

UFO NEWS

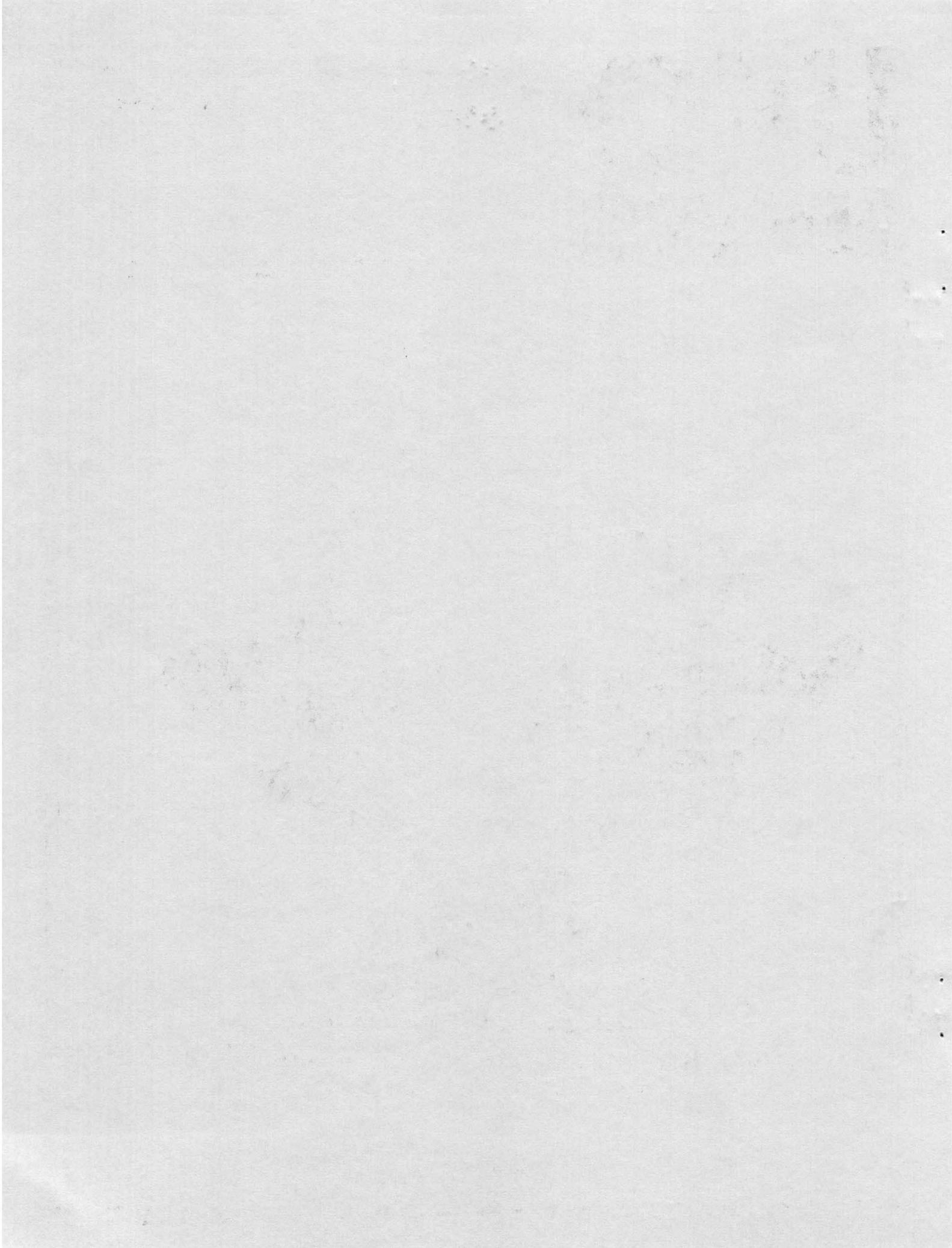
July
June 1988
Volume 13 No. 6
07



**AERIAL PHENOMENON
CLIPPING INFORMATION CENTER**

P.O. Box 37073 • Cleveland, Ohio 44137

DIRECT REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED



UFO light link with airship?

DURING the autumn of 1981 a large UFO answering the recent description of a UFO sighting by *Post* readers was seen by independent witnesses in Nottingham and Derbyshire.

It also had a window of some kind in the front, with a very large tail fin.

I was a member of Nottingham UFO Investigation Society at the time, when Dr Robert Morrell, Syd Henley and Peter Ann made a detailed investigation. A model was made.

After contacting various scientists and airline pilots, there was no clue for a long time. Then a NUFOIS member, by chance, read a magazine story on airships.

The society contacted a firm called Airship Industries, and we had our best possible answer. It was an airship undergoing night flight tests, which few people knew about.

The coloured lights around the outer edge, not on the tail, were also explained. The airship was from the U.S. and there was a large panel of coloured lights, like that attached to the Theatre Royal, fixed to the airship's sides. It was these being turned on that gave it its bizarre effect.

The recently-sighted UFO may not be an airship, though the similarity noticed by many to that seen over Nottingham in 1981 should be a valuable clue, especially if there was only one object undergoing manoeuvres, not two as reported by your readers.

PATRICK FLECKNEY
Caunton Avenue,
Mapperley.

WEST LANCASHIRE EVENING
GAZETTE BLACK POOL
DEC 10 1987

UFO sighting him dumb

HAVE the Martians visited Mereside?

Members of the Blackpool UFO society admit to being baffled by a close encounter on Langdale Road.

They received a report from a musician who claimed to have seen an unidentified flying object outside his home when he was returning from work shortly after 3am on November 16.

The man, who does not want to be named, says he saw a pulsating yellow light coming towards him from the north. As it came closer the silent UFO started to descend in stages, stopping and starting like a lift.

It then became clear that the amber light was surrounded by an outer shell. The spherical object began spinning at high speed and emitting blue, red, green and white light before suddenly stopping.

After a short pause the object headed south and out of sight.

The musician said he had never been as frightened in his life and remembered feeling so weak that it was as if all the energy had been drained out of him.

President of the Blackpool UFO society Mrs Hazel Shanley urged anyone with a similar experience or an explanation to ring the UFO hotline on 56821.

BRAINTREE & WITHAM
TIMES, ESSEX
NOV 26 1987

Another UFO is spotted

AN UNIDENTIFIED flying object has been spotted over Blackmore End — just three weeks after two policemen reported a sighting in the Dunmow area.

Beauty therapist Tracy Little was driving out of her home on Monday night when she noticed a very bright object stationary in the sky, surrounded by pale yellow lights.

"I have never seen anything so bright. I watched it for about four minutes before it moved off very fast into the clouds. I wasn't scared just completely intrigued and mystified."

The incident was officially reported but air traffic control said there was no radar contact and they had no explanation.

Braintree acting Inspector Rodney Booth said all the necessary authorities had been contacted.

The policemen, based at Dunmow, saw a red flashing

BRAINTREE & WITHAM TIMES, ESSEX
DEC 10 1987

Man hears unidentified sounds and reports a noisy UFO

DRUMMER Owen Morgan does not expect many people to believe that he heard a spaceship — but he can think of no other explanation of his early morning experience on a Braintree street.

Mr Morgan, who is a session drummer living in the town's Edinburgh Gardens, was walking his dog at 2am on Friday after finishing

work when he heard a high pitched whithering sound from his right side.

"I admit I was scared but I looked in that direction and there was nothing there. The noise continued as if I'd disturbed something and then it went across the road in front of me, all the way up Portland Close, and finally seemed to disappear into the

air."

The whole episode, says Mr Morgan, took no longer than seven seconds and the noise frequency was four sounds per second.

"I don't suppose anyone will believe me but I know something was there. The extraordinary thing is that the dog didn't take any notice."

Seeing bright lights before the eyes

AUTUMN may be the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness.

It would also appear to be the time of year when people see lights before the eyes.

Mr Andy Roberts, of Brighouse, is a writer and researcher on Unidentified Flying Objects, and has several accounts

from witnesses to two strange sightings during the last few weeks.

Now he's on the look-out for other witnesses.

On October 28 at 9.10pm a couple returning from Lancashire on the Isle of Skye road to Holmfirth saw a very bright light in the sky which was clearly not a star. Around a mile from Holm-

firth they stopped the car directly below the "UFO" and saw that it was not one, but five bright lights with other less-bright lights circled around. The object then moved off "with a whooshing sound" and gathered speed as it crossed the moors to the east.

The other sighting was at 6am on Monday, November 16, when a large

object with strong beams of light was seen approaching Castle Hill. It stopped abruptly then moved off at high speed towards Holme Moss.

At least three sets of independent witnesses are said to have seen this object.

If others have shared these experiences they can contact Mr Roberts at 84 Elland Road, Brighouse.

NOTTINGHAM EVENING POST DEC 11 1987

Eerie night sights have folks foxed

REPORTS of mysterious lights flying eerily in the night sky have been received from throughout the county.

Several people in Nottingham claimed to have seen a UFO in the sky above the city on Wednesday night.

It was described by one man as being "as big as a

football pitch" and making a deep humming noise.

Now reports of sightings of strange lights have come from as far afield as Codnor and Newark.

Mrs Norma Halston, of Heanor Road, Codnor, said: "My daughter called me to look. A first I thought it was a plane landing but it didn't move for at least five minutes.

A Newark resident said he spotted two waves of red, green and white lights high in the sky at about 4.45pm on Wednesday and assumed it was several RAF jets flying in formation.

Mr Wakefield, of Maze Avenue, Carlton, said the UFO had red lights at either end and 10 to 15 yellow lights in between. It

was about two to three-hundred feet wide and headed off towards Southwell.

Mr Frank Gill, of Travers Road, Sandiacre said: "It had three red lights and a really bright white one and flew in from the west at about 4.50."

HERTFORDSHIRE MERCURY HERTFORD DEC 4 1987

UFO seen by youth

A HERTFORD youth is convinced he had an encounter of a third kind when he was among 30 drivers who halted on a road from Sawbridge-worth to Hertford, on Tuesday evening, to look at a brightly lit object which appeared to be hovering 40 feet above a copse.

Mrs June Kingwell told the Mercury her son Justin, aged 20, had been returning to his Ware Road home at about 5 pm.

"At first he thought it was an aeroplane and then realised it was hovering and was not making a noise. It was far too big to be a helicopter," said Mrs Kingwell.

Her son, who works for Stanstead Abbotts tree surgeons, Fletcher and Redman, said other drivers stopped to look at the object before it glided off.

BOLTON EVENING NEWS JAN 12 1988

Did you see the light?

■ A UFO expert is seeking more witnesses to an unexplained light over the Belmont Moors. 3128

■ The unidentified bright white light, spotted by Mrs Dorothy Lomax of Duns-car, appeared over the moor for some 45 minutes before vanishing.

■ UFO expert Steve Bolan said: "I have been in touch with Mrs Lomax. What she saw is definitely not a star or an aircraft.

■ "It is an unexplained light and I would like to hear from anyone else who saw it. It was over the moors for three quarters of an hour so someone else must have spotted it."

■ The light appeared last Wednesday at 5pm.

Barway close encounter!

A BARWAY man is claiming to have had a "close encounter" with a UFO which he spotted on his way to work early on Friday morning.

Mr Leslie Woodbridge, of The Chestnuts, says he had to stop his car as the spacecraft went across the sky near Prickwillow.

"He says what he saw was quite fantastic," said Mr Woodbridge's wife Cynthia. "I didn't see it, but I do believe that there is something on this planet more than us."

Mrs Woodbridge says her husband can still see the vehicle in his mind's eye, and is quite convinced it was a UFO.

"The son of our neighbour

THE ELY STANDARD CAMBS DEC - 3 1987

John's hot on trail of the UFO...

