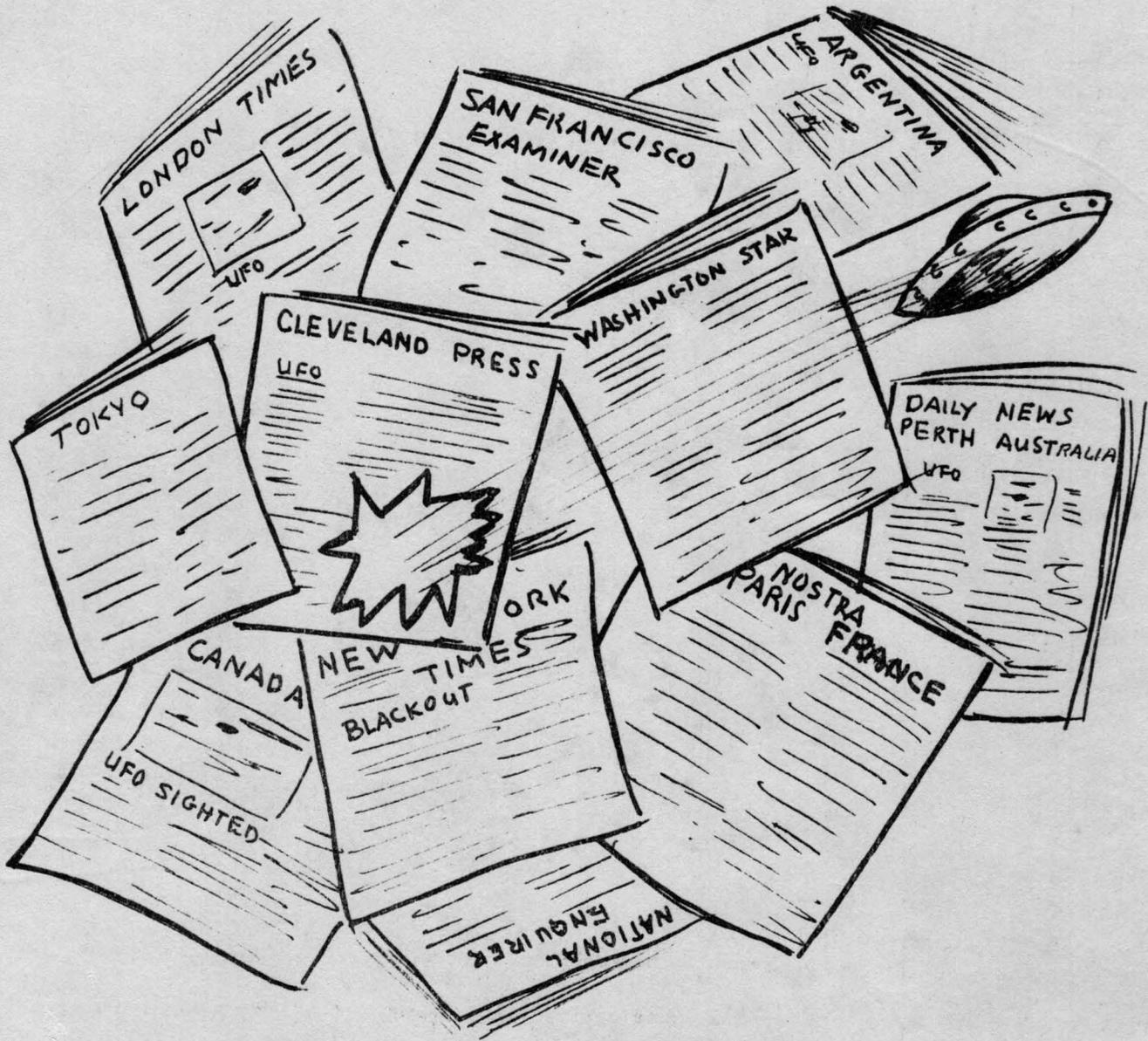


AERIAL PHENOMENON CLIPPING INFORMATION CENTER

P.O. BOX 9073

CLEVELAND, OHIO 44137



JANUARY 1978

VOLUME THREE-NO.1

DIRECT REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

A.P.C.I.C.

CLIPPING SERVICE
P.O. BOX 9073
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44137



HARRY R. COHEN
editor

S. MAC WILLIAMS
asst. editor

RON SMOTEK
photo analysis

RICHARD SMOTEK
"supplement" research

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

G. RONCORONI
Argentina

JEFF BELL
Australia

GEORGE HUME
W. Australia

H.C. PETERSEN
Denmark

JEAN SIDER
France

M. MORI
Japan

CLYPEUS
Italy

S. GERCEKSEVER
Turkey

WERNER WALTER
W. Germany



Aerial Phenomenon
Clipping & Information
Center News Releases
are published monthly.

Subscription Rates:
\$5.00 a month (including
our Supplement Section)
in the U.S. & Canada.

\$6.00 a month for
foreign subscriptions,
including AIR MAILING.
Make checks or money
orders payable to:
A.P.C.I.C.



Hairy apemen 8ft tall are encountered by Aussie cops in their Highway Patrol Chrysler Chargers. Not only that, they have to deal with the underground UFO city near Katoomba, the Atlantean caverns under Perth, the mysterious tunnels beneath the Nullarbor Plain, 30ft lizards 5ft high, the Kempsey UFO window, and more!

Send \$1 for a sample of *Psychic Australian*, a national newsstand monthly, or \$16 for 12 issues subscription: Psy Aus, PO Box 19, Spit Junction, 2088, Australia, NSW

Allow 6 weeks for delivery in USA

THE UFO EXAMINER

The reality of the UFO phenomenon can no longer be doubted!!! Read about the following in the pages of the EXAMINER:

THE
UFO EXAMINER



Only \$4.00 for 4 quarterly issues - Sample Copy: \$1.25

Send check or Money order to: **PRIVATE UFO INVESTIGATIONS**
Rt. No. 1, Hazleton, Iowa 50641

- ★ CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH UFOs
- ★ UFO LANDINGS
- ★ OCCUPANT SIGHTINGS
- ★ ABDUCTIONS
- ★ UFO NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

THE ONLY MAGAZINE WITH
COMPLETE COVERAGE OF
IOWA SIGHTINGS!!!

Errors in December 1977 issue--

p. 26: Lower article is from the Port Washington (Wis.) Ozaukee Press of November 10, 1977.

p. 27: Upper left article is from the Grantsburg (Wis.) Burnett County Sentinel of November 2, 1977.

p. 27: Lower article ("Window to the world") is from the Germantown (Wis.) Press of November 10, 1977.

p. 29: Lower right article is from the Viroqua (Wis.) Vernon County Broadcaster Censor of November 24, 1977.

p. 32: Right article is from the Simi Valley (Cal.) Sun & News of November 11, 1977.

p. 39: Top article ("Informe sobre los OVNI") is from the Buenos Aires (Argentina) Crónica of August 30, 1977. Fifth line of translation should read "Bueno, who saw,...;" last line should read "that the UFO occupants..."



PAGE RESEARCH LIBRARY'S
UFO
 #7 COMMUNICATORS COLLECTORS CATALOG #7
 a companion volume to the Page Research Library Newsletter
The question no longer is whether Flying Saucers exist—but why?

ODDEST UFO'S - Spangled Saucer

ATI, OHIO, March, 1955.
 rd Stringfield for witness

NEWSLETTER
 PAGE RESEARCH LIBRARY
FORTEAN NEWS AND UFO EVENTS

SIX ISSUES \$6.00 6708 COLAGATE AVE., CLEVELAND, OHIO 44102 No. 21 11-18-77

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND
 by Steve Beckwith
 Director of IIR
 CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE FIRST KIND
 by Robert M. Schuchman
 CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE SECOND KIND
 by Robert M. Schuchman
 CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND
 by Robert M. Schuchman

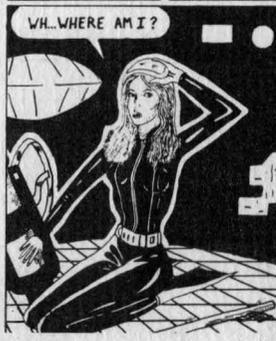
GREAT FRENCH "FLAP" - Mushroom Follower



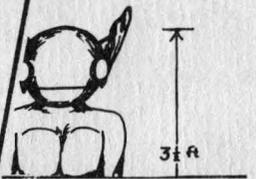
July 3, 1955-- drawn by Ted Bloecher for Margaret Symmonds

Make UFO

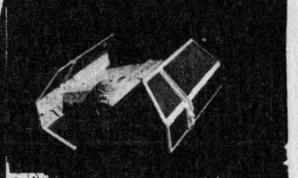
FATE Magazine is P INTERNATIONAL



RARE FLYING SAUCER BOOKS, including magazines, limited print run newsletters, private printing booklets. We cover all Fortean topics (Bigfoot, Loch Ness, Hollow Earth, Apparitions of The Virgin Mary, PLUS exclusive Richard Shaver Material) AND UFOs and their occupants. Page Research publishes a large deluxe catalog of items for sale. This includes new, used and rare! We also publish a newsletter of UFO events and Fortean News. Send us \$1.00 and we will send you a sample newsletter and catalog—try us, you'll like us!—Page Research



D. JUR
 ENTED KLY, DAYS 12:00 MIDNIGHT
 YOUR HOST: ARTHUR GOODSTONE



big foot

...NELLY ED FOR SIX OWED E DID.
 CLURE SYNDICA
 RT TO... SPAPER

big foot

BIGFOOT
 GCHNESS MONSTER
 BERPUDA TRIANGLE

**FILE WITHOUT INVESTIGATION
 E CROWN OF IGNORANCE
 THE HEAD OF A FOOL.**

REGION: _____
 DEBRING, OHIO 44672



tales of unexplained creatures
 UFO AND PSYCHIC CONNECTIONS
 Published by PAGE RESEARCH

FORTEAN FOOTNOTES --- FORTEAN FOOTNOTES --- FORTEAN FOOTNOTES



PAGE RESEARCH P.O. Box 5012 ROME, OHIO 44085

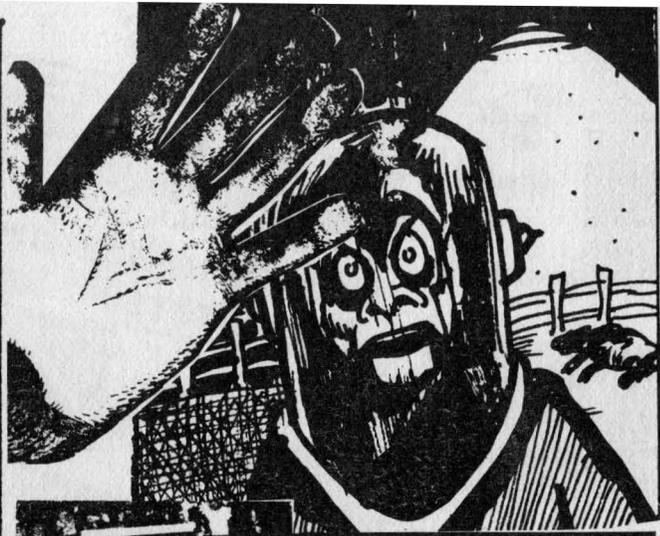


big foot

tales of unexplained creatures

UFO AND PSYCHIC CONNECTIONS

Published by PAGE RESEARCH



Bigfoot. Whether the Man-Ape of America is a throwback to King Kong or a bizarre mutation, over 300 eyewitness reports and photographs bear witness his continuing existence.



UFO AND PSYCHIC CONNECTIONS

BIGFOOT: TALES OF UNEXPLAINED CREATURES!

A DELUXE PRINTED BOOK IN LIMITED EDITION COMPLETE WITH EXCLUSIVE RESEARCH FOUND NOWHERE ELSE. COMES WITH ILLUSTRATIONS, PHOTOS, DRAWINGS, SOURCE LISTINGS, MORE...

60 PAGES LONG, CARDBOARD COVER
PRICE: \$3.25 (POSTAGE INCLUDED)

FROM: PAGE RESEARCH, P.O. Box 5012
ROME, OHIO 44085

IS THE **BIGFOOT** CREATURE ONLY A MYTH?

NOW

YOU CAN SEE WHAT MANY CAN ONLY READ ABOUT... THE WORLD FAMOUS HOMO PONGOIDES (STILL FROZEN IN SOLID ICE)

As Seen In **ARGOSY** Magazine

"THIS IS THE SAME MYSTERIOUS SPECIMEN THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF BOOKS, MAGAZINES, MOVIES AND SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS PUBLISHED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD..."

A COLLECTION AT
PAGE RESEARCH JULY 10



*****NEW HARDCOVER BOOKS*****

ALIENS ON EARTH! by Joshua Strickland - Grosset & Dunlap, Inc. 51 Madison Ave. N.Y., NY 10010, \$4.95 - (A general survey of Ufology for younger readers.)

THE UFO CONNECTIONS OF JESUS CHRIST by Kazmer Ujvarosy - Vantage Press, Inc., 516 West 34 Street, N.Y. NY 10001, \$5.95 - (Reprints of seemingly UFO-related events from the Bible and various apocryphal writings; includes material not used in similar books.)

THE STRANGE WORLD OF FRANK EDWARDS edited by Rory Stuart - Lyle Stuart, Inc., 120 Enterprise Ave., Secaucus, NJ 07094, \$8.95 - (Collection of reprinted material from Edwards' books.)

PERPETUAL MOTION by Arthur W.J.G. Ord-Hume - St. Martin's Press, Inc., 175 Fifth Avenue, N.Y. NY 10010, \$15.00 - (Sub-titled "The History of an Obsession" an incomplete survey of various perpetual motion and "free energy devices.")

EDGAR CAYCE'S PHOTOGRAPHIC LEGACY by David M. Leary - Doubleday & Co., Inc., 245 Park Avenue, N.Y. NY 10017, \$12.95 - (The famous psychic's work as a professional photographer; includes many photos taken by Cayce, plus material from family scrapbooks, the psychic readings, etc.)

ELUSIVE TREASURE by Brian Fagan - Charles Scribner's sons, 597 Fifth Avenue, N.Y. NY 10017, \$17.50 - (Early archaeology in the Americas; the "conventional" view of the Mound Builders, lost continents legends, etc.)

ANCIENT MYSTERIES by Peter Haining - Taplinger Publishing Co., 200 Park Ave., South, N.Y., NY 10003, \$9.95 - (Well-illustrated volume exploring various enigmas; the "hollow Earth," UFOs, Abominable Snowmen, Loch Ness Monster, etc.)

*****NEW PAPERBACK BOOKS*****

SMARTER THAN MAN? by Karl-Erik Fichtelisu & Sverre Sjolander - Ballantine Books, 201 East 50th Street, N.Y., NY 10022, \$1.75 - (An examination of intelligence in whales and dolphins, as compared to human intelligence.)

THE WORLD ALMANAC BOOK OF THE STRANGE by the Editors of the THE WORLD ALMANAC - The New American Library, Inc., P.O. BOX 999, Bergenfield, NJ 07621, \$2.50 - (Still another collection of data relating to strange things and places.)

ENCOUNTER CASES FROM FLYING SAUCER REVIEW edited by Charles Bowen - The New American Library, Inc., (Address as before), \$1.75 - (Reprinted material from the past 22 years of FSR issues, with an introduction and comments by Bowen.VG)
VOICES OF SPIRIT by Charles H. Hapgood - Nordon Publications, Inc., 185 Madison Avenue, N.Y. NY 10016, \$1.75 - (Spiritualistic messages and philosophy through the medium, Elwood Babbitt.)

THE SEARCH FOR BRIDEY MURPHY by Morey Bernstein - Pocket Books, 1230 Avnue of the Americas, N.Y. NY 10020, \$1.95 - (Reprint of the famous best-seller which started the exploration of "past lives" by hypnotic regression.)

THE SACRED SHROUD by Thomas Humber - Pocket Books (address as above), \$1.95 - (A new examination of historical and recent evidence for the theory that the Holy Shroud of Turin was the burial cloth of Jesus.)

ETIDORMPA by John Uri Lloyd - Pocket Books (address as above), \$1.95 - (Reprint of one of the classic "hollow Earth" stories; fascinating reading, wheter fact or fiction.)

FIRE FROM HEAVEN by Michael Harrison - Pan Books Ltd., Cavaye Place, London SW10 9PG, England, approximately \$1.50 - (Comprehensive report on the phenomenon of spontaneous human combustion.)

JOURNEYS OUT OF THE BODY by Robert A. Monroe - Doubleday & co., Inc., 245 Park Avenue, N.Y., NY 10017, \$3.95 - (large revised paperback edition of what has become a classic in the literature of "astral projection.")

ETHER-TECHNOLOGY by Rho Sigma - CSA Press, Lakemont, GA 30552, \$5.75 - (Subtitled "A rational approach to gravity-control"; the discared "ether" theory reconsidered in terms of anti-gravity systems and UFO propulsion methods.)

*****NOTICES*****

THOSE INTERESTED!! We are thinking of putting out a quarterly index of our news releases. It would consist of all the reported sightings that appeared in our publications over a four month period. The sightings, theories, viewpoints, etc. would be broken down into catagories and geographical regions. The cost of these issues would be \$3.00 each. We would very much like to hear from concerning this project. Do you feel it would be beneficial or not?? Ideas are most welcomed.

THANK YOU ALL for your support. We hope that you are all pleased with our service. Look forward to some new ideas and additions to APCIC.

Harry
Cohn

Air Force brass feared claims of space 'creatures', says UFO expert

AIR FORCE investigators debunked reported sightings of alien space "creatures" because they feared the implications, according to UFO expert Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

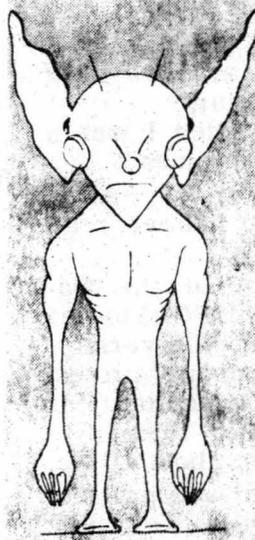
Dr. Hynek, who was official consultant to the USAF during its massive Project Blue Book investigation of thousands of UFO sightings, told THE STAR this week that reports of UFO "beings" were unacceptable to officials.

"Probably because once we dare to admit that alien beings to ourselves exist, we are forced to face our deepest fears of the unknown, along with our more basic and specific fears of competition and hostility," he said.

Dr. Hynek, professor of astronomy at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., also heads the Center for UFO Studies, and was technical advisor for the hit movie Close Encounters Of The Third Kind. He has just published a book—The Hynek UFO Report—based on his experiences as a UFO investigator, evaluating scores of the most credible UFO sightings.

In most cases, witnesses names have been censored by order of the Attorney General's office, to protect their privacy.

Hynek says: "Since the majority of these sightings last for several minutes, and the witnesses are generally able to recall specific details, it seems highly unlikely that the witnesses are hallucinating; hallucinations are usually transitory in nature, and the 'victim' is not generally able to describe things in detail."



Sketch of creature seen on Kentucky farm.

In one amazing incident, farmers took pot shots at 'space beings' as they floated in trees

One of the most interesting cases, says Hynek, is the Kelly-Hopkinsville sighting on August 21, 1965. Seven adults—three women and four men—reported sighting creatures on a farm in Kelly, Ky.

They were interviewed in three separate groups, and Hynek writes: "All groups agreed that the height of the creatures was from two and a half to three and

a half feet. They all agreed that the head was bald, the same color as the body; the head was rather oblong like an egg."

Some members of the group said they shot at the creatures.

Hynek says: "Whenever it was hit, it would float or fall over and scurry for cover...The shots when striking the object would sound as though they were hitting a bucket.

"The objects made no sound...while jumping or walking or falling. The undergrowth would rustle as the objects went through it...There was no sound of walking.

"The objects were seemingly weightless as they would float down from trees more than fall from them.

"When they approached the house in all cases, the arms were raised in a 'stick 'em up' fashion, and they would approach very slowly on their hind feet.

"When struck with bullets or a flashlight, they would drop to hands position and run. Since the talon curls much in the same fashion as a hawk's and the hands were raised above the head, it apparently looked rather like an attack position. However, it may have been a friendly gesture to indicate that they had no weapons.

"They would move slowly when in this position towards the houses and made no attempt to enter. They just stood and stared until they were frightened away."

SIMI VALLEY, CAL. ****
ENTERPRISE SUN & NEWS
****OCT. 28, 1977****

Lights in the sky

Two Simi Valley girls became the latest local residents to spot UFO's when they saw three golden colored lights **PAGE ONE** on Wednesday.

The two, Taleah Borders, 14, and her friend Anna Knee, 11, said they saw the lights, maybe two telephone pole lengths into the air, hovering over Mountain View Elementary School at about 8 p.m.

The lights are the latest in a series of local UFO sightings, including one sighting by several Simi Valley Police officers.



A UFO photographed in Central Brazil in 1969: Dr. Hynek and his team investigated hundreds of similar sightings in recent years.

THE STAR MAGAZINE
DEC. 27, 1977

* © 1977 by J. Allen Hynek. All rights reserved. Published by Dell Publishing Co., Inc.

CON'T ON THE NEXT PAGE

Ordinary people see extraordinary things

By DON EDWARDS
 Leader city editor

"Most people are learning about UFOs the same way I learned about sex when I was a boy — from bad magazines."

That's what Dr. J. Allen Hynek, 67, told *The Leader* in an interview earlier this year.

Hynek, director of the National Center for UFO Studies near Northwestern University, where he is an astronomy professor, was technical consultant for *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, the new movie about UFOs.

The astronomer was particularly interested in a Kentucky UFO encounter involving three Casey County women. The three revealed under hypnosis that they had been abducted by a UFO and subjected to painful examinations by eerie creatures with "luminous blue eyes and hands that resembled wings."

Hynek termed that incident — which happened in 1976 — "one of the best" in the history of flying saucer reports because of the number and veracity of the witnesses.

"There is no reason — certainly no obvious reason — to discredit their story," he said. The three women had passed lie detector tests.

"The old conception that UFO abductions only happen to kooks

or crackpots won't hold water any more," said Hynek.

The Illinois astronomer — who has a bit part in *Close Encounters* as a scientist — runs a national clearing house for UFO reports. Its data bank — used as a source for the movie script — contains 75,000 cases of UFO encounters and sightings. Hynek has campaigned for more scientific study of UFOs for years. Now, people are beginning to listen.

Hynek, a Chicago native and father of five children, was once a skeptic himself. "There was just too much evidence," he said. "It kept mounting. Ordinary people kept seeing extraordinary things. I finally had to take it seriously — you can't ignore the evidence."

Hynek is presently working on an analysis of the Air Force Project "Blue Book" files, which were recently declassified.

Hynek says "the main message of the whole UFO experience is that we must expand our concept of what we mean by 'reality.'"

The main scientific question to be answered concerning UFOs, he said, is whether they exist in what we call reality, or in some other dimension.

"And if you could answer that one," he said, "you could win a Nobel Prize."

Hynek says the story met with complete disbelief on the part of most persons, except those who knew the family well. But Bud Ledwith, an announcer from a local radio station who investigated the incident firmly believed the witnesses.

Hynek says: "He could find no motive whatever for a hoax—the simple folk were not seeking publicity and indeed suffered horribly from curiosity-seekers, reporters and sensation-mongers."

Another remarkable "close encounter" involved a radio announcer who was driving toward Long Prairie, near Minneapolis, on October 23, 1965, when he came upon a rocket-shaped object in the middle of the road.

