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UFO

NEWS



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STATE OF TEXAS

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1906

UFO: ¹³⁸¹ Over the years, plenty of Virginians have seen the light(s)

By PAUL DELLINGER
Southwest bureau

"Holy cats!"
"Hey — it's almost ..."
"Yeah. Almost a perfect ..."
"It is. It's round!"
"We finally got one."
"We've found a flying saucer!"

— Dialogue from a group of men gauging the shape of a craft embedded in the ice beneath them, in the 1951 movie "The Thing."

Technically, they are called Unidentified Flying Objects, and their lineage ranges back at least as far as the biblical Book of Ezekiel and forward all the way to the box office's favorite space creature, "E.T."

They have led to at least one fatality (of a pilot whose P-51 crashed while chasing a reported UFO over Kentucky in 1948), a divorce (by the wife of a man who claimed to be meeting a female saucer pilot at night on the California desert), and any number of "I Rode in a Flying Saucer" books.

UFOs did not overlook Virginia while they were doing all this.

One UFO was supposed to have landed in a field near the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center at Fishersville in late 1964. Shortly thereafter, posses of armed vigilantes were combing parts of Augusta County in search of little green men. Two years later, the Air Force was investigating a patch of road in South Hill that was supposed to have been scorched by a departing UFO.

Meanwhile, lights in Virginia skies were being seen by police officers, ministers and any number of others.

"Tell the world. Tell this to everybody, wherever they are. Watch the skies, everywhere. Keep looking. Keep watching the skies."

— A warning broadcast by a newspaper reporter in "The Thing."

But not even the man who reported the South Hill sighting believed there was anything unnatural about it. And one "little green man" being hunted around Staunton proved to be 5-foot-10, 190-pound Donald Cash, who wondered why people reported that he left no footprints when "I was standing in mud up to my knees."

That hunt began when Horace Burns, a gunsmith, saw a UFO as he drove on U.S. 220 from Staunton to Waynesboro about 5 p.m. on Dec. 21, 1964. He said later that a large beehive-shaped object passed about 200 yards in front of him and his car engine unaccountably stopped.

He described the UFO as looking like aluminum, and circled by six concentric rings. He estimated it at 125 feet in diameter and 80 to 90 feet long, with a dome top and bluish glow underneath. It touched down in a field, stayed on the ground for about 90 seconds, then flew off out of sight, he said.

It was a month before Burns reported all this. When he did, he was invited to talk about it to a standing-room-only audience of several hundred in an auditorium at Eastern Mennonite College.

Ernest Gehman was a professor of German at Eastern Mennonite in Harrisonburg in 1964 when he became involved with the Burns sighting. (Burns could not be reached for comment.)

Gehman, now retired from the college, was interested in UFOs. He got in touch with Burns. They went to the field just after Burns reported the sighting, and Gehman said his Geiger counter showed a high radiation level.

"I believe he was right about that diameter," Gehman said, based on the spread of the Geiger readings. But a team of Air Force investigators 22 days after the sighting date reported no radioactivity at all.

Gehman disputes that. He said he accompanied the investigators, and they got some high readings at least three times, but would read just their instruments each time. "Then the needle wouldn't move."

"They'll probably give you a medal, for destroying evidence that they're wrong."

— Remark by reporter in "The Thing" to an Air Force officer who had inadvertently blown up the UFO under the ice.

It was retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe who first claimed the Air Force was covering up evidence that UFOs were ships from other planets. Keyhoe, originally a skeptic, was commissioned by True magazine to do a documented article on UFOs. His piece — in the January 1950 issue — made it the biggest seller in the magazine's history.

Keyhoe wrote several books on the subject, and magazines such as Life and Look soon got in on the act, with articles of their own. When those articles appeared, sighting reports increased.

Speaking in Winchester four months before the Burns sighting, Keyhoe said he had never seen a UFO but had studied "at least 2,000 detailed reports by fairly highly trained observers and very competent people."

In recent years, there have been few reported sightings of UFOs in Virginia or elsewhere. After coming out with an exhaustive report on UFOs several years ago, the government disbanded the special investigations unit that was studying them.

"I'm still very much interested (in UFOs)," Gehman said. "However, since that thick heavy book (the Condon Report, which discounted the possibility that UFOs were from other planets) was brought out by the Air Force that sought to discredit the whole idea, you know, people don't report what they see ... I think there are as many sightings as before, but people don't report them."

UFO VIRGINIANS CON'T

In the Burns sighting, Gehman said, one side of the car Burns had been driving also showed radioactivity. For years afterward, Gehman said, when snow would collect on cars parked around the Burns vehicle, that side of it would stay bare.

"I told Mr. Burns that that car ought to be saved. That it is proof of a sort," Gehman said. But he said Burns sold the car and lost track of its ownership.

★ ★

Later, reports of "little green men" began surfacing in Staunton. After some youngsters reported a "close encounter" with one, groups of armed men started scouring the area.

"This creature — where is he? What is he up to? If he can build a spaceship that can fly to Earth ... what other terrors can he unleash at will? Obviously the monster must be found. He must be tracked down like a wild animal and destroyed."

— Radio commentator Gabriel

Heater, playing himself in the 1951 movie "The Day the Earth Stood Still."

It was probably the most excitement generated by space visitors since 1938, when a radio play based on H.G. Wells' 1898 novel, "War of the Worlds," convinced listeners who tuned in late that invading Martians had landed in New Jersey.

Augusta County Sheriff John E. Kent called the armed searches "dangerous as well as ridiculous."

What finally stopped them was the "space creature" himself. Donald Cash, then 36, had costumed himself in blue coveralls and brushed his hair under a leather cap to play a joke on a friend — one of

many people who claimed to have seen UFOs — but some youngsters spotted him first and chased him. He eventually admitted the prank to halt the searches before someone got hurt.

But more reports were coming in. While Fishersville pharmacist Bill Elliott was luring customers

with a "Flying Saucer Information" sign in his drugstore window and bottles of "little green men" bubble bath on his counter, other people across Virginia were still watching the skies.

● Jan. 28, 1965: The Rev. H. Preston Robinson, pastor of the

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Chilhowie Church of God, and about 10 others reported a UFO over Smyth County. "It stopped some 600 feet above the ground, right over downtown Marion," he said. It "had a round-shaped bottom from which several lights showed."

● Feb. 2, 1965: Roanoke police, Federal Aviation Administration officials and U.S. Weather Bureau officials at Woodrum Field reported a UFO. It was tentatively identified as a weather balloon.

● July 1965: Two Richmond residents driving on U.S. 60 in James City County said their car stalled when a cone-shaped object passed overhead, and wouldn't start until it was gone.

● Aug. 3, 1965: Bill Baker of Route 1, Bristol, and four others saw a bright orange disc. It dimmed, brightened and flew off south.

● June 24, 1966: Richmond Patrolman William L. Stevens Jr. followed a dirigible-shaped object ringed by lights from Richmond into suburban Hanover County, where he

lost sight of it. "If I live to be 100, I'll never forget it," he said. "As a matter of fact, I hope I never see another one."

John Andrews, a 13-year-old Roanoke boy, decided to get to the bottom of things. He wrote to President Johnson about the UFO question in 1965.

That brought a response from John A. Lang Jr., administrative assistant to the secretary of the Air Force.

"There is no truth to the report that the Air Force withholds any information on unidentified flying objects," Lang wrote. "The evidence has proved beyond reasonable doubt that all reported aerial phenomena have been objects either created or sent aloft by man, generated by atmospheric conditions or caused by celestial bodies or meteoric activities."

Two years later, he might have had a hard time convincing residents of South Hill of that.

C.N. Crowder, a fertilizer warehouse manager there, was driving

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If I live to be 100, I'll never forget it. As a matter of fact, I hope I never see another one.

William L. Stevens Jr.
Richmond patrolman

” ”

home on the night of April 25, 1967, when he saw something in the road. He would later describe it as "looking like a storage tank on legs."

As he flicked his headlights on high-beam for a better look, he said, there was a burst of white light at its base and it was gone.

State police found a black mark several feet in diameter on the road.

They later found four tiny holes around the spot, although at least one trooper said they had not been there when he first examined the mark.

Three paper matches also were found in the blackened area, leading to speculation that someone touched off something flammable as a joke.

That sighting was the subject of a chapter in "UFOs Explained," a 1974 book by saucer-debunker Philip J. Klass.

Despite the 19 pages he devoted to trying to disprove the presence of a UFO at South Hill, Klass could come up with no better explanation than simply branding the affair a hoax — and admitting that only Crowder, whose reputation for honesty was well-established, could have carried it out. It was not one of Klass' stronger UFO rebuttals.

But Crowder himself agrees there was no UFO that night.

Although the Air Force listed the sighting as unresolved, Crowder said Air Force consultant J. Allen

When private pilot Kenneth Arnold reported seeing nine bright objects flying June 24, 1947, near Mount Rainier, Wash., with a peculiar up-and-down motion like saucers skipping over water, newspaper reporters immediately coined the term "flying saucers."

UFO VIRGINIANS CON'T

Arnold died last January. His passing went virtually unnoticed by the national media, but the term remains part of the language.

That first report prompted others, and sightings grew to the point where the Air Force found itself investigating some 20,000 UFO reports in the next three decades. The official investigation started as

UFOs

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Hynek of Northwestern University came up with an explanation that makes sense to him — ball lighting.

"That night, it was kind of cloudy, and it was low pressure. In other words, the clouds were almost down on the road," Crowder recalled. "And what he seemed to think was (that) a cloud drifted

through this high-tension line.

"He says it happens real often in New Hampshire or places like that. Well, this cloud could have picked up a tremendous force, just like a condenser in an automobile, don't you see. And when it passed through this line, it picked up a tremendous voltage, just the same thing as a lightning bolt hitting the ground there."

Adding that "there's been every

kind of report known to God and man put out on it," Crowder said: "The only thing that I reported was that it was an obstacle ... or what appeared to be. And my lights were dimmed and, when I threw my lights up, that was about the time the thing struck the ground and went off ... That's the most sensible thing that I've heard of. I've never thought there was any such thing as a UFO."

Project Saucer, then Project Sign, next Project Grudge and finally Project Blue Book.

The Air Force declared most sightings regular aircraft mistaken for UFOs, misinterpretations of natural phenomena, or hoaxes, but there was always a small percentage left unexplained.