3128

BIRMINGHAM
EVENING
MAIL

FEB - 19 - 1988

There's something in the air — but what?

The latest reports of an unidentified flying object over the West Midlands — with flashing lights and bigger than any aircraft, spotted independently this week by two pairs of patrolling police officers in Willenhall and Walsall — come at a time when sightings are showing a dramatic increase.

Cigar-shaped

Mr John Hurley, 48-year-old chairman of the West Midlands-based UFO Studies Investigations, said: "Since October last year, I have received 124 reports.

"In the same period from October 1985, there were 31; and there were 18 from October 1984 to February 1986."

Objects reported generally range from 3ft in diameter to the size of a small caravan. But three weeks ago, on January 26, he received calls about something described as being the size of a football pitch, hovering with lights all around it.

RAF Shawbury, in Shropshire, told him that there was an image on its radar screens for four seconds but would not give any other details.

Three weeks before that, a sister, two staff nurses and a doctor at Good Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield, saw a cigar-shaped object 400ft by 60ft, hovering with lights all round it. Birmingham Airport said there been a brief showing on radar — but again, there were no further details.

Reports

John Hurley, a computer analyst who lives in Kingsland Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham, said: "I have interviewed all of them and they are all genuine people. But I cannot understand why, even though admittedly it was at 2.15 am, we did not have any other calls at all."

It was last October that spotings hit a peak. He received 51 in the course of two days, charting the course of a huge orange object with a green band around it. It was first sighted by a



● A recent sighting — from Wednesday's Mail

woman in Bromsgrove and the drivers of two other cars as it remained stationary and silent at 2,500 feet for four minutes before shooting off towards Birmingham.

Soon afterwards, there were reports from Birmingham, Streetly, Four Oaks and Aldridge, where it was seen hovering for a minute. Then a retired police officer watched it for 90 seconds in Staffordshire. Other reports came an hour later of its being seen over Huddersfield, Leeds and the Lake District.

John Hurley said: "All the descriptions were the same and it cannot be explained as being an aircraft. I would not stick my neck out and say it was a flying

saucer, but I haven't a clue what it may have been. There is certainly something very strange going on."

Strange, he thinks, in more ways than one.

Last November, he applied to the Ministry of Defence at Cheltenham under the 30-year time limit of the Freedom of Information Act to see documents relating to sightings up to 1957 and was told they had been inadvertently destroyed with files on the second World War.

He has a theory that despite the Freedom of Information Act, members of the public will continue to be free to know only what the Government wants them to know.

Arcing

UFOs have fascinated him since he began collecting information 18 years ago, and although he tries to keep an open mind on the subject, he admits there are things that he cannot reasonably account for.

But he points out that nine out of ten UFO sightings can be explained without involving objects from outer space.

It is probably because John Hurley knows this that he is able to say so confidently that he has never seen a thing.

The nearest he came to it was in 1961 and 1968, when he saw a meteorite light up the sky. He knew what it was — but there were reports next day of UFO sightings.

At the moment, he is working on a report from Acocks Green, Birmingham, about a light in the sky, arcing from the North to the East.

He suspects it may have been a man-made satellite.

John always likes to hear the false alarms — because it is possible that they could have been something important.

Flash

Unfortunately, many people hesitate to make their sightings known — and he understands why.

"I am sure that everyone at some time has seen something flash across the sky and wondered what it was. But they think, 'If I report this, people will think I'm barmy...'"

John Hurley promises he will think nothing of the sort. His telephone number is 021 360 4580.

JOHN SLIM

CON'T NEXT PAGE



□ □
John Hurley with his record of sightings. Over the past four months he has registered 124.
 □ □

Whitley is showing the way in USA

□ More than half the adult population of the United States — and 39 per cent of Britons — believe in beings from outer space.

□ The startling statistic, revealed in a recent Gallup survey and indicating that flying saucers are far more likely to be the average American's cup of tea than is the case in Britain, is largely due to Whitley Strieber.

□ He is the 42-year-old Texan lawyer who claims to have met extra-terrestrial visitors who looked like very large grasshoppers.

□ The *Evening Mail* interviewed him in May last year and evoked tremendous interest among readers.

□ At the time, *Communion*, the book in which he tells his story, was newly published in Britain and was selling at a staggering 100,000 copies a week in hardback in the United States. This week, it has been published in Britain in paperback.

□ Strieber says he was frightened by his experience, which happened in an isolated cabin in upstate New York, and that he wrote the book for all the other people who have been just as frightened.

BRAIN TREE & WITHAM TIMES ESSEX
 FEB 4 1988

UFO might be a fireball meteor

AN astronomer may have solved the mystery of the burning UFO sited near Witham.

Churchwarden Rodney Culum spotted a fireball whizzing through the air as he drove along the A12 to Hatfield Peverel last month.

But airports and police investigations failed to find an explanation for it.

Now astronomer James Abbott, of Collingwood Road, Witham, believes it could have

been a large meteor, sometimes called fireballs.

Mr Abbott, who has got a degree in pure astronomy said: "The description of the fireball is very accurate and matches up with a large meteor or shooting star.

"It sounds as though it was a very large particle, about the size of a tennis ball and may have come from a comet.

"They usually fly about 80 miles high but this one may have been about 50 miles up.

"The description of the tail and the way it burnt itself up is what happens

And Mr Abbott, who is a member of the meteor section of the British Astronomical Association, said he is reporting the sighting to society.

He said: "A meteor this size is usually only seen about six times over the UK in a year.

"They will catalogue it and if three or more people report it, its relation to a comet can be worked out."

NORTHAMPTON CHRONICLE
 ECHO

FEB 19 1988

Mystery

object

3128

ON the night of February 12 about 6.05pm a strange object was sighted, moving slowly over the eastern district of Northampton. According to accounts it was very bright and moving from an east to westerly direction.

The object was also sighted on February 14 around 9.30pm; this time it was moving quickly over the Lings area.

I appeal to anyone who may have witnessed the object or any strange lights to contact me.

(Miss) Susan Pollock,
 Area investigator (UFO),
 30 Stonebridge Court,
 Lings,
 Northampton.

'I saw UFO too' says Nancy

³¹²⁸
A MIDDLESBROUGH pensioner has come forward to back claims of a UFO sighting in Cleveland.

Amateur photographer Andrew Farnaby captured on film last Wednesday a strange bright object which he says hovered for nearly half an hour above

Coulby Newham before suddenly vanishing.

Now after reading Andrew's story in the Evening Gazette, Mrs Nancy Cook, of Belvedere Road, has described how she too witnessed a very similar sight from her dining room window.

"It was about 5.15 pm three weeks ago. I saw this bright light flashing over

Beechwood fields. I thought it was a plane at first, but when I looked again several minutes later, it was still there hovering, flashing green and white lights."

Mrs Cook says she was so fascinated by the strange object she went outside with her binoculars.

"It hovered for about half an hour and then suddenly, whoosh it was gone. It was amazing," she explained.

Andrew, 20, of Forber Road, Linthorpe, was out with three pals when he claims he spotted the UFO and became so fascinated by it he rushed home to get his camera.

SWINDON EVENING ADVERTISER
FEB 22 1988
WILTSHIRE

DERBY EVENING TELEGRAPH
FEB 24 1988

UFO group looks for witnesses to lights

³¹²⁸
A UFO research group is seeking witnesses to back up a series of weird sightings.

The Borderland Phenomena Research Group, based in Penhill, Swindon, has received details of strange lights in the sky.

Paul Horwood, a DIY salesman and UFO enthusiast who set up the group, has had several calls from people.

He said: "There was one sighting over the Lawns on February 2 of a very bright light which moved slowly."

"Another sighting over Cricklade Road on February 11 involved several bright lights and a smaller single

red light which overtook the first very quickly."

An earlier sighting in January involved a series of bright lights over the Devizes to Swindon road.

Paul has made it his job to examine sightings of unidentified flying objects by interviewing people and checking details with the Met office at RAF Lyneham.

He would like to hear from people who may have spotted UFOs in the Swindon area.

Paul can be contacted at the Borderland Phenomena Research Group, Oaksey Road, Penhill, or by phoning Swindon 727122.

UFO spotter Alison Beedie was today still baffled by a mystery object she saw flying over Derby. ³¹²⁸

Graphic designer Miss Beedie was on her way home from work when she saw two bright lights hovering over the city's Stockbrook Street recreation ground.

She stood and watched for five minutes with two women out walking their dogs until the object moved over them, stopped, then flew off.

Miss Beedie (21), of Percy Street, Derby, said when the object moved overhead it had four bright lights in the shape of a square. "We were sure it wasn't a plane or a helicopter we couldn't quite make it out because it was quite high up but it was definitely something that

"I've never believed in UFOs before but now I'm not so sure."

BATH & WILTS
CHRONICLE

FEB 18 1988

Police in search for UFO

³¹²⁸
AN UNIDENTIFIED flying object baffled a Bradford on Avon couple yesterday.

Mr Peter Golding and his wife Irene phoned the police in the early evening when they saw something floating away from their home.

"It was like a big black bulb with lights underneath," said Mrs Golding today.

"It was not a hot-air balloon and it was not a flying saucer. We thought we had better let the police know in case it came down on top of something."

The object was in the distance when they spotted it from the lounge of their Budbury Circle home and it appeared to be heading towards Westbury.

"I have never seen anything like it before," added Mrs Golding.

Inspector Max Pheasant said the police had carried out a search of the area

WESTERN DAILY
PRESS BRISTOL
FEB 25 1988

Flying saucer spotter No. 2

³¹²⁸
A MYSTERIOUS UFO sighting in Bradford-on-Avon has been confirmed by a second spotter.

Mrs Sue Alexander said she saw a large black bulb shape in the sky from the bedroom window of her home in Culver Road.

Her report backs up sightings last week by Mr Peter Golding and his wife Irene, of Budbury Circle.

Police scoured nearby fields in vain, fearing the UFO was a plane or balloon about to crash.

Mrs Alexander said: "It was very eerie. It looked like a big light bulb."

ALDERSHOT NEWS
HANTS

FEB 19 1988

Flying

³¹²⁸
visit?

TWO UFOs have been spotted over Farnborough town centre — the latest in a spate of suspected extra-terrestrial sightings.

Police were called to the Diners' Club building at 8.30 p.m. on Sunday after a man dialled 999 and reported two objects hovering over the offices.

When police arrived, he told them the UFOs had made off towards Camberley.

Police are not revealing the identity of the caller, but they say the incident was not a hoax

OXFORD
MAIL
MAR 2 1988

AVON: Night nurse Elda Coretti sparked a military alert after seeing a UFO. Police and defence officials immediately launched a probe into the sighting as Elda was finishing her shift at Bath's Royal United Hospital.

Lights in the sky

A BARNETBY family think they might have spotted UFOs near their home.

Bryan Atkinson, of West Street, and his daughter Victoria (12), first spotted strange lights in the sky around 8.30 pm on Friday. But one hour later they had completely disappeared.

Said Mr. Atkinson: "I am intrigued to know what they were. I don't know whether anyone else has seen them or not."

He saw two lights which seemed to be hovering somewhere between Brigg and Wrawby.

At first he thought they were helicopters going in to land at Kirmington, but the large bright light and smaller duller apparition stayed in exactly the same spot parallel to each other for an hour before suddenly disappearing.

At one stage, Victoria thought she saw the duller light move down slightly.

Father and daughter are completely mystified and Victoria said: "I wasn't frightened, just excited and I want to know what they were."

MAR. 4 1988

Any UFO sightings?

MR. PHILIP MANTLE, 106 Lady Ann Road, Scothill, Batley, West Yorks., WF17 0PY:

I AM an investigator for the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) and at present am investigating a number of UFO sightings in the South Yorkshire area.