The man claimed three little "creatures" emerged from the object. Hynek quotes the man as saying: "I think that they were looking at me. I cannot be sure because I did not see eyes of any sort. I know that I was looking at them and I was quite fascinated with what I saw.

"I can safely say that we 'looked' at each other for about three minutes. Then they turned and went under the object and a few seconds later, the object started to rise slowly.

"After it was about one quarter mile high, the light went out and my car engine started to run again.

"I then drove to the Todd County Sheriff's Office and reported what I had seen to the sheriff."

Hynek's book also reports on sightings outside the U.S. One of the most widely-documented was a sighting at Boaianai mission in New Guinea, witnessed by Father William Melchior Gill and several natives in June 1959.

Gill told Hynek that a glowing disc descended over the mission, and several figures emerged from it.

Hynek quotes Gill as saying: "There were four men in all, occasionally two, then one, then three, then four."

MILTON, PA. - STANDARD
 *****NOV. 30, 1977*****

UFO's sighted

MOUNT CARMEL—A Mount Carmel woman and her husband have reported seeing unidentified flying objects in the region. She said the couple first saw the object at night on Nov. 11 and have seen it five or six times since then. The woman described it as a bright light that moved quickly and had rays of light shooting out in all directions. Another person said it looked like an upside-down umbrella.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE - ILL.
 *****DEC 15, 1977*****

Is the Soviet Union in for saucer sightings?

UFOs MAY BE buzzing (or whatever they do) around the December skies more than normal this year, particularly over central Russia. At least, that's what David Saunders' computer says.

Saunders is a Princeton University psychologist who used a computer to analyze 45,000 UFO sightings, and from that he predicts flying saucer activity will peak around Christmastime, especially over central Russia. His study indicates that UFO flaps occur in distinct patterns, every 61 months. (The last one was in November, 1972.)

Sounds great, but Saunders himself is

dubious about the importance of his prediction.

"IT'S A PRETTY cheap prediction," he says. "If it doesn't happen, people will say the Russians aren't telling us about it. And if it does, then it won't be anything great and wonderful.

Others have predicted flaps, and a certain proportion of them get lucky." But those others didn't predict a UFO flap on the heels of the premiere of the new science-fiction movie, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

Saunders admits that that could help his predictions come true.

Paul Weingarten

SPECTACULAR UFO SIGHTING

CLOSE ENCOUNTER!



ALMOST at the same moment that movie fans in Manhattan were jamming the theaters to see the UFO movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, two Staten Island girls were fleeing a mysteriously airborne object that "seemed as big as the moon."

Toni Corbo, 23, and her friend Diane Diaz, 21, say a saucer literally drove them off the road.

The incident began early in the morning of November 20th.

As they drove along Hyland Avenue the "thing" suddenly appeared.

"I looked up and in the left-hand side of the windshield there was this orange, egg-shaped thing," said Toni. "It was round on the bottom, ragged at the top. I thought at first it was the moon, but it was much larger. I said, 'Look at the moon.' And Diane said, 'That's not the moon! It's moving.'"

The women panicked as the "moon saucer" moved across the road a few hundred yards in front of them.

"We thought it was coming down right near the car," Toni says. "We could barely speak — it was the biggest thing I have ever seen in the sky!"

Help

About this time Detective Sergeant Ed Stanulis, 45, and his partner, patrolman Frank Chiarullo, also 45, happened upon the scene.

The two girls blinked their car lights to stop the policemen and then ran for help.

"They were hysterical," said Stanulis. "We thought they were going to report an accident."

The girls convinced the officers to drive toward the woods where the "saucer" had apparently landed. As the policemen reported their situation, the

By Larry Bell

police radio cackled with wisecracks.

Then the object re-appeared. "We saw an orange object, rounded on the bottom, concave at the top. We got out and looked at it. Me and Frank said, 'Jesus, it looks like the moon!'"

The girls chorused: "No way". And they were right, the moon was not "officially" due to rise until later in the evening.

The four drove in the patrol car until it was near the water and then watched the object disappear. It allegedly turned a darker shade of orange and then quickly sunk below the horizon.

"I feel like a damn fool," Diane now complains. "No one believes us. Well, I never saw anything like it in my life. I never imagined anything like it."

Witnesses:

*It drove
us from
the road*

NATIONAL EXAMINER
DEC. 26, 1977

GIRARD, PA. - COSMOPOLITE HERALD
*****NOV. 3, 1977*****

Halloween UFO

Strange Beings, These Earthlings

Three area trick-or-treaters spotted what they call a UFO over the lake near Lake City Monday night.

Jim Keep, Allegheny Dr., Lake City, Mike Ropelewski, Barber Dr., Girard, and Jim Fitch, West Lake Rd., Lake City, were trick-or-treating on Allegheny Drive when they saw a yellow-white light in the sky at approximately 7:45 p.m.

They had stopped at a friend's house when they noticed the light over the lake, according to Keep. "It was a ball of light with a ring around it," said 12-year-old Keep, "like Saturn except it was too big."

The boys reportedly watched the light move east over the lake for a moment. Several of their

companions thought the light was an airplane, Keep said. According to Keep, the boys turned away to pose for a snapshot, and the light was gone when they turned back.

None of the boys reported any sort of noise. "It was just a big ball of light," said Ropelewski, "I swear I saw it."

A number of county residents reported strange lights in the sky early Saturday morning.

UFO's Spotted Over Cemetery

CATSKILL - Residents of New and Thompson Streets, reported seeing about 20 Unidentified Flying Objects between 8-10 p.m. Saturday night.

According to one witness, a mass of 20 to 30 blinking lights appeared over the Thompson Street cemetery. The witness said the lights were very high in the sky and were difficult to see at times because of the clouds.

Occasionally additional lights would dart into the mass of other lights, according to the witness.

Saw orange UFO in pre-dawn sky

This is to verify what the four people saw in the sky on Monday morning, Nov. 21 — that glowing orange-colored disc-like object, which looked like a UFO.

I was on my way to Newark Airport at exactly 5:30 a.m., going 50 miles per hour on the turnpike, when I suddenly looked up in the sky. To my surprise, there was this bright orange disc-like object. It was a beautiful sight. I couldn't tell if it was moving or standing still, as I had to keep my eyes on the road.

I'm sure other motorists must have seen it, but thought nothing of it. I travel this route often and this is the first time I've seen anything like it.

F. ASARO,

Midland Beach

STATE ISLAND, N.Y. - ADVANCE
*****NOV. 5, 1977*****
*****DEC. 5, 1977*****

CATSKILL, N.Y. - NEWS
*****NOV. 17, 1977*****

'The most striking I've seen'

By JOHN WOESTENDIEK
Leader staff writer

IRVINE — Terry Joe Kirby was cutting wood on a crisp February morning when a glowing saucer shape appeared above the snow-covered trees in his backyard.

For the 15-year-old Kirby, the sight was not that unusual. He — like many other residents of this foothills town — had seen the object maybe a dozen times before.

But never in the daylight, never when its outline was visible. It was about 10 a.m. when the Estill County High School student ran inside to get his Polaroid camera. He took one picture.

The result is a photograph that J.C. Mahr, astronomy and physics professor at nearby Eastern Kentucky University calls "the most striking (if real) photo that I have seen." Mahr says he has no reason to doubt the photo's authenticity. He said it was examined by three professional photographers, all of whom agreed it is

not a double exposure.

That it was taken with a Polaroid — a camera with which it is difficult to do tricks — and that it was taken by a relative novice

also lend credence to the photo. The object in the photo also fits the description given by the many residents who have seen it at night.

OK, try to picture this

Here's a coincidence almost as fantastic as UFOs — a Kentucky writer described a space creature landing in Estill County 10 years before the saucer sightings began there.

Walter Tevis, author of *The Hustler*, wrote a second novel, first published in 1963, called *The Man Who Fell To Earth*. It was made into a movie last year starring rock singer David Bowie.

The book was about an alien who falls to earth in Irvine, the county seat of Estill.

Tevis, now an English pro-

fessor at Ohio State University, said this past weekend that his book was "entirely made-up science fiction."

Tevis said he used Estill County as a setting for the story "because it was a very out-of-the-way place." The writer taught for several years at Irvine High School.

"I'm not particularly excited about the whole (UFO) phenomenon," said Tevis. But he did admit he was surprised at Estill County's being the site of many UFO sightings more than a decade after his novel came out.



Kirby's Polaroid photo



Kirby: he's a believer

It is unique in its clarity, as UFO photos go. And while it has become somewhat tattered in the year since it was taken — passed from neighbor to neighbor, stored in purses and family Bibles — the previously unpublished photograph remains clear.

"I think it's a spaceship," says Kirby, the son of Gayland and Doris Kirby, Route 2. "I think there's life on other planets."

Kirby said he has been interested in UFOs for about four years — ever since he saw his first one in Estill County. He tried to interest a UFO club in his picture, he said, but they never returned his call.

Kirby says most of the people to whom he showed the photo believe it is real. "I showed it to some of my teachers," he said. "They didn't say much. They asked me if I faked it. They asked me if I hung up a lamp or something."

THE LEXINGTON LEADER - KY.
*****DEC 14, 1977*****

If You're English, Irish Or Cherokee—Watch Out

By TOM BRINKMOELLER
 Enquirer Reporter

Charles and Geri Wilhelm have believed in the unbelievable for more than 20 years. But their credibility quotient advanced a few measures three years ago when their daughter, Angel, skipped the Uncle Al show to talk with a hologram dressed in a silver suit.

The Wilhelms are founders of a Fairfield-based group known as OUFOL (Ohio UFO Investigators League Inc). Since its founding in 1973, the 37-member group has relentlessly tracked the unknown.

"But we've always avoided involving the children," Charles explained. "That's why we were so convinced by our daughter's experience."

"He talked to her," interjected Wilhelm's wife. "He's never spoken to me."

The "silver-suited man," as the family calls him, had been seen several times before by Mrs. Wilhelm. She said the man is very probably a laser-projected image—a hologram—transmitted to her house through many miles of outer space.

THE MOTHER said she first became suspicious when she passed her four-year-old daughter's room that day, noticed the door closed and heard Angel speaking inside the room. Just playing with dolls, concluded Mrs. Wilhelm.

"But at 9:30 she still hadn't come out to watch Uncle Al," she continued. "When she did come out I asked her what she'd been doing. 'I was talking with a man in a silver suit,' she told me. He told her he was from a UFO . . . or was it a flying saucer. I don't remember what term she said he used."

The daughter's description of the image matched the mother's earlier encounters: six feet two inches tall, wearing a one-piece silver suit (including the boots), white hair with no part, combed straight back and "every hair in place."

"He has a beautiful smile, eyes bluer than Bing Crosby's used to be, a high cheekbone structure and looked to be in his early 50s," Mrs. Wilhelm said, "but he gave the impression of being centuries old."

SHE SAID she never thought to talk to the man. He stayed each time no longer than two minutes and gave her a peaceful feeling for having just watched his image.

Silver-suit hasn't been the only encounter Mrs. Wilhelm has had with the unknown: One time her

contact lenses unexplainably warped; another time an appliance repairman discovered her electric range had never been plugged in, even though it had worked perfectly for more than a year before he was called in.

Mrs. Wilhelm said it is the feeling of many "ufologists" that certain persons have been picked out to be watched. That's why she wasn't particularly unnerved when a light beam from a hundred feet in the sky was concentrated on her head for several minutes one night.

Her husband said she could be having the experiences because of her Indian heritage.

"Ninety-five percent of all your witnesses (to unexplainable encounters) are either Cherokee Indian, English or Irish," he said.

THE WILHELMS were gathered with more of their group Saturday in a Fairfield, Ohio, firehouse as part of a continuing education program. Twenty-two of the group are qualified as investigators of the unknown; more were there Saturday to undergo a three-hour test which could move them up also to investigator status.

Though the group members still take great interest in silver streaks which whoosh through the night sky, they've expanded their interests in the last four years. The big topic at the firehouse Saturday was recent area sightings of a "big-foot" creature.

Wilhelm introduced Ron Schaffner as "our big-foot director." Then Schaffner told of the three most-recent "animal" sightings in the area. One was near Aurora, Ind., one in Rabbit Hash, Ky., and the latest this past May in Eaton, Ohio.

Schaffner said the big-foot creature confronted a pair of teenage boys in Eaton. They described the animal as seven-to-eight feet tall, covered with smelly brown hair and giving off a screech which sounded like "a squeaky fan belt on a car and a bird." He said the area where they met the animal was a likely one, being near a covered bridge. Research has helped to define where these creatures hang out, he said.

"THEY SEEM to hang out around covered bridges, caves, cemeteries, schools, airports, power lines and gravel pits," Schaffner explained.

The Eaton creature left foot prints, which were 16 inches long, seven inches wide and showed a stride of six-and-a-half-feet, he said. Further investigation has led the group to believe this area may be inhabited by not only big-foot creatures but also other animals not

known by modern science.

Where do they come from?

"Perhaps the creatures are coming from an underground stream," Wilhelm said. "Perhaps from a subterranean existence. Maybe they're from a window area . . . a dimensional type of thing they can enter in and out of or a parallel universe. They may be doing it at will or they may be controlled by a supernatural force which has control of it (the window)."

Other animals seen include a saber-tooth tiger, Wilhelm said. OUFOL wants to delve deeper into these incidents, to investigate if they truly do come from an underground world. But the money isn't there to do it.

EVEN THAT may be solved soon, he said. An Ohio congressman, who Wilhelm wouldn't name, is currently working on a "federal grant and other things" which would be the fulfillment of Wilhelm's wildest dream.

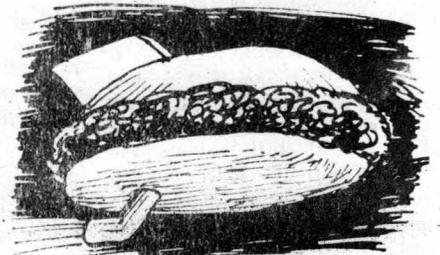
With the money his group would hire three full-time investigators, move from the firehouse to suitable offices and purchase a computer to correlate the unknown.

Then, perhaps, with the help of Washington, Mrs. Wilhelm might find out why her glasses warped.

NEW ENGLANDER - DUBLIN, N.H.
 *****DECEMBER 1977*****

HAVE IT YOUR WAY

Betty Hill, who is the most famous spotter of UFOs in N.H. — or in the U.S. or even the world, for all we



know — reports that she "saw one that looked like a giant hamburger bun that was burping out little burgers."

A Frightening Story

UFO Over South King County?

PAGE ONE

By Marcia Friedman

A 32-year-old South King County housewife says that she and her children watched an unidentified Flying Object hovering over a field near her farmhouse Wednesday night.

The woman, who agreed to tell her story to The Post-Intelligencer only if her identity was not disclosed, calling the experience "scary" and one she would not like to repeat.

A local authority on the UFO phenomenon, Robert Gribble, said that her account appeared authentic.

In an interview yesterday she gave this account:

"I was sitting in the living room at 5:30 p.m. with my two children when they brought my attention to it. They said 'Mom, there is a light in the sky and it's not moving.'

"We saw this thing through the window, this huge light which just sat out there hovering in the sky over the neighbor's field. We went outside and I leaned against the fence post to watch it. It didn't move."

She said that it was about 100 yards away and 200 to 300 feet in the air.

"I could see there was more than one light but it was such a huge mass you couldn't see how many. It hurt my eyes it was so bright. It formed a huge cone of yellowish-gold light downward to the field.

"I watched for three minutes and it didn't move or make a sound. Then it moved straight up for a second and began moving from the southeast to the northwest. The lights dimmed and as it went over me I saw three big lights on the bottom. I was looking for tails or wings or anything that might stick out, but it was perfectly round and that is the reason I got so scared.

"I realized it wasn't a plane. The only noise that came out of it was kind of a faint electrical hum. It hesitated over our house and then continued over the trees behind our barn and disappeared."

The woman said she has lived on a farm all her life "so I am pretty familiar with the sky and the stars and I know the constellations. I am sure of what I saw, and it wasn't something that a hysterical person would look at and make a big story out of. I have never been afraid of anything in the sky."

She said that the owner of the field was not at home and that the nearest other neighbors were more than a quarter of a mile away.

She called the Seattle police who referred her to King County police. County police contacted Gribble at Phenomena Research, a Seattle organization which investigates and determines the nature of UFO phenomena, and she was then contacted by that group.

"I would say it fits the pattern we have seen over the past 30 years," Gribble told The P-I yesterday. "The description of the thing she saw, the fact it was obviously moving about the area in complete defiance of all laws of gravity. The sound she heard fits the pattern."

The woman lives in a rural area on a 15-acre farm, and Gribble said most UFO sightings occur in rural areas. He added that because the objects seem to cause problems with electronic and communication equipment in heavily populated areas, "whatever it is that is controlling this thing has the knowledge they do this kind of damage so they stay away."

Gribble said he can usually tell when a report is a hoax, but that the woman's story appeared authentic. He said she was very upset and that it had been her first experience. He said the woman did not tell him where the three lights were positioned, but guesses they formed a triangle.

A check back with the woman confirmed Gribble's guess. The woman immediately said the light formed a triangle with the front two lights blinking.

She said the diameter appeared as long as a Boeing 727 or 737 but she was unable to see the sides or top of the object. Gribble said her report would not be given a "real high priority" because she could not fully describe the vehicle.

A duty officer at the Federal Aviation Administration air traffic control center in Auburn said he knew of no blimps or other such craft in the area.

Until her first encounter, the woman said UFOs were not of any importance in her life. She had never met anyone who had seen a UFO. "I have occasionally read about UFOs and wondered, but then thought it's just like Bigfoot. I'll believe it when I see it."

Now she believes she saw a "UFO or whatever." But she said she wouldn't want to see one again, although her kids thought it was great.

"It was too scary. I don't like things I can't identify, things that aren't logical to me. I'm just too much of a down-to-earth person."

WAYNESBORO, GA. - TRUE CITIZEN
*****NOV. 30, 1977*****

Flying saucers

BY GARY COWART

Flying saucer is a popular name for an unusual sight in the sky. Such an object or light is also referred to as an unidentified Flying Object. (UFO).

Many UFO's have been described as cigar-shaped or saucer-shaped, having a bright, colored glow; and moving at extremely high speeds. They are sometimes seen floating near the ground or rising quickly and flying soundlessly or with a high-pitched whine.

Observers claim that UFO's have left markings on the ground where they landed. Some supposedly caused animals to behave strangely and affected electrical devices. The existence of truly

unidentified flying objects is hotly debated. Thousands of UFO's have been reported by reliable people in many countries. Most UFO reports have logical explanations.

Sometimes people report weather or high altitude balloons as UFO's. Other reports are caused by mistaken identification of meteors, planets, stars, rockets, artificial satellites or air-craft seen under unusual lighting. Still others are mirages caused by atmospheric conditions.

People have reported seeing strange objects in the sky for hundreds of years. So, don't be ashamed to report the strange objects you see. Who knows, it could be a flying saucer from out of space.

Pilots Track Glowing Orange UFO

By **WILLIAM DICK**

The helicopter pilots stared in amazement — their eyes riveted to the mysterious glowing object flying at them.

They were seeing their first UFO.

"Now I believe they exist because I have seen one," Maj. Francesco Zoppi, a 16-year veteran of the Italian Air Force, told **The ENQUIRER**.

The 46-year-old father of two was piloting a helicopter over Cagliari, Sardinia, on a training exercise the night of October 27, when the UFO appeared.

"It was a ball of bright reddish-orange light, with a violet ring around the edge," he recalled, observing that the light

resembled the glowing "cone" of a jet's exhaust.

At first Maj. Zoppi thought the object was a jet. "But I started to have some doubts because of the cone coming towards me. No jet can fly backwards, and no jet has an engine with the exhaust in the front.

"The control tower operator told me he watched the UFO with binoculars for a long time and, like us, he saw no shape of a body, only light.

"I watched it for a few minutes, then it turned 180 degrees and took off at high speed, about Mach 1 (the speed of sound). Despite all my years of experience in the air force, I can't explain what I saw that night."

Sgt. Corrado Giannella, 26, a four-year veteran, also saw the UFO. He was in a second helicopter.

Recalling how the **UFO NATIONAL ENQUIRER** ***JAN 17, 1978***

abruptly turned in a 180-degree about-face and flew off in the direction from which it had come, he said:

"I don't know of any plane that can carry out a similar maneuver. It definitely was not a jet. What I saw did not

have normal propulsion, so it was definitely a UFO."

Sgt. Aldo De Muro, 32, an eight-year veteran who was piloting the second helicopter, said:

"I don't believe it was an airplane because they have flashing lights. This was an orange ball.

"I was flying at a height of 1,000 feet, and it looked like the object was about 1,200 feet high and 1,300 feet away.

"This was something out of the ordinary, not normal."



HE SAW IT: Helicopter pilot Maj. Francesco Zoppi: "I can't explain what I saw that night."



MAP shows where the UFO was spotted over Sardinia.

All three fliers, and a fourth, Lieut. Antonio Riccardelli, filed reports on the sighting.

They were forwarded to the Italian Ministry of Defense in Rome, where a spokesman told **The ENQUIRER**: "Any reports remain confidential."

MONROE EVENING TIMES - WISC. *****DEC 29, 1977*****

Miracles or UFOs



Lady of Fatima: was she part of a UFO sighting?

Has there already been a mass UFO encounter similar to that in the last scene of "Close Encounters of the Third Kind"? Dr. Jacques Vallee, a computer specialist who has done extensive research into UFO reports, points out that the miraculous events at Fatima in 1917 were very similar to many UFO experiences.

The World Almanac Book of the Strange notes that Vallee has found reports that witnesses at Fatima saw a bright spinning disc that fell to the earth in a zig-zag path and then sped off into the sun.

The Fatima visions began in May 1917 when three peasant children saw a tiny lady in the midst of a bright light. Similar visions were repeated each month, with ever-increasing crowds of witnesses until, on October 17, 1917, some 70,000 people gathered in a pouring rain to see the promised vision.

According to Vallee, the various elements of Fatima — a luminous flying disc, its zig-zag path, bright light effects, thunder claps, buzzing sounds, and a strange fragrance — are commonly reported by people who claim close encounters with UFOs.

Many of the Fatima witnesses reported that, in spite of the pouring rain, they and the ground were dry when the disc flew off into the sun.

HOLLYWOOD (UPI) — Thanks in no small part to the runaway box-office success of "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," producer-di-

THE TORONTO SUN - CANADA *****DEC. 8, 1977*****

Comets blamed for diseases

A British scientist says comets may be the cause of disease on earth.

Astromomer Sir Fred Hoyle told a U of T audience Tuesday that contaminated particles break off the comets as they approach the sun and we may be picking them up at the earth moves through the comet's path.

KENOSHA NEWS - WISC. *****DEC 21, 1977*****

UFO series

rector Jack Webb will bring "Project U.F.O." to television next February. Webb, who produced "Dragnet," "Adam-12" and "Emer-

gency," will dramatize true-to-life adventures based on the Project Blue Book accounts of U.S. Air Force investigations of unidentified flying objects.

Two UFO sightings may be genuine

Two of the four unidentified flying objects sightings reported in Western Pennsylvania recently may be genuine, the Center for UFO Studies at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., said Wednesday.

Reported UFOs were seen at three different times Saturday in Erie County. Another was spotted Monday night near Indiana, Pa.

At about 2 a.m. Saturday, police and residents in the Erie County communities of North East Borough and Millcreek Township saw a blue revolving light in the sky.