Finally, the Air Force commissioned Dr. Edward U. Condon — the former head of the National Bureau of Standards — to direct a 15-month study of the subject. The 1968 Condon Report was a thick document, but it summarized its findings as follows:

"Our general conclusion is that nothing has come from the study of UFOs in the past 20 years that has added to scientific knowledge. Careful consideration of the record as it

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I prefer to devote my time to objects which have some commercial value. At best, airships would be only toys.

Thomas A. Edison

_____”_____

is available to us leads us to conclude that further extensive study of UFOs probably cannot be justified in the expectation that science can be advanced thereby."

The Air Force took the report at its word. Project Blue Book was closed down.

Flying saucer sightings were highest in the years 1947, 1952, 1957 and 1966, but the Condon Report seems to have put a damper on them since then.

However, Arnold's "flying saucers" weren't the first strange things to be seen in the skies, and probably won't be the last. Some UFOlogists claim biblical writings describe UFOs.

More recently, in 1897, newspapers in U.S. cities coast to coast described sightings of "strange airships" by thousands of people. The March 29 New York Herald said most of the residents of Omaha saw them. The New York Sun said Kansas City trolley cars stopped as a

light as big as 20 stars was observed.

"In Milwaukee, thousands of people saw it," said the Chicago Tribune. "The machine floated over the City Hall, where it stopped for a quarter of an hour."

Just as UFO debunkers 50 years later blamed newspapers, books and magazine articles for keeping flying saucers viable, the San Francisco Examiner declared that "Fake Journalism" has a good deal to answer for, but we do not recall a more discernible exploit in that line than the persistent attempt to make the public believe that the air in this vicinity is populated with airships."

Thomas A. Edison, interviewed at the time, said he had no plans to

invent an airship. "I prefer to devote my time to objects which have some commercial value. At best, airships would be only toys."

A 1951 movie directed by Robert Wise, "The Day the Earth Stood Still," began with a flying saucer landing in Washington. One year later, radar observers at Washington National Airport reported UFOs on their scopes and jets were scrambled to chase them.

The Pentagon switchboard was so filled with inquiries that the military finally called the biggest news conference since World War II to try to quiet them. It was claimed the UFOs were temperature inversions — layers of warm air trapped between cooler air, which showed up on radar. //

My terrifying battle with a UFO kidnap team

A TERRIFIED man claims he narrowly escaped being kidnapped by a band of marauding space aliens while he was driving home from work.

Ante Jonsson says his incredible ordeal took place last February near his home in Tingsryd, Sweden — but has been kept secret while authorities subjected the 41-year-old government employee to searching psychoanalytical tests.

Jonsson, who has been found to be a credible witness with no mental aberrations, says: "I was driving home at about one a.m. when I saw a monster UFO before me.

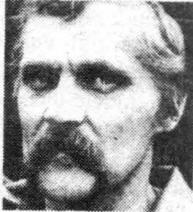
"It was 200 to 250 feet across and between 15 and 30 feet high. It hovered about 30 feet off the ground over the road ahead of me."

Jonsson says he stopped his car, fascinated by the sight.

"I thought at first it might have been a plane, a helicopter or some other large object," he recalls. "But it wasn't. It was much too large for anything like that."

As the stunned driver gaped in awe, the huge spaceship suddenly vanished.

"I drove home, got my camera and drove back to



JONSSON:
"Scared stiff"

By RAY FINCH

the place," says Jonsson, who is married and has a daughter. "I thought I might get a lucky picture of it."

He cruised up and down the section of Sweden's Highway 30 without spotting the UFO. Then, it suddenly reappeared. He braked hard, and his car skidded in the ice and snow.

"I was scared stiff," he says. "I felt something strange come over me, and I knew I just had to get out of that place, come what may."

Sliding on the icy road, his car almost crashed into the giant craft as it landed, blocking his way.

"There was no way to get around the UFO," Jonsson

told police later. "It was huge."

He shuddered in fear as the car's engine stalled. As he tried to start it again, six or eight of the alien creatures emerged from the spacecraft, opened his car door and dragged him out.

"I cried out and kicked and struggled," admits Jonsson, who had no opportunity to use his camera. "I managed to get free, and fled for my life. I hid in a deserted house off the road — but more of them came after me."

Jonsson says the unexpected approach of a lumber truck probably saved him from being abducted. As the heavy truck neared, the UFO lifted silently and swiftly into the sky.

Police records show that a man called Brent Johansson, assumed to be the truckdriver, called an emergency number to report a flying saucer.

"When a patrol car arrived to investigate, police found Jonsson collapsed in a state of shock near his dis-

abled car. Jonsson has made no changes in his story after nine months of questioning by Swedish military experts.

"It's etched in my mind," he says. "What I saw was so incredible, I have problems believing it all myself. But I know I saw and experienced it all."

Psychoanalysts say they can find no logical explanation for the episode — except that of an actual, truthful experience.

"We have tried to pick holes in his account, but failed," they state in a police report.



ARTIST'S recreation of aliens trying to snatch Jonsson: "I cried out, kicked and struggled"

Suffolk Pc American TV crew key witness in UFO story

films scene of
mystery
landing

A SUFFOLK policeman could be key witness in the so-far-unexplained UFO mystery of Rendlesham Forest.

The officer is believed to have seen the strange goings-on when it is claimed an alien spaceship landed near Woodbridge airbase.

The mystery deepened yesterday when a top investigative American film crew claimed attempts to talk to the policeman have so far been thwarted.

The director of the crew claims an appointment to

meet the constable was mysteriously cancelled despite him wanting to talk.

Yesterday the EADT was told by a Suffolk police spokesman, "The appointment was cancelled for personal reasons."

The alleged visit from outer space happened almost four years ago, just after Christmas, 1980.

Since then self-styled Suffolk UFO investigators Dot Street and Brenda Butler have published a book on the happenings.

But an eerie tape, aid to be authentic by a top USAF

officer at the time, records the reactions of spellbound servicemen sent out to investigate strange lights in the sky near their base at Woodbridge.

Officers are heard to say, "This is weird. This is unreal."

It was after Dot and Brenda's book "Sky Crash — a Cosmic Conspiracy" was published at the end of October this year, claiming a cover-up by the Ministry of Defence on the alleged landings, that an American television crew went into action.

The special investigations unit of Cable News Network has been in England for almost a week.

It plans to stay as long as it takes to get more evidence of the mystery happenings.

Chuck de Caro, director of the unit, told the EADT yesterday they believed they have been close to uncovering a major new lead.

"We were near the base and had a local bobby with us and were about to talk to him, when two USAF officers approached.

"The bobby was put off from talking then but quite willingly arranged to meet us later.

"For no apparent reason that appointment was cancelled. That seems strange to us," Mr. de Caro said.

Suffolk police said the policeman concerned had approached them to ask permission to talk and this had been given.

"The appointment was cancelled for personal reasons. The film crew were allowed to talk to another policeman."

However, yesterday Mr. de Caro still wanted to talk to the policeman they had lined up first of all.

Yesterday Suffolk police were asked if an interview with either policeman could be arranged with an EADT reporter. This request was being considered.

The Cable News Network team follows up some of the top stories round the world.

Mr. de Caro, with assistant Jerry Koch, were the first journalists to interview the leader of guerrillas fighting in the forests of Nicaragua.

And Mr. de Caro parachuted with U.S. commandos on a "special combat" mission in preparation for the invasion of Grenada.

The film unit is staying at the Crown Hotel in Woodbridge, and yesterday was out filming near the Woodbridge USAF base.



Forester Vince Thurkettle shows American journalist Chuck de Caro marks on the ground in Rendlesham Forest that are made by animals but could look like they were caused by mechanical means as they are being filmed for American Cable News Network by cameraman Jerry Koch.

Saltaire's fresh look at flying saucers ..

A FILMED interview with a West Yorkshire policeman who grabbed the headlines in 1980 by claiming to have been abducted by beings from a flying-saucer will be shown at a Saltaire conference on UFOs — unidentified flying objects.

PC Alan Godfrey, of Todmorden, insisted that he was taken into a UFO while on night-shift and examined by a bearded man wearing a white sheet and a skullcap.

The officer stuck to his story under hypnosis, and, at the Victoria Hall conference on October 13, Manchester solicitor and UFO investigator Harry Harris will present a video of PC Godfrey under hypnosis.

Nigel Mortimer, of Green Lane, Addingham, and Stephen Hart, who lives at St. Paul's Road, Manningham, will present other cases from the West Yorkshire UFO research group files.

Jenny Randles, director of the Northern UFO Network, will outline the case of a UFO which allegedly landed in Suffolk and made contact with RAF and U.S. Air Force personnel.

Stephen Hart said: "Everybody is welcome to come along — the conference starts at 12 noon and the entry fee is 50p. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion.

"The conference will provide the public with the chance to see what UFO research is really all about. Objectivity, open-mindedness, healthy scepticism and flexibility of mind will be the order of the day."

In the video, PC Godfrey describes his UFO as dome-shaped, 20ft. across and 14ft. high.

He says that after he was carried into the "saucer", bracelets were attached to his right arm and left leg and he was asked questions.

The officer recalls that when he first began to watch the UFO — at 5.05 a.m. on November 28, 1980 — he heard a voice inside his head say:

Conference on UFOs will probe PC's story

"You should not be seeing this. This is not for your eyes."

Examined by two top experts on hypnosis who had been told nothing in advance of the incident, PC Godfrey said that at first he had thought the UFO to be a well-lit bus.

He had driven his panda car to within 100ft. of the craft. He remembered only being carried into its interior, being examined, and then waking up in his car.

Stephen Hart said: "We shall present the evidence scientifically. The public will be given the chance to ask all sorts of questions, and we hope that the sceptics will have something to contribute."

THE BURINLEY CITIZEN
NOV. 29 1984



Hypnotic evening

Pendle's UFO enthusiasts were treated to a first hand account of how, under hypnosis, a former Todmorden police officer Alan Godfrey relived his sighting of a flying saucer parked on a darkened main road.

The gathering took place in Nelson where Mr Godfrey and Manchester solicitor Mr Harry Harris — the developer of the UFO-hypnosis technique — described their work.

With Mr Godfrey (second left) and Mr Harris (right) are Mr Jim Reynolds, Todmorden UFO co-ordinator and follow enthusiast, Linda Agnew. (H4740).

WIGAN
LEADER
NOV 8 1984

Mystery sky lights

IT seems as if we may well have had unwanted visitors again. For an Orrell housewife, Mrs. Brenda Catterall, of Thames Drive, believes she may have seen a UFO.

