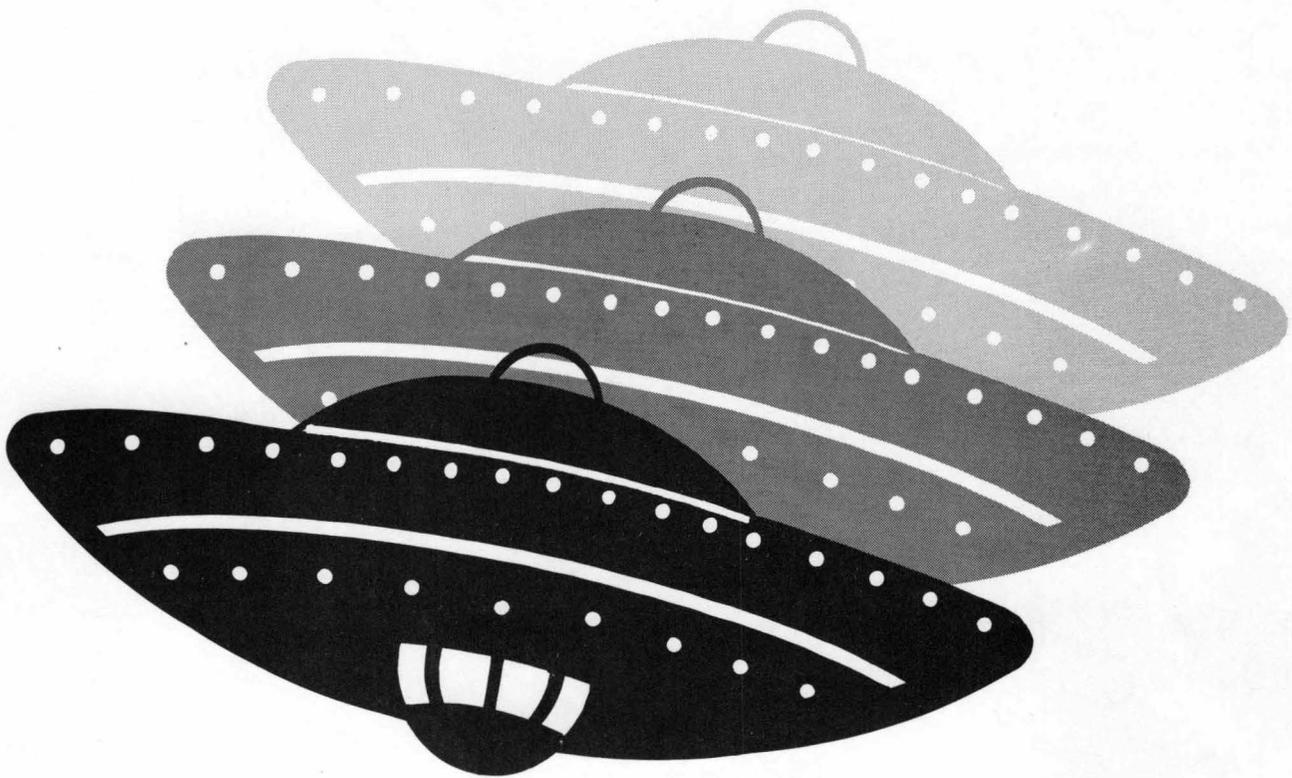


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Spook mystery lingers

Ball lightning one of many answers

By Cathy Karlin Zahner
staff writer

K eith L. Partain, a Tulsa researcher, would like to put an end to speculation over the Tri-State Spook Light, but it won't be easy.

In the century since it was first sighted, the Spook Light has offered enough mystery to spin a perfect Halloween tale. Several, in fact.

According to local lore, the light that floats along a lonely backwoods road southwest of Joplin, Mo., is the tragic spirit of two Quapaw Indian lovers who committed suicide nearby.

Another story describes the light as the glow of a lantern used by a miner still searching for his children, kidnapped by Indians in the 1870s.

One Carthage resident wrote a book this year speculating that the light is a guiding system for interplanetary travel.

More down-to-earth observers believe the spook light is merely reflected headlights from cars on a nearby highway, or perhaps stems from luminous swamp gases or blinking government survey signals.

Today, Mr. Partain, a laboratory technician, has developed a new theory.

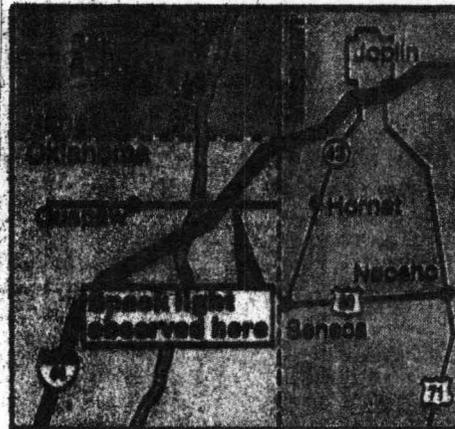
Comparisons of sightings and photographs led the 34-year-old researcher to project that two types of lights actually appear on "Spook Light Road," about three miles southwest of the Missouri-Oklahoma-Kansas border.

Most of the time, spook light watchers are seeing nothing more than car headlights refracted up from Interstate 44 by water vapors from the nearby Spring River, Mr. Partain said. The highway ranges from seven to 10 miles away from the road.

But about every 10 years, the "real" spook light appears in the form of ball lightning, he said.

Ball lightning is a self-contained sphere of electrical energy in which lightning appears in the shape of a sphere rather than vertical bolts. It is a rare natural phenomenon that is unpredictable and therefore difficult to study, scientists say.

"The real spook light exists, but it is extremely rare," Mr. Partain said.



"When all you see is a little wriggle at the end of the road, it's one car following another on a distant road."

Mr. Partain, who is seeking a publisher for a 120-page book he has written on the subject, based his theory on more than six years of studying the site and researching 52 articles on the spook light.

"Nobody seems to take the matter seriously, but this book is extremely important for the folklore histories of Oklahoma and Missouri," said Mr. Partain, who has a master's of science

degree in entomology from Oklahoma State University and a bachelor's of science degree in zoology from the University of Tulsa.

He said he became intrigued with the spook light seven years ago after reading about it in a magazine article.

Ball lightning

His conclusion that ball lightning accounted for some of the sightings stems from a March 1977 photograph by Joplin Globe reporter Marta Churchwell, along with published reports of several sightings.

The photograph shows a ball of light with a connected filament shooting off from the parent body, he said. Because the ball was in front of the treeline, its appearance was not distorted by tree branches, so such a filament would indicate the presence of ball lightning, he said.

One of the sightings that also underlies his theory occurred in 1955. During the sighting, the spook light was seen by an observer whose back was to the general direction of the highway which is now Interstate 44, ruling out head-

light refractions as a cause, Mr. Partain said.

Comparisons of the sightings and photographs revealed that they occurred when there were no or few sunspots, Mr. Partain said. Thus, he speculates that the appearance of ball lightning is linked to low sunspot activity;

"When all you see is a little wriggle at the end of the road, it's one car following another on a distant road."

—Keith L. Partain
a spook light researcher
with a new theory

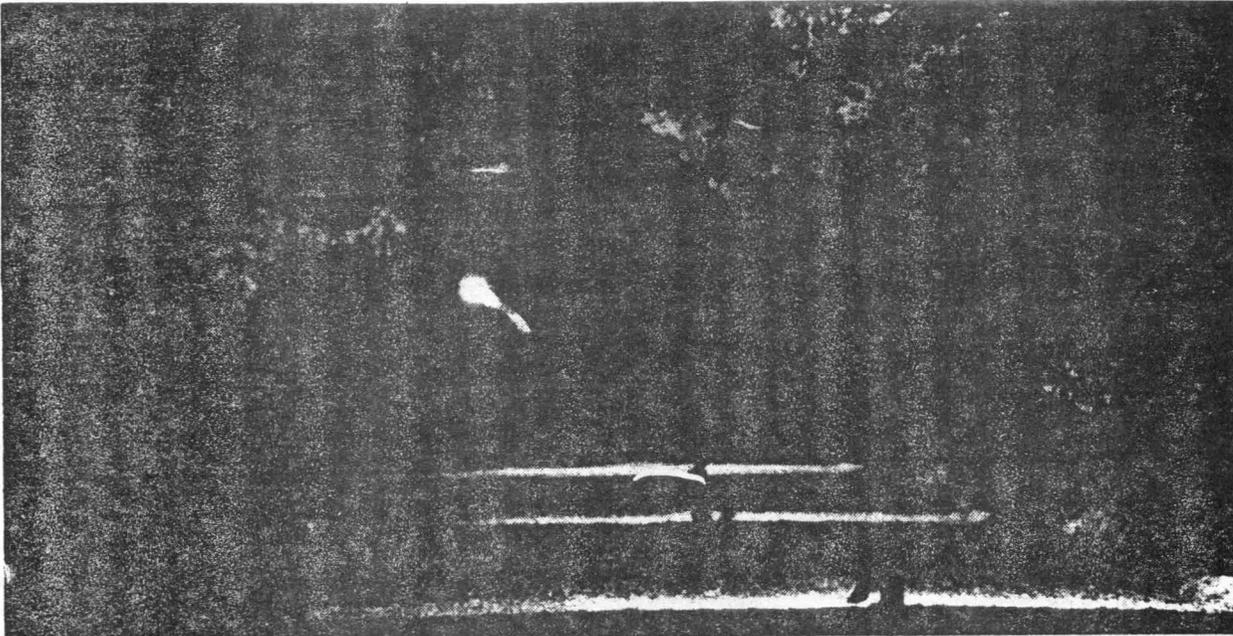
nighttime; and periods surrounding the fall and spring equinoxes.

The three factors combine, he believes, to weaken the earth's ionosphere to allow radiation from outside the solar system to fall on the Joplin area and create ball lightning.

"There is a bump, or anomaly, in the earth's magnetic field in that area which could attract

CON'T
NEXT
PAGE

SPOOK CON'T



In a time exposure, the county road is lighted by a flash at 50 yard intervals as the "spook light" hovers overhead. (staff photo by Vic Winter)

cosmic radiation," Mr. Partain said.

Ideal conditions for ball lightning occur throughout an 18-month period every 10 or 11 years, he believes. He receives a weekly sunspot bulletin from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and plans to watch for the ball lightning when the next period arrives in the spring.

Harry Shipman, a professor of physics at the University of Delaware and former education officer for the American Astronomical Society, said Mr. Partain's belief that the light was caused by either headlights or ball lightning appears to be logical.