One such sighting is that of a Barnsley resident who observed a UFO on the morning of August 5, 1987. So far we have been unable to locate any further witnesses to this event.

I would therefore appreciate it if you

could ask the readers of your newspaper if any of them observed anything unusual on or around August 5, 1987. If any of them have witnessed what they believe to be a UFO on or around that date, or at any other time for that matter, they can contact me in complete confidence on our 24 hour UFO HOT-LINE number which is: 0924 444049, or I can be contacted in writing at the above address.

August was the busiest month of last year for UFO reports and especially for the north of England.

CHAD MANSFIELD

FEB 18 1988

UFO is sighted

It seems Mansfield people have a fascination with UFOs ... or else they have a fascination with us, for yet another sighting has been reported.

This time it happened on 5th February at 8.15pm when a man was walking along Westbourne Road at Sutton. The Mansfield UFO society have compiled a report on the event.

It is claimed that the man saw two objects meet in the sky and instead of passing each

other, the first object swung around the stationary one for almost one complete turn before joining it.

The Mansfield UFO society said: "The brightness of the combined objects suddenly increased, and after about five minutes the whole thing suddenly shot off at an incredible speed to the North."

They are appealing to anyone who saw this or any other sightings on the same night, to contact them on Mansfield 651703 or 651954.

DERBYSHIRE TIMES

MAR. 11 1988

UFOs: Mrs Elsa Lee, an investigator from the South Yorkshire UFO Society, spoke to members of Wingerworth Young Wives at their March meeting in the parish hall. Her enlightening talk was supplemented by tapes of people describing their strange experiences.

BURY FREE PRESS MAR. 4 1988

Priest puzzled by UFO

A MYSTERIOUS sighting over the night sky in Wickhambrook is puzzling a church minister and healer.

The rapidly moving object was spotted by the Rev Dr Scrivener at about 7.30 pm on Sunday and he has appealed to anyone else who may have seen it.

He said the white light went in a south to north direction and disappeared within less than two seconds.

"It seemed to move so fast

compared with anything else I have seen," said Dr Scrivener, who is a minister in the Anglian Church and a natural healing consultant.

Dr Scrivener said he phoned up the local military bases at RAF Honington and Wattisham and USAF Mildenhall and Lakenheath but they could not throw any light on the object. He also phoned Stanstead and Cambridge Airports but they too were unable to help.

He said the object consisted of a small white light with a tail and

appeared to pass under a light aircraft which was in the sky at the time.

Dr Scrivener saw the object from his garden at Tile Hall, Wickhambrook, and would like to hear from anyone else in the area who might have seen it.

He said it was nothing like an aircraft and could only assume it was some sort of alien craft.

If you have spotted any similar unusual objects over the local skies, write to the Free Press, Kings Road, Bury St Edmunds.

ROTTERHAM & SOUTH YORKSHIRE ADVERTISER

MAR 4 1988

Encounter of the first kind

A Herringthorpe couple who saw a mysterious ball of orange light in the sky believe it was a UFO.

The couple do not want to be identified for fear of being labelled cranks. But they are convinced that they saw a flying saucer.

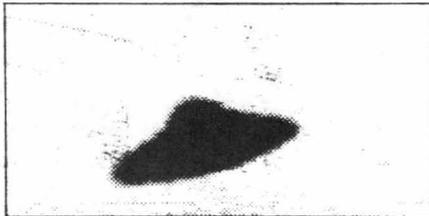
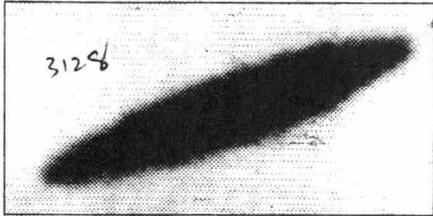
The sighting took place at 7.28pm on Sunday as the couple were walking back to their Goldsmith Drive home after visiting a relative.

"My wife first saw it flying across Browning Road," said the man, "it was moving quite slowly from west to east. There was a glow around it like a halo.

"It then shot across the sky, climbed and suddenly disappeared. It was amazing," said the man.

He added: "I have seen enough planes to know that this wasn't one. You can tell aircraft lights, but this was a lot larger and brighter."

WALSALL OBSERVER STAFFS
MARCH 11 1988



Is it a bird? Is it a plane?

NO — IT'S A UFO!

A BURST of UFO sightings have been reported around Walsall — raising questions about 'flying saucers'.

The latest sightings came this week from four hospital workers and a newsboy, and follow recent reports including those of four policemen out on separate patrols.

Three orderlies and a staff nurse at Walsall's Manor Hospital this week told of their experience.

Mr Gordon Bennett, a hospital orderly for seven years, saw two bright lights in the sky near his home in Streetly.

"It was about 7.30pm and I just happened to look up above some bungalows while walking back from a friend's house.

"I saw these two stationary, brilliant white lights. They were not the lights on an aeroplane's wings and were too far apart," said Mr Bennett.

Mr Bennett, 56, of Beechcroft Crescent, Streetly, mentioned the lights to colleagues the next morning — and three said they had seen the lights at different intervals on the same night.

Mr Chris Passam, from Walsall Wood, saw them while walking the dog and staff nurse Mrs Lynne Aston while leaving the hospital.

Mrs Eddie Knowles, from Bloxwich, saw them through his living room window while watching television.

"I'm certain they were not stars and they were quite high up. There is no way they were an aircraft's lights, even though Walsall is on the main flight path between Bir-

Story by
STEPHANIE SPEAR

mingham and Manchester," said Mr Bennett.

Meanwhile, *Walsall Observer* paperboy Peter Horne claims he spotted a UFO while out on his round.

Peter, 13, of Brockhurst Crescent, saw a long, silver object above houses in West Bromwich Road at 7am.

"It was cigar-shaped, and at first I thought it was a lamp post in the distance. But then it started to move," he said.

The object disappeared behind some trees, but 20 minutes later he saw it again.

"It didn't have any flashing lights, so it could not have been an aircraft, and I could see clearly," said the Great Barr Comprehensive school pupil.

Said Mr Brian Griffin, who runs the newsagents: "I told him he hadn't woken up yet — but later he came dashing in saying he had seen it again.

"I went out, but could see only a small dot in the distance.

"All I was worried about was if they got beamed up by the aliens before they delivered the 'Observers'!"

*** Have you had a 'close encounter' or UFO experience? Drop us a line or call us on Walsall 27504.**

CHAD MEDON & DUKERIES
ADVERTISER
FEB 11 1988

Seen a UFO lately?

Following a recent article in Chad about the sighting of a UFO at Ravenshead a sifting co-ordinator of the National UFO Investigation Society, Mr Denis Harriman, has appealed for information from anyone who has seen a UFO.

He explained that since 16th August last year there have been several sightings of UFOs in the Midlands.

The most commonly shaped object that has been spotted several times was described by Mr Harriman as being 1,000 feet long and shaped like a bullet.

They are said to fly both backwards and forwards and have several lights on them. Smaller, 100 feet long objects, exactly the same in shape as the bigger version,

are said to emerge from them and Mr Harriman claims that these have swooped down onto cars.

Strangely, Mr Harriman refused to give details of where exactly the UFOs had actually swooped down onto vehicles, claiming that in the past, if specific areas have been mentioned in newspapers they have actually stopped appearing in that particular location.

In some cases UFOs disturb electrical circuits and animals are said to be oddly affected by them.

Anyone with information on UFO sightings should contact Mr Denis Harriman on 0331 74461, his address is 14 Sydney Road, Draycott, Derbyshire DE7 3PX.

DORKING & LEATHERHEAD
ADVERTISER
MAR 10 1988

**What
was it**

3128

by Adam Forde

IT wasn't a bird, it wasn't a plane and it certainly wasn't Superman — so what was it?

It could be seen over a wide area from Dorking to Reigate but nobody could tell what it was except that it was a UFO.

The unidentified flying object was seen hovering over Pebblecombe Hill on Monday evening for around four hours, before drifting away towards the north.

It has been described as two very bright lights more than 100 ft apart just floating in the air, from 6 until 10 pm.

If you too saw the UFO give us a call on Dorking 886661.

CHASE POST CANNOCK

MAR. 3 1988

Probe into UFO claim

A Burntwood man has claimed that he saw a UFO not once, but twice in the same evening.

Lee Haycock told Chasetown police that he and a number of other people saw an oval, cigar-shaped object hovering the Biddulph Park area at 9.30pm on Sunday.

It remained stationary for several minutes, with blue, red, white and green lights flashing, before shooting off in the direction of Rugeley.

An hour later, Mr Haycock saw the same object from a caravan site in Brownhills.

This time it hovered for some 10 minutes before repeating its earlier manoeuvre without a sound.

Mr Haycock reported both sightings to Chase Town police station, who in turn contacted Birmingham Airport and Shawbury air base.

Neither were able to confirm the sightings on radar, however. This is the third UFO sighting in the area during the last two months.

The incident is now being investigated by John Hurley of the King-standing-based UFO Studies and Investigations group. See P7 for more UFO news.

WALSALL OBSERVER STAFFS

MAR 18 1988

UFO 3123 was shooting star

SIR: — I was very intrigued to read your article on the possible sighting of an alien craft on Sunday, February 28.

My family and I were travelling back from Woodbridge that night and as we drove through Horringer, my brother remarked on how clear the night sky was that evening. As our attention was thus averted toward the sky, we all saw a bright, burning object with pieces of burning material breaking off from it, traveling at very high speed across the sky. This only lasted a few seconds before disappearing from sight.

I believe this phenomenon is known as a 'shooting star', a meteorite burning up as it enters the earth's atmosphere, and although I have seen 'shooting stars' before, I have never seen one so low or so clearly as I did that night. I can only assume that the

BURY FREE PRESS

MAR. 11 - 1988

meteorite concerned was of a much larger size than usual and therefore penetrated much further into the stratosphere.

MICHAEL C. MILLER
Sharps Green.

Now my mother believes me

SIR: — I read your article 'Priest puzzled by UFO'. I am writing because I saw exactly the same object as I was crossing the road to baby-sit on Friday, February 26. The object moved pretty fast and wiggled off into the distance. When I got home I told my mum, but she just laughed at me and thought I'd blown my nut! I was very pleased when I saw your article on March 4 as then my mum believed me. I had never seen any object like this before in my life. It was really weird!

SHARON ALCOCK
Severn Road,
Bury St Edmunds.

PS — The time I saw the object was 6.25 pm.

UFO's: considering natural phenomena

With regard to the article in the March 11 edition of your newspaper on the possible UFO sightings.

It does appear from the information contained in the article that some of the sightings were possibly the planets Jupiter and Venus, which have been in close proximity to each other in the sky.

Further evidence for this theory is that the observers reported no movement. The bright planets are often mistaken for objects that are in the air, mainly because unlike the stars, they do not twinkle normally. Stars twinkle due to the atmosphere scattering their pinpoint of light.

The newspaper boy's observation however does seem to be of an object that is travelling within the atmosphere. However, as to its actual origin, one needs to have more details, and then some simple research.

If, after all sources of relevant information have produced no tangible answer, then and only then can one's imagination be allowed to ponder the more

exotic solutions.

I must however say that time and again the media always seems to talk of 'flying saucers' as soon as someone sees an object in the sky that they cannot readily identify.

This can lead to natural phenomena remaining un-studied due to the fears of ridicule, a notable example is that of ball lightning.

I would be interested to see the full reports of the observations — as an amateur astronomer I have seen many objects from meteors to satellites, all are interesting.

Satellite re-entries can be spectacular, and a meteor that is observed just as it begins to disintegrate moving with the Earth's

rotation is something to cherish.

People who observe objects such as meteors and fireballs should report them to their local astronomical society, or even their local paper, who could then pass it on.

Andrew Loud,
Newtown,
Birmingham.

