

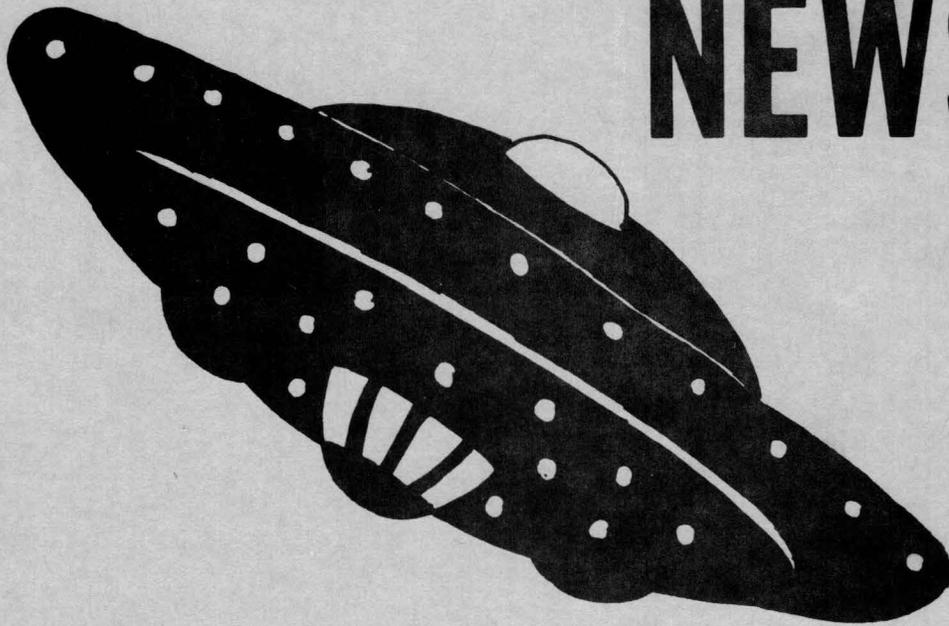
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Attorney brings UFOs into focus

NY MIDDLETOWN TIMES
HERALD-RECORD
DEC 31 1984



Record photos by Bob Sullivan

Peter Gersten scans the skies for UFOs from his apartment balcony overlooking Peekskill.

By RITA GIORDANO
Staff Writer

TARRYTOWN — Peter Gersten is a criminal lawyer by profession. But his avocation is the phenomena known as unidentified flying objects, or UFOs.

Formerly with the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office, Gersten has brought several lawsuits against the government seeking information about UFOs. He estimates that between his efforts and the efforts of others like him, about 5,000 pages of documents have been released.

Out of his home in Peekskill, he operates a UFO hotline that averages 10 to 20 calls a day. He sometimes gets as many as 100 calls a night reporting UFO sightings.

Gersten is also founder of the organization CAUS — Citizens Against UFO Secrecy.

More recently he gained some notoriety by claiming that pilots — probably flying out of Stormville Airport in Dutchess County — have muddied the UFO waters by flying in formation with extra lights to appear as UFOs. He says the reason may be to discredit legitimate sightings.

Q: How did you get interested in UFOs?

A: I was interested when I was a boy. I was interested in mysteries in general. I don't know what specifically got me involved in UFOs, but I began reading books by people who had been involved at that time. It seemed, assuming the information in the books was accurate, we had people reporting certain sightings, and it wasn't just one. It was many over the years.

In 1975 and '76, I was the executive director of Victim Witness Project, which was a \$1 million federally-funded project. I became experienced in obtaining federal funds. I had joined the various (UFO) organizations and I was up to date on their periodicals. One of the things they had in common was the lack of funds.

So I wrote to them asking if I could be of any assistance in applying for federal grants. One of the organizations, Ground Saucer Watch, wrote back indicating they weren't interested in federal funds, but they were interested in obtaining some documents the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) had. The CIA acknowledged having about five documents. They released two and withheld three. The organization wanted to get the other three under the Freedom of Information Act. I got involved in the case. We expanded the lawsuit to include any and all documents in the CIA's possession. And I was on my way.

1
CONT' NEXT PAGE

Q: How did that first suit go?

A: The lawsuit began in 1977. In 1978, the agency released about 900 pages of documents concerning UFOs, which it had up until that time denied having.

The documents, in effect, confirmed the earlier reports that we had read about and corroborated those reports we used to read about in the earlier magazines and books.

We see in some documents where the FBI actually investigated the witnesses and found them extremely credible. We see in other documents references to the witnesses as law enforcement personnel, scientists, military personnel. There's no question about their credibility. And once again you see reports of strange unconventional objects that perform beyond present-day technology.

Q: In print, you've said the government is withholding UFO information. Could you elaborate on why you believe that?

A: The National Security Agency is withholding at least 140 documents relating to UFOs, which — according to the government — do not affect national security. But on the other hand, when you try to get the documents, the court upholds the agency's claim of national security as far as their release is concerned. The CIA is withholding over 60 documents. The CIA has admitted that they're withholding them.

The Air Force is withholding anywhere upwards of 200 documents. They won't even search for us anymore. What they do is charge us exorbitant search fees. We can't afford to pay \$500, \$600 just for them to search their files without any guarantee of them finding something.

Q: What do you think the government's rationale for secrecy is?

A: Several reasons. One, the information would further confirm the reality of the objects and it would be a little embarrassing to them. No. 2, they don't want to give out any information on how they collect information or their sources and methods of gathering intelligence, not just for UFOs but for everything.

Q: What proof is there that UFOs exist?

A: I can prove in a court of law that UFOs are real. I

deal with evidence everyday. The same type of evidence that can convict somebody of a homicide or a robbery is available in the case of UFOs.

First of all, we have the same people seeing the objects. You have a person who on Oct. 21 saw something in Beekman, N.Y., she says was definitely not the planes. She's been seeing the planes over the summer, she's five minutes from Stormville.

If tomorrow, she's walking down the street and gets mugged and points out those people to the police and they arrest those people and there's a trial and if the jury believes her, they can go away for a long time. If she comes in court and says, "On Oct. 21, I saw a UFO," everybody says, "Oh, you were drunk."

It's the subject matter. But it's still evidence, the same type of evidence.

The other type of evidence, the same type evidence used in courts of law, is expert witnesses, people who have been involved in the field for 20, 30 years. You have photographs. You have, in certain cases, physical traces left. Multiple-witness sightings. Electro-magnetic effects on cars. You got a case in Brewster, October 30, where the TV was interfered with, the dog started going crazy, the lights in the house dimmed when this object was over the house.

Q: Do you think the reluctance of some people to believe in the possibility in another form of life is caused by fear?

A: I am sure there are a lot of reasons, religious, sociological, why people refuse to believe in something other than their realm of thinking. Fear of any change.

It's amazing. I get calls on the hotline really using profanity. You would think I called these people up and forced them to watch the skies. They call me to tell me that I'm crazy, that there's no such things as UFOs, that everybody's seeing planes.

Q: Is there a description of what would be considered a true UFO? One man at Stormville Airport says he saw something that looked like the Miller beer sign.

A: I've heard 20 different descriptions. The usual description is a saucer-shaped object. The other typical one is the cigar-shaped object, the mother ship. But usually, there's no question. If you see it, you know. When you see it, you have a certain feeling about it. It almost has a life of its own. It almost reacts to you.

Q: This summer, you offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the identification of pilots who allegedly fly out of Stormville Airport and were believed by some to be UFOs. What are your feelings about them and what they do?

A: No. 1, they interfere with the investigation of the true object. There is something that's being seen this year, last year, five years ago, 10 years ago. They're interfering with that investigation by creating false reports. What's also suspicious is the secrecy surrounding the pilots. Here we have some pilots who are supposed to be fooling around. They know they are creating a problem, but they continue to go about it almost with an arrogant attitude. I also have people who have seen the planes tracking the object — in other words going in the same direction several minutes after the object was seen. I have people who have seen the planes and the object, and they can tell the difference. I think there's possibly a military connection between the pilots and the object.



Peter Gersten

ATTORNEY CON'T

Q: In recent years, there have been a lot of movies about UFOs. Have they done any good?

A: I think there's a programming going on in this country to accept the possibility, probably, that there is another form of life . . . either by the government or by the phenomena itself.

Q: Do you find it frustrating that people who believe in UFOs are sometimes regarded as crazy by people who do not?

A: Of course it's frustrating. (That's) one of the things we found with the hotline. No one used to listen to them. With the (UFO) hotline at least they've got someone to tell their experiences to, and I'm not going to say, "You're nuts."

We spoke to six security guards at Indian Point who saw the object on two occasions. A big triangular object, almost the size of a football field and a half. They said if it came any closer, they would have called the State Police but it did not intrude to Indian Point. But they said on other occasions, they have seen the planes.

We're putting in a freedom of information request to the State Police. I think there's a lot of sightings in other counties that we're not hearing about.

Q: What makes the people involved in UFO study believe the objects come from another planet?

A: I deal with evidence. The evidence is the objects exist, and they perform beyond what we would consider present-day technology — right angle turns, hovering without any noise, going straight up, floating.

You see in the documents the military's, the CIA's concern. "Could it be the Air Force testing something?" "Could it be the Soviet Union testing something?" And you see the investigation. It's always coming back, "No, we sent in our undercover sources. It's not the Soviet Union. We queried the Air Force, the Navy. They're not testing anything new." There's nothing in the documents that would indicate the origin or identity of these objects.

ANCHORAGE DAILY TIMES
JAN. 20 1985

Dive sponsor of mystery disc doubts reports

Associated Press

Seattle — A promoter of a diving expedition to locate an unidentified object that splashed down near Bellingham last July now doubts the reports of divers who said they saw a gold, 35-foot-wide disc stuck in the bottom.

"We can't get it confirmed one way or the other. We don't know if they had it or not. Each diver had a different story," said Dale Goudie, director of Puget Sound Phenomenon Research in Seattle.

"There's no evidence," he said this week.

In at least two dives the last week of December, two Seattle divers reported seeing what they described as an object shaped like an upside-down teacup or satellite dish.

Goudie said he had been trying since July to get divers to the site, between Lummi and Eliza islands near Bellingham, about 80 miles north of Seattle.

On July 27, witnesses on a fish tender saw an orange fireball splash into the water and bubble. The Coast Guard investigated and found no debris. There were no reports of missing planes or space junk. Nothing was seen on radar.

Goudie said he finally found two Seattle divers who agreed to dive in the water which is over 100 feet deep.

They made several trips in the 58-foot Bellingham seiner Diane during freezing weather.

Despite their reports, they failed to bring back video film of the object or to mark the site with a buoy. When they went back for another dive, they couldn't find it. The group broke up in dissension and ran out of money.

Goudie says he has lost contact with the divers and their phone has been disconnected.

Goudie thinks the object might have been a meteor, although a meteor wouldn't have made an "L" turn before crashing in the water, as witnesses said.

"Whatever splashed down in July still has to be up there in those waters," he said.

Goudie said he wanted the object for scientific research. His organization was founded in 1982 to gather evidence from sightings of unidentified flying objects.

Although he promoted the dive, the divers, the boat owner and other backers sponsored the expedition on their own, Goudie said.

The Coast Guard, U.S. Navy and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration were not involved in the search, spokesmen said.

TOP SCIENTIST BAFLED AS MYSTERY WRECKAGE FOUND BY
 DIVERS DISAPPEARS

DID U.S. NAVY SHIP SECRETLY PULL
 CRASHED UFO OUT OF PUGET SOUND?

