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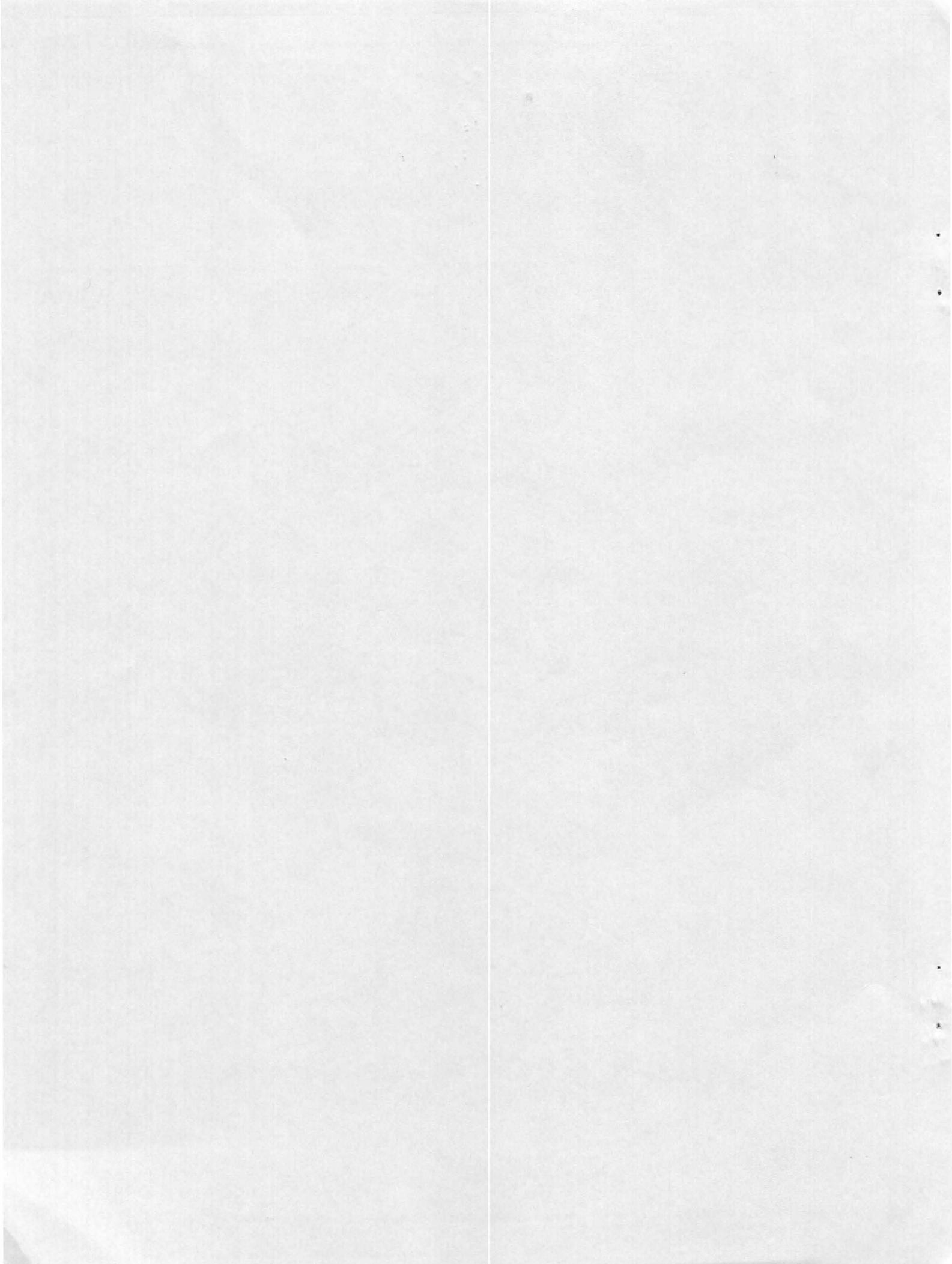
# UFO NEWS



**AERIAL PHENOMENON  
CLIPPING INFORMATION CENTER**

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# The UFO PHENOMENON

**O**NE of the most important and baffling cases of UFO phenomena occurred in Australia.

During the evening of October 21, 1978, 20-year-old Australian pilot Frederick Valentich disappeared over Bass Strait, while flying from Melbourne's Moorabbin Airport to King Island, off the coast of Victoria.

His last communication was twelve minutes past seven in the evening, during the largest UFO flap in Australian history. No trace has ever been found of either the pilot or his blue and white Cessna 182.

Frederick Valentich was not the only person who reported a strange object over and near Bass Strait that day and night. Researchers, from the Victorian UFO Research Society (VUFORS), have found over 50 reported observations in that area which occurred before, during and after his disappearance.

At first this incident was treated as an ordinary lost aircraft. But several other pilots flying at the same time were tuned to the same radio frequency and heard the communications. The world first learned that a UFO was involved when one of those pilots tipped off the Press.

On Monday, October 23, front-page headlines on the incident led the news of the day. VUFORS telephones were ringing constantly for the following three days. Switchboards were flooded at radio stations, television stations and newspapers.

## Light in the sky

The most outstanding UFO case in Australia is also the greatest mystery in Australian aviation history.

Police officers at various locations were instructed to interview witnesses who had reported unusual sights and sounds on that date in their areas.

Aircraft pilots were called upon to report sightings of unidentified objects and lights in the sky.

Here is the actual transcription of Frederick's last contact with the Melbourne Flight Service, as released by the Australian Department of Transport — (FS—Flight Service, DSJ — Frederick Valentich's aircraft designation).

DSJ—Melbourne, this is Delta Sierra Juliet. Is there any known traffic below 5000?

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, no known traffic.

DSJ—Delta Sierra Juliet, I am, seems to be a large aircraft below 5000.

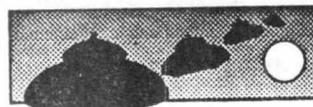
FS—Delta Sierra Juliet. What type of aircraft is it?

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From the book, "Phenomenon" by John Spence and Hilary Evans. Published by Futura. Price £3.75.



## Australia's biggest ever UFO flap



DSJ—Delta Sierra Juliet, I cannot affirm, it is four bright, it seems to me like landing lights.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet.

DSJ—Melbourne, this is Delta Sierra Juliet, the aircraft has just passed over me at least a thousand feet above.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, roger, and it is a large aircraft, confirmed.

DSJ—Er—unknown, due to the speed it's travelling, is there any air force activity in the vicinity?

## Shiny on the outside

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, no known aircraft in the vicinity.

DSJ—Melbourne, it's approaching now from due east towards me.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet.

DSJ—Delta Sierra Juliet, it seems to me that he's playing some sort of game, he's flying over me, two, three times at speed I could not identify.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, roger, what is your actual level?

DSJ—My level is four and a half thousand, four five zero zero.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, and you confirm you cannot identify the aircraft?

DSJ—Affirmative.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, roger, stand by.

DSJ—Melbourne, Delta Sierra Juliet, it's not an aircraft it is (open microphone for two seconds).

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, can you describe the—er—aircraft?

DSJ—Delta Sierra Juliet, as it's flying past it's a long shape (open microphone for three seconds) cannot identify more than it has such speed (open microphone for three seconds). It's before me right now Melbourne.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, roger and how large would the — er — object be?

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

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★            ★            ★

## At around same time, a bank manager and his wife, driving near Melbourne, observed starfish-shaped object in the sky

★            ★            ★



Melbourne (open microphone for 17 seconds). (No official conclusion has been given for the strange sound which was heard that interrupted the pilot's last statement.)

During this communication, abruptly terminated by a strange sound, 20 people in different locations around Bass Strait observed a green light in the same direction and at the same time as Valentich reported the approach and description of an object with a green light.

In the southern suburb of Frankston, a mother and four teenagers reported what appeared to resemble a sky rocket, although the object was stationary. The colour appeared to be a mixture of red, pink and white.

The witnesses estimated the object to be a quarter-size of the moon. The mother said that she did not realise it was a UFO until she learned later that other people had seen the same object.

At the same time, a bank manager and his wife, while driving on the highway west of Melbourne, observed a starfish-shaped object out over the Strait. They noticed green flickering lights at the ends.

Another sighting was reported from Ormond, a suburb in southern Melbourne, at 7.15, when lights were noted in a cigar-shaped arrangement. The lights were described as looking like "silver rain" as they appeared to fall or else were turned off from top to bottom.

Two lads were out in the street communicating via walkie-talkies when they saw a star-shaped object appear at a low altitude over their heads. It was moving slightly faster than an aircraft as if on an approach run to an airport.

### Jammed with static

Both recall a sound like a low pulsating hum associated with the object. Each of the walkie-talkies first became jammed with static, then communication was lost altogether, even though the lads were only a short distance apart. Communication was restored when the UFO flew away.