UFOs: planets may hold the key

As an amateur astronomer, out observing on most clear nights, I have as yet to see anything that could be described as 'unidentified.'

Daytime sightings are sometimes very difficult to explain (even for sceptical scientists) particularly if weather/sky conditions are favourable and the witness has good eyesight and can correctly judge other parameters, such as distance, motion and size.

However, at night, sightings of UFOs should always be treated with the utmost caution, as many

factors come into play which can eliminate accuracy when describing distance, size etc.

On March 6, Venus and Jupiter were only two degrees apart, which is equal to about three-and-a-half times the diameter of the full moon.

Although your witnesses were convinced that they were not looking at stars, I think that if they were not familiar with their positions and brightness (Venus and Jupiter are the third and fourth brightest objects in the sky), then they may have been fooled

by these two planets.

The sighting by the newspaper boy is one of those possibly quite genuine 'unidentified' objects, but without further details it would be unfair to assess.

You will find very few scientists who believe in UFOs as such, due largely to the sensationalism/cult phobia surrounding sightings.

UFOs are 'Unidentified Flying Objects' and should never be immediately referred to as flying saucers.

Wayne Rixom,
Edward Avenue,
Aldridge.

1321 UFO experts, Elmwood official

By Barbara Averill

Leader-Telegram correspondent

RIVER FALLS — "We come in peace, earthlings" is a rough translation of the musical message sent by the spacecraft in the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

The message from the UFO Site Center proposed near Elmwood, according to its founders, is that we earthlings, too, want to have peaceful encounters with life from other worlds.

A seminar about the possibility

of life from other planets will be Saturday at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. The seminar will start at 9 a.m. in North Hall Auditorium, and costs \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

"I've gotten so interested in this I sound crazy," said event coordinator Verna Tweiten of River Falls.

She said UFOs were not something that she knew much about before working to put together the seminar, but she is now fascinated by the subject.

"The landing site (proposed) at Elmwood has gained international

attention," Tweiten said. "I think it is exciting that it could be nearby."

Representatives of the non-profit corporation proposing the landing site and Elmwood Village President Larry Feiler will be featured in the afternoon sessions.

UW-River Falls professors Jack Bostrack and Earl Blodgett will participate in the morning program.

Bostrack, who teaches biology and is a consultant to the UFO Site Center Corp, and Blodgett, who teaches physics, will discuss planetary formation, chemical and

biological evolution, the physics of communications and attempts at communications.

Also presented in the morning will be a report from UFO expert Donald R. Schmitt.

Schmitt is co-director of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Chicago and Wisconsin director of the Mutual UFO Network. The organizations investigate UFO sightings, maintain data banks on UFO phenomena and promote UFO research.

Hynek, who died in 1986, founded the Center for UFO Stud-

ies and was considered by his colleagues to be the pre-eminent authority on UFO phenomena. He coined the phrase "close encounters of the third kind" and was technical adviser to Steven Spielberg on the movie of the same name.

A film panel discussion and opportunity for questions from the audience will be part of the afternoon events.

Tweiten said she has been particularly fascinated by the stories of abductions supposed to have been accomplished by aliens who have

not harmed their captives.

Schmitt, she said, has investigated many cases of alleged UFO abduction and unusual psychological effects exhibited by people who are suspected of being abducted.

Some of the topics may sound bizarre, Tweiten said, but "we are approaching this from an educational viewpoint."

People who wish to learn more about UFOs may preregister by calling 425-3256 or writing to Continuing Education, 104 North Hall, UW-River Falls, River Falls, WI 54022.

WI-08 EAU CLAIRE READER TELEGRAM

1381 UFO spotters say Stealth looks familiar

By PAUL DELLINGER
SOUTHWEST BUREAU

WYTHEVILLE — The recently formed Southwest Virginia UFO Group thought it found out Thursday what kind of unidentified flying objects had been spotted in Wythe County skies with publication of an artist's rendering of the secret B-2 Stealth bomber.

The vaguely triangular flying wing configuration shown in the pictures fits the descriptions given by people who have reported UFOs.

"It looks like what we saw," said Patricia Aker, who said

members of her family saw a similar craft close to the ground in the Fort Chiswell area.

There is only one problem: the Air Force says the Stealth bomber has never been flown over Wythe County or anywhere else.

Capt. Jay DeFrank of the Air Force Strategic Unit said Thursday that the craft will have its first test flight this fall, and that will be on the West Coast.

Meanwhile, the UFO group has submitted a list of questions to Rep. Rick Boucher, D-Abingdon, about UFOs seen in Southwest Virginia since last October and Boucher has forwarded them to Air Force Secretary Edward C. Aldridge Jr.

The UFO group will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Wythe County Public Library.

1381

Twinkle, twinkle: Was that glow a

UFO?

By Judi Tull
Correspondent

CHESAPEAKE — As she prepared for bed Saturday night, Joyce Ogle looked out the window of her home on Peaceful Road. She has lived there six years and has looked out that window countless times.

This time, though, she saw something large and exceedingly bright, a glowing object in the western sky. It hovered just over the tree line. She shouted to her husband, Odie.

As he ran outside to have a look, Joyce Ogle called police.

The object was silent and still, similar to the nearer planets that glow so brightly in the spring sky, Odie Ogle said.

But this object seemed to give off a variety of colors — red, green, orange and yellow. They were "like

Christmas tree lights," he said, and it — whatever it was — appeared to have a canopy of white lights above it.

And it was not alone.

"All of a sudden, a second one rose up from behind the tree line," Odie Ogle recalled. "It seemed to try to link up with the first one. They hovered together for a couple minutes. I ran in the house to get my wife."

By the time the Ogles returned to their yard, the second object had disappeared. Only the first remained, silent and still.

They stood on their lawn, transfixed by the object that hovered over the woods, as they waited for police.

Officer J.A. Whittifield, a 16-year veteran of the Chesapeake Police Department, said he was skeptical

when he received the call to investigate a UFO sighting about 10:15 p.m.

"In 16 years, I've had a fair number of these calls," he said. "I figured it would turn out to be nothing."

When he left the Ogles' home about 11:30 p.m., he was less skeptical.

"I've seen a lot of phenomena, but nothing like this," Whittifield said.

He also said the biggest difference between this UFO call and others to which he has responded in the past is that "these people are not kooks. They seem sane and sober. I was very impressed with them and their seriousness."

No other sightings were reported to area police. Officials at Naval Air Landing Field Fentress, Chesapeake Municipal Airport and Naval

Security Group Northwest said they could not explain the sighting, which was not confirmed by pilots from any area airports or Naval airfields.

When Whittifield arrived at the Ogleses' house, they had been joined by David Adair, a 15-year-old neighbor who watched with the couple for more than an hour.

Whittifield said he initially thought he was seeing a bright star.

"I still didn't think it was much of anything, so I went in to call headquarters," he said.

When he went back outside, the object had moved noticeably lower in the sky.

"The movement was definitely vertical," Whittifield said. He went back in to call headquarters again.

When he returned, the object was gone.



Staff photo by MARTIN SMITH-RODDEN

Chesapeake resident Odie Ogle and his wife say they saw an unidentified flying object over the trees in the background.

ND-01 THE BISMARCK TRIBUNE
APRIL 10 1988

Another UFO spotted over Ashley

ASHLEY — An Ashley man is among the latest to report seeing an unidentified flying object.

On the morning of Jan. 11, Christ Gross said he saw three stationary dark stripes outside his bedroom window. The stripes were about 150 feet in width and about 600 feet apart, Gross said.

Gross said he didn't report the UFO earlier because he thought people might think he had just had a dream//

NOTTINGHAM EVENING POST
APRIL 14 1988

No close encounters

CLAIMS that dozens of terrified people had reported seeing orange-shaped UFOs near Beeston were dismissed today by police and RAF chiefs.

The timing's unusual, but they planet like this once in a while

By Don Rosen
Herald Examiner staff writer

Look, up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's a planetary alignment coupled with the vernal equinox?

Indeed it is, but the astronomical explanation of today's visual conjunction of Venus, Jupiter and a crescent moon in the western sky is by no means as exciting as some public speculations — from hovering UFOs to airplanes on a collision course.

Nationwide, however, UFO sightings are up 50 percent over the past two months, based almost entirely on the planetary appearances, said a staff member at the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash.

Taking some of the mystery out of the heavenly activities was Griffith Observatory's program supervisor John Mosley, who explained that the planetary and satellite phenomenon will merely provide us with an infrequent view of three "close" celestial bodies at once.

The planets have been orbiting in our field of vision for several weeks and will seemingly come close together tonight. A good time for viewing is 7 p.m.

Appearances can be slightly deceiving, though.

After all, Jupiter is only 537,000,000 miles away, and Venus is a mere 76,000,000 miles from Earth. Considering those distances, the moon is practically a short hop, skip and jump away at approximately 240,000 miles.

Meteorologists at the National Weather Service have predicted that despite a slight incidence of low-lying stratus clouds, the heavens should be wide open to viewing tonight.

With a telescope — and possibly with a pair of ballgame-quality binoculars — novice astronomers can even catch a glimpse of up to four of

Jupiter's 17 moons as they orbit the dense liquid planet, Mosley said.

But binoculars have hundreds of Americans across the country all worked up, phoning in reports of flying saucers in the western sky.

"Many people accept the explanation when we tell them," said Robert Gribble of the UFO center. "Then there are others that swear they are spaceships."

Gribble said scared earthlings have reported seeing the lights change colors and even move, all of which can be scientifically attributed (yawn) to light diffraction, he said.

According to popular lore, this nighttime phenomenon comes two months before a massive planetary alignment allegedly forecast by the French astrologer Nostradamus more than 400 years ago that is supposed to trigger a calamitous earthquake in Los Angeles.

But Mosley said the five planets Nostradamus incorporated into his versified predictions will be spread across two-thirds of the night sky in May.

Even if the planets were to come together, Nostradamus predicted a hailstorm, not an earthquake.

If planetary alignments don't make for that much excitement, perhaps the prospect of longer days and shorter nights does.

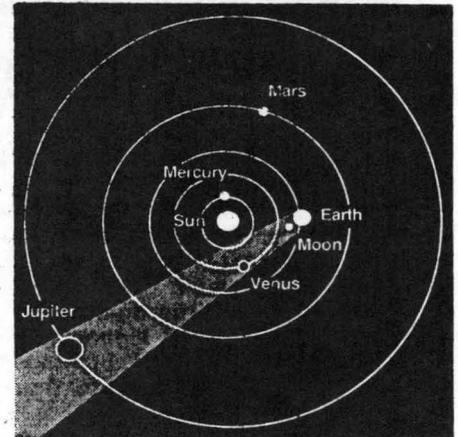
From now until Sept. 21, the days will be longer than the nights, thanks to the vernal equinox.

And if the weekend's weather hasn't already confirmed it, today is officially the first day of spring.

In simple terms, the vernal equinox (Latin for "equal night") is one of two days each year when day and night are exactly 12 hours long, when winter ends and spring begins.

Mosely pointed out that we can't really see the vernal equinox — it's an occurrence rather than an event — yet we know it has happened.

In fact, astronomers can pinpoint the exact moment when the sun



Herald Examiner

Jupiter aligns with Venus and the moon as a harbinger of spring.

passes north of the celestial equator, an imaginary line in the sky that lies directly above the Earth's equator, signifying the change in seasons.

For clock-setting purposes, the vernal equinox took place at exactly 40 seconds after 1:39 this morning, Mosley said.

Also today, ancient monuments such as the Great Temple in the Aztec empire and England's Stonehenge will fulfill their builders' goals by aligning directly with the sun.

The sun will be directly overhead on the Earth's equator, answering the age-old riddle about the position of a person's shadow at noon in Quito, Ecuador.