"Ball lightning may be behind a lot of UFO reports and things like that," Mr. Shipman said. "He's also got a point that when you look into UFO reports, a lot of them can be headlights coming from unexpected areas."

However, Mr. Shipman said he would be "very surprised" if the sunspot cycle could be correlated with ball lightning in any one place.

"There's been some recent evidence that sunspot cycle is a very mild correlation with weather patterns—like a half-degree change in temperature—but not anything quite as direct as this (Mr. Partain's theory.)"

Although some may doubt his theory, the important thing is to focus on facts about the spook light, Mr. Partain said.

Through the years, journalists and tourism officials have created "a shabby mosaic of untruths

and half-truths," he said.

Mr. Partain said he has discovered that information in some tourist brochures is false.

One example is the "Hornet Panic" of 1886. According to a brochure by the Neosho Chamber of Commerce, the panic occurred when "a giant ball of light bounced over hills and fields," terrorizing homesteaders and spurring them to flee their farms. Mr. Partain said he could find no mention of the alleged panic in books and records at the state historical society.

The "Indian Lovers" legend also is common, but false, he said.

"The story of the lovers is a Quapaw Indian legend and had nothing to do with the spook light," Mr. Partain said. "The Quapaws don't even mention the spook light in their folklore."

Despite scientific explanations, some spook light watchers still believe it is a mystery. Some, such as Jack Winter of

Afton, Okla., say the land has too many hills and trees to enable headlights to shine through.

"It's still an open question with most people here," said Harlan Stark, 59, a farm editor and reporter for the *Neosho Daily News*.

Many residents take out-of-town guests to see the spook light and enjoy its aura of mystery, he said, adding, "I imagine most of them wouldn't like to see it explained too well."

Suzanne Gilpin, assistant manager of the Joplin Chamber of Commerce, said people from as far away as Texas and California have inquired about the spook light since it was featured on the television show "Real People" several years ago. Also, out-of-town visitors frequently request the chamber's brochure on the spook light.

"On a nice evening, especially at this time of year, it can be bumper-to-bumper down there," Mrs. Gilpin said.

3128

UFO sighting reported above town



Mr. James Perry points to the skyline above Princes Street, Rhyl, where he spotted the UFO.

SIGHTINGS of a mysterious glowing object has left people in Rhyl wondering if they have seen a UFO.

Mr. James Perry, of 32 Princes Road, Rhyl, saw a large rectangular object, with flashing lights, which moved slowly across the sky on Thursday evening and other people in the area have reported similar sightings.

"It was travelling very slowly in a straight line," he said. "There were lights that looked like windows, but it wasn't like a plane. There was no sound or hazard lights like you would see on a plane."

Mr. Perry watched the plane from another window and the lights change and started flashing. "They looked like disco lights," he added.

"I have always been rather sceptical about UFO's, but I have no idea what this could be," he said.

Since the incident, Mr Perry has heard of several people who had also seen something similar.

Mrs. Margaret Fry, of Contact International, who are one of the largest UFO organisations in the world said she would be interested in hearing from anyone else who saw something unusual. "The last sighting I had of something was in August by a lady in Mold but we are interested in hearing from anyone who has seen something."

Mrs. Fry added that the organisation annually send their results to the Ministry of Defence. She can be contacted on Llangernyw 537.

BARNESLEY CHRONICLE, YORKS.
SEP. 26 1986 (ENG)

Whoever saw a saucer . . ?

WANTED... local people who may have seen a flying saucer over Barnsley last month.

The 300-member Yorkshire UFO Society is carrying out an investigation into the sighting by Barnsley man John Brook and are anxious to trace anyone else who may have seen the object.

Mr. Brook, of Derby Street, fled in fright after the oval-shaped, 60-feet-wide object turned a fluorescent beam on him.

The object was hovering at a height of about 50 feet somewhere in the direction of the Co-op Dairy in Summer Lane. It had flashing red and purple lights on its side.

Mick Hanson, of Yorkshire UFO Society, said: "We investigate any sightings in Yorkshire, and on this one we will be contacting people like the Royal Air Force and the police to see if they picked anything up."

"If anyone in Barnsley saw a similar object to Mr. Brook, we would be interested in hearing from them."

Mr. Hanson can be contacted on Rotherham (96) 363394.

BELFAST NEWLETTER
SEP 24 1986 (ENG)

Lights in sky baffle Benelux boffins

POLICE, air traffic controllers and commuters were mystified by a flying object spotted over Luxembourg yesterday.

The object, also seen over Belgium, looked like five or six bright green lights travelling at high speed about 600 feet above the ground, police said.

Local radio stations said their switchboards were jammed by commuters ringing in to report that they had seen the unidentified flying object which crossed the country from Germany towards Belgium.

Marc Mitten, who spotted the object while working in the control tower at Luxembourg airport, said: "It was like a rocket but far too fast. It wasn't a plane. It was five different things flying very close together."

"It didn't show up on the radar screen. I don't know what it was. It is the first time I have ever seen anything like it."

Later Belgian officials said space debris re-entering the atmosphere was almost certainly responsible for the spectacular sightings in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and West Germany.

Royal Belgian Observatory spokesman Albert D Kerfgieter said: "We conclude that it was the re-entry in the atmosphere and subsequent burning of a satellite."

"We are not yet 100 per cent certain, but everything points in that direction."

Some stellar close encounters



The Krankies — UFO?

What did the Krankies see?

"FAN-DABI-DOZI" duo Janette and Ian Tough — the Krankies — are confounded by their own close encounter of the paranormal kind.

The couple, who were at Blackpool's Grand Theatre for a series of Sunday shows last month, spotted a UFO above their chartered aircraft during a 1978 New Year's Eve dash through appalling weather.

The "strange white object" hovered above the aircraft, whose instruments malfunctioned, for several minutes before vanishing . . . and the aircraft's electrical equipment resumed operating.

Did they see a sort of "externalised hallucination," perhaps for a satellite which burned up that night?

Tommy Steele, another Blackpool attraction earlier this season, has a more remarkable tale . . . of when, at 15, he fell ill with meningitis and by the time his parents arrived at his hospital bedside it was feared he would not survive.

Tommy heard a child's laughter, then a brightly coloured ball bounced over his bedside screens.

He threw it back, and fell back exhausted. The pattern continued until Tommy found the strength to take the tentative steps which placed him on the road to recovery.

Doctors, unable to comprehend his recovery, were told to thank the boy "across th ward." But there was no boy . . . but his parents were reminded of the favourite toy of his younger brother, Rodney, who died at three.

Had Rodney returned to save his brother's life?

THE closest some stars get to a "paranormal" experience is a close encounter of the lucrative kind with their ghost - writer — but for the 50 famous folk featured in "Beyond Explanation?" nothing could be further from the truth.

The psychic secrets of the stars are featured in a new book which runs the gamut of paranormal experiences from the so-called curse on "Coronation Street" to past-lives, UFO sightings, voices from the grave and things that go BUMP! in the dressing room.

Probed and penned by Warrington writer Jenny Randles, director of investigations for the British UFO Research Association, and co-ordinator with the Association for the scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena, "Beyond Explanation?" (Ravette, £2.95) makes intriguing reading.

The writer, adopting a scientific rather than a superstitious approach to the theorising involved claims she settled for celebrated storytellers because their credibility counts for more.

"It's all very well to be told that Mr Smith of Anytown saw a funny light in the sky one night but these things mean precious little unless one happens to be a friend of Mr Smith. It's all too easy to persuade yourself . . . well it's only a book, these people are not real."

Readers have no such escape from the stories presented.

"You may try to dismiss their reality but you cannot dismiss their storytellers — Abraham Lincoln, Tommy Steele, John Lennon and

The stars' psychic secrets

Jules Verne. The fact that they have undergone these alleged encounters somehow makes the stories seem all the more interesting and all the more 'true'."

She's investigated the subject for 12 years and reckons most of us have met the paranormal head - on without flinching — let alone realising what's happened.

"Upwards of 50 per cent of the population have probably faced a situation which commonsense cannot explain. Simple, honest, reliable folk who have genuinely observed something under dependable circumstances which all their past experience tells them cannot be."

Hers is a crusade to boost such awareness, and reduce public ridicule. She sees the book as a "mental fillip for such unfortunates. It is an ego boost and aid to morale.

"To learn that the famous with whom we all share our lives are human and fallible just like ourselves is in itself pleasant — but to be told that they, too, face the unknown and then have the courage to say so is perhaps a lesson worth contemplating."

JACQUE MORLEY

Probe into sighting of 'UFO'
3128

DERBY EVENING TELEGRAPH (ENG) SEP. 25 1986

Sue (23), of Victoria Cottage, said: "I am really convinced this was something unusual."

The Derbyshire sighting happened near Honaston last Friday at about 9 p.m.

And Mr Peter Ann, Derby group leader of the National UFO Investigation Society said: "We will certainly look into the sighting."

A spokesman for East Midlands International Airport said nothing unusual had been detected in the sky.

UFO investigators are today looking into claims that mysterious green lights which have European police baffled may have been seen over Derbyshire.

Miss Sue Fisher was travelling with three friends to her Hognaston home when a green light arched across the sky in front of their car. All four saw the light.

City team in a close encounter of unusual kind

YORK City were as sick as a parrot after their 3-0 defeat by Bristol City on Saturday.

After being buzzed by rampant Robins all afternoon the red-faced lads boarded the team-coach for the long haul home.

But, just 40 miles out of Bristol, the lads were buzzed by something which flew in the face of all logic.

Hovered

For lighting up the western sky was an unidentified flying object.

Manager Denis Smith, coach Viv Busby, club director Barry Swallow and the players could not believe their eyes.



Denis Smith

The strange-shaped object hovered over the coach for nearly 10 minutes.

But police in the area have not received any reports of UFO sightings over the weekend.

A colleague in the Gloucestershire force said: "We have not had any reports of a UFO but there could be some PC in a station out in the sticks who is still trembling from the after-effects of such a sighting."

Direction

Yorkshire Evening Press chief sports writer Malcolm Huntington, who was accompanying the City party, writes: While there has been some scepticism among many people over the years, there was no question that we saw an unusual object.

It was not a reflection of the sun for it was still visible when the sun went down, just before

6.30. The object was a bright, white light, travelling from left to right, visible on the left as we looked out of the coach and was two or three degrees south of due west.

After a short time it changed direction and headed up into the sky and then made a further switch and went from right to left, flattening out in the process so that it remained flat and two or three times as long as it had first appeared.

The object was unlike anything I have seen before. It could not have been an aeroplane of the conventional type and was not a plane giving out a smoke screen as one often sees on a clear summer's day as the light was constant and did not recede or mushroom out as vapour trails do.