Their description was of an object with bright, white lights placed intermittently at each tip of a starfish-shaped object and at various points along the arcs to the tips.

Many other similar reports reached VUFORS of flying objects throughout southern Victoria during that same day and night, continuing for several days

following the disappearance.

Three-and-a-half years after this amazing incident, the Australian Department of Transport released its final report concerning the Valentich encounter. Their bottom line read: "Cause of the disappearance is unknown."

★★★

Probably no UFO has been seen by a greater number of people than the spiral object which appeared over China in the hours before midnight of July 24, 1981.

Many of the sightings occurred to several people—in some cases hundreds—at a time; independent witnesses established consecutive sightings of what seems beyond question the same object.

Tobacco farmer Tian Jinfu was drying tobacco leaves at about 11.20 on his farm in the province of Guizhou. At first he saw a round "star," about the size of the moon, lighting the northern sky.

Two minutes later a luminous "tail" appeared to left and right of the object; this tail continued to extend, forming a five-ring concentric spiral round the original object.

When fully formed, it moved slowly away, sometimes passing behind clouds, but reappearing before vanishing completely.



Sightings came from people watching open-air movies, so that hundreds saw it at a time. Many were frightened. At Zigong people shut themselves up in their homes. But most were pleasantly excited, and particularly those already interested in UFOs.

Wang Aining, of Loyang in Henan, who admitted to being "passionate about UFOs," was just going to bed when he heard neighbours shouting "flying saucer!"

### Aircraft vanished

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet.

DSJ—Delta Sierra Juliet (open microphone for five seconds). It's just vanished.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet.

DSJ—Melbourne, would you know what kind of aircraft I've got? Is it a military aircraft?

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, confirm the — er — aircraft just vanished.

DSJ—Say again.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, is the aircraft still with you?

DSJ—Delta Sierra Juliet, it's (open microphone for two seconds) now approaching from the south west.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet.

DSJ—Delta Sierra Juliet, the engine is rough-idling, I've got it set at 2324 and the thing is coughing.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet, roger, what are your intentions?

DSJ—My intentions are — ah — to go to King Island — ah — Melbourne. That strange aircraft is hovering on top of me again (open microphone for two seconds). It is hovering and it's not an aircraft.

FS—Delta Sierra Juliet.

DSJ—Delta Sierra Juliet,

**In China, hundreds of people at  
open-air movies saw a strange spiral  
object in sky above them**

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**Just before he and his plane disappeared without trace, pilot talked on radio of a mysterious "aircraft" near him. He said, "He's playing some sort of game, he's flying over me, two, three times at speed I could not identify"**

He rushed outside to see what the fuss was about, and was rewarded by seeing something like "a wash basin," of a diameter he estimated at about 20 metres, spinning and throwing out flashes of brilliant blue light as it silently crossed the sky, surrounded by misty white swirls of foggy white.

He and his neighbours watched it for 15 minutes before it vanished in the distance; they agreed that it wasn't a satellite, aircraft, weather balloon or shooting star.

A university professor supplied the most specific description. Shi Zunsheng, professor of medicine at Kummin, had hitherto been a severe critic of UFO believers; but after examining that night's object for 10 minutes through his telescope he had to admit "it's true, it's a UFO — there's a row of portholes!"

## Precise prediction

His drawing shows a domed disc, convex below as well as above, ringed with a line of windows.

Accounts differed as to the direction in which the object was moving, and also as to its movements, but considering it was seen over so wide a geographical area, the reports are consistent.

Several photographs were taken. Most show a glowing nucleus with a hazy luminous surround. Only one shows the spiral described by so many, and that one is suspiciously "tidy," giving every sign of retouching if not outright faking.

By any standards, this

was a remarkable set of sightings, but what emerged during investigation made them more remarkable still. They had been predicted!

A month earlier, a 24-year-old astronomer from the Observatory of Yun-nan, Zhang Zhousheng, announced that between July 10 and 30 UFO activity would intensify, with particularly good chances of a sighting from the 24th to the 29th.

It would appear to the north, and should be visible all over China. Its apparent size would be somewhat larger than that of the moon, if small it would appear to be a disc, if large, a spiral.

It would rotate slowly clockwise, and consist of a bright centre with a cloudy, faintly luminous surround. If seen by day it would be silver, if by night, it would show colours.

According to the time of the observation, it would move off in different directions. The sighting should last for about 10 minutes if there were no clouds.

It was not psychic powers that enabled Zhang Zhousheng to make so precise a prediction. Meteors become visible as they pass through earth's outer atmosphere.



The sheet of ionised gas by which they are surrounded can, under the influence of earth's magnetic field, make spiral movements, while impact between the electrified particles can produce luminous effects.

The total effect seen from earth would be a disc surrounded by a slowly rotating spiral. Since such objects can be tracked, it was possible to make a rough estimate when this particular one would become visible.

In an official statement in August 1981, the Zijingshan Observatory said that three explanations remain open—

- 1—A new kind of terrestrial scientific experiment.
- 2—A natural phenomenon of unknown type.
- 3—A UFO.

While the explanation offered by Zhang Zhousheng, backed by his impressively-accurate prediction, points clearly towards a natural phenomenon of some kind, it is clearly a very rare kind.

SK-D3 REGINA LEADER  
POST

OCT 17 1988  
1381

## Police in dark about UFO report

Radio reports of an apparent UFO sighting near North Battleford this weekend remain a mystery to RCMP.

A Battlefords RCMP spokesman said Monday RCMP there had heard about the sighting from Regina radio station CKCK.

However, the detachment had received no reports of a UFO and knew nothing about it, she said.

# UFO investigator hopes to meet 'Valiant Thor' of planet Venus

By ROBERTA de BOER  
Blade Staff Writer

If it takes courage to admit publicly to having seen an Unidentified Flying Object, then Thomas Titus ought to get a medal for sheer guts alone.

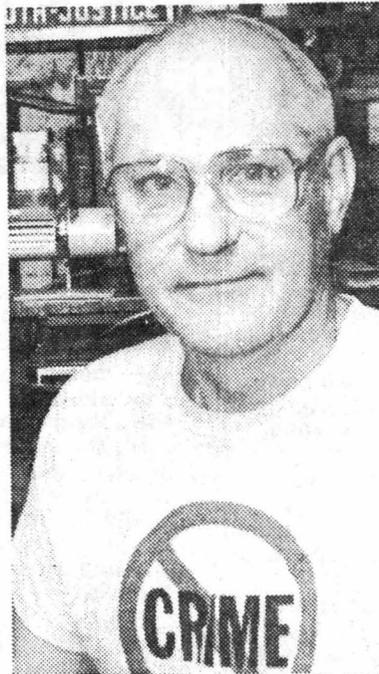
With an unwavering gaze, he says calmly that later this month he just might meet someone from the planet Venus.

Let's begin by pointing out that Mr. Titus is a pleasant and soft-spoken gentleman, a former junior high school science teacher who now owns a company that sells security lighting.

He lives in a split-level house on Park Forest Drive, in a middle-class neighborhood near Swan Creek Metropark. His basement isn't different from many others — wood-paneled walls, an orange shag rug, a plaid sofa, and books.

### Will meet idol

What it boils down to is this: Mr. Titus is an otherwise unremarkable man with an extraordinary prediction about what will happen to him when he goes to a UFO conference



— Blade Photo

**Thomas Titus researches UFOs** in (where else?) Las Vegas.

While there, he'll finally meet his idol, Frank E. Stranges, who is not



## Dropping by

only a veteran flying-saucer researcher but also a close, personal friend of Valiant Thor, a visitor to our planet.

"I asked Dr. Stranges if I had a chance to meet [the alien], and he said I have an *excellent* chance," Mr. Titus confided.

Pictures of Valiant Thor in some of the books published by Mr. Stranges (bearing titles such as "Flying Saucerama," "Danger, From the Stars," and "Flying Saucers Unlimited") show him to be a handsome, raven-haired man who favors dark suits, neckties, and po-

Turn to Page 23, Col. 5

## UFO investigator patient

Continued from Page 11

made.

Commander Thor, as he's called, is said to live in Victor I, a spaceship parked in the Nevada desert and "protected by a force field that makes it invisible."

As Mr. Titus understands it, Commander Thor and the 70 Venusians he brought here with him offered to teach this planet's inhabitants how to cure disease and attain global peace, but world leaders "totally rejected him" out of some small-minded, provincial fear of having an alien in control of a human world.

### Saw one 30 years ago

Oh, c'mon — lower those eyebrows and try to be less galactically arrogant about UFOs.

After all, says Mr. Titus: "Barry Goldwater has seen one! Muhammad Ali has seen one! Jimmy Carter has seen one! To say that we are the only planet in the universe to sustain life is insane!"