Quito is the world's largest city located directly on the equator, and a Quito's shadow will be directly underfoot.

In celebration of the equinox, the Los Angeles Astronomical Society will set up telescopes on Griffith Observatory's front lawn from 1 p.m. this afternoon until 10 p.m., and the public is invited to look through them at Jupiter, Venus and the moon, as well as the sun, through special filters.

MARCH 27 1988

This man's visions are out of this world

'I knew they were spacecraft'

COALTON, Ky. — It's not that Buffard Ratliff has his head in the clouds, it's just that he keeps seeing things that he calls unidentified flying objects.

Ratliff, 51, of Midland Trail and a security guard at Kentucky Electric Steel, said he has made 54 individual sightings of UFOs — the latest in September 1986 near Tri-State Airport in Wayne County.

He organized the Tri-State UFO Research & Investigation Committee in March 1968 and the group later became the National UFO Research & Investigation Committee.

"I was about 10 when I made my first real UFO sighting. It was on the right fork of Durbin in southeastern Boyd County. There were two spacecrafts and they had no wings or tail fins. It was broad daylight. The craft were aluminum-colored and were highly polished," he said.

"I knew they were spacecraft from another world," Ratliff said.

His second sighting was in 1954 at Ice Dam Hollow in the Catlettsburg area, he said. "I was enveloped in heat. There was a tingling sensation and my hair stood on end," he said.

Ratliff said he communicated with the occupants of the craft through mental telepathy. He said he heard them say, "We come in peace. We wish you no harm."

"It was the most mind-boggling thing I've ever seen. Back then, anyone who saw them was sup-

DAVID E. MALLOY



People

posed to be nuts," he said.

A UFO buff for some 20 years, Ratliff said, "All my studies lead me to conclude that they are peaceful."

Ratliff said a "flap — a heavy concentration of sightings in a certain area" — occurred from 1967-70. In that four-year period, Ratliff said, he made most of his sightings.

In December 1967, he said he saw several unidentified flying objects in a single night. One was traveling below treetop level and passed near him.

He said he called Kentucky State Police and a dispatcher said they had received several other calls that night.

"I checked with the airport and they said they had no private, experimental, commercial or military aircraft in those areas at that time," he said.

Several months later, Ratliff said, he saw two football-shaped craft in the Coalton skies. "The flaming, swirling exhaust" burned

his face, throat and upper chest, he said. "It was a radiation-type burn. It went away in a couple of weeks," he said.

"I believe it was an accident. I don't think they mean to hurt me. I think it was a sign. They wanted to show me how serious this really was and that they wanted me to get out and tell the people the truth" about UFOs, Ratliff said.

It was not long after that he formed the research and investigation committee, Ratliff said. He believes the government has covered up evidence concerning UFO sightings.

One of the group members gave him a fossil found in Jefferson County, Ky. Ratliff said he believes the 400-million-year-old fossil is from a small spacecraft that crashed to Earth with 3-inch-tall humanoids inside.

He said he was scared out of continuing his work by a government employee in 1970. "He told me to quit or else. I had to stop for fear of my family. That guy scared me to death. He put me out of business," Ratliff said.

But after a 10-year hiatus, Ratliff got the UFO bug again. "There's not been a flap in a while, but there's still a lot of interest out there in UFOs," he said.

Ratliff said he has written a book about his experiences, but doesn't have the money to get it

Please see **UFOS/B2**

CON'T NEXT PAGE

➔ UFOs

From **THIS/B1**

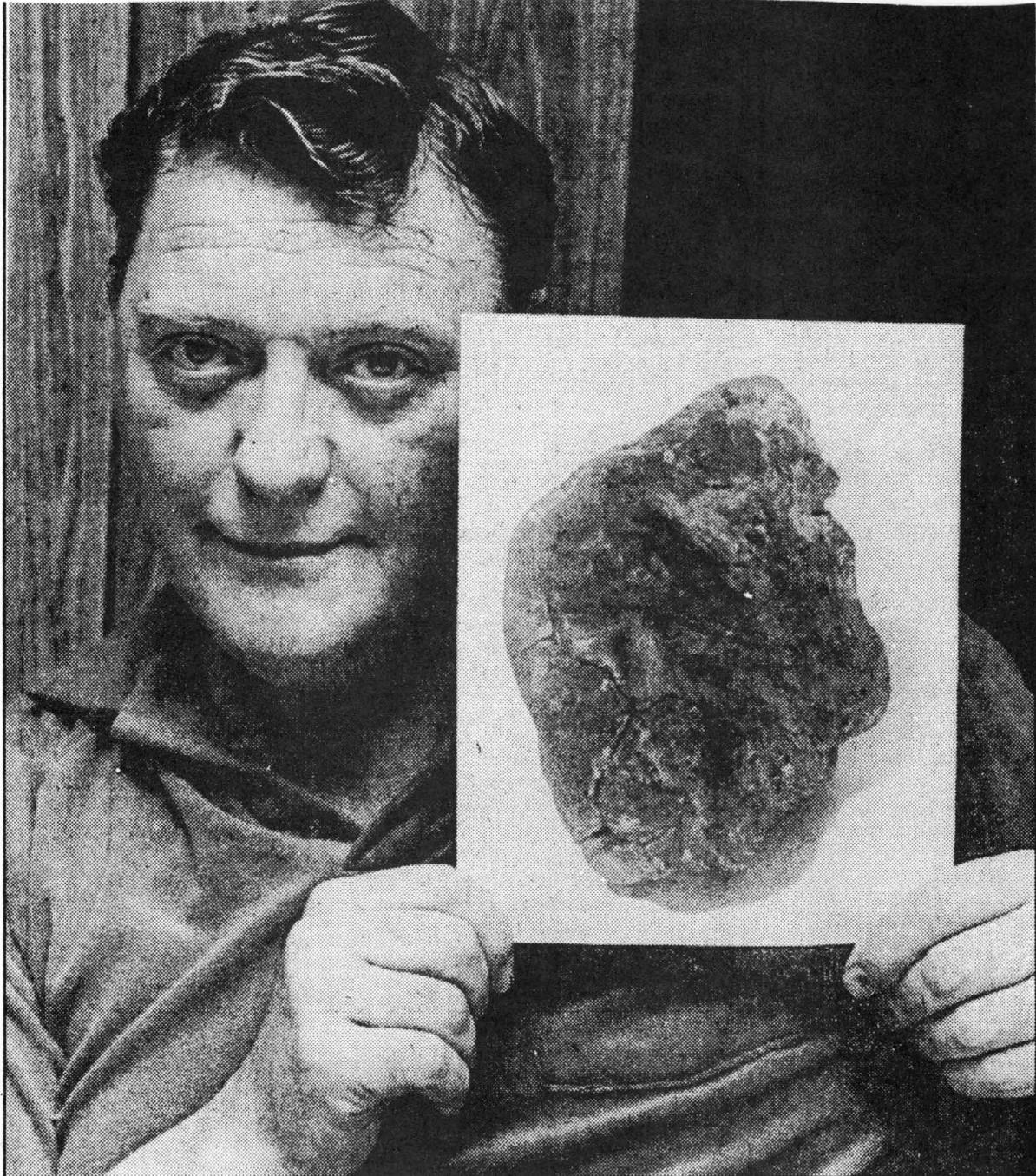
published. "If I ever get the money, I still want to get it published," he said.

He said the UFOs seem to be interested in steel plants and oil refineries. He said he has identified the 10

most common types of unidentified flying objects.

Ratliff said they are football-shaped, basketball-shaped, disc-shaped, cigar-shaped, triangular, cone-shaped, pentagonal, triangular, V-shaped and tadpole-shaped.

He's still interested in sightings and asks that anyone with any suspected sightings of unidentified flying objects write to him. He said the information will be kept confidential. His mailing address is 1007 West Midland Trail, Lot No. 6, Ashland, Ky., 41101.



The Herald-Dispatch/Tony Jones

Buffard Ratliff displays a photo of a fossil he believes is from a small spacecraft that crashed to Earth with 3-inch-tall humanoids

inside. Ratliff, who claims 54 UFO sightings, formed a local UFO "research and investigation committee" 20 years ago.

Sky watchers dig into UFO mystery

By PAUL DELLINGER
SOUTHWEST BUREAU

WYTHEVILLE — Unidentified flying objects carried a group of people — figuratively speaking — from the Millwald Theatre here on Saturday to a nearby town meeting held by Rep. Rick Boucher.

Eight of the approximately 60 people who attended Wytheville's second UFO conference drove to Rural Retreat to ask Boucher to help them find out about the unusual aircraft seen in Wythe County skies since October.

"I can certainly talk with the armed services, and I'll be happy to do so," responded Boucher, D-Abingdon. "I don't have any insight, I'm sorry, but I can work with you to make sure we get a response from the Air Force."

The UFO conference opened with a showing of the 1951 movie "The Day the Earth Stood Still," which depicts a flying saucer landing in Washington, D.C. with a message for the world to get its act together before it achieves space travel and threatens to extend its violence to other planets.

The conference was organized by Danny Gordon, news director at WYVE radio in Wytheville, who has become an unofficial consultant for out-of-town news reporters and people interested in UFOs since the sightings began here.

Gordon said he has seen 19 UFOs himself, 11 of them since a

UFO

FROM PAGE C1

conference on the topic at Wytheville Community College last Nov. 18, and he displayed photographs he took of some of them.

Gordon and others described sightings they have made in recent months, ranging from large fuzzy lights to reddish discs and an occasional daytime sighting of saucer-shaped craft.

Judith Boatright, an Elk Creek artist, said her life was changed by UFO sightings in 1973 and 1975, when she lived in Maryland. The sightings prompted her to spend six years researching UFOs, she said.

The sporadic appearances of UFOs and lack of physical evidence make conventional investigation techniques difficult, Boatright said. "The UFO problem is not by any means a simple one," she said, because responses have ranged "from skepticism to deification." M

The 38-year-old man drove home, keeping his eye on the object, but lost sight of it when he put his put in the drive.

"The next-door neighbour was just about to take the dog out for a walk, so I told her about it and we went down the road to see if it was still there, but there was no sign of it," he said.

UFO

Hoyland sighting

AN Elsecar man was amazed last week to see a UFO hovering over Hoyland and Elsecar for about 40 minutes.

As he drove home from his work in Ecclesfield at 10 p.m., the man stopped the car twice so he could study the silent object more carefully.

"It was really very strange," he said. "Although it was dark I could see it was a vague box-shape and there were big green, white and red lights on it which stayed lit up all the time. It was huge and it was absolutely still, and what really surprised me was that it didn't make a sound.

"I thought it must be some sort of aircraft, but it was so still and quiet it couldn't possibly have been."

"We even opened the window to see if we could hear a noise, but it didn't make a sound," she said. "I couldn't believe how big it was. Then it suddenly disappeared.

"Neither of us have ever experienced anything like it before, and I don't particularly want to ever again — although we weren't frightened, just inquisitive really."

The couple wanted to remain anonymous for fear they would be laughed at. "I don't want people to think we are crackpots," said the man.

"I know it sounds stupid but I know what I saw and I'm glad my wife witnessed it too. It's just a pity that we didn't have a film for our camera. If we had managed to take a picture of it people would have had to believe us!"

He went in the house, told his 37-year-old wife what he had seen, and kept looking out of the window to see if he could catch sight of it again.

"I couldn't believe it when I saw it there again, so I called my wife to have a look," he said.

She looked out of the window and saw the object just as her husband had described, then watched it move slowly across the sky and disappear.

1781 Florida town peers heavenward for UFOs

By Deborah Papier
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

GULF BREEZE, Fla. — There isn't much to do in this small town on the Gulf Coast of Florida, especially when it's still too cold for the beaches. But the residents of this resort and retirement community found a novel way to pass the winter months this year.