While driving back to her home on Sunday she saw strange lights in the sky over Hindley Green. A check with the police and Manchester University failed to clear up the mystery.

The latter suggested an aircraft, but Mrs. Catterall is not happy with that explanation. She said: "A light caught my attention. It seemed bright but different in some way. It certainly wasn't like a star. Anyway, there were none visible that night it was so cloudy."

Then it went out but after a moment came on again, after which there were 15 lights in a long straight line.

WESTERN DAILY PRESS
BRISTOL
DEC. 17 1984

Flying doughnut sparks UFO alert

By Michael Hunt

FLYING saucer investigators are probing a UFO sighting in Dorset on Saturday.

Probation officer, Andrew Child, and wife Pam, a social worker, spotted it hovering about Rampisham for ten minutes as they drove from Yeovil to their home in Portway Close, Weymouth, at dusk on Saturday.

"It was grey, doughnut-shaped, with a ring around the middle and was at least the size of an aircraft," said Mrs Child yesterday.

"We pulled up near the Rest and Welcome to get a better look and as we did so, other motorists stopped too and we shared our binoculars with them.

"We couldn't see any markings, there were no lights and the machine did not move except to rotate very slowly.

"We calculated it was about five miles away and perhaps five thousand feet up but its shape was quite definite.

"We watched it for a good ten minutes but then we were getting cold so we drove on.

"When we came to another clearing two or three minutes later and looked back it had gone.

"We are convinced it was a flying saucer. Until now we wouldn't have credited it, yet we're both practical people and we are definite about what we saw."

Mrs Child said it appeared the flying saucer was hovering over an international radio relay station in Rampisham.

Mr Frank Marshall, area investigator of the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association, said at his home in Shrubbery Lane, Weymouth: "I have had reports of this sighting and it follows the classic UFO situation, except that it had no halo around it and was not changing colour. I am hoping to get further reports. There will be a full investigation."

BORDON
HERALD
DEC 14 1984

I was there

I HAVE decided to record on tape the true facts and sequence of events that occurred on my farm in the parish of Alresford near Winchester on Thursday 19th July 1984 because I was there and saw everything with my own eyes. I am making a recording as I am more at home driving a tractor than pushing a pen. I shall seal this tape and give it into the hands of my solicitor with instructions that it is to be heard only by members of my immediate family and in no circumstances to be released to the media.

My immediate concern is for the future of my farm and my newborn son who I hope will farm this land as the fifth generation Stephen Appleshaw. Where once over twenty people were employed here I have only three men working for me now. A cowman, Harry Green, a shepherd, Jim Carter, and the tractor driver and general handyman, Tom Wallace. It was he who knocked on my farm office door at about nine a.m. on the morning of the 19th. I was struggling with my VAT returns and was rather annoyed at being disturbed, but was struck with the look on Tom's face. He is not a local man but a native of Ayrshire and could be described as usually laconic and dour, a typical Scot. He asked me rather excitedly if I would come at once up to High

Down field and look at some very queer marks right in the centre of our one hundred acre barley field. He had been up there early, he told me, checking up the fences as the deer had been rather troublesome in that area and as he had driven up over the hill he had noticed a huge circular burnt patch. He had walked over to it and had thought it so odd that he had come straight to me. We got straight into the tractor and drove up there. It was exactly as he had described it and the only track leading to it was Tom's. It was a black circle of about thirty feet in diameter in which the earth had been scorched thoroughly. Four smaller circles of about twelve feet at regular intervals sunk deeper into the soil. There seemed to be a regular pattern stamped into the scorched circle with lines running round in a kind of maze and the barley stood up straight all round. This ruled out a helicopter landing which would have blown down the barley and flattened it in a wide area. I walked through to the centre and as I stood there feeling totally bewildered a peculiar stinging sensation ran up my spine, sweat poured down my face and I stepped out of it pretty smartish I can tell you. As I listened to Tom's Scottish voice starting to talk about ships from outer space, I suddenly made up my mind that this must go no further. If

Tom of all people was thinking along those lines, what would other folk make of it. In no time at all I'd have Bruce Parker and his television crews stamping all over the farm flat-

tening the crops, to say nothing of the UFO Society and I even had a sudden picture of myself giving lectures to local WIs! So I make a joke of it to Tom and said he'd be seeing little green men yet and added in a firm voice that it must have been caused by flash lightning in the storm last night. Tom looked a bit stammered as he went back to work.

Later that evening I took my wife Sally up there to have a look around and do a bit of dowsing. Sally is a reliable natural dowser and has found many a useful spring with her pendulum. However there was no precedent for the way it behaved over the circle. It immediately swung around at high speed burning her hand so that she dropped it. This upset her and as her baby was due soon we left it at that and went home to bed.

It was a week later that Jim Carter, the shepherd, came to see me. He is a man of few words. "Dipped the sheep yesterday," he said, his hand on the head of his dog. "Terrible lot of scab this year. Had a look at them s'morning, someone's been along and branded 'em. Marked like I never see'd afore, sort of round, with lines like a maze."

My heart sank. I had said nothing to anyone about the maze mark I found on the rabbit I'd shot last week, or the neat identical marks on the flanks of the litter of kittens born to the barn cat, or the one on the leg of the calf born last night.

I've even done my homework. I knew I'd seen that maze mark somewhere, it definitely rang a bell. I searched through my books. Eventually in a Readers Digest book on pre-history I found it! There it was, the mark of the labyrinth of Crete on a Greek coin identical with the maze scratched on a rock face in Rocky Valley near Tintagel, the connection unexplained, found in two vastly different parts of the world. Of course I knew the maze on St. Catherine's Hill and had walked it frequently since I was a boy. That was a different pattern.

Last week I watched my dear little son Stephen being born, an experience no father should miss and one I shall never forget. I watched the nurse wash him clean with my heart in my mouth and I must record here that I have not slept properly since she showed me what she called a birth mark, the raised maze mark on his right buttock.

I don't know what all this means but I'm fearful for the future. I'm just a farmer who wants no scandal nor notoriety to touch myself or my family. The harvest was a record one and the mark vanished when I burnt the field. It becomes clearer every day on the beasts and the child. What will be the outcome only time will tell. Tape finished this day 2nd of September 1984 by Stephen Appleshaw aged thirty three of Minos Farm, Alresford.

UFO searchers dive today

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (AP) — A scuba team prepared Saturday to search the chilly waters off Lummi Island for an unidentified flying object that reportedly blazed out of the sky and splashed down there last July.

The team's leader said seismic radar last week picked out an egg-shaped object on the seafloor.

"It's a large mass of something that shouldn't be there," said John Walker, 38, a former Green Beret who now owns a Seattle diving firm. "It's not a fish and it's not a rock."

The recovery project was originally scheduled for Saturday. But frigid winds and equipment repairs postponed the dive time until this morning, weather permitting.

The original Seattle recovery team of four divers, a doctor, a UFO club representative and several eyewitnesses to the July 27, early morning splashdown had planned to use a 23-foot vessel, but a 55-foot vessel was made available to the group by a man who said he had had a UFO experience himself.

Witnesses say an orange-colored fireball landed in waters about 1,000 feet southwest of Lummi Island, sent up a 75-foot plume of water, then sank and bubbled.

A Bellingham-based Coast Guard vessel searched the entry area after the sighting but found no debris.

Rich Rogala, officer in charge of the Bellingham U.S. Coast Guard station, said there were no reports of missing planes or space junk crashing in the area at the time of the sighting. He said there were, however, reports of meteor activity in western skies around that time.

The object was not picked up on radar screens at Whidbey Naval Air Station and a check for radioactive materials at the site proved negative, Rogala said.

Walker hopes the operation brings fame and fortune.

"I'm not a UFO fanatic," he said. "I'm in it for the money. . . . It could be worth millions. It could mean Johnny Carson and the morning news if we find it."

Some of today's dives were expected to take up to four hours. Walker said the plan called for four divers to take turns searching for the object, which he estimated is 220 to 265 feet under water.

The location of the object was kept a secret until Saturday, Walker said, because he was concerned that other divers or the Coast Guard would try to salvage it.

Walker predicted divers would locate the object by noon.

UFO alien birds attack truck

A TRUCK-DRIVING couple says UFO aliens shaped like birds incredibly dive-bombed their rig, strafing them with metal filings, for hundreds of miles and forced them to abandon the vehicle at a truck stop.

Their bizarre encoun-

By PATRICK COTTER

ter began near Billings, Montana, when a bubble-shaped spaceship burst from the clouds and crashed into the road beside them, say Robert and Jackie Blair.

"A peanut-shaped

cylinder fell out of the ship and these creatures came out of the cylinder," Robert, 45, told George Trierweiler, police chief of Sauk Centre, Minnesota.

"These creatures followed them from Billings to Sauk Centre and there were metal filings shot at their vehicle," Trierweiler says the couple told him.

Robert Blair described the aliens as being about two feet high, and having V-shaped heads and human legs. Trierweiler could find no trace of the filings in the windshield, but did discover some filings in the truck.

The Blairs filed a report with the National UFO Reporting center in Seattle, Washington, says Robert Gribble, a spokesman for that organization.

He notes there was also a report in South Dakota of large, bright objects in the sky sighted at about the same time the Blairs

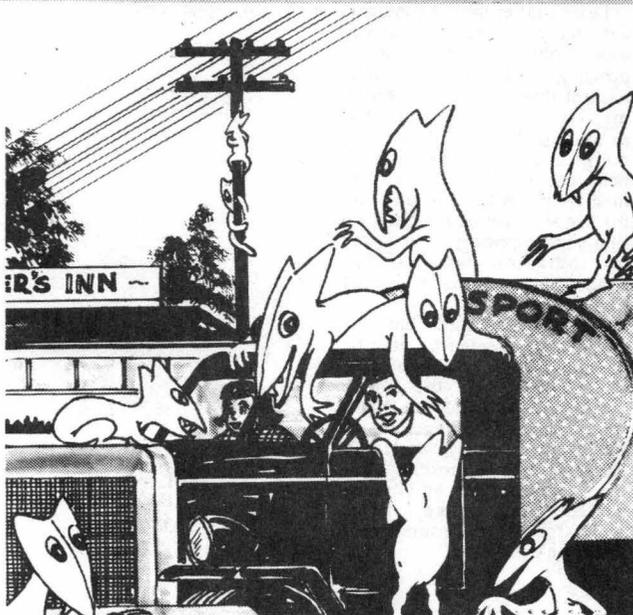
were traveling through that state.