We were heading north on the M5, about 40 miles from Bristol, when I first spotted the UFO and we eventually lost sight of it 10-15 miles further north as the skies darkened.

CRABEN
HERALD
PIONEER

SEP. 19 1986
ENG/

U.F.O. sighting

Fourteen-year-old Kingsley Wiggan claims to have sighted an unidentified flying object hovering over Skipton's Rockwood estate earlier this month.

Kingsley, who lives in the town's West Bank Road, says he was on his morning newspaper round, when he saw an object which glowed very brightly: "about two or three times for about two seconds rather like a very bright star."

He says the shape of the object was unclear, but he is sure that it was not an aeroplane: "or anything else I could think of."

Kingsley saw the object at about 7.35 a.m. on September 4, but when he later returned with his father, the object had disappeared.



IRISH
INDEPENDENT
DUBLIN

OCT. 15 1986

AT LEAST four types of space aliens regularly visit the Earth, say American UFO researchers.

Walter Andrus, director of the Mutual UFO Network, says they have compiled descriptions from thousands of cases they have had reported and the four typical aliens are:

- The small humanoid, usually about four feet high with a large head, pupil-less round eyes and two small holes for a nose. The alien is hairless, has no teeth, has webbed hands and no thumbs.

- The experimental animal — a large, apelike

creature sometimes called Bigfoot that can weigh up to 400 lbs. "These are sent as sort of chimpanzees to test the conditions on other planets," said Andrus.

- Humanlike: similar to people but with odd characteristics. In a Wyoming encounter, the alien was 6 ft. 2 ins. about 180 lbs. with bowed legs but no hands. One sleeve had a bar coming from it and every time the entity waved the bar something around it moved or disappeared.

- Robots: these, says Andrus, simply perform mechanical functions. Typical ones are about five feet tall, have no neck, no eyes or noses. They have antennae on top of their heads and do not communicate with humans but simply perform mechanical functions.

SCUNTHORPE EVENING
TELEGRAPH, LINCS
SEP. 18 1986

New light on sight in sky

THE source of much of the suspected extra-terrestrial activity in the Scunthorpe area may have been traced to a Hull hotel.

The Evening Telegraph was inundated with telephone calls at the beginning of the month as people reported sightings of flashing in the sky.

Mr. Les Sallis, national secretary of the British UFO Research Association, reckons at least 80 per cent could be explained by a Hull laser display.

He explained that two powerful laser beams were projected from the roof of the new Manche-

ster Hotel, at about that time.

"They were projected pretty high in the sky in the direction of Gainsborough," he said. "If there was low cloud they could be reflected down."

But he is continuing his checks into the motionless flashing object which appeared two days after the hotel stopped its publicity stunt.

As for the report from a Scunthorpe teenager of a low level flash which snaffled his bag of chips, Mr. Sallis said: "I should take that one with a pinch of salt and vinegar!"

Village is UFO 'focus'

3128

A VILLAGE near Daventry has been singled out by six eye-witnesses as the focal point for the town's extraordinary UFO mystery.

They all claim to have seen unexplained objects heading towards Preston Capes — or hovering over the village itself.

The mystery began a fortnight ago when two fishermen saw six UFOs early one morning over the Daventry Country Park. The objects disappeared in the direction of Preston Capes.

A week later, company director Pauline Dunn and husband Stanley claim they saw brilliant lights in the sky from their Staverton home. Again, the objects were going towards Preston Capes.

This week, retired couple Daphne and Edward Underhill say they saw what appeared to be a huge, glowing UFO in the sky in the area of Preston Capes.

They believe it could have been a spaceship.

"We were getting ready to go to bed when my husband called me over to look out of the bedroom window," says Mrs Underhill, of Central Avenue, Woodford Halse.

"We saw a great big object in the sky which had an orange or red look about it. It was fairly high and we

Witnesses agree on sightings

stood there for about 20 minutes looking at it," she adds.

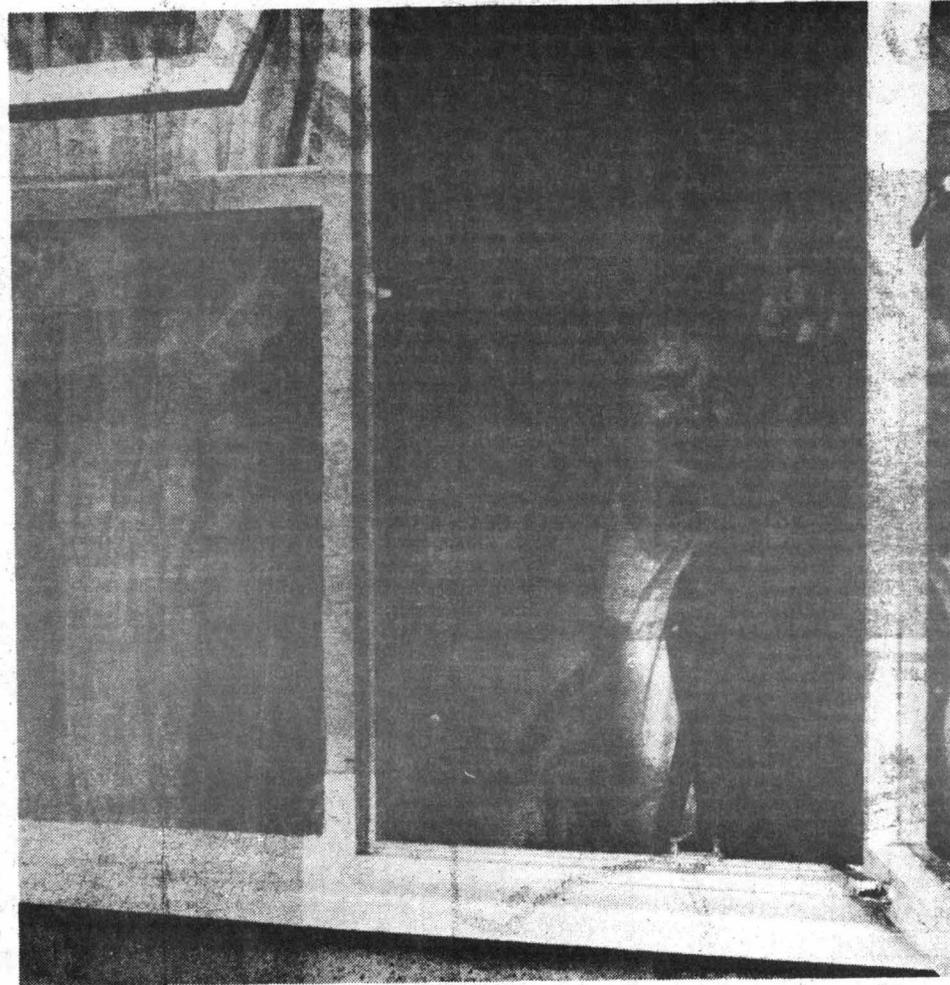
"Part of it broke off from the rest and went across the sky in the direction of Preston Capes. It was circular, but the part which came away was jagged," adds Mrs Underhill.

She says it was definitely not an aeroplane because it was moving too fast. She says it disappeared for a while but returned several minutes later.

"I have no idea what it was. People say about these things, but if you talk about them, they think you are queer," adds Mrs Underhill.

"My husband didn't believe in UFOs until he saw this and was absolutely astonished. It makes you think — seeing is believing.

"If anybody else had told me they'd seen something, I wouldn't have believed them. But when you have seen it yourself, it makes you realise," adds Mrs Underhill, who says her sighting was around the same time as that of the fishermen.



● WOODFORD Halse couple Daphne and Edward Underhill . . . "absolutely astonished" by the sighting.

LEICESTER
MERCURY
SEP. 26 1986

Close encounter

The other day we reported a spate of unidentified flying objects sighted over Luxembourg. From what my colleagues tell me it is clear Leicestershire is equally attractive to our extraterrestrial visitors.

Apparently milkman Mr. Dave Poole, aged 37, of Birch Hill Cottage, Copt Oak, was out and about early one morning when he saw a glowing object enter the earth's atmosphere and break up.

And at the same time factory security man Mr. Dennis Strong, aged 37, of Coleman Road, North Evington, looked up in Canon Street, Belgrave, to see four bright objects flashing through the sky at great speed.

Both say a conventional jet flew in and circled overhead soon afterwards as though investigating.



Jack Lapsertitis uses sticks to guide him to the source of water. He says his interest in dowsing has led him into contacts

staff photos by George Millener

with Sasquatch, UFOs and 'starpeople.'

Dowsing leads to Sasquatch, UFOs

Social scientist discovers world of psychic phenomena

By **MIKE THOELE**
The Register-Guard

WILBUR — Larry Paxson and the crew of mechanics at Fray's Automotive had a problem.

Someone had moved the big Ford before the carburetor repair was done and a tiny part left loose under the hood was missing. The job was long past its completion time, the customer was fuming, a replacement part was days away and five mechanics searching for 2½ hours had been unable to find the 2-inch-long metering plug.

That's when Jack Lapsertitis walked into the Roseburg garage to pick up his car.

Paxson had heard about Lapsertitis. "I

told him what the problem was and that I was really in a jam," he says. "He told me to draw the best picture I could. Then he took that picture in one hand and pulled this pendulum out of his pocket. It was a crystal on a little short string."

Paxson says he and the other mechanics watched as Lapsertitis walked the garage floor. In moments, holding the pendulum before him, he homed in on a corner of the engine compartment, Paxson says.

"He told us it was on the frame, underneath the battery," Paxson says. "We told him we'd already looked there but we checked again. . . . We didn't find it. He kept saying it was on a little lip inside the frame that we couldn't see. Then he reached down there and pulled it out. . . .

"Nobody could believe it. He's a credible person but what we saw was incredible."

Jack Lapsertitis is a dowser. Like thousands of others before him, he can, he says, find water. Or lost objects. And the Douglas County area has plenty of people who say that he can.

If it were as simple as that, the 42-year-old Lapsertitis would be easy to explain. Dowsing has been around since the time of the ancient Egyptians. Until a few centuries ago, it enjoyed some modest scientific credibility.

Even now, every rural area of Oregon has a dowser or two whose work produces local reaction ranging from doubt to

CONT. NEXT PAGE

138/24
DOWSING

Continued from Page 1C

unquestioning belief, with plenty of people willing to entertain cautious speculation that there might be something to it. The list of people who tap those dowser's skills when there's a well to be drilled include the sophisticated and the educated, suspending whatever disbelief they may have before they start paying money.

But it goes beyond underground water or missing carburetor parts with Lapsertitis, an anthropologist and a health-care professional whose life is now dominated by dowsing. He will take the listener far down the suspension-of-disbelief road, into what most people would describe as canyons of improbability or even fantasy.