By RICHARD TINKLER

A TOP government scientist says that the Navy may have recovered a UFO from the depths of Puget Sound in Washington State — and may be concealing it from the public.

Dr. Bruce Maccavee, a Defense Department physicist, was one of many leading UFO researchers contacted by members of a salvage team whose divers actually saw the submerged UFO — only to find it had vanished when they returned to retrieve it.

Says Dr. Maccavee, who heads the Fund for UFO Research: "This whole affair is very strange. From what I do know, this could be highly significant UFO evidence... but the public may never learn the details.

"We don't know where the object is, or what it is. It could have been recovered by the military. If that is the case, the Pentagon study will be classified.

"We are still investigating and I will do everything possible to find out what this UFO is. If the government has it, they should tell us and end the speculation."

Four separate witnesses claim that they saw the UFO flashing across Puget Sound on July 27. They described it as a large, circular, glowing object plummeting from the sky at great speed.

About 100 ft. above the waves of Rosario Strait, between Lummi

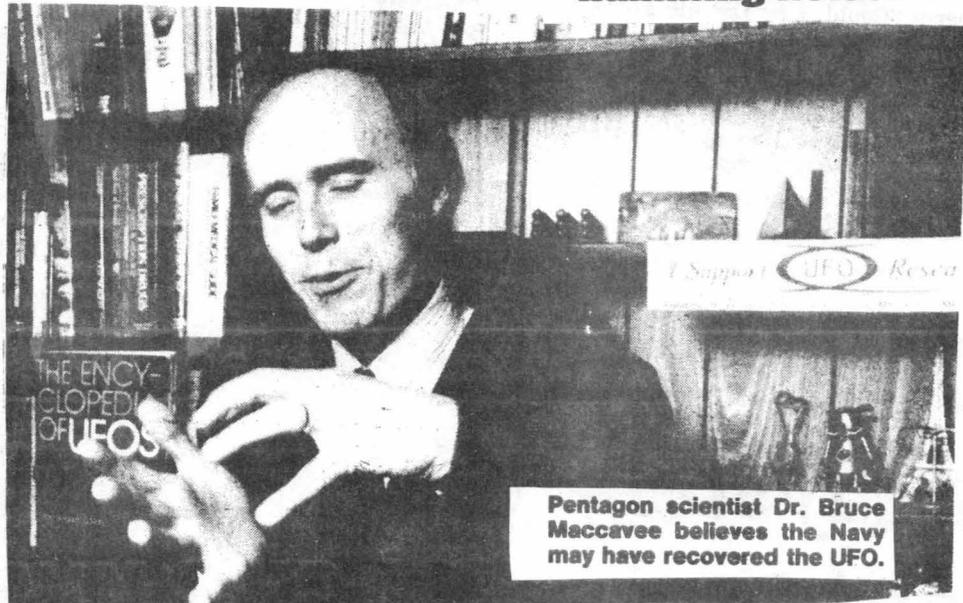
The government should tell us if they have it?

and Eliza Islands just outside Bellingham Bay, it leveled off and appeared to fly horizontally, skimming the sea, say the witnesses. It then turned sharply and suddenly plunged into the water, sending up a 100-ft. high geyser, they add.

Sam Sudore of Bellingham, who helped organize the salvage mission, recalls the object as a "large orange ball in the sky that stopped dead and shot off sparks" before plummeting into the sound.

Sudore says the phenomenon left the water foaming furiously in its wake.

Pentagon denies involvement amid suspicions of a cover-up



Pentagon scientist Dr. Bruce Maccavee believes the Navy may have recovered the UFO.

at the time. A military vessel was sent to the scene, but its crew found nothing. However, the captain of the vessel said he saw a light above a nearby island.

He didn't explain what the light was. He said the object had fallen into deep water where there are strong currents.

The military didn't think it worth taking any further action and the case was closed.

Before it splashed down, the object was clearly seen making a turn. It seemed to be under some kind of control. The local people

I could hear a low-pitched humming noise?

local fishermen and two experienced deep-sea divers, John Walker and Richard Burke, decided to get in touch with universities and UFO experts throughout the country, including Dr. Maccavee and his scientific researcher, Dale Gaudie.

Gaudie relates the events that followed: "The authorities were informed. Through the Freedom of Information Act, we have since obtained copies of the reports made

decided to find it themselves if the government wouldn't help."

According to Sudore, the salvage expedition didn't get under way until late December because he thought the government had retrieved the object.

But then John Walker, one of the divers, informed him the UFO might still be in the water. Sudore arranged for a 58-ft. sailing vessel equipped with sonar.

CRASHED UFO CAN'T



An artist's view of how the mystery object appeared to divers who found it on the floor of Puget Sound in Washington State.



It was in this part of Puget Sound in Washington State that the UFO crashed into the sea, only to subsequently disappear.

in diameter, it was shaped like a teacup and there was a hole in it that I could put my foot through.

"When I stood on it I could hear a low-pitched humming noise. It made us very nervous. It seemed to be about 10-ft. high, but we couldn't really tell because most of it was immersed in the mud."

John Walker told a local reporter: "It's not a boat, it's not a plane. It's not a satellite."

"On the first day out they found it," Goudie says. "Sonar recorded a large metal object lying on the bottom. Walker and Burke went down to investigate."

Burke has since told Goudie and Dr. Maccavee that 125 ft. down, buried in the mud, was a large round object.

Goudie quotes Burke: "It was dark and the water was very cold. We couldn't stay down long. We found the object easily. About 17 ft.

dish. I've been diving a long time and I've never seen anything like it before."

Sudore, who was aboard the retrieval boat, says he believes the object was "extraterrestrial."

"When Burke came back up, he brought some red dye from the craft," he says. "We took it to the University of Washington to have them analyze it. They couldn't tell us what it was, but we spotted it."

6 I've never seen anything like it before?

craft it was protruding 10 ft. out of the mud. The next day we went back and it was 15 or 20 ft. out of the mud. Three days later, we went back with advanced sonar equipment and another vessel to retrieve the object and it was gone.

"A fisherman spotted a huge boat out in that vicinity between our second and third visits and assured us it wasn't a fishing vessel. So I can only assume it was military."

Says Goudie: "Today we have equipment that can pinpoint a place on the ocean floor with great accuracy. We know exactly where the object was. It had been there for five months without moving. Why should it suddenly disappear?"

"We have heard reports that the Navy went out and picked it up."

"The divers talked about what they found. There are Navy facilities in this area, and no doubt the officers soon heard about the object on the ocean floor. With the equipment the Navy has, it wouldn't have taken them more than a couple of hours to recover this thing."

The Pentagon denies all knowledge of the UFO and refuses further comment.

But a senior Navy source in Washington D.C., says: "It is fairly safe for you to assume that if we heard about a large metal object in the ocean that was transmitting a humming noise, we would investigate."

"I don't know if we have the object or not. If we do, it may be classified. It could be a military device. Perhaps some form of cruise missile. It may even be Soviet in origin."

UFO hunter seeks clue to new film

A TOP UFO hunter is looking to Luton for a vital link with amazing filmed evidence of a sighting.

The clip could be the most important film yet of unidentified flying objects, says the expert.

But the only clue to the sender of the movie was a Luton postmark on the plain brown envelope.

Inside was a 15-second sequence showing a bright object racing across the sky.

Careful analysis — including enlarging the image 3,500 times — has convinced experts the

shots have not been faked.

But the biggest puzzle of all is who is the Unidentified Film Operator? Why did they send it anonymously, and are they still in Luton?

The clip of Super 8 amateur film, shot somewhere on the south coast, shows an orange egg-shaped object speeding horizontally at low altitude and then streaking upwards at a steep angle.

What has excited the experts most is the quality of the filming, far better than the usual amateur record of a Close Encounter of the Blurred Kind.

"I am anxious to trace the person who posted this film in Luton," says writer and lecturer Jenny Randles, director of investigations for the

British UFO Research Association.

The film package was posted early last year to her Warrington home, but no name or address of the sender was included.

"If this witness turns up with direct testimony, this could easily prove to be the most significant movie film ever taken about unexplained objects."

"I have been investigating for the last 12 years and I have seen most of the films taken world-wide. This is easily the most interesting to come to light."

Jenny's appeal for the identity of the film maker was brought to the Herald office by Luton UFO researcher Bill Dillon, a 38-year-old artist, of Hollybush Road.

By MIKE GLACKEN

LIFO SHOCK (CONT)

It was at about 5.45pm one day last week that the woman, who lives in the Colan area, joined the Quintrell Downs-St. Columb Road road at Mount Joy.

"Suddenly I saw a bright yellow light, about 10ft long, oval in shape, by my offside hedge," she said. "Although brilliant, it did not radiate light, other than a mellow glow on a cottage wall. It was so powerful that it obscured my vision up the road.

"It hovered close to the hedge, then seemed to shrink, went pitch black and moved from side to side across the road.

"It shrank to the size of a large football, changed to bright luminous green with a red glow in the centre, and finally went almost purplish before vanishing.

"Quite suddenly, the light appeared again on my right, further down the road, and followed the same pattern of changing colour and size before disappearing.

"This happened six or seven times over a stretch of half-a-mile. I was doing about 20mph, and I was getting mesmerised. All the time it was getting weaker and slower.

By the time I reached White Cross and saw it on the opposite side of the junction I was in such a panic that I turned off my route into the minor road just to get away from it."

The woman, who is married, reported the incident to police, who checked the area and found nothing. They suggested it might have been a weather balloon. "But I know it was not that," she said.

"I know, too, that it was not a white fireball as I have seen one before. It exploded in my kitchen, and I had two other people with me to confirm what had happened."

The woman was certain that the phenomenon was not the result of reflections from her wind screen.

After work, the woman was too frightened to drive back along the road alone. She waited for her husband, and also for another car to be travelling in the same direction.

"I was absolutely petrified," she said. "I had not drunk any alcohol before I left for work, and I do not take hallucinatory drugs.

CORNISH GUARDIAN, BODMIN FEB 14 1985

'My UFO shock' — shaken driver

A SHAKEN 28-year-old woman was yesterday puzzling over the UFO-type object which she says petrified her as she drove to work.

The woman did not want to be named, and said: "People will only think I am a nutcase, but I am not."

¹¹⁻⁵⁸¹ Nuke plant guards report hovering UFOs

By JON CRAIG
Staff Writer

Shotguns were drawn and the National Guard was notified, say some.

But officials of the New York Power Authority will not release details about what happened last summer at the Indian Point nuclear power complex during the reported sighting of an unidentified flying object near the reactor.

A dozen security officers at the Indian Point 3 nuclear plant

spotted a large UFO on July 24, 1984, according Philip Imbrogno, an astronomer with the Center for UFO Studies.

Imbrogno, of Greenwich, Conn., an investigator for the Evanston, Ill. center, said this week, "It was quite an incident and they were quite upset."

He said he interviewed six guards who contacted him about the sighting. They said the UFO was 900 feet long and hovered over the plant for 15 minutes, according to Imbrogno. There was a similar incident on June 14, he said.

Carl Patrick, a spokesman for NYPA, operator of Unit 3, confirmed the sightings but said, "It's a six-month-old story."

Larry Rossbach, a resident inspector with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, recalled Friday that guards were discussing the incident when he reported to work the following day.

Said Rossbach, "I didn't see it, (but) I remember some guys said they saw it. I accept them as reasonable people."