They spent the night in a motel in Sauk Centre and later told a reporter that the aliens had followed them even there and left some metal filings in the room. Jackie Blair, 21, claimed that strange writing also appeared on her thigh.

The couple were so upset by the attack that they refused to drive their truck any farther because they feared further attacks from the strange aliens.

They waited in Sauk Centre until a driver from the firm that employs them in Yakima, Washington, was sent to take charge of their truck. They then flew back to Washington.

Jim Ketchum, the manager of the trucking company for which the couple worked, says that despite the incredible tale, the Blairs are "plain-old everyday folks. They're not crazies."



EXAMINER 4 19 84

CT-D5 DANBURY NEWS TIMES
JAN 4 1985

Vaghi promotes UFO sightings



Dante J. Vaghi has designed a T-shirt announcing his three sightings of UFOs and built a model of a UFO he saw.

News-Times/Lavell

STORY
ON NEXT
PAGE

VAGHI CONT

By Tom Lavell
News-Times staff

BETHEL — He wants to capitalize on the U.S. fad in slogan T-shirts and on the attention that the Perkin-Elmer Corp. space telescope is getting.

So Dante J. Vaghi has designed a T-shirt announcing his three sightings of unidentified flying objects, and he's sending T-shirts to officials ranging from First Selectman Clifford J. Hurgin to National Aeronautics and Space Administration workers to President Reagan.

Vaghi, who works at a woodcraft shop run by his brother Carlo, is a Bethel celebrity with his annual newspaper advertisements proclaiming Christmas greetings to UFO occupants.

The ads, he says, are simply his way of making sure that if aliens from outer space ever make contact with Earth, they will know he would love to ride in one of their spaceships. He advertises only in The News-Times and the Bethel Home News, but he hopes news of his interest will spread by word-of-mouth.

The T-shirts are part of his effort to remind space agency officials that when the Perkin-Elmer space telescope detects ships in the interplanetary void — and Vaghi is sure it will — he should get the credit for his detailed UFO reports made in the 1950s.

Vaghi says he was always interested in aviation. He inherited the interest from his father, Joseph Vaghi Sr., an Italian immigrant who trained as a flyer in New York early in the century, but who followed his mother's wishes instead and opened the woodworking shop.

Dante Vaghi pursued his interest in planes by joining the U.S. Air Corps in World War II, when he was stationed in Nevada. He helped develop aircraft recognition books, but he never became a pilot. At the time, "I never even dreamed of a spaceship," he says.

It wasn't until March 1950 that Vaghi saw his first UFO — a sighting that he says launched his fascination with what the objects might be.

The object he saw then was long and jet-black, floating about 1½ miles above south-central Bethel.

It had birdwing-like ridges at each end, and Vaghi says that at first he thought it was a condor or other bird of prey. He observed it when he looked up to watch some U.S. military aircraft also flying over Bethel, apparently unaware of the unusual aircraft nearby.

The object banked to the left and a brilliant white light shone suddenly from the object's center, and in the middle of the light, he saw two dark crosses like spokes of a wheel spinning. It flew away, leaving no vapor trail and making no noise.

Since then, he has created a wooden model of what he saw. The model has a small beacon light on top — a light he says he never saw but that others have described when they reported similar objects.

His T-shirt proclaims the date and place of the sighting and has a drawing of the 1950 object.

It also carries two smaller drawings representing objects he saw in the summer of 1956 — one a circle he saw fly over Wooster Mountain above Danbury Airport; the other an oblong object that Vaghi says

flew over Bethel and looked like a glowing ice cream cone or egg.

Vaghi says he is sure the objects are from outer space. The United States wouldn't test secret aircraft along the crowded East Coast, because it normally tests secret craft in the desert in the far West, he says.

Although he says he told many neighbors about it, Vaghi waited six years to report the 1950 sighting to authorities, thinking that the aircraft might emerge as something made by "some other nation" on Earth.

"They (aliens) have come here to see the technological knowledge we

have," he says. "They're very advanced — they probably look at us like a little baby trying to walk.

"This is not a religion, and they're not trying to save the world."

Despite last summer's spate of UFO sightings in the Danbury area and in nearby Putnam and Westchester counties in New York, Vaghi says the idea for the T-shirts came instead from a television program last August in which a man said he made \$1 million on novelty T-shirts.

He has commissioned 50 copies of the T-shirt, which he plans to send to officials; another 150 or so,

bearing his initials rather than his name, will soon be on sale at his shop.

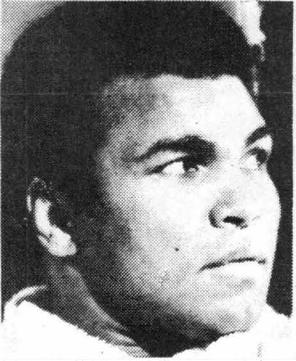
While Vaghi concedes it's unlikely he'll make \$1 million, he hopes to recoup some of the money he has spent over the years keeping up with and lecturing about UFO sightings.

He also hopes the gift T-shirts will be treasured by NASA officials and that they will be reminded of him when the space shuttle — perhaps with one of the T-shirts on board — launches the space telescope in 1986. He especially wants the telescope to find UFOs and prove his observations right.

Celebrities who've seen UFOs



JIMMY CARTER saw a UFO 'as big as the moon.' Muhammad Ali was jogging when he saw 'an electric light in the sky.'



HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING champ Muhammad Ali has revealed he once saw a bright light that startled him right out of his training shoes — it was a UFO!

The king of the ring was out running in New York's Central Park just before sunrise when he looked into the sky and saw the alien spacecraft revolving overhead.

"I was out jogging when this bright light hovered over me," Ali revealed.

"It seemed to be watching me. It was like a huge electric light bulb in the sky."

The 1972 sighting is retold in a new book *The World's Greatest UFO Mysteries*, by Nigell Blundell and Roger Boar (New York, 1984).

Other celebrities who have witnessed UFOs include German-born beauty Elke Sommer, Ohio Governor



ELKE SOMMER fled into her LA home after seeing a 'great orange ball floating about like a huge moon.'

John Gilligan and former President Jimmy Carter.

Elke says she was in the garden of her Los Angeles home in 1978 when a great shiny orange ball suddenly appeared and hung suspended in the sky.

"It was glowing and floating about like a big moon," she said. "It came toward me and I fled inside."

When she calmed down enough to venture outside again, the UFO had vanished into thin air.

Carter, too, described the UFO as looking like a moon.

It was in 1973 when the then-governor of Georgia was sitting on his veranda entertaining about 20 people.

The entertainment they got was more than they had bargained for.

A UFO with red and green flashing lights streaked across the night sky of Thomastown, Georgia.

The UFO, Carter said, "looked as big as the moon and changed color several times from red to green."

From that moment on, he was determined to unlock the mystery of visitors from other worlds and when he became president, he launched a \$20 million study into UFOs.

EDITOR
AND
PUBLISHER
WEEKLY
DEC 29 1984

Daily cleared of 'cosmic' coverup

A self-styled nuclear physicist's charge that the *Toronto Globe and Mail* is ignoring a "Cosmic Watergate" coverup of information about unidentified flying objects has been rejected by the Ontario Press Council.

In a recent ruling, the council said its role "is to consider the fairness of a newspaper's conduct, not whether Unidentified Flying Objects exist."

The council, a voluntary organization composed of 10 public members and 10 from the newspaper industry, rejected claims that the *Globe and Mail* was unfair or inaccurate in a feature article and tongue-in-cheek editorial about UFO sightings.

Stanton Friedman, a 50-year-old resident of Fredericton, B.C., whose stationery describes him as a nuclear physicist-lecturer, brought the complaint against the newspaper.

The object of his complaint was an article headlined, "Rage in the 1960s, UFO 'Sightings' Just Fade Away," which was based on recently declassified Canadian Department of Defense documents.

Friedman also objected to an editorial that read:

"Now the topic is less fashionable, aliens no longer favor earth with their presence. Are they sulking somewhere out on the Milky Way because they are not being taken seriously?"

He also complained because the *Globe and Mail* did not print a letter to the editor he sent about the subject. The newspaper said it had already published a letter similarly critical of the article and editorial.

In a September 28 hearing before the press council, Friedman said that UFOs are "the story of the millennium," but the story is being suppressed by the U.S. and Canadian governments.

Globe and Mail editor Norman Webster expressed irritation about Friedman's complaint in comment to the Canadian Press after the hearing.

"I don't know that we should be having to appear before the press council because we won't print articles which say there are little green men coming in flying saucers," he said.

Monsters From Outer Space

by PETER FENTON

A scrawny monkey-like monster with a head shaped like a figure eight . . . a winged man-beast with gray skin and glowing red eyes . . . a fire-breathing monster with a bright green body and bloodred face.

These are just a few of the incredibly frightening creatures that have come to earth via UFOs, according to Daniel Cohen, author of "The Encyclopedia of Monsters."

Cohen has spent decades studying monsters, and has written several books on the subject.

One of the early UFO monster sightings occurred Aug. 14, 1947, Cohen said. An Italian artist, Capuzzi Luigi Johannis, spied a

On April 21, 1977, in Dover, Mass., two witnesses reported seeing a bizarre creature with a head shaped like a figure eight.

In both sightings, which were hours apart, the witnesses said the monster was about four feet tall, hairless, with peach-colored skin, large shiny eyes and extraordinarily long fingers and toes.

In Flatwoods, W.Va., on Sept. 12, 1952, a "meteorite" flashed through the sky and appeared to plow into a hilltop. Eight teenagers and an adult, Kathleen May, rushed to the hill to see what landed.



In one case, the creature flew away, squeaking like a mouse. The sightings continued for about three weeks, Cohen said, adding: "This UFO monster was last seen in December 1967."