At the end of his tale is Sasquatch, or Bigfoot, the legendary apelike creature of the Northwest, in company with spaceships and psychic phenomena and a book that has occupied the last 1½ years of Lapsertitis' life.

Mixed in with it is a large measure of apprehension on the part of Lapsertitis, a well-spoken, studious, intense professional who's fully aware of what the world thinks of those who subscribe seriously to legendary forest creatures, UFOs and the extremes of extra-sensory perception.

Nevertheless, he says, he's taking the step of going public and risking ridicule. He's in the home stretch on his book and says he's in serious negotiations with a couple of small publishing houses. Beyond that, he wants a book tour and the lecture circuit and perhaps even a movie. But all the wishful talk doesn't make the anxiety go away.

"I admit, I totally admit that all of this is bizarre," he says. "I know that it sounds very unscientific to discuss this. It's hard for me to share this reality and it still worries me at times. I could be ridiculed. I could hurt my own credibility."

Lapsertitis makes much of the fact that he is a scientist — a social scientist — with degrees in anthropology and community health planning, the latter from the University of Wisconsin. He says that each step of his journey — from a casual interest in dowsing and psychic phenomena to a conviction that he had penetrated to the core of a scientific mystery — was dogged by his own skepticism. Only reluctantly did he reach his conclusions, he says.

He combined his expertise in an-

thropology and community health planning in a master's thesis that explored ways of integrating traditional Native American medical beliefs and shamanism with modern medical practice. He later worked as associate director of the Milwaukee Indian Health Clinic in Wisconsin. His college degrees and the Milwaukee job are verified by the schools and by city officials.

From his youth, Lapsertitis says, he had a strong interest in the Bigfoot legend — the long-told stories of Sasquatch in the Northwest, the Abominable Snowman of the Himalayas, the Yowlies in Australia. In the 1960s and '70s, he says, he pursued the Bigfoot legend as a private research project on repeated trips to Asia, Africa, South America and Australia. In 1976, he says, his research work with Indian medicine men led him to a general interest in psychic powers.

He went to several meetings of the Wisconsin Psychical Research Society. "At one meeting a man walked up to me and said he could see my aura," Lapsertitis says. "He said he was sure I would make an excellent dowser. He said I had a gift I wasn't using. I shied away. 'That's other people,' I said. 'That's not me. That's too weird a subject.'"

But after a year the man persuaded Lapsertitis to take the course and, Lapsertitis says, he discovered that he had some dowsing ability. For the next two years he toyed with the practice but considered it mostly a curiosity. "Sometimes, I'd put it aside for months," he says. "It was just a fun thing. I didn't take it seriously."

In that time, Lapsertitis says, he learned that much of the modern research and writings on dowsing treat it more as a psychic phenomenon than a physical one. Many dowser's maintain, for example, that they can locate water veins by dowsing a map or that they can find missing persons or objects by using such "witnesses" as a lock of hair, a picture or an item of clothing. Tools such as pendulums, forked sticks or homemade "divining rods" still are used in the process, however.

In 1979, as he was preparing for an Oregon vacation that was to involve more Bigfoot research, he says, he and his dowsing mentors turned their tools on maps of the Oregon Cascades. They became convinced that they had located a center of Sasquatch activity in the Mount Hood Wilderness, he says. With-

in a few days, Lapsertitis was camped there alone.

"Within an hour, I had found my first Bigfoot track," he says. "From the moment I arrived, there was growling going on. There was the walking of a giant man around me, a high-pitched whistling every time it left. One night, a Sasquatch came and pushed a tree over beside my tent."

Lapsertitis says he never actually saw a Sasquatch during that period. And he says he occasionally heard a mechanical "generator" noise. But not until two weeks later, when he had returned to Wisconsin, did he understand that noise, he says.

He says he was visiting the land of some Indian friends and walking alone when "I received the shock of my life," he says. "This Sasquatch telepathetically spoke to me. He said, 'Friend, I'm of the Sasquatch people and we've been watching you for a long time.' I didn't believe what was happening. His talking was kind of choppy, like a traditional Indian talks.

"All of a sudden this other sophisticated voice came through and said to me, 'I am a starperson and I, too, have been watching you for a long time. I'm in a UFO now, as you people call it.'"

Lapsertitis says he was stunned, but that Indian friends subsequently told him many stories that combined the Bigfoot legend and "starpeople." The owner of the property where the incident occurred said "spaceships" regularly landed there, Lapsertitis says.

Lapsertitis says the experience changed his life. Psychic phenomena became a regular part of his experience and his dowsing of wells rose to a documented 98 percent accuracy, he says. Ultimately he left his Milwaukee job and moved to Oregon. As recently as 1½ years ago he was working for a Roseburg firm specializing in injury rehabilitation but he left the job to begin work on his book.

Since the initial encounters seven years ago, he says, he has had more than 200 Sasquatch encounters and frequent sighting of saucer-like UFOs. He maintains that many of the publicized Sasquatch-hunters — Peter Byrne, Grover Krantz, Roger Patterson — have chosen to ignore scores of accounts that point to a Sasquatch-UFO connection.

Since 1979, Lapsertitis has ranged the United States, interviewing people with such accounts for his book. And he's become a regular on dozens of

DOWSING CON'T

late-night radio talk shows where conversation often turns to paranormal topics. He maintains that seven species of Bigfoot creatures were placed on Earth millions of years ago by visitors from other planets. The "starpeople" continue to associate with the Sasquatch, he says.

"It doesn't get any easier or any less bizarre when you go on from there," he says. "The Sasquatch is so profoundly psychic that it can communicate by telepathy and dematerialize. It can also astro-project and appear to people as a living apparition.

"They can speak in this state," he says. "They telepathetically speak to me. They've done it to many other people. Sixty-seven times now in seven years — I've kept records — the Sasquatch have appeared to me."

Lasperitis, who says the Sasquatch people want to save the Earth from war and environmental degradation, says he is regularly contacted by people who have had similar experiences. He continues to seek out such people and his book is a compendium of his own experiences and those of his interviewees.

But his task is made more difficult, he says, because most of his sources will not let themselves be publicly identified, either out of fear of ridicule or fear that knowledge of their location would bring harm to the Sasquatch.

Phil Singleton, a Roseburg real estate broker and a longtime member of the city's business community, is perhaps Lasperitis's best friend. He doesn't share all his friend's beliefs but he has supported Lasperitis as those beliefs led him to quit work, start his book and head into the public arena.

"Jack's a very unusual person and a very intense person," Singleton says. "I've kept myself at arm's length from a lot of his beliefs — but always, I guess, with the idea that there's nothing that's impossible. . . .

"Sometimes I think the things he says are far-fetched. But I've watched this thing grow in him. And I think he's reached the point where he knows he has to do something with it." //

EXAMINER
NOV. 25 1986

UFO ALIENS KIDNAP COUPLE

Italian economist and wife undergo hypnosis to recall details of ordeal

A COUPLE underwent hypnosis to relive a mind-boggling abduction by seven-foot-tall extraterrestrials — and convinced a top UFO investigator their experience was terrifyingly real.

Angelo Ricci, 42, and his 37-year-old wife, Grazia, were vacationing at the resort town of Cadore in the Italian Alps when an alien spacecraft touched down nearby.

But the couple from Verona, Italy, remembered nothing of the bizarre two-hour encounter that followed until deep hypnosis unlocked their memories, explains Professor Antonio Chiumiento, president of the Italian Center for UFO Studies.

"I am totally convinced that the Riccis are telling the truth," he told the EXAMINER. "I haven't the slightest doubt they really did experience a close encounter of the third kind."

The complete loss of memory concerning events in the two-hour period was the result of a temporary amnesia the aliens induced in Ricci, an economist, and his wife, a teacher, to protect them, says Chiumiento.

"The Riccis were questioned twice separately and twice together," adds Chiumiento. "None of the details were contradictory or at odds with each other's version."



This is what they recalled, as described by Mr. Ricci:

"We were sitting at the edge of the woods when we noticed an extraordinary light descending rapidly toward us. I looked at my watch. It was 12:50 a.m.

"We saw it was a luminous white disc, about 30 feet in diameter. It landed almost in front of us, only a few yards away, without making the slightest sound. We were dumbfounded.

"I looked at my watch again and I was stunned. About 10 minutes had passed, yet my watch now

said 3:00 a.m. Grazia and I had no recollection of anything during those two hours. Yet we both felt exhausted and were thoroughly confused."

The Riccis inspected the spot where the craft had landed and saw the grass pressed down

and blackened. They returned to their lodging, where, unable to sleep, they discussed the incredible experience.

Mrs. Ricci remembered having read newspaper reports of recent UFO sightings in the area and recalled that Professor Chiumiento had been mentioned in them. They called him the next morning and arranged an interview.

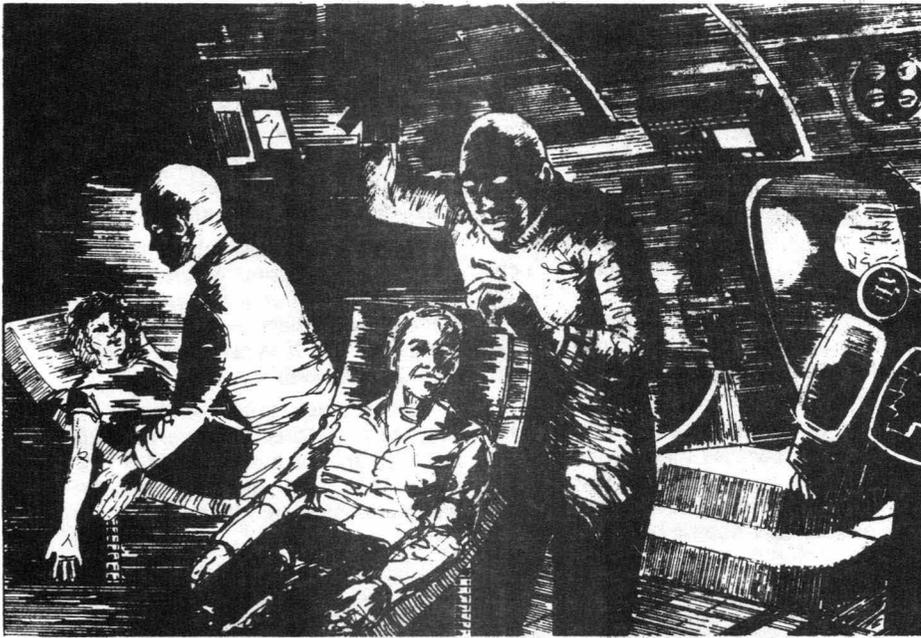
The professor persuaded them to undergo hypnosis to reveal what had transpired in the blank two hours.