They've been looking for UFOs.

Kids are taking lawn chairs to the roadside and holding sighting parties. Film sales are up by a third at the local drugstore, Big B's, which is also doing a booming business in T-shirts with such messages as "I Believe!" and "Intelligent Life at Last!"

It all began in November, when a man who is known variously as Jim, Ed or Mr. Ed brought five Polaroid photographs to the local weekly newspaper, the Sentinel. The photos showed a large lighted object, looking something like an upside-down wedding cake. Mr. Ed told the newspaper's editor, Duane Cook, that they had been taken by a neighbor.

In the weeks to come, the Sentinel ran six more sets of photographs taken by Mr. Ed, who eventually confessed that there was no neighbor. They also ran his accounts of his close encounters, which feature such staples of UFology as a humming noise he hears when the vessel is about to manifest itself, telepathic communications instructing him to "step forward," and a blue beam that lifts him and holds him immobile. Mr. Ed also claimed to have seen on his porch a 4-foot creature wearing shields and carrying a silver rod.

Meanwhile, more and more people were calling the Gulf Breeze Sentinel to report their own sightings. Recently, the paper received calls from seven people who claimed to have seen something over the weekend. Two of these people, who stopped by the office to discuss what they had seen with newspaper manager Dari Holsten, were Linda Wilson and 12-year-old son, Craig.

"I'm talking about blinking lights, multicolored lights, moving at the speed of a helicopter," said Mrs. Wilson. "It was there and it was huge, no more than 500 feet high."

Craig Wilson, however, had a different report. The object he saw seemed much smaller to him, and what struck him was not the lights, but the black areas on the object, which he described as "darker than night."

Mrs. Wilson was excited and talkative about her experience, but Craig clearly did not enjoy discussing his. He had spent the night vomiting, he said, with a "feeling something was going to happen I didn't like."

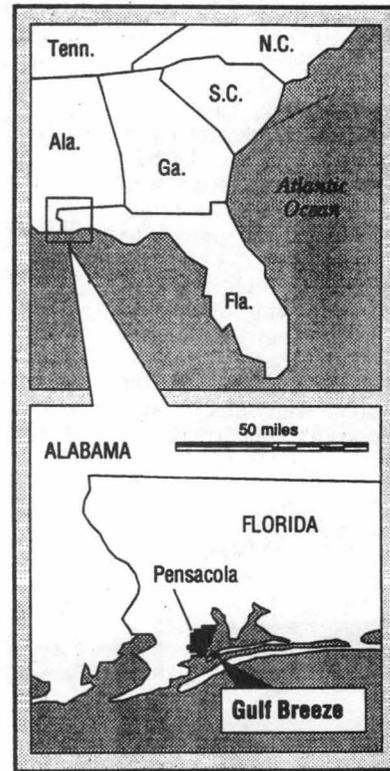
But in general, according to Mr. Cook, the people calling the newspaper and stopping by are not upset. This is not a case of panic in the streets.

"There are no hysterical phone calls," he said. "If there are negative feelings, people are being amazingly quiet."

The newspaper has no particular system for dealing with these reports, Mr. Cook says. If someone has an interesting story to tell, the newspaper will include it in its ongoing series of articles.

"But if it's a 'me too' type call or too vague, we'll let it go at that," says Mr. Cook. "We're not really keeping a file."

The paper did put out a special



Map by Paul Woodward / The Washington Times



Photo courtesy of The Sentinel, Gulf Breeze, Fla.

This photograph was published, and reprinted in a special "UFO Update" edition, by The Sentinel newspaper in Gulf Breeze, Fla., with the following explanation: "This photo was taken the morning after 'Believer Bill' took nine photos of the same craft over Gulf Breeze High School."

insert recapping Mr. Ed's sightings, however. A thousand extra copies were printed of the edition containing the insert, which was titled "The Gulf Breeze UFO: A Personal Account of a True Story."

Investigators from MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network, have been down to study the photographs and to talk to Mr. Ed, who says he has undergone a lie detector test and will be hypnotized. Walter Andrus, MUFON director, was quoted in "The Gulf Breeze UFO" as saying that the Gulf Breeze sightings "are one of the most amazing UFO cases I have investigated in the past 30 years."

Meanwhile, it's life as usual in the town. The people who think it's all a lot of hokey aren't concerned, and

the people who believe are matter-of-fact about it.

"Everybody always knows somebody who's seen it, but nobody's ever seen it personally," says Jack Yochum, who works at a Gulf Station. "I think people probably are seeing something, but I don't believe it's a flying saucer."

"I'm not going to say I believe or not believe," says Jean Warren, manager of Johnathan's Children Shop. Mrs. Warren admits, however, that she keeps her eyes up when she goes out jogging.

Johnathan's sales clerk Angela Pena says, giggling, that she's driven along looking for the UFO. Still, she thinks it's likely that what people are seeing is really a water tower, and

says that her friend in Ft. Walton, 30 miles away, says that in Ft. Walton they're laughing at Gulf Breeze.

Joe Whistler, at Buck's Surf & Sport, is a believer. He has his own theory about the UFO — that its inhabitants are time travelers, coming from Earth's future.

At The Computer Place, fittingly, there is general skepticism.

"What's to come to Gulf Breeze for?" asks Dan Neal. "There are much better places to study our culture and science. It's wishful thinking. People want something to happen in their life."

"I think it's a hoax," says John Bunner. "If I was a UFO, I wouldn't come to Gulf Breeze. If there was a superior life form, they would know that Pittsburgh is the place to go." //

SK-03 REGINA LEADER POST MARCH 21 1988

1381

Physicist's UFO lecture convincing

By Sheri Clegg
of The Leader-Post

To the best of his knowledge, Stanton T. Friedman has never seen a UFO. But the nuclear physicist strongly believes they exist.

And Friedman, who for 11 years was the only space scientist in the United States known to be devoting full time to talking about flying saucers, conveyed his thoughts and feelings to more than 300 people in the Education Auditorium at the University of Regina Friday night.

"We're dealing with something that is just becoming recognized," Friedman said.

"There's a growing awareness that there is such a thing as unidentified flying objects." But he believes there would be more of an awareness and more of a willingness to open up about them if governments and others would admit that earth is being visited by alien creatures.

"We're dealing with a cosmic watergate. There is a coverup no matter how you look at it."

During his two hour lecture, Friedman pointed out a number of instances where governments covered up a number of key UFO reports. He used Project Blue Book, the largest official comprehensive American government UFO study, completed in 1955 where three thousand sightings were evaluated in it, as one example. The physicist also talked about when the US Army Air Force recovered a crashed alien saucer outside Roswell, New Mexi-

co, in July 1947, admitted it, and then decided to cover it up.

He said the government shouldn't presume the public doesn't believe UFO's are real. He cited a recent opinion poll that said the majority of people believe in UFO's.

"The skeptics are in the minority," he said.

Friedman combined slides, facts and humor into his talk and entertained his audience. He gave real examples and spoke about the people he has met who have personally had extra terrestrial experiences.

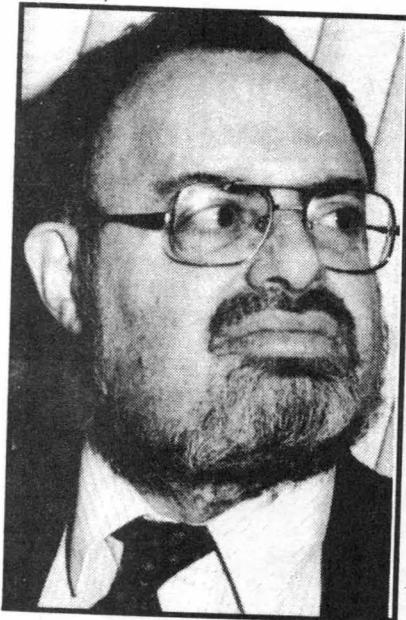
And he did manage to convince some skeptics.

Before she attended the lecture, Evelyn Fan was a little unsure about UFO's but she said she thinks she now has a better understanding that they do exist.

"I knew some of the facts but he helped convince me," said Grant Taylor. "He was quite convincing."

Friedman said he hopes more people will come forward with their experiences. He said he believes the public should put pressure on the government to be more open in their handling of UFO sitings and reports and that there is a need for support groups for people who have experienced an extra terrestrial encounter.

"It's time to stop saying UFO's aren't real. Then maybe we can hasten the day when we can all meet," Friedman said.



Stanton T. Friedman

EYES TO THE SKIES

3/28

Leicester can expect a major UFO 'invasion' claims one of Britain's leading investigation bodies!

Local people are being urged to join the investigators in searching out and recording the influx of unidentified flying objects that will whiz or hover across the city.

Clive Potter, Midlands Regional Co-ordinator of BUPRA (British Unidentified Phenomena Research Association) told the Trader: "The phenomena of the UFO appears to work on an 11-year cycle, apart from a flow of reports in between, which are small in number.

"Leicester's last large increase in UFO sightings was in 1977 which included the 'cigar-shaped' object which hovered over the city and was widely reported by the media following countless sightings by members of the public," said Mr. Potter.

"We are therefore anticipating further UFO activity in 1988 and would appreciate any support from the public — whether it be the reporting of UFO sightings or involvement with us in serious and genuine investigative work."

Mr. Potter, who also operates the Leicester UFO

Investigation Centre, said that "serious investigators" should have an "open mind" to anything they come across or to people that they interview.

He also warns that there is a lot of mundane ground-work involved and that around 90 per cent of sightings can be dismissed fairly quickly as "natural phenomena."

"The Midlands area has always been fairly active in reported sightings of UFO's and very few of them are hoaxes — although many

can be explained," he added.

Mr. Potter has received reports from a cross-section of the community concerning UFO activity including aircraft pilots and Leicestershire policemen. All reports of witnesses are treated with the strictest confidence.

Clive Potter can be contacted by writing to: Leicester UFO Investigation Centre, c/o 31 Grove Road, Leicester.

Meantime, he advises: 'eyes to the skies ...'

GUERNSEY EVENING PRESS
APR. 15 - 1988

Bright light seen moving at speed

3128

WHILE taking a 'breath of fresh air' outside his home at Route de Quanteraine, St Peter's, Charles Bradley saw a 'very bright light' in the North West.

At first he thought it was a planet, possibly Venus or Mars, which are known to be very bright, but when the object started moving he changed his opinion.

Mr Bradley first saw the object at 11 p.m. on Wednesday, and he continued to watch it while it behaved 'erratically', circling round the area for several minutes, before it returned to its stationary position.

His wife also saw the object, which Mr Bradley thought was at a height of about 4,000ft.

After almost 40 minutes it disappeared toward the North West travelling at 'terrific speed.'

The airport were unable

to say if any aircraft had been in the area at the time.

Local UFO investigator Paul Tinsley, of the Skyscan group, had not heard of the sighting, but said that he would contact the group's headquarters in the UK to see if it was worth further investigation.

Skyscan are a Worcester-based organisation who research confirmed UFO sightings, and attempt to find a rational explanation for them.

UFO sighted by foreman

3128

JOHN Rees had a strange encounter of an unusual kind while he was out walking his dog in Cwmdare.

Something caught his attention in the sky — it was a luminous object moving along a spiral path in a northerly direction towards Neath.

"I would not have bothered to take a second look," said John, "if it had not been for the spiral path and the intense luminosity — and two downwardly directed parallel beams.

"It had a cylindrical shape, like a lager can. The clouds were pitch black on the horizon but the moon was above the cloud line and it was very bright. Fortunately the object stayed above the cloud line and I was able to keep it in view.

"It moved towards Neath and then back, in a southerly direction towards the Maerdy mountain. I was watching it for about three-quarters of an hour.