One security officer, who requested anonymity, said the object

was 100 feet long, looked like helicopters in V-formation, made some noise and hovered 300 yards above the plant. He said guards "broke out the shotguns."

John Branciforte, a power authority security coordinator, said Friday, "I think people are going to publish stories on hysteria (and) misinformation. As far as I'm concerned, it's pure speculation."

Regarding a report that officers "broke out the shotguns," the commander said, "We just don't do things like that. He (Imbrogno) could possibly be making it up or he took what they (witnesses) gave him and stretched it out."

Another officer, who also asked for anonymity, added, "I talked to some of the people who believe it was something, but some people let their imaginations get worked up. I believe it was nothing. I'm sure a lot of it was very badly inflated."

Patrick and Kenneth V. Spiro, zone sergeant for Troop K of the New York State Police, said they believed the sightings were Cessna 152s flown by pranksters out of Stormville Airport.

"As far as we're concerned,

NY-NYACK ROCKLAND
JOURNAL-NEWS
JAN 12 1985

there are no such things as UFOs," Spiro said Thursday.

Jeffrey Baughman of Dutchess County, who leases out two small aircraft which he says may have been involved in other reported UFO sightings, said Friday he doesn't know anything about the Indian Point incident, but, "It's possible that my plane was involved, but I wasn't."

He said pilots of private and commercial planes use the plant as a "handy landmark" when flying nearby. "From the air it's easy to pick out," Patrick said. "I don't know of any... regulations that restrict the airspace around Indian Point," he said.

Imbrogno said, "The commander gave the order to pull out the shotguns and they summoned Camp Smith, but we have no documents."

Imbrogno has filed a Freedom of Information request with the NRC and NYPA for documents on the sighting. Brian Norris, a regional NRC spokesman, said his agency received the request about three weeks ago but has no documentation of the sighting.

¹³⁸¹ Tricks of light created Rye UFOs

By Paul Kirby
Staff Writer

Tiny natural prisms in the atmosphere playing tricks with light may have created the "UFOs" that a Rye father and son reported Thursday, a meteorologist said Friday.

But Dr. William Gutsch, chairman of the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium in New York City, could not explain the shapes — hot dogs and dumbbells — that the two men said they saw fly above them in their back yard.

He also did not discount the possibility that the lights were attached to some sort of aircraft or the possibility that the sightings may have been of genuine unidentified flying objects.

Richard and Jonathan Koerner of Maple Drive in Rye said they saw about 25 different multi-colored light formations hover or fly past high in the sky while standing in their back yard Thursday evening.

The two described the lights as flying in formations shaped like Vs, hot dogs and dumbbells, between 6:15 and 7:15 p.m. Thursday. They said the lights were red, green, white and yellow.

A Rye police officer, Barbara Stella, said in a report that she also noticed strange objects. She couldn't explain Friday

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TRICKS OF LIGHT CON'T

what the objects were, but said she thought they might be gliders.

"I wasn't there as long as they were, but all I saw was two taillights," Ms. Stella said. "I don't know if it was a UFO."

Several widely viewed UFO sightings in northern Westchester last year reportedly were actually flights by several small-plane pilots turning their lights on and off in various combinations.

Gutsch, who writes the weekday "Sky Watch" column in this newspaper and appears on WABC-TV, offered two explanations for the multi-colored lights.

In winter, movements of the gaseous atmosphere above the earth may cause particles in the atmosphere to form tiny prisms that split light coming from stars or other heavenly bodies, causing a flashing of red, green and white, Gutsch said.

"It's a rapid blinking-type effect," he said. "During the winter months, the difference of the earth's temperature and the atmosphere's temperature allows this to happen."

Gutsch also said that at the time the sightings were reported the planet Venus was particularly bright. He said a bright object in a dark area will often spark an illusion of movement of the bright object.

"It's a looping kind of motion," he said.

AR LITTLE ROCK ARKANSAS GAZETTE JAN. 17 1985 Orange Object Seen in Sky; Poinsett County

By LAMAR JAMES
Gazette Staff

Authorities Baffled

HARRISBURG — Several law enforcement officers and residents in Poinsett County saw a bright orange light in the sky about 8 p.m. Monday that appeared to hover and move either slowly or rapidly.

"We still don't know what it was," Sheriff Jim Carter said Wednesday. "I'd hate to speculate. I don't want to get into letting my imagination get away with me. It's just a big question mark."

Trumann Police Chief Jim Furnish figures it was a weather balloon.

Ken Zigenbein, with the National Weather Service in North Little Rock, said the light sounded like a high-altitude weather balloon reflecting sun rays, but he

phone call about 8 p.m. Monday from a person at a Morrilton radio station asking what the object was.

The incident began with a call to the Trumann police from a "lady who said it was directly over her house on Monroe Street," Furnish said.

When asked to describe the object, "she just said there was a light out there," according to Furnish. Officer David Sanders was sent to investigate. The woman pointed it out to him. By this time it was hovering or moving slowly over the First Baptist Church on state Highway 69 just west of town, according to Sanders.

Sanders couldn't tell much about the object other than that it had a light and it didn't make any noise, Furnish said. Sheriff Carter said Sanders was "close to underneath it" and pointed his spotlight at the object, which appeared to be about 300 to 400 feet in the air, but there was no reflection off whatever was projecting the light.

'I noticed it, but I wasn't going to say anything. You know how that goes.'

— James Walker
Tyronza police chief

ting calls — 20 to 25 in all — from persons who saw the light. Deputy Sheriff Larry Mills, saw it and tried to follow it on a county gravel road, but lost sight of it near Weiner.

Because there was no sound, he thought it was an airplane that had lost power and was "trying to stretch a glide." However, he determined it was moving too slowly for an airplane. He said if

it was a balloon it was moving against the wind.

"It looked like a very huge star," he said. "You couldn't see any revolving lights or any of that good science fiction stuff."

"The officers [Sanders and Mills] are taking quite a bit of ribbing from the other officers," Carter said, but "they seen what they seen. We're not talking about inexperienced officers."

Another person who saw the light was James Walker, chief of the Tyronza Police Department.

"I noticed it, but I wasn't going to say anything," he said. "You know how that goes." He watched it through a telescope he had with him and said it appeared to be a bright ball of orange light. He said he observed it about 30 or 40 minutes, then "all of a sudden it just went out, boom." //

The object began moving southwest away from Trumann. The sheriff's office began get-

'We still don't know what it was. I'd hate to speculate. I don't want to get into letting my imagination get away with me. It's just a big question mark.'

— Jim Carter
Poinsett County sheriff

said the National Weather Service in Palestine, Tex., has not released such a balloon in a week. He said the Weather Service in North Little Rock received a tele-

Springs man is UFO prober

Newcomer still awaiting first encounter in region

By Ted Delaney
GT Staff Writer

Dennis Myers hates it when people talk about "close encounters."

Once, that phrase was a highly technical term used only by the intelligentsia of UFO research.

But, through the magic of Hollywood, it became a term well-known to all, part of the title of a movie about UFOs: "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

"Now, it's so trendy a term, I can't stand to use it," Myers, a Colorado Springs resident who serves as the area representative of the Mutual UFO Network Inc., said Wednesday in an interview.

But call it what you will, when it happens, Myers is ready to look into it.

MUFON, headquartered in Seguin, Texas, is a 1,500-member organization founded in 1969 for the purpose "of getting to the bottom of all these UFO sightings," Myers said.

There have been numerous sightings of unidentified flying objects in Colorado Springs over the years. A sampler includes:

■ A cold December morning in 1978, when a prominent Colorado Springs businessman and civic leader opened the curtains of his Cheyenne Mountain home at 4 a.m. — and stared straight out the window at a huge craft, "glittering with banks of lights, making a pulsating, whirring sound."

He reported it, but was adamant that his name not be revealed.

He said he didn't want people thinking he was crazy, "but I have no doubt it was people from outer space."

■ A night in August 1979, when six Colorado Springs residents reported a large UFO near Pikes Peak. Could have been a comet, they said. Except that it took a sudden 90-degree turn and headed off towards Woodland Park.

■ An evening in May 1983, when two Denver salesmen came out of the Palmer House Motel in Colorado Springs and saw "an immense flying triangle" that was "as big as a city block," but made no noise and shot across the sky at an incredible speed.

One of the men, an Army veteran, said, "The only explanation I could dream up as to what it could have been is someone made a kite as big as a city block, put five battery lights on it, and somehow it traveled 2,500 mph or more in a perfect pattern."

Things have been slower of late.

Myers said he hasn't been called to investigate any sightings for more than a year in Colorado or Minnesota, where he lived before moving recently to Colorado Springs. MUFON is not directly accessible by the public, to avoid crank calls, and Myers does not want to name his full-time employer in the Springs.

Sightings are relayed to him from the police or other government agencies.

The organization keeps a low profile, Myers said. It does not say that spacecraft containing people from other planets definitely exist. All it says is that there is some pretty interesting information.

CO-D4 COLORADO
SPRINGS GAZETTE
TELEGRAPH

JAN 17 1985

Myers serves as a Springs investigator for the group, visiting people who claim to have seen UFOs and reporting the information to his organization or to the Center for UFO Studies.

Myers said the great majority of UFO sightings can be dismissed as natural phenomena.

"The first thing I do when I talk to these people is to try to give them every possible reason why it wasn't a UFO," said Myers. "I don't stand there going, 'Golly, you seen a UFO ... Wow.'"

He said one of the most prevalent apparitions occurs when "ball lightning" flares near high-voltage power lines.

"Sometimes, you'll have some of these reports describing a non-ballistic action that's not consistent with that ball-lightning phenomenon, but it may be that the people did not clearly remember what they saw."

Myers said the most fascinating case to come to his attention happened in Minnesota.

"It involved a sheriff in Minnesota, Val Johnson," he said of the nationally publicized case.

"He was driving in his sheriff's car when he saw a bright light in a field. He drove toward it to investigate, and when he got within 150 yards, the light became too bright for him to see and came straight at his vehicle.

"His car was going about 60 mph. He said the brakes suddenly locked — although he may have hit the brakes himself, he wasn't sure — and skidded 370 feet and off the road.

"Johnson was able to get a radio signal off, but doesn't remember much else."

SPRINGS MAN (CONT)

Myers said authorities found Johnson in his car an hour and a half later.

"The physical evidence surrounding the case was unreal," he said.

"His chronometer in his car and his watch were both stopped at precisely the same time. His vehicle had no power. The

ionization theory was present, that the electricity in the vehicle had been ionized, that it was completely gone and the vehicle could not be restarted.

"And all the antennas on the vehicle — a police radio, a CB and an AM radio — were all bent at a perfect 90 degree angle."

Myers said the antennas were sent to an independent lab to be analyzed, and the results showed no marks that could have been pliers or other tools. On the basis of the analysis, the lab found that the most plausible explanation was that the antennas were hit by an object traveling 152,000 mph.

MD-D3 BALTIMORE SUN JAN 28 1985

Some UFOs are best when they're left

unidentified

John Lutz's annual report came in the mail the other day. Lutz, as you may recall, is Baltimore's own expert on UFOs and other unexplainable phenomena.

We first ran into Lutz when we were conducting our own little UFO investigation here after seeing some mighty strange lights float across the sky one dark night a couple of summers ago.

In the end, the lights turned out to have been attached to some mighty ordinary flying objects known as airplanes.