But Alan Hendry, chief investigator for the Center for UFO Studies, said the object apparently was a star.

"The majority of the sightings at about 2 a.m. we believe were caused by the same stimuli which cause the single largest category of reports received by the center," Hendry said.

"Those are namely stars

which are observed to change different colors — red, green and blue — and exhibit slight changes in position due to effects of the earth's atmosphere."

But two UFOs spotted later Saturday near Erie could have been genuine.

"We have learned of a number of incidents that seem unrelated to the star calls and might be of interest to us," Hendry said.

The earlier incident occurred at about 7:30 a.m. when a North East Borough policeman saw a brown UFO flying near the northwest edge of the borough.

Officer Gary Rogers, 26, described the UFO as a "cigarshaped thing — like a plane, only broader — with a raised back of some sort."

Rogers said he viewed the UFO for five minutes as it came towards him from the northeast, made a 45-degree turn towards the southwest and then faded in the distance. He said the craft made no noise, although it

was close enough that engine sounds should have been discernible.

The latest Saturday sighting investigated by Hendry occurred in North East Borough at about 7:45 p.m. when two teenagers saw "a pancakeshaped object with a light on top of it" in a field across from their house.

The girls called local police. As an officer was arriving, he saw an object with a light take off.

After police left, the girls said the craft returned. They then notified the state police. But the UFO again departed before authorities arrived, the girls said.

At about 11:30 p.m., the girls saw the light return and a diskshaped object rushed towards the house, change course, flying rapidly to the north and out of sight.

Hendry said the Erie Air Traffic Control and the Air Route Traffic Control Center in Cleveland recorded "nothing of an unusual nature Saturday."

GREEN BAY WISC. - PRESS
*****DEC. 1, 1977*****

A Good Warning

British authorities confess to being confused about a mysterious interruption on television programs last week.

A voice broke into the regular schedules and warned that earth people had only "a short time to learn to live together in peace." It threatened expulsion of earth from the universe. The voice identified itself as Asteron, "an authorized representative of the inter-galactic mission."

Television experts have been unable to find out exactly what

happened. Equipment used was both sophisticated and expensive, officials say, but they have so far not located the culprits.

The episode may indeed be someone taking advantage of the continued confusion over reports of UFOs. But is a plea for peace on earth at this time of the year really "a pretty sick hoax," as the television officials complained?

Maybe officials are not looking in the right directions to discover what happened.

UFO sightings confirmed by law officers

OSAGE, Wyo. — Recent reports of UFO (unidentified flying objects) in the northeastern Wyoming and the Black Hills area received added credence from law enforcement officers early Sunday morning.

Weston County Sheriff Willis Larson reported that a white light, similar in shape to a light bulb with red and green flashing lights was seen in the Clay Spur area west of Osage from different locations by himself, Highway Patrolman William Condos, deputy sheriff Greg Kayl and a special deputy.

Larson reported that Kenneth Kennedy, Sheridan, who flies the mail route between that city and Cheyenne, recently reported sighting a similar object.

The sheriff also said that on the night of Oct. 7 a brilliant object in the sky was triangulated by Kayl, Newcastle airport manager John Bockman and himself. "It was seen over a hilly area north of Newcastle," he said, "but vanished straight up."

Sgt. Steven Doughty of the Newcastle Police Department said that sometime in mid-September he observed a similar object hovering approximately 300 to 400 feet above the Weston County Memorial Hospital. He said he followed the object along Highway 85, then parked and watched the UFO stand still over a range of hills two to three miles away. Through binoculars, he said, he saw many different color lights and watched the object until it disappeared.

Doughty said he did not report the incident at that time because he "feared ridicule." However, Patrolman Randy Schmidt of the department and brand inspector Charles Clark reported seeing a similar object two nights later in the same area.

RIVER FALLS JOURNAL - WISC.
*****DEC. 1, 1977*****

Elmwood is planning ahead and they are going to take advantage of the reported UFO sightings in that area. First Annual UFO Days will be staged there July 21, 22, 23 next year with a parade on July 23.

UFO's spotted by many in area; moved erratically

FRONT PAGE

No one knows exactly what they saw but they saw something hovering in the skys west of Neillsville this past week and at one prior evening two weeks ago. They joined residents of the Wisconsin Rapids area at the same time who stated that they had seen unidentified flying objects (UFO's).

Most community discussion centered around sightings on Wednesday evening, October 19, by Mr. and Mrs. Doug Larsen, who operate a motel west of Neillsville, and a group of eight youngsters who were in the area of the United Church of Christ on the city's west side.

In published reports and through information supplied by Neillsville Police Chief Walter

Leggate, the youngsters saw the UFO around 8:00 p.m. in a westernly direction from the city, moving east to west. Most watchers stated that they saw the object move horizontally with occasional movements up and down.

Some of the viewers stated that the object had red warning type lights while others stated that light from the craft changed from red to yellow to green.

In the group of students were Mark Grap, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Grap; Kim Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milt Johnson; Paul Vornholt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Vornholt; Eric Bushnell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Brian Bushnell; Tim Schippel, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Schippel;

Scott Clark, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Gary Clark; Lori Free, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Free; and Margie Meredith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Meredith.

The youth were in an area just north of the United Church of Christ complex, in a depression, when they spotted the object. One of the youth later told police officers that several of the group had seen a similar celestial object the week before on October 12 and had returned, after choir practice, to hope for another glimpse of the object.

The sightings were reported in many mid-western daily newspapers on Thursday and Friday of last week and since that time many of the spotters have been deluged with phone calls from other newspapers, "crack-pots" and UFO believers.

Descriptions of the object vary with early reports that the object was rectangular in shape with a front that came to a point. No one has yet given a size description of the object.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Froze of Iron Mountain, Mich., were enroute to Neillsville, where they stayed overnight, when they sighted two Unidentified Flying Objects while on Highway 10 between Eau Claire and Augusta. It was about 9:30 p.m. Wednesday when Mrs. Froze, seated on the passenger side of the car, looked out to the north and saw the two objects hovering low and at a distance.

"They had red lights," Mrs. Froze told The Clark County Press the following morning, "and they weren't moving. It was a clear night and the stars were clearly visible. They didn't look anything like the stars."

The Frozes said that this was but one of a number of UFO sightings for them. In recent years they said they have watched UFO's coursing through the skies near their home at Iron Mountain. They were certain in their identification that the objects they saw were neither airplanes nor celestial objects such as stars.

Skeptics of the sightings have asserted that at the 8:00 p.m. viewing time would be at a time when sun rays could be reflected in unusual manners from everything from vapor trails from jets to aircraft itself.

No noise was heard from the craft. The children stated that blowers operating at local grain drying firms possibly blocked out any noise coming from the object.

Interest Shown

In a phone call to The Press on Tuesday, the mid-west office of the UFO Educational Center, Appleton, told reporters that they were now planning to host a seminar on UFO phenomenon for Neillsville area residents. No date had yet been set for the program.

A spokesman for the group told The Press that they had received calls from the Neillsville area recently expressing interest in the UFO theories.

TULARE, CALIF. - ADVANCE-REGISTER
*****DEC. 2, 1977*****

I thought my colleagues at The Advance-Register would come pretty close to matching the findings of Gallup's 1974 poll. I was wrong.

Only two of my fellow staffers believed that aliens from outer space had visited earth. Five flatly stated they were non-believers. Three others felt they could not make a judgment either way.

I must admit I believe I saw a UFO in mid-1975 in the Mojave Desert between Fort Irwin and Barstow. My "sighting" is insignificant because I didn't bother to report it.

But there have been some 70,000 reported sightings, and the number of unreported sightings must be astronomical.

Sightings have been reported by such reliable sources as airline pilots, military personnel and police officers.

O

UFO sightings around Tulare have been rare (maybe it's the fog). There have been no sightings reported to Tulare police in the last nine years, said Lt. Roger Hill, who keeps the telephone number of "UFO Central" taped to his desk.

There was a report of a strange blue light illuminating the area around Tulare Western High School about 12 years ago, and even further back, a group of horsemen, riding near Tipton, thought they saw a flying saucer land in that area.

Tulare has not seemed to attract visitors from outer space the way other areas of the U.S. have.

After Strange Objects Dazzle Dozens, Couple Tells of... Close Encounter With a Terrifying UFO

The Ozark Mountains of southwestern Missouri were aswarm with UFOs last year, when dozens of people reported they were dazzled and terrified by alien-looking, airborne objects of unknown origin.

The spectacular sightings occurred between February and May in a rural area in the southeastern part of Missouri's McDonald County.

Lonnie Stites, 26, and his wife Debbie, 23, of Goodman, Mo., reported a frighteningly close encounter with a huge craft that

By **BOB PRATT**

hovered over their truck — while a green-suited figure tried to flag them down!

About 11:30 p.m. March 5, Stites told The ENQUIRER, he and his wife were driving toward McNatt, a tiny hamlet in north-central McDonald County, when they spotted several red lights in the distance.

As they drew closer, he said, the red lights began revolving and a

on February 9. One week later, Lawrence McCool, 43, of Pineville, parked his pickup truck at one of the ridges near Sims country store, where dozens of people had seen UFOs in the sky. He said he wanted to see one, too.

After spotting some lights "flying in formation" in the distance, McCool decided to drive home. About 2:30 a.m. he began hearing strange noises on his CB radio. Suddenly his truck's electrical system failed.

"My lights, radio, heater, windshield wipers — the whole works — everything just quit," McCool told The ENQUIRER. "All of a sudden an object just appeared there in front of me, about 40 feet above the road.

"It was 18 to 20 feet across, and the color of molten copper, a brilliant reddish glow.

"It hung there for a minute or two and then it just took off straight into the overcast sky, out of sight."

When it left, McCool's lights, radio and windshield wipers came on again.

At least eight witnesses told The ENQUIRER they saw a large silvery object on March 10, with a glowing light in front and flames spewing out the rear. One was Glenn C. Coonfield, 60, an Army aviation veteran.

He and his wife and two young sons were in a pickup truck when he spotted an object gliding down into Big Sugar Creek Valley — then suddenly it sailed back into the sky and disappeared.

"They're not from this world," declared Coonfield, of Pea Ridge, Ark., who was a crew engineer aboard Army helicopters the last 10 years of his 20-year Army career. "It was definitely an object or vehicle controlled by some guidance system — guided from within or elsewhere."

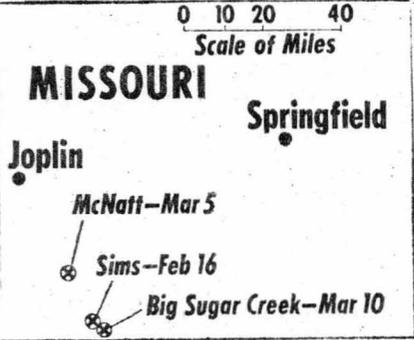
Dr. James Beacham, who teaches astronomy at the Univ. of Missouri in Kansas City, told The ENQUIRER that the only meteor showers that fell early this year in that area occurred around April 22 and May 5. The object seen March 10 was probably not a meteor, he said. Meteors, he added, do not climb into the sky and disappear.

Jim Bell, manager of the Neosho Airport, just a few miles north of McDonald County, said he had records of only three helicopter flights in that area during the four-month period of UFO sightings.

McDonald County Sheriff Clyde Gideon told The ENQUIRER: "We had lots of calls on them . . . 30 or 40 people said they saw them."



OVER THERE! Lawrence McCool, whose electric system failed on his truck, points to where he saw UFO.



MAP shows where some of UFO sightings occurred.

NATIONAL ENQUIRER
***JAN. 10, 1978*

big object rose up in front of them, hovered over their truck and flooded the area with a bright light. Then the light went out and smaller balls of light — he saw one; Debbie saw three — came rushing down the side of a hill toward their truck. Stites and his wife said.

"It looked just like a ball of electricity," Stites recalled. "My wife said I just started going right toward it. She jerked the wheel back. She was screaming and hollering. I didn't know what to do.

"Then my headlights hit this guy standing there beside the road. He was probably 5 feet tall and he had on a green suit . . . like a pair of green overalls, and a pair of black, square-rimmed glasses.

"He was weird looking. It didn't look like he had any ears at all. I don't know what was holding his glasses on. He had on this cap, like a skullcap, pulled down so tight there wasn't a wrinkle in it.

"He was waving his arms. I thought he was going to come out in front of us. I kept going. I wasn't about to stop," Stites said.

Debbie added: "I was so scared I was shaking and screaming. Something you don't understand, it just scares you to death."

The wave of weird sightings began

UFO's

FRONT PAGE

Aztec residents have been seeing strange lights in the skies

BY MARGARET CHEASEBRO

Since early September several Aztec area residents have been seeing strange sights in the sky.

They don't know what to call them, and in most instances they don't want their names mentioned.

"People might laugh at us," is their greatest concern.

The people who see these objects which they describe as lights that move strangely in the sky have another thing in common: They all hold responsible positions in Aztec and are considered reliable citizens and witnesses.

MY HUSBAND AND I were on our way to Durango about five or six weeks ago," said one woman. "It was just before dark. We noticed a red light standing still in the sky."

She said they got out of the car to better observe the object.

As they watched, the red light "dumped a bunch of white lights," said the woman. "Then the red light took off very fast to the west. It traveled faster than I've ever seen anything move in the sky."

The woman reported that the little white lights stayed in the sky for awhile, then disappeared. She and her husband got back in their car and began driving toward Durango again. Twenty or thirty minutes later they saw the white lights again.

"One light was brighter than the rest," she said. "They didn't go out that time. But they moved like mad and disappeared behind a hill."

LATER, THE WOMAN was telling her experience to a friend who had recently purchased a UFO (unidentified flying object) magazine because the friend had been seeing strange objects in the sky. They discovered in the magazine an article that told of Colorado residents who had seen the same

thing this woman had.

"They called it 'Big Mama,'" she said.

Another Aztec couple began watching the night skies in September after their son came home from a rodeo at 1:30 a.m. "really spooked," said the boys' father. "He woke us up, because he was afraid if he waited 'til morning to tell us, we'd think he'd been drinking."

On his way home from the rodeo a red light had swooped down from the sky, the boy told his parents, and followed right beside his vehicle.

"After that we started watching at night," his mother said, "and we've seen some strange things. I don't know what they are."

WHAT THEY HAVE seen seem to be star-like lights which move in very unstar-like patterns.

"We've seen lights come up from the mesa behind our house," the boy's mother said. "They'd move one way, then suddenly double back. Then they'd move up and down. Stars just don't move like that."

They've seen lights with red, blue, green and white colors in them. Some appear to be large stars or planets. Others are presently unexplainable.

A local businessman has also seen some strange things in the night skies above Aztec.

"For three nights in the western sky in early October I saw something that moved back and forth once in awhile, but not very much," he said. "Once I saw a smaller light go up to it, then move away real fast."

The second night he saw the light, he and several family members "drove quite a ways" out in the country to triangulate on it," he said. "We drove almost to Farmington and then out towards Durango to make sure we weren't seeing airport lights or something."

He described the light as very high up. "It had flashing lights with a band of lights on top," he said, "and once it tilted."

From their Aztec home he and his wife saw a white light in the sky about a month ago. "It went back and forth like a spot light shining on the ground," he said. "Then it seemed to disappear near Cedar Hill."

THIS IS NOT the first time UFO sightings have been made in our Aztec area. Back in 1948 or 1949 in a canyon near Aztec, rumor has it, a UFO landed.

In the Nov. 14, 1974, issue of the *Review* former editor Dwight Payton wrote about the incident.

"Sometime in 1948 or 1949," he wrote, "an interplanetary space vehicle allegedly landed in the Aztec area with 16 charred bodies on board. The Air Force immediately arrived on the scene and spirited the vehicle and its

contents off to a mysterious hanger at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio."

Payton also wrote that on March 18, 1950, an article appeared in the *Daily Times* quoting many area residents, who said they saw 500 to 1000 strange objects flying through the sky.

The article said: "There is no doubt that they weren't hallucinations, because the mayor, the local newspaper staff, ex-pilots, the highway patrol, and every type of person who make up a community of 3600 saw them."

THE WOMAN WHOSE son was followed home by a strange light said the activity of the objects has diminished in the last month.

"For awhile we were staying up until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning watching the lights," she said.

Whatever it is people are seeing, they're being seen by different people in different locations at different times, and they're as yet unexplained.)

MIDNIGHT/GLOBE
JAN 10, 1978

"If you mention UFOs today, everybody laughs," says Peter Gersten, the lawyer preparing the suit against the CIA. "But in a few months time, nobody will be laughing — we'll have the truth out of the CIA."

Gersten is with the New York law firm of Rothblatt Rothblatt Seijas and Peskin, who have a reputation of not being afraid of controversial causes — they defended some of the Watergate defendants, and certain of the My Lai defendants.

"Since I started preparing the suit two months ago," Gersten told MIDNIGHT/GLOBE, "I've been inundated with calls from UFO researchers suggesting various cases we should include on our list. As a result, we have about 500 pages of questions about incidents involving UFOs that we want the CIA to answer. They cover the whole gamut of the UFO phenomenon."

The suit is demanding the release of several main sets of documents.

"There is the Robertson Panel report of 1953," said Gersten. "This report on UFOs was marked 'Classified' by the CIA and never released. We want the report plus all the memos and other notes on which the report was based."

"There is another report made by the panel which was never included in the Robertson report. It seems the material in it was deemed too sensitive to be included. We want that report, too."

"There's the case of the Marine Corps photographer, Ralph Mayher, and his film. The CIA has three documents on this case which have been repressed. One of the documents has been classified in the interests of national security. If, as the CIA says, UFOs are not worth bothering about, how can they be a threat to national security?"

"We do know the CIA are collecting information about UFOs. We also know they have a considerable number of foreign UFO reports. We want all this released to the public."

LAS VEGAS, NEV. - SUN
NOV. 11, 1977

UFO 'Hovering' Above I-15 Sighted By LV Family

FRONT PAGE

Ed Dula, 36, a Strip hotel maintenance man, was en route from Zion National Park to Las Vegas when he sighted two saucer-shaped objects hovering on the horizon near Interstate 15.

"They were round and saucer shaped, but we never got close enough to make out more than that," said Dula. He was returning home from a three-day weekend camping trip with his wife, Cheryl, 31, twins Dabbie and Deron, 12, and a 15-month-old son.

The sighting occurred shortly after the family left St. George, Utah, about 6 p.m. Sunday. Sandra Simms, 30, Las Vegas, and her 12-year-old son reported a similar experience in the same area and at the same time.

"We saw them when we first left St. George and headed back toward Las Vegas about 6 p.m. They were on the horizon above the mountains. I knew they couldn't be airplanes because they were hovering," said Dula, a man who has lived in Las Vegas all his life.

"Sometimes they dropped so low you could see the mountains behind them. We could see red and white lights. We could make out the image. It was round and saucer shaped."

"It seemed like they were over the highway (Interstate 15), sometimes to the right or left and they would move higher in the sky. They moved too fast for helicopters. We watched them for about 15 minutes and then I had a flat tire and couldn't keep up."

"It just gives you a cold chill. I couldn't figure out what it was. You could follow the light and see them clearly. They moved with quick motions and moved around too quickly for a plane or helicopter."

"After watching it there was no way to explain it."

Mrs. Simms reported a similar sighting earlier this week and described it as an "eerie feeling" and said she felt "compelled to watch." Mrs. Simms said she and her son observed the two unidentified flying objects for more than an hour when they were returning to Las Vegas after attending a birthday party for her 80-year-old Mormon grandmother in Pleasant Grove, Utah.

President Carter, who once reported seeing an unidentified flying object, discussed the possibility of life from outer space last night with a scientist who believes we are not alone in the universe.



Sagan

Carter, visiting the home of Vice President Walter Mondale, viewed a 45-minute slide show presentation by Carl Sagan, author and director of the Laboratory for Planetary Studies at Cornell University. Sagan has frequently urged government support for the construction of giant radio telescopes that might pick up messages from other worlds and has said, "I would be astounded if life weren't coursing through the cosmos." The president reportedly asked for a White House showing of the hit science fiction movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," which tells of a visit to Earth by space ships from another world.

Carter sees UFO author

CLEVELAND PRESS - OHIO
DEC 19, 1977

L.A. HERALD EXAMINER - CAL.
NOV. 28, 1977

Once a Skeptic

Professor Says UFO's Are Real

By ED SCHAFER

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The pursuit of "flying saucers" can be a difficult thing for a scientist, especially if he becomes convinced he has found what he was looking for.

"It's changed my life completely," said Dr. Harley D. Rutledge, head of the physics department of Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau and a man, colleagues say, who is not prone to exaggerate.

Rutledge began as a skeptic in 1973 when it was suggested that he investigate a rash of sightings of unidentified flying objects in southeast Missouri. Now, after more than four years of firsthand research and observation, he has reluctantly admitted that he cannot debunk the stories.

The information gathered by Rutledge, including more than 700 photographs, is a result of hundreds of nights spent in the air, in fields and on hillsides, accompanied, always, by other observers and equipment which includes telescopes, cameras and a spectrograph.

At 41, married, with five children, he is laying his reputation and career on the line and saying that there really is something up there that cannot be explained by conventional logic.

"Now I know they are up there. What they are or where they came from, I have no way of knowing. But they are there," he said in a recent interview.

Rutledge himself has made more than 140 sightings, both in broad daylight and at night. At least 25 of those sightings he labels as "incredible."

Three of the most convincing sightings came within two weeks of each other in May of 1973. The first, from the air, involved what he calls "a 45-second metamorphosis" involving 10 balls of light that had no business being where they were, in the air near the small town of Piedmont, Mo.

The second and third sightings, which he believes to be conclusive because he was so close to the objects, were made near Farmington, Mo., about two weeks later. On the night of May 24 Rutledge and several other observers spotted an object with a triangular shaped light pattern passing over them. Rutledge tentatively labeled the object as an airplane, but said that later evidence discounted that possibility.

The next night, he said, he and his colleagues observed a huge object that had nearly passed over them before they spotted it.

"It had four lights, two red and two white," the professor said. "It was close enough that I could see parts of it through my 80-power telescope. It had a metallic skin and I could make out a ribbed pattern in the red lights."

Because of the delicacy of his position, Rutledge said he has been reluctant to talk about the phenomena. Now, he said, he believes he can survive the scoffing he will hear — and he says he believes he has an obligation to tell the public what he knows.

Rutledge's colleagues point out that he is an intense man, but rational and conservative.

UFOs Get Close Look

PAGE ONE

By ARTHUR R. VINSEL
Of the Daily Pilot Staff



Daily Pilot Staff Photo
'ALL SO FAR OUT'
UFO Student Lawson

Are we alone in the Universe on Spaceship Earth?

Dr. Alvin Lawson, an English professor at Cal State Long Beach and director of the Unidentified Flying Objects Report Center of Orange County, suggests the only flying saucers proven to exist are those used in husband-wife domestic beefs.

But, he is quick to emphasize, something is going on that definitely merits further investigation.

"This thing has gotten increasingly complex as I've gotten into it," says Dr. Lawson, who is currently on sabbatical leave writing a textbook on UFO studies.

"About 15 million Americans have reported seeing 'Soemthing' they couldn't understand," he explains.

The most recent Somethings include a Nov. 3 sighting by two Huntington Beach boys and

several neighbors; a September episode in which military personnel and aerospace engineers watched a UFO over the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station and a May 5 sighting in Fullerton.

Then last March 5 there was a sighting of two UFOs streaking over the Southland, seen by scores of people including five Huntington Beach policemen.

