expert doesn't buy that explanation.

Supernatural sign or playful prank?

Design in Ross County soybean field encourages speculation about origin



DANA WILSON | DISPATCH

Regardless of how it came to be, the crop circle ruined \$1,200 worth of his soybeans, farmer Dale Mark says.

By Dana Wilson
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

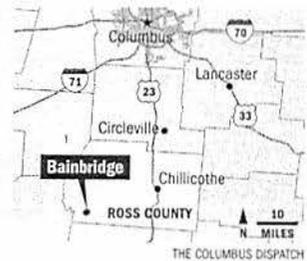
BAINBRIDGE, Ohio — Farmer Dale Mark is more agitated than alarmed by the unexplained geometric design etched across roughly 2 acres of his soybean field.

Passengers in a private airplane discovered last week that the crops had been flattened into a series of circular designs — with one surrounding a triangle, another resembling a peace sign, and a third akin to a bull's-eye.

Many in town wonder how they were created.

Some blame teenagers hoping to draw attention to their rural Ross County community 55 miles south of Columbus. Others welcome the mystery — and theories that extraterrestrials or supernatural beings are responsible.

"I think it's people who've done it, myself," Mark said. "I really don't believe in aliens."



Unable to harvest the damaged soybeans, Mark estimates the loss at about \$1,200, for which he has no insurance.

He's waiting to see whether anyone comes forward before filing a report with the sheriff's office. "I'd just like to find out who it is. I don't want them to do it again."

His wife, Mary Ellen, suspects the culprits knew the area well because the design is situated in an island of

See SUPERNATURAL Page C2

SUPERNATURAL

FROM PAGE C1

land between Rt. 50 and Tong Hollow Road — an area difficult to reach from the road.

That's curious, she admits. "It does make you wonder, because there's no in or out."

Jeffrey Wilson of Dexter, Mich., and a team of independent researchers invaded the Marks' fields earlier this week to study the formations. The group recently examined two other crop circles in southern Ohio — one near Seip Mound in southwestern Ross County and another near Serpent Mound in northern Adams County.

Wilson's team determined the Bainbridge design was about a month old and that the flattened crops were noteworthy.

"The plants were all swirled down counter-clockwise, and several places were woven together," Wilson said. "Along

the stems of soybean plants where the branches bend off, the leaf bases had been shriveled up and browned as if they had been subjected to some sort of heat damage."

The damage didn't appear to be from farming machinery or wooden boards, which typically leave telltale markings, he said.

Wilson ruled out a hoax. "I think we're going to say that this one was authentic."

But Miami University professor and physicist Christopher Church, who has studied such phenomenon in England, has a different explanation for many crop circles.

"When the patterns include words written in English and, in some cases, you have very complex geometric patterns, it seems pretty clear to me that people are doing it," Church said. "I wouldn't call it a practical joke or a hoax. I would just call it a form of expression."

Those who believe the formations aren't

man-made typically want to believe in something mystical, he said.

About a mile down the road from the field, Roscoe and Beth Swartz recalled circles found in their wheat fields in 2000.

After calls and visits from scientists, a local teen confessed that he and his friends were the pranksters.

At the time, Mrs. Swartz was disappointed.

"I'm willing to believe about the new ones," she said. "When I looked at the photos, I was amazed. You have to be a little skeptical."

Mr. Swartz believes otherwise: "It's always been a hoax."

Resident Dave Brown doesn't buy the supernatural speculations but said he's impressed by the intricate pattern.

"I don't know how they are so neat about it," he said. "You have to have a plan to keep it symmetrical. I think they worked awfully hard."

dwilson@dispatch.com

THE PLAIN DEALER

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Page 16

Saturday, March 26, 1966

AF Must Have Frank UFO Policy

The theory of a special Air Force investigator that swamp gases and the planet Venus have had much to do with recent "flying saucer" sightings is probably as good a one as science at the moment can offer.

The Air Force is to be commended for the promptness with which it put a consultant, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, on the job of talking to persons in southern Michigan who had seen unidentified flying objects.

Dr. Hynek, an astrophysicist at Northwestern University, quickly called a news conference after his investigation and offered seemingly reasonable ideas of what had happened.