The one and only time Mr. Titus personally saw a UFO was 30 years ago, as a bored army private counting meteors while on guard duty at Fort Hood in Texas.

"I began to study this strange craft, losing all interest in meteors. I could see its silhouette very clearly . . . I had been trained for night vision," Mr. Titus wrote in a testimonial-style account of his experience that he's been composing on his personal computer down in the basement.

### Most 'not trained observers'

Most people who claim to have sighted a UFO have merely failed to recognize an airplane or something like that, he says.

Only about 5 percent of those sightings turn out to be what Mr. Titus classifies as "unexplainable" and therefore legitimate.

"A lot of people see things they claim are UFOs. People simply are not trained observers," he adds.

Even armed with what he considers satisfying evidence, Mr. Titus knows his claims tend to turn perfectly nice people into snide wise-crackers. Even he admits that his sometimes his own wife "tends to frown when I'm talking."

So how does he endure it?

"How does one endure being a teacher?" he asks.

Same thing, in his mind — it's just a matter of convincing the wary.

# We saw UFO over city, say residents

PETERBOROUGH EVENING TELEGRAPH  
SEP 19 1988

REPORTS of UFO sightings in Cambridge during the early hours of this morning have been made to the Greenwich Observatory in London.

Anxious residents woken by a loud pulsing noise claimed to have seen a bright orange ball just after 2 am, according to Cambridgeshire police.

But an astronomer at the observatory said it is unlikely to have been extra-terrestrial.

Dr Rosaly Lopes said: "We had a number of telephone calls. One lady said there were vibrations on top of her house and other people had seen strange objects in the sky.

"I won't say I don't believe in UFOs but most can be explained. It is not that the people are in any way mad, it's just that they see things they can't understand."

Dr Lopes believes the bright ball could have been Mars which is quite high in the sky at the moment and has an orange tinge.

## Extraordinary

And she said the noise could have been caused by an aeroplane, weather balloon, or even a meteor entering the Earth's atmosphere.

Another possible explanation is a Russian satellite expected to fall to earth soon.

But Miss Maureen Plantagenet, 40, of Eden Street, Cambridge, refused to accept the explanation.

She said she was woken abruptly just after 2 am by a loud noise: "It was quite the most incredible noise I have heard in my life. First of all I thought it was an aeroplane crash then I realised it was a loud energetic pulsing."

The noise moved down towards Parkside School, she said. But it was gone by the time she got to her window.

Her neighbour, Mrs Pamela Lee, was also woken.

"I have heard some powerful engines with my father in the RAF, but this was quite extraordinary."



**WORRIED** local people called police when a mystery ball-shaped unidentified flying object was spotted hovering over Cambridge.

The glowing UFO — which made a loud humming noise — flew low over Cambridge early today.

Police and aviation experts were baffled by the object — which disappeared without trace.

Today police said they received at least four similar reports.

## ORANGE

The first call — in the early hours of this morning — came from a woman who said that she had seen the large orange coloured globe hovering like a spaceship over her home.

Other sightings reported between 2 and 3 am corroborate the woman's description.

● Have you spotted a UFO or had close encounters of an extraterrestrial kind? If so, ring the Evening Telegraph special UFO hotline tonight between 6 pm and 7 pm on 555111.

SUNDERLAND ECHO AUG 27 1988

# EARLY MORNING CLOSE ENCOUNTER FOR FRIENDS

A STRANGE flying object was spotted by early birds in a Wear-side village.

Civil servant Steve Barksby (22), of Rosslea, Shiney Row, his sister Jill (19), and friend Tara Patterson (19), from Chester-le-Street, claim they have seen a U.F.O.

A bright star-like object "buzzed" their car as they drove from Great Lumley to Shiney Row at about 3.15 a.m. on Thursday.

"The light came up from the right, shot

round the front of the car, stopped there glowing for a bit, then went off to the left and disappeared into a dot," Steve said.

"It looked a bit like a Christmas card star. There were three of us in the car terrified. I have never seen anything like it."

A U.F.O. was sighted near Marsden Rock six weeks ago by a taxi driver and passenger.

It was described as about 80 feet long with flashing lights.

Sunderland police have no reports of any other recent U.F.O. sightings.

# Spies in the skies

LEICESTER TRADER

SEP 14 1988

UFO sightings in the Leicester area are "frightening the living daylight" out of local people, claims Regional Investigator Clive Potter.

Mr Potter, who is the local representative of the British UFO Research Association, reveals that the mysterious craft are not part of an invasion from outer space.

"They are," he says, "top secret experimental aircraft manufactured and controlled by earthlings."

Sightings recorded in other parts of the country have prompted MP, Bill Cash, to call on the Ministry of Defence to investigate, but as yet there's been no response.

"Although stressing

the need to maintain security, we also feel the public has a right to know what is flying above their heads.

"And since these aircraft fly very low and silently, particularly over populated areas such as Leicestershire, there is always the possibility of an accident," said Mr Potter.

He can be contacted on Leicester 20538.

# Baltimorean finds giant signs of life in fuzzy slides of Mars

By Luther Young

If it were any planet but Mars, **Barron Kemp's** startling claims that giants live there underground and 30-mile-long fish float above the surface would almost certainly rule out his ever running for vice president.

But the "paradise of giants" he envisions is the notorious Red Planet of "canals" and the "War of the Worlds" radio panic, the very same orb which this Wednesday reaches its closest approach to Earth in 17 years, at 36.5 million miles.

And Mr. Kemp's earnest insistence that close-up photos of the planet reveal evidence of intelligent life and a menagerie of huge animals is entirely in the Mars spirit.

"Look here," he said, excitedly projecting slides on a wall of his Baltimore apartment. "There's a carving of the head of a Plains Indian, 20 miles from forehead to chin, looking out into space from a mountaintop." Pause. "Granted, I could be wrong on the size."

Believe it or not, this is among the least controversial of Mr. Kemp's views. Other investigators, including a former astronaut, have seen what they think are faces carved by a defunct or hidden civilization — most notably the "Great Stone Face" peering up from the surface.

NASA has been bedeviled by this for years, ever since the Mariner and Viking space probes produced a treasure trove of spectacular close-ups of the planet during a series of flybys and landings from 1965 through 1976.

"The photos taken from orbit show various rock forms, heavily shadowed, and the things these people see are nothing but light and shadow," said spokesman Jim Doyle of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. "There's no evidence of anything living or ever having lived on Mars."

But Mr. Kemp knows what he sees, and he vigorously defends the giants on Mars from such cursory dismissal. "There is life on Mars, and they physically resemble us, except they're much larger, about 80 feet tall," he said.

This assessment was arrived at after a decade of study of 100,000 Mars photos by the rumpiled, 62-year-old free-lance technical writer, who estimates he's spent nearly \$60,000 on the pursuit.

"I care more for my work than my surroundings," he said, gesturing in his bare-bones apartment on Harford Road, where he lives now on monthly Social Security checks.

A self-described "character," "kindergarten dropout" and "writer/explorer," Mr. Kemp is proud of his prowess at self-teaching. "I have the equivalent of several Ph.Ds," he said. "In any one year of writing, I will study as much as you might in three or four years of college."

The "Barron Kemp" byline has appeared on seven electronics reference books, including the "RF Interference Control Handbook," "ABCs of Tunnel Diodes" and "Fundamentals of Magnetic Amplifiers," plus



THE SUN/PAUL HUTCHINS

## BARRON KEMP

Claims there's life on Mars

numerous technical manuals, he said.

He examines the grainy, fuzzy slides of the Martian surface with the childlike delight and suspension of belief usually reserved for guess-

ing cloud shapes. "There's a standing statue of Donald Duck, over a mile high! There's the two little beady eyes!"

In breathless succession, Mr. Kemp identifies the White House,

several huge vent pipes to underground cities, a giant wearing a hard hat while his hound dog rests against a nearby tree stump, another giant peering from a hole in the ground covered by a clear dome, and "angel babies snug in their eggshells, waiting to be hatched."

And above Phobos, one of Mars' two moons, are "unmistakable

UFOs." There's a big one in the lead, "aircraft-shaped, with a wingspan of a mile, followed by three smaller objects," said Mr. Kemp, who has contributed articles to *UFO Universe* magazine and firmly believes in their existence on Earth.

What could it all mean? Is he seeking publicity and a publisher for his in-progress book on the subject.

"People Not Like Us: A Photo Exploration of Cultural Centers of Mars?"

"No. This is what I see and believe," Mr. Kemp said. "And all I want is for NASA to go back. I think further investigation is warranted regardless of their decision that there's nothing there but sand. You can't look at these things and say they're accidental."

LEICESTER MERCURY  
JUL-23 1988

## Space man smiles

WITH reference to the "corn rings" I am quite amused at the somewhat feeble attempts to explain away this truly strange phenomenon.