Interest in UFOs is currently being rekindled by governmental moves to learn more about them and movies such as "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

During the past four years, Dr. Lawson has interviewed several hundred persons who reported seeing UFOs.

Evidence that includes his interviews and those by a clinical hypnotist in Anaheim who regresses the individual back to the sighting so far are inconclusive.

"It looks to me like the UFO phenomena is not physically real...I believe the phenomena has a mental and physical aspect. I simply can't believe it is a case of people just making it all up," Dr. Lawson says.

"It seems like a suggestion of a collective unconscious among humans. It is so far out and complicated....," he admits.

"I'm a rational, 19th Century person, but I do keep an open mind about these things," says Dr. Lawson, who says he has never seen a UFO.

But he adds: "As one of my friends says, he's never seen Australia but he supposes it's really there."

NORWICH, N.Y. - SUN
NOV. 23, 1977

Plymouth sighting officially a 'UFO'

FRONT PAGE

By TED CHLWICK
of the Evening Sun

PLYMOUTH—Residents along the Plymouth-Smyrna Road here exchanged roles with Central New York aviation authorities today after an "extremely loud rumbling noise" was heard from the sky in the early hours this morning.

In stead of hailing the sighting of another unidentified flying object, residents claimed to have spotted a large airplane passing over their homes at 12:45 a.m. today at an altitude of about 800 feet.

They told the Evening Sun they were certain the object was a plane.

Aviation officials in Norwich, Boome and Oneida Counties, Syracuse, and at Griffiss Air Base in Rome, however, have failed to identify the aircraft. That would seem to make it, officially, an unidentified flying object.

Officials told the Evening Sun that they had no knowledge of a plane or helicopter passing through the Plymouth area, this morning though some civilian aviation authorities speculated that it may have been a military aircraft.

Capt. William Shimkus, information officer

at Griffiss, said that the Air Force did not route a plane over the area that he knew about.

"If it were a military aircraft, it could have been a non-scheduled run," he said.

But if the plan was on a "non-scheduled run," it did not land or take off from the Rome base, he said. All military aircraft, he added, travel at much higher altitudes.

A spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration in Syracuse said that although some in-coming flights from New York City pass over the Georgetown area, no planes approaching Hancock Airport from the south are routed over Plymouth.

Officials in air traffic control towers in Oriskany, at the Oneida County Airport, and at the Broome County Airport, as well as a spokesman for Mid-State Aviation at the Warren Eaton Airport in Norwich, just threw up their hands, saying they had no idea what aircraft lured Plymouth residents out onto their lawns in the chilly night air.

Two callers described the plane to Evening Sun reporters as a "huge, low-flying plane... making an extremely loud, rumbling noise."

The plane, they said, had a large spotlight, and appeared to be heading north.

A Rapid City resident called the Journal Thursday morning to report that she, her family, and their neighbors had all watched two Unidentified Flying Objects flying over the city for over an hour Wednesday night.

The woman reported that they appeared to be between her house, which is on Elm, and the area of Skyline Drive. She said that she reported the sighting to the Rapid City Police Department and the Air Force.

The police say that they received no such calls and the Air Force said that the last such call that they received was Nov. 3 from a woman in Box Elder.

The Pennington County Sheriff's office also say that they received no such reports, but the Civil Defense office said that they were called out to Skyline Drive about midnight, which is about the time that the caller told the Journal she had seen the two objects.

Don Martini, civil defense director for Rapid City, said that he went out on the call and saw nothing that resembled a UFO.

UFO Center in State Probed

Special to The Journal

Chilton, Wis. — A preliminary investigation has been initiated by the Calumet County district attorney's office in connection with the operations of the UFO Education Center in Appleton.

Dist. Atty. Donald Poppy said the investigation was begun after he had talked to some former members of the center. He said there were some questions raised about

the operation and methods used by the center.

Poppy's office is involved because the center is in a part of Appleton that is in Calumet County. The rest of Appleton is in Outagamie County.

The center was organized to assist in the investigation of unidentified flying objects and has been accused of also being a religious cult.

Meanwhile, two more persons who said they were

members of the center have been deprogrammed by a professional deprogrammer.

Ann Schwinn, 24, said she and her husband, Neil, 23, of Appleton, had been deprogrammed last weekend by Ted Patrick, a nationally known cult deprogrammer from California.

Mrs. Schwinn said she and her husband had been visiting the center for the last three years and had attended meet-

Turn to UFO, page 4, col. 7

UFO

Official at Center Denies Cult Claim

From Page 1

ings at the center more often within the last year.

Susan J. Kolb, 24, of Appleton, had undergone deprogramming in November after she had been reported missing from her job in Appleton Oct. 31. Mrs. Kolb had said she was a member of the UFO center.

Lenore Hildebrandt, a spokeswoman for the center, denied that the UFO center was a religious cult and said the center was contemplating its own investigation into the background and practices of Patrick.

"There's no foundation whatsoever for the statements that are being made about us," Ms. Hildebrandt said. "What we would like to know is how can parents pay Patrick a lot of money to alter their children's minds?"

Mrs. Schwinn called the center a religious cult and said at least five other persons were being mentally programed by the center.

"After being deprogrammed I was able to see what the motive of the UFO center was," Mrs. Schwinn said. "We were just being used."

"It doesn't appear that way at first. But as the UFOs catch your interest, there's more philosophy introduced. Eventually, they take over your will."

"We would have done almost anything they would have asked of us. Nothing

violent, mind you, but we would have contributed money or bought things for the center if they would have asked us."

Ms. Hildebrandt denied that the center introduced any philosophy to anyone who came to the center. She said Ann and Neil Schwinn had attended meetings at the center and had done some voluntary work.

"I'd like to know why this has happened," Ms. Hildebrandt said. "They were kind people and I don't know what Patrick did to them that made them say what they're saying. There's a lot of unfair statements being made here."

Mrs. Schwinn said she and her husband had contributed money toward the center, but she could not say how much money was involved. She said her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lambert Christel, of Kiel, had suggested the deprogramming and were with Mrs. Schwinn during the deprogramming.

No charges have been filed against the center in connection with the alleged programing cases.

YORK COUNTY COAST STAR - ME.
*****NOV 23, 1977*****

No. Berwick Selectmen ponder possible UFOs

by Franz Lidz

Invectives and snappy ripostes are not the only things flying around the North Berwick Selectmen's meetings these days. Chairman of the Board Ward Allen says he thinks he has sighted a number of unidentified flying objects though, of course, he does not "believe" in such things.

"For the past three or four summers I seen some great big lights hovering over Pine Hill in Berwick," Allen said at the Monday night meeting. "They seem to sit right still and don't even move for the longest time."

Allen went on to say the objects resembled headlights, but unfortunately they have never been close enough for him to film.

Road Commissioner Roy Hall advised Allen to pack a good lunch because if aliens were ever to abduct the chairman he "might not like what they have to eat."

Selectman Danny Goodwin said he personally has never seen any UFOs, but has heard strange tales from his friends in the service. One story involved a luminous, white light that hung suspended at the end of an airstrip only to "take off like a flash" when confronted by military personnel. Accounts of the incident have been related to him by two individuals, he said.

"It makes you kind of wonder," he remarked.

The third North Berwick Selectman, Stan Thompson, ventured he once saw something he took to be a UFO but that "It turned out to be a helicopter traveling a power line."

Thompson said he has not ruled out the possibility that extraterrestrial beings have visited the town, however. "They say there's another planet looking us over to see who's running the planning board."

Boy, 11, Sights UFO

Granby

GRANBY — Mark Charette, 11, of the West Granby section, was asked to go outside Wednesday night at 7 p.m. to take clothes down from a clothesline and, when he did, he saw what he described as an unidentified flying object.

Mark said he saw the object for only about five seconds, but he was able to draw what he saw.

It was like an inverted saucer, but the rim was rounded and almost "pontoon-

like," he said.

In addition, the object had a long neck with a box and a point at the end of the neck. Mark said he saw the object cross slowly in front of the moon and then do an about-face and move rapidly away.

It also was unlighted and made no sound.

Mark's mother, Lisa Charette, said she and Mark have studied UFOs. She hoped that by reporting the sighting, they might find a confirmation of what Mark saw.

Granby police, on the other hand, said they received no reports of UFO sightings Wednesday night.

SOUTH MIDDLESEX SUNDAY NEWS - MA.
*****NOV. 20, 1977*****



With Mac Fiske—

Stranger than fiction

The two young hunters pulled their heavy duty station wagon to the side of the logging road. It was 8 o'clock at night and they had spent the day in fruitless search of game.

Now they relaxed, their faces partially illuminated by the dashboard lights. Beyond the window of their vehicle they could see the horizon against the black tree line. Fields of low brush were on either side of the dirt road where they parked. At night, the station wagon's headlights probably could be seen for quite a distance. But who would be out here at night, six miles off the main highway (Rte. 9) some 50 miles northeast of Bangor, Me.

As they talked about where they would hunt tomorrow, one of them noticed a red light on the right side of the horizon. They guessed the light was 10 miles away.

While they were watching, the red spot on the horizon suddenly darted straight up into the air, a long way up into the air, and just as quickly plummeted back down to its original position. Then oscillated from side to side.

The hunters, in their late teens, watched it for maybe three minutes, trying to imagine what it might be. The fastest jet could not move straight up and down or from side to side so quickly, they agreed. A helicopter might, but with such speed? They wondered.

Then the red spot hurtled across the horizon and stopped. Then it darted towards them, and stopped at what they guessed was a half-mile away, 50 to 100 feet in the air. Then it came closer, and suddenly the whole field (probably 6 acres) on the right-hand side of the road began glowing—not from a light beamed down directly from the red object, but rather as if the object was drawing the light from the ground. The hunters shut off their headlights, but left the dimmers on. They heard nothing.

And while their eyes and ears strained against the night, the red light (they saw no actual shape) flew over them and stopped. This time a two-acre area of logged-off field glowed in the dark.

They had their station wagon moving by now, headlights on, driving for the main road. One of the hunters kept looking back through the rear windows. He could see the red light through the trees. It was moving after them. And then it disappeared.

When they got back to the farmhouse where they were staying, they told a native of the area about their experience. He was a stable man, a man they felt they could trust to make some sort of a judgment. He was the police chief and fire chief and just about everything else important to Wesley, Me.

"Strange things happen around here," the man told the boys. He had a

story of his own to relate.

The boys nodded and listened:

The man was out hunting with his nephew in an area called the Barrens, a huge chunk of land maybe 50 miles square, he said, where all the trees had been burned off three years earlier by a forest fire.

It was an overcast night with no moon, so dark, in fact, that the man couldn't see his nephew only inches away. They had to touch each other repeatedly to make sure they didn't get separated.

Soon, they were lost and trying to find the main highway. A maze of logging roads criss-crossed and wound through the Barrens.

The nephew noticed a light ahead—a white, bright light that didn't light up anything above it or below it or on either side of it, but simply glowed into itself in the blackness.

Then the man saw another white, bright light. Then the nephew saw another and all three paralleled them as they moved ahead. The three lights dropped behind them and a much larger one appeared in front of them. This one gave off a light that lit the ground below like day. The nephew panicked and wanted to shoot at it. The uncle stopped him and they walked on. The brightest of the lights closed to within 200 feet, they guessed, and became recognizable as a glowing saucer, with three lights on its underneath side that made a path of light on the ground. Then, in seconds, it had darted out of sight over the horizon. When they turned, the three lights behind them were gone.

The man told the young hunters that stories such as theirs were common in the Wesley area. People see strange things that go unexplained, and they hear strange things, such as huge machines working at night on the Barrens, he said. But in the day, the machines are gone and there is no sign they were ever there.

"It was eerie," the hunters agreed, once back in Hopkinton. "But not so frightening that we won't be going back," one said.

"We paid \$60 for hunting licenses. We're going up again over Thanksgiving to get our money's worth," the other said.

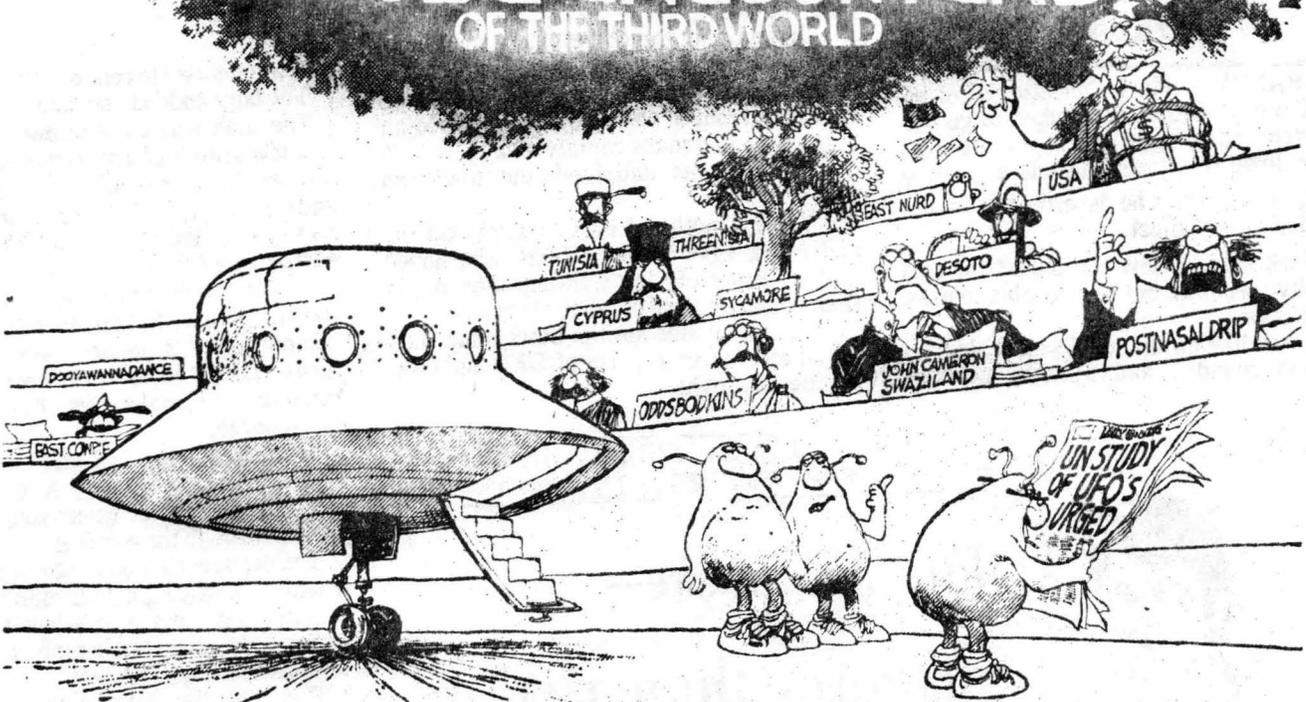
They seemed to be hoping that their "money's worth" included another bright light on the horizon.

CLEVE. PLAIN DEALER - OHIO
 *****DEC 22, 1977*****

MAXWELL

THE PHOENIX NEWS LEADER SATURDAY AUGUST 1978

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD WORLD



"Nope. These clowns can't be for real . . . must be one of those swamp gas phenomena."

COP'S RACE WITH A UFO

Police officer Billy Stevens didn't believe in flying saucers. Then one night, alone in his radio car, the Richmond, VA., cop noticed a string of green and yellow lights in the air.

He aimed his spotlight at them, and saw a huge, mysterious craft, shaped like a dirigible and enveloped in a cloud of mist.

"It's not a joking matter," Stevens, now a police dispatcher and a believer, told MIDNIGHT/GLOBE.

As soon as the spotlight shone on it, the craft moved away. But, Stevens said, it stayed directly above the road, "as if it wanted me to follow it." So he did.

"I look down at my speedometer, I'm running 50, it's running 50," he said. "I'm

running 60, it's running 60."

Then the strange craft apparently tired of the game. It took off with a speed and suddenness that still amazes Stevens.

"It only took about two or three seconds to disappear completely," he said.

The object was about 300 feet long, 30 to 40 feet high and flew about 300 feet above the ground, Stevens estimated. He saw no cabin, no windows. He heard no sound.

"At first, I thought it was an experimental aircraft," he said. "But then I talked to Air Force generals and colonels and to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial

Phenomena (NICAP). They definitely think it was something from another solar system."

So does Stevens, although he admits that such a belief invites ridicule. People have asked him if he saw little green men with horns.

Yet for some unexplained reason, each of his radio transmissions during the incident repeated itself three times.

"I never called it a flying saucer because it didn't resemble one," he said. "I can't tell you why I went after it."

"And Lord knows what I would have done if it had stopped."

MIDNIGHT/GLOBE
 DEC 27, 1977

Air Force experts back patrolman Billy's close encounter with an outer spacecraft

ORLANDO, FLA. - SENTINEL STAR
 *****NOV. 27, 1977*****

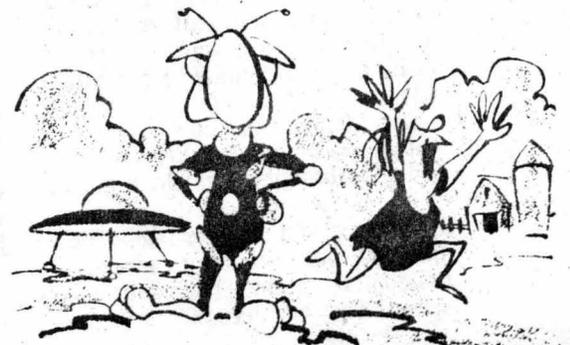
Getaways-

A spacey place?

The name St. Bride's Bay, Wales, should be enough to attract honeymoon couples, but what about fun and entertainment? The Sir Benfro Hotel here is now offering UFO spottings in this area of strange sightings.

The hotel's management reports that spaceships have been seen landing and taking off near the bay.

And a frightened farmer's wife swears that she sighted a "giant space creature" in her field recently.



Life, and the germs that destroy life, may have come to Earth from outer space, two famous astronomers believe.

Fred Hoyle and Chandra Wickramasinghe of Britain report the essential building blocks of life actually came to Earth in comets, which swept past ages ago. It was previously believed the building blocks were formed in the soup of primitive Earth.

About four million years ago, the scientists believe, a comet crashed to Earth, bringing with it the

Astronomers Prove Life Put On Earth By Comets

primitive organisms from which all life evolved.

A similar comet also may have brought the organisms responsible for the plagues and epidemics which have ravaged the Earth periodically from time immemorial.

Evidence that comets may be

MODERN PEOPLE
JAN. 1, 1977*

responsible for human life on Earth was found in 1973, when the comet Káhoutek was found to contain organic matter important to the structure of life. The tails of comets may also contain such substances.

Meteorite remains on Earth show traces of amino acids and biological molecules which are necessary for life as we know it.

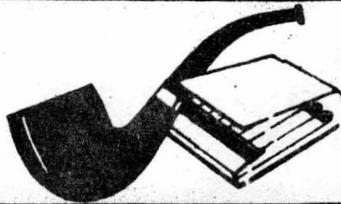
The sudden plagues that have swept the globe and killed millions of people at a time could have been the result of fresh attempts of evolution of life on comets, the scientists explain. The germs reach us as the Earth swings across the comets' tails.

Hoyle and Wickramasinghe think the 1918-1919 influenza epidemic that killed 30 million people may have arrived this way, as might other earlier plagues.

GIDEON, MO. - CLARKTON JOURNAL
*****DEC. 1, 1977*****

Smoke Rings

By Robert H. Forister



Unidentified Peeping Toms

UFO's are back in the news in my home area! Several sightings have been reported in a little town fifteen miles to the north and a local university science professor who has been studying and collecting UFO data for several years recently issued a request for reported sightings.

It's refreshing to talk again about mysterious lights and little green men digging up soil samples in somebody's back pasture. It relieves the humdrum of grain harvests, cold fronts vs. warm fronts, and the question of whether someone will install this county's first people elevator.

Why are they here. Why don't they come by city hall and ask for brochures and road maps. Surely they want to see Rosco Smith's Indian arrowheads and J. P.'s Jim Beam collection. Why have they elected to be celestial peeping toms, flitting about at night like a fleet of shy fireflies.

Surely if Sadat dares visit Israel our UFO commanders

could muster the courage to stop by Billy's station or drop in some evening at the Oval Office.

I mean enough is enough. Thirty years of unauthorized slipping about in our air spaces without so much as a howdy-do is wearing patience thin and causing a medical

phenomena known as a 'pain in the neck' from looking skyward.

With their advance technocracy they surely have no fear of our extremely backward civilization that cannot even manufacture toilet paper that will tear on the dotted line. Our propensity for shooting down anything we don't understand would not penetrate their force shields.

Come down, UFO's! Come down and be seen and heard! Bring slides and filmstrips. Bring the wife along and have lunch with us some day. We'll treat you so many ways that you're bound to like one. We'll even take the children over to the sitter's

MIDNIGHT/GLOBE
JAN 10, 1978

Physics Prof. Says He Has Proof

A professor of physics has proof that UFOs exist, and doesn't need any CIA documents to persuade him.

"I've got over 700 photographs of unidentified flying objects, taken either by me or my colleagues," Dr. Harley Rutledge, head of the physics department of

Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, told MIDNIGHT/GLOBE. "Between 50 to 100 are pretty interesting, and that's a high percentage."

In 1973, Dr. Rutledge was asked to do a paper on UFOs.

"I expected to debunk the whole thing. But when I went out to do the necessary research, I found they existed. I became a believer. When I read my paper in

November, 1973, I stated not only that I believed in UFOs, but that I could prove it. I had the photos!"

He got his photos from all over southeast Missouri, spending hundreds of days and nights in fields, on hillsides and even flying by plane to watch the skies.

"I've seen strange craft and lights both by day and at night. They appear to be intelligently controlled."

Dr. Rutledge, 51, married with five children, has

amassed a huge dossier of sighting reports in the past four years.

He is now seeking financial help to continue his research.

"We need vehicles, more sophisticated camera equipment than we have at present, and perhaps radar.

"I don't need proof from the CIA about UFOs. I am the proof that they exist. I don't know what they are, or where they come from, but they're there."

Missouri, Iowa rank high in UFO visits

Missouri and Iowa are two of the leading states in reported Unidentified Flying Object sightings and landings, according to UFO researcher.

Ted Phillips, who researches reported landings for The Center for UFO Studies of Chicago, said these two states are prominent in UFO sightings "probably because of the rural areas."

Phillips, spoke to the Ozark Chapter of the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers Thursday night at the Sheraton Inn.

"We've had an unusual number of landings in south central Missouri," Phillips pointed out.

He said areas west of Springfield also have had a high number of reported UFO landings in the past.

Phillips began his talk by emphasizing, "I'm not here tonight to talk about little green men."

"I hate to go before any group and say those things (reported beings from UFO's) are coming from someplace else," he later said.

What Phillips did discuss were reported UFO sightings and landings with slides of alleged UFO's and where they landed to back up his argument.

He said the National Aeronautics and Space Administration should take the information available from various intelligence agencies and private research groups and investigate UFOs.

Phillips told the story of one landing incident in eastern Kansas on Nov. 2, 1971.

Ron Johnson and his dog Snowball were walking toward his parents' farmhouse after tending the sheep about 7 that evening, Phillips said.

Johnson noticed a brightly glowing object behind a shed hovering about 1½ to 2 feet off the ground, Phillips added.

After watching the object for a while, Johnson reported a slight glow emitting from the object's base increased in intensity and the object took off, Phillips explained.

Phillips said Johnson was temporarily blinded from the

intensity of the object's lights. However, he later regained his sight and ran to the house telling his parents what he saw. The family returned outside to see the object disappearing in the distance.