He emphasized that his swamp gas and Venus theories on the Michigan sightings could not be proved in a law court, that other scientific explanations were possible and that he was not making a blanket UFO statement.

Swift investigations and reports by experts such as Dr. Hynek on flurries of UFO sightings should be a regular policy of the Air Force or some other qualified federal agency.

The government in the past has not always been cooperative about its UFO research. It is always possible that unchecked sightings will lead to wild rumor and on some future occasion even to panic.

Dr. Hynek, who has been studying "flying saucer" sightings for 15 years, feels that certain unexplained sightings still deserve scientific attention. With the United States itself a space explorer, he is not ruling out the possibility that there are other civilizations in the universe that may be doing some exploring on their own although visits from afar would hardly be so frequent as reports of "sightings" might indicate.

Dr. Hynek's assessment of the current sightings can be taken as just about the best available.



'It Says We're Not Here.'

STORY UPDATES

FROM PAGE A9

Bainbridge crop circles: still generating questions

Unannounced visits from mystery seekers and calls from curious scientists have ended, but farmer Dale Mark and his wife still wonder about the unexplained design in their Ross County fields.

Ruling out the supernatural, the Bainbridge couple doubt that the culprit who damaged \$1,200 worth of soybeans in October will come forward. Passengers in a private airplane discovered that the beans had been flattened into a geometric pattern (Oct. 1, Metro & State).

"We haven't heard a thing," Mary Ellen Mark said. "It's hard to tell who did it. I don't think we'll ever find out."

The Marks were amused, at times, by the buzz that the crop circles created.

A woman from New Mexico sent a letter saying she believed in aliens but was sympathetic to their financial loss. Mrs. Mark appreciated the woman's concern but sent back her \$25 donation.

About a month ago, a college student called seeking an interview with Mr. Mark for a project.

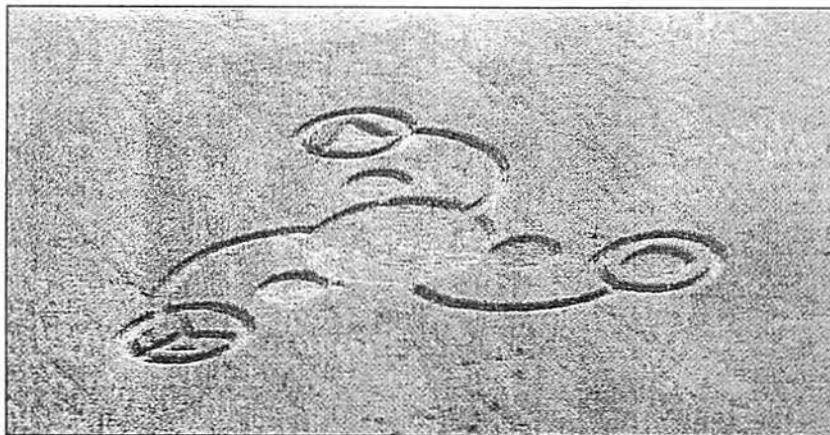
"You've got to laugh about it," Mrs. Mark said. "We've had calls from all over the country."

By now, the gossip around town has faded.

Resident Dave Brown said he has gained a greater appreciation for the skills needed to execute such a hoax.

"I was watching the History Channel, and some of the designs I saw on TV were really just beautiful," he said. "I can't get over people who had the time in the middle of the night."

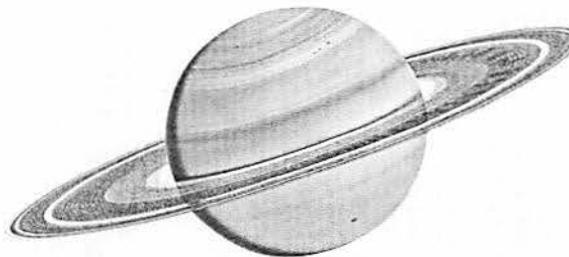
— Dana Wilson
dwilson@dispatch.com



FILE PHOTO

The crop circles that damaged a Ross County couple's soybean fields remain a mystery. "It's hard to tell who did it," said Mary Ellen Mark. "I don't think we'll ever find out."

