

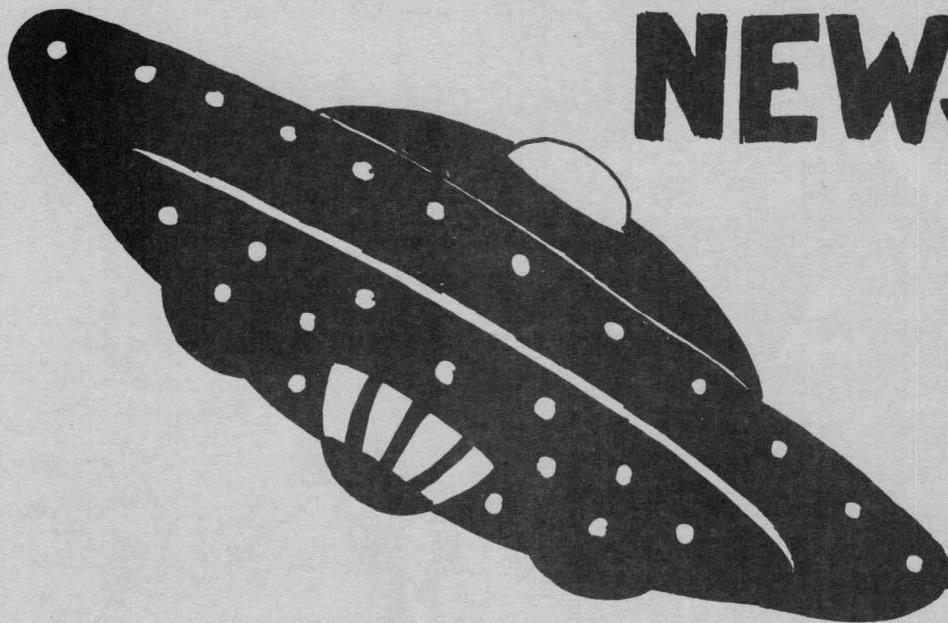
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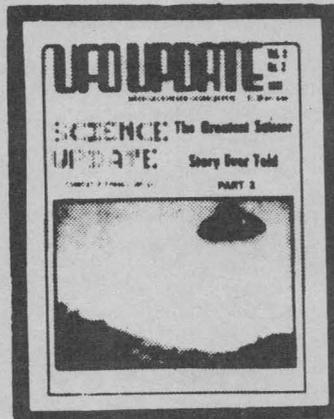
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Hairy apemen 8ft tall are encountered by Aussie cops in their Highway Patrol Chrysler Chargers. Not only that, they have to deal with the underground UFO city near Katoomba, the Atlantean caverns under Perth, the mysterious tunnels beneath the Nullarbor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

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FORTEAN NEWS AND UFO EVENTS

Seeing Is Believing For Clinch County Teen-agers

By MARTIN REGISTER
Times Staff Writer

Four teen-agers say they won't soon forget the strange objects that swarmed above them along a lonely Clinch County road Wednesday night.

Lester Bennett, George Bennett, Michael Royals and Mark Royals say they had always scoffed at the idea of unidentified flying objects.

That was before Wednesday, when the four heard a strange whirring noise as they drove along the Withers-Lake Verne road in the isolated pine forests

about 12 miles southwest of Homerville.

"We heard it before we saw it," said Michael Royals. "I looked around and said 'what is that?'"

"Finally, we saw them. There were four of them, flying in from the south."

The shape of the crafts and the noise they made were like nothing he had ever experienced, Royals said.

"They were shaped like triangles, with rounded bottoms," he said. "They had one red light on the top, and a group of orange lights on the side and the back."

Mark Royals said there were six lights on the objects.

The sound they made was neither the roar of airplanes nor the churning noise of helicopters, they said.

Instead, the noise was that of a big wind, similar to the sound made by blowing into a microphone.

The group watched in amazement as the objects joined together to form one brilliant light, then zoomed overhead, continuing a northward track.

"It looked like they were going to run together," said George Bennett. "One

of them was off to itself for awhile, then it moved in really fast and joined up with the other ones."

One of the boys said his "hair stood on end" when the objects cruised overhead around dusk.

"They were moving fast," he said, "but still, it seemed like it was all in slow motion."

Another member of the group said he "felt like I was swelling up" as the strange fleet disappeared behind a heavy growth of trees.

A dog which was riding on the hood of

the small pickup the boys were driving cowered and hid its head, they said.

The boys continued riding toward Lake Verne, only to see the mysterious formation making another passage toward them, this time approaching from the east.

After the incident, the group agreed to return home to Du Pont and draw sketches of what they had seen. Their sketches, drawn independently of one another, were identical.

The boys say Wednesday's sightings have made believers of them.

"I don't know what we saw, but I just know we saw something," said George Bennett.

"There were airplanes flying over at about the same time. Somebody else might have seen it, too."

"I had always said I wouldn't believe in UFOs until I saw them for myself. Well, now I've seen them."

"People may never believe we saw anything," said another. "But I know we saw something."

"There weren't any little green men," he added with a grin.

THE HOUSTON POST (TEXAS) JULY 17 1980

Mysterious green lights seen near Missouri City

By DOUG FREELANDER
Post Reporter

Little green lights, but (thankfully) no little green men, hovered briefly over Fort Bend County late Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning.

A local radio station said Wednesday that callers reported "several sightings of UFOs" but learned from police at Missouri City they were phosphorescent objects hung on telephone wires.

The police, however, said they had no reports of this and neither did the sheriff's department at Richmond. The department said it got a report of a UFO sighting around Arcola Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray Newell of the Quail Valley subdivision in Missouri City said there were no wires where they watched the lights for about 45 minutes, beginning about midnight.

Mrs. Newell said several other people stopped their cars to observe them. "They were five green lights in perfect formation," she said. "They looked like they had been suspended at the end of something. They were very brilliant green — like Christmas bulbs but larger.

"It was the strangest thing that I have ever seen."

Newell said the lights looked like five numbers on a dice. They were in formation and, though there was no wind, they moved slightly back and forth over a lake off Texas 6 about two miles south-east of Missouri City, he said.

They were obviously not spaceships, he said. They appeared to be several hundred yards high in the air and several hundred yards off the highway. He said they could have been on a clear piece of cellophane.

"I did not see any telephone wire," said Newell, who revisited the scene Wednesday and found nothing.

Newell said he had another odd experience, which might have been related, about the same time Monday night. He was at home at the time.

"All of a sudden, I heard a noise just like a buzzer go off just outside my front door," he said. "It went off three or four times. It scared the hell out of me."

Newell said he went outside but no one was near the house.

"It was the strangest thing," he said. "I don't know if there was a connection or not"

UFO sighting baffles Waterford patrolman

By MICHAEL SHENKER
Staff Reporter

WATERFORD — Space, the final frontier. One town police officer was assigned to patrol it last weekend, when two persons reported a "close encounter."

It may have been a coincidence, but the headlights on Officer Christopher Connelly's patrol car went out and its horn went off just as he was about to respond to the first report of a UFO sighting at 3:45 a.m. Saturday — the first such report in more than a decade in the town.

When he arrived at Peobles Island, where a night watchman had called in the report, Connelly saw it for himself — a large star-like object over head. But it was no star, said Connelly, an 11-year veteran of the force.

Before the weekend was over, Connelly would return several times to the site in an effort to define that stange object. Its origin remained unknown, and questions lingered in Connelly's mind.

Back at the police station, however, Connelly's reports fell on unsympathetic ears. "Why don't you take Captain Kirk or Mr. Spock with you next time," one of his colleagues suggested.

But Connelly knows what he saw. "It was brighter than a normal star, and it might have been a little lower," he said.

Still, the police dispatcher's official

report was skeptical. Nature of incident: UFO sighting. Victim: Earth. Location: Sector 2001. Officers assigned: Connelly, Capt. Kirk.

The jokes were still bouncing around the police station Monday morning.

A second call came in at 12:21 a.m. Sunday. A woman, who would not give her name, claimed she spotted a large object in the air with a bright yellow center and red outlines. "Connelly dispatched to area of previous encounter," police dispatcher Frank Roy wrote in his report.

Connelly found nothing, but he returned to Peobles Island several times during the night. At 3:45 a.m. Sunday, he saw the star-like object again.

An astronomer at the Dudley Observatory had a theory. "Venus is the best explanation," Ivan Linscott said.

The second planet from the sun would have been very bright that time of night, Linscott said, and it rose about two hours before dawn both days. "Venus is doggone bright," he added.

But Linscott was not at Peobles Island, so he could not be sure.

Asked if he thought there was intelligent life in space, Connelly said, "I don't know. It just seems there's so much room out there that there must be."

"It just makes me wonder what that was."

SOUTH BOSTON VA. NEWS & RECORD
JULY 4 1980

Youth says he saw 'UFO' at Crystal Hill

By SARAH TUCK
News & Record Staff

Imagine you are enjoying a quiet night of star-gazing out on the lawn shortly before bedtime, and suddenly you look up in the southern sky to see a well-lit, round, silent object moving evenly above the trees.

Peter Brown, age 10, was quietly lying on his grandparents' front lawn Monday night and looked up to see what he calls "a UFO" gliding across the sky in the Winns Creek Community, going from east to west across highway 626.

"I first saw it above the trees and it went across the highway. It was flying higher than a jet and was probably going 200 to 250 miles an hour. I must have studied it for a about 30 seconds before I ran inside to find my grandmother."

Young Brown was very scared by this point and by the time he and his grandmother were back outside, the object had disappeared.

"The object was shaped like these two paper plates," he demonstrated holding the upsides of two picnic plates together to make a disc.

"It was yellow with a light on it,

and a blinking yellow light trailed behind the UFO a little distance, like it might not have been connected to it. We called the newspaper to report it."

His grandmother, Mrs. Herman Brown, believes what her grandson saw was not a plane or helicopter.

"Peter lives near an airport in Port Chester, N.Y., and I should think he'd be familiar with all sorts of planes. He would know when he saw something like a UFO."

Peter added that he had ridden on planes before, too, and what he saw Monday night was quite different, especially in that it made no sound.

"I'm the only one who saw it. My friend Chris Yeatts kept asking me to play a game inside the house, where my grandmother was watching TV, but I stayed outside, and they all missed it."

When questioned further about his interest in UFO's, the precise and articulate youngster said, "I've read some books on them, but I don't know much about them."

He admits to being a science fiction buff, however.

Peter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Brown and his three year old brother remained in Port Chester when he came south for a visit.

"It's my second trip to Crystal Hill to see my grandparents since they moved back from New York," he said.

2

Flying saucers close to Williamsburg

But don't rush to call the Army because they built them — along with other sci-fi vehicles

A flying saucer and a truck that walks on legs of steel are sighted daily on the Virginia Peninsula, a few miles south of Williamsburg.

There's no need to call out the Army. In fact, the Army built these and other unusual vehicles, which are on display at the Fort Eustis U.S. Army Transportation Museum in Newport News, Va. This modern museum is only one of several attractions concentrated along the Virginia Peninsula, the heart of southeastern Virginia's popular tourism region.

The museum's outdoor arena is a world of science fiction come true, filled with machines that look like they floated off the set of a Hollywood space epic. But these vehicles weren't created to fight wars in fantasy galaxies — the Army saw them as realistic improvements in carrying soldiers and supplies to wars right here on earth.

Remember the convoy of dragon-headed "Imperial Walkers" Darth Vader drove across the ice planet in this summer's "The Empire Strikes Back?" Ten years ago the Army designed a cybernetic walking machine that could transport 500 pounds of cargo over rugged terrain and moved in the same style as those "Imperial Walkers." Now on exhibit at the museum, this awkward-looking craft once performed well, but was discontinued because of recurring problems with the air-pressure system.

In the late 1950s, at the height of America's first UFO craze, the Army built and tested two "flying saucers" that they hoped would replace the helicopter in the future. These alien-looking vessels were propelled by a cushion of air blown under the vehicle's rubber skirted rim.

The museum's "Flying saucer" could take off, hover and fly horizontally, but no farther than three feet above the ground. Uncontrollable pitching permanently grounded the saucer in 1959.

Next to the flying saucer is another of the Army's air-cushion creations, a flying boat. This ship was one of three hovercraft that skimmed over land, marshes and open water in the Delta of Viet Nam in 1968.

A flying bicycle that carts a "saucer" underneath, flying cargo jeep that resembles a double ferris wheel turned sideways, and more one-of-a-

kind experimental craft rest under a covered porch outside the museum.

These futuristic contraptions are the most recent in a long line of Army transportation innovations, and were probably conceived ahead of their time. Although they never made it to the front lines of battle, previous Army inventions did.

Original vehicles that crossed land, sea and air in America's wartime history are exhibited in the outdoor display park. Visitors can see the first helicopter to land at the South Pole, the last steam engine used by the Army, and a giant "sky crane" that served as a cargo transporter and portable hospital in Viet Nam.

Inside the museum, multi-dimensional exhibits trace the evolution of Army transportation, from Conestoga wagons to a one-man rocket belt. Different forms of military transportation are attractively arranged by category: motor, rail, marine, aviation and experimental.

There's a Vietnamese bicycle ingeniously propped with bamboo sticks to support 100 pounds of supplies, a 2-1/2-ton truck from World War II's "Red Ball Express" operation in Europe and a medical rescue helicopter used in Viet Nam. An experimental one-man helicopter, called a "DeLackner Aerocycle," is illustrated by a mannequin holding handlebars in the middle of two counter-rotating propellers.

A gallery of art painted by soldiers is a special feature of the Army Transportation Museum. Since World War II, the Army's art program has commissioned talented recruits to paint their impressions of military life on canvas. The museum changes its collection of these artworks about four times a year.

The U.S. Army Transportation Museum at Fort Eustis is open daily year-round, and one of its nicest features in these times of inflation is that it's free.

The museum is located right off I-64 on the Virginia Peninsula, about 10 miles south of Colonial Williamsburg and Busch Gardens' The Old Country family theme park. The Peninsula offers a variety of moderately priced hotels within close driving range.

AUG 5 1980

Thousands watch UFOs during three-month blitz

Thousands of residents of the Philippines witnessed waves of UFOs flying over their many islands for three months — including one sighting of six alien beings who had landed their craft.

It was one of the most startling UFO encounters recorded.

"Literally thousands of people in the Philippines have seen these objects throughout dozens and dozens of areas," said Rolando Espina, bureau chief of the official Philippine News Agency.