"I usually meet a teacher when I am out walking the dog between 10.15pm and 11. I was hoping he would come by so I could have someone to verify the sighting, but unfortunately he did not turn up this time.

John, 49, a foreman at Enghart Fans on the Hirwaun Industrial Estate, took a bit of a ribbing from his workmates when he started talking about it. Undeterred, John, who is closely linked with local operatic groups and a warden of Cwmdare Youth Club, is sticking to his story.

"I was shocked I can tell you, I have never seen anything like that before. I thought it was a plane out of control at first. Planes do fly over the Cynon valley at that time of night. I have never believed in UFO's but there is no doubt that I saw something out of the ordinary. There was no noise from it.

"I wiped my eyes then I closed one of them to make sure I was focussing right," said John, adding that he had drawn pictures of the object and its trajectory for his workmates, but they were treating it as a joke.

"I am hoping that someone else will now come forward with the same story," said John, whilst workmates uttered asides like: "Beam me up Dr John."

A police spokesman said there had been no other reported sightings on the night in question.

ABERDARI
LEADER
SOUTH
WALES

APR.
28
1988

Alert over new 'veg' from outer space

TERROR OF THE UFO CARROTS

3128

SUNDAY EXPRESS
LONDON
MAY 8 1988

Carried
³¹²⁸
away
by the
aliens

FRIGHTENED people ran for cover from giant flying carrots, only a few miles from where oranges as big as houses were spotted whizzing across the sky.

Two carrot-shaped objects the size of hot air balloons but a lot faster were seen over Kirk Hallam, Derbyshire.

The unidentified flying oranges were reported by terrified witnesses in Beeston, Notts, last week.

A Kirk Hallam pensioner who spotted one of the carrots said: "I saw it drop below the back of the house towards a pond."

The pensioner, who refused to be named, added: "It looked like a stumpy carrot with smoke coming out of the end."

Flames

"I went to look at it. It was glowing, but there was no noise. It was eerie—I was too frightened to go down to the pond to see what happened."

"My dog was whining and seemed nervous, too."

Another witness, Ann Mart, 43, of Worksworth Road, said: "It was too bright for a star and too stationary for a plane. It was massive and it was glowing."

"So many people have

STAR REPORTER

seen this carrot that it can't be my imagination.

"You don't like to say anything because people think you are a raving nutter."

Her husband Trevor, 53, said: "This thing was 400ft. in the air and glowing. It hovered for ages then zoomed off at incredible speed."

The UFO Investigation Society's international co-ordinator Dennis Harriman, said: "The latest objects were round at the top and tempered like carrots with flames spouting out."

"Several people saw them loop the loop then one zoomed off to nearby Belper while another apparently crashed into a pond."

"People who went to find it saw something move then ran off in terror. The next day there was no trace of anything there."

BOOMERCLANG

MIKE HARVEY was nursing a gashed head last night after the boomerang he hurled came back and knocked him dizzy. Disaster struck when Mike, 43, was trying out the 2ft 6in Aborigine boomerang, a gift from an Australian friend. He staggered to his home in Pelyn, Cornwall, with blood streaming from a 3 inch gash on the back of his head.

YORKSHIRE POST
LEEDS

MAR 21 1988

UFOs in the frame

PHOTOGRAPHS of unidentified flying objects seen over Yorkshire are to go on show at a major conference into the mysterious phenomena.

Scores of sky watchers will be in Rotherham next weekend for the annual meeting of the Yorkshire UFO Society.

Enthusiasts have details of 100 reported UFO sightings in Yorkshire during the first five weeks of the year. Other issues to be explored at the event will include the theory that military authorities world wide have deliberately concealed evidence of UFOs.

The main speaker will be Mr Timothy Good, who has investigated the field for 30 years and is now considered a leading authority.

UFO sleuth aims to uncover top level conspiracy

STAR-GAZERS often think they have glimpsed a UFO — only to be brought down to earth with the knowledge that what they have really seen is space junk or a meteor.

Imaginations are fired by films like *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and numerous TV sci-fi series — even *Dynasty* soap star Fallon met some visiting aliens.

Some people claim the existence of extraterrestrials and UFOs is far from make-believe.

Author and UFO investigator Mrs Dot Street of Drapers Copse, Claypitts Lane, Dibden, is convinced she has seen an alien space-craft and that one sighting changed her life.

Her experience has led to the break up her marriage, cost her hundreds of pounds, took her on a trip to the United States and brought her into conflict with the Ministry of Defence and American military authorities.

"I had a siting in 1978 when I went upstairs to check on my baby son. I looked out of the window and saw an oval object at an angle, travelling 20-times faster than the Red Arrows."

Her encounter lasted seconds but the aftermath of distress and obsession has gone on for years.

Shelves of books on UFOs and the paranormal line the

walls of the shed at the bottom of her garden which she has turned into her office.

"Before 1978 I was an ordinary housewife. The unknown has always baffled me, I was open minded and thought seeing was believing," said Dot.

"After the incident all I wanted was somebody to talk to, I had no-one to turn to so I read everything I could get my hands on because I had to find out what was going on."

She was invited to become an investigator for BUFORA — British UFO Research Association — and counselled other witnesses. She no longer works for the Association but carries on her research and helping others.

After her original siting she had rushed into the husband screaming "the exist, they are real."

When a craft allegedly came down near her Yarmouth home in 1981 she thought her chance had come to prove her case.

But when she and fellow investigator, Brenda Butler, started asking question about the Rendlesham Forest incident they were stonewalled by the British government and American personnel at a nearby U.S. Airforce base.

The evidence which they collected is detailed in the book *Skycrash* (published by Grafton, cost £2.95) and she is preparing another book and tape on the incident which she believes the government has tried to cover-up.

"I had phone bills of up to £900 from dialling the United States but I had to find out what happened.

"The finances cracked up my marriage. I am best of friends with my ex-husband but I was not prepared to give it up, I had gone so far and spent so much money," said Dot.

Now she is living in a mobile home in Hampshire so her two

children can be near their father.

She knows she is not alone in her beliefs. Piles of letters have arrived at her home after an appeal appered in the *Echo* asking for those who had seen a UFO to contact her.

The replies range from those from ex-RAF personel claiming to have seen unidentified flying objects while testing new aircraft to those walking their dogs who have just glanced up to see rocket-type shapes cruise across the sky.

One witness said he saw a craft in which he could see tall ghost like figures surrounded by a gaseous substance.

Such was the response she intends to set up a group for witness in this area. The first meeting will be held at Bogarts, Above Bar, Southampton, on May 2 at 7pm.

"Any witnesses who want to come along are welcome," said Dot.



UFO INVESTIGATOR: Dot Street is determined to find out more about close encounters with alien life.

'It's not a joke, I want to know what's up there'

3128

ASTRO TO ANSWER UFO PUZZLE

SURREY MIRROR
REDHILL ENG.

MAR 17 1988

SCORES of awestruck stargazers spotted the mystery UFO reported in last week's Mirror.

The strange phenomenon — two very bright white lights shining from an object estimated to be nearly 200 feet in width — has been witnessed by people from as far apart as Redhill and Dorking.

But this week the mystery may have been solved.

No, science fiction fans, it isn't a UFO but Venus and Jupiter in conjunction with each other.

Despite numerous UFO sightings and differing accounts of what was seen in areas such as Buckland, an anonymous caller said Venus was the brighter of the two plants, Jupiter being slightly dimmer.

"They are often mistaken for UFO's but it's unusual for them to be together like that," he said.

This simple solution was later confirmed by Mr Leonard Carter, Executive Secretary of the British Interplanetary Society.

But, Mr Joe Clarke, one of the UFO spotters highlighted in last week's article, is still not convinced.

by
**Michelle
Danielle**

Jim Hooper, aged 80, had seen "very bright lights".

These were also spotted by couple Elizabeth and Robert Ford who were driving along Nutfield Marsh Road towards Merstham.

Mr Norman Hatt, a member of Redhill and Reigate Phenomena Group, said he had a good idea what the UFO was, but results of investigations would not be known for two weeks.

He claims pilots at Gatwick Airport saw the object, which showed up on radar.

"The lights cannot possibly be planets because they do not show up on radar.

"People are treating this as a joke...but I want to know what's up there!"

Among the many sightings were those of four people who rang Reigate Police Station after seeing "strange, enormous shapes over Buckland".

PC David Boyce duly arrived, had a look around and triumphantly declared it was "probably Uranus shining very brightly.

Mrs Lilian Brace, a 90 year old lady from School Hill, Merstham, rang the Mirror to say her friend

NOTTINGHAM
EVENING POST

MAR. 21 1988

**FAITH
AND MY
UFO**

I READ A. Worley's letter (March 4) with great interest and would like to tell of an incident that happened about four years ago.

I was standing in the bedroom looking across the rooftops towards the A52 by-pass. Suddenly, to the right of where I was gazing there emerged a large circular object.

It was silver, the point furthest away not quite visible. I was more than a little scared and turned to walk to my bedroom door. Then, because I thought I must be dreaming, I resumed my position at the window.

After maybe a minute, the object emerged again. It hung there, tilted, the back end seemingly hidden in slight cloud.

I have no way of calculating the distance. I am no expert in such matters, but one thing I do know, as sure as I am holding this pen, a kind of telepathy existed.

That object was meant for me to see. It stayed some seconds — with me unable to take in the magnitude of what I was witnessing.

I remember feeling apprehensive, but at the same time this sighting answered much I had been experiencing for some considerable time.

I care not whether I am believed or not, and for those who would assume I have no faith in God, let me assure them I have a strong faith. I have felt the presence of God on many occasions.

I have no desire to probe the unknown, but I am convinced there is a dimension other than our earthly existence, in fact I know it. I have stumbled on something that never ceases to leave me in awe.

I have never seen the UFO again, and to be honest I wouldn't really want to. I am one of life's cowards and the less I know about that other dimension the better.

SHEILA MANNERS
(Mrs)

St Lawrence Boulevard,
Radcliffe-on-Trent.

WESTERN DAILY PRESS
BRISTOL MAY 7 1988

FIREBALL RIDDLE

POLICE are probing a reported sighting of a fireball UFO above the Severn Estuary. 3128

A worker at the Llanwern Steelworks, in Gwent, said he saw a blazing UFO the size of a motorcar hurtle up the estuary towards the Severn Bridge yesterday morning.

Coastguards feared it could have been a distress flare but no vessels were found to be in difficulties and Gwent police said the mystery object could have been a meteorite.

DAVID'S CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Mystery red glow follows his car

By ROY COOPER

MOTORIST David White couldn't believe his eyes as he was driving home at night on Sunday.

In the sky a red glow followed his car travelling several hundred feet above.

And when he stopped at a crossroads, the red light stopped too.

David, of Stratford Street, Oxford, wound down his window, but there was no sound at all from the mystery object.

"I thought I was going crazy. Just for my own peace of mind, I drove back across the Downs to see if I could get closer to it.

"I drove off towards Wantage and it moved with me again. I kept flashing my car lights and when I stopped again, it stopped and was just sitting stationary above me.

"I went through Wantage and I could still see it as I drove towards Faringdon.

"Then, two or three miles on that road, it disappeared. Just like that!"

David, boss of Artwork and Illustration Studios, Cowley Road, Oxford, had his close encounter with the mystery UFO on Sunday night as he drove home from Blewbury.

"I first saw the red object at precisely 11 pm. When it vanished, it was 11.41 pm — I looked at the car clock.

"It couldn't have been a plane as no plane could just stop still in the sky without even a sound.

"The second time I

stopped, I could see that it was a red light and at the centre it was white. There was no shape to it and as I kept looking at it, it was zig-zagging up and down," David said.

He thought the object could be seen over the Didcot Faringdon skyline at around midnight.

"I knew everyone would say I was potty, or that some RAF pilot was having a damn good laugh at my expense, but it was really weird and I have never seen anything else like it," he added.