Well, that's how it goes in the UFO biz. You win some and you lose some.

All was not lost, however, for the investigation evidently got us onto Lutz's mailing list.

So here we are with his 14th annual report on weirdness in Mary-

don't ask me why.)

In any case, the report says Lutz and fellow members of his Odyssey Research group have investigated a total of no less than 782 calls about "Strange Phenomena" since 1971.

Last year alone, they said they checked out 22 reported UFO sightings; one call from a person who thought he had seen a Bigfoot monster near the Patapsco River in Carroll county (it turned out to be a bear); 51 calls from people who claimed to have seen cougars, which are officially classified as "extinct," and seven calls that Lutz put in the "unusual nature" category.

The most memorable of the "unusual nature" incidents took place on the Eastern Shore, near Easton, last September.

According to Lutz and a State Police officer who confirmed the story,

Thomas Andrews was sitting in his trailer at the Swan Haven trailer park when he heard a loud whistling sound outside.

"He ran outside and looked up just in time to see a big ball of bluish-greenish ice come crashing to the ground," Lutz said. "It was as big as a basketball and looked like it might have weighed 50 pounds or more."

Thomas called the State Police. Cpl. Thursby Cooper responded to the scene 20 minutes later.

"It was all over the yard when I got there," Cooper recalled. "It was melting fast, but there was still so much that it would have been bigger than a basketball if you had scooped it all back together again."

"It was quite evident that nobody

could have thrown it there, and that it had hit the Earth with great force. If it had hit the trailer, it would have gone right through the roof.

"I've been with the State Police for 16 years, but this was the first time I'd seen anything like this. I didn't have any idea what it was."

Fearing radioactivity, Cooper rushed to the local Civil Defense headquarters and returned, armed with a Geiger counter.

The material was not radioactive, but it was beginning to smell "something awful," Cooper said.

Nevertheless, the policeman scooped up about 2 pounds of the strange material in a large can and

took it to police headquarters.

The police notified Lutz, who rushed to the scene.

"I've been working for years on

things that fall out of the sky," Lutz said. "This sounded like what we call an ice meteorite. Nobody knows where they come from, but there have been a number of well-documented cases of big chunks of ice that have fallen from the sky. This sounded like it might be one of them."

"Some meteorologists think these ice chunks are hailstones that get caught in some kind of air current and keep growing. But some UFO authorities think aliens may be shelling the Earth with ice bombs. Some say it's a form of psychological warfare."

"Personally," Lutz said, "I've seen so many strange things in the last 14 years, I'd believe anything. Believe me, there's a lot of strange

MATT

SEIDEN



land and the surrounding areas. (For some unexplainable reason, the heaviest concentration of unexplainable happenings was reported in West Virginia, especially in November, which is apparently the busiest month for unexplainable things —

See SEIDEN, 2D, Col. 1

CONT
NEXT
PAGE

UFOs ARE BEST (CONT)

things happening."

Trying to get to the bottom of this one, Lutz called the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Goddard Space Flight Center. He said they weren't interested.

However, he did find a professor at the University of Maryland who agreed to perform some tests on the strange substance.

A few days later, Lutz said, the professor called with the results.

"I hate to tell you this," the professor said. "The ice is a combination of frozen urine and a sanitizing agent used in airplane toilets."

Lutz broke the news to Cooper and the man at the Swan Haven trailer park.

"I guess it would have been more exciting if he had said it came from some other planet or something," Cooper said. "But now at least we know why it smelled so bad."

"It's just one of those things," Lutz said, philosophically. "You win some and you lose some in this business. This was one we lost."

But, even if the blue ice was not exactly an alien missile launched in a campaign of psychological terror against the good people of the Swan Haven trailer park, there is still a question here that remains unexplained and, as Lutz said, of the most "unusual nature."

That is: Exactly how does 50 pounds of frozen urine escape from the toilet of a passing plane? //

THE TORONTO SUN
JAN. 30 1985

Soviet air travellers report UFO sighting

MOSCOW (UPI) — The crew and passengers of a Soviet airliner flying at night over Minsk spotted an unidentified flying object that sent beams of light to the ground below, the newspaper *Trud* said yesterday.

The UFO left a green cloud in its wake that flew alongside the airliner at 30,000 feet until it landed in Latvia, said the newspaper.

"The pilots saw what appeared to be a large, unblinking star suddenly shed a thin ray of light which fell plumb down on the ground," *Trud* said. It was followed by two more light beams which formed a cone.

All four crew members in the cockpit

reported they "could see distinctly everything down in the sector of the ground illuminated by the cone-shaped shaft of light, the houses and the roads."

The light suddenly shot back into the UFO, which they said was hovering at 25-30 miles in the air. "It then flared up, leaving a green cloud in its stead," the report said, without giving a date for the incident.

"The green cloud then dropped straight down below the altitude at which the airliner was cruising, then climbed up again in a similar fashion, positioning itself right opposite the plane at a height of 10,000 metres (30,000 feet) and accompanying it in this way 'til the end of the flight like an honorary escort," the pilot reported.

THE
TORONTO STAR
JAN 30 1985

'Green cloud' shadowed jet Soviets say

MOSCOW (Reuter) — An account of a mysterious "green cloud" sending out powerful shafts of light and flying in tandem with an airliner appeared in a Soviet newspaper today.

The experienced pilot and crew of a Soviet Tupolev 134 airliner noticed a large, yellow, elongated spot at 4 a.m. local time Over Byelorussia, the trade union daily *Trud* said.

The unidentified flying object — UFO — sent down three cones of white light, clearly illuminating houses and roads from a height estimated by the crew at about 50 kilometres (30 miles), *Trud* said.

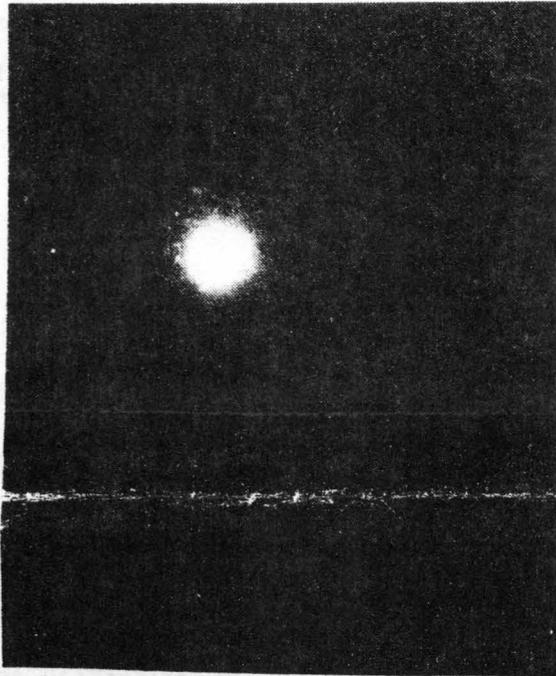
The light then flared up and turned into a green cloud, which shot towards the plane. After zooming up and down and either side of the airliner, the object took up station to one side.

"An honor escort — what a distinction for us . . ." muttered Captain Igor Cherkashin, who has 7,500 hours flying experience.

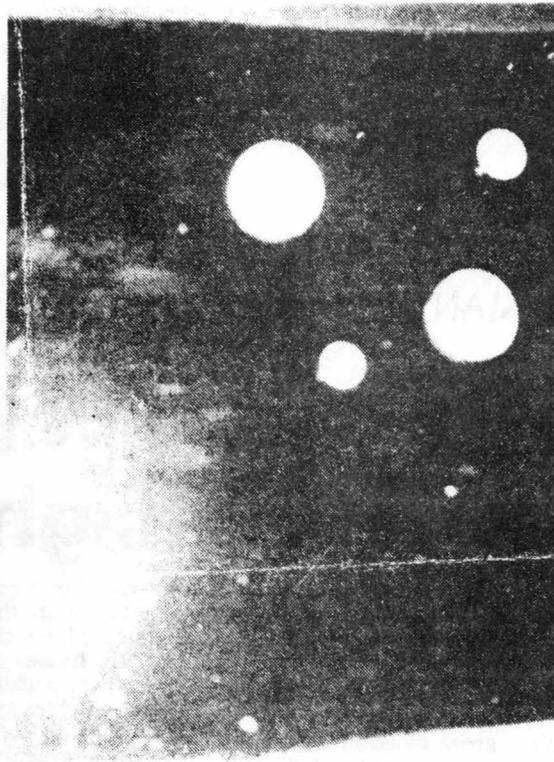
The strange cloud was seen by passengers on the flight, from Georgia to Tallinn, by the crew of another airliner that passed 16 kilometres (10 miles) away and by air traffic controllers in Tallinn who picked it up on radar.

HUNTS POST, HUNTINGDON (ENGLAND) JAN 17 1985

DID YOU SEE THESE UFOs?



The last of the UFOs spotted by Mr Trevor Singleton.



Some of the strange flying objects captured on film by Mr Trevor Singleton.

Trevor says he photographed 'strange flying objects'

Strange flying objects have been sighted by Huntingdon youth Trevor Singleton.

Trevor (16) says he was sitting watching darts on television, when he heard strange noises outside the window of his house at 31 Trent Street. Said Trevor: 'I was sitting in my front-room just after midnight on January 3, when I heard a loud sort of hissing. Then I opened the curtains, looked straight out and saw these objects. So I dashed for my camera, saw one, and then a few more came over.'

Trevor described them as a mixture between a creamy and a

very light green colour and about ten in number. They were moving from west to south: 'First there was one and then two clusters and one orange one following the rest. The quickest took about five seconds and the slowest about 12 to move across. They were either very far away, or very big and close to the ground.'

Trevor who attends St Peter's School and does work experience at the House of Glass, stressed that he was not a UFO spotter. 'I wouldn't really like to say what they were,' he said.

He was interested to find out whether anyone had made similar sightings on the same night.

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST JAN 8 1985
ENGLAND

Those mysterious

JOHN Wellington has dismissed my report into the unusual events over Leeds and surrounding districts on July 23, 1984, without having even read it.

The Yorkshire UFO Society, and those who know how well we research cases such as this particular one, is not interested in making political capital out of its findings.

lights

However, factual evidence is presented in the report, and based on that evidence, we are the only group of people who have given a detailed explanation

into mysterious lights, that, if military, and if where our 38 witnesses say they saw them, were breaking every Civil Aviation rule in the book.

That there should be total silence from civilian and military air authorities in our region speaks for itself. However, residents who live close to Leeds and Bradford Airport, and who have seen certain

military flights there, may be interested to learn that according to our Ministry of Defence, not a single military aircraft / helicopter uses the tarmac.

Finally, it was the military helicopter establishment at Topcliffe that gave us the information about their lights being capable of melting tarmac, and had Mr. Wellington asked to read my report, that fact would have emerged, along with dozens more.

G. W. BIRDSALL
(President) Yorkshire
UFO Society, Miles Hill
Street, Leeds.

31 Close encounters of the Crawford kind

By PETER OLAFSON

PINE BUSH — Ellen B. Crystall says spacecraft have touched down in a cornfield on Route 52, near the Jewish cemetery across the road and on a grassy hill off Hill Avenue. She says the visitors have been digging. She says she has seen one of them on Hill Avenue.

It was short and yellow with big wraparound yellow eyes. Ms. Crystall says it looked like Gumby. It looked at her. The creature said nothing, although Ms. Crystall tried to start a conversation.