"There have been so many UFO sightings it is almost as if the Philippines have been invaded by UFOs," he added.

"The sightings have been spread all over the country."

The rash of sightings began in March and continued through May, according to Col. Paterno Lomongo, superintendent of the national police in Negros Occidental Province, and a Philippine constabulary commander.

The colonel said he was "gravely concerned" about the sightings, many of them by trained police officers, because "we do not know what these are, and anything we do not know, I worry about."

The most astonishing report came from farmer Mamerto Demetillo, 47, who said he saw a very bright light near his home about 4 a.m. April 25, when he woke up to go to the bathroom.

"I went outside and saw a flying object shaped like a saucer, about 20 yards from the ground," Demetillo said. "I followed it because it seemed to be looking for a place to land."

About 300 yards away, he said, he saw two similar UFOs parked on a road. Demetillo said he hid in a ditch and watched, fearful but fascinated.

"I saw two people get out of each spacecraft and form a circle," he said. "They were pointing in all directions and I assumed they were conversing and nodding their heads.

"The craft were about eight feet in diameter, about six feet deep and seemed to be made of aluminum. Each was resting on four legs about two feet long. A short ladder extended from the door to the ground.

"The people were wearing what looked like gray rubberized plastic suits with brown belts, black gloves and boots. They looked about six feet tall, although one was a little shorter than the rest.

"They were there about 15 or 20 minutes, then they got back in their craft, the doors closed and the ships rose up one by one and flew out of sight. I was frightened and immediately ran back home," Demetillo said.

Col. Lomongo, who questioned the farmer, said:

"I found no reason to think this man was lying to me."

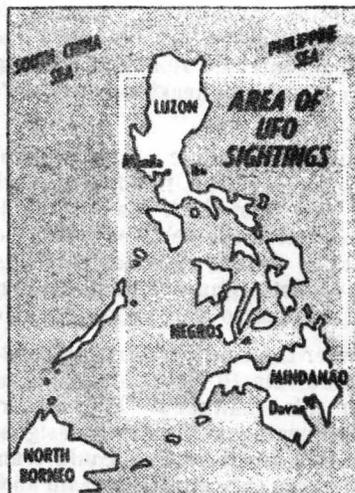
A huge "mother ship" UFO was seen by hundreds of people about 4 a.m. on April 19.

Rufino S. Tolentino, a guard at a milling company in the Philippine city of Talisay, said that as the object flew overhead, more than 30 disk-shaped objects emerged from its sides, some green, yellow, orange and blue.

An earlier strange sighting was reported by an American naturalist, Ron Krupa, 31, of Northbrook, Ill., who's been working on a project aimed at saving the rare and endangered Philippine eagle.

Krupa said he and two associates were camped high in the mountains of Mindanao when he spotted a starlike object in the sky, about 8 a.m.

"I ran and got my binoculars



and the first thing I saw was a plastic bubble," he said. "You could see reflections of light on it. It had an antenna that went directly toward the ground, and another antenna was sticking straight out to the side.

At precisely 8:20 a.m., he said, the object suddenly disappeared.

"I didn't see it go anywhere. Blink! It was gone. I've never seen anything like it," Krupa said.

Flashing Object Jars Star Watchers

Sooner Sighters Include Sheriff's Officials, Police

By Jim Etter

People in northwestern Oklahoma and the Panhandle were speculating — and looking again at the night sky — Thursday evening after several sightings of a strange heavenly body earlier in the day.

"I don't think it was anything to be concerned about. I think it was just something in space — there's a lot of cosmic debris out there," said Ron Outwater, an air traffic controller at the Gage Flight Service who was one of several persons who saw the unusual flashing light in the pre-dawn sky.

But, he added, "We'll probably all be out looking again tonight."

The object was reported about 4 a.m. by several sighters including some sheriff's officials and police department personnel over much of northwest Oklahoma and southwestern Kansas.

It appeared, most of the them

agreed, to be a cigar-shaped object with white light on the ends with flashing blue, green and red lights in between.

It probably was nothing more than what cowboys of this area used to see at nights over the wide open spaces, back before the era of UFOs when they didn't get in a sweat over such things, figures Ellis County sheriff's dispatcher Rip Crossland.

"I think about the best educated guess around here is that it was nothin' new. I'm up in years and when I was a boy sleepin' out on the prairie with my head on the saddle we used to see things like that.

Crossland said he didn't see the object but received a first-hand report of it from the early morning dispatcher, Lee Bailey, who got a good look at it from the sheriff's office at Arnett through a Navy telescope he keeps around.

Rodney Bachman, a Beaver Coun-

ty deputy sheriff who watched the object through binoculars from Beaver, said he could only see that it was "kind of oblong-shaped and kind of yellowish orange.

"The only thing I could come up with, it was a planet of some kind," he said.

Bachman said he at first doubted any sighting had occurred when he received a phone call about it. "I

thought it was just some guys in a card game or something ... but then about 25 minutes later a police officer came over and pointed it out.

"It was shining just like a normal start in the sky — but it was flashing, emitting some lights of a bluish, reddish color. But I just don't think it was anything of any particular significance — nothing to be concerned about."

HILLSBORO N.H.
MESSENGER
JUNE 11 1990

Was Object A UFO?

WASHINGTON—Mrs. Jane Etheridge of Valley Road has reported to local authorities that at about 12:30 a.m. last Saturday, while she was returning home from her job at Sylvania, she spotted a large, bright red and yellow object of undetermined origin. She described it as looking like "a light atop a radio tower", hovering silently just above the trees near a section of route 31 between Valley Road and the Washington Service Center.

Etheridge said that she parked her car at the service center and watched as the object began moving slowly northward toward Highland Lake and Lovell Mountain.

She reported that a short time later the object changed direction and headed toward the service center, but "Disappeared" when a truck approached on 31.

Strange Ways Animals React to UFO Sightings

Dogs tremble and bark furiously . . . horses kick wildly against their stalls . . . a bellowing bull bends his iron tether.

These are some of the strange reactions of animals when UFOs are present, says Dr. Harold Heaton, Ph.D., a top university astrophysicist who has collected 373 UFO cases involving animals.

In many instances, the animals actually reacted to the UFOs before humans nearby were even aware of the objects.

"There is something in these animal sightings that leads me to believe more strongly that there are such things as UFOs," said Dr. Heaton, of Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Md. The laboratory does numerous studies for the government.

"Some of these cases are even more valid than human sightings."

In one case in Exeter, N.H., patrolman Eugene Bertrand was called to a farm on a UFO report. He saw nothing at first. But then a group of horses began kicking the side of the barn and fence and neighing loudly. Dogs began howling madly. Only then did the patrolman see a bright, round UFO that bathed the area in red light.

One night on a farm in Cherry Creek, N.Y., a bull began snorting, bellowing, stamping the ground and pulling so hard on his iron tether that he bent it. Four teenagers went out to

By PAUL F. LEVY

investigate and saw a silver disk about 50 feet in diameter hovering near them.

In Missouri, a woman was driving her car while her Saint Bernard was sleeping in the backseat. Suddenly, the dog began barking and jumped into the front seat.

The hair on his neck stood straight up. Obviously frightened, he tried to crawl under the seat. Just then the woman saw a disk-shaped UFO above the road.

"These cases," said Dr. Heaton, who presented his findings to the Center for UFO Studies, "provide a check against human reactions and sightings."

"Dogs, cows and horses seem to be the most sensitive. Animals often exhibit extreme fear and react violently in proximity to UFOs."

"Often there is a mood change — an initial violent or agitated reaction followed by a shift to a docile mood. I was struck by the large number of such cases."

City woman reports sighting of UFO

A Kanawha City woman reported hearing and seeing a strange object in the sky immediately over her home Monday night that she thought was a plane on fire and about to crash.

"I had gone to bed about 11:30 p.m. and had just turned off the light," said the Staunton Avenue resident, who declined to be identified. "Suddenly there was a sound over the house like the engine of a plane, and then the whole bedroom lit up with a red, ultraviolet-type light.

"I rushed to the window and everything for a block around was bathed in a scarlet red light. I thought a house was on fire somewhere. Then I looked up in the sky and saw this thing. It was like a circle with

yellowish-red flames. I thought a plane was on fire and was going to crash.

"But then it started moving to the east toward Marmet, and a large particle pulled away to the left, with the smaller part continuing straight ahead. I thought a wing was dropping off. I was so certain it was a plane crashing that I waited to hear sirens and all of that. But nothing happened."

UFO(?) Seen Over Mesa

Holtville police dispatcher Albert Zanetti observed an unidentified flying object emitting a fluctuating white light at about four a.m. on Saturday, July 12th.

Imperial County Sheriff's Office deputies Anderholt and Johnson and Indio County authorities reported seeing the light along with dispatcher Zanetti and Holtville officers Higgins and Erwin, who observed the object for an hour.

The light was reportedly hovering over the East Mesa area approximately ten miles east of Holtville.

The Yuma Air Force

base sent out an airplane to investigate the object after the Holtville officers notified the Federal Aviation Administration, but found no clue to the source of the strange light.

"I think it could have been the planet Venus," said Officer Erwin later, "There must have been some sort of atmospheric effect causing the light from the planet to look as though it was fluctuating. We watched it for about an hour and it appeared to get really bright, then in about fifteen minutes it had dimmed back to its normal brightness. So now I'm sure it was only Venus..."

"I know this sounds crazy, and people will think I was asleep and dreaming, but I was wide awake."

A spokesman for the Charleston Police Department said to her knowledge there had been no flying saucer reports from Kanawha City or other area residents.

Help sought over UFO encounter

A WHALAN woman's "close encounter of the first kind" with an unidentified flying object (UFO) could have been "an encounter of the second kind".

At least, that is what UFO expert, David Reneke, of Bidwill is hoping.

A first encounter is a UFO sighting, but the second kind is more positive, with physical traces of extra-terrestrial visitor left behind.

The woman's sighting was nine years ago in Waikanda Cres, Whalan.

She was ridiculed by a few close friends for telling them she believed she saw a UFO and decided not to tell any more people until she spoke on a recent radio program on UFOs.

Mr Reneke, who is research director of UFO Research, heard the woman's account of her sighting and decided to follow it up.

Vivid

"It was such a vivid account and the woman was so sure of herself there appeared little chance she had confused a conventional aircraft with a UFO," Mr Reneke said last week.

"The most interesting aspect of her encounter was that she saw the egg-shaped craft shoot out a beam of light to the road.

"It could have left a trace of its visit and I would like to hear from anyone who might have picked up something unusual in the area or who might have seen the same space ship."

The woman, who still wishes to remain anonymous for fear of more ridicule, told Mr Reneke the craft was made of polished metal with windows at the front through which she could see a yellow light.

After hovering for a short while, the craft moved off, directly above the woman.

People who might be able to help Mr Reneke with his investigation should telephone 628 6633.

"All information will be treated in confidence in an effort to increase our knowledge of UFOs," Mr Reneke said.

Mystery hum plagues city

A group of scientists have failed to locate the source of the eerie "Bristol Hum" which thousands of persons believe may be signals from outer space or a sinister new weapon.

For two years, tens of thousands of residents of Bristol, England, have been plagued by the hum which begins at night and keeps them awake.

Doctors fear the mysterious hum may be a health hazard because of the many patients who complain that the sound causes them severe headaches.

Eight scientists using advanced tape machines staked out portions of the city for weeks, but were unable to locate the source of the hum. Residents speculate that the nagging noise could be signals from Martian spaceships or radio-waves directed at them from an enemy power.

YORK, MAINE WEEKLY JUNE 25 1980

UFO sighted in Kennebunkport

Early Tuesday morning, Jonathan Bennett and Bryce Young of Kennebunkport were sitting on the rocks on Parsons' Way (across from the Colony Hotel) when they saw a sight "which for the first time in my life made me truly frightened," said Bennett.

The two young men saw two bright orange lights over the Nubble Lighthouse in York, and they thought they were one object, such as a plane or helicopter.

The two lights then began moving over the water toward Kennebunkport at a constant speed. In approximately two to three minutes, the lights had stopped, hovering 300 yards off-shore and 500 feet high off the water.

"It was very eerie - these lights came right up to us and stopped," said Bennett. "They were a color I have never seen before, like an electric orange, and the lights were pulsating.

As they came over the water towards us they broke apart and began flying on different levels, with one reflecting a bright light off the ocean, like a moon reflection."

Bennett said that there was also no engine noise generated by the lights and that no outline of a flying craft could be seen - just a large, pulsating light.

As the lights hovered offshore, Bennett and Young were frozen with fear, and then simultaneously decided to flee the area. At this point a car came around the corner "and apparently startled these lights, because they slowly began to move over towards St. Ann's Church, and turned a bright red. The guy in the car stopped in the middle of the road and just stared in awe," said Bennett.

The two lights, still flying on different levels, then turned green and moved away

towards Walker's Point. At last glimpse, the lights had changed color again, this time to blue, and disappeared over the land.

"I never believed in these things before, and I never did not believe in them either, but what we saw was a UFO, there is no doubt about that," said Bennett.

Close Encounter Of First Kind?

FRONT PAGE

By Beth Lilley
State Editor

While most Enid residents were sleeping, a Champlin Petroleum Co. security guard had a close encounter of the weird kind early this morning.

Beverly Rood, North Enid, believes she saw an unidentified flying object between 1:30 and 2 a.m. in the sky northeast of Enid.

UFOlogists would classify it as a close encounter of the first kind.

Mrs. Rood said she was driving a Champlin pickup truck on routine patrol at the tank farm about 2 miles east of 30th Street.

"I was going south," she said, "when I saw this big light in the sky. It looked like it was over the new Speedstar plant. I stopped, rolled down a window, but I couldn't hear any sound. I backed up to watch the light and it moved toward me."

She said the light was pale blue in color, but was very bright and looked like a solid mass. Mrs. Rood compared it to "about three times the size of a full moon."

"It started moving west, towards me," she said. "That's when I drove south and it followed me. I was scared.

I thought it might get me. I don't know what direction it went. I was trying to drive and when I looked up again it disappeared. Later, I went back to the main gate and talked it over with another security guard. He told me to call Vance (Air Force Base)."

Mrs. Rood said "someone at Vance" told her to call the Highway Patrol. She did.

OHP dispatcher Bill Harrison talked to her at length, Mrs. Rood said, and referred her to a former Phillips University teacher who was studying UFOs. She plans to contact him later.

OHP dispatcher Allan Grantz said the patrol no longer has a policy on reporting UFOs.