What's up with that?
3
Year-end story updates



This may not be a UFO story, but it is from Ohio and it is interesting.

GRANVILLE

Phantom phenomena chill, thrill inn's guests

By Dana Willson
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

GRANVILLE, Ohio — She's seen guests rush down the stairs late at night, luggage in hand, pausing only to sign the bill before slipping out the front door.

Sometimes, she tries to calm them. That's part of the job for the Buxton Inn's night manager, Sandy James.

"It's always the same doors, the same rooms," she said. "People will say, 'The weirdest thing happened.'"

Some never return. Many, however, are drawn back — again and again.

During their first visit in 1999, Art and Sue Williams of Newark felt too shaken to remain in Room 9 all night.

They had heard the stories and decided to check in. After dinner in the basement tavern, they settled in for the



JAMES D. DeCAMP | DISPATCH

Buxton Inn night manager Sandy James, in the supposedly haunted tavern bar, says she has learned to shrug off eerie sounds.

evening.

"As soon as we shut the door, it started," Mrs. Williams said.

Untouched lights flickered off, then on. A mysterious message appeared on the bathroom mirror. And though the thermostat was set high, a chill filled the bedroom, followed by the poignant aroma of gardenias.

After Mr. Williams fell asleep, he

squirmed in bed as if being poked by an unseen hand. His wife watched the spectacle and decided then that enough was enough.

James was working that night and vividly remembers Mrs. Williams' reaction before checking out: "She was shaking. She said, 'We can't stay.'"

See **PHANTOM** Page **C3**

PHANTOM

FROM PAGE C1

And they didn't. But the Williamses returned and since then, have embraced the thrills they get from the host of spirits they believe linger there.

Now, they fancy themselves amateur ghost hunters and have spent many nights searching for — and sometimes witnessing — the unexplainable.

"It's our favorite place, as far as ghosts go," Mrs. Williams said. "They don't let you down."

Built in 1812, the inn once served as a stagecoach stop and is believed to be haunted by two former innkeepers.

Guests, employees and psychics claim they've seen Major Buxton, who owned the inn from 1865 to 1905, and Ethel "Bonnie" Bounell, owner from 1934 to 1961, roaming the halls.

Many who experience the hauntings are unaware of the

inn's legends when they arrive, said Audrey Orr, who with her husband, Orville, restored the inn before its 1974 reopening.

"We've had a number of people who have not even heard about the ghosts who tell us things," she said.

The most sightings occur in Room 9, where the figure of a woman walks and sometimes sits, she said. Other visitors have observed that overnight, a darkened chandelier has illuminated, or furniture has shifted.

Some have seen a ghost cat perched on the inn's porch steps. And certain doors appear to open and shut and repeatedly lock — then unlock — on their own.

The Buxton has become a popular destination for ghost hunters, Mr. Orr said. "Different people perceive in different ways . . . I think basically they feel comfortable coming here."

Last weekend, Debbie Bartesko of Cincinnati and her all-

female group of friends, family and co-workers spent their fourth weekend in two years at the inn.

The Boo Crew — as they call themselves — has heard muffled voices during the night, felt invisible touches and noticed unexplained white figures in photos.

They always swap photos and write about their experiences afterward.

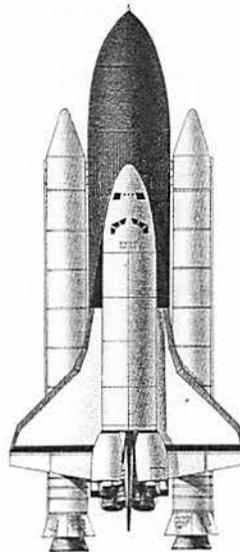
"You might be a little apprehensive, but you never feel threatened or frightened," Bartesko said. "It's exciting."

James has her own nickname: Fearless Sandy.

She said she's learned to shrug off the sometimes-eerie feelings that come to her late at night.

"I know every single sound, so I know the peculiar sounds by now," she said. "I was afraid a couple of times, but I'm past that."

dwilson@dispatch.com



Subject: UFO Sighting

DATE: Monday morning, January 12, 2004, 2:58 a.m.