Mrs. Ricci's account, which was fully matched by her husband's, follows:

"Two human-like shapes approached us. They were at least seven feet tall and clad in some kind of gray fabric jumpsuits that covered all but their heads.

● It was a
luminous
white disc,
30 feet in
diameter ●

KIDNAPED COUPLE CON'T



SEVEN-FOOT ALIENS studied the couple in their flying laboratory.

"Their heads were elongated and their faces were oval and very pale. They had no hair. Their eyes glowed like phosphorus, making it almost impossible to look at them.

"Their ears were close to their heads and pointed. They appeared to have normal noses. The creatures had a slit where the mouth would be.

"They walked toward us and picked us up, each carrying one of us in his arms. We were completely limp, with no control over our muscles or movements. Yet my mind was functioning and alert, and I felt aware of everything.

"A feeling of terror swept over me — and, as though the being sensed it or even knew it from inside my brain, I could feel the being talk to me to calm me down.

"Yet there were no words spoken. It was as though this creature could communicate without saying anything. The being didn't seem menacing after that,

and I was filled with wonder and awe at what was happening.

"They carried us inside into what seemed a large laboratory, pure white and full of strange instruments and gadgets. Batteries of little colored lights glowed and blinked in panels around the wall.



"We were placed on reclining chairs, like those dentists use but more advanced in design, with buttons and lights built into the sides — and they began to perform some kind of testing on us.

"They swung down various devices from overhead and positioned them above our faces and bodies. I was filled with dread, but then I realized nothing they were doing hurt at all.

"I have no idea if they scanned our minds or took any fluids or injected anything. There were no marks or bruises. They simply pointed things at us and studied whatever it was their instruments told them about us.

"This lasted perhaps an hour, maybe longer. I lost all sense of time. They seemed to know exactly what we were feeling and thinking.

"The two beings never spoke to each other, but I got the idea they were communicating and comparing notes in some way we could not understand — as though they were on a separate channel.

"Then they switched their instruments off and carried us back outside into the night, to the very place we had been sitting. I have no recollection of a take-off. They seem to have blanked that out, so we wouldn't remember too much or see which way they headed."

Although the Riccis suffered nightmares, sudden nighttime awakenings and feelings of dread in the weeks following their abduction, they experienced no physical problems, ailments, rashes or marks on their bodies, says Chiumiento.

He obtained samples of the dead grass where the spacecraft landed for analysis and learned from aviation and military au-

thorities that no aircraft had been in the area the night of the Riccis' close encounter.

Chiumiento also discovered there had been at least four other sightings reported of a strange, glowing aircraft in the area that night.



"In my 10 years of UFO research, I have never been involved in so explicit a case of alien contact as that of the Riccis," adds the researcher.

"The Riccis told me they used to ridicule UFO reports. They never believed a word of them. Their encounter has left them badly shaken and no longer in doubt.

"The incident has convinced them that super-intelligent life forms are out there — and that they know who we humans are."

Scientific world shocked when...

5,000-year-old UFO alien is found alive in King Tut's tomb

TWO LEADING archaeologists claim they weren't drunk, stoned or hallucinating when they followed a 5,000-year-old UFO alien into a secret chamber of King Tut's tomb.

Since then, 14 other scientists have died trying to prove or disprove the amazing story.

Renowned Swiss explorer Gustav Mercer and his partner, Dr. Eli Dunlop, a professor of Egyptology at a famous London, England university, say their astounding experience answers some age-old questions about the pyramids and the tomb of Egypt's most famous mummy.

"Ever since Tutankhamen's burial site was discovered in 1923, there have been rumors of secret chambers located within the tomb," Dunlop explains.

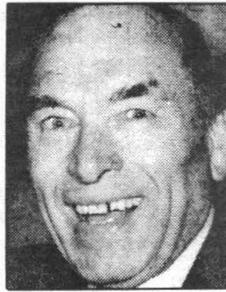
"We journeyed to the Valley of the Kings to search for these chambers," Dunlop adds.

Chambers

"We both felt an eerie presence upon entering the tomb of the boy Pharaoh," Mercer says. "Then a living being suddenly materialized before our eyes, seemingly from within the walls of the ancient crypt.

"The being appeared translucent at first, but soon took on solid form," Dunlop adds. "It was reddish in color, with an enormous head, huge green eyes and several whisker-like antennae protruding from its cheeks."

"It spoke to us, in barely recognizable English with an odd, chilling accent.



• FOURTEEN men who have searched for the secret burial chamber described by Gustav Mercer, center, & Dr. Eli Dunlop, right, have died of a mysterious unearthly fungus, confirms Dr. Ahmed Jobib, left

Forbidding

"It said, 'Don't be afraid. I can show you what you are seeking.'"

"The being pressed its hand against a stone in the wall," Mercer recalls, "and the wall opened up, revealing a dark and forbidding tunnel unseen by human eyes for 3,500 years.

"We were totally speechless. All we could do was follow the alien creature down into the narrow passageway."

The scientists say they followed the being into a huge underground chamber filled with solid gold Egyptian artifacts.

"There were also five stone slabs in the room, with four other beings identical to our guide upon them in what appeared to be a state of suspended animation," says Dunlop.

"Our guide explained the five of them had traveled here from a distant planet more than



• ARTIST'S conception of space creature encountered by scientists in the tomb of Tutankhamen

5,000 years ago. It explained they helped build the Pyramids and are now waiting for their mother ship to return and take them home," he says.

Death

"The alien emphasized the secret room must remain an absolute secret until its evacuation, scheduled for sometime within the next 10 years," Mercer says.

"It said we would be un-

able to find the chamber again, and if anyone tried to do so, certain death would result.

"The being then led us back to the burial chamber, where it faded back into the wall and vanished."

The archaeologists' astonishing story has drawn its share of skepticism and shock from the scientific community.

5000 YEAR OLD CONT

But 14 explorers who disregarded the alien's warning and attempted to find the secret chamber themselves are now dead.

Doctors agree the men were stricken by a mysterious tropical disease never before seen on Earth.

"The disease is caused by a lethal fungus unknown on this planet," says examining physician Dr. Ahmed Jobib. "It enters the bloodstream through the lungs and causes vital organs to wither away in a matter of hours."

While Dr. Jobib admits to having no earthly explanation for the presence of the fungus, he still doubts the authenticity of the archaeologists' incredible saga.

"Perhaps the lack of oxygen in the tomb caused Mercer and Dunlop to hal-

lucinate their experience."

But Mercer and Dunlop say they were under no unusual influence, and the possibility of their both having the same hallucination is extremely remote.

"We know what we saw," Mercer says, adding they are willing to submit their story to a lie detector.

Secret

"We are sorry so many of our colleagues have died attempting to locate the secret chamber," Dunlop says, "but they were warned."

"They have no one to blame but themselves."

In spite of the 14 horrible deaths, other archaeologists are preparing to undertake the search for the mysterious underground tomb described by Mercer and Dunlop.

NATIONAL ENQUIRER

DEC-2

In a Massive 12-Year Study, French Govt. Research Finds . . .

Fascinating Evidence UFOs Really Do Exist

French UFO researchers, whose work is taken so seriously that it's financed by their government, have compiled incredible cases of UFO sightings — and alien visitors.

"In more than 12 years of UFO investigations, these are our best cases, based on more than 1,600 reports," said Jean Jacques Velasco, head of GEPAN — the government-financed agency that investigates UFO reports. Here are their best five cases.

In November 1982, a small dome-shaped craft landed in the backyard of a well-respected cancer researcher.

"The craft stopped about 10 feet from him and hovered three feet above his garden for 20 minutes," said Velasco.

"The craft took off as silently as it had arrived, leaving the grass beneath it standing upright as if in an electrical force field."

The next day GEPAN investigators found that a large flowering plant in the garden had completely dried out. After testing it, they discovered it had been subjected to electric energy equal to half the force of a lightning bolt, "suggesting the UFO had given off a tremendous electric-type force," said Velasco.

By PATRICK WILKINS

In a similar incident about a year earlier, a noisy UFO landed in the yard of a stonemason in Cannes, France.

"The man heard a whistling sound, then saw a strange saucer-shaped craft shining brightly and floating noisily in the direction of some nearby trees," Velasco said. "It was about 8 feet around and 4½ feet tall. Suddenly, it turned sharply, landing with a thud about 95 feet away from him. Thirty seconds later it took off in the same noisy way."

A month later, following the man's directions, GEPAN investigators found a circular mark burned into the ground in his yard. Their experiments showed that subjecting the ground to a strong magnetic field could achieve the same burned effect.

In another eerie encounter, a deliveryman driving near Toulouse spotted a UFO that disabled his car.

"A large orange cigar-

shaped object appeared in the sky about 100 yards in front of him and flew no more than 30 feet over his car," said Velasco.

Suddenly, the car stopped. The terrified driver got out, and watched the orange object circle around then disappear over some trees. But when he got back into his car, it wouldn't start.

A qualified mechanic and GEPAN investigators checked the car thoroughly. They could find nothing wrong with it, but it still wouldn't start.

"Strangely, 48 hours after the UFO sighting the man was able to start his engine as if there had never been a problem. This case remains one of our most bizarre," said Velasco.

Yet another mysterious in-

One UFO Left Burn Marks on The Ground — Another Disabled An Automobile

cident occurred in a small village in the Rhone-Alps area of France in 1978. A 13-year-old girl spotted a ball-

shaped UFO with the "shimmering form of a man in a silverish suit standing by it," said Velasco.

"The alien being, if that is what it was, remained motionless beside the craft. In absolute panic, the girl turned and ran."

When police investigated the site the next day, "they found, in exactly the place the girl had indicated, a patch of flattened grass about 9 or 10 feet in diame-

ter with absolutely no tracks leading to it," said Velasco.

GEPAN's most astonishing case was in 1964 when two children saw a group of alien children near the town of Cussac in central France.

"The youngsters saw a strange silver-colored ball-shaped craft about 150 feet away. Playing next to it were four miniature silver-suited aliens, which they later decided must be children," Velasco said.

"For several minutes, they watched the aliens frolicking until three of them climbed into the craft through a hole in the side.