Wantage Police said they had not had any calls about a mystery object.

And RAF Abingdon confirmed that no planes had been flying from the base that night.

"We do get reports of UFOs and we pass them on, but we haven't had any calls about mystery objects on Sunday night," a spokesman said.

town's 'bright lights'!

BY GEOFF COX

ONE of Britain's top UFO experts is to travel to Luton to probe sightings of a mysterious object in the night sky over the town.

Mr Ken Phillips, an investigator with the British UFO Research Association, wants to interview a woman whose observations have been reported in the Luton News.

In the March 31 edition, the paper told how Irene Armstrong, of Manton Drive, Luton, had spotted a strange object, which looked like a diamond ring, in the sky.

She and her husband Maurice, viewed the object through their binoculars on two consecutive nights and said it appeared to be hovering over Dunstable.

Mrs Armstrong added: "It was too large to be a star and wasn't yellow. It was a long shape, like a disjointed arrow, and had orange lights on it. It looked just like a cluster of diamonds."

Another member of the BUFORA, who lives in Luton, read the story and contacted Mr Phillips, who lives in London, with the details.

UFO sleuth to probe

town's 'bright lights'!

Mr Phillips said this week: "I hope to come to Luton to interview Mr and Mrs Armstrong about their sightings, which sound extremely interesting."

Mr Phillips made three reports for his records in Luton last year after another report in the Luton News was brought to his notice.

Several local residents had spotted an unusual object in the night sky in August and were later interviewed by Mr Phillips.

One of the witnesses, Mrs Win Crawley, 72, of Cowper Street, Luton, described it as being whitish silver, with a black hole in the middle and what looked like wires running through it.

There was also a BBC TV news report about the UFO, which was seen over north London around the time the sightings took place in Luton.

Mystery blow-ins of Gulf Breeze

WALTER Andrus, who spends his time co-ordinating UFO sightings, is collating information on the case of a Florida man who claims to have chased aliens across his backyard.

Andrus (67) is international director of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON). His task is to determine if the encounters are legitimate, or just another hoax. So far, he says, nothing in the Florida case has pointed to a hoax.

"This is one of the most amazing cases I've ever seen", said Andrus, who works out of an office next to his home in Seguin, Texas.

The Florida man, known as Mr Ed (only the editor of a local paper knows his full name), says he has pursued small alien creatures across his backyard in Gulf Breeze several times since November. Despite bilingual telepathic warnings (English and Spanish) that "photographs are prohibited", he says he took a number of pictures and even a videotape.

The excitement has taken MUFON investigators to Gulf Breeze for stakeouts with walkie talkies and cameras. So far, they have turned up nothing.

On the other hand, they've not been able to disprove what they consider convincing evidence.

Mr Ed says he has seen a circular UFO with portholes and a large light on its underside. His most striking picture, according to Andrus, is of one flying across a country road.

A secretary at Gulf Breeze city hall said other people in the small town had now reported their own otherworldly encounters.

Enthusiasm

None of the local police, however, has seen any flying saucers, "or if they have, they haven't told me about it", police Captain Ken Hicks said.

Andrus's enthusiasm for the case is clear, but he stops short of declaring it a positive sighting.

It is not that he has any doubt about the existence of UFOs.

It is that MUFON, which with 1,500 members claims to be the largest group of people studying unidentified flying objects in the world, prides itself on its professionalism and thoroughness.

Encounter

Having uncovered more than a few hoaxes, the group has learned that just because somebody says they have seen a UFO doesn't mean it's so.

"We want facts", Andrus said. "We don't want anything else". Too many UFO sightings have been produced by fertile imaginations using fancy model spaceships, he believes.

MUFON, give a lengthy test to its investigators, based on a 161-page handbook written by MUFON officials, who include lawyers, aerospace engineers and former Air Force officers.

It includes sections on astronomy, radio propagation, electronics and other fields. Those who fail cannot be MUFON investigators.

When an investigator arrives at the scene of a sighting, he comes equipped with more than an interest in UFOs. Witnesses are asked to fill out 15 lengthy forms with such categories as

"landing/traces/artifacts", "animal effects", "entity cases", and "residual radiation".

"We're not just playing with a hobby here. Someone has to take it seriously", said Antrus.

One reason Andrus regards UFOs so earnestly is that he believes he has had his own encounter with visitors from another world.

Convention

On August 15, 1948, during a holiday stop in Phoenix, he, his wife and their five-year-old son saw four dull grey discs hovering in the sky.

The discs vanished after 20 minutes, but the experience profoundly affected Andrus. "I was just intrigued", he says. He has pursued UFOs ever since because he considers them "the most important scientific item going today".

In 1969, Andrus and other UFO enthusiasts formed the Midwest UFO Network. The name was changed as the group grew and the headquarters moved with Andrus when his work transferred to Seguin.

He retired from his job as a plant production manager in 1983 and has since devoted all his time to MUFON. His wife, Jeanne, does not share his passion but son Donald, now a lawyer, does some of MUFON's legal work.

Every year, the organisation holds an international convention to discuss the latest in UFO news.

Basically, he said, MUFON would like to answer four questions:

First, do UFOs exist? In his mind, with 60,000 reported sightings, there's no doubt. "What we don't know is what they are for sure. We know they're not made on the planet Earth; that's for sure", Andrus says.

Second, how are they powered? "Engineers at some aerospace firms would like to know how they can hover, manoeuvre and fly at such tremendous speeds", Andrus says.

Third, where are they from? From another planet? Another universe? The possibilities are endless, making this the "most exciting" question to Andrus.

Finally, what can humans learn? "Apparently", Andrus said, "they are much more advanced in science and technology. We want to study them. So far, they're just studying us".

Youngsters encounter mystery light in sky

WAS it a UFO that lit up local skies early one evening last month?

Teenager Michelle Dodd of Millfield, Creekmoor, and other youngsters witnessed the phenomenon at 7.35pm on Monday, February 22, and she's interested to know how many other people saw it.

Michelle, 14, was out with a dozen of her friends in Petersham Road, Creekmoor, when they saw an exceptionally bright blue light which lit up the sky for 15 seconds.

"It wasn't lightning and none of us knew exactly what it was," said Michelle.

By chance Michelle's aunt, 28 year old Angela Parkin of Hillbourne Road, Broadstone, saw something similar at the same time.

She said: "After it flashed there was a kind of echo flash which lit everything up. It was 10 times as big as the moon."

Ten years ago Angela saw a 50ft diameter dome shaped UFO over Hamworthy.



From left to right: Robert Cook, Dean Hyde, Michelle Dodd, Peter Roberts and Gary Day.

WEST LANCASHIRE
EVENING GAZETTE
BLACK POOL
MAR. 24 1988 →

Calling time 3128 travellers

HITCHIN GAZETTE HERTS

MAR-16-1988

UFO tales 3128 take off

A SPATE of unidentified flying objects have been reported in the skies in and around Stevenage over the last few weeks.

Several Stevenage residents have reported seeing unusual shaped craft which they feel were definitely not normal aircraft traffic.

One woman said: "People think you have gone mad if you say you have seen an unidentified flying object, but I am certain that what I saw wasn't an aeroplane."

"It was saucer shaped and remained stationary for quite a while before shooting across the sky at a terrific speed."

The Ministry of Defence admits there have been several reports of sightings during the last few weeks but says unless spacecraft are sighted over a military installation or airfield they are not really interested.

A spokesman said: "There have been an awful lot of sightings lately, but there is usually a perfectly logical explanation."

"My wife and I saw what could well have been called an unidentified flying object when we were driving along the M25, but it was only a helicopter."

Only one part-time member of staff is employed at the MOD to check reported sightings in addition to their regular work and the spokesman said: "If we thought there was a threat to national security, we would employ more staff."

AS UFO sightings on the Fylde Coast increase, Britain's leading ufologist has come to a conclusion that will shock the world.

If a chunk of time is missing from your memory it is a fair bet you have been on board an alien spaceship, says Jenny Randles who has formed the theory after 12 years investigative work.

The director of investigations for the British UFO research association says most people have forgotten their close encounter but many others are too frightened to talk about the memory because they will be thought of as crackpots.

Her new book "Abduction" details more than 200 UFO kidnappings and includes explanations for these disturbing incidents.

Come to think of it, I can't remember where I was last Thursday night between 7 and 8 o'clock. I wonder...

● "Abduction" will be in the shops from April 14, priced £10.95

U.F.O.

Strange lights baffle Campbeltown children

CAMPBELTOWN folk are used to their skies being filled with mysterious flying objects — courtesy of the RAF and US Air Force — and these are readily identified. Imagine their mystification, therefore, when two Unidentified Flying Objects made an appearance in the late evening sky last Thursday.

First to spot the pair of eerily bright, white lights was 12-year-old Lesley Norris, whilst walking to her home on Park Square. She ran to tell friends and neighbours and soon the street was full of curious skywatchers.

"The lights were close together and very bright. Then one changed from white to yellow," said Kenny Norris, 16. "We called the RAF and were told there were no planes up at that time,

so we called the police. Two policemen came and stood looking at the lights for a while. One said they were planets, the other said he did not think they were, but they could not shed any light on what the objects were."

Fear

By then the youngsters were convinced the 'Wee Green Men' were after them and feelings ranged from fascination (Close Encounters showed them as cute) to fear (14-year-old Fiona Sillars sat up all night in a sitting room armchair, afraid to go to sleep).

However, all were brave enough to stand outside watching the UFOs for two hours until about 11 pm when clouds drifted across

the lights and concealed them.

An explanation for the phenomena was offered by Campbeltown's ex-harbour master, Mr Hugh McShannon, who has been interested in watching the skies at night since he was a boy.

"The two lights were in fact the planets Mars and Jupiter," he said. "I had been watching their progress for about three months. In nearly 80 years of studying the stars and planets, I had never seen the two so close together, so it was quite an exciting sight."

"Like the earth, the planets circle the sun but their paths do alter very slightly and that is what has happened. I expect them to cross over and start getting further apart again."

NORTHAMPTON
MAR 23 1988
NORTHANTS POST

Hunt is ^{3/28} on for UFOs

Dear Sir,
ON the night of February 12, about 6.05pm, a strange object was sighted moving slowly over the Thorplands and Lings area.

According to accounts it was very bright and moving in an east to west direction. The object was also sighted on February 14 around 9.30pm. This time it was moving quickly over the Lings area.

I appeal to anyone who may have witnessed the object or any strange lights to get in contact with me as soon as possible. I will deal with any sightings in the strictest confidence.

Susan Pollock,
Area Investigator,
Northants UFO Research
Centre,
30 Stonebridge Court,
Lings

● Skyscan of Worcester are looking for UFO investigators to represent areas where no other group exists. Write to Skyscan, c/o 145 Tudor Way, Dines Green, Worcester.

That UFO again!

BARNSELY CHRONICLE, YORKS
MAY 13 1988

MRS. L. SAGE, Everill Gate Lane, Broomhill:

PLEASE tell the Darfield lady and the Barugh lady that my daughter and myself saw the U.F.O. on Wednesday, April 20, around 9.45 p.m.

We were walking from Wombwell down into the village of Broomhill where we live, and half-way down the lane, my daughter saw this thing in the sky, with red lights and big white lights, some flashing on and off.

It turned all its lights out as it got nearer us, then came hovering round us and put two big white spot lights on us for a few seconds.

We were both a bit scared when it did this, and I said: "Come on, let's go home."

As we started to walk again, it put red, green and white lights on, and went towards Wombwell way. When we got home I told my son about this. He thought we were mad, so I didn't tell anyone else till I saw it in the paper.

But I know it was really a U.F.O. and won't ever forget that night I can tell you. I don't wish to remain anonymous!