Bearing in mind that there have been over 280 such sightings of similar "rings" and as far afield as the North Pole. It is laughable to read of such explanations as that of foxes playing or that is the work of an elaborate hoaxer (surely gets around!)

One thing for certain is if the "rings" are the result of some extra-terrestrial beings they, too, must be smiling at the technology being used in this scientific investigation, i.e. that of a camera fixed to the end of a pole!

**D. BARRS,  
Leicester.**

SEP. 18 1988

# Reader Links UFOs, Lizard Man

The fellow on the other end of the telephone line sounded as sane as anyone I know and sober as a Baptist judge. In fact, he said he was a lay Baptist preacher.

"You ought not joke about the Lizard Man," he said. "I have been studying these things for 30 years, and they're real. I repeat, sir, they're real."

Well, ah . . .

"I know these things are real. We have spotted them. . . . I saw one as a little boy. My wife saw one about a year ago. It attacked our trailer."

The fellow called in response to the columns Doug Robarchek and



**Allen Norwood**

I wrote last Sunday about our trip to Bishopville, S.C., in search of the Lizard Man.

We ought not joke, the fellow said, because Lizard Men are real. The creatures are somehow connected to UFOs, and

they might not be amused.

I asked questions, and I'm convinced the fellow believed his own answers. For instance, he described in fine detail the location of that spotting a year ago.

I won't share exact directions to the site, because folks there wouldn't appreciate this sort of publicity. But I visited the pond where he said his wife saw the Lizard Man, where it allegedly attacked their mobile home. The pond is only about a half-hour from downtown Charlotte.

The pond covers, oh, 8 or 10 acres. It's surrounded by thick woods.

It's shallow and weed-choked around the edges. Skeletons of dead trees stand guard over the shadowy swamp at the rear of the open water.

Thousands of cicadas buzzed on and on while I was there, with that eerie droning that always seems to punctuate scenes of Southern swamps in the summer.

The fellow said his wife and young son saw the creature emerge from the pond. They described the creature as dark and scaly, with broad shoulders and a small head. It had no visible ears and only a slit for a mouth.

The creature disappeared back into the water, but later that night it attacked the trailer, which was about 100 yards from the pond.

The Lizard Man banged on the trailer so hard, the fellow said, that the mobile home rattled on its

See AVOWED Page 3B

## Avowed Attack Victim Links Lizard Man, UFOs

Continued From Page 1B

pilings.

"I didn't see the thing, but my family did. I saw the shadow that night, and I heard the sounds."

What about tracks? Did the Lizard Man leave any signs of its presence?

"I found some tracks the next morning, but I think they were dog tracks. In my studies, sir, these things leave no tracks."

He and his wife talked about reporting the incident to authorities, he said. Finally, they decided to keep the story to themselves.

"Who would have believed us?" he asked me.

"I see your point," I said.

The fellow said he saw his first Lizard Man in his backyard when he was only 11. That creature, he said, was a scaled-down version of the one described by his wife and the folks in Bishopville.

That first sighting 30 years ago sparked his interest. He has been studying Lizard Men ever since.

He has learned, he said, that Lizard Men are somehow connected to UFOs.

Which, of course, he also has seen.

"We have seen UFOs out in Nevada, over the Hoover Dam. . . . One night, we saw one right over the power generating station. It hovered right over the power plant."

The fellow said he learned in Nevada that there's usually a strong smell of sulfur when an unidentified flying object passes overhead.

When he investigated around that pond near Charlotte where his wife and son saw the Lizard Man, he said, he found the grass crushed and yellow in one spot — and the strong odor of sulfur.

The fellow said he's not sure where the creatures are coming from. Only that they're not from around here.

They could be from another planet. They could be from another world we can't travel to in our scariest dreams and wildest imaginations.

"There has been such a rash of Satan worship," he said. "Perhaps that has something to do with it. It may be that Satan is coming out of the closet, so to speak."

"After 30 years, it's starting to come to a head now. These things are starting to show up."

"So we watch the skies, and we watch the woods. . . ."

# A respectful treatment of flying objects

**ABOVE TOP SECRET:**  
**The Worldwide UFO Cover-up**  
 TIMOTHY GOOD  
*Morrow. 592 pp. \$19.95.*

**By Frank DeMarco**

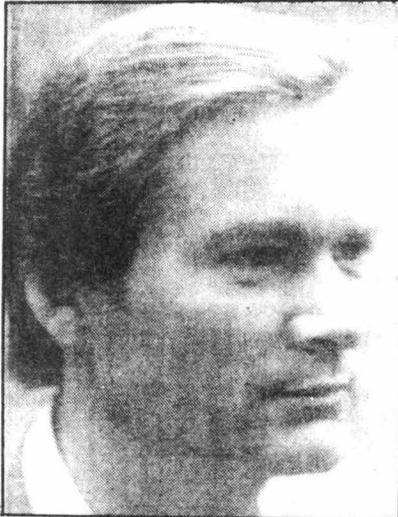
Surely, if ever there was a topic tailor-made for ridicule, it's the subject of unidentified flying objects: UFOs. Thousands of people who have reported UFOs have lived to regret it, from pilot Kenneth Arnold in 1947 through author Whitley Streiber 40 years later. Press, government, professional debunkers and the man in the street do not hesitate to pour on the ridicule.

And yet, *something* strange is going on.

Skeptics ask why, if UFOs really exist, they haven't been seen by thousands of people at the same time. Why aren't they seen over cities? Why don't they show up on radar screens? Why don't the world's military forces track them? Why don't official studies conclude that something inexplicable is going on? Above all, why don't respectable people in responsible positions find the evidence for their existence persuasive?

The answer to each of these

*Frank DeMarco is an associate editor of The Virginian-Pilot and The Ledger-Star.*



*Photo by SHARON GOULD*

## Timothy Good

questions, Timothy Good says, is: They have. They *have* been seen by thousands at a time; they *have* been seen over cities. They *have* been tracked and studied, and the evidence *has* convinced serious people, including, for example, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, formerly Britain's chief of defense staff, who wrote a foreword for the book.

Why don't we know about all this? Good says it is because the governments of the world have been engaged in a cover-up for more than 40 years.

Which is absurd on the face of it.

What's the half-life of an official secret in Washington, D.C.? What would it take to persuade every government in the world to conceal such a secret for even one year, let alone four decades?

And who is supposed to be doing the concealing? Let us postulate that it is the CIA and the Department of Defense. We have had seven changes of administration since Harry Truman's. Would all seven presidents participate in a cover-up? One of those presidents was Jimmy Carter, who had himself reported seeing a UFO in 1969, in the company of several members of the Lions Club of Leary, Ga., and who had vowed that if elected he would "make every piece of information this country has about UFO sightings available to the public and to the scientists." If the CIA, for instance, were ordered to give President Carter the entire UFO file, would it refuse to do so? If so, on whose authority?

No, the entire idea of a worldwide cover-up is incredible. It doesn't make sense politically, militarily or organizationally.

The problem is that the evidence for such a cover-up is convincing, and Good sets some of it out in great detail, from wartime sightings (including one in 1942 over Los Angeles that drew 1,400 rounds of anti-aircraft fire) through encounters

over Canada, Europe, South Africa, the U.S.S.R., China. . . .

He describes former Sen. Barry Goldwater's repeated unsuccessful attempts to get access to the "blue room" at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base where rumor had it — has it — that the room contains the remains of nine deceased aliens preserved in permanent deep freeze. Ridiculous rumor. But Sen. Goldwater couldn't get permission to enter, despite repeated attempts. Surely the question arises: Why?

Lord Hill-Norton points out that "there have been thousands, perhaps tens of thousands, of sightings and encounters . . . by people all over the world whose evidence on any other subject would be accepted without question. There have been major investigations lasting 30 or 40 years by the governments of the USA, Russia and France, for certain, and probably Britain and other countries. At the end of it all — today — we have no hard official information. . . . I claim that the charge that there is a cover-up is thereby proved. What I admit defeats me is a plausible reason for it."

I concur, on both points. And the reader who plows through the voluminous data compiled by Good, some of it newly published, most not, will be hard-pressed to disagree.

1351

# UFO chaser searches for answers

By PAM WIEDENFELD  
Tribune Berrien County Bureau

ST. JOSEPH — It was nearly two years ago that a pair of fishermen in a boat on Bankson Lake in Van Buren County said they saw a huge, triangular object approach from the south and hover 150 to 200 feet above the trees.

The men said the vessel had a red light on each of its corners and a very intense light flashed in the center of the craft.

More than 30 other people around southwestern Michigan reported seeing the same strange lights, according to area police.

For Virginia Tilly, studying UFOs such as this is truth stranger than fiction. But many would argue the St. Joseph woman's "truth" is actually fiction, to put it mildly.