Ms. Crystall is 34 years old and lives with her parents in a two-story house in New Milford, N.J. From the upstairs bathroom she says she has seen triangular spacecraft. The parents teach; Ms. Crystall is studying for a doctoral degree in music composition at New York University. She writes electronic and popular music, and people who have heard her compositions say she's good. (Her arrangements have been published by Warner Brothers, her music has been broadcast on WNYC and her adviser at school believes her stuff is being considered for release by a record company.) She runs the properties department for the New Jersey State Opera in Newark. She sometimes works in data-processing. "A last resort," she says. She studies karate, working for a green belt, and she likes chocolate chip cookies. She gets to the movies. She liked "Starman" but thought "2010" was awful.

A conventional person, with something unusual on her mind.

Ellen Crystall saw her first Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) in Hollywood in the summer of 1971. She has seen so many since then that she sometimes has thought they were following her. She has been monitoring town of Crawford skies since July 18, 1980, when she visited a Hill Avenue couple with Harry Lebelson, a writer from Omni magazine. She says the couple was "terrorized" by UFOs that would pass over their house and make it shake. She says the four drove a mile down the road, got out of the car and immediately were surrounded by 20 triangular ships. It was like Grand Central Station, she adds. The ships were landing. They made no sound. They followed the car, just missing it.

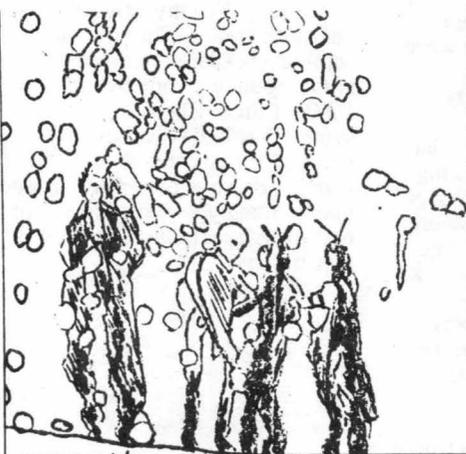
"I can see the insurance company when I say a spacecraft hit the car," she says.

The Crawford visitations had already peaked. By that October, the spacecraft were fewer and by November they were



Record photo by Mike Ca

Ellen B. Crystall in one of the Crawford fields where she has watched UFOs.



Ms. Crystall says she made this drawing of aliens by tracing a photograph she took.

CON'T
NEXT
PAGE

ENCOUNTER CRAWFORD CON'T

gone. They would stay away for 3½ years, but Ms. Crystall says they came back last summer. And they are still there.

Why Crawford? It is flat and sparsely populated, a place a spaceship could call home. Ms. Crystall does not know who the occupants of the spaceships are, and she does not know what they want. But she has noticed them digging, taking plants, she suggests. She compares this to her habit of picking up seashells when she goes to the beach.

Ms. Crystall may make the 65-mile trip from Bergen County to Crawford three or four times a week, with as many as six other people in the car. Her visits have been cut to about twice a week since the cold weather came.

On one recent clear evening, she and a friend stood in a snow-crunchy cornfield watching a light winking in the west. Blue, red, blue, red, winked the light.

With Heather Broad, a 42-year-old secretary from Maywood, N.J., Ms. Crystall had been up there the night before, too. They had seen something that looked like a star. Only it was flying.

They said they had seen something besides the star. It was huge and it had yellow lights, and Ms. Crystall would decide later that it was rectangular.

Ms. Crystall says she has been told by an air-traffic controller at Stewart International Airport to expect about two real planes in Crawford skies every half-hour. There may have been a half-dozen lights moving on this Sunday night in the middle of January. Nothing close enough to be seen as anything other than lights, although Ms. Crystall kept coaxing, "Come on down, what're you scared of?"

Ms. Crystall said later that she had seen about 20 spacecraft or planes that behaved like spacecraft in two hours.

To a guest on the UFO expedition, the lights looked like the lights of plane.

Not to Ms. Crystall. She argued there would not have been so many, and they would not have behaved so strangely, so "blatant." The light on the front of regular planes would not have varied in intensity as these front lights did. Planes would not have stayed around, as some of these were sticking around. They would not have hovered, as some of these seemed to be hovering.

Ms. Crystall says half the people she has talked to in the area have seen something in the sky, whether the something was right over their house or a light in the sky doing unusual things. A "very small percentage" tell her it is impossible, she says. She says they do not want to believe.

But: "We haven't been getting reports from that area," says a man in the safety office at the Lockheed Air Terminal at Stewart International Airport.

Dairy farmer Carl H. Balbach hasn't seen anything, either. He has lived on Route 52 for 38 years. He has worked and snowmobiled in the cornfield across from the cemetery, and owns the cornfield beside it. (He says his son spotted Ms. Crystall there as recently as November).

"If this is her thing, well, fine," Balbach said. "It's not that I agree with her or disagree with her. I don't deny the fact that maybe they saw something." But he figures something landing would make impressions in the snow, the corn, the grass.

Ms. Crystall did show him some perfectly spaced spots in the grass, "as though something sat down." But Balbach observes that deer resting after they've had a bite to eat may make such spots, though the spots wouldn't necessarily all be the same distance apart.

Peter Gersten, a Peekskill attorney who has sued the government for release of UFO documents under the Freedom of Information Act, hasn't gotten any reports

from Crawford, either. He says he has heard from Ms. Crystall four or five times on the telephone. "She seems a little too far out for me," he says. "A little too exuberant about her sightings. Ellen Crystall's an enthusiast. Sometimes, I get the impression, a little too enthusiastic."

And Town of Crawford Police Chief Dan McCann says he hasn't had any reports of UFOs since the mid-1970s, when then-police officer Robert Comeau told him about one he'd seen. Comeau, now maintenance supervisor at the Eastern Correctional Facility at Napanoch, says a flying saucer hovered for 45 minutes 500 yards from his house in 1972. He says it made the hair on his neck stand up. "It wasn't swamp gas," he says.

Comeau says he hasn't seen anything since then. McCann, who lives in the area where Ms. Crystall has been looking, says he has not seen anything at all.

Philip Imbrogno, an investigator with the Bridgeport, Conn., chapter of the Center for UFO Studies, says he has received 12 to 14 reports of UFOs from the Pine Bush area in the last six months: particularly of a large circular or elliptic lighted object at high altitude that makes right-angle turns. He says these are similar to reports from Putnam and Westchester counties last July.

Imbrogno says Ms. Crystall is "incredibly dedicated," does research and interviews and was involved in "a number of major (UFO) investigations that did turn out quite well. . . . But personally, I think someone needs to be more objective in studying such a controversial subject as UFOs. I think Ellen Crystall belongs to (the group) that believes they are intelligent beings from another world who visit the Earth." He says they may instead be unexplained phenomena, new kinds of energy, natural forces beyond the range of instruments.

The area police know of Ms. Crystall; McCann says they received a couple of concerned calls about her last summer from people who wanted to know who this person in their fields was. McCann asked her to let the police know when she was around, and to notify the people who own the land where she wanted to station herself. He is mainly concerned for people's safety, and worries about jacklighters — hunters who blind deer with light to make them freeze in place. He will not offer an opinion of what the skies hold.

"Who knows?" he asks. "Maybe it's possible." Many say "who knows?"

"She may be right," says Balbach.

Ms. Crystall is devoted to her cause. She gets a happy sound in her voice when talking about what she says she has seen, and she also sounds serious.

"I tend to analyze situations," she says. "I'm not given to quick judgments. My personal opinion doesn't matter. I'm going by what I see."

It is not easy to argue with Ms. Crystall; a believer does not easily take no for an answer. When a plane passes overhead, she will sometimes say it is one of their planes. ("When you're in a country area and happen to stop on the road and an object flies directly overhead. . . .") When a reporter's camera jams in the cold and when static clogs a long-distance call, she observes it's interesting what things happen when UFOs are being discussed.

She dismisses conventional explanations for UFOs. They aren't, she says, ultra-light aircraft (a made-up story to put people off the track); weather balloons ("too nebulous. . . that high up it's not going to look like anything"); swamp gas ("There's methane in swamps, but it doesn't do anything"); or advertising planes (she claims there aren't that many advertising planes in the whole country).

Ms. Crystall started clipping stories about UFOs from newspapers when she was 10. She says she saw one close up in May 1971 when she was walking home from work in Hollywood.

The craft did not make a sound. Inside, she could see computer lights and a creature steering the spaceship with a joystick. It had a large head, was thin and wore a jumpsuit. She had the impression it was male.

Later, when she was back East, strange lights followed her car in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. It started to annoy her. She thought she was being watched.

In 1978, she saw the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." She saw that what had happened to her had happened to other people.

She joined a UFO group in New Jersey. And she found that some people were jealous of her.

"Everybody wants to have one (a close encounter)," she says. "Even if they say they don't, they do."

Peter Olafson is a staff writer in the Warwick bureau of The Times Herald-Record.

IL. CHICAGO SUN
TIMES FEB 3 1985

FL-SUN SENTINEL
FORT LAUDERDALE FLA.
JAN 31 1985

LONGVIEW, WA.
(COWLITZ CO.)
NEWS
JAN 1 1985

1381
**Soviets
report
UFO near
airliner**

MOSCOW (UPI)—The crew and passengers of a Soviet airliner flying at night over Minsk spotted an unidentified flying object shooting beams of green light to the ground, the newspaper Trud has reported.

The UFO left a green cloud in its wake that soared up and down alongside the aircraft, then flew a parallel at an altitude of 30,000 feet until it landed in Latvia.

"The pilots saw what appeared to be a large, unblinking star suddenly shed a thin ray of light which fell plumb down on the ground," Trud said. It was followed by two light beams that formed a cone.

All four crew members in the cockpit reported they "could distinctly see everything down in the sector of the ground illuminated by the cone-shaped shaft of light, the houses and the roads."

The light suddenly shot back into the UFO, which they said was hovering at 25-30 miles in the air. "It then flared up, leaving a green cloud in its stead," Trud said, without giving a date.

"The green cloud then dropped straight down below the altitude at which the airliner was cruising, then climbed up again in a similar fashion, positioning itself right opposite the plane at a height of 10,000 meters (30,000 feet) and accompanying it in this way till the end of the flight like an honorary escort," the pilot reported.

Nikolai Zheltukhin, a member of the Academy of Sciences, said there was only one conclusion: "The airliner's crew encountered what we call an unidentified flying object."

1381
Facts of life

UFO encounter

Back in 1962, Betty and Barney Hill were a happily anonymous couple. That is until they took a fateful journey down a dark and lonely backwoods road in New Hampshire. Before the night was over, the couple would lose two hours of their lives.

It was only after recurring nightmares and a succession of visits to a psychiatrist that the couple was finally able to account for the disappearing time. Under hypnosis, the story that John Fuller would later retell in *Interrupted Journey* eventually emerged: Betty and Barney Hill had been taken aboard a UFO and medically examined.

Barney has since died, but Betty is still sought out by UFO-researchers. And she'll be on hand Saturday and Sunday when the Florida Society for Psychical Research Inc., presents "A Weekend Exploration into the UFO Phenomenon."

Scheduled is an impressive lineup of speakers including psychiatrists, a physicist, an electrical engineer and Budd Hopkins, author of *Missing Time*.

Those interested may attend all or just part of the weekend activities. Cost is \$55 for the full weekend (\$45 for pre-registration), \$22 for half a day; \$6 for the evening lectures. The center is located at 2005 Jackson St., Hollywood. For information call 920-4623.