"We take down the information on the caller and what they saw and treat each call individually, following up as we see fit," he said. In the 1970s, during the heights of UFO reports, we used to give the information to our communications headquarters in Oklahoma City."

Mrs. Rood said she called the Enid Police Department and was given a toll-free phone number to report the

incident. The phone has been disconnected, she said.

Hayden Hewes, Oklahoma City, head of the International UFO Bureau, said the number belonged to a national UFO research group in Indiana which ran into financial difficulty and had to drop its toll-free telephone numbers that are listed in with most law enforcement agencies.

Police said officers generally are sent to investigate UFO reports, then if officers believe more investigation is needed, they contact Vance or Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City.

A check with Vance Air Force Base's public affairs office showed no other UFO reports had been made this morning.

However, Lt. Mike Laughlin said, "This happens every now and then. We get several UFO reports each month."

Persons who believe they have seen a UFO may write Hewes, P.O. Box 441, Edmond, Okla., 73034.

Hewes said several UFOs were reported last week in the Guymon area. He said reports concern a cigar-shaped object with multi-colored

lights. Investigation showed they were stars as seen through the atmosphere. He said that later this month and during the first week in August there will be a large meteorite show which many people may miss interpret as UFO.

Mrs. Rood said, "I was told I was pale as a ghost after I saw that light."

About 4 a.m., she used binoculars to scan the sky and saw another brilliant light farther away, but still in the northeast area.

"It had mostly blue and red lights around it but the colors changed all the time," she said. "It stood still for 20 or 30 minutes. The other security people at Champlin saw the second light, but nobody but me saw the big ball of light."

About two hours after the sighting, Mrs. Rood said her eyes started itching and she became very nervous.

"I believe it was a UFO," she said. "It was my first sighting, but I believe there are such things. At first I thought it was an airplane, but it was fairly close to the ground and there was no sound at all. I could tell it wasn't an airplane. The second object didn't look

a thing like a star or an airplane, either. But I do believe the second light was the same as the first, only farther away."

Mrs. Rood said she didn't see how the second light disappeared because she got busy with trucks coming in and telephones ringing.

She said the pickup she was driving did not have any mechanical trouble, nor did she feel a magnetic or electrical "pull" toward the light, as some UFO reports have stated.

"The hair on my head might have been standing straight up," she said. "I really don't know. I was too scared to have noticed."

UFOlogists claim a close encounter of the second kind involves some type of physical evidence left behind; while an encounter of the third kind involves actual contact either by being taken aboard a craft or communication with "beings."

If she ever sees another UFO, Mrs. Rood said she would try to have presence of mind enough to blink her auto lights at it and see if she gets a reaction.

"I never thought about anything like that," she said. "I was too scared."

LOST WITHOUT TRACE

BERNARD CONNOR looks at another of the world's great mysteries — when a US fighter climbed through cloud to investigate a UFO, it was never seen again . . .

WAS THE FIGHTER SWALLOWED BY A UFO?

IT WAS around teatime on base near Louisville, Kentucky, and four F51 Interceptor fighters, already airborne on an exercise, were ordered to investigate. The flight leader, Captain Thomas Mantell, moved ahead of the others and his voice came through clearly to controllers at the Goodman tower.

Most of the descriptions tallied. It was supposedly a strange circular craft measuring some 300 feet across.

The sheer number of calls impelled the police to take the matter seriously. They immediately contacted the control tower at the Goodman Air Force

base. Captain Mantell was never heard from again. The incoming pilots told how Mantell's aircraft had climbed steadily and then disappeared into cloud cover.

The next time they saw his F51 it was out of control, diving so steeply that they feared the wings would break away.

Later, an official Pentagon report supported the theory that Mantell had blacked out at the high altitude and that the UFO was nothing more sinister than a runaway weather balloon from the Clinton County Air Force base.

It all sounded quite feasible — until the media probed a little deeper.

And the first fact they came up with was that there hadn't been a runaway balloon from Clinton County. The base was quite definite about that. Many of the eye witnesses were equally definite in stating that the UFO they'd spotted bore no resemblance at all to a balloon, runaway or otherwise.

But the most telling argument against the Pentagon theories came from the background of Captain Mantell. He was a veteran fighter pilot and also a test pilot, rated as very experienced, very mature.

Not the kind of man to mistake a balloon for a UFO. And most certainly not the kind of man to go up to 20,000 feet without first clipping on an oxygen mask.

three planes returned to base. Captain Mantell was never heard from again.

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The story has an interesting sequel: on November 18 of the same year, Lieutenant Harry Combs had a similar experience when returning to the American Air Force base at Andrews Field, Washington DC.

As he was about to land, he claimed that a strange object loomed up alongside his T-6.

"It was a greyish globe," he said later, "giving off an eerie, subdued light. I chased it for over ten minutes and it avoided every move I made."

"It was either piloted or remotely controlled. Of that I haven't the slightest doubt."

Intelligent

His report was sent to the Pentagon who, after some delay, stated: "The mystery was cleared up when the object was identified positively as a cluster of cosmic-ray research balloons."

Combs replied: "This wasn't a radar-responder gadget. It dodged me too cunningly. An intelligent mind was directing every turn."

Many of Thomas Mantell's fellow pilots at Goodman also suspect that the Pentagon were putting up a smokescreen to hide the real truth . . .

Namely, that Mantell did, indeed, encounter something from the alien world — and was either killed or captured in mid-air. In any event, neither his body nor his plane was ever seen again.

WE'RE ASTRONUTS SAY URBAN SPACEMEN!

STAFFORDSHIRE EVENING SENTINEL
JULY 8 1980

SEVEN WATCH AS UFO HOVERS

SHOCKED householders at Abbey Hulton were still talking today about their close encounter with an Unidentified Flying Object.

At least seven residents from the Tranter-road area spotted an object hovering over their rooftops for several minutes last night.

And one witness, 16-year-old Anthony Simpson was so mystified by what he saw that he quickly contacted the local police.

"He stood on the doorstep and watched it drop down behind a tree a few hundred yards away and then rise again before disappearing," said his mother, Mrs. Cynthia Simpson.

Mrs. Simpson, 41, and her 49-year-old husband, Graham, saw the object as they were walking along Greasley-road at 11.15 p.m.

She said: "It came from the direction of Hanley and slowly passed overhead before disappearing over Birches Head. It was quite large and oval shaped with a red-orange colour. I could even hear it humming. It couldn't have been a plane because there were no tail-lights."

Phoned police

"When we got home, Anthony was on the doorstep watching it. He rang the police and when they sent someone round, he described in detail what he had seen."

She added that two girls standing nearby were so frightened by the object that they were trying to get into the house.

One of the girls, Deborah Cartledge, 14, of Holehouse-road said that the object was moving slowly across the sky before it swooped down and rose again.

Her 15-year-old friend, Sandra Hurd said it was her second U.F.O. sighting in the area in four months. Two men nearby also saw the object, she added.

Mr. Tony Pace, the Research Director of the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association, said: "The fact that there was a sound with this sighting and the object behaved in a peculiar way, makes it unusual and more interesting. We shall be following it up."

STOKE
ON
TRENT

WE ARE definitely not alone according to a down-to-earth survey by local UFO spotters.

For 83% of 1400 people quizzed said they believed in life on other planets and visits to Earth by UFOs — and eight per cent say they may have seen one.

And UFO investigation is beginning to lose its "cranky" image, according to Mr. Steve Payton, a researcher with SCOPE — Southern Counties Organisation on Phenomena Extra terrestrial — which has its headquarters at Allbrook Hill, Eastleigh.

The survey was carried out by SCOPE in the Eastleigh, Fair Oak and Chandler's Ford area.

Said Mr. Payton: "A few years ago if you mentioned UFOs you were regarded as being a nutter or a crackpot."

"But over the past couple of years attitudes have changed and UFO studies are becoming a more accepted scientific investigation."

But Mr. Payton said: "I don't think we have got anything to fear from UFOs."

He was speaking over the weekend at Eastleigh Methodist Church Hall where SCOPE's UFO display, included maps plotting local UFO sightings.

Over the past year there have been more than 200 investigated UFO sightings around Southampton, Eastleigh and Winchester.

Strange red lights were seen hovering over Southampton Common, a housewife saw rings of bright white lights over the city and a white and orange saucer shaped object flying through the sky was seen over Boyatt Wood.

But in the local UFO spotting league, Fair Oak is out in front. In one terrifying incident a local resident saw a fireball crashing towards the earth, and thought an aircraft had crashed.

Later a small crater was found near the scene.

GUARDIAN LONDON
JULY 17 1980

Theory on light riddle

From Edward Walsh
in Washington

A mysterious flash of light detected by a satellite over the south Atlantic last September was probably not caused by a nuclear explosion as initially believed, a panel of scientists appointed by the White House has reported.

The scientists say it is more likely that the flash was light reflected from debris from the satellite after it was struck by a small meteorite.

The conclusion of the panel, which was headed by Dr Jack Ruina of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is unlikely to end the Government division on whether a nuclear device was exploded.
— Washington Post.

JULY 17 1980

It's You Know What in the night skies again

by John Harlow

UNIDENTIFIED Flying Objects have confused people in the Knaphill area over the past two weeks.

The *News and Mail* received three separate telephone calls describing roughly the same eerie sight at around the same time of the evening.

Report No. 1 came from Michael Randall of Camberley, who works at Erskine's garage in Maybury Road.

He was driving through the Pirbright ranges two Saturdays ago at about 10.45 p.m. when he spotted two orange bars "like an electric fire in a dark room" up in the air in front of him.

"I was on my way home from my girl friend and was stone cold sober. I sped up after the thing in my Capri, but it just glided silently away in front of me. I first estimated it was about half-a-mile long, but now I'm not quite so sure.

"In the darkness, in the middle of nowhere, it was very

difficult to find anything to measure it against."

Mr. Randall lost it when driving down a hill, but as an aircraft enthusiast of long standing, is quite sure it was "nothing like" he had ever seen before.

"I've never thought very much about UFOs, although I had an open mind. Now I'm not quite sure what to think," he told me.

Report No. 2 came from a Knaphill resident, who did not wish to be named. He telephoned the *News and Mail* to claim he had seen "two yellow bars" over his home the same night.

"I have no idea of size because 30 seconds later it was gone. But no one, including my family, will believe me and I can't say I blame them."

Report No. 3 came from a Knaphill woman who does believe him. She is Miss S.

Jones of Robin Hood Road. She claims to have seen a "single, glowing strip" high over the Bisley ranges at about 11.30 last Saturday night.

"I watched it for a minute, then it really shifted and disappeared. I had not been drinking; I don't believe in UFOs; I thought that UFO movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* was rubbish. Possibly it was a new army toy," she told the *News and Mail*.

The Ministry of Defence said they had not heard anything, as they are dependent on police reports. But a spokesman commented: "It could have been street lights or car headlights reflecting on telegraph wires from some distance away. This gives a yellow line effect, and can appear to move along with a driver."

"But the Ministry does not discount the possibilities of intelligent life beyond earth. It

is just that we have yet to see 100 per cent irrefutable evidence to support such a theory."

"The last rash of UFO sightings was in March when Pyrford children said they were frightened by "things" and noises from the skies.

READING CHRONICLE BERKSHIRE
JULY 11 1980

Orange surprise after pub night

A MOTORBIKE ride back from the pub last Friday gave a couple of Caversham men the shock of a lifetime.

Mr Roger Warren was returning from the New Inn at Kidmore End with his friend, when he saw an orange light glowing in the sky.

Mr Warren, who admits he did not believe in unidentified flying objects, reported the

sighting to the police as soon as he got back to his home in Albert Road, Caversham.

He said: "The object was very large in the sky, glowing orange over Stokes Farm. It quickly disappeared".

Mr Warren thought he had seen a helicopter but his friend was more convinced it had been a UFO.

He said: "I'm still very puzzled about it. But I'm a bit sceptical because I don't really believe in 'UFOs'".

YORKSHIRE
EVENING
PRESS
YORK
ENG

JULY 11 1980

Couple in York UFO mystery

IT STARTED with one flashing light . . . then there were three . . . then there were six.

Today, 23-year-old Mrs. Yvonne Howard and her husband, Clive, aged 27, of 33 Beckfield Lane, York, were wondering whether they had spotted a batch of flying saucers.

The couple saw the first light when they were driving back to York early yesterday after organising a disco at Sutton-on-Derwent.

When other red lights joined the first one, they became so intrigued that, instead of going straight home, they followed the UFOs to Acaster Malbis.

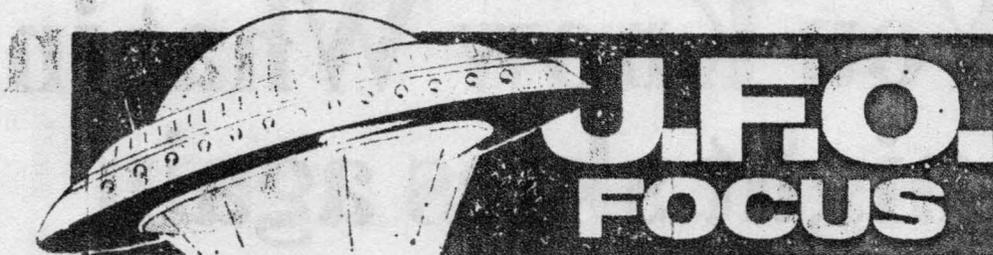
"I have seen planes flying at night and they certainly were not planes," said Mrs. Howard. "It is also very unlikely that six planes would be flying in a cluster at 2 a.m., which was when we saw them."

The lights were travelling in a line. They were, she estimated, flying at about 500 feet and were about a mile away from the couple. There was a faint whirring sound — and that was all. Then they suddenly disappeared.

A North Yorkshire Police spokesman said today there had been no reports of UFOs recently.

The couple — he is a furniture maker and she is a shop assistant — also run a disco. It is called, appropriately in the circumstances, *Spectre*.

BY DIRK VAN DER WERFF
AND PETER FRENCH



HARTLEPOOL
MAIL
JULY 23 1980
(ENG)

Strange object sighted over service station

MOST people spend some time during the day just staring out of the window.

What you see obviously depends upon where you are, but what if instead of the familiar sights and local landmarks, you look out upon something totally unexpected?

Just such an experience happened to Mr Ron Perry as he was looking out of the window of his flat above the Dalton Piercy A19 service station, of which he is the proprietor.

He still does not know what it was he saw on that clear Saturday afternoon, but it is a strange tale he tells.