Tilly, a field investigator and

state section director for the national scientific organization known as the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), doesn't pay much attention to them.

"I have always been interested in UFOs, ever since about 1947 when I became more aware," she said.

The world's largest UFO organization, MUFON gathers information on UFO-related phenomena and passes it on to scientists and researchers who try to decipher and evaluate information, Tilly said. "We're not one of those far-out organizations," she added.

A hobby seen as folly by many, Tilly said investigating cases can be very frustrating because of the vast array of unknown variables. "There are no answers," she confessed.

Investigating a case, such as the Van Buren County one, for which no practical explanation has been made, is an ongoing, constant process of elimination.

"We always look for a possible explanation for an event," she said. For example, she explained that many UFO sightings could be bright, low stars or planets. Or in some cases, she said people have a psychological problem or an overactive imagination.

The latter have to be weeded out carefully, she explained.

Tilly said MUFON, with field directors throughout the United States, has a national hotline people can call if they see something strange. She said investigators also field calls through local police units and from people who call investigators directly.

## CHASE 'NOTORIOUS FOR SIGHTINGS'

# Glowing UFO shock for pair

THE British UFO Research Association is to look into claims of a mysterious object seen on the edge of Cannock Chase.

It was sighted by Reg Morgan and Gloria Hall who were on their way back to their Little Haywood homes from an evening Gingerbread group meeting in Cannock.

Mr Morgan, a plant operator at Rugeley B Power Station, said the UFO suddenly appeared in front of them just after they crossed over Wheatman's Bridge about 30 feet up in the air.

"Gloria was talking to me and then she sort of went quiet," said Mr Morgan, "I looked up in the air and said what the dickens is that?"

"It was a circular object, about 30 feet up and 30 feet in diameter with a gaseous cloud around it. Some of it seemed to touch the ground as well,

overhanging a hedge.

"The cloud was sort of fluorescent and near the ground, it had an infra red glow. The hedge now looks crumpled as if it's starting to die." Mr Morgan said both of them were very shocked.

"It left us both with a very queer sensation, and we were unsettled for some time. Neither of us heard any noise at all or any wind and none of the bushes or trees were blown about.

"We saw it for a few seconds and then it disappeared and then it reappeared a little bit of a distance away across the road. I couldn't believe it at the time. We stopped after the bridge to regain our senses."

National co-ordinator for the British UFO Research Association, Jenny Randals said: "Cannock Chase is a notorious spot for sightings,

and it does sound like the sort of case we would like to look into.

"The bit about the bushes is very interesting, the more I hear because it might provide direct corrolation.

"We would like to get a scientific examination of the remains and we'll certainly be following it up."

Mr Morgan said he immediately informed the police at Great Haywood. "They didn't seem particularly surprised by it," he added.

"The UFO left us both with a very funny feeling - disbelief and shock at what we had seen. Neither of us had had anything to drink at all nothing alcoholic.

"It made us both think why were they there, what kind of people were they, was the UFO and where do they come from?"

STAFFORD NEWSLETTER  
STAFFORD

SEP 9 1988



● Reg Morgan and Gloria Hall beside the burnt hedge.

LEICESTER  
MERCURY  
AUG 30 1988

# 'Rings' riddle: Winds theory

THE mysterious rings which appeared in a Leicestershire field are to feature in a book examining the phenomena.

Scientist Dr. Terence Meaden is compiling a book which he hopes will help explain how the strange flattened shapes appear in fields.

Debate has raged as to how the fields across the country have had their crops squashed. UFO believers feel they have been caused by crafts from outer space.

But Dr. Meaden, an Oxford physics graduate and a weather expert, is adamant that whirlwinds have created the circles.

## Formation

He travelled to Leicestershire when rings were discovered in a wheat field between the Roman Gartree Road and houses in Copse Close, Oadby, in July.

"I will certainly be including it in the book," said Dr. Meaden, who runs the Tornado and Storm Research Organisation, in Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

"The formation is very important. I have never seen one like it anywhere else. There are one or two shapes which regularly appear but the shape in Leicestershire is very rare and for that reason will appear in the book."

He said that so far he had gathered 400 pieces of information on the subject.

He said he hoped to have the book out in about two years time and asked for anyone who might have seen other rings in the county to contact him.

STAFFORD NEWSLETTER STAFFORD  
JULY 22 1988 LON.

# Farm couple sight mystery UFO

ANOTHER sighting of a mystery UFO over Stafford has been reported.

Newsletter revelations of the strange aircraft hovering over the town sparked a call from Jean Morris, of Manor Farm Crescent, Burton Manor.

The 43-year-old said: "I was in the garden where we

were laying a patio when I saw this thing overhead.

"It was really fantastic. I called my husband out and we stared at it for quite a while. It looked like two aircraft together but they were really still and quiet.

"We didn't think anything about it until we read about the sightings in the Newsletter."

Dozens of people have reported seeing the mystery object and Mrs Morris saw the UFO at the same time as the others - 9.50pm on Monday, May 16.

Stafford MP Bill Cash is compiling a list of the sightings to present to Defence Minister Roger Freeman in a bid to start an official investigation.

BRIGTON EVENING  
ARGUS  
SEP 15 1988

# Richard adds to the UFO mystery

IS IT a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's another...UFO.

Richard Mitchell's sighting comes just days after police were flooded with calls about a mystery object over Southwater, near Horsham.

Richard, who lives just a few miles away in Arun Road, Billingshurst, said: "I know it sounds daft but I'm no crank."

Unemployed Richard, 26, was sitting watching television with his wife Elin, 24, when he saw a big cluster of lights passing his window.

He said: "At first I thought it was a plane or a helicopter but it just wasn't the right shape."

"We watched it for about ten minutes and it was certainly something pretty extraordinary."

Police have put the earlier sightings over Southwater down to a firework display.

A Horsham police spokesman said: "This is a new one to us. Perhaps they've suddenly taken a liking to the area."

NOTTINGHAM  
EVENING POST  
SEP 16 1988

# 'Three say 'we saw a UFO'

A BROXTOWE man and two young women in the Vale of Belvoir have reported seeing UFOs this week.

All three claimed to have seen a white light skimming across the night sky and hearing a humming noise, said Mr Dennis Harriman, the director of the National UFO Investigation Society.

He is appealing to anyone who has seen anything they believe may be a UFO to contact him on 03317 4961, which is a local number.

SUN LONDON  
SEP 12 1988

# FAMILIES IN 'UFO' SCARE

SCARED families started a UFO alert when they reported seeing flashing lights and "a strange craft at high altitude."

Dozens of sightings were reported to the police, it was revealed yesterday.

People claimed they spotted a flying saucer travelling slowly towards London.

One family in the village of Partridge Green, Sussex, said they were woken by a loud noise.

Horsham police said: "We take these reports seriously, until they can be ruled out."

USA TODAY  
OCT - 6 1988

## INSIDE TV / BY MATT ROUSH

# Lifting the curtain on UFOs in the U.S.S.R.

Glasnost is truly getting out of this world. Producers of *UFO Cover-up? ... Live* — the first of this season's "live event" syndicated specials, to air next Friday on more than 130 stations — have announced they've booked two Soviet UFO experts to appear via a live satellite feed from Moscow. The guests, a journalist/UFO researcher and a science secretary of the Extraterrestrial Intelligence group in the U.S.S.R. Academy of Science, will discuss UFO happenings in their country. Mike Farrell will be in Washington, D.C., as host of the show, which promises to unearth new dirt — official and otherwise — about UFO sightings in the USA.

YORKSHIRE EVENING PRESS  
YORK SEP 12 1988

## ● UFO sighted

VILLAGERS near Horsham, Surrey, flooded the local police station with calls, claiming that a flying saucer with strange flashes could be seen in the sky. Police have taken the sightings seriously.

# Exhibit brings UFOs to Mansfield area — again

By Stu Ogletree  
News Journal

ONTARIO — The Mansfield area has had its share of reported sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs), highlighted by the internationally publicized sighting in October 1973 of a large craft that nearly collided with an Army Reserve helicopter.

On that clear fall night, Capt. Lawrence J. Coyne and three other men said they were pulled 1,800 feet upward by a craft they described as metallic with a steady red light on its front edge.

The report, one of hundreds in the United States during that fall, is still considered one of the most well-documented and credible UFO sightings on record.

One organization that keeps track of such records is the Center For UFO Studies (CUFOS), sponsoring an exhibit of UFO materials today and Sunday at the Richland Mall in Ontario.

The exhibit, prepared by John P. Timmerman, vice president of public relations for CUFOS, is composed of a series of 10-section, 40-foot panels featuring photographs and information from the files of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Chicago. Also included in the exhibit are two videotape programs showing objects in flight from around the world and presenting comments by leading UFO researchers.