— Margo Harakas //

**Lack of funds
stalls search
for UFO wreck**

BELLINGHAM (AP) — Members of an underwater expedition searching for an unidentified flying object reported to have splashed down last summer say they have sighted something off Lummi Island, but are postponing activities for lack of money.

There was some confusion Monday among the Seattle divers as to what was sighted, and there was no separate confirmation that the UFO of last summer was the item spotted on the ocean bottom between Lummi and Eliza islands, near Bellingham.

A saucerlike object was sighted Sunday, said divers, but seven hours of searching aboard a 58-foot fishing boat Monday yielded no clues, said diver Richard Burke. He and another diver went into the water Monday, but reportedly found nothing.

Burke and another diver, John Walker, both reported seeing a strange object at about 180 feet in depth in separate dives Sunday.

"It's not a boat and it's not a plane," said Walker. "It's not a rock and it's not wood. It's shaped like a satellite dish."

Burke described the object as an upside-down tea cup with a cavity in it, and both divers agreed there appeared to be a 4-inch lip around the edge of the object.

However, on Monday the six-member group said it appeared Walker and Burke had observed different objects at different locations, because of differing locations and descriptions.

Burke lamented that members of the expedition had not placed a buoy to mark the location of the object that was apparently easily located Sunday.

Burke estimated at least \$5,000 was needed to pay off bills accumulated during the three-day attempt to locate the UFO, which was reported last July by fishermen.

Sam Sudore, spokesman for the group and owner of Northern Pacific Seafoods in Bellingham, said, "We're not going to give up. We're going to go for it."

The expedition was organized to locate and recover remnants of whatever caused an orange fireball that two fishermen on a fish tender reported seeing hit the water July 27 between Lummi and Eliza islands.

UFOs fascinate the Russians, too

A STORY IN *The New York Times* a few days back highlighted the fact that the Russian people are just as fascinated with unexplained phenomena as we are.

Specifically, the story was referring to a new UFO sighting, but along the way it said the Soviets are suckers for tales of abominable snowmen, the Bermuda Triangle, the search for the lost city of Atlantis, and sea monsters here and there.

Anyway, this latest UFO sighting as reported in a labor union newspaper called *Trud* was a humdinger.

It seems an airplane was flying about 75 miles from Minsk when, at 4:10 a.m., the crew saw a bright yellow light that was shooting a thin white ray toward the ground.

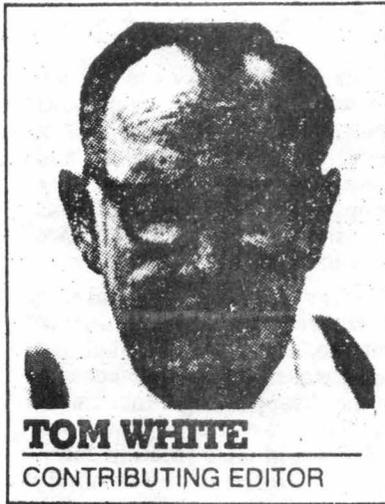
As they watched, the ray turned into concentric cones of light and then seemed to form a green cloud that took the shape of a plane and crossed their flight path.

At this point passengers on the plane became worried and asked what was going on.

The captain, one Igor Cherkashin, instructed the flight attendants to tell the passengers "the yellow thing is a reflection of city lights and the green thing of polar lights."

When the Russian plane landed at Tallinn, ground controllers informed the crew that they had been tracking their plane on the radar screen and had seen not one blip, but two.

Trud's story dealt with the sobriety of the crew. It gave their names, their educational backgrounds and their individual flight experience. In short, they were all reliable and believable people.



All of this lead Nikolai N. Zheitunghin, a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences, to rule out weather as an explanation. He said a genuine UFO was involved.

Now this latest sighting is just one of 300 reported over the years in the Soviet Union, according to one scientist. However, a commission established by the Soviet Air Force in 1967 to study the phenomenon steadfastly refuses to make its findings public.

Meanwhile the Russians are still wrestling with one of that nation's greatest continuing mysteries.

What caused a mighty explosion that devastated 1,500 square miles of central Siberia in 1908?

The basic facts are that about 7 a.m. on June 30, 1908, an object moved over the vast central Siberia landscape and exploded with a force that flattened trees over 830 square miles, ignited forests over a larger region and produced an earthquake.

Scientists equated the blast as equiv-

alent to a 35-megaton bomb. It was felt 600 miles away.

Over the ensuing years the most common explanation offered was that the blast was caused by a comet or meteorite.

But now the newspaper *Izvestia* reports that after a meeting of the afore-mentioned Academy of Sciences, a scientist identified only as N. Vassiliev said:

"The explosion cannot be considered within the concepts accepted so far."

Vassiliev said there is proof that just before it exploded, the object changed from an east-to-west direction to move north. That wouldn't have happened with a comet or meteorite.

Also, Vassiliev said, lead previously retrieved from the area has proved to be 11 billion years old — about three times the age of Earth.

"Phenomena produced by it," Vassiliev said, "may testify to the existence in space of matter unknown to us — a meeting with an extraterrestrial space vehicle or a probe. There are scientists who consider that the objective data that is available now does not exclude this possibility."

Now the Academy of Sciences is conducting a new investigation to consider that very possibility — a probe of an extraterrestrial civilization placed within the solar system or even on an orbit around the Earth.

As Red Buttons used to say, "Strange things are happening," and the Russians have their share of them.

It should also be noted that as a people they go for science fiction in a big way.

Maybe that's what all this is about, but it would be more fun if it doesn't turn out that way.

1381 Soviet airliner given 'escort' by UFO

MOSCOW (AP) — Pilots and passengers aboard a Soviet airliner have reported encountering a star-like UFO they said illuminated the ground with a dazzling beam and followed them to their destination, a Soviet newspaper reported.

The newspaper Trud Wednesday quoted a Soviet scientist who specializes in unusual phenomena, including unidentified flying objects, as saying the occurrence was "undoubtedly abnormal."

An Aeroflot domestic flight from the Georgian capital of Tbilisi to Tallinn in Estonia was approaching Minsk when "what appeared to be a large, unblinking star suddenly shed a thin ray of light which fell directly

down on the ground" from an altitude of 25 to 30 miles, the newspaper said.

"Ground control at the time registered splashes on its screens in the same part of air space," Trud said. The date of the flight was not given.

Co-pilot Gennady Lazurin told an air controller in Minsk about the sighting and was told at first that nothing could be seen on ground radar, the newspaper said.

"Oh well, they'll be saying we're not normal," Lazurin was quoted as saying.

All four crew members reported they "could see distinctly everything down in the sector of the ground illu-

minated by the cone-shaped shaft of light — the houses and the roads," the newspaper said.

It said the ray suddenly focused on the plane.

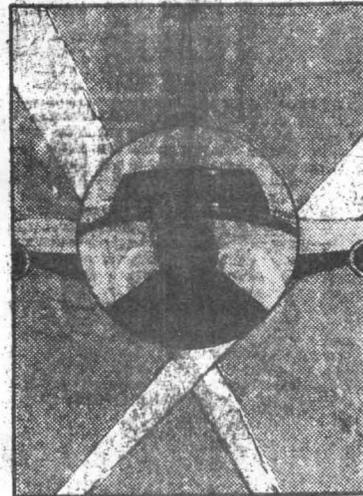
"The pilots saw a dazzling white spot surrounded by concentric colored rings," Trud said.

The UFO then reportedly zoomed toward the airliner "at flashing speed," leaving a green cloud in its wake.

The UFO positioned itself beside the plane at an altitude of 33,000 feet and accompanied it for the rest of the flight "like an honorary escort," the newspaper quoted one of the pilots as saying.

Nikolai Zheltukhin, a corresponding member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and deputy chairman of a state commission on unexplained phenomena, told Trud the occurrence "is indeed of interest, although the commission already knows of similar cases.

"That the object reversed course



Chronicle

instantaneously and reached the ground with a ray of light of unusual intensity from a very high altitude is undoubtedly abnormal," Zheltukhin was quoted as saying.

In 1967, the Soviet Union established a special air force commission to investigate UFO sightings, but few details of its work have ever been released.

Belief in unverified phenomena like UFOs has officially been discouraged in the past, although Soviet news media periodically report unusual sightings.

Russian UFO enthusiasts have given lectures on the subject and circulated underground reports on their views. There have also been several expeditions to the Himalayas in search of the abominable snowman.

A special documentary was presented on Soviet television in 1981, disputing the existence of UFOs, the Loch Ness monster, the Bermuda Triangle and other unexplained phenomena.

LANCASTER HOUSE 70 NEWINGTON CAUSEWAY
LONDON S.E.1 FEB 1 1985

RED SKIES

AT NIGHT ARE EVERY ALIEN'S DELIGHT

STOKE ON TRENT EVENING
SENTINEL ENGLAND
FEB 4 1985

Wolstanton boy sparks U.F.O alert

Police at Newcastle are investigating reports of a U.F.O. sighting at the weekend.

Teenager Nicholas Gregory was with three friends on Wolstanton Marsh yesterday afternoon when he saw a bright light travelling towards Keele.

Nicholas was alerted by three friends who had first spotted the light about 10 minutes before.

"I've been interested in U.F.O.s for about five years so they phoned me up and

told me to come and have a look," said 13-year-old Nicholas of Marsh-avenue, Wolstanton.

The light was also seen by Mr. Mervyn Edwards, who was playing football at Wolstanton.

Both sightings happened between 3.30 and 4.30 p.m. yesterday. Police at Cheadle also received reports of another sighting of a bright light over Tean-road, on Saturday night between 8 p.m. and 8.30 p.m.

WEEKLY NEWS
LONDON
FEB 9 1985

UFO SIGHTING

THE passengers and crew of a Russian airliner are certain they were shadowed by a UFO on a recent flight.

They say a green cloud flew up and down in front of the plane and then followed alongside. The cloud was also picked up on traffic control radar.

YORKSHIRE
EVENING POST LEEDS
JAN 4 1985

Fancy that!

DO YOU remember anything odd about the night of July 23 last year?

According to the main headline in Bradford's evening newspaper you certainly should. The Telegraph and Argus reported on Monday an astounding theory put forward by one Mr. Gerry Birdsall, described as president of the Yorkshire UFO Society.

Mr. Birdsall says there was a succession of UFO sightings over Yorkshire that night and came up with the theory that "silent" helicopters equipped with lights so powerful that they were capable of boiling tarmac at close range were engaged on plotting the county's pits and power stations.

Mr. Birdsall hints at some mysterious military involvement, but this seems somewhat unambitious on his part.

Surely the Army would have had the gumption to buy maps instead of deploying "silent" helicopters?

On the other hand little green men might have felt somewhat shy at the prospect of slipping into Austicks book shops and on this ground, if no other, intruders from outer space seem the more likely candidates.

Why might they be interested? Perhaps the silent helicopters and their furious lights are coal-fired.

If so, they may feel that their resources are endangered by Mr. Scargill's strike.

This may be an entertaining theory but it is far more likely to be a severe case of Uninhibited Fanciful Observations

If extra-terrestrials are preparing to visit earth, they're planning a Russian holiday.

For pilots have reported so many UFO sightings in Russian skies that the Red Air Force has set up a special investigation committee, it was revealed yesterday.