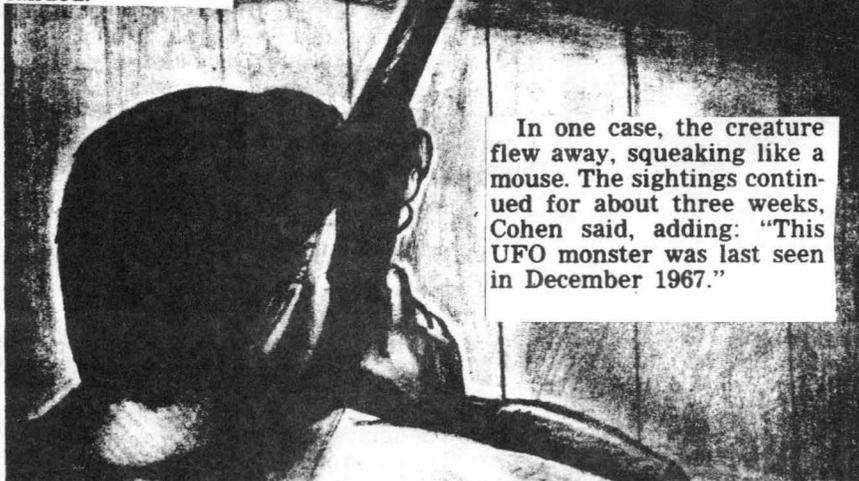


STRANGE, fire-breathing alien panicked people in West Virginia.

bright red round object, 10 feet in diameter, as he was rock-hunting in the mountains between Italy and Yugoslavia.

"Standing beside the UFO were two small creatures, under three feet tall, with huge heads," Cohen said. "Their faces were completely hairless. They had no eyelashes, eyebrows or even eyelids."

As Johannis approached the creatures he was struck by a ray of light that knocked him down, dazed. One of the aliens grabbed Johannis' geologist's pick, and he could see the monster's hand had eight fingers, with no joints. Then the creature entered the red UFO, which took off silently and vanished.



TERRIFYING monsters attacked a farm family in Kentucky — and the beings proved immune to shotgun blasts.

"They encountered a 10-foot-tall monster with a bright green body and bloodred face," Cohen said. "A lick of fire came from its mouth and nostrils. Its torso was roughly triangular, and the face and eyes were luminous, glowing."

"It advanced toward the group with a bouncing, floating motion. Panic broke out. The group retreated down the hill. Mrs. May said: 'It looked worse than Frankenstein. It could not have been human.'"

A local sheriff investigated, but found nothing on the hilltop. The Flatwoods monster was never seen again.

A farm family in Hopkinsville, Ky., reported they were besieged by a band of terrifying monsters that crawled out of a saucer-shaped UFO which landed near their farmhouse one night in August 1955.

Family members and visiting neighbors described the creatures as about 3½ feet tall with huge globe-shaped heads, pointed ears, slit mouths, no noses, only nostrils, and big bulging eyes on either side of their heads.

Men inside the house unleashed a barrage of gunfire at the creatures, but they were apparently unharmed by the bullets and shotgun pellets.

The siege ended when the aliens took off in their UFO.

In November 1966, several dozen people in Point Pleasant, W.Va., reported being frightened by a bizarre seven-foot-tall man-beast with gray skin, glowing red eyes and huge wings folded against its back.

'Despite a massive cover-up, News of the World investigators have proof that the mysterious craft came to earth in a red ball of light. An American airman who was there told us there were three beings in silver space suits aboard the craft . . . More seriously, they produced a supporting statement from a named American Air Force colonel, which we reprint on the right. And an American UFO expert who said 'You can't hide the truth for ever.' Which is where Ian Ridpath takes up the investigation.

3128

A flashlight in the forest

FOUR Christmases ago, something remarkable was said to have occurred outside the US Air Force base at Woodbridge, near Ipswich. News of the event leaked out slowly, finally hitting the headlines in October 1983: "UFO Lands in Suffolk — Official," screamed the front page of the News of the World.

The story was sensational. It told of a group of American airmen who were confronted one night with an alien spaceship in Rendlesham Forest, which surrounds the air force base. According to the story, the craft came down over the trees and landed in a blinding explosion of light.

The airmen tried to approach the object, but it moved away from them as though under intelligent control. The following day, landing marks were found on the ground, burns were seen on nearby trees, and radiation traces were recorded. There was even talk of aliens aboard the craft, and allegations of a massive cover-up. It had all the ingredients of a classic UFO encounter.

The News of the World's informant was a former US

airman. He was given the pseudonym Art Wallace, for he claimed that his life had been threatened if he talked. Yet here he was freely giving interviews to newspapers and television.

While his fantastic story might be doubted, it was impossible to shrug off a memo written by the deputy base commander, Lt. Col. Charles I. Halt, to the Ministry of Defence, which was publicly released in the United States under the Freedom of Information Act. Halt's memo, reprinted in full here, is not as sensational as Wallace's story, but it is prime documentary evidence of a type rarely encountered in UFO cases.

UFO researchers in Britain could scarcely believe their luck: this was The Big One, final proof that We Are Not Alone. The News of the World paid £12,000 for the story. A book was recently published about the case, and American TV crews have been filming at the site in recent weeks.

All that evidence, backed up by the word of the US Air Force, could not possibly have a rational explanation.

Or could it? Here are the facts that you have not been told.

Soon after the News of the World story appeared, I went in search of local opinions about the case. I made contact by telephone with a forester, Vince Thurkettle, who lives within a mile of the alleged UFO landing site. "I don't know of anyone around here who believes that anything strange happened that night," he told me.

So what did he think the flashing light was in Rendlesham Forest? I was astonished by his reply. "It's the lighthouse," he said.

That lighthouse lies at Orford Ness on the Suffolk coast, five miles from the forest. Thurkettle plotted on a map the direction in which the airmen reported seeing their flashing UFO, and found that they were looking straight into the lighthouse beam.

Could this really be the answer? I visited the site with a camera crew from BBC TV's Breakfast Time. On the way there, the cameraman was sceptical about the lighthouse theory. I didn't blame him.

It was gone midnight when Vince Thurkettle took us to

the site of the alleged landing, and it felt spooky. The area had by now been cleared of trees as part of normal forest operations, but enough pines remained at the edge of the forest to give us a realistic idea of what the airmen saw that night.

Sure enough, the lighthouse beam seemed to hover a few feet above ground level, because Rendlesham Forest is higher than the coastline. The light seemed to move around as we moved. And it looked close — only a few hundred yards away among the trees. All this matched the airmen's description of the UFO.

The conclusion was clear: Had a real UFO been present as well as the lighthouse, the airmen should have reported seeing two brilliant flashing lights among the trees, not one. But they never mentioned the lighthouse, only a pulsating UFO — not surprisingly, since no one expects to come across a lighthouse beam near ground level in a forest.

So startlingly brilliant was the beam that the television cameras captured it easily. The formerly sceptical

cameraman was convinced. My report was shown the following morning on Breakfast Time, much to the dismay of UFO spotters and the News of the World reporter.

The lighthouse theory soon had its supporters and its detractors. But there were still too many open questions for the case to be considered solved. For instance, what about those landing marks?

Some weeks later I returned to Rendlesham. Forest in search of answers. The landing marks had long since been destroyed when the trees were felled, but I now knew an eyewitness who had seen them: Vince Thurkettle. He recalled for me his disappointment with what he saw.

The three depressions were irregular in shape and did not even form a symmetrical triangle. He recognised them as rabbit diggings, several months old and covered with a layer of fallen pine needles. They lay in an area surrounded by 75ft tall pine trees planted 10ft to 15ft apart — scarcely the place to land a 20ft wide spacecraft.

The "burn marks" on the trees were axe cuts in the bark, made by the foresters

themselves as a sign that the trees were ready to be felled. I saw numerous examples in which the pine resin, bubbling into the cut, gives the impression of a burn.

Additional information came from other eyewitnesses — the local police, called to the scene by the Woodbridge air base. The police officers who visited the site reported that they could see no UFO, only the Orford Ness lighthouse. Like Vince Thurkettle, they attributed the landing marks to animals. The case for a landed spaceship was looking very shaky indeed.

What had made the airmen think that something had crashed into the forest in the first place? I already knew from previous UFO cases that a brilliant meteor, a piece of natural debris from space burning up in the atmosphere, could give such an impression. But I was unable to find records of such a meteor on the morning of December 27.

Here the police account provided a vital lead by showing that Col. Halt's memo, written two weeks after the

CONT

event, had got the date of the sighting wrong. It occurred on December 26, not December 27.

With this corrected date, I telephoned Dr John Mason, who collects reports of such sightings for the British Astronomical Association. He told me that shortly before 3 am on December 26 an exceptionally brilliant meteor, almost as bright as the full moon, had been seen over southern England. Dr Mason confirmed that this meteor would have been visible to the airmen at Woodbridge as though something were crashing into the forest nearby. The time of the sighting matched that given in Col. Halt's memo.

Finally, I turned to the question of the radiation readings. I learned that readings like those given in Col. Halt's memo would be expected from natural sources of radiation such as cosmic rays and the earth itself. In short, there was no unusual radiation at the site.

As for the star-like objects in the final paragraph of Col. Halt's memo, they were probably just that — stars. Bright celestial objects are the main

culprits in UFO sightings, and have fooled many experienced observers, including pilots. The object seen by Col. Halt to the south was almost certainly Sirius, the brightest star in the sky.

If it seems surprising that a colonel in the US Air Force should identify a star as a UFO, consider the alternatives. Is it likely that a bright, flashing UFO should hover over southern England for three hours without being spotted by anyone other than a group of excited airmen? And if Col. Halt really believed that an alien craft had invaded his air space, why did he not scramble fighters to investigate?

UFO hunters will continue to believe that an alien spacecraft landed in Rendlesham Forest that night. But I know that the first sighting coincided with the burn-up in the atmosphere of an exceptionally bright meteor, and that the airmen who saw the flashing UFO between the pine trees were looking straight at the Orford Ness lighthouse. The rest of the case is a product of human imagination.

NEWS OF THE WORLD THE SUNDAY PAPER
OCTOBER 2, 1981
BRITAIN'S BIGGEST SELLING SUNDAY NEWSPAPER

WELL ONLY 25p BEST VALUE FOR MONEY

● Colonel's top secret report tells the facts
● Mystery craft in exploding wall of colour
● Animals flee from strange glowing object

UFO LANDS IN SUFFOLK

And that's OFFICIAL

NEWS WORLD INVESTIGATES
By KEITH BRADY

The Street won't die says Bill

EVIDENCE

PHOTO: Mrs. E. G. Charles, Mrs. Halt's girlfriend, points after the sighting of "mysterious lights" and a strange glowing object that lit up the forest.