Hynek, professor emeritus at Northwestern University and scientific director and founder of CUFOS, was a scientific consultant for the United

States Air Force from 1948 to 1968 and was a technical adviser on the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," a phrase Hynek coined.

Since his death in 1986, the center has continued to study UFOs, has served as a reporting center for UFO sightings and a source of information on the subject, and has aided in coordinating efforts of independent researchers and research groups.

Timmerman of Lima has been touring since 1980 with the exhibit, which has given many people the opportunity to report their own UFO experiences to a sympathetic ear. Friday was no exception.

"I've taped eight reports so far," said Timmerman on Friday about 3 p.m. "We opened at 10 (a.m.), and by 10:40 (a.m.) I had four of them."

Several, said Timmerman, had never told anyone of their experiences because they thought people would think they were crazy.

"We want people to know there is a place and a reason to report such information," said Timmerman.

CUFOS receives many reports every year, but only 200 to 300 a year are judged worthy of further investigation. Citing statistics from Hynek's studies, Timmerman said 80 percent of UFO sightings are dismissed as identified flying objects while 20 percent cannot be explained within the present scientific framework.



TIMMERMAN

See UFOs — Page 8-A

## UFOs

From Page 1-A

Timmerman concedes that given all the proof available, there will always be those who believe this 20 percent to be explainable. He personally believes that within this 20 percent is something important and worthy of study.

"All I say is that they must be in some ways extra-terrestrial. I can't believe they've been part of an Earth society that has somehow eluded us."

If intelligent life is behind UFO reports, the reason they may not want to come out and introduce themselves might be that they are afraid their appearance might cause culture shock and possibly damage our society, said Timmerman, citing a theory by Hynek.

"That's a possibility. I don't know if it's true," said Timmerman with a smile. "We're all just guessing."

The exhibit at the mall is free and open to the public today from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. For additional information call 529-4003.

To contact the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies, call (312) 271-3611 or write to 2457 W. Peterson Ave., Chicago, Ill., 60659.

# Gov. Reagan's 'Agnostic' View of Flying Saucers

In the summer of 1974, Norman C. Miller, then a reporter for The Wall Street Journal and now national editor of The Los Angeles Times, was told by Gov. Ronald Reagan about his having sighted an unidentified flying object on a flight in his private plane. Reagan had convinced his pilot to follow the object, which was heading toward Bakersfield, Calif. But then, he told Miller, "it went straight up!"

Reagan soon told his wife about what he had seen, and they did some personal research. Reagan related to Miller that they had found references to UFOs in Egyptian hieroglyphics. Reagan was extremely animated as he spoke, and it became clear to Miller that the governor really believed in

flying saucers. But when Miller asked him, "Governor, are you telling me you saw a UFO?" he said that Reagan seemed to remember suddenly that he was talking to a reporter. "This look crossed his face," recalled Miller, who said that Reagan then replied, "Let's just say that I'm agnostic." This was also the answer Reagan gave in 1988 when questions arose on whether he shared his wife's belief in astrology.

There is much evidence that the Reagans consulted astrologers regularly as early as 1952. In his autobiography, Reagan noted that they considered Hollywood stargazer Carroll Righter a good friend and started each morning by looking at their horoscopes. —Mayer and McManus

# Could that eerie Northside sight have been a UFO?



**BOB PHELPS**  
Journal columnist

**I**rene Miller, who lives near North Main Street on West 42nd Street, was sitting in the den in the back of her house talking on the telephone on a recent evening when her attention was caught by a row of dimly lit lights filtering through the branches of her neighbor's tall pecan tree.

The lights appeared to be very slowly approaching her neighborhood. The bar of lights was white with two amber lights between them.

"My God, that airplane is coming in mighty low!" she told her friend. She told her she'd call her back and she ran outside to see the plane pass overhead. But when she got out, there were no lights, no sound, no sign at all of the object she had seen.

"It was coming in very slow, much too slow for any large airplane," she said. "Apparently, it must have taken off straight up, because it certainly didn't come overhead. It couldn't have been a helicopter because they make so much racket and this made no sound at all."

Asked if she notified any authorities, she

The girl is turning out to be the little fun raiser among the Emig triplets, the two sons and daughter of Doug and Joann Emig, Westside residents. They recently threw a triple birthday party for their one-year-olds, Derek, Dana and David.

Mrs. Emig said Dana, the girl, enjoys teasing her brothers. She takes a pacifier to them, hands it to them and then, when they are just about to bite onto the pacifier, she yanks it back and runs away.

said she didn't because of a past experience she recalled. She and a friend watched a set of nine white lights in a V formation fly across the night sky and when she called the Navy to ask about it, they told her they may have been ducks.

"I said, 'Sure, ducks with lightbulbs in their mouths,'" Mrs. Miller said. "And I don't take drugs and I don't smoke and don't drink. I was not hallucinating at all."

She is wondering if anyone else saw the phenomenon (dare we call it a UFO?) around 9 p.m. a week ago Thursday.

David likes to grab things and run, emitting a cute giggle that makes everyone laugh. Derek likes making faces to make other people laugh. All three of them like to sing and dance together.

"There hasn't been a dull minute yet," said Mrs. Emig. She didn't have children before the triplets — induced by fertility drugs — came along. "It's hard sometimes when all three of them are crying at once, but we wouldn't have it any other way," she said.

Twin brothers David and Mike Dunn, 19, sons of Ortega resident Carole Dunn, are identical, born of the same egg, but they have for years harassed each other about seniority rights. Since David was born about five minutes earlier than Mike, he's always had the right to say, "Now, respect your elders. Listen to your older brother."

David is an office assistant now at the Carpet Tree on Blanding Boulevard, but his "younger" brother has joined the Army and is stationed in Korea. Mike is home on leave

and he's been telling his brother he can't wait until their next birthday in February. Since Korea is across the International Date Line, Mike's birthday will arrive 14 hours earlier than David's.

"He keeps joking about how he's going to be my older brother for a change," David said. "It's strange. It will be our first Christmas and first birthday apart. And twins have a stronger bond than any other relationship. It's been hard on me, emotionally."

Northside resident Clyde Jennings, back from a trip to Arizona, said this thought occurred to him as he watched trash flying out of cars ahead of him on the interstates: "Wouldn't it be delightful if some divine power could decree a flat tire for each auto from which debris was tossed! Even the exits would be blocked with irate drivers jacking like mad."

To submit items to this column, write Bob Phelps at Box 1949F, Jacksonville, FL 32231, or call him at 359-4271.

# A wish for a happy landing

The flying saucer is made of two silver pie tins stapled together all around the perimeter.

Little red jewelry beads are pasted around the outer rim to mimic warning lights and a large red plastic lens from a flashlight sits on top.



Jack Knarr

Underneath, to show where the aliens take in their abducted human beings, Benjamin John Stankey Jr. has pasted a large round yellow plastic piece from the flashlight.

Three landing legs made of plastic green teflon tabs and metal knobs stick out the bottom.

Stankey is 43, 5-feet 10-inches tall, over 200 pounds with a sinus problem. He is a part-time tax accountant, sitting here at the kitchen table in his Palmyra house where he and his mother Helen E. Stankey, an amateur astrologer, live.

As he holds the model of the UFO, his elbows lean on articles clipped out of various supermarket tabloids and newspapers.

He is telling about the time he saw the terrible beauty of the alien world.

"When I was a young boy, about 12-, 13-, 14-years-old, I was standing in this driveway,"

said Stankey. Later, he would position his red telescope out there to show exactly where he had been looking.

"My father, Ben Stankey Sr., who is deceased now, had made several homemade telescopes. One was a small refractor. He was in the garage about 9 o'clock at night.

"You know how you see a plane light in the distance coming toward you?" he asked. A light that stays in one place and mysteriously gets bigger as it comes closer.

"And it will eventually diverge and become two lights, one light on each wing," he said.

"About a mile-and-a-half from Palmyra, I see a white light. I'm looking at it, looking at it, watching this white light, and I didn't hear any noise. I'm just waiting for the white light to diverge, right?"

"And it's coming and coming and coming and the white light is getting bigger and bigger and bigger and it came over me," he said. "It looked like, oh, geez — it seemed like at least one-quarter of the size of the moon. A white globe came over this driveway."

Stankey said it wasn't a meteorite; that would have zipped over in two or three seconds.

He ran to get his father.

But the globe was gone.

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 1)

This was the beginning of Stankey's involvement with outer space and the ethereal. He knows how they fly: the front end is positive, the rear negative, and there is a push-pull syndrome along the universe's lines of magnetic force.

Today Stankey heads up NAPP — National Aerial and Psychic Phenomena Association. — and refers to himself as a "Rev./Dr."

And he lectures.

"Included in this talk," he wrote in a press release, "will be a discussion that death is only an illusion, man's seven (7) bodies, the different planes and dimensions in the higher worlds," and so on.