Mr Perry was sitting on the sofa in the flat above the northbound station when something outside caught his eye.

Opening the net curtains, Mr Perry looked out upon a large orange saucer-shaped object which rocked back and forth just 100 yards away from where he was standing.

"I jumped up and pulled open the net curtains, calling in Sybil, my sister-in-law," said Mr Perry.

"This thing was moving steadily, but slowly, from the left between the two telegraph poles which frame the garage on the opposite side of the dual carriageway.

It was about as high above the ground as the poles and was totally symmetrical, like two soup plates stuck together, but without the edges.

"It was orange on the bottom half and silvery grey on the top, and all the time it was tilting from left to right.

"Every time it tilted it caught the sun, making the colours even clearer to see. Its course was very steady and

by the time it passed over the station on the opposite side of the carriageway, by wife Ann had come over to the window, but she left again for a camera.

"The object was big, about the size of a helicopter, but we get a lot of them flying over here and there is no way that this was a plane or a helicopter.

Two pylons

"It gradually moved away across the fields opposite, towards Hartlepool, getting smaller all the time.

"By this time Ann had returned but we couldn't unlock the camera. Shortly after, the object started to climb upwards between two pylons before disappearing into the clouds over Hartlepool.

"We watched it for about three minutes altogether, and I only hope that somebody else saw it during that time," he added.

And somebody else had seen the object.

Margaret Bell works at the service station on the southbound carriageway where she was standing writing at the till when she observed the phenomenon out of the window.

"Something made me look up from what I was doing," she said.

"Looking straight ahead out of the end window of the kiosk I saw an orange-coloured object.

Dogs barked

"It was travelling slowly, but I couldn't see all of it as the window frame kept getting in the way.

"The dogs on the roof of the flat belonging to Mr and

Mrs Perry were barking and that distracted my attention from the object, which looked like a fairground balloon," she added.

Margaret returned to the kiosk before the object disappeared and thought nothing more about it until she called over to see Mr Perry.

There she was told what the Perry couple and Mrs Cox had seen.

Ann said afterwards: "I've never seen anything like it before.

"It was so clear. My other sister has said that she has seen strange objects in the sky before and all three of us have treated it as a joke.

"But if anybody said I was making this up I would know exactly how she felt. I'm only glad that the others saw it."

And Mrs Perry was just as concerned about letting people know about the sighting.

"I suppose that our friends and customers will joke about it. I didn't really want to tell anybody, but at least four people saw this thing, and what reason would we have to make it up?"

A call to Teesside airport revealed that there were no

light aircraft in the air at the time of the sighting.

Newcastle Meteorological Office also confirmed that there were no weather balloons in the area; the nearest releasing point being Liverpool.

Who can say what these four people saw at 12.25 p.m. on Saturday, July 12? Who can say whether or not the next sighting will be made by you?

One thing is for sure, if you saw anything on that day, there are four people who would very much like to hear from you.

● A second "UFO Focus" article will examine material from 1909 when the Press was reporting other strange manifestations in our skies.

Flying saucer or star? Sightings cause question

PAGE ONE

Was it a flying saucer, star or space debris?

That question continues to be asked after northwest Oklahomans reported the sighting of the unusual "item" early Thursday morning of last week.

Numerous sightings along the Oklahoma-Kansas border were reported from about 3:30 a.m. to dawn Thursday.

Most of the descriptions of the object reported it to be cigar-shaped with white glowing ends and red, blue and green flashing lights.

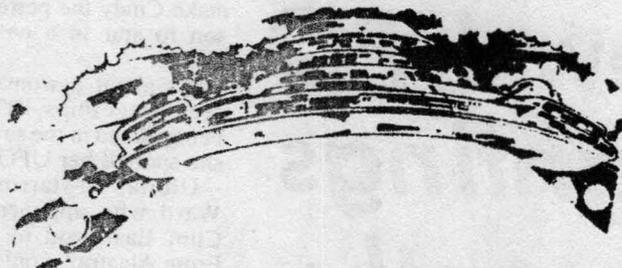
Observers at the flight service station said the object did not appear on their radar.

However, a theory given by an official at the Om-niplex in Oklahoma City said the object was a star.

Flight service observers advanced the same theory that the object was just a star.

Flight service observers advanced the same theory that the object was just a star that looked odd because of some type of meteorological phenomena.

So if you were one of those who saw the strange sight, you may still wonder if it was an UFO carrying visitors from another planet....



Another UFO Seen

—From Times Staff Reports

When Mary Padgett looked for the Big Dipper earlier this week, she says she found a different sight entirely.

In the eastern sky there was a reddish orange light that ambled slowly around but never really went anywhere, she said.

Mrs. Padgett, who lives in a remote section of Echols County between Lake Park and Jennings, Fla., said she watched the strange light for about five minutes, then saw another light come to it.

A few seconds later, an object, trailing puffs of smoke, shot upward from the bigger light. Then, slowly, the objects disappeared, she said.

Mrs. Padgett's is the third reported sighting of unidentified objects in the nighttime skies here in the past month.

In the other two sightings, one in southern Clinch County and one north of Valdosta, witnesses reported a rushing noise accompanied the objects.

Mrs. Padgett could not have heard any noise because her air conditioner was running and her dog began barking when the light appeared.

The command post at Moody Air Force Base has said the lights seen previously may have come from cargo planes which were in the area to aid in the Moody unit's deployment to Egypt.

Mrs. Padgett, like other witnesses, does not think she saw an airplane.

"I watched it for a good five minutes, back in the woods toward the Apalaha River. It was moving a little bit, but mostly it just stayed in the same place," she said.

DETROIT MICH.
SUBURAN NEWS
JULY 24 1980

Report Three UFOs In Area

Three separate unidentified flying objects (UFO) sightings were reported this week to Farmington Hills police, with all witnesses giving basically the same description.

Sightings, all of which were reported July 21, occurred at 12:01 am, over the 25400 block of Kilreigh; at 12:15 am, southeast of the 10 Mile-Orchard Lake intersection, and at 1:25 am over the 27800 block of west Nine Mile.

The UFO was described as a well-defined oblong, with oscillating tubular lighting from left to right midway up. It was reportedly seen

moving at great speed, stopping, turning and rocking.

The first sighting, which lasted about eight minutes, was viewed by two Farmington Hills residents. A Redford woman with two friends from Illinois reported the second sighting, and the third was seen by a lone Farmington Hills man.

Farmington Hills police said the incidents took place during a lightning storm that passed through the community at that time. However, information on the sightings has been turned over by police to a UFO investigation center.

VALDOSTA GA.
TIMES
JULY 24 1980

My UFO encounter

by **Cindy Williams**

OWENSBORO KY.
MESSENGER
INQUIRER
JULY 27 1980

Few UFO sightings recently

By **JOE FORD**, Director
Owensboro Area Museum

What ever happened to flying saucers? A few years ago it was difficult to pick up any major newspaper and not find some little story concerning UFOs. The public was seeing assorted objects in the sky. A few individuals even claimed to have been taken aboard such alien aircraft.

It has probably been a year since we received a good "flying saucer" report. A lady from Whitesville called last Monday morning to ask if I had seen a reddish-orange disc-shaped object in the sky about 4 a.m. Monday morning. I had to confess that at that hour I was not even remotely interested in glowing objects in the sky, but I was, and am, interested in the lady's report. The object remained motionless in the sky until she finally went to bed once again. She said she has seen it twice, and both times it was in the same relative position and same general location in the sky. I asked if it could be a planet, and she insisted that it was much too large to be a starlike object. I think she saw the planet Venus, but I may well be mistaken. After all, there are many, many strange things to be discovered in the outdoor world. Perhaps she did indeed see a UFO. If so, what is a UFO?

UFOs really do exist, claims zany Cindy Williams of ABC's smash hit, *Laverne and Shirley*. She's even seen them in the mountains in California.

These UFO sightings make Cindy the perfect person to star in a new film, *Uforia*.

It's about a woman who sees spaceships. It's even being filmed in the same area she spotted her UFO.

Uforia, co-starring Fred Ward who appeared with Clint Eastwood in *Escape From Alcatraz*, could be the first of many movies for Cindy because she says this may be the last year she

plays Penny Marshall's sidekick, Shirley Feeny.

"I know all the contracts are up this year and we're not sure whether they will ask us back for another season," Cindy confides between takes on the *Uforia* set.

"We're going into a whole different area this year. Laverne and Shirley will be moving to Hollywood. But if things are slipping, Penny, myself and the rest of the cast are realistic enough to say it's run its course and

we've done our best."

Cindy's UFO experience happened long before she gained TV fame. She was on a high school religious retreat in the San Bernardino mountains.

"I was with a group of people and we were marking a silent walk up a hill to pray when these four lights seemed to rush over the mountain towards us," the 32-year-old California native recalled.

"There were eight kids in our party and we stared at these 'saucers' for several minutes. They were gleaming and shimmering with a beautiful light that changed from purple to orange and back.

"They vibrated in the air in perfect formation — like they were trying to announce their presence to us.

"Then, with incredible speed, they were sucked into the distance and disappeared."

Like her *Uforia* character, Arlene, the TV star is convinced we are not the only life in the universe. There's evidence of UFOs in the Bible, she claims.

"Ezekiel does see a wheel of fire in the sky," she says. "Now why do they describe it that way? 'If it was nothing, they would say something like: 'It was just a tree burning.' It's not that, though, it's a wheel of fire.

"I am absolutely in accordance with Arlene's beliefs in UFOs, prophetic dreams and visions. And it's just not a passing interest."

Cindy is also a believer in pyramid power and says the one she had over her bed for two years really did restore her energy fast — though she worked 14 to 16 hours a day.

"Maybe some of it was psychological, but I do believe in a focal point of energy and that's what a pyramid is," says the star.

"As far as I'm concerned it worked."

DONALD BARRON

Circus youths burned by UFO

Two teenagers who work with a circus claim they were painfully scalded during an encounter with a mysterious UFO late one night.

Police in Bari, Italy, later saw the burns on the wrist of 19-year-old acrobat Phelipe Garcia where he wore his metal watchband and scalds on the waist of 18-year-old Paride Oriol beneath two metal studs on his pants.

The youths said they had just returned from a movie in town and were standing outside a circus tent about 1 a.m.

Suddenly, a large circle of light with a streaming tail shot from the sky and toward them quickly. The object stopped about 300 yards away and hovered.

"We were very frightened and the animals were nervous," said Phelipe. "The dogs especially yelped without interruption and the elephants trumpeted loudly.

After a short time, the white ball of light turned a glowing red and zipped off noiselessly leaving an orange-gray trail.

UFO May Have Been Japanese

Model ENID, OKLA. EAGLE

JULY 23 1980

By Beth Lilley
State Editor

The unidentified flying object reported seen early Tuesday northeast of Enid may have come from Japan instead of Mars.

At least that's the theory of Mike Canaday, an aircraft mechanic at Northwest Aero at Woodring Municipal Airport, about 5 miles east of Enid.

Beverly Rood, North Enid, a Champlin Petroleum Co. security guard at the tank farm about 2 miles east of 30th Street, said she saw a UFO between 1:30 and 2 a.m. Tuesday. The light appeared to follow her for a short time.

Canaday's explanation of Mrs. Rood's UFO goes this way:

"I think it was a Mitsubishi twin turboprop which was landing at Woodring about 2 a.m. Tuesday.

"When she (Mrs. Rood) saw the bright light the airplane would have been downwind or parallel to runway 17 at Woodring. In this landing pattern, the plane would travel north of the runway about a mile, turning left. At that point, the plane would be heading west and the bright landing lights would appear to be following that lady. At that point the plane would have been right over Speedstar.

"Then, when the plane was in line with the runway, it would have been heading south and the landing lights would disappear from Mrs. Rood's sight because she was north by the tank farm."

Canaday said the landing lights on the turboprop face the direction the plane is moving.

Canaday said the Mitsubishi has two landing lights on its nose.

"Since it was flying low it would appear to be one big bright light," he said.

Mrs. Rood was unavailable for comment today but earlier she said she did not see any red lights or the ball of light which appeared to follow her as she drove a pickup truck on routine patrol at the tank farm.

She compared the light to "about three times the size of a full moon." She said the light was pale blue, appeared to follow her for a short time and scared her.

Mrs. Rood said she heard no sound from the scary light.

Canaday said the lack of sound isn't unusual on a jet engine plane which is preparing to land.

At the controls of the Mitsubishi was Ed Stocker, corporate pilot for Bobby H. Young, an Enid petroleum consul-

tant.

Stocker said he "is sure" Mrs. Rood's UFO was his plane.

He said, "I had taken a fella to Fort Smith, Ark., and returned to Woodring about 2 a.m. This plane is a nine-seater. It has huge landing lights, very bright strobe lights which would appear bluish and two red rotating beacons.

"I was probably less than 2,000-feet high, making my final approach at 130 mph. When I made my final (approach) the nose of the plane would be down in a deep descent. The lights are so brilliant they light up the ground enough for me to see the ground, but no details.

"If there was a UFO fluttering around, I didn't see a thing."

Stocker said he has been flying since

1973 and worked as a pilot for Young 8 months.

"I do a lot of night flying," Stocker said, "and I've seen atmospheric conditions make some airplane lights look weird. But I've never seen a UFO. I would like to."

Stocker said the Mitsubishi airplane actually is manufactured in San Angelo, Texas, by a Japanese-owned firm.

Mrs. Rood said about 4 a.m. Tuesday she used binoculars to scan the northeastern sky and saw another light farther away with blue and red lights around it. She said it appeared to stand still for "20 or 30 minutes."

Canaday and Stocker agreed that an airplane flying directly to or away from a person can appear to be standing still. They believe that is the source of Mrs. Rood's second light.

A check with Fred Roberts, assistant administrator at Woodring Munic-

ipal Airport, showed the airport tower is closed at 9:30 p.m.

"We have no way of checking on whether or not a plane left or landed here," Roberts said.

Stocker said the airport's landing and rotating lights (the beacon) are on all night.

As to a UFO, Roberts said he believes people are seeing "something." He doesn't believe all the UFO reports are airplanes.

"I would like to see a UFO myself," he said.

Mrs. Rood said if she ever sees another UFO she would try to have presence of mind enough to blink her auto lights at it and see if she gets a reaction.

Stocker said if she had blinked lights at him, he wouldn't have had time to blink the planes' lights back because he was concentrating on maneuvers to land.