Location: Yelton St., Amelia, OH (Clermont County)

Summary:

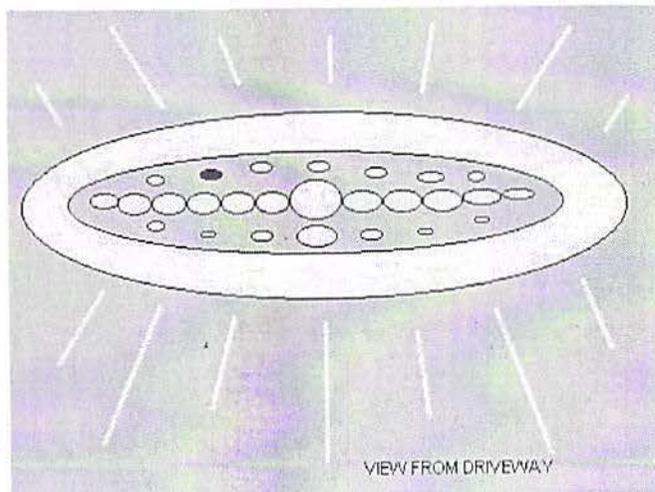
A lighted, disc-shaped object with a hump was seen hovering silently over homes near Amelia, Ohio. The object, which moved in a bizarre fashion said by witnesses to "drop and stop" near the East Fork vicinity, was sighted by at least three separate persons in Clermont County at 2:58 a.m., early Monday morning, January 12. Also seen was a shadow that 'transformed into a ball' -- one person describing a peculiar tannish-brown object, separate from the lighted UFO-which strangely 'rolled down the side of a house.' The sighting was first reported by one of the witnesses to the Cincinnati UFO hotline on Monday, investigation of the incident has turned up additional witnesses to the incident.

INCIDENT

At 2:58 a.m. on Jan. 12th, 2004, 21 year old student Susan T. (name and phone number on file, deleted for this report) and her neighbor Jeff F. were in Susan's driveway when they spotted an object high in the sky. Susan states that the object was hard to describe but said it was disc shaped with a "hump" on top. Susan said that at one point the object stopped and began to "drop." She thought it was going to hit the ground. However, it suddenly stopped and hovered and then it began to drop again. For several minutes this object

"stopped and dropped." She finally lost sight of it as it went below roof top level of her house.

Susan went on say that this object must have been "covered in a million lights" and also said there was a red



rotating light on the top of the hump and white lights on what she described as the belly or bottom of the object. She claims that the object seemed to turn on its side so that she could see the bottom part. This turning or flipping caused the object to look like it was changing shapes and getting bigger. It was when the object turned up that the "bottom" was covered in white lights that dimmed then grew brighter and changed patterns.

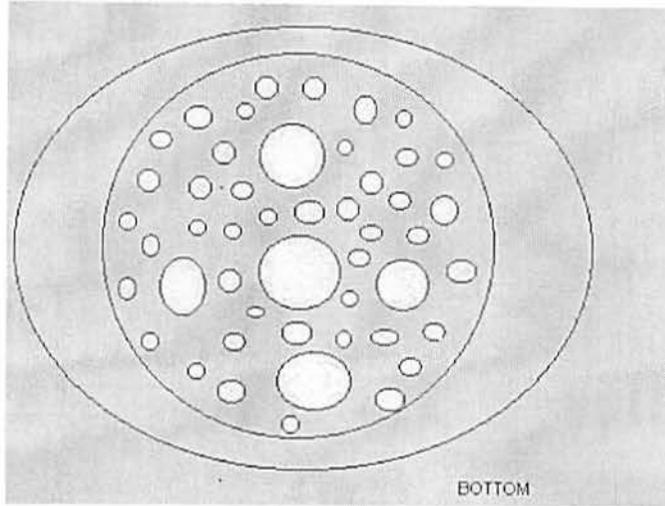
Susan said that the object was -- from her perspective--larger than your thumb at arms length. She does not know how far away it was but said it may have been over as far as State Route 222. (There are several streets between there; Lumsford and Eiler Lanes.) She said the object may have been in the vicinity of the Phantom Fireworks Factory on Route 125, somewhat to the west of her location.