Colonel Charles Halt's memo on official American Air Force notepaper was headed "Unexplained Lights", dated 13 January 1981, and sent to the RAF. It said:

1. Early in the morning of 27 Dec 80 (approximately 0300 L), two USAF security police patrolmen saw unusual lights outside the back gate at RAF Woodbridge. Thinking an aircraft might have crashed or been forced down, they called for permission to go outside the gate to investigate. The on-duty flight chief responded and allowed three patrolmen to proceed on foot. The individuals reported seeing a strange glowing object in the forest. The object was described as being metallic in appearance and triangular in shape, approximately two to three meters across the base and approximately two meters high. It illuminated the entire forest with a white light. The object itself had a pulsing red light on top and a bank(s) of blue lights underneath. The object was hovering or on legs. As the patrolmen approached the object, it maneuvered through the trees and disappeared. At this time the animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy. The object was briefly sighted approximately an hour later near the back gate.
2. The next day, three depressions 1 1/2" deep and 7" in diameter were found where the object had been sighted on the ground. The following night (29 Dec 80) the area was checked for radiation. Beta/gamma readings of 0.1 milliroentgens were recorded with peak readings in the three depressions and near the center of the triangle formed by the depressions. A nearby tree had moderate (.05-.07) readings on the side of the tree toward the depressions.
3. Later in the night a red sun-like light was seen through the trees. It moved about and pulsed. At one point it appeared to throw off glowing particles and then broke into five separate white objects and then disappeared. Immediately thereafter, three star-like objects were noticed in the sky, two objects to the north and one to the south, all of which were about 10 degrees off the horizon. The objects moved rapidly in sharp, angular movements and displayed red, green and blue lights. The objects to the north appeared to be elliptical through an 8-12 power lens. They then turned to full circles. The objects to the north remained in the sky for an hour or more. The object to the south was visible for two or three hours and beamed down a stream of light from time to time. Numerous individuals, including the undersigned, witnessed the activities in paragraphs 2 and 3.

Charles I. Halt
CHARLES I. HALT, Lt Col, USAF
Deputy Base Commander

Mystery object 'over resort'

IT WAS dome shaped, fluorescent, a glowing orange colour and it moved slowly in the night sky above Hunstanton. That is the picture that will remain in the mind of a young Hunstanton woman for a very long time. For that is what she is convinced she saw as she was being driven home by her boyfriend.

She does not want to give her name. "When I tell anyone about it they just fall about laughing," she said on Tuesday.

She first spotted something in the sky as they drove down the link road towards the South Beach area shortly after midnight. It seemed to her like "a ball of light with a white tail".

Her boyfriend said he thought it was probably a shooting star. Then the car turned in to Southend Road. The woman said: "I kept looking up and suddenly there it was over Seagate Road. It was dome shaped and it was all lit up a glowing orange colour. It was fluorescent. It seemed to be moving slowly and I didn't hear a noise. Until then I had an open mind about unidentified flying objects, but not anymore. It was definitely a UFO. My boyfriend saw it."

Was she scared? "Not really," she said. "More like excited but I would have been frightened if it had started to come lower."

Seconds later the object disappeared over the tops of houses. When her boyfriend dropped her off at her home she went inside, looked out of her bedroom window and saw what she described as "a great ball of orange light" over the sea. It seemed to glow brighter, then go dark and then become bright again finally disappearing in the distance.

She said: "I have looked every night since but have seen nothing. I don't know what it was but there was definitely something there and it was pretty big."

OXFORD STAR (LONDON)
JAN 4 1985

UFO info filed away

INFORMATION about UFOs seen in Oxfordshire is being sent to the Ministry of Defence.

But they will not reveal the results of any of their inquiries, say local UFO expert Derek Mansell. "Its almost impossible to get any information out of them, so we will only know after 30 years," he said. "And that's too late."

Mr Mansell, of Crown Lane, Wheatley, sends the strongest examples from his UFO Data Research Centre to the MoD. And UFOs reported to the Thames Valley Police end up there as well, via the air traffic controllers at RAF West Drayton. An MoD spokesman said they were only interested in any defence implications a sighting might have. After that, they are filed away. "We are only interested in the defence of the realm," he said.

MA-MIDDLESEX DAILY NEWS
DEC. 21 1984

A perfect night to hunt for UFOs

By TOM MORONEY
News Staff Writer

About 5 o'clock Thursday evening, the stars began to make their appearance on a clear horizon. We had gone 18 miles, and civilization's busy roads had given way to the lonely, rural byways of southern New Hampshire.

My guide pulled her car into an abandoned dirt road. "A perfect night," she said, snapping off the headlights. "Visibility is great."

She reached for her binoculars, instructed me to un-sheath the pair I had brought along, and, within seconds of our arrival, I was sitting somewhere outside Portsmouth watching and waiting for flying saucers.

I know what you'll say. Flying saucers? Come on, Tom. How about a nice Christmas story the Friday before the holiday?



UFO WATCHER — Betty Hill poses with her dog and a bust of "Junior" a likeness of one of the aliens she said she and her husband Barney met in 1961. (News Photo by Tom Moroney)

Well, I had to do it. When I called for an interview, what I got was an invitation to adventure. It was like Ted Williams asking you to shag a few fly balls. When Betty Hill invites you for a little saucer-watching, you jump.

UFO, Page 11A

A perfect night to hunt for UFOs

UFO, From 1A

You see, Betty and her husband, Barney, who died in 1969, are perhaps the most famous couple to ever experience what experts call "a close encounter of the third kind."

They were taken aboard a spacecraft in 1961, the story goes, examined by a fairly congenial bunch of aliens, and returned unharmed to their car in the wilds of northern New Hampshire.

If you didn't read the 1966 best seller, "Interrupted Journey," you may have seen the TV movie in '75, starring James Earl Jones as Barney and Estelle Parsons as Betty.

What made the story so compelling was that the Hills never divulged what they remembered of that September night until several years later.

After Barney's severe bouts with anxiety, they both went to a doctor who used hypnotism to finally draw it out, the amazing details of a few lost hours aboard a spaceship 37½ light years from home.

Betty even reconstructed a map the aliens had shown her. On it were stars scientists had yet to discover. When radio astronomy improved years later, sure enough, they showed up in the exact spot Betty had said.

Journalists and broadcasters from all over the world came to see the Hills. Documentaries were made. Twenty years later, Betty still gets mail and phone calls.

But nothing has ever come close to that night. It was an experience that changed her life, turning her into a steadfast observer of the evening sky.

"There are two rules I have," she said, waving her finger at me. "You cannot tell anyone the location of this landing site, and you must do exactly as you are told."

The aliens were fussy about who they let into their field.

Moments later, she pointed to a small white light just over the trees. "Look," she said, but it disappeared quickly.

"They know we're here?" I

asked.

"Sure." In fact, 10 years ago, Betty had a showdown with them. She had been coming to the field weekly, only to be harassed each time by low-diving saucers.

"One night, they came in real close. They burned two holes in the hood of my car, so I got mad. I got out of the car and shook my fist. I said, 'Look, this is my planet, and I'll do what I want. Besides, I may be the only friend you'll ever have.'" They haven't bothered her since.

Things got curiouser and curiouser for us after that point. We drove down the dirt road until we reached a railroad crossing.

There she stopped the car and turned off the headlights. We were in total darkness.

"There they are," she said nonchalantly, pointing to a single white light burning several hundred yards down, right in the middle of the track.

My face and neck tingled in apprehension. Until then, this had been a whimsical interview with a UFO hunter, but when she ever pointed down those tracks to a light, things began to change.

She rolled down her window and called out, "Hello friends. Hello. How are you tonight?"

I was losing my nerve fast. "Who are you talking to?"

She flicked the headlights on and off several times in succession. I looked down the track again and, believe it or not, the light was blinking back. It was as if the thing was answering her.

"What was that?" I stammered.

"Them," she said quietly.

I looked back quickly. The light had gone off.

As we drove away, she explained about railroad tracks. They land on the tracks because the heavy weight of the craft is best supported there. When a train comes along, all they do is rise in the air and hover.

We drove a couple of miles to a small restaurant and ordered up two fried-chicken dinners. People in the restaurant knew Betty well. One woman came

over and asked, "Seen any lately?"

When we got up to leave, Betty said, "You ain't seen nothing yet."

Minutes later, we were back at the railroad tracks. The light I had seen before was gone, so we headed up the dirt road until we came to an open field.

I looked into the sky and saw a blinking, silvery light. It was the kind of flash you would get from a continuous photo flash. Then another popped up. When the third came into view, I asked if I could get out of the car.

I walked over to the stone wall and, peering through the binoculars, I saw no fewer than five blinking lights, about 100 yards apart in the sky.

At that precise moment, something moved in the field.

Now it was probably a squirrel, or a mouse, or even a leaf in the wind. It really didn't matter, because under the circumstances, I almost wet my pants.

I bolted for the car and slamming the door, I heard Betty say, "Get in. I didn't want to alarm you, but one just landed in the woods directly behind us."

She turned the car around and waited to see a light go on in the trees, but it never came.

"Well, I guess that's about it for tonight," she said.

It was time to head back. I kept thinking about the five lights. I didn't dream them up, but I also knew Pease Air Force base was right beyond the trees. There had to be some earthly, military explanation.

"Betty, what did we see out there the last time?"

She only smiled.

After a pause, she said, "Fifteen spotted tonight. A little better than mediocre." One night she counted 80.

On our way back, near another empty field, we passed a police car. All the lights were out. The officer inside was looking out the windshield toward the sky.

"What's he doing?" I asked.

"Him? Why he's watching, of course. A lot of folks are watching. You'd be surprised."

UFOs never stole anyone's baby, astronomer insists

By John Flinn
Examiner staff writer

Ancient astronauts, extrasensory perception and astrologers' predictions might make for amusing reading in the supermarket tabloids, but they make Andrew Fraknoi's blood boil.

Fraknoi, who teaches astronomy at San Francisco State University, is constantly amazed when students ask about the latest reports of UFOs.

"The nearest planet is billions of miles away," he said. "Do you really think someone would come all that way just to harass a couple of drunken fishermen in Minnesota?"

Fraknoi is a member of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, a group of scientists dedicated to debunking such stories.

The organization will hold a day-long meeting at Stanford University tomorrow, with sessions dealing with ghosts, the "psychic arms race" and

evidence of ancient astronauts.

"Scientists have realized that they have an obligation to explain these so-called phenomena in real-world terms," Fraknoi said.

Among the group's members are astronomer Carl Sagan, psychologist B.F. Skinner and writer Isaac Asimov.

It was founded a decade ago by James "The Amazing" Randi, who has made a career out of duplicating "feats" performed by psychics.

Randi's most famous expose was of Israeli magician-turned-psychic Uri Geller, who claimed to be able to bend forks and other metal objects through mental powers.

He demonstrated how Geller bent the objects against his belt buckle while witnesses were distracted.