UFOs & Psychic Experiences Linked to Natural Disasters

By LARRY MASIDLOVER

UFOs spotted in the vicinity of Washington's Mt. St. Helens before the volcano erupted add astounding new evidence to a massive computer study that links natural disasters with UFO sightings.

Strange, hovering craft appeared just prior to the explosions, according to Robert Gribble, an official of Seattle's National UFO Reporting Center.

"The first eruption was in March and we had a series of sightings just 50 miles northwest of the mountain in January," he said. "People were reporting large triangular-shaped objects moving at very low altitude."

"Then a few weeks before the major eruption of May 18, a family made a daylight sighting of two large silver disc-shaped objects about 50 miles west of the mountain in January."

"What's more, over the years we've come up with several hundred cases where UFO sightings have come either prior to, during or immediately after earthquakes," he said.

Dr. Henry Monteith, a top government scientist who has spent years personally researching UFO reports, explained that UFOs probably cluster around natural disasters out of sheer curiosity.

"Volcanic activity, for example, would be of extreme interest to the occupants of UFOs," he noted.

Canadian scientist Dr. Michael A. Persinger recently finished a huge computer study which linked UFO sightings not only with natural disasters, but also poltergeist activity and psychic phenomena.

His findings correspond with the sightings near Mt. St. Helens in Washington state.

"Many UFO and unusual psychic events occur before the manifestation of a severe earth jolt or volcanic explosion," concluded Dr. Persinger,

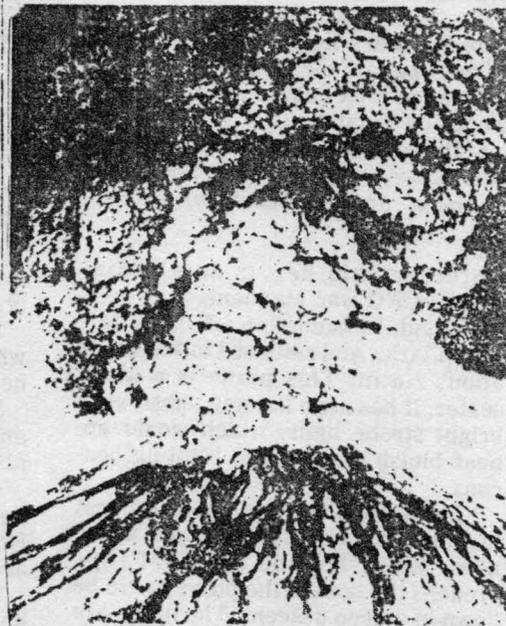
who analyzed more than 6,000 reports from all over the world of strange and unusual events of the last 160 years.

"Many often occur in bursts some months or weeks before the occurrence of mid-magnitude seismic shocks."

And these psychic events and appearances of UFOs may actually someday help us predict natural catastrophes, he says.



SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE in 1906 (above) followed reports of psychic experiences. And recent eruption of Mt. St. Helens in Washington (right) came shortly after UFOs were spotted near the volcano.



Dr. Persinger, associate professor of psychology and director of the environmental psychophysiology laboratory at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, cited these startling examples:

- On April 16, 1906, "a number of people in San Francisco received psychic experiences that something odd was about to happen," Dr. Persinger said.

"Two days later, the business district of San Francisco was destroyed by the great quake. At that same time there was a violent eruption of Vesuvius in Italy, volcanic eruptions in the Canary Islands and eruptions in Japan.

- In 1967, dozens of people in Caracas, Venezuela, reported that they saw "little men, odd-shaped objects and ghosts before and after a July 31 earthquake."

- In July 1972 in Missouri, there were various reports of giant humanoids, obnoxious smells, hairy creatures, UFOs, fireballs and disembodied voices — during a huge solar storm.

- Between July 7 and July 27, 1966, many people in the Salt Lake City area of Utah reported sighting a giant bird "usually described as a prehistoric flying reptile. Following that, balls of fire were reported in Utah and other parts of the country."

- Just days before a series of earthquakes struck the Gulf of California region in March of 1969, there was a nationwide rash of UFO sightings. The same period saw widespread reports of strange creatures and humanoids.

- In March of 1974 fish fell from the sky over northern Australia. And several months after that, the city of Darwin, in that region, was devastated by a cyclone.

UFO's from inner, not outer space

By MARK BOWDEN
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

VAN NUYS CA.
(LOS ANGELES Co)
VALLEY NEWS
JULY 20 1980

The thing, whatever it was, came to young Matt Graeber as in a dream. It was 1953, and he was 12 years old. Sitting in darkness, he saw from his bedroom window a milky white disc, glowing, that moved silently through the sky. The thing slowly turned and then shot due south and out of sight.

Amazed, the boy sat on his bed wondering. Was the thing real? Or was it some sleep-induced vapor coursing through the hot summer night sky? He pinched himself and knew he was not dreaming.

For 27 years Graeber has been haunted by that night. A short, trim man with dark wavy hair, he is today a commercial artist with children of his own. For most of his adult life Graeber has been obsessed with unidentified flying objects (UFOs). He founded his own small group of UFO buffs in 1973, and has personally investigated nearly every UFO sighting in the Philadelphia area since. Most nearby military installations, police departments and planetariums routinely refer reports of UFO sightings to Graeber.

Now, after years of chasing flying saucers and after hundreds of exhaustive investigations, Matt Graeber is convinced that UFOs are visitors from inner, not outer, space.

"It's all perfectly human," he said. "Ain't nothing abnormal about it at all."

Graeber's findings are not strikingly new, but his process was unique. Modern philosophers have long noted from their armchairs that what today are called UFOs were once called visions, that what are seen today as weird spacecraft were once seen as gods or saints or long-dead prophets. But Graeber, a self-educated, determined man, took the low road to this insight, slogging through late-night rainstorms to measure so-called flight paths, probing hundreds of wide-eyed witnesses for shreds of hard detail about their sightings.

"It has made me a better person," he said. "That one experience as a boy led me to question basic things about myself and others. What started as an interest in UFOs became a fascination with psychology, literature, ancient history and mythology, religion. It opened up whole new worlds."

Graeber was never comfortable with what he saw that night from his bedroom window. He said his mother told him not to report it unless it happened again. It didn't, but Graeber said he couldn't forget.

He was drawn, almost against his will, into the world of UFOs, a flourishing American subculture consumed with the idea that we are being visited by creatures from another planet. It is a world heavily populated with kooks — a hundred hoaxsters and oddballs for every one serious man. Graeber was discouraged. He is a precise man with tireless curiosity, and it seemed the UFO groups he encountered were content to just believe.

"Most of the groups whose meetings I attended were like kaffeeklatsches, almost like cults," he recalled. "For \$10 they would certify you as field investigator, and they were happy with whatever report you turned in about a sighting, the juicier the better."

Graeber was determined to find out more for himself. To have seen something, something that so stubbornly evaded simple and logical explanation, and to have seen it so vividly, was an experience that ate away at him always. So

when there was a rash of UFO sightings in the Philadelphia area in 1973, four years after the U.S. Air Force had stopped studying UFO sightings, Graeber began investigating on his own.

The first casualty was Graeber's faith in other investigators. His best example was a sighting in Carbondale, Pa., in November 1974 — the famous case of the lantern in the lake.

Working late in his south Philadelphia home on a design project, Graeber first heard about the Carbondale case while listening to a late-night radio talk show program. Callers were describing a scene like something out of Orson Welles' broadcast of "War of the Worlds." Three teenagers had seen something flash through the sky and then zip into a small man-made lake. A glowing object could be seen under

the water. There were five or six eyewitnesses, including some local police officers — who had fired at the object.

"It seemed consistent with other strong UFO sightings," Graeber recalled. "It had what we refer to as 'elements of strangeness,'" which is to say that the accounts could not be easily dismissed. So after verifying the reports with the Carbondale police chief by phone, Graeber packed a meal and a change of clothes, kissed the wife and kids goodbye, and set out on a four-hour nighttime drive north to see this thing first-hand.

"I got there at about 10 a.m." he recalled. "By midmorning, there were thousands of people watching around the lake." Graeber went to work taking soil samples and radiation readings,

and interviewing witnesses. Two other UFO investigators were there. One was handing out leaflets to the crowd proclaiming that flying saucers were, in fact, fallen angels.

Later that day, a volunteer diver located the object — a lantern-style Sears Roebuck flashlight, still faintly shining, Graeber chalked the incident up as a hoax, but was amazed to learn that other UFO groups, ones he had considered more serious, were still taking the Carbondale case seriously. One investigator, the one with the fallen-angel leaflets, alleged that the U.S. military had actually retrieved something from the lake secretly (without attracting the attention of any of the thousand watching), and was "covering up" what really happened.

Graeber watched with dismay as the outlandish story gained wider and wider acceptance in UFO societies, until it had become part of the whole fabric of UFO history. When he tried to distribute his own report of the Carbondale case — scrupulously detailed but somehow less fantastic — he was ignored. Graeber said one angry caller accused him of being an "Air Force colonel in disguise."

Not all UFO sightings were so easy to dismiss, Graeber gradually learned how to strip imagination from fact in telephone reports, and developed clever techniques for checking and double-checking the stories of UFO witnesses. Over the years he became a competent investigator and amateur psychologist. But he was still stumped by extremely sincere, well-meaning people who insisted they had seen something strange in the sky. In the end, Graeber concluded that one could only believe them — after all, he too had seen something in the sky. But what?

"I eventually came to the conclusion that people really were seeing things in the sky, but what they were seeing depended as much on them, on their own psychological makeup, as it did on anything actual out there," Graeber said. In other words, sightings are triggered by some aerial object, be it a balloon, plane, bird or whatever. In the eyes of a susceptible witness, however, that object becomes something else. It is "subjectively contoured," he explained, "into a projection of some visual image buried in their subconscious mind."

So, for instance, a man who insisted he saw three bright objects in the sky assailed by a fourth, lone object coming from another direction, turned out to be recently separated from his wife and two children and secretly living

with another woman. What the witness saw in the sky, Graeber reasoned, was a visual display of his inner turmoil — of another woman intervening to chase away his family.

Several people witnessing the same object in the sky all see the same thing, Graeber explained, but each sees it differently. While that statement may correspond to psychological theory, Graeber learned it by tracking down all 10 witnesses and conducting detailed interviews with each. He insists that every UFO sighting he has been allowed to thoroughly investigate has been explainable according to these principles.

"When you stop and think about it, that explanation makes a lot more sense, and assumes a whole lot less, than explaining a sighting as a visit from outer space," Graeber said.

If anything, Graeber's new outlook on UFOs has made him even more interested in the phenomenon. He wonders exactly what seeing strange things in the sky means, why it happens. UFO sightings in his area have fallen off dramatically, he said, but when and if the reports pick up again, Graeber will be rushing to the scene.

"I still don't know the answer to my own sighting as a child," he said. "It doesn't bother me anymore, though. I've run through it countless times, tried to figure it from different angles, what was happening to me then and to my family, but I can't put it in line with anything in particular. I can't explain it, and I doubt that I will ever be able to."

Graeber knows that what he saw was real. It's just that his definition of reality, even the plain old earthly variety, has horizons as wide as the stars.

MILWAUKEE (Wis) JOURNAL
JULY 22 1980

Study suggests water on Mars

Los Angeles Times Service

Los Angeles, Calif. — Based on measurements of Mars made with the 210-foot diameter Goldstone radar on the Mojave Desert in Southern California, two scientists believe that they have found patches of liquid water buried just below the surface of the planet.

Stanley Zisk, a radar specialist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Haystack Observatory at Westford, Mass., and Peter Mouginis-Mark, a Brown University geologist in Providence, R.I., said Monday that their findings could mean that primitive life forms exist on the cold, dry planet.

The two scientists only recently analyzed some radar data taken by the Goldstone instrument in 1971 and 1973. The echoes that bounced off a region of Mars known as Solis Lacus (Lake of the Sun) were characteristic of a surface that is both highly reflective and smooth, Zisk said.

Four cities hundreds of miles apart spot UFO at precisely the same instant

By JAKE HERMAN

AN INCREDIBLE series of UFO sightings reported at the exact same time in four cities 500 miles apart has been described by the world's leading authority as "the most astonishing in years."

The sightings in Argentina:

- Brought traffic at one airport to a standstill.
- Caused a pilot near another airport to veer away from a UFO.
- Confused an air traffic controller at a third airport.
- Stunned two newspaper photographers — who took these amazing pictures working 400 miles apart.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, professor emeritus of astronomy at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., who is recognized as America's foremost UFO expert claims "there's no doubt the sightings were real.

"The fact that this UFO was seen in so many different places makes it one of the most astonishing in years," he said. "In fact we've even heard reports that this object was seen in 40 cities in five countries — Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay.

"What's so amazing is that a UFO is usually a local event — but these reports indicate a simultaneous sighting across hundreds of miles.

"And if they all saw the exact same object at the same time, it had to have been awfully high up."

One of the most astounding reports came from Jorge Newbery Airport in Buenos Aires, Argentina where, on June 14th at 7:06 p.m., stupefied air traffic controllers held up takeoffs because of the UFO.

Following is the recorded conversation between Captain Ignacio Fernandez, an Austral Airlines pilot, and the tower at Newbery:

'An intense light approached at great speed'

Fernandez: "I request taxiing instructions."

Tower: "Hold it a minute. I see a flying saucer to the northeast. Stand by."

Fernandez: "Okay."

Tower: "Would you prefer to take off anyway?"

Fernandez: "No, I'll wait for new instructions."

Tower: "Can you see the phenomenon I'm talking about?"

Fernandez: "Yes I can. I will stay in position."

At precisely the same time, Captain Raoul Lara was climbing out of a takeoff from Ezezia Airport, also in Buenos Aires.

Observing a UFO directly in his flight path, he radioed the tower: "We have a flying object at 12 o'clock," and headed away from the mystery craft.

Captain Ricardo Pizzaro, piloting a Lan Chile flight out of Ezezia, also saw the object.

"We were hearing reports from other planes and airport radar informed us they were seeing it also," he said.

"The UFO moved south to north. I estimated its speed at around 150 miles per hour. We saw it for about two minutes.

"It looked like a full moon, but fainter. And it was surrounded by a sort of halo."

Meanwhile, the traffic controllers who had delayed takeoffs at Newbery Airport were frantically contacting their colleagues at Ezezia and other airports to see if they had also sighted the UFO.

Said Newbery controller Julio Contero: "We suddenly saw an intense light which we took, at first, for a plane approaching at great speed.