The latest came when the crew of Aeroflot flight 8352 from Rostov to Tallinn saw a bright yellow light shoot a thin ray to the ground.

Ground controllers later told them their radar screens showed the airliner being pursued by unexplained blips.

It was also reported yesterday that Soviet investigations have established at least 300 UFO sightings that cannot be explained away.

They include a 1976 UFO that hovered for 36 hours over the town of Nalchik, a 1961 flying saucer that appeared above a railway crossing near Moscow, stalling all motor engines for 45 minutes, and a series of incidents in which airliners have been "pursued."

A Light Look At UFO's

As I have a lifelong interest in flying matters, with the folklore of such old Suffolk research stations as Martlesham Heath, Felixstowe, Orfordness and Bawdsey wrapped about my ears, I have always filed UFO press stories.

But, while I have never paid much serious attention to UFO sightings simply because there were so many other unsolved incidents nearer home, I did have my eyes opened in Soho, London, at lunch time on May 7, 1977, when, clawing through a box of old books on a street cart, I discovered a solitary, military-like manual of fifty pages entitled *UFO Guide and Handbook*.

by Christopher R. Elliott

With the introduction dated London, 1957, which is quarter of a century ago, the manual stated that "the USAF at first investigated, then denied, and finally admitted the existence of UFOs"

Interestingly, the contents of the manual were dateable because the compiler, Clifford Thornton by name, said his analysis covered sightings made "during the last nine years" which meant that we were concerned with the early post war years into the middle 1950s.

The manual, which I added to my UFO file, claimed that in 1957 there were "14 different types of UFO, in five broad categories... type I — large cigar-shaped craft; type II — flying saucers; type III — annular craft; type IV — disc-shaped low-flying craft; type V — small spherical remote-controlled craft".

Referring to type IV, the manual described one version as descending almost to the ground. It was "thought to be a manned low-level reconnaissance/photographic craft, perhaps topographical survey." The description concluded: "Not many sightings have taken place as, usually, the machine operates late at night or early in the morning, but

always after dark".

In 1938-1939, when my brother was an apprentice at R.A.F. Halton, in Buckinghamshire he told me in a letter of experiments he had seen round London involving "coloured searchlights" — an effort, it transpired, to find a coloured beam that would not immediately tell the pilot of a plane that he had been detected from the ground.

10, informed him: "Last Sunday I was taken near one of those secret ray or beam stations which they are building here and there". The station was Bawdsey.

Thus wonders never cease and we should always try to be rational in our conclusions when, as often happens today, we are faced with manifestations for which there seem to be no ready public explana-



I have no idea to this day what resulted from these weird probings of the night sky. All I know is that all the Suffolk searchlights I saw waving around between 1939 and 1945 (some waved all night to detect crippled planes) were of the ordinary kind.

But a relative of mine, who spent most of his working life in America, worked for an American company during the war which developed a form of "invisible light" which enabled aircraft carriers, as an example, to land planes at night on blacked out decks when enemy planes were about!

When Britain established the first radar stations along the east and south east coasts in the 1930s, many strange stories circulated as to what they could do. One tale in Suffolk was that they were capable of "upsetting the carburetors of aeroplanes and motor vehicles". So a letter I wrote to my brother on March 12, 1939, when I was

Although the phenomenon of UFO's was known centuries ago, they were first publicised only towards the end of world war two. The Basel Brood-sheet of 1566 depicts a happening on August 7 of that year, at sunrise, when "many large black globes were seen in the air moving with great speed".

tion.

I wonder what the *News Of The World*, which in 1980 turned up an alleged UFO sighting in Suffolk, would make of the following war time happening in Suffolk?

On the morning of February 19, 1941, while foresters were cutting fires lanes in the middle of Compartment No. 20 of the forest of Eyke, the point being 2,200 yards east of Bromeswell Church on the north side of the Butley-Melton road, they found a map portion of East Anglia. Curiously, the top of the small Scotch fir tree, under which the map piece was discovered, was found broken. The facts were reported to the police and the tree left undisturbed for expert examination.

While some of us might well suggest that a German spy landed by parachute, clipping the tree, or that the R.A.F. dropped someone by parachute they were bringing in secret from the continent in order to hide the success of the rescue mission, I am inclined to believe that an ordinary R.A.F. or Army parachutist, perhaps on a routine escape and evasion exercise, clipped the tree.

As for mysterious lights (lighthouse beams sometimes rotate inland when mirrors or reflectors are out of their usual position), I have never heard it suggested that, with all the thousands of pieces of space vehicles now orbiting the earth, it is conceivable that the gyration of sections of, for example, tin-foil insulation cladding could be the explanation of mysterious spots of light brushing us on earth caused by sun rays or moon beams catching them.

Lastly — and it is only a lay view because UFOs don't mean a great deal to me — I suggest that, considering all the radio and radar pulses (and much else) emitted from the earth during and after world war two, there is a remote possibility that extra-terrestrial forms, about which we know little, may be responding in the shape of what we term UFOs.

What is certain is that, unlike us, they are unwarlike as I've no record of anyone being hurt or snatched from the earth by such a machine.

Bright sky light mystery

AN EPSOM couple think they saw an unidentified flying object last Wednesday morning.

The huge object beamed brilliantly in the distance and was "brighter than anything we've ever seen", they said.

Mrs Molly Crafter, 72, drew the curtains at 6.40 am and saw the "UFO", which appeared to be miles away from her Asley Court flat, in Ashley Road.

She called her husband, Bill, 74, who got out of bed and was just as amazed at the sight.

"We were both dumb-founded," said Mrs Crafter.

"The sky was beautifully clear, and I saw this brilliant light in the distance to the east, Croydon way.

"It was stationery for about 30 seconds then it suddenly started up and veered to the left at a fast rate. As it was going, the light got dim-

mer and dimmer.

"I know I wasn't mistaken and their wasn't any clouds."

Ewell Astonomical Society's secretary, Mike Goldwater said judging from the direction, it was probably an aeroplane "coming in straight on".

Still spellbound by 3128 boyhood UFO

LIKE things that go bump in the night, Unidentified Flying Objects are dismissed by the cynics.

We can all enjoy films like Close Encounters and Star Wars, but suggest some reality behind the fantasy, and you are likely to be laughed all the way to the moon.

But one Luton man has been spellbound by the mysteries of outer space for 27 years.

Bill Dillon, of Hollybush Road, was a ten-year-old pupil at Ramridge Junior School when something happened that changed the rest of his life.

"We were in the playground, reconvening after a lunch break," said Bill, now 38. "Suddenly, we saw a glitter in the west. At first we thought it was a glider

or aeroplane. It started off very small, but as it moved closer, we saw that it was the shape of a classic flying saucer.

"It was an absolutely astonishing event. The whole thing lasted about three minutes and by the end of that time, everyone in the playground was watching."

Bill went to the local library and did a considerable amount of research into UFOs. He started reading specialist magazines avidly and eventually made contact with several of the country's leading UFO experts.

"There are three types of people reporting strange sightings," explained Bill. "People who are mentally deranged, people who are doing it for some sort of

kick, and a small residue who are genuine. Sometimes the calibre of witnesses and the standard of their testimony is so high that no matter how remarkable, it cannot be ignored.

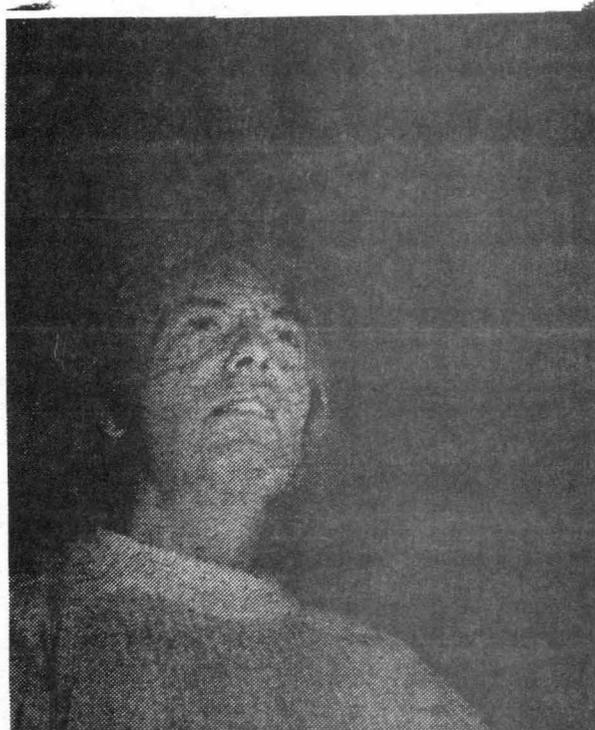
"I can understand people's cynicism, it is something we are stuck with, and there is nothing we can do about it."

Bill has had no other sighting since 1957, but the memory of that one is enough to keep his interest going strong. He is a founder member of Luton Astonomical Society and a member of the British Interplanetary Society, among other organisations.

As an extension of his hobby, he has produced several art works on a space theme. Most of them have been sold, others have been published in various books and magazines around the world.

And with the enormous amount of space research now going on, does he think an answer to his questions will be provided in his lifetime?

"It's possible," said Bill. "But I think we are going to have to find an answer to a lot of the problems by applying our brains as well as by travelling in space."



Bill Dillon waits in anticipation for another close encounter.

BETTY CASH WAS DRIVING DOWN THIS DAYTON, TEXAS, HIGHWAY WHEN SHE CAME ACROSS A BEEPING, GLOWING OBJECT, ACCOMPANIED, SHE SAYS, BY ARMY HELICOPTERS. SHE AND HER PASSENGERS HAVE SUFFERED SYMPTOMS OF RADIATION SICKNESS SINCE.



Vickie Landrum, a passenger in Cash's car that night, claims her vision is so bad she can no longer work so she has applied for disability compensation. Social Security officials sent her to a mental health clinic. 'They were trying to prove I was crazy.' She says her grandson, Colby, above right, still suffers emotionally from the encounter.

**'They're waiting for us
to die'**

CON'T NEXT PAGE

By **BILLY COX**
TODAY Staff Writer

The case is designated as No. H-84-348 on the docket in U.S. District Court, and is scheduled for a March 4 hearing in Houston. Assistant District Attorney Frank Conforti, defending the United States of America, has filed for an outright dismissal of the \$20 million lawsuit against his client or — barring that — a six-month extension.

His predicament is as unwieldy as it is unprecedented. Two women and a boy are claiming a bizarre, government-escorted aircraft is responsible for radiation burns they suffered on a Texas backroad four years ago. Their lawyer, a New York attorney named Peter Gersten who spends his spare time investigating unidentified flying objects, is accusing the government of a coverup.

And in the year elapsed since Gersten filed suit, the U.S. Army has yet to send Conforti the information he needs to prepare a defense.

The events surrounding H-84-348, also known as the Cash-Landrum Incident, were detailed in TODAY, Dec. 4-6, 1983.

On the evening of Dec. 29, 1980, Dayton, Tex., restaurant owner Betty Cash, her friend and employee Vickie Landrum, and Landrum's grandson Colby Landrum were driving on a rural two-lane highway some 30 miles east of Houston when their trip was interrupted. They allege that a glowing, beeping, diamond-shaped object with flames roaring from its underbelly was blocking the highway.

Cash, the driver, says she braked the car and stepped out to look. Vickie Landrum attempted to get out until her terrified grandson dragged her back in. The light began a slow ascent and glided behind the treeline. Cash drove ahead until she came to a cemetery clearing, when the object loomed into view again, amid a swarm of helicopters. The three say they were able to count 23 helicopters, primarily of the CH-47, twin-rotor vintage.