Johnson and his mother examined the area where the UFO was hovering to find a glowing ring 8 feet in diameter, Phillips said. Johnson's mother took a snapshot of the ring.

Phillips said the Johnsons reported the ring to glow for four evenings after the sighting.

Upon touching the ring Johnson and his mother experienced numbness in their fingers.

After examining the ring, "What we found was soil that had not been burned but dehydrated," Phillips said. The soil would not absorb water, he asserted.

Similar incidents have been reported around the world, Phillips said. UFO's have been seen by people involved in all professions and from all walks of life, he pointed out.

"It is a world wide phenomenon."

There are five main categories of UFO's, Phillips said.

The most often are "nocturnal sightings" or those seen at night, he said. The second category is the "daylight discs" where people see UFO's in flight or landing during the daylight hours, Phillips added.

The third area is those both seen and tracked by radar and the fourth are close encounters.

Close encounters of the first kind are when people see UFO's from a distance of 150-

200 feet, Phillips said.

One report of a close encounter of the second kind happened just west of Springfield and was observed by a teacher while hunting, he said. A physical trace is left by the object, Phillips said.

The incident in eastern Kansas was described as a close encounter of the second kind.

A close encounter of the



Staff photo

Among slides shown by Ted Phillips, a researcher for The Center for Unidentified Flying Object Studies of Chicago is one reported to show a UFO that was photographed off the coast of Brazil.

third kind is when people report they actually see beings emerge from UFO's, Phillips emphasized.

He showed slides of the three most popular kinds of beings reported. One was about 3½ feet tall, thin and having a large head. About 69 percent who say they've had a close encounter of the third kind report beings fitting this description, Phillips said.

The type two is "quite earthlike" in his appearance, Phillips pointed out. However, the type three being is small, hairy and has claws on all four appendages, he added.

A new area that is being talked about now is the close encounter of the fourth kind where people are taken aboard UFO's and examined by the beings, Phillips said.

LEDGER-STAR - NORFOLK, VA.
*****DEC. 1, 1977*****

Women and UFOs

To the Editor:

In all the recent and continuing media information regarding ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) and UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects), two recently read newspaper articles about the subjects fascinated me.

The first, headlined "Women in America," was a lengthy one about women "claiming the right to more extended fields of employment, all real and personal property of her own not subject to the control of her husband, access to employment that affords them, at once, the means of becoming independent," etc. The other headline, "Round objects in the sky," detailed "three bright, round objects seen moving south through the sky before sun-

down." They were reported by a Mr. Draper of Nebraska who "dispelled any notion that they were natural formations, since there were no clouds or vapors in the sky in that direction at the time."

The newspaper which carried these front page articles? The Atlanta Century. The date? Sept. 23, 1960.

America—the land of deja vu.

Alice Lindhjem

SPRINGFIELD, MO. - LEADER & PRESS
*****DEC. 2, 1977*****

THE BOOMS!

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL - WISC.
*****DEC. 19, 1977*****

Explosions Mystify East Coast Scientists

Pallsades, N.Y. —AP— High altitude explosions, some equal in force to a 100 ton dynamite blast, have been shattering windows and scaring residents from Connecticut to South Carolina. The explosions have scientists baffled.

William Donn, who conducts acoustical research at Columbia University's Lamont Laboratory here, said his air pressure equipment had detected seven separate explosions. Two blasts Dec. 2 and five more last Thursday made readings on air pressure instruments, he said.

He said the explosions were much too violent to have been caused by supersonic aircraft.

A Pentagon spokesman said defense officials had no knowledge of the booms and knew of no military tests that could have caused them.

"It's amazing that something like this could happen without anybody knowing about it," Donn said.

The explosions occurred about 50 miles offshore and were too high to disturb ocean wave patterns, he said. Seismic equipment at the laboratory registered no earth movements at the time of the booms.

"What I heard was one loud boom, and the house sort of shook," said Joseph Manger, a police officer in Barnegat Township, N.J., of the Dec. 2 incident.

Donn said people on the South Carolina shore, where one of Thursday's explosions was felt, told him that the boom shook their homes and broke some windows.

Donn said employees at the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in New Jersey heard the Dec. 2 explosion. "They thought it was an earthquake," he said.

The exact locations of the explosions remain as mysteri-

ous as their cause, Donn said. Simultaneous readings from separate locations would be needed to pinpoint the location, but no other US facility has instruments as sensitive as Lamont's, he said.

Although vibrations were felt primarily along the shore, residents from some inland areas also felt them.

CLEVELAND PRESS - OHIO
*****JAN. 6, 1978*****

Astronomers offer new 'big bang' theory

BOSTON — (UPI) — The creation of the earth and other planets in the solar system may not have been as difficult or as time-consuming as science has always assumed it was, an Arizona astronomer says.

"It does not take hundreds of millions of years for planets to form," said Clark Chapman, one of four scientists who developed a new theory that repeated collisions of substances resembling meteorites may have formed the planets in the solar system.

"It's much easier to make planets than we thought it was," Chapman added in an interview.

Chapman and three colleagues from the Planetary Science Institute will present two papers describing their theory Sunday, the last day of the annual meeting of the Division for Planetary Sciences of the American Astronomical Society.

Their theory says the planets formed over a 10,000- to 20,000-year period, gradually growing in size as

they collided and were held together by gravity.

It differs from earlier theories, most of which held that the planets came together "magically" from gases and substances resembling grains of sand and dust or were held together with the help of an undefined "interplanetary glue," Chapman said.

The colliding bodies that eventually formed the planets had to be about 1,000 miles in diameter before their collision forces and gravity helped them hold together, Chapman said. He added that later collisions drew smaller bodies into the same planetary masses.

He said the new theory eliminates the need to think of grains of sand or other small particles coming together magically to form planets.

Identification of gravity as the force holding the planets together also eliminates the need to imagine an unknown "sticky material" serving that function, he said.

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL - WISC.
*****DEC. 22, 1977*****

More Explosive Noises in Jersey

Toms River, N.J. —UPI— A series of loud, mysterious explosion-type noise: Wednesday night alarmed residents along the New Jersey shore for the third time this month. No one knows for sure what the noises are, but sonic booms have been ruled out.

CLEVE. PLAIN DEALER - OHIO
*****DEC 30, 1977*****

Mystery booms' cause sought

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House has asked federal agencies for reports on the possible causes of mysterious booms reported along the East Coast.

The noises, reported from Connecticut to the Carolinas during the past month, appear to have been concentrated off New Jersey.

A variety of possible sources for the noises have been offered ranging from exploding gas produced by

garbage buried at sea to weapons testing and earthquakes. They remain unexplained, however.

Earthquake experts at the U.S. Geological Survey have noted that reports of similar unexplained noises are not uncommon through history.

Arthur C. Morrissey, an official of the White House Office of Science and Technology, said various agencies have been asked to report on what they feel might be the cause for the sounds.

Noise Mystery Easily Solved

Oceanport, N.J. —UPI— For the fourth time this month, residents along the New Jersey shore heard mysterious thunderous explosions, but this time the noise was merely ceremonial — and only a rehearsal.

John Dietrich, civilian spokesman for Ft. Monmouth, said Friday's mysterious booms came from the fort's cannon.

"It was just a practice run for some ceremonies that will take place on the grounds next Tuesday," he said.

On Dec. 2, 21 and 22, residents were shaken by several mysterious high altitude explosions. Scientists and government officials have been stumped by the phenomena.

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL - WISC.
*****JAN. 1, 1978*****

THOSE WHUUMPS: THEORIES, NO FACTS

From News Services

What in the world are they? Where are they coming from? What's causing them to send cats running under beds, doors to shake, thousands of phones to jangle?

All kinds of people have all kinds of theories. But no one yet has the answer to what's been causing three weeks worth of mysterious blasts along the Eastern Seaboard from Connecticut to South Carolina.

Two more were reported yesterday in New Jersey and South Carolina. Wednesday two were heard along a 15-mile-long stretch of shore area of Long Beach Island, N.J., near Atlantic City. They could be heard as far as five miles inland.

"My whole house shook," said a Barnegat Light, N.J., fisherman, adding that almost immediately after one blast, a second occurred "but not as loud. You had to be dead not to hear the first one."

ON LONG ISLAND, a policeman described one in his area as "like a clap of thunder, but there was no light preceding it." Seconds later, he said, the glass storm door of his home reverberated and neighboring families came running out into the street. One woman said her two

cats ran under a bed and refused to come out.

Sonic booms from aircraft, earthquake warnings, even exploding gas bubbling up from underwater garbage dumps are being offered as at least possible explanations from the scientific community — and being debunked almost as quickly.

Two explosions, similar but stronger to those Wednesday and yesterday in New Jersey and Long Island, startled residents from Connecticut to New Jersey to South Carolina Dec. 2.

Scientists at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Geophysical Observatory in Palisades, N.Y., said instruments recorded those booms and five more Dec. 15, but none Wednesday or yesterday.

The explosions have been accompanied by reports of lights in the sky, sometimes a luminous glow.

Dr. Edward Chiburif, assistant director of the Weston Observatory of Boston College, said he suspects the sounds are sonic booms. Dr. William Donn, head of atmospheric sciences at the Lamont-Doherty Observatory, says he's just as sure they are not.

Ocean County, N.J., civil defense authorities said they had confidential information the blasts occurred in outer

space, but federal officials discounted that theory.

THE GARBAGE gas idea comes from Dr. Stanley Klemetson, environmental engineering researcher and associate professor of civil engineering at Colorado State University.

He says it's likely that a build-up of sludge deposits on the ocean bottom from the dumping of treated wastes and garbage has produced anaerobic gases such as hydrogen and methane, which could surface and rise into the atmosphere.

"Natural static electricity caused by wind friction is sufficient to set off the explosions," Klemetson said.

Donn said that after the initial and most severe blast on Dec. 2, he thought it might be a supersonic entry of a meteorite into the atmosphere, but says that the repeated occurrences rule that out. He also said that an entire formation of supersonic planes breaking the sound barrier simultaneously could hardly produce the boom phenomenon.

BESIDES, NEITHER military nor Federal Aviation Administration officials say any such activity has taken place this month.

WILLOUGHBY, OHIO - NEWS HERALD
*****JAN. 11, 1978*****

Booms still a mystery

WASHINGTON — The Naval Research Laboratory will conduct a "measured and prudent" inquiry into mysterious atmospheric booms off the East Coast, a White House spokesman says. The Defense Department has asked for an interim report in 60 days.

PERTH - AUSTRALIA

DEC. 23, 1977

Blasts puzzle U.S.

NEW YORK, Thurs: Eight high-altitude explosions have shaken the U.S. east coast since early this month and scientists admit that they are baffled.

The Concorde and other high-flying supersonic planes have been ruled out because the bangs are much louder than the ordinary sonic booms they cause.

Such varied institutions as the Centre for Short-Lived Phenomena in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory in Palisades, New York, have been swamped with calls.

"We have encountered nothing like this before," said Richard Golub, the director of the centre, a clearing house for environmental information.

The Lamont-Doherty laboratory has instruments that can pick up the sound of rocket launches at Cape Canaveral in Florida, 1450km away. During two of the explosions, the instruments went off the scale.

According to Dr. W. M. Donn, an atmospheric acoustics scientist there, the source of the explosions was high in the atmosphere over the Atlantic. —AAP-Reuters.

THE DAILY NEWS - AUSTRALIA

*****DEC. 19, 1977*****

Big bang theory blasted

WASHINGTON (AAP): Two Californian scientists say the "big bang" which began the universe 15 billion years ago was a much more orderly event than imagined.

Drs Richard Muller and George Smoot, of the University of California, said they had found that the universe was expanding at a constant rate in almost all directions.

The new findings "take the simplistic big bang theory a long step down the road and give us a model that will eventually help to unravel the mystery of how the universe was formed," Dr Smoot said in an interview.

Most astronomers believe the universe began with a huge explosion.

Some think this was chaotic, occurring at different speeds in different places, giving rise to great swirls of matter.

Others see it as an homogeneous event, sending

newly-formed matter out in all directions at the same speed.

But the new findings seem to indicate that the bang was smoother than even the "homogeneous school" had thought.

Dr Smoot, said: "It seems there was no explosion such as a super nova (large exploding star), but rather some sort of energy release

"We're really giving added weight to the big bang theory. But it is an infinitely more complex process than the originators conceived it to be," he added.

detected by sensitive instruments aboard a NASA U-2 aircraft at an altitude of 20,000 metres.

their ideas on readings eastern and our galaxy—

of background radiation lows a ship's speed to be as resistance to water measured.

tral core of the universe than one million miles per hour.

of heavenly bodies, just The two scientists base mal explosion at one ous for spy flights over the Soviet Union and ing that there is no cen- and hence no single pri-

This plane, made flitting toward the constellation Hydra at more the Milky Way—are out of step with the rest of Background microwave

tion to the regularity; used for agricultural and earth resources photography.

radiation, discovered in 1965, is thought to be the heat left after the bang.

But the U-2 flights found that the radiation was the same in all sectors. And these measurements of the sky, indicated early 60s, is also reveals reveal one exception. The Earth, our solar regular that it allows the Cuba in the late 1950s. The radiation is so regular "spot."

Sighting of UFO Over Cragsmoor Reported

PAGE ONE

Several Ellenville residents, including two policemen, observed what were described as two flying saucers at about 11:30 p.m. Sunday, hovering over the Shawangunk mountain in the vicinity of Cragsmoor. It was not the first time that UFO's have been spotted in the same area.

Several who saw the objects were reluctant to have their identities known, fearing ridicule. Not so Mrs. Albert Lonstein, who said her son Wayne watched the craft for over an hour before alerting her. She called another person who had binoculars. Sondra Lonstein said there were two round objects with green lights and

small white shooting lights clearly visible from their Eastview Heights home which faces east to the mountains.

Last year, Mrs. Lonstein said, her family saw UFO's the same area, hovering over Cragsmoor, in the late fall and again in early spring, always in the hours between 9:30 and 11:30 p.m.

The unidentified person with binoculars, verified the sighting from his post at the Channel Master Gatehouse, and called Ellenville police. He said the craft "were right on top of Cragsmoor" and were "cigar-shaped with green lights rotating all around." After about 20 minutes they "simply

disappeared." He said the UFO's were the first he had ever seen, and fervently hoped they would be the last. "I couldn't believe it - they have to exist."

Ellenville Patrolmen Olonko and Pagan, called to the gatehouse, also saw the UFO's. The police blotter records "strange lights in the sky towards the mountain - green, blue and red lights with a bright light on top of a flying object that seemed to grow brighter and dimmer."

A Cragsmoor resident who also wished to remain anonymous because "people have a tendency to laugh at you over UFO's," said that

(Continued on Page 5)

two years ago, she happened to look out her window at about 3:30 a.m. and saw a "domeshaped object pulsating and hovering stationary over the valley." At first, she thought it was an explosion, but it moved rapidly in a straight line to the left and returned to its original position over Ellenville. "I was mesmerized, because it was made up of the most gorgeous colors I had ever seen," she reported. "The colors defy description - orange, pink, red all pulsating."

Three years ago, two of the woman's children saw six UFO's at once over Cragsmoor. The son watched them fly in erratic patterns for at least 15 minutes in the 5 p.m. winter dark. The daughter, frightened, fell down as she ran towards home in the snow, and as she went to get up, she spotted a beam about 15 feet away emanating from one of the objects hovering directly overhead. Hysterics followed. "There was no noise - no sound - from any of them", the mother said.

The Cragsmoor resident said that she has often seen UFO's going across the valley, usually from 2 to 3 a.m. She has a habit of looking into the sky at night. Others, she said, have made numerous sightings in the Cragsmoor area, but are loath to talk about it.

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. - JOURNAL
*****NOV 17, 1977*****

TUCSON DAILY CITIZEN - ARIZ.
*****NOV 26, 1977*****

UFOs — The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is being asked to take up where the Air Force left off a decade ago: investigate reports of unidentified flying objects.

FRONT PAGE

The request comes from none other than President Carter, who reported sighting a UFO in 1973 while he was governor of Georgia.

The space agency said it would consider several actions, including the establishment of 15 "go-getters" teams to fly to locations where someone has reported sighting a UFO.

HERALD EXAMINER - LA. CAL.
*****DEC 11, 1977*****

MORE UFOS SEEN, THANKS TO MOVIE

By **BOYCE RENSBERGER**

New York Times News Service

NEW YORK — Over the next few weeks, according to people who follow such matters, the nation can expect a great flurry of reports that unidentified flying objects — flying saucers from other planets, many will say — have been sighted.

The proximate cause, it is being suggested, is a new movie called "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," a heavily promoted science fiction film about extraterrestrial creatures visiting Earth.

By planting or re-awakening the idea in the minds of both the gullible and the hoaxers, the movie is expected to trigger a self-sustaining chain reaction of UFO sightings and interest in the subject.

"There are always many stimuli out there to be seen — meteors, fireballs, aircraft anti-collision lights and so on," said Philip J.

Klass, an editor of Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine and author of books debunking flying saucer myths. "It just takes something like this movie to get the idea going."

The White House saw the reports coming some weeks ago and asked the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to take over the job of answering letters on the subject from citizens. NASA agreed.

"Public interest in this has been brewing for several months, slowly building up," said Stanley D. Schneider, an aide to Frank Press, the White House science advisor who made the request to NASA. "It was getting to be more than we could handle."

Schneider said that the letters began almost as soon as President Carter took office, having once reported a UFO himself and having made a campaign to release all government files on the subject.

He said that the movie "Star Wars" ap-

peared to have spurred an upsurge of inquiries last summer, and he forecast that "Close Encounters" would trigger a far larger response.

Press asked the administrator of the space agency, Robert A. Frosch, to consider reopening a government investigation of the validity and significance of UFO reports. The federal government has not concerned itself with investigating the subject since 1969, when Edward Condon of the University of Colorado issued a federally sponsored report based on more than 30 years of files of the Air Force's Project Bluebook, as the government inquiry was called. The report said that there was no hard evidence that UFO's were anything but conventional phenomena misunderstood.

NASA is expected to say that no investigation is warranted. One reason, cited by an official of the agency, is that no credible physical evidence for the extraterrestrial origin of a flying object has been produced.

A Streak Through the Night

By Susan Cox **FRONT PAGE**
Staff Writer

ARROYO GRANDE — A cigar-shaped ball of fire streaked through the night sky over Pismo Beach the night of Nov. 3, startling Jack Bertrem so much he pulled his car over on U.S. 101 and got out to watch it.

Bertrem, a retired house painter who has lived in Arroyo Grande since 1934, said the ball of light, which glowed like the red taillight on a car, came off the top of the mountains at the Ontario Grade and sped across the freeway and out to sea in a southwesterly direction.

"It was about the size of a two-car garage," Bertrem said. He watched for 30 to 45 seconds before it disappeared. "It just went...and

it went," he said. "Man, was it moving."

Bertrem, 77, was a firm non-believer in unidentified flying objects before he saw the red ball of fire that night.

"Up to then I never believed in UFOs," he said. "I thought they could be explained as airplanes or that people were imagining things."

But, he said, the first thing he thought when he saw the UFO was "Whoops, there's a flying saucer."

Bertrem said no one else pulled off the freeway that night about 10 p.m. to watch the light in the sky. A barber he knows said he saw the same thing that night but told him it was a rocket rather than a UFO.

A spokesman for the Space and Missile Test Center at Vandenberg

Air Force Base said a Minuteman 3 had been launched that night at 10:30 p.m. — after the time Bertrem said he'd seen the UFO. The spokesman said the ICBM was launched due west, and would appear to move in a southwesterly direction when viewed from the north.

Launches may appear unusual, the spokesman said, because of atmospheric conditions. Separation of stages may take on unusual effects with lights glowing and receding.

But Bertrem said he'd seen missile launches and didn't associate what he saw with such a launch.

He noted that the UFO looked like fire contained within a specific area instead of jetting out the back of a missile.

"A funny thing happened," Bertrem said. "You'd think I'd be nervous, but I felt good — buoyed up — like a born-again Christian. I thought, 'Gee, I'm glad I saw that.'"

Bertrem said he had told his friends about the sighting and that none of them thought he "was crazy." My friends who know me know I wouldn't say it if it wasn't true," he said.

He said he drove from San Luis Obispo to Arroyo Grande on U.S. 101 frequently at that time of night and had never seen anything similar. "I wish I could see another," he said.

He said he'd be interested in meeting with the pilots of a UFO. "I'd like to take a ride with them if they promised to bring me back."

MARBLE HILL, MO. — BANNER PRESS
*****DEC. 8, 1977*****

UFO's still sighted, Dr. Rutledge says

PAGE ONE

Those strange UFOs continue to be seen zipping over southeastern Missouri, according to Dr. Harley Rutledge, chairman of the physics department of Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

The most recent sighting was about 7:15 p.m. Oct. 7, about five miles north of Jackson, where witnesses watched a bright white object being chased by a military fighter plane, Rutledge said.

Rutledge said one of the witnesses, John Hickam, a former Air Force electronics expert watching through a rifle telescopic sight, gave this account:

The bright light appeared to move northerly, following the route of Interstate 55. It was very bright, made no sound and appeared to be about 5,000 feet high. The object limmed considerably about the time a commercial airliner passed overhead.

Seconds later a jet fighter which sounded like a McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom went into afterburn and cracked the sound barrier while pursuing the light.

Both flew out of sight over Illinois. The fighter then returned and made a figure-eight search of the area and flew east.

Rutledge, originally a skeptic, started a

scientific UFO field investigation program called Project Identification after strange lights were reported over Piedmont in April, 1973.

The investigation was partially financed with a donation from the Globe Democrat.

"Not only have I seen strange vehicles and lights both by day and night, but they appear to be intelligently controlled and seem to interact with human beings," Rutledge said.

One of the most significant sightings took place from the second floor window of Rutledge's campus office on Sunday, Sept. 4, 1976, he said.

"I turned to look out the window and a glint of reflected sun light revealed a disc shaped object hovering at a 60-degree angle a distance away," he said.

Rutledge said the object almost immediately shot upwards at a steep angle, accelerating with great speed and backing away almost instantly.

Rutledge, who said he has made more than 140 UFO sightings since 1973 and classified 25 as "incredible," is working on several papers on the subject of UFO research.

(Reprinted from the St. Louis Globe-Democrat)

ARROYO GRANDE, CAL. — FIVE CITIES TIMES
*****NOV 25, 1977*****

Reflections of that Man Friday

By WILLIAM A. CALDWELL
Discovery of a Planet

The first item on the agenda for today's meeting, fellow Earthlings, is that one evening last week a gentleman walking the cliffs at Gay Head saw a UFO. Unidentified flying object. A flying saucer.

The second is that on Monday morning crews of craftsmen started stringing along Main street in Edgartown the electric wiring for the Christmas trees that will glow in their green latticed stanchions on the brick sidewalks from now till the last withered leaf drops off the deciduous calendar.

We shall deal with these two wonders in consecutive order.

The UFO appeared, in the last pale light of the dying day, southeast of Martha's Vineyard. It was not a plane glinting in the light of a sun long since sunk below our horizon, nor a satellite; it did not move; it hovered.

It was still hovering when some six or eight responsible citizens, all of them in an advanced state of sobriety, saw it an hour or so later. I did not myself see the UFO; in my opinion what they were looking at, a little to the south of east from what used to be Wasque Point, was the star Betelgeuse, in the right shoulder of the constellation Orion. But my eyes are weak and strained from reading too much science fiction like the works of Sigmund Freud, and moreover I do not believe that the existence of anything depends on my seeing it. We all of us take on faith the reality of atoms and viruses although we've never seen one. The only safe rule is that if somebody reports seeing a dinosaur grazing on the lawn or a flying saucer dangling in the sky, then it has been seen, therefore it exists, and where were we?