Susan explained that she felt she was being watched and grew very frightened. Both she and her neighbor (Jeff F.) sat in the truck and watched this object for over an hour. It was 4:15 a.m. when it finally slowly went down behind her house.

Susan then stated that something very strange happened. Right after the object went behind her house she saw what appeared to be a "shadow" on her roof that turned into a ball and rolled down the roof. She said that her neighbor also saw the shadow.

Being very frightened neither person went behind the house to see where the object went. Susan feels that it did land or almost land. She also said that they did not see the object leave because she ran in into house after it went below the roof level and did not look anymore.

I asked if there was any adverse reactions by the animals in the area when the object was in view and Susan said that dogs on the other streets were going wild when the object came down close to the ground.



*E-Renditions by
1st Witness*

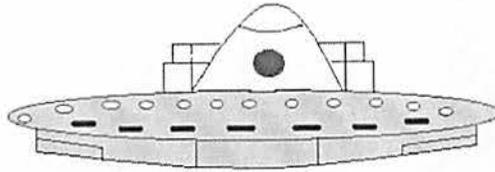
The second witness was then contacted for his comments on the report. Jeff F., a 45-year old disabled resident of Amelia, states that at 2:58 a.m. on Jan 12th, 2004, he and Susan were sitting in his truck in her driveway when they spotted the object hovering up over behind Susan's house. The object was up very high. They watched as this object began to drop very fast. It then stopped and hovered and then dropped again. This all happened very quickly. Jeff F. states that he looked away for a second and the light was back up in the sky in the same spot where they first saw it. It dropped and stopped again. This happened two times. Jeff F. says he does not know how big the object was but it had a slowly rotating red light on top.

I asked if there were other lights and Jeff said that he did not see any other lights nor could he tell the shape. He said they watched this object for an hour while they sat in his truck.

Jeff said this object eventually began to descend behind Susan's house. Just as it went out of view a very weird thing happened. Jeff F. said that a "light tannish brown shadow that turned into a ball about the size of a cantaloupe" rolled down Susan's roof.

"This happened so fast it was unbelievable," he said.

When this happened both became frightened and Susan ran in the house.



Both parties told me that there was a garbage truck coming down the street at the time the object was in view but they do not think the garbage man saw the UFO.

*E-DRAWING BY 2nd
WITNESS*

INVESTIGATORS COMMENT

Jeff F. and Susan's stories differ in some aspects. Both witnesses sounded sincere in their claims. Susan still sounds upset about what she saw and expressed to me that she has received little sleep since her sighting. I find the incident with the "shadow" very curious. Both people expressed to me that it was "something" other than just a shadow, but "shadow" was the only word they could find to describe it. It seems that this "shadow" upset both witnesses the most because the object was too far away to cast any reflection on the roof.

Susan is a 21 year old student at the University of Cincinnati. She is out of school for the winter but will be back in school for the spring term. She is taking courses (30-hours per week) to become an RN.

45-year old Jeff F. is now disabled but was formerly employed as an industrial engineer.

Susan informed me that she sometimes has trouble sleeping and she and Jeff F. will sit in his truck to talk so as not to wake her family. That night they had spotted the UFO.

Susan says the object was in the western skies when she first saw it. She says she does not know or could comment on how high the object was, saying she is not very good at judging distances. Jeff also said he could not guess on how high up this object was in darkness.

ADDITIONAL WITNESS

Through various telephone inquiries of neighboring residents in the area contact was made with one other possible witness.

A resident from a few blocks away (Eiler Rd) spoke with me by phone (name and phone number on file, withheld from this report) and said that around 3:30 a.m. on Monday morning, January 12, she looked out her window towards the West and saw a bright light in the vicinity of State Route 222. She did not know how high this object was but said it was a very big bright light above the trees. She said that from her perspective, the object was in a westerly direction toward the lake (East Fork). She could not give a clear estimate of elevation but claimed to have watched this object for a couple of minutes. After it allegedly disappeared she went back to bed.

The time and date of the claimed sighting, plus general location of the alleged object, matches detail furnished by the first two witnesses from Yelton St.

INVESTIGATION

I contacted the Clermont County Sheriff's Dept. at 513-732-2231. No UFO sightings were reported to them during this time frame.