At the Stanford meeting, Fraknoi will give a presentation debunking psychic claims, including his pet peeve, astrology.

"Astrology is enormously popular,"

he said. "We estimate that it's a half-billion-dollar-a-year business."

Thousands of years ago, people thought the positions of the sun and planets affected their lives, but Fraknoi finds it hard to understand how modern people still believe it.

"This is the space age," he said. "We've sent probes to Mars and Venus, so you'd think people would realize that the planets don't have mystical powers that affect their love lives."

Psychics who use astrology to predict the future make headlines in the National Enquirer, but few of the tabloid's readers apparently care about the psychics' track records, Fraknoi said.

He cited a study in which astronomers Roger Culver and Phillip Ianna calculated the accuracy of 3,000 predictions by psychics Jeanne Dixon, Carroll Righter and others.

Only 11 percent of those predictions, which included assassinations, celebrity weddings and wars, proved correct.

So why are horoscopes among the most popular features in newspapers?

"Life is tough and people are looking for simple answers," Fraknoi said. "With astrology, you don't have to make difficult decisions. The stars have already made them for you."

He said he seen no harm in reading horoscopes — as long as they don't make decisions based on them.

"I'm worried by students of mine who have told me they wouldn't go out with certain people because they were born under the wrong sign," Fraknoi said.

Another speaker at the Stanford meeting will be Dr. Wallace Sampson, an internist who teaches at Stanford's medical school. He specializes in debunking claims of psychic medicine.

He is incensed by the growing number of practitioners who claim to be able to cure cancer and other diseases through the power of positive thinking.

"There is five to 10 years' worth of data on the subject and no one has been able to prove that it works. There is absolutely no reason to believe that positive thought can be transmit-

ted to something at the cellular level," he said.

"Yet there are apparently lots of people who are willing to give it a try," he added.

The danger, he said, comes when ailing people turn to psychic healers and forsake traditional medicine that could cure them.

"The belief in all of these things — psychic powers, ancient astronauts, the Bermuda triangle — make the world a more fun place to live," Sampson said.

"But society suffers by the lack of ability to use rational methods to solve problems," he said. "If people used more rational methods, we'd solve more of the problems facing us."

NY ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT
AND CHRONICLE

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NAMEDROPPING

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE KODAK KIND ... Eastman Kodak has been in outer space for a long time, via its participation in America's space program. But Kodak film may have been used to capture spacecraft from another dimension. (Bring up the *Twilight Zone* music.) A Norwegian amateur photographer named Pal Kirstian Vaag recently photographed a UFO on the west coast of Norway. The unidentified flying object hovered while Vaag rushed to get his camera. He estimates it was 35 to 50 feet in diameter. To Kodak's everlasting glory, the camera Vaag rushed to get was a Disc 4000 camera. The Royal Norwegian Air Force has pronounced the photos as unretouched and showing no mechanical or chemical flaws. The pictures are now being studied by NASA. A Norwegian newspaper, *Verdens Gang*, ran color reproductions of the snaps, and devoted two entire pages to the event. As a result, Kodak's Norwegian division began running ads proclaiming: "The sure way to capture UFOs — the Kodak disc 4000 camera — and it's inexpensive too!" Customers have begun to appear in Norwegian camera shops asking for "the UFO camera." One question remains: What camera are the aliens using to photograph us?

WE SAW UFO COMMANDOS

ITALY has been shaken by three terrifying encounters with unearthly aliens apparently on a reconnaissance mission to learn more about this planet.

The Italian Ministry of Defense is supervising an intense investigation of three reported landings within a 300-mile area.

In two cases, the aliens closely examined panic-stricken humans, then departed as mysteriously as they appeared. In the third case, witnesses only saw their ship.

The most detailed report is from Isidoro Ferri, a wealthy farmer who lives six miles from the city of Florence. He endured what he calls "a commando raid" by mysterious beings who even were able to walk through walls.

Ferri, 50, says he was awakened about 4:30 a.m. by a brilliant light shining into his face, and was shocked to find an alien creature in his bedroom.

"It was about four feet tall, dressed in a dark gray metallic-like garment from head to toe," he says. "In the center of its forehead was a small, circular light, very like the kind on a coal miner's helmet — but unbelievably bright.

"I was terrified. The whole room was illuminated by that piercing light. The thing seemed to be taking no notice of me, and was studying itself in the mirror.

"I yelled at it to tell me what it wanted, but it kept staring at its reflection in the mirror," he continues.

**Italian gov't
investigates
after scared
witnesses
describe
'invasion'
of Florence**

"Then I became aware that outside the house, it was so bright it seemed like day.

"A small group approached my house. Then, suddenly, there were two more in my bedroom. Then, just as suddenly, they glided out again — right through the closed door, like ghosts.

"I remember wondering what had happened to my dog, who is attack-trained and responds only to me. He

By HARRY MCCARTHY

hadn't made a sound all this time.

"Finally, I went into my study and called the police in Florence. When I came out of the study afterward, the house was dark, but it was still lit up outside.

"I watched the creatures walk, or glide, to their ship. It, too, was dark gray, circular, with a row of lights on the side facing the house.

"There was no door or hatch — the things just passed through the side. As soon as they were all inside, the lights went out and the ship just disappeared."

Ferri says when the police arrived, they found his dog outside.

He was on the grass beside his kennel with his eyes open, breathing normally but completely still. He stayed in this coma-like state for seven days.

GLOBE
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Ferri and the police found a flattened stand of grass at about the spot where he thought he had seen the spaceship.

Twelve hours earlier — in broad daylight — Giuseppe Coccozza of Avellini, 300 miles to the south, apparently encountered the same intruders.

Coccozza told police a spaceship landed only 30 yards from him in his fields, and a four-foot creature in a silvery suit emerged.

"He came toward me, then turned and ran — but the faceplate of his helmet always faced me," says the terrified farmer.

"The ship took off as he was getting back into it. There was no sound and no wind."

The third incident occurred four days later. A group of hunters near Florence reported seeing a UFO land silently in a clearing in the woods and just as silently take off again and disappear.

MICHELE TELLS OF KITE-SHAPED FLASHING OBJECT

HIGH OVER STATION

Teenagers claim a UFO sighting

3128

A TEENAGE girl saw an unidentified flying object on Hallowe'en night that clearly wasn't a witch.

Seventeen-year-old Michele Bergin was standing outside Teynham station when she noticed a kite-shaped object in the sky with white lights in the centre.

The U.F.O. gave off orange sparks and moved in a zig-zag path with a tail of light when travelling.

Miss Bergin, of Woodberry Drive, Sittingbourne, also said the centre lights of the object on the right went green and those on the left red.

She had visited her 18-year-old friend Sarah Lewis and was waiting

to be picked up by her mother from outside the station.

Miss Bergin said: "I was standing outside Teynham station about 10.30 p.m. and looking at the North Star when I suddenly saw another light. I could tell it was moving because I was looking through two telegraph wires."

She said that when she got home her father John, mother Iris, brother Michael and his girlfriend Rose Washer, also all saw the object.

The following night when her friend Sarah came round, both girls saw the object, although this time it was more distant.

Michele reported her sightings to

the police who have passed them on to R.A.F. Manston who collate U.F.O. sightings.

Both Michele and her family and friends are mystified about just what the object could have been.

Michele said: "It definitely wasn't a helicopter or plane, and there is no way that it was star."

WARRINGTON GUARDIAN

NOV 14 1984

UFO research director's 'cover-up' claim

3128

FOR the last six years, Jenny Randles has been investigating UFO sightings in the United Kingdom.

Jenny, of Whitethroat Walk, Birchwood, is the national director of research for the British UFO Research Association. She has travelled the world, appeared on television, and has written several books on her work and findings.

The former teacher has now co-written a book which accuses the British and American Governments of a major cover-

up over a suspected UFO landing in 1980.

The book "Sky Crash: A Cosmic Conspiracy" claims to give the full story, including eye witness claims and accumulated evidence, of a UFO landing near a Nato base in East Anglia, when a "silver suited entity" is supposed to have made contact with a senior American base commander.

It calls for a public inquiry into the incident on Rendlesham Forest.

The space craft is thought to have crash-landed into woods, and while repairs were

carried out is believed to have made contact with the base.

It talks of radiation leaks, actual contact between humans and the beings, and then the investigations and subsequent "cover-up" at the highest levels on both sides of the Atlantic.

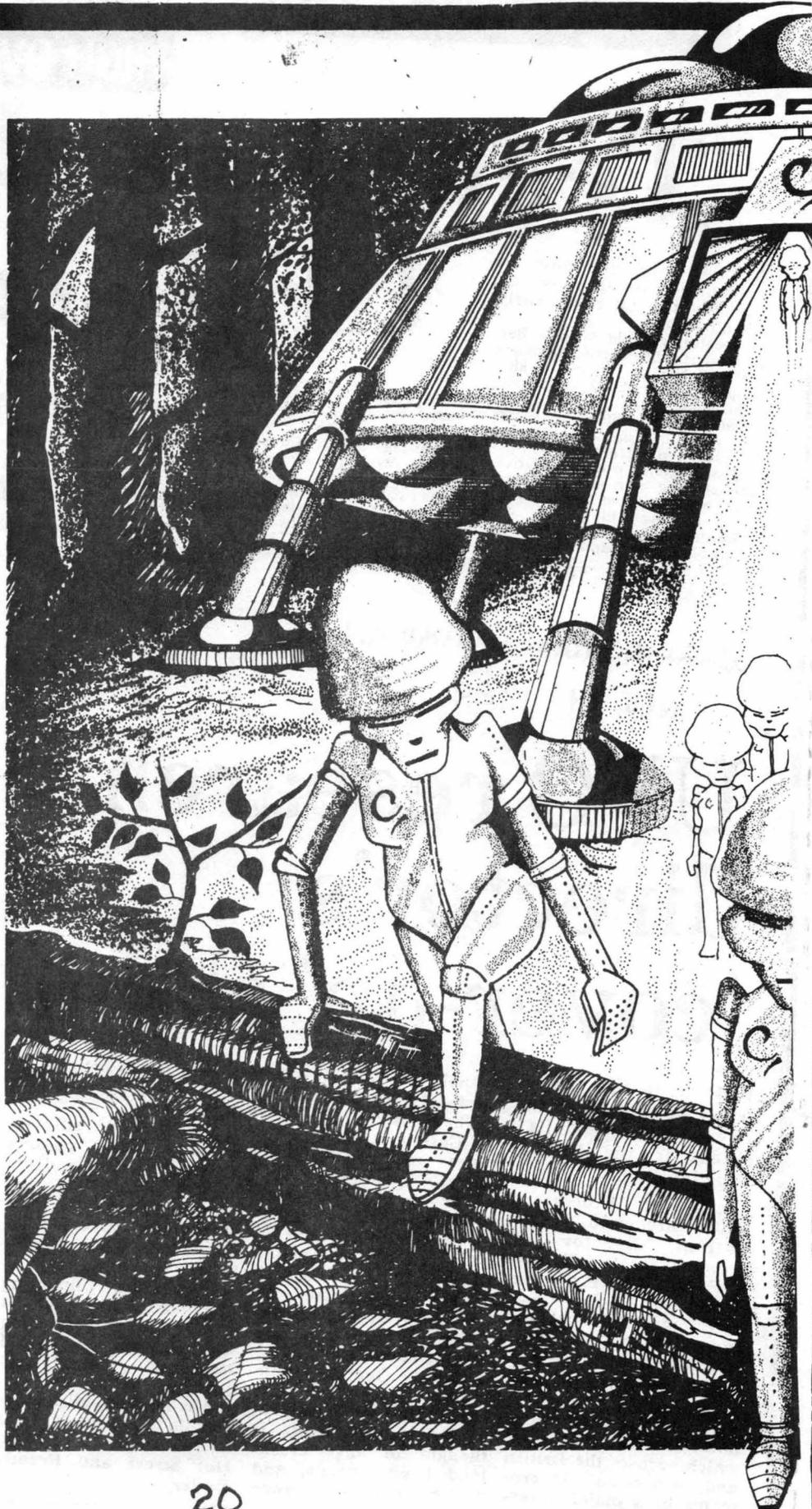
"We know something happened. Even if it wasn't a UFO, something happened, and it should be made public," said Jenny last week.