"Then, the image became clearer — a sort of sphere that was dim in the middle and brighter around the edges.

"We contacted Ezezia, and they replied that they also detected the phenomenon. Then we contacted airports all across the country — and they were seeing it as well."

At Pajas Blancas Airport in Cordoba, 400 miles northwest of Buenos Aires, air control operator Edward Barey saw what he described as "an incandescent cloud" taking off from the airfield as he was lining up a plane on the runway. He thought it was merely an unusual weather condition until it shot up to an altitude of 25,000 ft.

Halfway between Cordoba and Buenos Aires in the city of Rosario, newspaper photographer Jose Enrique Granata was startled by a bright cloud as he walked to work.

Granata instinctively pulled out his camera and shot the astounding photo seen above left.

In Corrientes, 400 miles northwest of where Granata took his picture, another newspaper photographer, Omar Vallejos, took the picture above right.

Describing his experience he said: "I was developing film of that day's soccer matches when suddenly an editor yelled at me from the street that there was a UFO in the sky.

"I left my work and ran out to look up. I saw a cloud whose center was duller than its edges hovering over the Parana River.

"And then, as if this strange cloud had seen us, it started to move north and disappeared."

UFO BUFFS

SEEK

1868 ARK

ADVERTISER
7-16-1980

A CENTURY-OLD sighting of "an ark in the sky" over Parramatta Park could help solve the mystery of UFOs.

Notes could solve puzzle

Surveyor Fred Birmingham saw the "ark" in July 1868, 40 years before the Wright brothers flew the first aeroplane.

Mr David Reneke of UFO Research (NSW) said he and his 12-member research team were seeking the full text of Mr Birmingham's description.

"His notes are quite likely in this area with one of his descendants," said Mr Reneke.

"But we face the age-old problem of people afraid to come forward with information for fear of ridicule.

"Overall, we're looking for some kind of pattern in UFO sightings," said Mr Reneke, who lives at Bidwill.

He concedes that only five per cent of UFO sightings are worth further investigation.

Size, markings, and color of a UFO are important, as well as the time of day and weather, he said.

Many UFOs have been sighted worldwide at early dawn or dusk.

Few sightings have been reported from any country for the last 18 months.

"This in itself is a trend," said Mr Reneke.

"In 1978 we received more than 90 calls of sightings in the Blacktown-Mt Druiett areas."

Mr Reneke and his team

of scientific and technical experts research each UFO report thoroughly.

The witness is interviewed and the area searched for UFO debris.

The group has access to modern scientific equipment and can carry out tests for thermoluminescence.

These tests can determine if rock, ground or vegetation has been touched by radiation.

Many eye-witnesses have described UFOs flying in an anti-clockwise direction.

In many countries there are anti-clockwise scorch marks in the ground.

Such marks or potholes often with scarred vegetation, appeared in 1976-77 in Eden and Orange, NSW, and Kettering, Tasmania.

About the same period three men saw five UFOs on the dusk horizon on the NSW South Coast.

Their film and report was sent to an American UFO research organisation.

Ground Saucer Watch (USA), analysed the film and reported the objects were about 12 metres in diameter, but could not identify them.

"We'd be content if all these sightings had some perfectly mundane explanation," said Mr Reneke.

"But we'd love to know WHAT it is!"

Mr Reneke is 32, an automotive engineer with a wife and two young children.

UFO research is his "full-time spare time" activity.

He is a former UFO sceptic who took six years to convert to an enthusiast.

"We've encountered too many witnesses to dismiss it all," he said.

"Their credibility has been thoroughly checked. Many have described their experiences crying tears of earnestness.

"It just can't be faked."

SAN BERNARDINO CALIF.

SUN

AUG 7 1980

Was UFO really a balloon?

PAGE ONE

By JOHN WHITEHAIR
Sun Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — Did some tiny Martians pay a visit to Norton Air Force Base in their metallic spaceship last weekend or was it just a child's balloon that two control tower operators and others reported as an unidentified flying object?

A San Bernardino resident who lives close to the base said he released a child's silver balloon about an hour before the tower operators reported the UFO.

He did not give his name but said the balloon was bobbing up and down as it traveled eastward toward the base.

A Yucaipa resident, Jim Ferguson, said he saw a flashing light on a hill behind his house Monday morning and when he looked at it through high-powered binoculars, it appeared to be an eight-to 12-inch-wide, 2½-foot-tall heart-shaped silver balloon with black dots on it.

As it turned in the morning breeze he saw the black dots were actually a Mickey Mouse face.

As the sun rose, the balloon lifted off and traveled eastward, Ferguson said.

However, a Norton official discounted reports that the Sunday evening UFO sighting was really a balloon, saying the wind was blowing at 4 mph when the object was sighted, but the object was traveling at 30 to 40 mph.

In addition to the two Norton tower operators, several Highland area residents said they saw the object, which was described as a "balloon that had been flattened on two sides" with black dots on one side.

The object was observed by the Norton men for about 10 minutes, during which it may have touched down on a taxiway, and was reported to the Sheriff's Department by several Highland residents minutes later as it passed over their houses. It was said to be about three feet in diameter.

A story about the sightings in Tuesday's Sun prompted the man who released the child's balloon, the Yucaipa resident and several others to call and say what they thought the object was, or to relate similar sightings.

Larry Woodford of Fontana said he saw a green trash can liner that was tied on both ends and probably filled with helium floating over his house about an hour before the UFO sightings.

He lives in the path of Norton's runways and said the object could have appeared to be a UFO in the darkness.

Coy Prestidge of San Bernardino said the UFO reports Sunday convinced him that the object he saw near Norton about two weeks ago was a UFO. It was very different from Sunday's object, however.

Prestidge said he was returning from an outing early in the morning and saw a bright light near the base. When it dimmed, he could make out an oval outline, he said.

"It just sat up there and went back and forth real slow. And it looked like it was looking at us," he said.

He and two other persons attempted to chase it in their car but became frightened and stopped when "it got too close," he said.

The public affairs office at Norton also received several calls about that sighting and referred all of them to a UFO research center.

The Air Force no longer investigates reports of unidentified flying objects and officials at a non-government UFO research center said they are only interested in actual contact with persons from other worlds.

The Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization in Arizona is interested in all types of UFO sightings, a member of that group said Wednesday. The address is 3910 Kleindale Road, Tucson, Ariz. 85712.

MYSTERY 'FIRE IN THE SKY'

AUTHORITIES today were still mystified by widespread reports of a fiery object in the sky over North Queensland last night.

The object was seen as far north as Yarrabah, near Cairns, and south to Mackay.

All reports, including one from a commercial airline pilot and another from a policeman, fixed the time of the sighting about 7.20 pm.

OMNI
NY
JULY
1980

UFO

By James Oberg

UPDATE

For the past few months, grocery shoppers across the United States have been titillated by banner headlines in the *National Enquirer*: "Crippled UFO Orbits Earth," one proclaims. "First UFO to Inflict Damage on a City," "Aliens on the Moon when We Landed," "UFO Base on Saturn Moon," others announce.

The mainstream UFO movement has had the good sense to ignore these sensational claims (while often trusting the sources on other matters), but the public may well be wondering just what is going on. Few people realize that these headlines can be traced from the *Enquirer's* editorial offices in Florida to suburban Los Angeles, and then across half a world — to Moscow!

UFOs are a sensitive topic in the Soviet Union. Such sensational headlines would never be printed there. The government officially denies alien visitations and blames such tales with some justice on "Western yellow journalism." The Soviet public, however, eagerly devours UFO rumors that rank among the

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CONT UFO UPDATE

widest in the world, and in practice the regime appears to tolerate this as a safety valve for ideological dissent.

The reigning czar of the Russian ufologists is Feliks Zigel, an astronomy lecturer at the Moscow Aviation Institute. Zigel has written popular books and articles on UFOs, on a Soviet "bigfoot" in the Caucasus Mountains, and on similar topics. He is also the reputed author of a two-volume UFO "lecture" now circulating in the underground (*samizdat*) literature.

The cast includes some other interesting — even bizarre — characters. Science-fiction author Aleksandr Kazantsev is one. An "ancient-astronaut" enthusiast who predates Von Däniken, he claims that "God" is a case of mistaken identity that originated with alien cosmonauts — a notion encouraged in official antireligious propaganda.

Aleksey Zolotov, a provincial university professor, enthusiastically touts the idea that the Tunguska explosion in 1908 was a spaceship crash. He has vowed not to shave his Tolstoyan beard until the world admits he's right. Zolotov is also into body

auras, faith healing, and altering the speed of wristwatches held in his hands.

Two physicists are also active in the USSR's UFO cult: Vladimir Azhazha and Sergey Bozhich, whose specialty seems to be embellishing foreign UFO reports and fobbing them off as Russian originals.

Reports from these Russian enthusiasts — Western newsmen are delighted to find Russians willing to talk on the record about anything — are considered highly credible by Western ufologists when they appear in UFO magazines and newsletters. They are written up in the *National Enquirer* by the Russians' American contact man, Russian-speaking Henry Gris (pronounced Gree), of Los Angeles. Gris is an editor for the tabloid and coauthor of several books dealing with UFOs and parapsychology.

Gris seems to quote the Russians with substantial accuracy, but he takes liberties with reality. Instead of identifying his sources as a small coterie of obscure enthusiasts, he turns them into "top Russian scientists" and "leading Russian physicists." Check the indexes to the world's scientific literature, however. These men's names are notably absent, though tens of thousands of genuine Soviet scientists are listed.

Their UFO stories are as questionable as their credentials. Take, for example, the flying-saucer attack on the city of Petrozavodsk on September 29, 1977.

"First UFO to Inflict Damage on a City," the *National Enquirer* bannered it on April 18, 1978. Within hours after the story broke in the West, it had been solved: The jellyfish-shaped "UFO" was really the sunlit exhaust trails from the predawn launch of a spy satellite at a secret space center nearby.

The Russian populace could never be given that explanation, of course, and UFO buffs in the USSR rushed to embrace the case. "As far as I am concerned, it was a spaceship from outer space, carrying out reconnaissance," said Kazantsev.

Zolotov declared, "In my opinion, the object was a typical flying saucer. The available reports left no doubt whatsoever about that in my mind."

Zigel agreed. "Without a doubt," he said, "it had all the features." And Azhazha was more specific: "In my opinion, what was seen over Petrozavodsk was either a UFO, a carrier of high intelligence with crew and passengers, or it was a field of energy created by such a UFO."

The tale of the phantom alien satellite ("Crippled UFO Orbits Earth," July 17, 1979) seems to have been simple plagiarism. Bozhich claimed to have spotted fragments of an alien spacecraft circling high above our planet, a derelict that blew up exactly 23 years ago last December 8. Unfortunately, Bozhich was obviously quoting from an American scientist's article, which in January 1969 suggested that a natural moonlet had broken up and left debris in orbit. When another American scientist pointed out the paper — Bozhich hadn't mentioned it — the *National Enquirer* proclaimed that it corroborated the Russian story.

The Apollo UFO fable ("Aliens on the Moon when We Landed," September 11, 1979) went through several metamorphoses across the world. Azhazha was the main source for the *National Enquirer* story of a NASA cover-up; somehow he neglected to mention that his tale of astronauts secretly photographing flying saucers on the moon was derived from a French book by Maurice Chatelain, published here as *Our Ancestors Came from Outer Space* in 1978.

That book, in turn, was based on faked "space photos" released in 1974 by the Cosmic Brotherhood Associates, a fringe UFO cult in Japan. The pictures were forged in order to illustrate an originally Canadian hoax, which was so transparent that most UFO groups in North America rejected it in 1969.

Each of the participants in this fraud added his own personal touches to the story. The result was a family of derivatives, which the *National Enquirer* presented as independent, reliable, mutually corroborative accounts.

Bozhich's fantasies reached a new extreme in the most recent story, "UFO Base on Saturn Moon," published November 13, 1979. According to this tale, Soviet observatories had monitored alien radio signals. Their origin had been pinpointed, he added, by radar that had tracked the direction of ascending UFOs: toward Saturn. One of the major confirmations was the trajectory of the Petrozavodsk UFO — the one that turns out to have been a spy satellite.

Cynics saw that Bozhich's claims were either timed to cash in on the spectacular success of America's Pioneer Saturn probe or were a reaction to the suggestion that Russian radio interference had scrambled NASA's data on Titan, Saturn's largest moon and the alleged site of the UFO base. The more gullible UFO buffs did not.

Standing opposite the USSR's UFO rumor factory is a lone Soviet official, Dr.

Vladimir V. Migulin, of the Academy of Sciences' Ionospheric Physics Laboratory. His job ostensibly is to catalog incoming reports and coordinate Soviet research. He spends much of his time trying to reassure the Russian public — a hopeless task.

The case of the Petrozavodsk UFO has been especially difficult for Dr. Migulin: He denies that it could have been a "true UFO," but state security regulations forbid him to announce that it was a Soviet military spaceship. Poor Migulin is left with nothing but scientific mumbo jumbo about geomagnetic disturbances and chemiluminescent smog. The staid scientist is caught in a UFO-KGB crossfire that cannot end happily for him.

To understand the Russian UFO scene, we must appreciate how small the cast of characters really is. Russian names are spelled so oddly — and are so often misspelled by the American press — that few people even try to read them. Hence, repeated quotations give the false

impression that an entire generation of "top Russian scientists" is taking turns testifying to the reality of UFOs.

Remember that the tabloids are only recycling the same handful of obscure Russian UFO enthusiasts next time the headlines scream about another Earth-shaking revelation from Moscow. Chances are, we'll have seen those names somewhere before.

CON'T UFO UPDATE

Back on this side of the Iron Curtain: Drawings of UFOs reported over the last 30 years show almost an infinite variety. Either each UFO pilot has his own customizing kit, or the UFOs, in the words of ufologist Robert Sheaffer, "are made of Silly Putty."

Or maybe the hundreds of UFO sketches on hand don't really show what the witnesses saw. That's the suspicion of Dr. Richard F. Haines, a research scientist at the NASA Ames Research Center, near San Francisco. Haines, author of *Observing UFOs* (Nelson-Hall, Chicago, 1978), is a specialist in visual perception and a scientific consultant for the Center for UFO Studies and the Aerial

● Soviet observatories had monitored alien radio signals, and radar used to track ascending UFOs had pinpointed their origin: Titan, a moon of Saturn. ●

Phenomena Research Organization.