"It took off, but one miniature alien was left behind. When the craft was about 20 feet in the air, the alien suddenly leaped upward and seemed to disappear straight

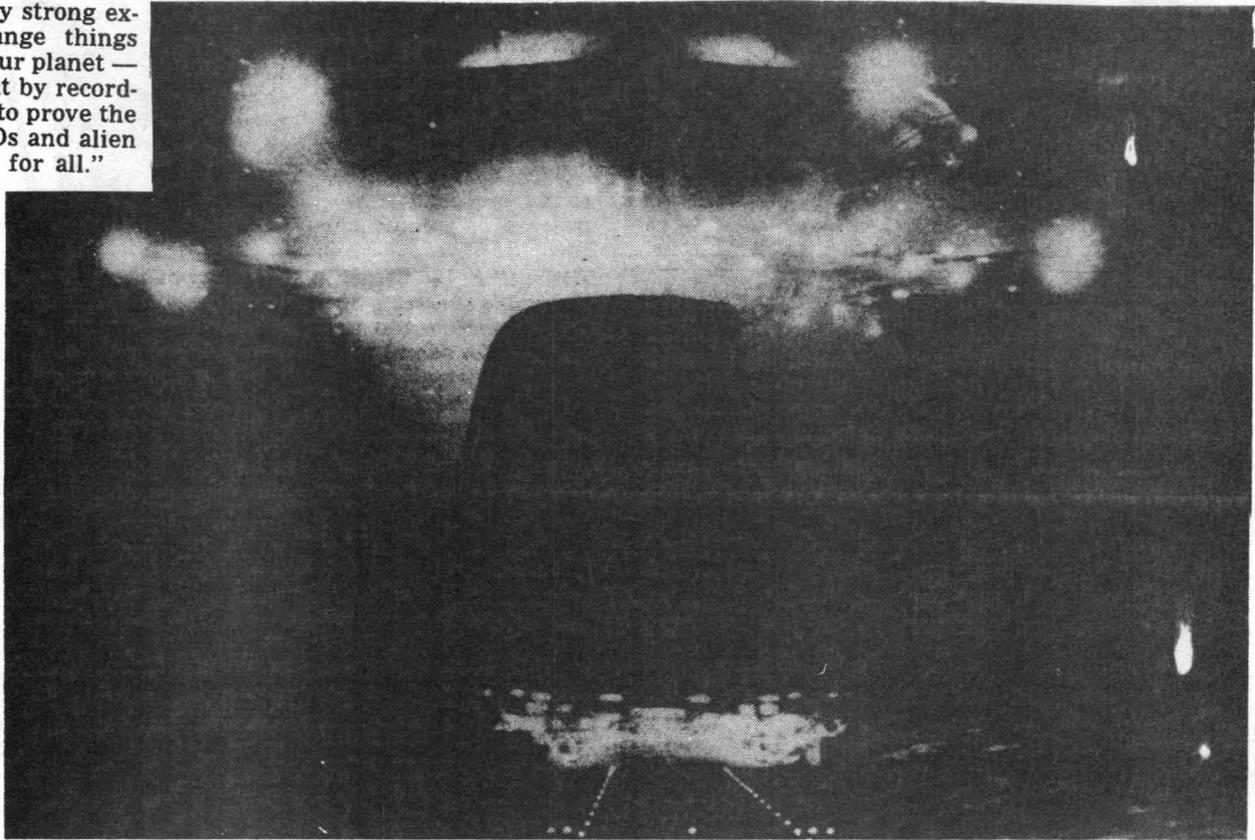
CONT NEXT PAGE

UFOs EXIST CONT

through the wall of the spaceship. We can't say it was a family of aliens who visited Earth — or explain how one could breach the craft's metallic wall.

"But it's a very strong example that strange things happen around our planet — and we hope, that by recording such events, to prove the existence of UFOs and alien beings once and for all."

EXAMINER DEC 2 1986



THE MOVIE, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, depicted contact between aliens and humans.

UFO aliens are all around us

UFO ALIENS are here among us, observing our lives, a top astrophysicist says.

The reason we don't realize that celestial spooks are snooping on us is because they're in another dimension and we can't see them, Dr. Jacques Vallee told a meeting of space experts in London, England.

Dr. Vallee, a noted French astrophysicist, served as an advisor to moviemaker Steven Spielberg when he was filming his highly acclaimed *Close Encounters of a Third Kind*.

It's easy for the aliens to remain unseen — they can take advantage of any of the 136 dimensions he says exist in the universe.

When we see UFOs, Dr. Vallee said, what we're seeing is the arrival or departure of the aliens.

Those who actually have Encounters of the Fourth Kind and see the snoopy aliens when they appear in

By PHIL BRENNAN

our dimension are afraid to report the experiences for fear of being laughed at, he said.

Dr. Vallee cited two UFO cases as the most convincing of all those he's studied:

• A French farmer approached a large metallic object he saw parked in

Humanoids are watching from another dimension

a field. Suddenly two small humanoids appeared beside it, but at that moment he was stricken with paralysis.

While he stood there helpless and unable to move, the creatures scurried aboard the UFO and it vanished.

• A French physician saw a bright flashing light outside his house. As he

stared out of the window, he saw two huge objects joining together above a blinding light. The following morning a nervous disorder which had plagued him for years was gone and with it a minor leg disability.

UFOs have a long history and can be traced back to the Pharaohs of ancient Egypt, Dr. Vallee said.

Army performed on crashed UFO aliens

A PENTAGON executive reveals that U.S. Army medics performed autopsies on the bodies of crashed UFO aliens.

Larry Bryant made the stunning revelation in ads in military papers asking for witnesses to come forward and aid in a lawsuit that would make records of the autopsies public.

Before placing the ads, Bryant, who has worked for the Pentagon for 28 years as an editor and writer, went to court to demand the release of the bodies of extraterrestrials killed in a crash 30 years ago.

...reveals a
**Pentagon
executive**

By EDDIE BEA

He now plans to take the Air Force to court because one of its base newspapers refused to run even one of the ads.

Bryant believes his attempts to find out the truth behind the alleged government cover-up of the crash have prompted Pentagon officials to give him an unsatisfactory job rating.

"The only reason they have attacked my competence is to teach me a lesson," he charges.

Bryant is not the first to attempt to grapple with reports of an official cover-up of UFO crashes and deaths of extraterrestrials.

One of the most perplexing and persistent cases involves the report of a UFO crash near Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947 — nearly

PERSISTENT reports claim a UFO crashed in New Mexico, killing extraterrestrials onboard.

the same time Bryant believes the autopsies were performed.

Although the government has continually denied such a crash, eyewitnesses have a different story. Barney Bennett, a civil engineer, was one of the first to see the wreck, say Charles Berlitz and William L. Moore in *The Roswell Incident* (Grosset and Dunlap, 1981).

Bizarre

Barnett was out on assignment when he stumbled on what he describes as a "disc-shaped object about 25 or 30 feet across."

As he inspected the bizarre find, a group of people who later described themselves as an archaeological research team approached.

"They were looking at some dead bodies that had fallen to the ground," says Barnett. "I think there were others in the machine which had been split open by explosion or impact."

"The bodies were like humans, but they were not humans. The heads were round, the eyes were small and they had no hair."

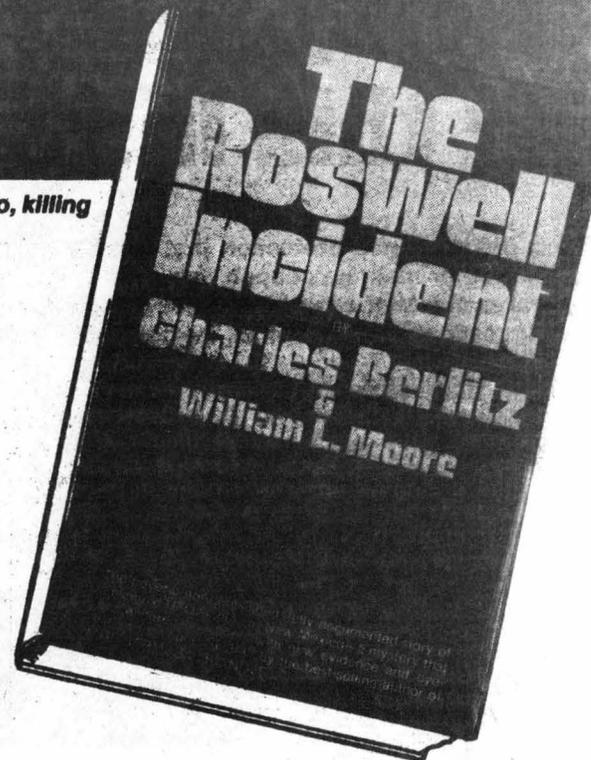
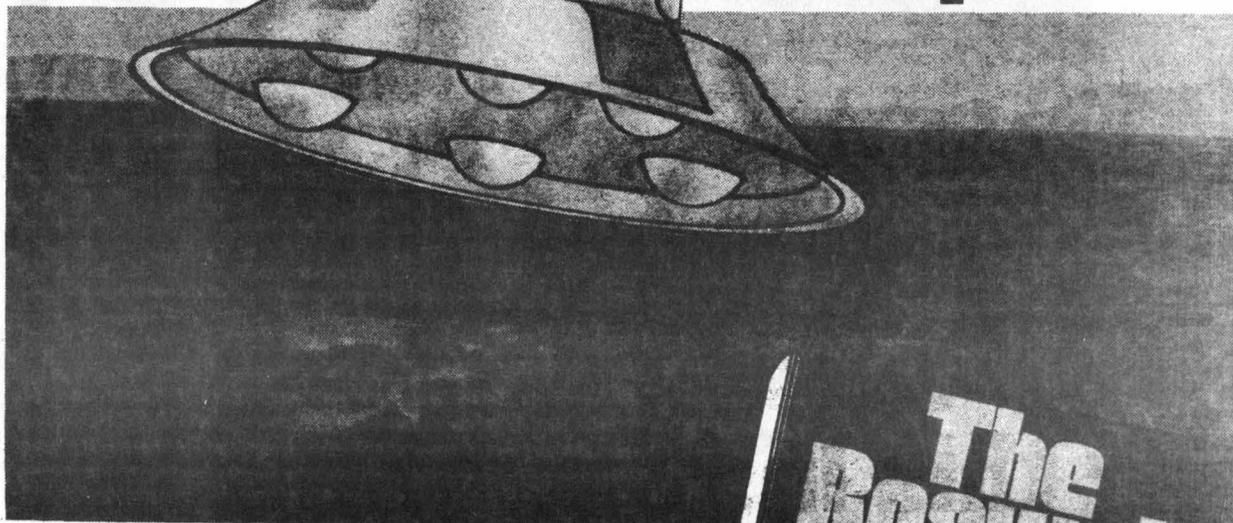
"They were quite small by our standards and their heads were larger in proportion to their bodies. I was close enough to touch them."