Stankey admits up front that he didn't go to any full-bore, four-year college to get the "A.Msc.D in metaphysical counseling" he brags about in the release.

He was schooled in esoteric philosophy and advanced metaphysics by the University of Metaphysics in Los Angeles — by mail. At a cost of "thousands of dollars."

And he also admits he has not discussed any of this with the local parish priest, "because there are coverups by the government and half-truths and — should we say it? — lies by the Roman Catholic Church and organized religion."

The Pope has trained clergy "to recognize, accept and deal with alien beings who may come to earth as humanoids," he said. He said he'd read an article on that.



Calkins Newspapers photo Benjamin Stankey Jr. holds the UFO model that he built.

## HAPPY LANDING CONT.

Yes, he has countless clippings — and two large bookshelves chock full of books written to titillate those mystified by the unknown.

But I figured we would hear him out a bit. Stankey said the alien beings were visiting on UFOs because our atomic testing was disrupting magnetic force fields in the universe.

But I told him I wanted to hear about death being only an illusion, about "man's seven (7) bodies."

"See, the thing is, as you're interviewing me," he said, "you're not seeing my true self. This is only my physical shell.

"Just like — you take the butterfly." The outer skin of the Monarch caterpillar becomes a chrysalis — a little house from which a butterfly emerges from the cocoon: "Out comes the true self, the butterfly," he said. "See, this is only my physical shell.

"When you die, you shed your physical body. Man is a seven-part being. Seven bodies. This can be verified by channeling, by different gurus, by saints and all who have had out-of-body experiences."

You know, you kind of hope there is more to the experience of existence than this earthly trauma of coincidence and tragedy, mixed with a few parts of joy, as it were.

In esoteric philosophy, he said, "The first body is the physical body/etheric body. See, there's two parts, like male and female.

"The etheric body is like the battery of the physical body. It provides the electrical energy and life force for the physical body.

"Just like the physical body has a nervous system," he said. "The etheric body has its own nervous system, like a spiritual nervous system, called the nadis. On the nadis, along the spines of the etheric body, are the chakras . . . spiritual vortexes of energy."

Stankey went on to tell me all about the astral body and the mental, the causal, the Buddhic, Nirvanic and finally, the "Divine Monad, where the spark of God is in you."

"It is projected down into the Causal plane and the spark of God becomes the soul of man," he said.

He talks about the etheric body hovering over the grave at the end — in fact, there is a note from him attached to my computer, "DEAD FATHER SPEAKS TO HIM TWICE," that I am unable to deal with because deadline has loomed, arrived and headed on toward its own causal plane, leaving me in a dreadful lurch.

No, I told Stankey, these details will have to be dealt with at his lectures.

NAPPA, his group of about 7 to 10 enthusiasts, meets on Oct. 5 and 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cinnaminson Free Library one block off Route 130 on Riverton-Moorestown Road next to the Cinnaminson Municipal Building.

Have a happy landing.

Jack Knarr's human-interest column appears in the Burlington County Times four days a week. //

# UFO calls have the spotters in a flap

ESSEX UFO experts have been inundated with calls after an object was reported over a Laindon shopping centre.

SOUTHEND EVENING ECHO ESSEX  
SEP 23 1988 ENGLAND

Nearly 30 callers phoned the UFO hotline independently claiming sightings in South East Essex after the Echo reported a UFO claim in Essex Close, Laindon, last week.

East Anglian UFO society member Ron West said: "It means we are having a mini flap of UFOs, they are coming into the area around Southend."

Earlier in the summer Yorkshire UFO experts reported a flap — 60 spaceships spotted in one week.

Mr West said most of the Essex sightings had occurred since the beginning of September in the Basildon, Laindon and Wickford areas.

Many people claimed to have seen a large black, sometimes triangular-shaped object, very low in the sky, with coloured lights, usually red, green or yellow and moving silently.

Mr West said: "If people kept their eyes open everybody would see these objects."

The East Anglian society hopes to analyse the sightings and has appealed again for anyone who may have seen a UFO to contact the hotline on 0728 830757.

# MYSTERY OF UFOs OVER THE MOORS

A PENNINE mystery may have been solved — but a wider one remains, more tantalising than ever.

The local mystery dates from the mid-1970s, when there was a wave of UFO sightings centred on the moors between Oldham, Huddersfield and Halifax.

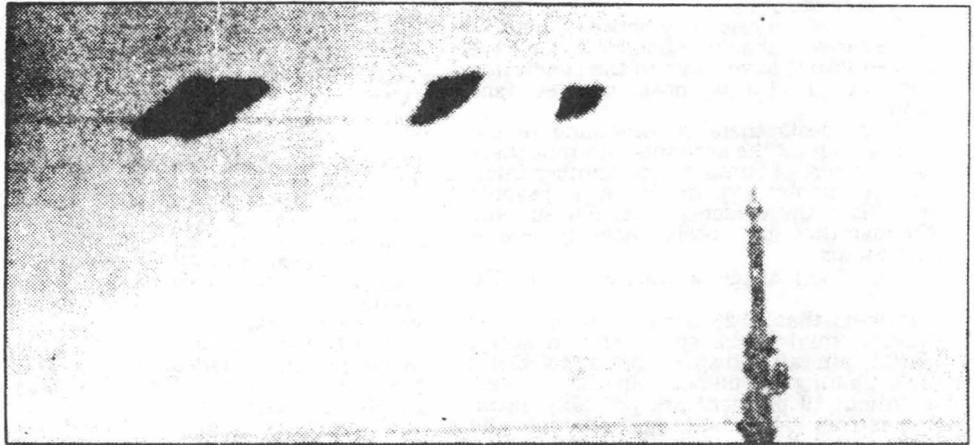
The inevitable wave of interest in the subject equally inevitably prompted a series of jokes about little green men and Martians landing in northern industrial towns.

But scores of ordinary, down-to-earth people independently claimed to have seen unusual flying craft, sometimes during the day but more often at night.

To compound the situation, there were also reports from the moors of mystery helicopters and men in flying suits.

Halifax optician Trevor Whitaker, then Yorkshire branch secretary of the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA), a serious scientifically-inclined organisation, suggested that some sort of experimental craft might be involved.

"A composite description would be of an object which can hover and move backwards and forwards, carrying a white light



ALLEGEDLY a genuine picture of UFOs over Conisbrough, South Yorkshire. It was taken in the evening of March 28, 1966, by Stephen Pratt, then a 14-year-old school-boy, using a Box Brownie-type camera belonging to his younger brother. His mother and father were also witnesses.

by Steve Woolley

on top and a red one below, which may or may not flash on and off," he said.

Military officials and others denied that any sort of experiment was being carried out. But now it seems that Mr. Whitaker may have been close to a sensitive bone.

A reliable source with access to confidential official information has told me off the record that he thinks a test programme was being carried out, and that what was being tested was a variant of the Harrier jump-jet fighter.

There undoubtedly is a lot of RAF activity over the moors, sometimes with USAF involvement, with noise from fighter-bombers having led former Colne Valley MP Richard Wainwright to lodge complaints more than once.

And Harriers, of course, are capable of hovering, moving backwards and forwards and up and down. Which fits many of the local reports, and explains why helicopters might make appropriate chase planes.

## SURVEILLANCE

There have also been sporadic reports, much more recently than the mid-1970s, of a silver cigar-shaped object being seen in the night skies over the south Pennines.

Wondering if there was a link between this and speculation in the press about a military airship research project, I rang the Ministry of Defence a year or two ago — to be given the official answer that no lighter-than-air craft was under test.

But now it has emerged that a British military airship has been bought by South Korea for surveillance and airborne early warning work while the Seoul Olympics are on.

Manufactured by Skyship Industries, it is clearly an operational system — which means it must have been tested at some time, somewhere.

So far, so good. Secret military craft, especially if unfamiliar in appearance or flying characteristics, must be prime targets for identification as UFOs.

Strictly speaking, they are UFOs because they are flying objects and unidentified . . . at least, to those not in the know about them. But what of UFOs which don't fall into this category?

Two of Britain's leading UFO researchers are Jenny Randles, of Stockport, director of investigations for BUFORA and a magazine editor for the Northern UFO Network, and independent analyst Tim Good, of Beckenham. I interviewed both recently.

Like all serious investigators, they point out that a lot of flying saucers turn out to be aircraft seen from unfamiliar angles, weather balloons, rockets, flares, artificial satellites, meteors, floaters on the eyeball, reflections of things like car headlamps and even planets and birds.

## PHENOMENA

But both think there is more than this to the UFO phenomenon. Jenny considers that perhaps 10 per cent of sightings overall have a deeper basis.

About half of these, she reckons, can be classified as unidentified atmospheric phenomena — things like will o' the wisps or Pennine earthlights.