Haines believes the UFO phenomenon must be studied scientifically, and he reported one of his most fascinating experiments, a study of UFO perception, at a special seminar presented by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. The experiment was a simple one: Haines asked UFO witnesses to sketch what they had seen and compared the results with UFO drawings by people who had never seen one.

Oddly enough, impartial judges couldn't tell the sketches apart. Drawings from the two groups had the same general features, and those from people who had never seen a UFO contained just as much "information" and detail as eyewitness renderings.

"The similarity of the drawings," Haines believes, "suggests that these participants hold a stereotyped image of what a UFO is supposed to look like. Almost everyone has seen a photograph or drawing of a UFO at some time, and the memory strongly influences subsequent drawings."

But shouldn't someone who has actually seen a UFO be able to give more details about their appearance than people who have seen only a picture? You'd think so.

This brings up an interesting possibility: A UFO skeptic could reasonably suggest that there is no way any preconceived image of a UFO could overwhelm the added details from a sighting unless the UFO is largely made up of preconceived images rather than external data. In other words, something cues the witness's mind to conjure up convincing details from memory. The result would be a truly imaginary UFO sighting whose appearance, honestly reported, had nothing at all to do with the form of the original stimulus.

Haines hopes that this ambiguity can be resolved by preparing recognition charts showing varied UFO shapes and sizes. Witnesses could then select from the charts to compose the image they recall much as a crime witness builds a picture of the criminal with a police identification kit. But if their perceptions of the UFO have already been short-circuited, such a scientific approach may still be worthless.

"It should go without saying," Haines concludes, "that more research is needed on the basic perceptual processes." Such research should go a long way toward demonstrating whether or not many UFOs are "all in the mind" after all.

The pity is, if the research eventually proves that something is there, it will in all probability impede rather than accelerate the process of the acceptance of UFOs by traditional science. This is because the new theories will most likely be championed by those ufologists already badly discredited by too many endorsements of what subsequently turned out to be hoaxes. They would be right only by accident, not by their own merit. ∞

THE SACRAMENTO BEE,
SACRAMENTO CALIF.
AUG 6 1980

The Thing — A UFO Or An Airplane?

By Paul Avery
Bee Staff Writer

It's been a week now, and she's had ample time to reconsider, but Joan Boughner still insists that the thing she and Phyllis Uyemura saw hovering over their heads last Wednesday was an honest-to-gosh Unidentified Flying Object.

Uyemura says she isn't sure what it was.

The fact Boughner says she saw a silver-hulled UFO on the way to lunch, rather than on the way back, lends a certain credibility to the report of the longtime Aerojet Strategic Propulsion Company employee.

And although nobody else in Sacramento County seems to have seen what Boughner claims they saw, there were two other reports of UFO sightings that occurred the previous day — one near Clear Lake, the other near Santa Cruz.

"It was about 11:40 a.m., maybe 11:45," Boughner recollected for The Bee. "We were on our way to Folsom in Phyllis' pickup when Phyllis pointed to our left and said, 'What's that over there?'"

"I put on my glasses. 'Is that an airplane?' Phyllis asked me. I looked at the thing and told her, 'No, I don't think so.'"

"Suddenly, Phyllis shouted, 'It's coming at us.' And it was. Right toward us. And then there it was. Right

above us. No more than 10 or 15 feet above us.

"It was kind of saucer-like, but more oval, more oblong, than round. It was maybe 15 feet across. The color? It was silver. The exterior was silver. And it had these holes in the bottom, like bomb bays that were open, and looking up into them all you could see was blackness. It wasn't making any noise at all. It was

just there, hovering over our heads.

"I thought to myself, 'This is it,'" said Boughner. "And then it was gone. Just like that."

The precise location of the sighting was on Folsom Boulevard near the point where it goes under Highway 50, Boughner said.

Immediately after that brief close

encounter — the first Boughner has ever experienced — she and Uyemura pulled in at Joe and Dodie's Tavern on Folsom Boulevard. "That's where we ended up having lunch," Boughner said.

The first move Boughner made when she returned to her job at Aerojet was tell fellow employees about what she thought she'd seen.

"Nobody laughed at me," said Boughner. "I've worked at Aerojet for 20 years and the people here know me well enough to know I wouldn't make up any tale like that."

Boughner is a secretary in the company's Minute Man missile program; Uyemura is an executive secretary in the quality control office.

Uyemura adamantly told The Bee Tuesday she is not making any claim that the object in the sky was a UFO. "I've been told it might have been a C-5 (Air Force jet transport) coming in to land at Mather (Air Force Base)," Uyemura said.

But Boughner just as adamantly insists that what they saw was no C-5. "I don't know what it was, but it was not an airplane and it was not a helicopter," she said.

They did not make any official report of their sighting on July 29 at the time, Boughner said, and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department and the Folsom Police Department both stated those offices had not received any reports of any UFO sightings that day or since.

But Thomas Heiman of UFO Education Center Inc. in San Diego County, which logs and assesses strange aerial sightings, told The Bee about two reports the center received of UFOs being seen over Northern California on July 28.

The first was reported by Dan Collett and Lynn Jones, both 17 and both of Clear Lake Highlands in Lake County. Collett's family owns two grocery stores in the Clear Lake area.

"We first saw it at about 3:20 in the morning," Collett told The Bee. "We had just been to the Short Stop and gotten some gasoline and were on our way back home, when we saw this bright light off in the distance moving over a field."

"At first we thought it was an airplane, but then we realized it wasn't, that it was something else. It seemed to be egg shaped. It started moving toward the hills north of the lake and we decided to follow it."

"We went up this dirt road and suddenly the light stopped moving. It just hovered over this small valley, and it was giving off an even brighter light. It was so bright it lit up the whole valley."

"We parked and turned off our lights and watched it for awhile. It was maybe a mile away from us, but that's just a guess. I decided to blink my car lights at it, and I did, on and off, on and off."

"The thing suddenly got even brighter, and then it dimmed. It was basically white in color, but at times

it seemed to glow reddish or orange for a moment.

"Then, it seemed to start moving toward us, and Lynn got scared and we took off. I drove home so I could get a camera. By then it had moved higher in the sky and we could see it clearly all the way back to my place. How big? It's hard to say, but it looked to be about eight or 10 times larger than what a star looks like."

"After I got a camera, I took several pictures of it. I don't know if I got any because the (color) film hasn't come back yet. The thing stayed in view for more than three hours from the time we first spotted it."

"I called the Lake County Sheriff's Department, but apparently the guy I talked to didn't take me seriously. I asked for a phone number I could call to report seeing a UFO. When I called the number he gave me, it turned out to be Napa State (mental) Hospital," said Collett.

The other sighting, in Santa Cruz, occurred at about 11:40 p.m. on July 28, UFO assessor Heiman said.

"A young man named Mike McMahon, a student at California State University, San Jose, told us that he and a girlfriend were sitting around a bonfire they had built on the beach near Santa Cruz when they saw a UFO over the ocean, about 200 feet from the shore."

Heiman asked that anyone seeing something unexplainable up there contact the UFO Education Center

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1868 MYSTERY ARK SIGHTING

A former UFO sceptic is combing Parramatta for information about a sighting made more than a century ago.

Mr David Reneke, of UFO Research, and his 12-member team are trying to solve the mystery of "an ark in the sky," said to have been seen over Parramatta Park in 1868.

The diary of Parramatta surveyor, Fred Birmingham is believed to hold the key.

Mr Birmingham saw the "ark" in July, 1868 — 40 years before the Wright brothers flew their first aeroplane.

"His notes are likely to

By PETER RYAN

be in the Parramatta area with one of his descendants." Mr Reneke said.

"But we face the age-old problem of people being afraid to come forward with information for fear of ridicule."

Mr Reneke said the diary would contain full details of the sighting.

"Then we can work out whether or not it was just a dream," he said.

Mr Reneke said the piecing together of information of the "ark" in 1868 could help solve the mystery of UFOs.

SYDNEY
DAILY MIRROR
7-25-80

PILOT REPORTS SEEING A UFO

A pilot claims to have sighted an unidentified flying object during a flight from Melbourne to Sydney.

Mr Tom Ladkani, 32, said he watched a hovering bright light in the air near Marulan, about 200kms south of Sydney, for three minutes.

Flight controllers in Sydney were unable to identify any other aircraft in the vicinity and were mystified by the sighting.

Mr Ladkani, a pilot with the Sydney-based Scrusse-Air charter firm, was flying a freight run from Melbourne to Sydney in a Piaggio light aircraft.

The owner of Scrusse-Air, Mr Joe Scrusse, said: "You often hear of other pilots having similar experiences and it makes you wonder what is really up there."

MISSING PILOT

SYDNEY SUN 6-8-80

A COMPUTER analysis has supported claims that pictures taken in 1978 show a UFO off Victoria's Cape Otway — 20 minutes before missing pilot Frederick Valentich flew overhead.

Just before Valentich disappeared over Bass Strait on October 2, 1978, he radioed his plane was being buzzed by "a long shape" that was "not an aircraft."

A Melbourne plumber, Roy Manifold, was taking automatic exposures of the sunset at Cape Otway 20 minutes before Valentich's aircraft flew overhead.

Of the six frames he took, four showed the sunset and the fifth an object that appeared to be surfacing from the water.

The sixth and crucial frame shows a large cloud-like image, with a disc structure visible.

Mr Manifold later gave the pictures and negatives to a retired American engineer, Mr Paul Norman, an investigator for the Victorian UFO Research Society.

Mr Norman is conducting a six-month inquiry into the Valentich mystery.

The film was sent to the Civilian Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation, in Arizona, which put it through computer

analysis.

The organisation said the film was not faked. Analysis also revealed

the image was not any known type of cloud or weather phenomena.

"The image represents a bona fide UFO, of

moderate dimensions, apparently surrounded by a cloud-like vapour-exhaust residue," said the American analysis.

Frederick Valentich and his Cessna 182 disappeared on a flight across Bass Strait in October, 1978.

The young pilot intended to bring back some crayfish from the island to his Melbourne home.

However, the plane disappeared after Valentich reported seeing a "bright object" hovering near, then over his aircraft.

He said it had a "green light and sort of

metallic light on the outside."

Valentich then said his aircraft engine was coughing and rough idling.

He radioed: "Proceeding to King Island. Unknown aircraft now hovering on top of me."

That was the last reported message . . . a long metallic noise followed and contact with Valentich was lost.

NEW UFO CLAIM

THE LAST WORDS OF VANISHED PILOT FREDERICK VALENTICH

Time	From	To	Text
0906:14	DSJ	FS	Melbourne this is Delta Sierra Juliet. Is there any known traffic below five thousand?
123	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet. No known traffic.
126	DSJ	FS	Delta Sierra Juliet. I am seems (to) be a large aircraft below five thousand.
146	FS	DSJ	D D Delta Sierra Juliet. What type of aircraft is it?
150	DSJ	FS	Delta Sierra Juliet. I cannot Affirm it is four bright it seems to me like landing lights.
0907:04	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet.
132	DSJ	FS	Melbourne. This (is) Delta Sierra Juliet. The aircraft has just passed over me at least a thousand feet above.
143	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet. Roger. And it is a large aircraft, confirm?
147	DSJ	FS	Er unknown due to the speed it's
0908:18	DSJ	FS	Melbourne. It's approaching now from due east towards me.
149	DSJ	FS	Delta Sierra Juliet. It seems to me that he's playing some sort game. He's flying over me two, three times at a time at speeds I could not identify.
0909:02	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet. Roger. What is your actual level?
106	DSJ	FS	My level is four and a half thousand. Four five and zero.
111	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet. And confirm
114	DSJ	FS	Affirmative.
118	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet. Roger. Stand-by.
128	DSJ	FS	Melbourne Delta Juliet. It's not an aircraft. It is (open microphone for two seconds).
146	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet Melbourne. Can you describe the er aircraft?
152	DSJ	FS	Delta Sierra Juliet. As it's flying past it's a long shape (open microphone for three seconds) (cannot identify more than that it has such speed) (open microphone for 3 seconds). Before me right now Melbourne.
0910:07	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet Roger, and how large would
20	DSJ	FS	Delta Sierra Juliet Melbourne. It seems like it's stationary. What I'm doing right now is orbiting and the thing is just orbiting on top of me also. It's got a green light and sort of metallic (like) It's all shiny (on) the outside.
17	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet. Is the aircraft still with you?
23	DSJ	FS	Delta Sierra Juliet (it's ah nor) (open microphone 2 seconds)
0912:04	FS	DSJ	Delta Sierra Juliet. Roger. What are your intentions?
09	DSJ	FS	My intentions are, ah, to go to King Island, ah Melbourne, that strange aircraft is hovering on top of me again (two second open microphone). It is hovering and it's not an aircraft.

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN CESSNA 182L AIRCRAFT VH-DSJ AND MELBOURNE FLIGHT SERVICE BETWEEN 0853 HOURS AND 0913 HOURS GMT ON OCTOBER 21, 1978.

LEGEND DSJ: Cessna 182L aircraft VH-DSJ; FS Melbourne Flight Service Unit; () Word/s open to other interpretations; // // Explanatory note or editorial insertion.

travelling. Is there any airforce aircraft in the vicinity?

Delta Sierra Juliet. No known aircraft in the vicinity.

Melbourne. It's approaching now from due east towards me.

Delta Sierra Juliet. It seems to me that he's playing some sort game. He's flying over me two, three times at a time at speeds I could not identify.

Delta Sierra Juliet. Roger. What is your actual level?

My level is four and a half thousand. Four five and zero.

Delta Sierra Juliet. And confirm

you cannot identify the aircraft?

Affirmative. Delta Sierra Juliet. Roger. Stand-by.

Melbourne Delta Juliet. It's not an aircraft. It is (open microphone for two seconds).

Delta Sierra Juliet Melbourne. Can you describe the er aircraft?

Delta Sierra Juliet. As it's flying past it's a long shape (open microphone for three seconds) (cannot identify more than that it has such speed) (open microphone for 3 seconds). Before me right now Melbourne.

Delta Sierra Juliet Roger, and how large would

the er object be? Delta Sierra Juliet Melbourne. It seems like it's stationary. What I'm doing right now is orbiting and the thing is just orbiting on top of me also. It's got a green light and sort of metallic (like) It's all shiny (on) the outside.

Delta Sierra Juliet. Is the aircraft still with you?

Delta Sierra Juliet (it's ah nor) (open microphone 2 seconds)

Delta Sierra Juliet. Roger. What are your intentions?