Well, first, our inquisitive neighbors in outer space don't go in for annual model changes. The UFO is still shaped like a disk, like a clam approaching you edgewise.

Second, it carries running lights, green at this wingtip, red at that, and it is reassuring to know that United States Coast Guard regulations are being observed in the depths of the universe more dutifully than in any Island harbor.

Third, the gent who saw it first perceived that the red and green lights were rotating as if on a common axis. He supposed the phenomenon was nothing more than some maneuver involving a rescue at sea and a team of helicopters. He telephoned a couple of Coast Guard stations. Nope, no helicopters aloft. No emergency allowed. Nothing up there but a common UFO.

That's about as far as eyewitness observation can take us, but it raises a question that perplexes me. I've told quite a few people hereabouts and as far elsewhere as Cambridge and New York about the flying saucer of Muskeget Channel, and the response has been shocking. The response has been, "Of course, we've all seen UFOs — been seeing them for 10, maybe 15, at least 20 years now." It is agreed that They're coming. There seems to be some uncertainty about who or what They are.

There was a time, from H. G. Wells's publication of the book *The War of the Worlds* (1898) to Orson Welles's radio adaptation of it (1938), when it was assumed They were hostile and very terrible. For a while we had other aliens on our mind — identifiable flying objects called Fokkers and Stukas and Messerschmitts. When They began reappearing in the skies and on the logs of sober, professional, no-funny-business airline pilots, They had undergone a change.

Or we had.

No longer are They intrinsically frightful. Indeed, one takes it from the current science gospel in print and on film, They are wise and gentle; They are coming down from the black abysses of sidereal space to save a corrupt world. From itself.

Isn't that inspiring? Ans. — No; it is discouraging; whoever or whatever They are, they're either chicken or feeble-minded, to cruise all the way from the edge of the universe to Wasque, take one look at us, and flee. Having made it this far that night, why didn't they proceed to land and deliver us from evil? And do not bother to tell me They'll be back, to teach us how to be like Them, to be as gods. This spreading sense of dependency on the unknown, the mystical in any form including the Oriental, the unidentified, this is not hope. It is despair.

One of these nights the strings of bulbs will be lighted on trees along Main streets all over America, on the roof lines of little houses, in the windows of shops and attics, and we'll have plastic reindeer on front lawns and Santas hohohoing from cottage chimneys and high-rise cornices. Bullhorn loud-speakers will rasp canned carols from 8 a.m. till midnight. Haggard mothers will be dragging shrill, moist children from store to store, and the TV commercials will instruct you how to borrow money you can't pay off to buy things they don't need for people you'd prefer to forget. The holiday shopping season is pretty earthy.

Then one strange night before long you'll find yourself suddenly very glad to be alive. Here. Now. Among these your friends and family. Suddenly you'll see that all the tinsel and clatter and blink and hurry are nothing but non-verbal ways of trying to say peace on earth, good will to men. Too briefly, we'll know again that creatures are coming who'll save the world, and that They are us, and that we know how to do it.

THE QUESTION

One more round with "Close Encounters of the Third Kind": Did it change or reinforce your views on things celestial? Dennis John Lewis polled moviegoers after a "Close Encounters" showing at the Cinema Theater in Washington.

CHARLIE PHILLIPS, Lake Ridge, Va.: "I don't think it reinforced mine any but it may mark an upsurge among people whose own personal encounters may now come to the surface. Knowing that what was unexplained may now be more quickly explored, those people may not feel so hesitant about coming forth with the information. Years back, if you admitted seeing UFOs you were thought to be a nut, but the more commonplace these become the more they relate to other stories of sightings."

ELIZABETH BOARD, Washington: "It didn't change my opinion. I've always thought there was a possibility of UFOs although I have never seen one and I doubt a lot of people who claim to have seen them. Years ago they believed in Greek gods and angels floating all over the place. So there's the possibility of anything."

TOM GAUGER, of WMAL Radio: "We are not alone. I've always felt that way, since the UFO scare back in the '50s. It (the movie) was a romanticized effort, though, because I don't think we'll ever be in that kind of situation. I'm sure it will happen with individuals rather than something large like that. And we won't have to go through the rigamarole of Kodaly's music scale or anything like that. They will know how to talk to us and be more advanced than us. If they can get here, they'll have to be."

MIKE COHEN, Silver Spring: "It's just one man's view — just what the writer thinks. And I was disappointed when the people from outer space appeared at the end. It might have worked better if they were not seen — I mean if they had used a light force concept instead."

ROBERT STARKEY, Washington: "They definitely should have left some things unanswered. I didn't like the little people coming out of the spaceship. I liked the earlier parts of the film, when things were left to my imagination."

EVELYN SLINKMAN, Chevy Chase: "I'm curious about that business. But this was just entertainment — good entertainment."

PHIL MAGGIO, ticket taker at the Cinema: "It didn't change them because I've always believed in life in outer space. It didn't affirm them either, since it's really a bit of outlandishness. (But) I was very impressed with the abundance of details to make it all seem as credible as possible."

ROBBIE ROBBINS, 14, Washington: "I believe there is such life somewhere out there, but that movie was too fake for me."

HAYES JACKSON, 10, Washington: "It was pretty much like what I already believed it to be. The ship landing and someone going off with them seemed like just what might happen. I'd say there is intelligent life out there because — well, they'd have to be pretty intelligent to want to come to Earth from wherever they live. I'd say that some might be against Earth, and some not."

Pentagon admits that it still keeps top secret files on sighting of UFOs

THE U.S. government is still keeping classified reports on UFOs despite years of official denials, THE STAR learned this week.

This was confirmed when the Defense Department recently declassified and released an account of a UFO sighting by pilots of the Iranian Air Force. The document was obtained by Charles Huffer, an American teacher at the American School in Berlin, West Germany, who requested it under the Freedom of Information Act.

THE STAR obtained a copy of this report from the files of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).

Not all of the information contained in the report was released because the State Department censored the document in three places.

The report was declassified on August 31, 1977. But the Pentagon still does not routinely give it out. The Pentagon's UFO expert told THE STAR he had no knowledge of the Iranian report when asked on December 13, 1977.

The sighting in Iran took place in the skies over Tehran on September 19, 1976. Here is the official U.S. government report of the incident:

At about 12:30 A.M. on 19 September 1976 the (censored) received four telephone calls from citizens living in the Shemiran area of Tehran saying that they had seen objects in the sky. Some reported a kind of bird-like object while others reported a helicopter with a light on. There were no helicopters airborne at that time. (censored)

After he told the citizen it was only stars and had talked to Mehrabad Tower, he decided to look for himself. He noticed an object in the sky similar to a star but bigger and brighter. He decided to scramble an F-4 from Shahrokh Air Force Base to investigate.

At 1:30 A.M. on the 19th the F-4 took off and proceeded to a point about 40 NM (nautical miles) north of Tehran. Due to its brilliance the object was easily visible from 70 miles away. As the F-4 approached a range of 25 NM he lost all instrumentation and communications. He broke off the Intercept and headed back to Shahrokh.

When the F-4 turned away from the object and apparently was no longer a threat to it, the aircraft regained all instrumentation and communications. At 1:40 A.M. a second F-4 was launched. The backseater acquired a radar lock on at 27 NM 12 o'clock high position with the VC (rate of closure) at 150 NMPH. As the range decreased to 25 NM the object moved away at a speed that was visible on the radar scope and stayed at 25 NM. The size of the radar return was comparable to that of a 707 tanker. The light that it gave off was that of flashing strobe lights arranged in a rectan-

gular pattern and alternating colors. The object and the pursuing F-4 continued on a course to the south of Tehran when another brightly lighted object came out of the original object and headed straight toward the F-4.

The pilot attempted to fire an AIM-9 missile at the object but he lost all communications. The pilot initiated a turn to get away.

As he turned the object fell in trail at what appeared to be about 3-4 NM. As he continued in his turn away from the primary object the second object went to the inside of his turn and rejoined the primary object.

Shortly after the second object joined up with the primary object another object appeared to come out of the other side of the primary object, speeding straight down.

The F-4 crew had regained communications and watched the object as it came to rest gently on the earth and cast a bright light over an area of about 2-3 kilometers.

The crew descended from their altitude and continued to observe.

There was a lot of interference and repeatedly lost their communications.

The one civil airline that was approaching Mehrabad during the same time experienced communications failure in the same vicinity (Kilo Zulu) but did not report seeing anything.

While the F-4 was on a long final approach the crew noticed another cylinder shaped object with a bright stream of lights.

When queried, the tower stated there was no other known traffic in the area. During daylight the F-4 crew was taken out to the area in a helicopter where the object apparently had landed. Nothing was noticed at the spot where they thought the object landed but as they circled to the west of the area, they picked up a very noticeable beeper signal.

SCIENCE DIGEST, NY. NY.
*****DEC. 1977*****

A Demand for Evidence

The extraterrestrial hypothesis of UFO origins is a complex subject, powerfully dependent on the reliability of witnesses. My own view is that there are no cases that are simultaneously very reliable (reported independently by a large number of witnesses). I suppose it is also consistent with the idea that space vehicles from elsewhere avoid large cities. But the energy requirements for interstellar travel are so great that it is inconceivable to me that any creatures piloting their ships across the vast depths of space would do so only in order to play hide-and-seek over a period of decades.

UFO advocates are trying to dress up Ufology in the robes of science, but the conduct and values of a scientific mind rests heavily on the nature of evidence. To a person with an even mildly skeptical mind, the evidence is unconvincing that we have been or are being visited.

Undoubtedly, many sincere people see unusual phenomena in the sky (presidents, astronomers, Air Force men, meteorologists, astronauts, and so on) but all have alternate explanations other than spaceships.

I think it is intellectual suicide to believe in uncertainty. Until the evidence clearly is on the table or until they make indisputable contact, we should continue to assume that every reported sighting is either a hoax, a mistake, or something that has an alternate explanation.

RUSSELL HOULE
Escanaba, MI.

Was 'Monster' A Hoax? Are UFOs For Real? Hmmm, A Possibility

By ADRIAN GWIN
Of The Daily Mail Staff

In 1952, the Braxton County Monster put Flatwoods, W. Va., on the map as prominently as Bigfoot and the Abominable Snowman did for their areas.

Somebody saw something up there in Flatwoods that warm fall evening of Sept. 12, but what was it?

Spaceships? That's what some said.

Some kids and a woman said they saw a man-like thing 10-feet tall with a head like the ace of spades.

And a fiery chariot of some sort.

A spaceship?

Some people heard what they thought was a small plane crashing. Others saw a glow. The kids saw a spaceship, they said. And the monster.

Another UFO - Unidentified Flying Object.

In 1966 and 1967 there was a rash of UFO sightings in central West Virginia, and among the investigators was J. Ralph Jarrett, a St. Albans man who is still perhaps the foremost "authority" on UFOs in the Charleston area.

We haven't heard too much in recent years about UFOs, so a visit to Mr. Jarrett's home was in order to update the UFO scene — why haven't we seen many? Where did they all go? Are they still around? What does he think of the recent interest in UFOs by President Carter?

Jarrett is solidly built, outgoing, middle-aged; a mechanical engineer at the Union Carbide Technical Center, a respected family man with a lot of the worldly passions such as a hearty appetite and proprietary interest in antique cars. He is a firm believer that UFOs are real and are vehicles from another world, manned or sent by beings with much more intelligence than humans.

"Flying saucers" became the byword for UFOs when someone in the late 1940s saw a "spaceship" shaped like a saucer. There have been rashes of flying saucer sightings ever since.

Among the investigators who charged into the Braxton County affair 25 years ago was Ivan Sanderson of New York, an internationally known scientist-investigator of unusual phenomena. He concluded that the thing which scared Braxton County and the world was real, was of a nature unknown to man, and that it could only be explained by its having come from somewhere else, not earth.

Jarrett concurs in that.

Jarrett is coldly analytical about UFOs. He and other buffs have appropriated a word — 'flap' — to describe periodic waves of sightings.

"They run in cycles of seven to nine years," he said. "History shows that. Our last big flap was about 1973, so we're due another flap in a couple or three years," he said.

He isn't talking flippantly. He's serious.

Jarrett doesn't pretend to know where the visitors come from, the nature of their visits, whether the "spaceships" are manned by little green men or big green monsters. All he's convinced of is that there are real spaceships from somewhere else that come to earth — and that saucer sightings are real, not just figments of imagination or emotional dream-things of excitable people.

And that brings us back to the Braxton encounter of 25 years ago. A man in Florida called and wrote to this

reporter recently that he had invented the Braxton County encounter out of thin air — and told the whole story, his story.

He is Bill Steorts of West Palm Beach, once of Sutton and formerly of St. Albans.

His letter says in part:

"That evening in 1952 A. Lee Stewart and I were down to Heaters in Braxton County. On our way back to Sutton we ran out of gas. We stopped at my father's store and gas station for gas.

"We noticed a disturbance across the road and went to investigate.

"There were some small children all stirred up. Having a sawed-off 12-gauge in the car, we went on the hill to see what was going on. The kids had been playing in a pasture field and some of Bailey Fisher's cows were in nearby woods. Seeing that nothing had happened, we went on to Sutton.

"Being slightly intoxicated, we fabricated the story of the Braxton County Monster.

"We called the Gazette from the Braxton Democrat office. (Stewart's dad owned that newspaper at the time.)

"The skid marks were made by Bailey's old Ford Tractor spinning its wheels — the grease was raked from under the tractor by tall grass.

"We drew the artist's picture of the monster.

"From there is just mushroomed. Kathleen May and her children went to New York on a TV show. Scientists from all over came to investigate. We sat back and laughed. My father knew what we boys were doing but his store was doing a booming business from the tourist trade.

So we asked Ralph Jarrett what he thought of the "hoax confession."

"Anything is possible in this case," he said, thoughtfully. "It could be true that the whole story is a hoax. But I'm inclined to go along with the scientists who investigated. They found too much evidence of a visit from a craft unlike anything we know, to just dismiss it as a hoax."

In a two-hour conversation he recounted stories of "spacecraft" that have come down to us from ancient time, even the fiery chariot that took Elijah into the clouds. Jarrett intimated that sightings of unexplained things in the sky over the centuries could easily be visits of other beings from extraterrestrial space.

He was delighted in President's Carter's recent interest in UFOs — and the news that a debate on UFOs had been held recently in the United Nations.

"We who have believed all along that the UFOs really exist, are glad to see that some official recognition of that possibility is being given by leaders of the nations," he said.

"All we want is to see an official agency look into all such sightings of UFOs, to help determine what they are — to identify them for what they really are, instead of leaving it up to public conjecture, or just dismissing sightings as distortion of the imagination."

If UFOs are real, look for a lot more sightings — another flap — about 1980.

Maybe by that time we'll identify them, and they'll become IFOs — or ships from seven years out in space at the speed of faster than light.

J. Ralph Jarrett thinks it might be possible.

Editor's notebook

By MIKE FLYNN



UFO 5643 91427 One still unexplained

Three celebrated cases of apparent UFO sightings, dear to the hearts of the aerial phenomenon cult because they had appeared to stand the test of expert scrutiny, are debunked in the current issue of *Readers Digest*.

Over the years, at least as far as the Air Force is concerned, most of the thousands of cases of reported sightings have been pretty much explained away as sun spots, swamp gas, reflections of one sort or another — or hoax.

In fact, even the reports of such sightings have died off in recent years and little seems to be heard from the Ufologists, except for an annual gathering of the cult in a little town near Tacoma, Wash., where the sighting reports began 31 years ago.

But the *Digest* article called to mind a little-noted sighting in Northern Idaho just over a decade ago for which a satisfactory explanation has never been forthcoming.

It began with a telephone call one summer evening in 1965 to the United Press office in Spokane.

The caller was the night newsman at a little radio station in Grangeville, Idaho.

"You're gonna think I've been drinking," said the voice on the other end of the line. "But I haven't. And I'm looking out the window right now at a strange object, about 40 feet long, shaped like a cigar with two greenish lights blinking from it."

I was skeptical, but permitted the caller to continue. "The thing is hovering over the Cottonwood Radar Station down in the valley," he said.

I hung up and called the radar station number. "Is there some sort of object hovering above you?" I asked the airman who answered.

"Are you nuts, sir?" came the reply. I explained the call from the radio station and the airman said, "Just a moment."

I heard him say something about a prank call to someone with him. Then silence for a few moments. When the airman returned to the phone, he blurted: "I'll be damned! There's something up there, all right — a big thing, up about 40 or 50 feet and glowing."

"I've got to get off the line so we can call Fairchild (Air Force Base, near Spokane)," he said and hung up. I called the radar station again 15 minutes later and the same airman answered.

"They scrambled the jets," he said. "We were up on top watching and five minutes later, the thing shot off to the east a helluva lot faster than I've ever seen anything move before."

The following evening, the same chain of events unfolded.

A call from the radio station. Same voice. Same report.

A call to the radar station. Same airman. This time the personnel at the station had already seen it. "Yeh, the damn thing's up there again," he said. "We just called Fairchild."

A few minutes later, the radar station airman called me back to report that, once again, the object had zipped away, with hardly a sound other than a low whine, before the Fairchild jets could arrive.

It was the last I ever heard of the strange Cottonwood visitor.

I don't know if the Air Force ever conducted an investigation of the incident. If one was conducted, I never heard the results.

I can hardly say the incidents made me a believer in strange objects.

But it did damage my skepticism of things unexplained.

KALISPELL, MONT. - INTER LAKE
*****NOV 20, 1977*****

UFO sightings continue to be reported in SEMo

7424
Those strange UFO's continue to be seen zipping over southeastern Missouri, according to Dr. Harley Rutledge, chairman of the physics department at Southeastern Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

The most recent sighting was about 7:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, about five miles north of Jackson, where witnesses watched a bright white object being chased by a military fighter plane, Rutledge said.

Rutledge said one of the witnesses, John Hickam, a former Air Force electronics expert watching through a rifle telescopic sight, gave this account:

The bright light appeared to move northerly, following the route of Interstate 55. It was very bright, made no sound and appeared to be about 5,000 feet high. The object dimmed considerably about the time a commercial airline passed overhead.

Seconds later a jet fighter which sounded like a McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom went into afterburn and cracked the sound barrier while pursuing the light.

Both flew out of sight over Illinois. The fighter then returned and made a figure eight search of the area and flew east.

Rutledge, originally a skeptic, started a scientific UFO field investigation program called Project Identification after strange lights were over Piedmont in April, 1973.

The investigation was partially financed with a donation from The Globe-Democrat.

"Not only have I seen strange vehicles and lights both by day and night, but they appear to be intelligently controlled and seem to interact with human beings," Rutledge said.

One of the most significant sightings took place from the second floor window of Rutledge's campus office on Sunday, Sept. 4, 1976, he said.

"I turned to look out the window and a glint of reflected sunlight revealed a disc shaped object hovering at a 60-degree angle a distance away," he said.

Rutledge said the object almost immediately shot upwards at a steep angle, accelerating with great speed and backing away almost instantly.

He is working on several papers on the subject of UFO research.

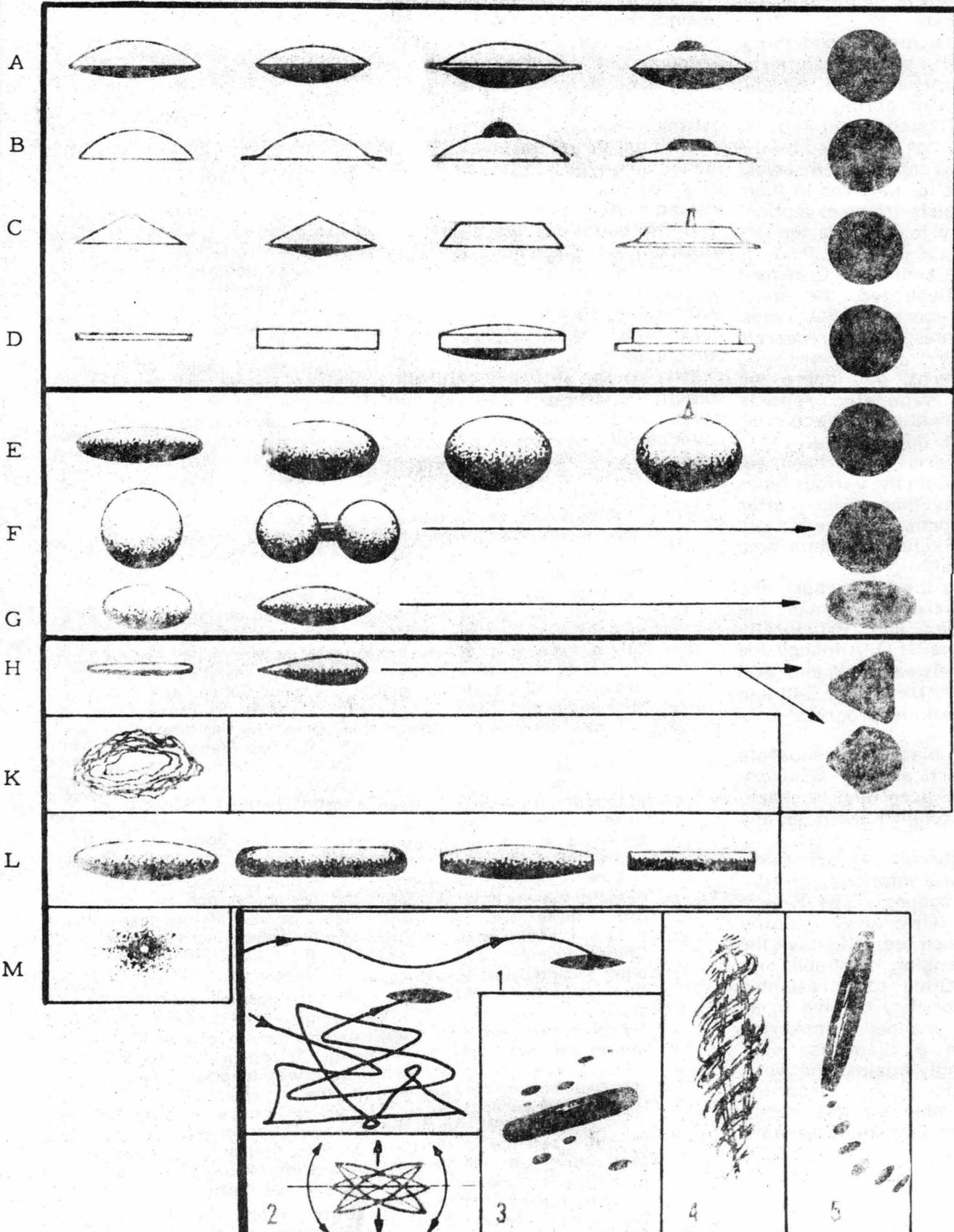
CHARLESTON, MO. - ENTERPRISE
*****NOV 24, 1977*****

TYPES OF UFOs MOST

COMMONLY REPORTED

MODERN PEOPLE SPECIAL

I II III IV PLANFORM



CON'T ON THE NEXT PAGE

One of the most troublesome aspects of UFOlogy is the seemingly infinite variety of reported objects. It is, in fact, something of a stumbling-block to those who believe in the physical reality of UFOs.

With too much of a good thing, most theories become cluttered with assumptions and logical conclusions, involving motive, origin, propulsion, composition, etc., that are not supported by the facts: the UFO reports themselves.