But as Barnett gazed on the strange creatures in

one-piece outfits that lacked zippers and buttons, a military officer drove up in a truck and took control.

Patriotic

autopsies



BOOK CITES eyewitness reports of alien spaceship wreckage believed to contain bodies.

Adds Barnett, "We were told to leave and not to talk to anyone about what we had seen — that it was our patriotic duty to remain silent."

ANGLERS SPOT UFO



● THEY'RE coming . . . Brothers Joseph and Clive Goode tell of their close encounter. Picture: Pete Spencer.

TWO fishermen are convinced that visitors from another world passed over Daventry this week.

They are challenging experts to explain the appearance of six Unidentified Flying Objects over the Country Park early on Tuesday morning.

For brothers Clive and Joseph Goode claim they saw "aliens" as the sun was rising over the reservoir.

"I stood there absolutely dumbfounded. I've never seen anything like it," says Clive who lives in Walsgrave, Coventry.

They say that six objects came across the sky from the direction of Long Buckby. They were in formation with a large object at the front.

The UFO's made a whirring noise and two of them left wispy trails in the sky, the brothers claim. Geese on the reservoir were "going crazy" as the objects passed and disappeared in the direction of Preston Capes.

By
John Howes

Clive and Joseph were spending their first day fishing at the Country Park and had set up tackle at about 6 am, before the sun rose.

The objects appeared shortly afterwards at about the height of low clouds, and were out of sight within a few seconds.

"It happened so quick," says Joseph who works on the production line at British Leyland. "I reached for my camera, but it was too late.

"If you'd seen it yourself, you wouldn't have believed it. I wish it wasn't true because I spend a lot of time out fishing and this has put me right off," he told the Weekly Express.

"I have always been interested in UFO's but I never really believed they existed. If anyone tells me this was a balloon or a jet-fighter, they have got to be joking," adds Joseph.

He says that a jet-fighter passed over

several minutes before the UFO's — but that the unidentified objects were travelling much faster than any planes.

The brothers say they were fishing a fortnight ago at Stanford near Lutterworth when they saw a bright light moving in the sky. They believe that the Ministry of Defence could be testing new weapons in the area.

"It was something unexplained. Do we have something that far advanced?" asks Joseph.

Sgt Tony Picketts of Daventry Police says he will be advising aviation authorities of the sighting and they may wish to launch an investigation. He is not aware of any defence exercises in the area.

He says he believes the objects may be caused by condensation from a jet aircraft which had just passed over. He says when pilots adjust the throttles, there is a "blip" in condensation trails which give the appearance of smoke rings.

And he urges anyone else who saw the objects to report the sightings to the police.

WOMEN'S SPA by Pat Gill Bolton

Passion for the paranormal is Jenny's way of life

A PASSION for "things on the borders of our understanding", including UFOs, life after death and ghosts, led Jenny Randles to abandon her study of geophysics at Manchester University.

Convinced that certain matters were swept under the carpet by science because there was no solution for them, Jenny turned her attention to areas which she felt needed new exploration.

Now, at 34, Jenny has written eight books and devoted a major chunk of her life to investigations.

Much of what she has discovered will be revealed in a new Radio Manchester series "Fact or Fiction", starting on September 28.

Jenny, of Whitethroat Walk, Birchwood, Warrington, is national director of investigations for the British UFO Research Association and co-ordinator with the Association for Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena.

She has lectured at universities on both sides of the Atlantic and to the House of Lords.

Although she has sifted through hundreds of paranormal incidents, Jenny retains the cool approach of common sense and scientific logic.

Throughout a conversation with Jenny, she repeats that there are matters which cannot be understood, and that she has an open mind.

However, research has shown that strange incidents not only appear to exist, but are often repeated, on a considerable scale. "Thousands of people are undergoing all kinds of things", said Jenny.

For example, there appears to be some consistency among people who claim to have had contact with outer space. The now well-known stories of people being taken into a vehicle of some sort — Jenny calls it a UFO — have suggested certain elements in common.

Over four decades there have been three or four hundred claimed cases of communication with "out there". Some possible consistency emerged about a medical examination having taken place.

Jenny has been involved in the investigation of 20 such cases, and she is certain that many people who have made claims are sincere about what they say.

When investigations are carried out, checks are done with psychiatrists to ensure that the person involved is sane.

Jenny told me of one incident in the north west involving a policeman, and she was in no doubt of his sincerity.

A UFO landed on the road in front of his car as he was driving. He had to stop. He later realised that at that point, he "lost" 15 minutes

of time. He had a hazy recollection of being carried somewhere, with a floating sensation and being given something like a medical examination by a white clad figure, and regaining consciousness back in the seat of his car.

He was certain about the UFO. He was hazy about the events which followed. But when he looked at his boots, there were scratches on them, as though he had been dragged along. The area where the UFO had landed was dry and the ground around was wet with rain.

"We used a CID man to investigate this case", said Jenny. The incident, like 25,000 others involving UFOs, was destined for a file at the Ministry of Defence. Since 1962, police stations and air bases have to report any claimed incidents about UFOs, under the official secrets act.

Although in some cases stories tend to be what Jenny describes as "comic book style", she is aware that people have had experiences of something strange happening to them.

"These people know that something significant has happened to them. They need to talk to somebody", said Jenny. She feels that family, friends and police don't know how to react.

Jenny is turning her attentions at the moment to a new book on life after death, and is hoping to hear from anybody who thinks they have had experiences in this field.

She related the description which had been given by a man who virtually died from a heart attack. He reported that first, sounds disappeared. Then there was a feeling of being outside of his own body, and watching the scene. He lost all pain and fear, and surveyed the chaotic scene as medical staff attempted to resuscitate him. He later described it with incredibly detailed accuracy. He then had the feeling of going into a long tunnel, a pleasant situation, with a light, warm area at the end, and of having the choice of staying or going back. Suddenly, the whole scene was cut off and the pain returned.

Some elements of this story have emerged in incidents throughout the world and among people of all religions.

These include the tunnel sensation and the choice about staying or going back.

Jenny has also looked into the subject of ghosts. "Ghosts certainly exist", she said. As with other areas of the paranormal, she considers that feeling and emotion have a great part to play. Jenny also believes that because women possibly have a greater empathy with these two attributes than men, they are likely to have more instances of paranormal experiences.

"Emotion is the one significant clue", said

Jenny. "Ghosts appear to be emotions which can be picked up by the right person, at the right time and in the right place. They tend to be in locations to which ghosts had a strong emotional attachment when they were alive. Very few hold conversations. Most are rather like video pictures. Ghosts which are several hundred years old don't appear to have feet. This is because they are walking below the existing surface, on a level which has since been built up".

Time slip is another area which Jenny studied, and she considers that reports all tend to point in one direction: "There is some information which is there and is able to be picked up like a radio signal".

"We think, in our regimented way of looking at the universe, that time goes from past to future. Scientists now know that time isn't like that. The deeper you probe into the matter, the more it looks like a magic picture show.

"Our concept of the past, present and future is just an abstraction which helps us to cope with our own interaction with the world.

"In dreams, there is no time, because we are at a different level of reality. Fundamental reality is a timeless state. When we get away from our own image of what the world has to be like, and escape to the world

in our minds we can receive information from elsewhere in time".

Jenny's view is that paranormal experiences tend to happen when people are in "a different consciousness".

She said: "Awake and asleep are two states, but there are dozens of them".

Jenny was born in Bacup and went to school in Manchester. After leaving university, she went into teacher training and taught science alongside her paranormal studies.

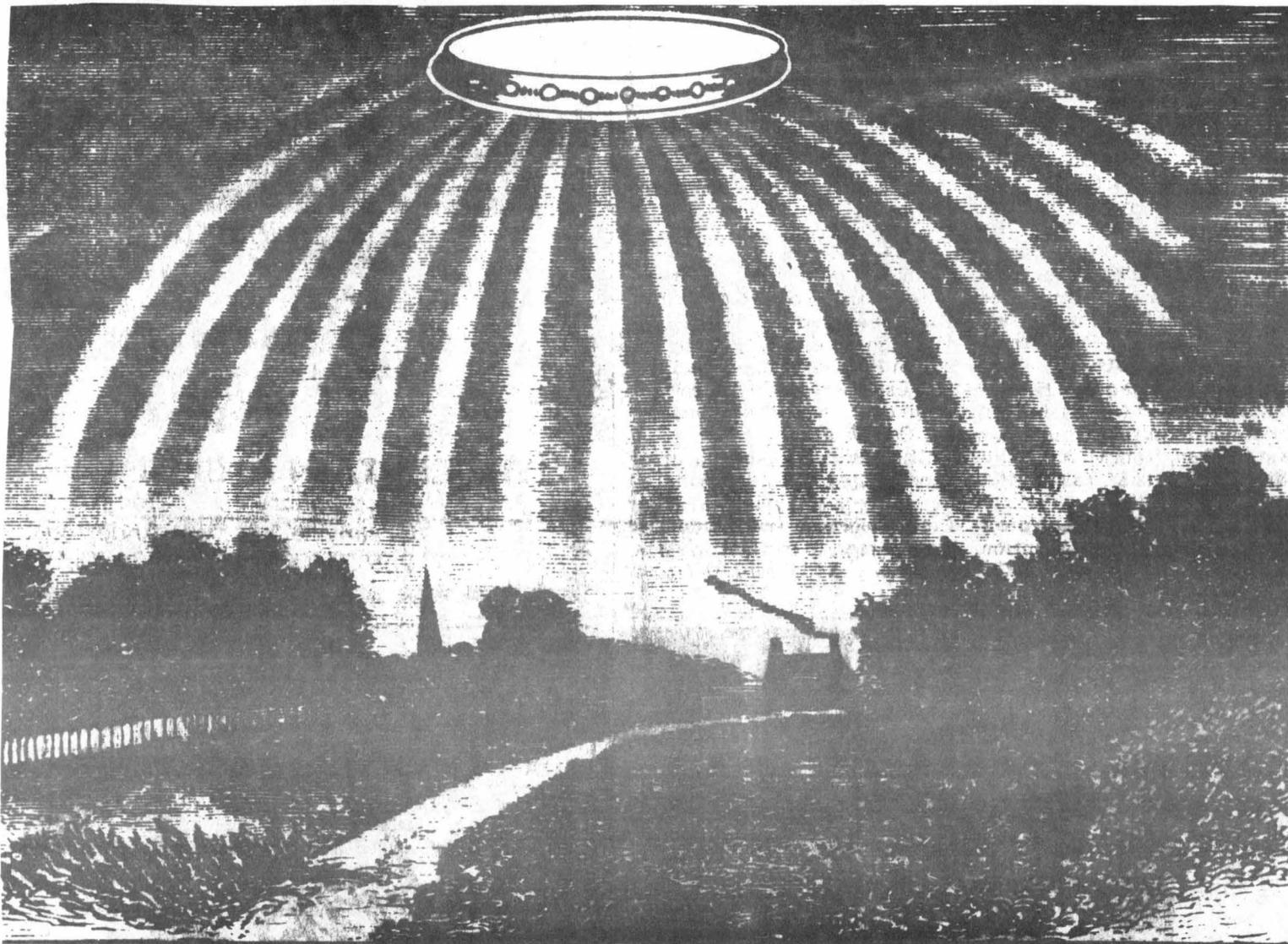
She now does the latter full time, and spends most of her life on writing and research.