My intentions are, ah, to go to King Island, ah Melbourne, that strange aircraft is hovering on top of me again (two second open microphone). It is hovering and it's not an aircraft.

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STAFFORDSHIRE
EVENING SENTINEL
STOKE ON TRENT
JULY 18 1980

Strange lights in the sky probe

U.F.O. research experts were today investigating sightings of strange lights over Stoke-on-Trent during the night.

The first report came from Miss Susan Colton who noticed her darkened bedroom suddenly light up.

"I had just turned the light off and was getting into bed when the whole room lit up. I called the family and we watched this shape for about ten minutes," said Miss Colton, a civil servant, of 119 Heaton-terrace, Porthill.

The light turned slowly to red and green, disappeared and re-appeared three times before finally going out of sight. Miss Colton said it first appeared as a flat bar shape and later looked crescent or triangle-shaped.

Blurred

Milton housewife Mrs. Patricia Moran, of 18 Netherton-grove, also saw a strange light in the sky at about the same time — between 11.30 p.m. and midnight.

"At first it was a long straight line and then it took on a shape like blurred butterfly wings. The light went out and then came back again and then seemed to grow smaller and move away," she said.

Mr. Derek James, a member of the U.F.O. Investigating Network, said today no members of the network had seen the lights or had any reports but the two sightings would be checked out.

NUNEATON EVENING TRIBUNE
JULY 16 1980

Hot-line to the stars

I hear that following reports of UFOs over the Market Bosworth area, three further sightings were reported by people living in both Twycross and Atherstone.

Two Twycross housewives independently reported the sighting of an orange cigar-shaped craft that circled the village late on Tuesday evening.

Both witnesses said that after approaching from the east, the object slowed and began to circle around in the same area of sky for several minutes before moving off towards the Atherstone area. They described the object as a glowing mass of orange light with a definite elongated shape and making a strange buzzing noise similar to a power generator. "It was definitely not an aircraft," they said.

Then at about midnight the following evening a man who was just returning home from walking his dog spotted a strange object in the sky above

Atherstone. He said that a bright light caught his attention that was moving back and forth across the sky. After about a minute the light suddenly switched off, he said.

All this is of interest to the Hinckley Aerial Phenomena In-

vestigations group who keep a check on sightings in the area.

They ask that their 24 hour "Hotline" telephone number be noted in the event of further sightings. The number is Leicester 311666.

DAILY TELEGRAPH LONDON
JULY 26 1980

Flying saucer alert after jazz band children collapsed

ANGRY doctors yesterday attacked critics who claimed there had been a cover-up of the investigation into the cause of a mystery illness which hit a juvenile jazz-band contest.

Dr Michael Lewis, director of Nottingham public health laboratory, said: "There has been no cover-up. We have looked at every conceivable possibility."

"We even sent an officer to investigate when someone reported that a flying saucer had landed in the next field."

Dr Lewis said the experts were sticking to the theory of mass hysteria.

Skinner attack

Dr Alan Scott, of Nottingham's Queen's Medical Centre, said: "I find it distasteful that people who cannot even be bothered to come to the meeting can accuse us of a cover-up."

He was one of a panel of medical and environmental experts addressing a news conference at Sutton-in-Ashfield.

One of the critics was the Left-wing Labour MP for Bolsover, Mr Dennis Skinner, who has demanded a public inquiry.

In an apparent reference to Mr Skinner, Dr Scott said: "I have no political mileage to make out of this matter as some people seem to have."

Dr Richard Knight, a Mansfield General Hospital consultant said: "When I arrived at the show site there were police cars everywhere and a lot of excitement. I am sure the kids were frightened to death."

"If someone could have stepped in immediately to stop the hysteria, things would have been a lot better."

The findings of the experts will be published later.

Search for UFO - ten years old

A search is on for someone who may have spotted an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) sighted over the Penrith-St Marys-Mt DrUITt area.

There's only one snag — the original sighting took place almost 10 years ago, but only came to light recently.

The object — shaped like an elongated egg — was first spotted by a woman now living in Blacktown, but who at the time lived in the St Marys-Mt DrUITt area.

The woman has given her name and address to the STAR, on condition that it is not made public for fear of being ridiculed.

The UFO Research Unit of NSW, which makes scientific investigations and evaluations of UFO sightings, has taken up the woman's case and is seeking other people who may have witnessed the same phenomenon almost ten years ago.

"The trouble here, like many such cases, is that we have a very credible witness — but she is the only one who is prepared to come forward and say what she saw", the Research Director of UFO Research, NSW, Mr David Reneke, said.

The sighting by the woman only came to light during a recent talk-back program on a Sydney radio station concerning UFOs.

The woman heard the interview and decided to tell her story.

Mr Reneke contacted the woman and now wants to find other people who may have seen the same thing.

At the time of the sighting the woman was standing in Waikanda Crescent, on the opposite side of the road to the entrance to a walkway leading to the school where her young daughter was a student.

It was about 3.30pm and she was waiting for her daughter to come from school.

At that time — ten years ago — the side of the road on which she was waiting was still bush.

Houses lined the opposite side of the road.

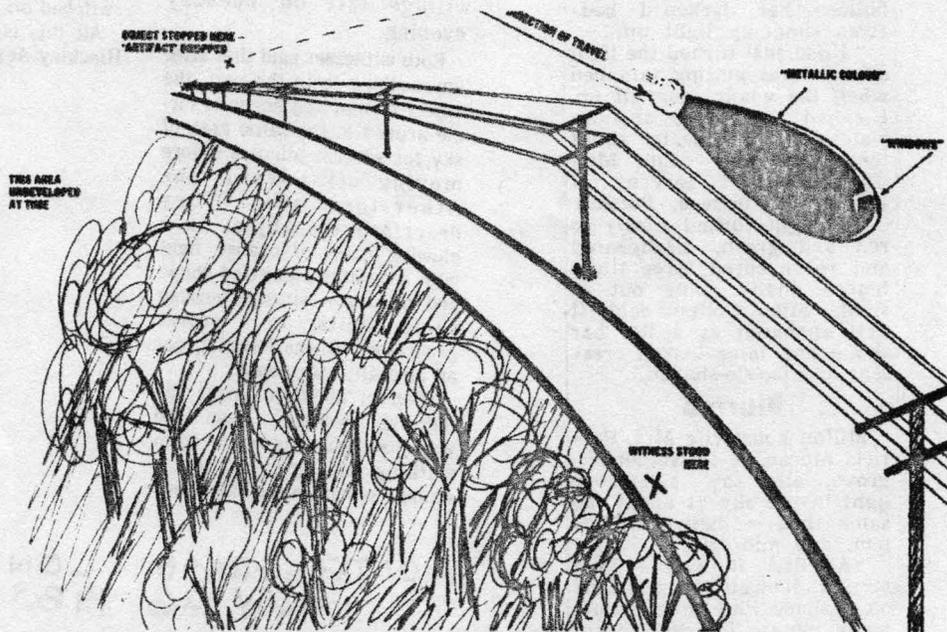
Her story goes:

"In the distance — I would think about over Warragamba Dam — I saw what appeared to be a white pencil shaped object heading towards me", she said.

"It looked like a needlepoint of smoke in the sky.

"It started to curve across Penrith then made a sharp right hand turn and started to descend like a plane coming in to land.

"It had what appeared to be a smoke trail extending back all the way to where I first saw it.



A sketch of the path taken by the UFO over the St Marys-Mt DrUITt area.

"As it got close I saw it was egg shaped and about the length of a small telegraph pole.

"It was white coloured and seemed to be made of metal — it had a metallic sheen — but it did not appear to be painted.

"It was spotlessly white — there appeared to be no rivets, joins or panelling in its construction.

"There were two yellow windows — they looked like perspex — surrounded by black metal borders at the front.

"The thing then disappeared behind the treeline over Whalan Reserve.

"When I looked again I saw this white object coming across the top of the houses at about rooftop level.

"Just as it reached about the intersection of Neriba and Waikanda Crescents it dropped what looked like a bent stick, about four feet long.

"It dropped it about over the fence lines and immediately the 'stick' shot back to the craft but this time it looked like a fiery arrow with the head uppermost.

"About this time I noticed what appeared

to be a copper rod on the front of the craft pointing downwards".

The woman said the UFO then "juggled" sideways until the rear end of it was pointing towards her.

"Then it took off at about the same angle as a jet taking off.

"It left a smoke trail until the smoke was cut off and it disappeared over the horizon".

THE

SYDNEY
DAILY
MIRROR
7-23-80

GREAT

HOAX

□ It was hailed as one of the most important and positive UFO sightings in history. Here was proof, it was claimed, that mankind had been visited by beings from outer space.

The sighting occurred last August over the Persian Gulf when a flaming metallic object scorched across the evening sky.

What excited those who cling with childlike devotion to their belief in UFOs was that the object was reported by several aircraft crews. Like Caesar's wife, aircraft crews are meant to be beyond reproach.

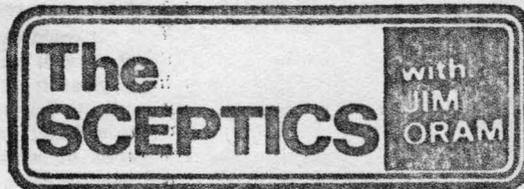
The object was first seen by a British Airways pilot who described it as travelling at an incredible speed between him and a Japanese Airways jet.

Kuwait Airways flight 370 also spotted the rushing object. The pilot's report was supported by airliners from Switzerland and Scandinavia.

Explosion

And on the ground, observers were almost falling over themselves at the wonder of it all.

Shoori Ghawas, a traffic controller in Bahrain, said: "It was shiny and metallic with red flames shooting from the rear.



"Then suddenly the centre of it turned a bright, glowing red and there was an explosion and it disappeared from sight."

To add an extra spice of mystery to the sighting, the object was not picked up by radar at Bahrain and other airports in the area.

Dozens of reports were made that night, including some from such experienced observers as off-duty pilots. The Governments of Bahrain and Qatar set up investigations into the sighting.

The leader of the Qatar team reported after a wide inquiry: "My final conclusion was that the object was

definitely a UFO under its own power which eventually exploded."

The UFO believers saw all this as a confirmation of their faith. And greatly did they rejoice.

Unfortunately, into the mystery stepped a U.S.-based organisation called the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal.

The committee consists mostly of scientists and, as its name suggests, its purpose is to look into stories that seem beyond the cool logic of science.

It took an investigator from the committee only one telephone call to explain the mystery.

He rang the North American Air Defence Command.

Sure, they knew of the object. They had tracked it and it was not in the least mysterious.

Astronauts

It was merely the rocket booster of Russia's Kosmos-1123 spy satellite burning up as it fell to earth.

I mention this case in some detail because it typifies the thousands of UFO reports that are made each year. Most can be checked out quickly.

Some have taken longer to explain logically, but only the tiniest fraction of sightings have proved to be totally baffling.

On the other hand, there is absolutely no proof they are alien spaceships.

Many of the sightings are pure hoaxes or the reports have been doctored by those who wish to perpetuate the myth of UFOs.

There is not space enough here to argue all the sightings, or even those of the last 12 months.

I will merely, with the aid of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, mention those UFO sightings that were allegedly made by American astronauts.

The most famous sighting was made on June 3, 1964, aboard Gemini 4. Astronaut Jim McDivitt took a photograph of what UFO enthusiasts claim was a glowing object with a plasma tail.

James Oberg, an investigator for the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, investigated further and published his findings in the committee's journal, *The Skeptical (sic) Inquirer*.

According to Oberg the photograph showed only a light reflection off the Gemini's window. And all McDivitt saw in space was a "beer can-shaped" object which NASA observers believe was his own booster rocket.

Another famous photograph was taken by Frank Borman and Jim Lovell in 1965 when they were aboard Gemini 7.

The widely publicised pictures showed what appear to be twin oval-shaped UFOs with glowing undersides.

This was a deliberate forgery. Light reflections off the nose of the spacecraft were made to look like UFOs by air brushing away the vehicle structure around them.

As James Oberg

points out, forgery and deception, plus the withholding of vital information, have been used by UFO enthusiasts to support their claims.

For instance, on Gemini 12, which was launched in 1966, stories circulated that Jim Lovell and Edward Aldrin saw four UFOs linked in a row.

In fact they were four bags of trash thrown overboard an hour earlier. The astronauts were deliberately misquoted.

Puzzled

Nor do UFO enthusiasts have a reasonable sense of humor. In 1969, aboard Apollo 12, Pete Conrad, Alan Bean and Dick Gordon were reported as saying that a UFO accompanied them to within 200,000km of the moon, preceding them all the way.

Actually they were merely joking with ground control about a tumbling piece of their booster rocket that was flashing in the sky.

But on their journey back they were puzzled by a light between them and the earth. This had UFO believers in raptures of excitement.

But the light turned out to be nothing more than the reflection of the moon behind them on the dark Indian Ocean below.

Some people are willing to believe that the U.S. Government has, somewhere in one of its secret bases, the pickled bodies of several humanoid aliens whose spaceships crashed on earth.

The same people probably believe there are fairies at the bottom of their gardens.

WESTERN STANDARD 8/7/80.

Help sought over UFO encounter

A WHALAN woman's "close encounter of the first kind" with an unidentified flying object (UFO) could have been "an encounter of the second kind".

At least, that is what UFO expert, David Reneke, of Bidwill is hoping.

A first encounter is a UFO sighting, but the second kind is more positive, with physical traces of extra-terrestrial visitor left behind.

The woman's sighting was nine years ago in Walkanda Cres, Whalan.

She was ridiculed by a few close friends for telling them she believed she saw a UFO and decided not to tell

any more people until she spoke on a recent radio program on UFOs.

Mr Reneke, who is research director of UFO Research, heard the woman's account of her sighting and decided to follow it up.

Vivid

"It was such a vivid account and the woman was so sure of herself there appeared little chance she had confused a conventional aircraft with a UFO," Mr Reneke said last week.

"The most interesting aspect of her encounter was that she saw the egg-shaped craft shoot out a beam of light to the road.

"It could have left a trace of its visit and I would like to hear from anyone who might have picked up something unusual in the area or who might have seen the same space ship."

The woman, who still wishes to remain anonymous for fear of more ridicule, told Mr Reneke the craft was made of polished metal with windows at the front through which she could see a yellow light.

After hovering for a short while, the craft moved off, directly above the woman.

People who might be able to help Mr Reneke with his investigation should telephone 628 8633.

"All information will be treated in confidence in an effort to increase our knowledge of UFOs," Mr Reneke said.