People look for patterns in their lives. UFOlogists are no exception, except we try to organize the unathomable.

UFO space artist Hal Crawford as here illustrated the most commonly reported UFO types. Crawford states, "UFO researchers usually cite extremely general patterns, yet ignore the fact that separate reports describing identical objects are no exception, not the rule.

"Many theories have been advanced to explain the various types of UFOs. Any theory, no matter who puts it forth, must be backed by all data. Exclusion of data is no less than scientific sin."

In studying the UFO chart, the higher the horizontal number, the more complex and structurally specialized the UFO. Although the difference between A-I and A-II is negligible, UFOs like C-III and -IV show definite progression in complexity.

The heavy black lines separate the types vertically by arbitrary classification, according to shape, and do not connect them in any way.

Types A through H are fairly obvious representations of different UFO shapes. Type K is a polymorph (literally, "many armed") which seems to have the power of changing its shape, size and color. Often they resemble clouds, except they behave in an un-cloudlike manner: appearing suddenly in a cloudless sky, moving strongly against the wind, making noise, and dropping various kinds of junk such as rocks, metallic objects or small animals, even reptiles.

Types L are the huge "cigar-shaped" mother ships, apparently with functions similar to an earthly aircraft carrier. These are usually hundreds of feet in length.

Type M is the "nocturnal meandering light," which is the most common nighttime UFO. These reports are also among the most difficult to verify, as great masses of data on aircraft and astronomical phenomena must be studied to rule out the possibility of planes or meteors. Class M UFOs at a distance could be any type if viewed more closely.

At the bottom of the chart are illustrated characteristic patterns of UFOs in flight: 1) wobbling, darting movements; 2) a "falling leaf" motion when ascending or descending; 3) a mother ship surrounded by an escort of smaller craft; 4) a rotating motion, sometimes accompanied by a cloud cover; and 5) the releasing or collection of much smaller discs or spheres.

MODERN PEOPLE
JAN 1, 1977

Something very odd is happening to our satellites and extraterrestrial forces may be responsible by tampering with our outer space hardware.

One of the more interesting side effects that the United States race into space has produced is the immense amount of junk that has been shot into orbit.

Tens of thousands of tons of satellites and multi-staged vehicle parts circle the Earth every minute. A good number of the satellites have long been dead due to battery failure, decaying orbits and faulty instrument arrays.

Aside from the vast amount of metal that we have shot into orbit, there are the space programs of the Soviet Union, China, France, Japan, and other technological innovators throughout the world to consider.

Another one of the more interesting and obscure side effects comes to light with some well documented cases of the past two decades.

In October of 1962, Anna, the "firefly" satellite, was launched into orbit. Its original purpose was to provide a more accurate means of measuring the Earth. Towards the end of December, Anna blacked out. No signals could be sent or

received from her. Then, seven months later, technicians began receiving signals again.

No explanation was ventured as to its demise or equally sudden resurrection. Technicians were just grateful to see that their costly project had not been a complete waste.

Then in May of 1963, Telstar II was launched into space and suddenly and unaccountably, died two months later. It stopped sending signals of any kind, and one scientist attributed its untimely failure to a meteor. Three-and-a-half weeks later, it resumed its operations just as abruptly and mysteriously as it ceased them. Once again, technicians were startled but grateful.

Approximately a year ago, Atlanta papers quoted Wayne Meshijian, a physics professor at Longwood College in Farmville, Virginia, as contending that something was interfering with the telemetry of two NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmosphere Administration) satellites over the area commonly known as the Bermuda Triangle.

Meshijian reported that the satellites photograph an area twice. The first picture transmitted a clear normal shot while the second picture was an infrared shot.

This is normal procedure. However, whenever the satellites are over the Bermuda Triangle, the second picture was invariably wiped off the receiver. It is interesting to note the second shot, the infrared one, revealed sources of heat under the ocean that are impossible to detect by conventional means.

Until more is known, speculation is tempting and interesting.

Strange Outer Space Forces
Mimiculates Our Satellites

UFO or prank?

Akron group probes Brimfield sighting

By SANDY BRADLEY

Alvin and Kim Branham knew their imaginations hadn't created that huge orange object circling their Brimfield home Sunday night.

Others saw it too.

A frightened couple saw the object rise from a field and stop over their car, and they rushed to the Branhams' Tallmadge Road home for help. A family on Hanover Drive in Brimfield later reported seeing the strange object in the sky. An amateur astronomer reported seeing a bright light in the sky, a light which "winked out" before his eyes.

What did they see? A visitor from outer space? Or a plastic balloon sent aloft by pranksters?

One person who is trying to find out is A. E. "Mark" Candusso of Cuyahoga Falls, co-chairman of the Flying Saucer Investigating Committee of Akron. Candusso, who has been investigating reports of unidentified flying objects since 1961, acknowledges that the majority of objects turn out to be explainable earthly things, from aircraft to the work of pranksters.

The prankster theory is being explored in this case. Candusso said he has information that someone was launching plastic dry-cleaning bags, inflated with candles mounted inside, Sunday night in the Brimfield area.

That would explain the mysterious lighted object rising from the field. It would explain the bright smaller objects falling from it, if the bag had started to burn and disintegrate.

It would not explain the object "as tall as a 30-story building" which the Branhams saw circling their home. It would not explain the distant light in the sky seen through an astronomer's telescope.

Candusso said Branham seemed "very stable; a good observer." After 16 years in the UFO business, he's learned to spot the cranks and the jokers. He doesn't believe Branham is one of them. And he doesn't know how a plastic balloon could resemble an object as tall as a 30-story building to a stable observer.

Yet, he can't discount the prankster theory.

"I'm not strictly ignoring the negative side," he said.

That, in fact, is what he said has been the problem in investigations of the UFO phenomenon. People won't look at all the possible theories. Scientists, especially, are quick to discount any theories about space explorers from distant galaxies. UFOlogy, as it has come to be called, has remained more the concern of the philosopher than the scientist.

We contacted three area scientists, two of them professional astronomers, in our quest for a scientific explanation of the UFO phenomenon. We found none.

One said he was too busy with the "hard sciences" to worry about UFOs, although he admitted reliable reports of UFO sightings could be valuable to the scientific community.

Another said he really hadn't thought about it at all. All said they had no professional opinion on the subject.

Candusso said his organization, which currently has about 20 members, includes "not one scientist."

"Scientists are not as objective sometimes as they should be. Most of them are busy with their own work and they don't want to take the time. If they don't want to take the time, it's easy to take the simple way out by explaining them as weather balloons, aircraft and the like," he said.

To the police officers who usually receive the first reports of UFO sightings, it means just one more notation on the growing list of UFO reports.

Even those officers who will admit to the possibility of extra-terrestrial space explorers are skeptical of UFO reports. They have heard so many, and so many have been pranks. And when the reports have seemed sincere, there was simply nothing there when the officers arrived to investigate.

Although the current issue of Newsweek reports that some 15 million Americans have seen UFOs at one time or another, many persons who see the strange objects remain as unidentified as the objects themselves.

So it was with the couple who knocked on the Branhams' door Sunday night. He is a school teacher. Like many who have seen UFOs, he feared the ridicule and harrassment that have fallen on some who have reported the sightings.

Through the years, a number of people have attempted to get the UFO phenomenon taken seriously. A nationwide organization, the Midwest UFO Network (MUFON), of which Candusso is a state assistant director, lobbies for government investigations of UFO sightings.

A short-lived investigation in 1966 was spurred by then Michigan Congressman Gerald Ford. And according to Newsweek, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is launching a new program at the urging of President Jimmy Carter, who when Governor of Georgia in 1973, reported two UFO sightings himself.

While nobody is about to say officially that those mysterious objects which come and hover over houses and cars and then disappear into the night could belong to life forms out there somewhere, the federal government has, in a way, acknowledged such a belief.

The Voyager spacecraft launched this autumn and now headed for the far edges of the galaxy is equipped with recordings of earth sounds, pictures and mathematical symbols. Voyager is expected to leave the galaxy in the 1980's, carrying with it the sounds of wind and rushing water and greetings in 60 languages.

Who knows but what some day in the distant future that strange looking craft drifting quietly through space won't frighten some poor souls on some other planet?

And who is to say that out there in that vastness which we have only begun to understand there isn't somebody who had the idea first?

WENATCHEE, WASH. - WORLD
*****DEC. 5, 1977*****

Keep an open mind on those UFO reports

By George Richardson
Managing Editor

It is no surprise to me that an unidentified flying object was spotted hovering over South King County Wednesday night.

They are probably hovering all over these days but everyone is inside watching television or baking Christmas cookies and so nobody sees them.

I don't really believe in flying saucers when you come right down to it. What I do, though, is not believe in them. And I can see my wife and children and probably my favorite uncle Ed shaking their heads and saying, well, there's old wierd George off talking about flying saucers again.

It's a little hard to ignore them (the UFOs, I mean, not my relatives) especially after that 32-year-old housewife said she watched what looked like a spacecraft hover over a field near her farmhouse. It had big lights on it and made a faint electrical hum.

And a UFO expert in Seattle says that figures; that whoever drives the saucers know they cause problems with electronic equipment in heavily populated areas so they stay out in the boondocks where they can hum to their heart's content and not bother anyone at all.

The trouble is, there is never a UFO around when you want one. Some years ago, on the 20th anniversary of the first sighting of a flying saucer over the Cascades, we held a party in our back yard celebrating the event.

We gathered together some of our finest friends, had dinner and waited patiently through the twilight. Besides refreshments we had a pair of binoculars and an aging shotgun in case the aliens proved hostile. As the evening wore on we put a Spike Jones album on the phonograph.

I don't know whether it was the Spike Jones music or what but no flying saucers, hostile or otherwise, hovered over Miller St. The only suspicious sightings we made were of a couple of the neighbor youngsters rustling around in the vacant lot next to us, wondering what the elders were up to.

In my early years with the Wenatchee World, however, I did talk to a number of persons who had either seen a UFO or wouldn't be a bit surprised if there were such things.

In Brewster a policeman reported seeing one around there. The Air Force said there wasn't any such thing but it sent some troops anyway and looked around for a long time.

I wrote a story about the sighting and interviewed people and, as I recall, many of them thought it was quite likely there had been some thing out there.

Hu Blonk, who was managing

editor then, thereafter gave me all the stories about people seeing bright lights in the skies or up in the mountains where there were no humans and things like that. I don't think he believed much in UFOs and I got the impression he was watching me out of the corner of his eye to see if I might be communicating with someone out there in the great beyond on company time.

Well, I have also had an attorney tell me he saw a UFO hovering over Rocky Reach dam one night. That fits in with other sightings which indicate they sometimes hang around power generating sources, apparently sucking up electricity or perhaps trying to find out who else was making a faint electrical hum.

So, you ask, what does all this mean in the vast scheme of things?

Not much, really, other than that it seems to me that we ought to keep an open mind in these things.

Two hundred years ago the lady in South King County might have been branded a witch and burned at the stake for what she saw or thought she saw.

We do not burn people any more for being witches. And, since those dark ages, we have gone to the moon and back and sent our own flying objects to other planets.

We can build computers and television sets.

But for all we have learned, there is so much we do not know.

ANTIGO DAILY JOURNAL - WISC.
*****NOV. 26, 1977*****

UFO Cited In Summit Lake

Summit Lake residents saw an unidentified flying object over the south side of the lake Friday evening.

Several lake-side residents saw the large red and green lighted object in the sky that could either have been some type of aircraft, satellite, or something far more mysterious.

One observer told the Antigo Journal today that she first saw the lights at about 10 p.m. and they were still in the sky an hour later. Neighbors were called and everyone living in that area of the lake reported sightings.

"I couldn't tell how high it was," she said, "and we couldn't hear any noise."

The observers said it could not have been a helicopter

because there would have been noise and it would be difficult to hover in one location for such an extended period of time.

They said that it also was not an aircraft because movement would have taken it out of vision with the hour or more it was observed.

Weather forecasters are calling for cloudy skies tonight so Summit Lake residents can only wonder what is hovering above them.

Other UFO sightings in Central Florida

Here are some of Central Florida's UFO sightings:

- September 1968: Three unidentified girls reported to Orlando police that they saw a large circular object with a flashing blue light hovering in the vicinity of the then-YWCA.
- October 1967: Florida Highway Patrol Trooper B.J. Futch and other witnesses reported a big-blob of bright light that appeared to be hovering near Belleview.
- August 1967: Nine persons reported a red-dish-orange circular object giving off a yellow light near DeLand.
- April 1966: Sentinel Star staffers and numerous witnesses around Orlando sighted an object of undetermined shape with a pulsating red light hovering over the Colonial Mall area for about 10 minutes.
- November 1955: Many witnesses, including law officers, spotted an object near Williston that gave off tremendous light and heat but no sound.
- July 1952: An Orlando pilot and his wife reported sighting a saucer-shaped object while they were flying their plane about four or five miles offshore from New Smyrna Beach.
- June 1952: Three Eustis men reported a perfectly round, silvery object in the sky at about 5,000 feet altitude.

UFO's are back in the news in my home area! Several sightings have been reported in a little town 15 miles to the north and a local university science professor who has been studying and collecting UFO data for several years recently issued a request for reported sightings.

It's refreshing to talk again about mysterious lights and little green men digging up soil samples in somebody's back pasture. It relieves the humdrum of grain harvests, cold fronts vs. warm fronts, and the question of whether someone will install this county's first people elevator.

Why are they here? Why don't they come by city hall and ask for brochures and road maps? Surely they want to see Rosco Smith's Indian arrowheads and J.P.'s Jim Beam collection. Why have they elected to be celestial peeping toms, flitting about at night like a fleet of shy fireflies?

Surely if Sadat dares visit Israel our UFO commanders could muster the courage to stop by Billy's station or drop in some evening at the Oval

I mean enough is enough. Thirty years of unauthorized slipping about in our air spaces without so much as a howdy-do is wearing patience thin and causing a medical phenomena known as a 'pain in the neck' from looking skyward.

With their advanced technology they surely have no fear of our extremely backward civilization that cannot even manufacture toilet paper that will tear on the dotted line. Our propensity for shooting down anything we don't understand could not penetrate their force shields.

Come down, UFO's! Come down and be seen and heard! Bring slides and filmstrips. Bring the wife along and have lunch with us some day. We'll treat you so many ways that you're bound to like one. We'll even take the children over to the sitter's.

FITCHBURG, MASS. - SENTINEL
*****DEC 17, 1977*****

Ashby Woman Has Encounter Of 'First Kind'

FRONT PAGE

By LEAH LAMSON
ASHBY — It all began one night in November on the way to Bible Study. Mrs. Robert Loughlin had a "close encounter of the first kind."

Mrs. Loughlin was driving down Richardson Road with her two friends and daughter: "We were heading towards Fitchburg and on the Fitchburg Reservoir sat a big red light. It was real close to the road and was making a noise.

"It looked round and it stayed there at least 10 minutes before we decided to leave. It was still there when we left for church. After that I have been looking at the skies every night after dusk until 10:30 p.m."

The Ashby woman lives with her husband and four children atop a hill on Richardson Road, a perfect location for UFO sightings, she claims.

The Loughlin home, near the Fitchburg and Ashby Reservoir, seems to be a magnet for the saucer-shaped objects.

But, according to Mrs. Loughlin, not all of the strange crafts are round.

"Some of them are oblong-shaped too," she said. "The lights are always changing colors so we know they're not airplanes. They start flashing white then turn yellow, green and red."

Barring only inclement weather, the Loughlins make a nightly trek out to their pasture

where they have seen as many as 14 UFO's in one night. Sometimes accompanied by neighbors and friends, the Loughlins have made a habit of UFO-watching since Nov. 3, missing just a few nights.

On an average night there are usually six or seven of the mysterious objects "cruising around up there", according to Mrs. Loughlin.

She has never captured one on film, but uses binoculars to distinguish between a "flying saucer" and other aircraft.

The prime time for catching a glimpse or a prolonged stare, at a UFO is between 5:30 and 10:30 p.m., Mrs. Loughlin said.

"When the stars are gone, you don't see anymore of them," she explained. "They just seem to sit there in the sky. I don't know if they use the stars for cover or if they're regenerating."

Mrs. Loughlin believes the water might be what attracts such a large flock, or it may be the high power station in Ashburnham.

"They always seem to head in the general direction of the radio station tower," she said.

But the pilots of the UFO's don't seem interested in earthlings, Mrs. Loughlin said. "We see so many of them but they never come within reach."

The celestial crafts are silent most of the time, but when they make noises they sound like "five or six airplanes coming over us, but they stay in one place."

The nine-year resident of Ashby keeps a daily log on the days and times of UFO sightings. She has also written to well-known UFO captive Betty Hill, of Portsmouth, N.H. but hasn't received any reply yet concerning a "close encounter of the Third Kind."

Mrs. Loughlin said she is never afraid to chase down the objects because "they always stay right around the tops of the trees."

She has had no "close encounters of the second kind" — physical evidence of a UFO landing — but did have one strange experience.

"There was one that looked like a helicopter with five or six big lights, but it didn't make the noise a helicopter would," she said. "It went right into the hill and then we heard a big bang. We went up there but we couldn't find anything."

FREDERICKTOWN, MO. - DEMOCRAT NEWS
*****DEC 1, 1977*****

DALLAS MORNING NEWS - TEXAS
*****DEC. 22, 1977*****

UFOs reported near Aurora

BACK in September in Aurora (pop. 180), Wise County, I was told that a woman living on the outskirts of the village on Currie Road, had been visited by "unidentified flying objects" two nights in a row.

People in Aurora said the lady was considered a reliable witness. They said she wasn't a publicity seeker. The film, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" was not yet in the theaters in September. And the unique thing, to me was that the woman reported she first saw the UFOs in her south pasture at exactly 10:30 o'clock on the successive nights.

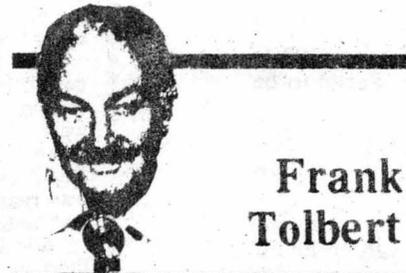
IF THESE "sightings" had been described any place other than just across Blue Creek from Aurora town I might have ignored them. For Aurora occupies a special place in the minds of UFO buffs and has since 1897.

In newspapers all over the United States on April 19, 1897 it was chronicled that "sober citizens" of Aurora had eye-balled it when a "flying ship" crashed there, cracking up against Judge J.S. Proctor's windmill. (This was almost certainly a hoax but it was taken seriously by 1897 public prints, and, mind you, this was about six years before the Wright boys cleaned up their act at Kitty Hawk.)

It was also declared that the Aurora folks found the body of the flying ship's pilot in the wreckage. And the

"person" was described as "not an inhabitant of this world". The pilot was said to have been buried in the Aurora cemetery and a delta-shaped rock was described to investigators from as far away as Italy and Britain as the pilot's gravestone. (It was stolen about a year ago.)

If we are to believe the 1897 Aurora



Frank Tolbert

folks they had "a close encounter of the third kind."

Now get back to 1977. Last September after hearing the tale of the scheduled UFOs I drove out Currie Road to the farm owned by Mrs. Florence Currie. She was the lady who said she saw the "objects". She wasn't at home. And neighbors told me she had rented the farm house for a few months and gone to visit relatives on the Texas Gulf coast.

Well, last week, Mrs. Currie called me: "I'm thinking of putting a sign up in the south pasture reading 'UFO Landing Field'. However, it's not true that I leased my house and took off for

a few months because of those flying objects landing in the pasture."

She said she goes to bed at around 10:30 p.m. almost always. She also declared:

"On the first night I saw the flying object it was 10:30 o'clock. I was opening a window to get a breeze and there was the 'thing' settling down about 100 yards from my house. At first I thought a police patrol car had wandered into the pasture. For there was a big light at the top of the object, blinking rosy-red and green colors, only the big flashing light was higher than it would have been on a patrol car. It was a bright, star-lit night, but the brilliance of the flashing light sort of kept me from seeing the exact shape of the object. Soon it took off noiselessly and disappeared over the tops of the trees.

"Well, the next night I was fixing to go to bed at 10:30 o'clock and opening a window in the south bedroom to catch a breeze. And there was a different 'object' parking itself in the pasture about a 100 yards to the south of my house.

"It seemed more rounded in pattern although I couldn't tell for sure. Unlike the object the previous night it had no big, blinking light on top but had a whole bunch of little lights all over, also blinking rosy and green colors. And after a spell it too took off over the trees, noiselessly."

NOW TURNING the time machine back to 1897. For about 10 days in April, 1897, people all over the nation, especially in the middle reaches of the country, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, were claiming they were seeing flying machines in the skies. And, as recited above, the durned contraptions hadn't yet been perfected by earthlings.

In 1897 Fort Worth Joseph E. (Truthful) Scully was known as "The Honest Brakeman". It was said that he had never stolen a boxcar and "he loved truth for truth's sake and his word is as good as a gold mine". Truthful reported seeing "the airship" flying over the Texas & Pacific Railroad right-of-way east of Dallas.

I've thought that all this was a good-natured hoax started by bored railroad telegraphers in many states. Yet many obviously reputable people, and not members of railroad crews, began seeing UFOs such as about 40 folks in Plymouth, Indiana.

A clinical psychologist who studied the reports of the 1897 UFO sightings told me he believed there may have been a sort of "mass hallucination" throughout the middle portions of the nation for those ten days in April.

SHARON, PA - NEWS ITEM
*****DEC. 5, 1977*****

More UFO reports

MOUNT CARMEL - Borough police received three calls Saturday night from persons saying they sighted UFO's (unidentified flying objects) in the sky over the eastern part of Mount Carmel. The desk officer noted that the objects seemed to be lights on a fire tower, or something similar, on the mountain to the northeast of Mount Carmel.

At 8:15 the same night, John Wascavage, of Shady Acres, near Kulpmont, telephoned Mount Carmel police to report that, through a high power telescope, he had sighted what appeared to be a UFO over the eastern part of Mount Carmel.

Police said the weekend reports of UFO sightings were the first they had received in several years. |

MILTON, PA. - STANDARD
*****DEC. 13, 1977*****

Another UFO sighting

MOUNT CARMEL-A Mount Carmel couple who wish to remain anonymous, claim they saw an unidentified flying object near Frackville Saturday night. The two were stranded in their car when it ran out of gas and while they were waiting for help, saw the object they described as changing shapes and colors. They say a friend and a trucker also saw the object.

POTOSI, MO. INDEPENDENT JOURNAL
*****DEC. 22, 1977*****

UFO SIGHTED

The United States Air Force confirmed today that an unidentified fly object (UFO) was sited in the vicinity of the North Pole Tuesday night. Radar indicated that the object was making several "touch and go" landings and flying at different altitudes and various speeds.

OVNI à Oléron

Deux habitants de l'île d'Oléron (Charente-Maritime) affirment avoir aperçu, samedi matin, un O.V.N.I. Selon l'un d'eux « l'objet volant » d'une brillance extraordinaire, de forme allongée avec deux fusées à l'arrière, se trouvait à la verticale de Saint-Denis d'Oléron.

Un moment, il a été contourné par un avion qui s'est éloigné ensuite.

Le second témoin déclare, lui, qu'une boule a tourné autour de l'engin avant de disparaître en laissant une traînée dans le ciel.