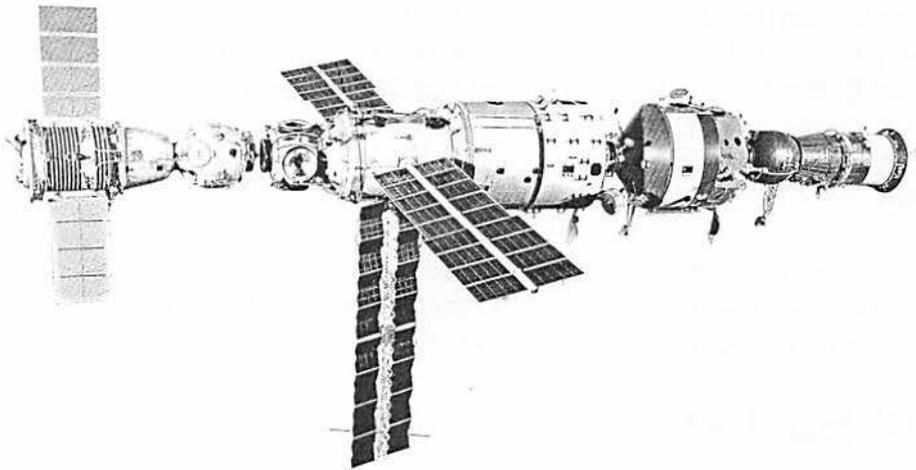
Next, I contacted the Bethel Police Dept. at 513-734-2256. No UFO sightings were reported during this time to them.

Additionally, researcher Kenny Young placed a call to the Clermont Sun Newspaper "465 E. Main St., Batavia, Ohio, 513-732-2511." He spoke with the editor, Art Hunter. He was told they had not heard of any UFO sightings.

Next, Young contacted the office at East Fork Lake State Park 513-734-4323. The telephone receptionist, Sandy, said she was completely unfamiliar with UFO sightings around the East

Fork State Park vicinity. She did inquire about the witnesses. She explained that she would pass the information along to the supervisor, others in the office and the park rangers who patrol the lake at night. She took Young's telephone number and e-mail address and attached them to her report. Young said if anyone had information about this story to feel free to contact him.

Filed 1/13/04
Donnie Blessing
Southern Ohio State Section Director MUFON



SUBJECT: Sighting of unusual figure

LOCATION: Manchester, Indiana, North Hogan Road (Dearborn County)

DATE: Saturday, January 24 - 7:30 p.m.

SUMMARY

A 17-year old motorist traveling almost 10-miles north of Aurora, Indiana around 7:30 p.m. at night on Saturday, January 24, claims to have encountered an unusual 'figure' in the roadway.

The story was first related second-hand by his uncle, Jerry Schedel (name used with permission), to Bob Leibold of Natural Light Productions, producer of the Cincinnati-based cable television program "UFO Update: LIVE!" on Sunday, January 25. After arrangements were made, I spoke directly with the primary claimant by telephone on two occasions after 8:30 p.m. Monday evening, January 26, confirming the story

earlier given and asking additional questions to the witness.



EYEWITNESS DRAWING

Click on [ALL images](#) for larger view

Thanks to JERRY SCHEDEL

The witness lives in Manchester, Indiana and is a senior at South Dearborn High School. He has 1-sister currently in College and lives

at home with his mother and father. His name will not be used in this report.

While driving his black Chevrolet Cavalier, a 1999 2-door model southbound along North Hogan Road, near Manchester,

Indiana, a "figure" was spotted in the headlights of the automobile as it was crouched down near a puddle of water. From the driver's perspective, the "figure" was spotted out the windshield on the right of the car.