Jenny's dedication to the paranormal was, on her own admission, a contributory factor to the ending of her marriage.

She lives closely with her work. The research side involves an endless round of phone calls and letters.

Jenny lectures to women's clubs and other organisations in what little spare time she has. She sometimes amuses herself by writing romantic short stories, as a contrast to work.

• Jenny's radio programme, which will include interviews about the paranormal with well known people, including Michael Bentine and Stuart Hall, will feature UFOs, powers of the mind, premonitions, reincarnation, ghosts and life after death.



U F O

Since sightings of unidentified objects by airmen in the 1940s started a wave of reports credible and otherwise, human imagination has been captured by airborne saucers crewed by Little Green Men ...

The artist was a retiree from Mauldin and he was shy, at first, about showing his work. He was also shy about giving his story. And his name.

The pencil drawings he laid down on the cafe table, at the McAlister Square, were neat and efficient; most of us would not know for certain whether the likenesses were good, for most of us have not seen the subject. And some of those who may have seen it would never say so.



BY DOT ROBERTSON
The News
in the foothills

It was a domed saucer-shaped object. No — more, as he noted, like an inverted soup plate, or a squashed bell. As he recalled it, there were two of them, hovering in the pale dawn sky several years ago, on the coast of Florida, where he and his wife were staying.

He explained his drawing: bucket-shaped protusions he believed to be some sort of exhaust system made a pattern around the bases of the things. The two mystery ships had glowed with colored lights as they hunged briefly over the horizon and then buzzed out of sight.

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UFO CONT

"I'm not exactly one that follows all that," the artist told John Timmerman, who is the public relations director of the Center for UFO Studies in Lima, Ohio.

Timmerman was in Greenville with a traveling exhibit of reports, pictures and descriptive letters from people who, like the man with the drawings, had seen something aloft that the Wright brothers never dreamed of.

As Timmerman recorded the retiree's story, told almost in a whisper, lines of shoppers moved slowly past the panels of the exhibit. Later, some gathered around a television set where Timmerman was showing a tape of a discussion by scientists Jacques Vallee and astronomer J. Allen Hynek,

founder of the Center for UFO Studies.

Vallee, an astrophysicist and computer scientist, was the model for the French scientist in the Spielberg movie *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. Astronomer Hynek, who died of a brain tumor last April, was the founder of the Center for UFO Studies, and one of the first to bring the UFO phenomenon under serious scrutiny.

It was Hynek who, in a system rating reports of sightings by how much, and how intimately, the reporter was able to observe, coined the phrase "close encounters of the third kind."

Since sightings of unidentified objects by airmen in the 1940s started a wave of reports credible and otherwise, human imagination has been captured by airborne saucers crewed by Little Green Men. Or appealing, sweet-faced lizards.

Sometimes, to the science community's dismay, the human urge to create a little excitement also created headlines. In Jonesboro, Ark., two little silver men were charged with obstructing traffic after their "spaceship" dropped them on a busy highway. Investigators found two fun-loving locals wrapped in tinfoil.

At Marietta, Ga., a discussion in a barbershop led to a convincing tragedy on a highway near town. A little green man was found on the road, where he had — it was told by certain witnesses — been hit by

a car after a fall from his saucer. After much to-do, the corpse of the alien was found to be that of a monkey who had only coincidentally met death, perhaps of natural causes, and had been shaved and painted green.

Naturally, it came to pass that sightings of unexplained aircraft and occupants of same became suspect. Not many who saw odd things, then, were brave enough to tell it.

But some did. Over the years, Hynek, who had been, with considerable skepticism, a consultant in the Air Force inquiry called "Project Blue Book," collected and explored thousands of reports from people around the world. These he ranked according to the "closeness" of the close encounters:

The "first kind" was observation of a UFO that while it may have been near, within 200 yards or so, there was no interaction between the object and the environment or the observer.

The "second kind" included some sort of interaction; a car's electrical system may have failed, as the thing passed near.

(The center has recorded 441 instances where that appeared to happen.)

Sometimes vegetation, or even humans or animals, may have been burned by the object's heat. This was the "kind" scientists most treasure because there would be some evidence.

A close encounter of the "third kind" involved sighting of entities (who were, by reports, more likely to be done up in silver or bright white than green) and might even involve some contact, or even detainment or abduction. In this realm fell the reports by two fishermen at Pascagoula, Miss., who said they had been taken aboard a UFO and studied by entities.

This kind, of course, has the capacity to give science both tentative joy and splitting headaches.

A surge of sightings occurred in the late '60s and early 1970s, peaking in 1973. Not all, of course, were reported to Hynek; some were likely reported to no one.

As one fellow at Timmerman's display observed, "They're liable to come get us and take us down to Columbie and lock us up on Bull Street." But the man had a story to tell, off-handedly. He had not seen the thing; his brother had.

It was a huge lighted ship of some sort that hovered over his brother's neighborhood in Greenwood and then was later seen over Lake Greenwood. "But he didn't tell it," the informant said. "I'll bet he's not told over a half a dozen people about that," though it was a remarkable and memorable event.

Several others came forth quietly, during the exhibit's long weekend at McAlister Square, to share with Timmerman sightings and experiences of their own.

Timmerman is not an astronomer; he is a savings and loan executive, and a veteran volunteer with an organization that is kept running largely by fascinated volunteers. Simply, "I am a curious man," he says.

Very serious about his avocation, he took pains to draw out the often hesitant accounts, answer questions and to pooh-pooh no opinions — which were more common than stories.

"How do we know they come from outer space? I think they come from inside the earth," one woman said.

See UFO, Page 9B

We don't know where they come from, Timmerman replied. And, he added, "We have reports of objects emerging from the sea."

The most interesting report he added to the center's collection, while in Greenville, he said, was a man's story of an incident that occurred not in Carolina but on a highway between Chicago and Hammond, Ind.

"The time was 7:20, on the 27th of November 1980, and he was driving down the road on the way to Hammond. He was behind three cars and was about to go around a curve when suddenly, his car seemed enter a snow storm. Except, the 'snow' seemed to be tiny, silver particles.

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LIFO CON'T

"A loud sound enveloped his car and around his head. At 9:15, he found himself on that same curve, with other cars ahead of him ..."

That, Timmerman surmised, may have been a "missing time" experience, so-called after a book on the phenomenon by Budd Hopkins, called *Missing Time*.

Listening in on some of the accounts was George Fawcett, of Lincolnton, N.C., whose own collection of reports and other information now totals, he figures, some 14,000 items.

His own files hold hundreds of entries from the Carolinas. In one, in the early 1970s, a Spartanburg County man reported seeing a lighted airship sitting in the road one night, surrounded by several men in brilliant white suits.

A housewife in central North Carolina told Fawcett, and later a reporter, about watching, with her infant in her arms, a glowing ship descend on her front lawn and entities climb out of it.

There are, Fawcett says, about 150 reports of sightings daily, around the world. The most amaz-

ing thing, he says, is their consistency. "Little Men" were landing on Malaysia, in flurries, just as they were visiting the Carolinas.

(There are also fairly consistent portraits that emerges of the "aliens," he notes. While some could pass for any fellow on the street, others are small, the size of, say, fourth-graders, with large heads and large eyes. And sexless. Possibly they clone, he says, instead of doing like earthly mortals. Which may, one might decide, explain their intellectual advancement.)

Fawcett, founder of several study organizations across the country and a member of several others world-wide, dreams of building a museum soon to house all of the research material he has gathered and much more.

He feels sure, he says, that it would be a tourist attraction as well as a center for independent study. Somewhere in Carolina would be a good place, he says. But wherever investors want to invest, that would be a good place, too.

Involved scientists dream of serious funding for research. The Center for UFO Studies exists on private donations. And yet, as Hynek liked to say, "We never would have gone to the moon if we'd only had volunteers who can only work on weekends."

The data-collecting goes on. Anyone who has an experience to report can do so by writing John C. Timmerman, Center for UFO Studies, P.O. Box 1621, Lima, Ohio 45802-1621. Or George Fawcett, 602 Battleground Road, Lincolnton, N.C. 28092.

No salesman will call. And no one will be carried off to Columbia. //

IRISH TIMES, DUBLIN SEP. 24 1986

UFOs 'just space rubbish'

²¹²⁸
PEOPLE IN Paris, Belgium and Luxembourg spotted a number of unidentified flying objects streaking across the dawn skies yesterday in what looked like a formation of glowing blue-green lights.

The UFOs were first spotted by police, who said they counted at least five or six glowing lights moving through the dawn skies at a relatively low altitude of 600 feet.

Local radio stations in Luxembourg said their switchboards were jammed by computers ringing in to report that they had seen the UFOs, and worried witnesses reported a "mysterious ball of fire" or an object "three times larger than a plane" in southern parts of the Netherlands and Belgium.

However an official of the Belgium Society for the Study of Space Phenomena said the objects

were probably parts of discarded satellite launching rockets re-entering the atmosphere and disintegrating as they fell.

According to NORAD, the North American Air Defence Command, which tracks radar-detectable space objects, debris from two Soviet rockets which had launched space satellites into orbit was expected in mid-September. — (UPI, AP)

BIRMINGHAM EVENING MAIL OCT 9 1986

Experts ³¹²⁸ to probe city UFO sighting

Reports of an unidentified flying object hovering over a Birmingham hospital are being investigated by UFO experts.

The 400ft long by 60 ft wide cigar shaped object was spotted by staff at Good Hope Hospital in Sutton Coldfield during a night shift.

Three nurses and a doctor who were taking a tea break all saw the silent object hovering about 800ft up.

The matter has been reported to UFO-Studies Investigations, an amateur organisation funded by British Aerospace, and the sightings are being investigated.

Mr John Hurley, of the Midland branch of the organisation said: "Ninety-five per cent of all sightings can be explained away after investigation as an aircraft, an airship, balloon, helicopter or even a bright star, but not in this case." He added: "Birmingham airport said they spotted something on the radar."