T*R*A*N*S*L*A*T*I*O*N

"FRANCE-SOIR" - PARIS, FRANCE - NOV. 23, 1977

UFO OVER CLERON ISLE

Two inhabitants from Cleron Isel (Charente Maritime) have said that they had seen a UFO, Saturday morning. According to one of them, this "flying object" had an extra-ordinary brightness, an oblong shape, and with two jets on its back. It was hovering just above Saint-Denis d'Cléron, when it had been sighted. One moment, it was skirted by an air-plane which went away. The second witness stated that a ball turned around the object before it disappeared leaving a trail in the sky.

O.V.N.I. SUR LA BOURGOGNE

(DIJON)

DE mystérieux « objets lumineux » ont été aperçus le mardi 15 novembre dernier, vers 7 h 45, par de nombreux Dijonnais, notamment des enseignants et étudiants de l'université et des hommes de la base aérienne de Longvic (où le radar n'a pourtant rien enregistré).

Il s'agissait, selon ces témoins, d'une « lumière de forme allongée » et d'une autre ronde, plus petite, à faible distance de la première. Elles restèrent immobiles deux ou trois minutes dans le ciel, à l'est de la ville, et disparurent soudainement. « Mais sans doute étaient-elles fort éloignées, a précisé un colonel de la base, car le ciel était alors d'une parfaite limpidité et permettait une vision à très longue

T*R*A*N*S*L*A*T*I*O*N

"NOSTRA" - PARIS, FRANCE - NOV. 30, 1977

UFO OVER BOURGOGNE

Some mysterious bright objects have been seen Tuesday, November 15, 1977, about 7:45 a.m. by numerous inhabitants from DIJON, particularly students of University and staff of Longvic Air Base, where radar-screens have not discovered the least echo.

According to witnesses, it was a very oblong light and another light was round, smaller, close to the first. They remained stationary two or three minutes in sky, to the East of town and disappeared abruptly. A group-Captain of de Air Base stated that these lights were very far, because of the sky was unclouded and permitted to have a very large sight.

Foreign Clippings

BUENOS AIRES HERALD - ARGENTINA
*****NOV 25, 1977*****

UFO upsets a trawler

Lisbon
AN unidentified flying object (UFO) upset a Portuguese trawler's electrical system recently, setting off its alarm sirens, the official news agency Anop reported yesterday.

The UFO, emitting a glaring light, hovered above the 300-ton Pardelhas off Southwest Africa (Namibia) for eight minutes then departed at high speed. Anop said.

VAGUE D'O.V.N.I. EN ESPAGNE

MADRID

DE Huesca nous proviennent les informations suivantes :

Samedi dernier trois étranges objets lumineux de forme sphérique sont observés par plusieurs témoins. Tout d'abord parfaitement immobiles les trois sphères d'un blanc brillant très intense se mettent soudainement à tourner sur elles-mêmes puis, avec un accord parfait, « plongent » à grande vitesse au delà de la Sierra de Guara, où elles disparaissent.

Il faudra attendre le lundi pour que ces mystérieux engins fassent à nouveau parler d'eux. Mais cette fois-ci ils ne sont plus trois mais quatre, évoluant de concert comme s'ils n'étaient qu'un tout et qui, suite à un petit ballet classique maintes fois observé en pareil cas, disparaissent à une allure vertigineuse derrière l'écran des montagnes, devant quinze nouveaux témoins ébahis.

Un peu plus tard durant cette même nuit du lundi au mardi, un professeur de dessin de cette même ville de Huesca est soudainement tiré de son sommeil par « quelque chose d'insolite ». Ouvrant la fenêtre il découvre à la verticale même de sa demeure, à une altitude qu'il lui est impossible de déterminer, un objet sphérique, absolument silencieux, d'où émane une froide et très intense lumière blanche comparable à celle d'un tube au néon. Cette lumière baigne la maison et le jardin qui l'entoure comme si ceux-ci étaient un objectif bien précis choisi par l'engin.

Le phénomène a duré pratiquement jusqu'à l'aube. Après quoi la clarté s'est estompée, comme aspirée par la sphère lumineuse dont elle émanait. Puis, à très grande vitesse et dans un silence impressionnant l'OVNI est monté à l'assaut du ciel puis a disparu en direction du nord, vers les Pyrénées.

T*R*A*N*S*L*A*T*I*O*N

"NOSTRA" - PARIS, FRANCE - OCT. 12, 1977

UFO-WAVE OVER SPAIN

We are receiving a few informations from HUESCA (Spain): The last Saturday, 3 strange and bright lights shaped like a sphere have been sighted by several witnesses. These 3 spheres which had a very bright white colour, were first stationary. Then, abruptly, they began to turn on themselves and all together exactly, "buzzed off" with a high speed beyond from the Sierra de Guara, where they disappeared. Monday, they are four, moving together like a ballet before fifteen astounded witnesses, and then, disappearing behind mountains.

Later on, during the same night from Monday to Tuesday, a drawing-master from HUESCA is suddenly awake by a "very queer thing". Opening a window, he saw, just above his house, and to an altitude that he couldn't determine, a rounded object, entirely noiseless, whence issued a very intense white light like the light of a neon-tube. This light illuminated the house and the garden surrounding it as if they were a very definite target, choosed by the "engine"!

This phenomenon lasted almost up to the dawn. Then, the light vanished as if it was drawn up by the bright sphere of which it came. Finally with a very high speed and an impressive noiseless, the UFO rose up in sky and disappeared towards the Pyrenean mountains.

WEST AUSTRALIAN - PERTH, AUSTRALIA
*****DEC 12, 1977*****

TWO REPORT UFO LIGHTS

Two people gave individual—and similar—reports of unusual flying objects at Mukinbudin and Coolgardie early yesterday.

Mrs Lillian Jones (69), who lives on a farm about 9km west of Mukinbudin, said she saw an object about 4.45am.

She described it as a low-flying ball of light, moving parallel to the ground at an altitude of about 70 metres.

The object was surrounded by a mist and appeared to have a bright tail.

It made no sound and

disappeared behind a hill after a few seconds.

Mr Bernard Planke, of Gateacre Street, Kalgoorlie, was waiting to collect some newspapers at Coolgardie when he reported seeing a similar object about the same time.

He described it as being "a round, colourless object with a flame tail."

When he first saw the object it was in one piece but later divided into two, he said.

One of Mr Planke's friends confirmed the sighting.

PERTH - AUSTRALIA
DEC. 14, 1977

ELECTRICAL 'UFO' LINK

MELBOURNE, Today: Tests conducted on samples of soil and grass taken from Leitchville's "UFO saucer circle" early last week have revealed that the burn marks were caused by electrical discharge.

Mrs Yvonne Church, the wife of the farmer who discovered the rings, says there are no power lines or electricity poles in the area.

Mr Paul Norman, of the Australian UFO Society, says the tests on the soil and grass taken from the ring are being conducted by a team of professional laboratory technicians in Melbourne, who want to remain anonymous.

So far the tests have not turned up any trace of radiation.

The saucer ring, about 8m across, was discovered the morning after animals on the farm were reported to be very noisy and restless.

ÉCHOS UFOLOGIQUES

UN O.V.N.I. en forme de disque orange très lumineux est apparu, la semaine dernière, à la tombée du jour, dans le ciel briard. Plusieurs témoins, dont un gendarme, ont fait des récits parfaitement concordants : ils ont vu l'objet immobile au-dessus de la forêt d'Hautefeuille, près de Coulommiers. Au bout de cinq minutes environ il s'est mis en mouvement. Il a échappé aux regards après avoir dessiné une courbe à vitesse considérable. Signe particulier : d'après tous les observateurs il était plus petit que tous ceux qui nous furent décrits à ce jour.

L'INSPECTEUR de police Norman Collinson, de Manchester, a fait un récit de passage d'O.V.N.I. absolument unique en son genre. Le 2 avril dernier, dit-il, un engin a survolé quelques instants ma voiture. Il a pris, ensuite de l'altitude ; mais il me paraissait avoir toujours le

même volume malgré la distance qui ne cessait d'augmenter.

Collinson a fourni un témoignage aussi précis qu'il le pouvait, à ses chefs d'abord, puis au ministère anglais de l'Air. Mais personne ne s'est risqué à fournir une explication.

LES Hollandais et les Belges semblent moins empressés que d'autres à parler des O.V.N.I. et de leurs mystères. Ils ont attendu jusqu'à maintenant pour nous révéler qu'entre juin et décembre 1976 leurs espaces aériens ont été parcourus intensément par d'aussi étranges visiteurs. A deux ou trois reprises ceux-ci sont même apparus en véritables vagues.

Les témoignages sont nombreux et précis. Beaucoup émanent de militaires et d'observateurs radar. Il paraît difficile de mettre en doute leur sérieux.

less hurried than others to speak about UFOs and their mysteries. They have waited up to now to disclose us that between June and December 1976, their aerial space have been traveled through very often by strange visitors, two or three times, they appeared even in genuine waves! Witnesses are numerous and precise. Many among them are militaries and radar-observers. It seem very difficult to doubt about their seriousness.

1978 soll „UFO-Jahr“ werden

Karibischer Inselstaat Grenada gab UNO entsprechende Anregung

New York. (AP) Die Vereinten Nationen sollen das umstrittene Phänomen „unidentifizierter Flugobjekte“, sogenannter UFOS, erforschen. Die Bildung einer eigenen Behörde oder Abteilung zur weltweiten Behandlung des Problems regte Sir Eric Gairy, der Regierungschef des karibischen Inselstaats Grenada, als sich die Weltorganisation erstmals formell mit der Frage befaßte. Dem zweiten politischen Ausschuss der UNO legte er zugleich einen Resolutionsentwurf vor, in dem er vorschlug, 1978 zum Jahr des UFO zu erklären.

Der Inselstaat verspricht sich von der Forschung der umstrittenen Phänomene Möglichkeit, Technologien anderer Nationen zu entdecken, die bislang noch außerhalb des menschlichen Vorstellungsbereichs liegen. Die UFO-Forschung könne zum Bestandteil der Bemühungen werden, die sozialen, wirtschaftlichen und

Jahren von der US-Luftwaffe eingestellt worden war.

Die Delegierten des UNO-Ausschusses verhehlten allerdings kaum, daß sie an dem Thema nur mäßig interessiert sind.

Carter is interested in UFO's, having seen one himself. However, the US Government will vote such a suggestion down (it is expected). Reasons for that are not given. And many United Nations members are also expected to vote it down for several reasons not given. It remains to be seen what will happen. The original thought was born in Caribbean Granada.

T*R*A*N*S*LA*T*I*O*N

"NOSTRA" - PARIS, FRANCE - NOV. 11, 1977

UFOLOGIC NEWS ITEMS

A UFO shaped like an orange disc has been seen, the last week, in the evening, in the sky of BRIE county. Several witnesses, of whom there was a policeman, have reported testimonies perfectly identical; they have seen the object stationary above Hautefeuille Forest, close to Coulommiers town. After about five minutes, it got off after having done a curved crossing with an extra ordinary speed, It was the smaller UFO which was described to us today.

The Police-Inspectore Norman COLLINSON from Manchester (England) has reported a sighting very extraordinary in the manner. On April 2, 1977, a UFO has flown over his car for a few instants. Then it rose up, but it seemed like remaining the same size, in spite of the fact that distance increased!! Norman COLLINSON has given a report as precise as he could do it, for police authorities and English Air Ministry. But nobody has tried to give an explanation!

Dutchmen and Belgians people are seeming

T*R*A*N*S*LA*T*I*O*N

MANNHEIMER MORGEN - W. GERMANY
NOV. 30, 1977

(SUMMARY)

The United Nations wants to declare 1978 the UFO year and is trying to get a research center for all interested countries under way, to exchange experiences and further the knowledge as to the eventually feasible use of UFO's. Their hope is that the USA will head such a center since President

F* R * A * N * S * L * A * T * I * O * N

AMSTAG/SONNTAG - W. GERMANY
JULY 12, 1977

(SUMMARY)

On July 8th, three different people in NW Germany sighted UFO's with robot-like creature. It seems that the heat of summer always brings the UFO's with their 'strange little creatures'. Previously, on June 25th, at 22.10pm a UFO landed in Las Palmas and unless all 70 witnesses were out of their scull, the ship was steered by two giants with winglike hands. It seems that 'tours' of UFO crews take look now and than at our planet, however, the descriptions of their occupants range from a height of slightly higher than a yard to "giants", some in strange illuminating garb or with pointed heads etc. Argentina was supposed to have an invasion of UFO's in 1968, followed by their conquering of the entire globe by 1970. But they didn't and maybe because they did not like the climate. Since 1947 the US AirForce had 4,000 UFO reports, 95% of them were logically explained. The rest remains unsolved. German astronomers shake their heads at the whole thing, explaining everything away as: too high flying planes, meteorites and comets. The Hamburg (Germany) newspapers are also rather cynical about the whole thing.

Immer neue Entdeckungen

„Ufos“ narren die Erdbewohner

Von Thomas Wolgast

In der Nacht zum 8. Juli bemerkte der Hamburger Hafenarbeiter Klaus Hartmann (43) Unerklärliches: „Ich sah eine rotglühende Scheibe am Himmel in nördliche Richtung rasen.“ Bei der Polizei im schleswig-holsteinischen Rendsburg liefen die Telefone heiß: „Machen Sie schnell“, meldeten aufgeregte Einwohner, „da fliegen Ufos.“ Und die 39 Jahre alte Sophie P. aus Hamburg-Hummelsbüttel lag bei offenem Fenster im Bett und betrachtete versonnen Sternbilder: „Plötzlich löste sich einer der Sterne und raste auf die Erde zu. Ich wußte sofort, daß es ein Ufo war. Am Horizont landete es, schnell knipsten die Insassen das Licht aus, damit man ihr Raumschiff nicht mehr sah.“ Otto M. (56) aus Lurup nante sich gerade zum letzten Mal sein Bierglas vollgeschenkt, da sah er über der Terrasse seines Hauses, „ein blend helles Ufo“. Hinter den erleuchteten Fenstern des Flugobjektes habe „große roboterähnliche Wesen“ geseh.

So tödsicher wie das Ungeheuer von Loch Ness auftaucht, so unvermeidlich erscheinen in der sommerlichen Hitze die kleinen grünen Männchen aus fernen Welten mit ihren fliegenden Untertassen. Heuer haben sie sich, so scheint es, Norddeutschland zum Ziel gesetzt. Schon mußte eine Hamburger Tageszeitung ihre Leser beruhigen: „Wenn Sie in diesen Sommerwochen die lauen Abende genießen und am Himmel Ungewöhnliches entdecken, brauchen Sie nicht in Panik zu geraten.“ Die unbekannteren Flugobjekte (Ufo) tauchten im Norden auf, nachdem sie zuvor die Urlaubsinsel Gran Canaria besucht hatten, wenn auch offenbar nicht zum Sonnenbaden.

Am 25. Juni, so berichteten weitverbreitete Boulevard-Zeitungen, sei um 22.10 Uhr eine fliegende Untertasse bei Las Palmas gelandet, „wenn 70 Menschen auf Gran Canaria nicht total spinnen“. Zwei Riesen mit Flügelhänden hätten das Ufo gesteuert, soll ein Augenzeuge berichtet haben.

Offenbar besichtigen Reisegesellschaften der verschiedensten Sterne unseren interessanten Planeten Erde: Jene Geschöpfe nämlich, die zwei Angestellte des Casinos von Mendoza in Argentinien 1968 von ihrem Auto aus (das aus unerklärlichen Gründen stehengeblieben war) beobachteten, waren keine Riesen, sondern nur 1,40 Meter große und von übergroßen, kahlen Eierköpfen gekrönt. Nach



Als eine eigentümliche Wolkenbildung konnte ein Prager Meteorologe dieses „Ufo“ entlarven.

anderen Beschreibungen sind die Wesen von fernen Welten „menschennähnlich, zwei Meter groß und mit phosphoreszierenden Anzügen“ bekleidet.

Fernando Sesma, Chef einer spanischen „Gesellschaft der Freunde der Weltraum-Besucher“, hatte übrigens verkündet, die Sternengeschöpfe planten für 1968 eine Invasion in Argentinien. Bis 1970, prophezeite Sesma, würden sie von Feuerland aus den Globus erobern. Nun, vielleicht ist den Extraterrestriischen das bombenhaltige Klima in Argentinien nicht gut bekommen, und sie versuchen ihr Glück jetzt im friedlichen Mitteleuropa?

Eine Spezialabteilung der amerikanischen Luftwaffe hat seit 1947 etwa 14 000 Berichte über Ufos registriert. Etwa 95 Prozent aller Himmelserscheinungen erwiesen sich als höchst irdisch: Es handelte sich um Lichtreflexe, Gaswolken, Vogelschwärme, Feuerwerke, Flugzeuge, Satelliten, Sternschnuppen oder schlichtweg um die Phantasie oder das Geltungsbedürfnis einzelner Personen.

Bei der Sternwarte in Hamburg-Bergedorf lächeln die Wissenschaftler denn auch nur milde über die „Invasion“ in Norddeutschland. Ein Mitarbeiter: „In diesen klaren Nächten kann der aufmerksame Beobachter alle zehn Minuten etwas am Himmel entdecken. Vor allem Sternschnuppen werden gerne für Ufos gehalten.“ Besonders vier Himmelserscheinungen irritierten die allzu erhitzen und von Sensationsberichten animierten Leute: Meteoriten, die verglühen, wenn sie in die Erdatmosphäre eintreten; Flugzeuge, die besonders hoch fliegen; Satelliten, die mittlerweile zu Tausenden um die Erde kreisen und gelegentlich als leuchtende Punkte am Firmament zu erkennen sind. Und schließlich, in seltenen Fällen, Kometen, die auf festen Bahnen durch das Weltall ziehen.

Das „Hamburger Abendblatt“ empfiehlt denn auch seinen Lesern: „Lassen Sie die Marsmenschen Marsmenschen sein.“

PERTH - AUSTRALIA
DEC. 23, 1977

MORE STRANGE SPACE BLASTS

From Bob MacDonald in New York

Mysterious blasts in space have baffled American scientists for the eighth time in three weeks.

Rumbling explosions 70km out over the Atlantic shook beach towns south of New York on Wednesday night. Columbia University

scientists recording the blasts with super-sensitive microphones, have been unable to identify them.

Researcher William Donn, in charge of the university's geological observatory, said they did not seem to have been caused by meteorites of other natural phenomena.

He also ruled out sonic booms or nuclear explosions as possible causes.

Spokesmen for the Pentagon, aviation and nuclear authorities don't have any explanation.

"They all plead ignorance and don't seem terribly concerned," said Donn.

He theorised it might be a top-secret experiment by a federal agency.

"It could be a case of one hand not knowing what the other is doing.

"Unlike UFO sightings, every one of these noise descriptions is valid."

After the first two explosions, on December 2, authorities evacuated a nuclear plant in southern New Jersey because they feared an earthquake.

The explosions shook buildings and broke windows over hundreds of kilometres of coastline from Connecticut to South Carolina.

Wednesday night's blasts brought scores of telephone calls to police from residents along 35 km of shoreline around Atlantic City, in New Jersey.

"People get scared when they hear it," said one police official. "We tell them we're just as shocked as they are."

Listeners described it as "a rumble, boom-boom, like a truck going by."

THE SUNDAY TIMES - AUSTRALIA
*****DEC. 4, 1977*****

'INVADER' CUT INTO TV NEWS

LONDON, Sat. — Experts are hunting for a mystery "spaceman" who beamed himself aboard a news bulletin

Thousands of viewers heard an amazing outburst from the character, claiming to be "Gillon the Galactic", during the early evening news on Southern TV

Suddenly the voice of chubby news reader Ivor Mills faded out and a strange drumming noise took over.

Then a booming voice, cutting right into the transmission declared: "There will be an intergalactic invasion unless Earth puts down its weapons of destruction."

Anxious listeners bombarded the Southern TV switchboard with calls as the voice went on: "This is Gillon of the Ashdown galactic command speaking to you. My people will destroy your world unless your wars cease."

At first puzzled engineers had no idea where the "astral interruption" was coming from... but they quickly tracked it down to a transmitter at Hannington, near Newbury, Hampshire.

Police and Post Office investigators discovered highly expensive and sophisticated machinery had been used to blot out the TV signal.

But how it was done—and who was responsible for it—is still a baffling mystery.

A spokesman for the

Independent Broadcasting Authority said: "At the moment we just don't know what happened."

"Somebody, claiming to be a spaceman, managed to cut out of signal using UHF equipment and hold the transmission for about four minutes."

"Every effort is being made to find the culprits."

Investigators hunting Gillon and his friends are convinced they are not after little green men.

They believe the pirated broadcast was the work of some very clever humans—highly skilled in TV technology.

'UFO's are here without a doubt'

KEITH REWELL, Koorda: So P. C. Kenny "Lights in the sky," (Letters, December 23) does not believe in UFOs. I would agree with him that they may not be from outer space, but they are definitely here, without a doubt.

Mr Kenny states he knows Mukinbudin, Mt Magnet and Coolgardie. I also have travelled around Mukinbudin and the areas of the north-eastern wheatbelt for more than 40 years, at all hours of the night and early morning, and until some four years ago would not believe in UFOs. This was only because I had not seen one, but had seen hundreds of lights, just as your correspondent has mentioned.

Colour change can occur, especially over long flat distances, and a change takes place where a slight bend occurs in the road.

When travelling to Perth through Dowerin late one evening, a flying object passed across our vision. It came from the west and turned in a southerly direction.

It was seen by two of us, and its speed gave us ample time to discuss its features and estimated height. The only mistake made, we feel, was in not stopping the vehicle to find out if any sound was coming from the object. Instead, we accelerated to a higher position for a better sighting of its direction and its performance.

REPORTED

We immediately reported the sighting to the nearest police station, but have heard no more.

My friend and I do like a drop, but please let me assure you that if you add a little more Scotch to your water, you may be surprised how observant one can become. Nevertheless, seeing is believing.

Obviously your correspondent has not witnessed a sighting. However, I hope that when he does he will have company to lend support to the sighting.

The general population may be surprised by more frequent sightings of UFOs, and the reason why these reported sightings are being deliberately disputed or withheld concerns me.

Lights in the sky

Mrs I. HAMMETT, Attadale: P. C. Kenny (Letters, December 23) has missed the point in his comment on the lights in the sky.

Fast-moving lights in the sky, making sharp right-angle turns, suggest a super transportation system, noiseless and pollution-free.

The whole world needs faster and better transport systems on land and in the air.

Perhaps the inventors and engineers would appreciate some encouragement from the public in the designing of super-powered vehicles for the use of our descendants in the year 2000 and beyond.

Let us welcome "the little green men" and ask them to explain their super-power system.

Why record UFO reports this year?

What is the explanation for the rising number of unidentified flying objects around WA?

Since March the UFO Research Group has recorded 190 separate sightings of objects in the sky.

Ted Roza, its co-ordinator of investigators, said he did not have readily available statistics for comparable periods of other years but was sure that this had been a much busier year than usual for sighting reports.

The same appears to be the case in the Eastern States.

WA's most celebrated flying object phenomenon was the one that had everybody guessing in the Meekatharra-Mt Magnet area in mid-October. Many people reported seeing lighted objects flying overhead.

Car-loads of people took up vantage points around Mt Magnet during the height of the "scare" to see for themselves.

Mr Roza said that not all reports of flying objects were made to the media. Some of the most intriguing did not appear in print.

On October 18, for instance, people reported having seen a contraption consisting of two saucer-like objects joined by two tubes over the WACA Ground.

The UFO Research Group was only one of a number of groups interested in UFOs' he said. The organisation had been going in WA for about 25 years.