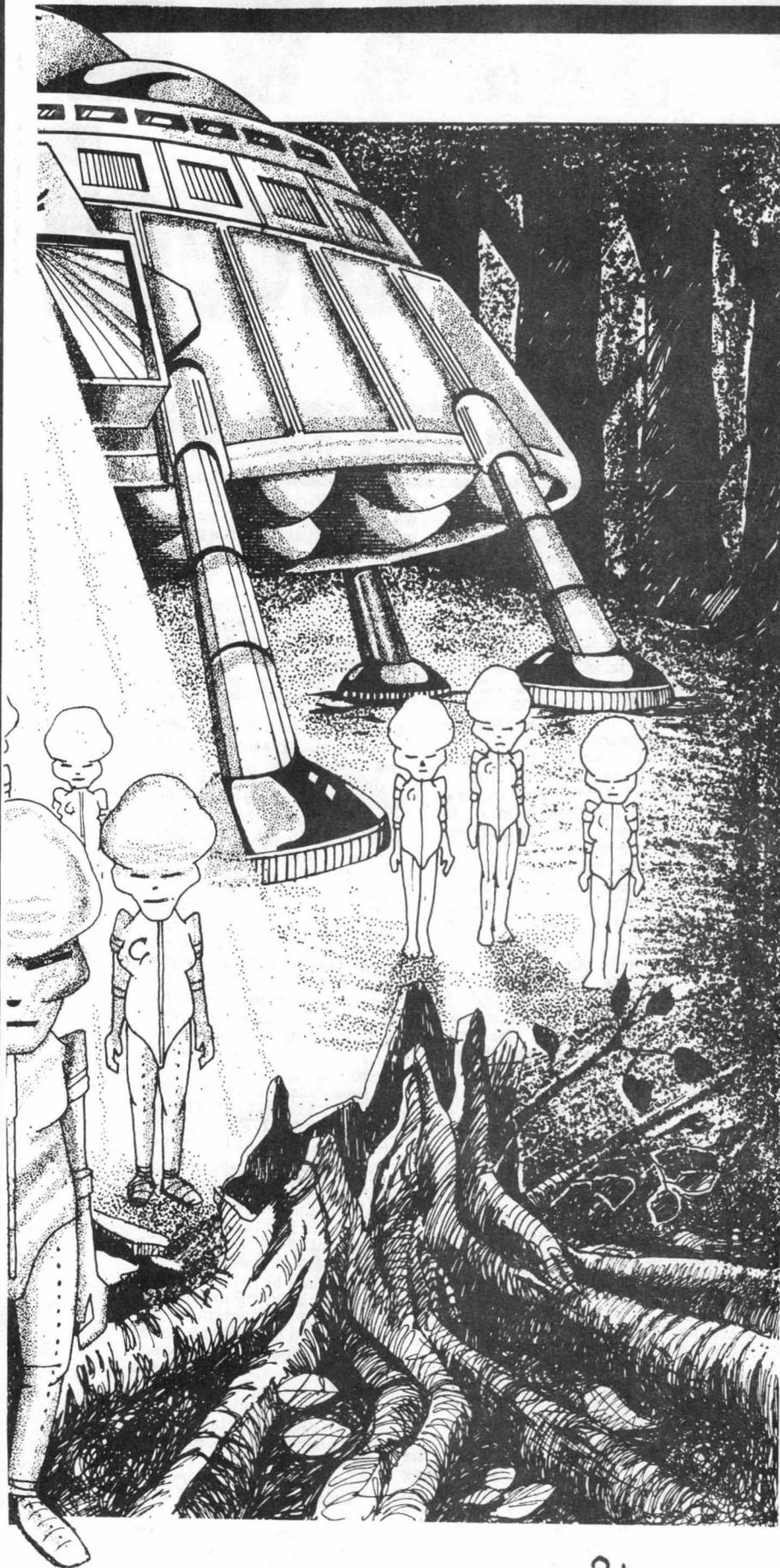
The book, published by Neville Spearman, was written by Jenny Randles, Dot Street and Brenda Butler.



U.F.O.-spotting friends Michele Bergin and Sarah Lewis
EL2028

'There's a red
light ahead.
It's definitely
coming this
way. Weird.
It looks like an
eye winking at
you.' Then the
speaker seemed
to lose control
and ordered the
men to base.





A dramatic
tape recording
points to an
alien landing
and a UFO
group wants
an inquiry.

**Report by
Shirley
Davenport
Drawing by
Mike
Pochodzaj**

**CON'T
NEXT PAGE**

They HAVE SAY UFOLOGISTS, landed CLAIMING A BIG COVER-UP

THERE was an eerie silence in the chill night air as a group of American servicemen raked a Suffolk forest with their torchlight.

They were hunting for clues — traces of a UFO crash-landing reported by a security patrol three nights before, in which tress and lights at the end of the air force runway had been damaged.

They recorded radiation levels, strange indentations in the soil and damaged trees.

Moments later a senior officer in charge of the men ordered them to "douse lights" as a strange object appeared to be moving towards them in the night sky.

What happened next on that night in December 1980 is on a dramatic tape-recording which a group of

British ufologists claim was made by the colonel in charge of the search.

The quiet description of the wooded scene in which men were heard taking readings was suddenly interrupted by the stunned voice of an American officer indicating a small red light in the sky.

"Douse flashlights," he called.

"See if you can get the starscope on it.

"There's no doubt about it. There's a strange red light ahead.

"Weird. It's coming this way. It's definitely coming this way.

"This is weird. It's just moved off to the right. Strange! Whew! It looks

like an eye winking at you."

Seconds later, the same office reports into his tape-recorder: "We have got two strange objects, half-moon shaped, becoming full circle, with coloured lights on them — five to 10 miles out, maybe less.

"Now we have an object 10 degrees directly south."

He paused, and a hint of panic entered his voice.

"They are moving — moving up fast.

"Here he comes from the south. He's coming towards us now. There appears to be a beam coming down to the ground. It's unreal."

The next moment, the speaker almost seemed to lose control as he ordered the terrified men back to base.

The British ufologists who say they received the tape-recording recently are demanding a public inquiry into the Rendlesham Forest UFO sightings.

They claim that suppression of the tape and previous denial of its existence was part of a massive cover-up by the Americans and the British defence ministry.

But they are keeping secret the identity of the supplier of the tape-recording, allegedly a copy of the original, said to have been made by someone at the American base.

Jenny Randles, director

of investigations for the British UFO Research Association, says: "Our objective is not to convince anyone that a spaceship landed there, even though there are eye-witnesses who swear that they saw aliens in silver suits communicating with an officer at this same spot three nights before the tape-recording incident.

"What we are concerned about is that whatever landed there eluded the radar network which is supposed to be our front line of defence."

Jenny, who has written about the Suffolk incident with two other ufologists, Dot Street and Brenda Butler, Sky Crash, A

Cosmic Conspiracy, pub. Neville Spearman, £7.50), said: "We are not just trying to sell another book.

"We believe the British public has a right to know what is going on. It may or may not have been a UFO which crashed in that forest the first time. But whatever it was had radiation connected with it, which makes it potentially dangerous.

"I don't know whether it was alien, Russian or one of ours. And we don't have enough information to judge."

She claims that there is enough sworn testimony from eye-witnesses to warrant an open investigation and accuses the British and

American authorities of a "conspiracy" to hide the truth.

Jenny claims that the UFO researchers also have the support of Ralph Noyes, who for four years was head of the section within the Defence Ministry responsible for collating UFO data.

Civilian eye-witnesses.

she says, have been warned off and in one case, paid off. Military witnesses were debriefed and then sent back to the United States.

One, who has since left the air force, is still too afraid to give his real name but talks of being taken to an underground room at his air base and seeing a

UFO similar to the one which had crash-landed in the forest.

Jenny Randles says this same airman had been able to give descriptions of the silver-suited aliens he saw in the forest, trying to repair their damaged craft.

They were just over three feet tall, had large heads with slits for eyes, nose and mouth, and eyes like inverted cat's eyes. And, he claimed, they communicated through some kind of sign language with one of the commanding officers.

Jenny claims that the Defence Ministry flatly denied any UFO reports from that area at the outset

of her inquiries. Two years later, she said, they admitted that there had been "unusual lights" reported.

Eventually, through the American Freedom of Information act, the release was secured of an official report to the Defence Ministry from the US colonel in charge of base operations.

In it, he mentions both events when UFO's were spotted, describing the object as triangular, metallic and capable of extraordinary manoeuvres.

Jenny says: "The people of Britain have a right to be treated with respect. Too much secrecy could be catastrophic. The government have not told the truth and still refuse to do so."