Within hours, and to varying degrees, they began reporting symptoms of radiation sickness — vomiting, hair loss, diarrhea, headaches, severe blistering, insatiable thirst, anorexia. Cash, the most severely injured, was hospitalized in Houston's Parkway hospital. She eventually moved to Fairfield, Ala., where her relatives are clustered.

The Landrums still live in Dayton. They continue to insist that prolonged exposure to sunlight produces violent sores on their skin, as does Cash. They also complain of increased susceptibility to colds and viruses. Neither Cash nor Vickie Landrum has worked since the incident.

Their story began attracting national attention in 1981 when John Schuessler, a McDonnell-Douglas aerospace engineer and flight opera-

tions manager for the Space Shuttle at Johnson Space Center, assisted the victims in their futile quest for explanations and medical attention.

Schuessler corraled affidavits from a number of people who claimed to have seen either the helicopters or the object on that late-December night. His tenacity resulted in getting the three to tell their story to a nationwide audience on "Good Morning America."

The publicity also spurred the Pentagon to conduct its own probe. The burden fell to the Army, since the CH-47 is primarily an Army vehicle used to ferry troops and hardware. Lt. Col. George Sarran of the Inspector General's Office concluded his report in July 1982: "All interviewees were extremely cooperative and eager to be helpful in any manner," but "there was no evidence presented that would indicate that Army, National Guard, or Army Reserve helicopters were involved."

The courtroom was next.

On Jan. 16, 1984, Peter Gersten, who once jockeyed a suit against the National Security Agency for access to classified UFO-related documents all the way to the Supreme Court before being denied, filed for damages on behalf of Cash-Landrum. He volunteered his services free of charge beginning in 1982. His suit

charged the government "negligently, carelessly and recklessly allowed (its own) experimental aerial device to fly over a publicly used road," resulting in "permanent disability" to his clients.

Conforti responded that the complaint was vague and, when further pressed, contended his clients had "insufficient information" to identify the aircraft as theirs. "(The) plaintiffs," he countered in a later statement, "by reason of their actions and/or inaction, were contributorily negligent, and by reason of such contributory negligence the injuries alleged were sustained."

From his office in Tarrytown, N.Y., Gersten then motioned for discovery, a pre-trial maneuver which allows both parties to examine each other's files before sparring on the record inside the courtroom. Among other things, Gersten requested the duty rosters of all personnel authorized or trained to fly CH-47s, as well as the locations of the helicopters.

CON'T

"IF THE OBJECT could've burned three people on the ground that bad," Gersten explains, "I want to know what happened to the men in the helicopters. I want to find out who they are and I want to examine their medical records."

Conforti started digging for that information last May, sending inquiries to a broad range of defense/security bureaucracies, from the Air Force to the NSA. "I'm having a liaison in the Defense Department do it for me because, hell, those people all know each other," Conforti said last July. "I simply don't have the time to do all that legwork myself."

Conforti says he drew blanks from every agency his contact questioned, except the Army. The Army has not responded.

Meanwhile, Houston's KHOU-TV aired a five-part series on the

Cash-Landrum Incident last May 21-25. In it, John Schuessler recounted his investigation. Shortly thereafter, McDonnell-Douglas yanked him off the Space Shuttle contract, effectively terminating his relationship with NASA.

"I really don't care to talk about it," Schuessler said. "I don't think it (the TV story) was directly related to the move, but I think it's ironic that I was reassigned a week after the show. I'm sure my outspokenness was a source of irritation to them."

District Judge Ross Sterling has yet to rule on Conforti's bid for an extension, but Cash and the Landrums complain that the government's evasion can only mean one thing. As Cash, who says she spends many of her days indoors hiding from the sun, puts it, "They're waiting for us to die."

Cash's sores and blisters usually manifest on her right side. In 1983, her right breast was removed. Last week, she had a biopsy on a new tumor. It was diagnosed as benign, but she says her dread never abates.

"As long as I live, I'm gonna fight this thing," she says, "even if they have to carry me to the courtroom on a stretcher. The public has a right to know that if something like this can happen to normal, everyday American people who made the mistake of driving down a highway one night, it can happen to them, too."

VICKIE LANDRUM, her 11-year-old grandson's legal guardian, says Colby's physical problems — loss of appetite, recurring skin rash — pales against her concerns for his mental and emotional health. "Sometimes he gets real depressed," Landrum says. "He still has bad dreams about it."

Landrum claims her vision deteriorated after the incident, to the point where she can no longer see to work with numbers, even with glasses. Late last year, she applied for medical disability compensation. When she told her story to Social Security officials, they sent her to the Northwest Mental Health Clinic in Houston.

"They were trying to prove I was crazy," Landrum recalls. "They asked me questions like did I hear voices? What did I do for recreation? Did I have any friends? How much dope was I on?"

In January, she was instructed to report to the Medical Physiological Services center in Beaumont, Texas, for a physical. When examiners submitted her to X-rays, she protested to no avail: "I told them I couldn't have anymore X-rays, that I'd already been radiated and I couldn't take no more. The doctor said, 'It ain't gonna hurt ya, X-rays don't hurt nobody.'"

Jean Roper, Landrum's daughter who drove to Dayton from nearby Liberty to help her mom, recalls the aftermath: "After my mother took those X-rays, her eyes were broken out, her face, her hands, her legs, in these big purple blisters. All night long she vomited and had diarrhea. She was in and out of bed for a week."

Landrum is still waiting for the verdict on disability compensation. "If they decide to give it to me because they think I've got a mental disorder," she says, "they can keep their money."

Few people will be following the trial — should it come to that — with more interest than Philip Klass. A technical writer for a leading aerospace magazine in Washington, D.C., Klass dismissed the Cash-Landrum Incident as a hoax in his 1983 book, "UFOs: The Public Deceived."

Klass, a self-proclaimed UFO skeptic, has repeatedly pressed Schuessler for copies of the Cash-Landrum medical records. A distrustful Schuessler has declined,

saying the facts will emerge in court. Klass suggests the plaintiffs had medical complications prior to the alleged incident and are seeking to use the government as a scapegoat. In 1983, Klass wrote Gersten reminding him to warn his clients about the consequences of perjury.

KLASS SAYS THE story has three possible explanations: an extraterrestrial craft ("a trillion to one odds it's not that"), a Defense Department project ("quadrillion



John Schuessler, a contractor with the Shuttle program, was featured in a television report about the Cash Landrum incident. He recounted his investigation in the trio's story and subsequent illnesses. Shortly afterward his employer, McDonnell-Douglas, yanked him off the Shuttle contract.

to one odds it's not DOD"), or a "cock and bull story — and that's what I think it is."

Echoing conclusions drawn by the Pentagon's Sarran, Klass says, "Short of war, it would be impossible to mount the kind of mission those folks are describing, with 20-plus helicopters. There just aren't that many twin-rotor helicopters. And if it is some sort of radiation weapon, it would be the first time we've conducted nuclear weapons in the continental United States other than the original Nevada test site. And it's inconceivable to think that a dangerous test of this nature would take place over a metropolitan area.

"And where in the hell are the dead and dying military pilots?"

"It's terribly hard to keep a secret in Washington from the news media. We (his magazine) frequently get leaks, and we've never received any leak about a radiation weapon of this sort."

Klass pauses for hypothetical reflection. "If the Army is testing some kind of secret weapon, with that kind of capacity," he adds, "thank God we've got it, and not someone else."

Warning from UFOs: Stop playing with nuclear weapons

A STUNNING UFO encounter convinced a pair of shaken Air Force officers that another civilization was sending a warning to Earth to quit testing nuclear weapons ... or else!

The two officers even filmed the eerie incident at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

But in an outrageous coverup, they were ordered to keep their mouths shut and hand over the eye-opening footage to a pair of CIA agents.

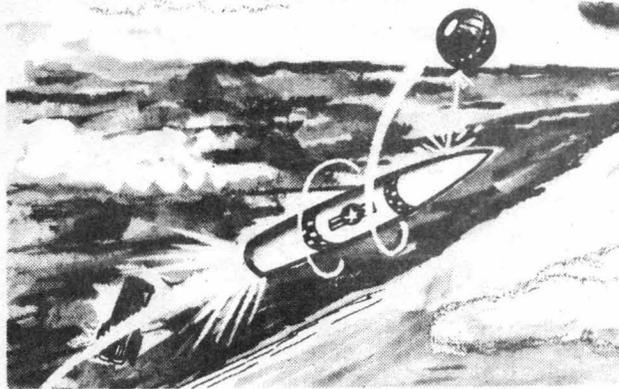
Now former First Lieutenant Robert Jacobs says he can hide the truth no longer. And his ex-commanding officer, retired Major Florenz Mansmann, confirmed the incredible story.

"I have never, ever seen anything like that before or since," declared a still awestruck Mansmann, who studied the film with Jacobs before the government confiscated it.

On September 15, 1964, the two men were test-firing a nuclear missile. They were on the ground at Vandenberg, filming with a telescope while the missile soared 60 miles above the Pacific.

The amazing incident occurred after the missile's final booster stage had dropped off, Mansmann and Jacobs recalled.

A small spherical UFO circled the missile's dum-



UFO CIRCLED warhead emitting flashes of brilliant light.

my warhead, emitting flashes of brilliant "strobeline" light.

Then it suddenly flew off — and seconds later, the warhead fell to Earth, missing its target by hundreds of miles.

"It was like a warning from someone with vastly superior technological skills," says Jacobs, now a visual arts professor at the University of Wisconsin.

Target

An Air Force spokesman dismissed the astonishing story, insisting: "We have no documentation of a UFO incident. The dummy warhead hit its target."

But top astronomer Dr. Keiji Nakamura says his own sources and investigation back up the airmen's story.

"We know that other civilizations are de-

termined to prevent any nuclear holocaust here on Earth," explained Nakamura, of the prestigious Imperial Institute of Astronomy in Tokyo.

"Their technology makes ours look like something out of the Stone Age — and they've repeatedly shown they will use it if necessary to keep us from possibly destroying their environment along with our own in a nuclear war."

This is far from the first time that world governments have been accused of hushing up astonishing UFO reports.

Some UFO experts believe a UFO base is operating under the English Channel — and that top politicians and military leaders have known about the shocking development since the end of World War II.

By **LEONARD SANDLER**

These experts say evidence indicates similar bases may exist under other strategically located bodies of water — including some inland American lakes.

Dr. Franz Hubert, a world-respected psychophysicist and UFO investigator says: "Ex-

tremely credible reports of strange fireballs, meteors and flying saucers rising from or plunging into var-

Another coverup?

ious bodies of water have been investigated since at least the 1860s.

"Today, with our more sophisticated knowledge, there is very good reason to believe the fireballs, or whatever they were called at the time, are UFOs."

However, Hubert — who practices in Hamburg, West Germany and Mexico City — said the underwater base off Britain's Scilly Islands is the only UFO launching and recovery site so far confirmed by his

reputable sources.

"The location of this UFO site is of special concern because of its nearness to strategic North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) bases," he noted.

"Some of the most sophisticated weapons in the military arsenal of the free world are located on those bases, and they are vital to the defense of Europe."

Hubert, and others who are privy to information leaked about space ships, are convinced that the beings who operate the flying saucers are not a threat to world safety at this time.