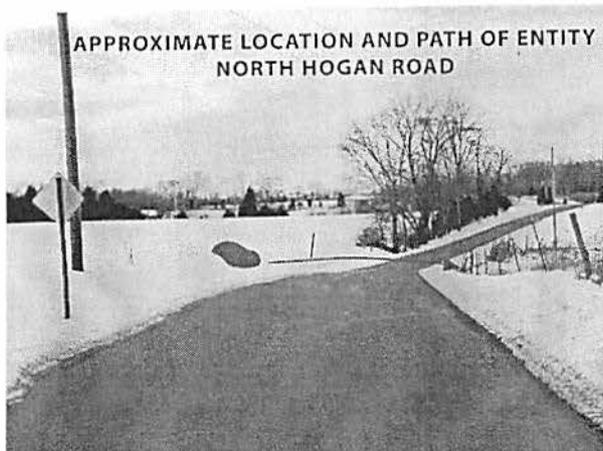
"I passed it and looked in rear view mirror, then it was standing," he said.

After passing the frail-looking figure, the driver looked into his rear view mirror and again observed - illuminated by the tail lights of his car - what he described as a tall, abnormal figure that moved strangely with pointed joints that "buckled out." He estimated the figure stood around 6 feet, seven inches.

"I had no idea what it was," he said. "It had protruding joints and moved very strangely."

The driver said he was able to ascertain the figure, alleged to be dark gray or black and 'pencil thin,' stand up and take several steps toward the woods along the roadside. The 'figure' definitely walked on two legs and was thought, somehow, to be a male - although no clothing was noted. No face or eyes could be seen, but the witness had the impression that the 'figure' was looking straight at him.

The 'figure' was immediately thought to be something out of the ordinary, not a human being. The duration of the sighting was 'hurried' and possibly within the 3 to 4 second range.



The driver continued on for a small distance after passing the figure and finally put on his brakes, coming to a stop at an estimated 2-minute "walking distance" on the road

from the location of the sighting. He looked back to further observe the entity. At that point, a second car came into view and approached from the opposite direction, passed and then

reached the spot on the road where the 'figure' was thought to be. The 17-year old motorist reportedly watched closely and observed the second car undertake what he thought to be an evasive maneuver near the vicinity of where he thought the figure would be situated, then the car turned around at that

spot and shortly pulled up behind him, somewhat in the grass.



He could then see it was an elderly couple in the car, both in their late 60s or early 70s, and both with gray hair. The driver, who wore glasses, said: "Boy, did you see something back there? I'll tell you

right now, that was no person."

The passenger in the silver 2-door Cavalier, an elderly female, said: "It was no human being. It was no man."

The elderly couple were reportedly "spooked" but offered to follow the first witness the remainder of the trip down North Hogan Road, clearly in the opposite direction of their intended destination route.

It was thought that the elderly couple observed this same 'figure' on the opposite side of the road, and possibly had observed it more closely.

With the elderly couple following close in the car behind him, the 17-year old motorist continued down North Hogan Road to his destination at a friends house where he called home to tell his mother of the encounter, advising her to lock her doors (his residence is less than 3-miles from the sighting location), and then called his uncle. The witness was said to become increasingly hysterical, and within an hour was describing the figure as "an alien."

SECOND CAR (SILVER CAVALIER) STOPPING
TO SEE IF BOTH DRIVERS HAD SEEN THE SAME THING



When asked by his uncle if there could be any alternative explanation for this 'figure,' the witness said that there was a chance it could have been an "improperly dressed elderly person," but still described the object as a "dark, shadowy figure" and "super anorexic" that could

have been wandering naked and lost (temperatures in the 20s) in the area without a coat. If so, the witness reportedly said, he would have 'felt badly' for the person.

The uncle, Jerry Schedel, was contacted within an hour of the sighting and traveled to the area with his wife some 90-minutes later and did not see anything. There is a house and pond nearby, almost 1/4 mile from the area of the sighting. The uncle said his nephew knows the exact location and can identify the spot, but would not agree to return to the area until daylight.

COMMENT

His uncle did try to get his nephew to rationalize how this sighting might be explained, but the witness openly admits not accepting his own speculation efforts, instead telling this reporter: "I have no explanation for what this thing was, I think it must have been some type of alien."

He said that he did travel down North Hogan road this afternoon during daylight, slowing down to survey the location of the incident but saw nothing out of the ordinary and the ground was also covered with around 4-inches of snow.

The witness sounds very sincere and cognizant. He answered my questions patiently and offered continued assistance in the investigation process, such as drawing a picture of the 'figure' and returning to the location for inspection of the area.