"They seem to be some sort of electromagnetic phenomena, perhaps like ball lightning, and are on the border line of scientific understanding," she says.

The other half of the 10 per cent include sightings attributable to military activity, she thinks, but also include genuine and puzzling accounts not so easily explained.

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TOP SECRET / MAJIC EYES ONLY

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001

The top-secret document prepared for President-elect Dwight Eisenhower in 1952.

These — often involving allegations about abductions, medical tests by non-human beings and puzzling lapses of time and/or memory — seem bizarre, but frequently come from witnesses who seem rational enough and have nothing to gain from their stories.

"There is a consistency between many of these cases, and all psychologists who have looked into it have come to the conclusion that there isn't a psychosis involved," she says.

"It suggests there is something fundamental behind the accounts and that there is some sort of contact with another intelligence involved, perhaps on a psychic level. But the evidence does not support the idea that such intelligences fly here in spaceships."

Tim Good takes a different line. He considers that 20-25 per cent of sightings have a solid basis, split between secret earthly aircraft and spacecraft and vehicles investigating this planet from outer space.

"About 10 per cent are probably extra-terrestrial," he contends. "People do experience dislocations or disorientations of ordinary time and space, but this doesn't rule out extra-terrestrial visitors.

"On the contrary, it is quite clear that we are dealing with a highly advanced technology and highly developed mental abilities.

He develops his thesis in "Above Top Secret", a book which has attracted national attention since it came out in Britain last year and has just been published in the USA and Canada.

Sub-titled "The Worldwide UFO Cover-Up" and with a supportive foreword from Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, a former Chief of Defence Staff, it is a massive, closely-documented study.

Certainly well worth reading, it has provoked mixed reactions from reviewers. People will have to make up their own minds about the incidents it cites and the conclusions it draws.

But its appendix contains something which adds a lot of weight to its arguments — a document which appears to be a briefing prepared by CIA director Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter for American President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower on November 18, 1952.

Most British editions of the book printed so far contain a partial copy of this. But Tim has now obtained a full version and supplied me with a copy.

'EXPLODED'

Marked "Top Secret — Eyes Only", it describes how President Harry Truman set up a secret committee called Majestic-12 to investigate flying saucers following the crash of a UFO in a remote area of New Mexico in 1947.

"During the course of this operation, aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded," the document says.

"A special scientific team took charge of removing these bodies for study... and news reporters were given the effective cover story that the object had been a misguided weather research balloon."

An analysis of the beings, it says, suggested that "... although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolutionary processes responsible for their development has apparently been quite different from those observed or postulated in homo sapiens."

Tim says the document has been leaked to him from a source he cannot reveal, and he has seen and heard nothing to convince him it is anything other than genuine.

But is it authentic or a fake? Dr. Roger Wescott, professor of anthropology and linguistics at Drew University, New Jersey, has compared its style with 27 other authentic examples of Hillenkoetter's writing, spread over about 1,200 pages.

"... There is no compelling reason to regard any of these communications as fraudulent or to believe that any of them were written by anyone other than Hillenkoetter himself," he says.

Lord Hill-Norton also thinks it genuine: "It seems entirely probable to me that the document is authentic..."

If it is a fake, it is a good one by someone who has done a lot of research. If it is genuine, it is not just dynamite — it is the H-bomb.

"Above Top Secret", by Timothy Good, is published by Sidgwick and Jackson at £14.95.

OKEHAMPTON TIMES SEP 22 1988

SOUTH LAND STANDARD ESSEX

SEP 20 1988

Claims he saw UFO

A DEVON coach firm operator is convinced that the 'bright yellow light' which he saw in the sky was an unidentified flying object.

Charlie Hookway, of Hookways Pleasureways, at Meeth, saw the strange 'object' at least three miles away, in the same area where two policemen in a patrol car 'chased' a UFO across countryside several years ago.

Mr Hookway was driving his coach back to Meeth after dropping passengers at about 3.45 am, and had reached Blue Cleave Corner.

'All of a sudden, I saw a bright yellow light in the sky. It was lit with sort of rays

from the top side of it. All the ground was lit.

He stopped, switched off the engine of the coach, and stuck his head out of the window. He watched the mysterious effect for about 15 seconds.

'Suddenly, it went out. It just disappeared, it did not move away. I could feel something come over, from east to west, but could see nothing.

He waited there for about ten minutes, during which time there were a couple of flashes, then the object returned suddenly.

It lasted for about ten seconds and looked to be at least three miles away over the village of Iddesleigh, the same place as the first sighting.

Were lights in sky a UFO?

DID you see red lights zigzag across the night sky on Friday? Did you see a bright white triangular light, or a square formation of lights over the sea at Southend? If you did the UFO spotters want to hear from you.

More than 10 people from Southend, Leigh and Billericay phoned the Brit-

ish Unidentified Flying Objects Research Association at the weekend to report strange goings-on over the Thames Estuary between 8.30 and 9.30 on Friday night.

Now Mr Ron West, of the UFORA wants to hear from anyone else who saw them so he can catalogue what happened. Phone him on 0728 830757.

Mr West said: "We have had reports of white, red, green and yellow lights. One said there was a triangular shape, another three in formation and another a square. I live in Clacton and when one person from Leigh rang on the phone I was stood watching the same thing as him in the sky. From here it looked like a small pea, so from Leigh it must have been massive.

"I checked with Southend airport which gave the story out that Heathrow was overcrowded with aircraft and had to stack planes before they came in. But I do not believe that. If the lights had been in straight lines, yes. But they were doing all sorts of antics. There must be another explanation."

# 'I watched a UFO' says a local man

STUNNED Thomas Thompson watched in disbelief as aliens performed bizarre aerial stunts in a UFO just yards above him.

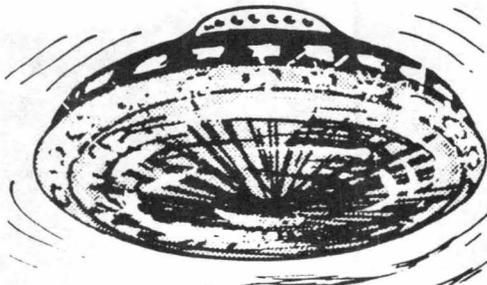
An eerie orange glow pulsated in the middle of the pyramid-shaped cosmic craft during the 10 minute display.

And today Mr Thompson, a Peterborough postman, alleged a Government cover-up over the number of visits by extra-terrestrials.

Mr Thompson (34) of Lincoln Road, said: "I was with a friend and we both definitely saw a UFO.

"It was a clear day. There can be no other explanation.

"It was four feet high surrounded by blue flash-



ing lights. In the centre was an orange pulsating light.

"The UFO hovered above me for about five minutes before doing some sort of aerobatic display."

Mr Thompson was speaking publicly for the first time about his amazing sighting which happened seven years ago at Little Paxton, near, St Neots, Cambridgeshire.

Mr Thompson contact-

ed the Telegraph after reading claims by UFO investigator Andrew Cochrane that there has been no proof space ships exist.

Mr Thompson said: "My experience is conclusive proof that Mr Cochrane has got it wrong.

"There is a Government cover-up. They are clearly very frightened of these visitors."

EASTBOURNE GAZETTE  
AUG-10 1988

# 600 UFO kidnap victims in jungle

HUNDREDS of victims kidnapped by UFOs have been found in the Amazon jungle, claims a Brazilian scientist.

Dr Carlos de Melo says the 600 unfortunates come from almost every country in the world.

Bearing the scars of experiments carried out on their brains, the victims appear to be in good health.

"They were abducted by extraterrestrials. One has been missing since 1926, and he has

not seen his wife and children in 62 years.'

Brazilian military officials refused to

## BRAZIL

comment on the claims, though press reports indicate the victims are being debriefed at a military installation in Belo Horizon.

Dr de Melo says he found the kidnap victims massed in a

jungle clearing near the Brazil-Bolivia border.

According to the doctor, the victims were taken to a distant planet where they were used in medical experiments, as slave labour, and displays in zoos.

Now the doctor hopes to find out more about the abduction of thousands of earthlings by analysing the victims' memories.

"These 600 are a drop in the bucket. Many, many more are missing still," says Dr de Melo.

# Mystery UFO snapped

This Unidentified Flying Object was photographed over Kidderminster last weekend by local man Roland Bowen.

The sixty-seven-year-old retired carpet worker was relaxing in his Windermere House flat in Hurcott Road at 6 pm on Sunday, September 18 when he saw a glittering, golden, rotating, egg-shaped object cruising gracefully across the clear blue sky.

A keen amateur photographer, Roland grabbed his camera and took some rapid photographs of the object which he estimated to be around a quarter of a mile to the north, travelling west to east, around 300 feet off the ground and about the size of a house.

He took the undeveloped film straight from his camera and handed it over to a Kidderminster Shuttle Times and News reporter.

SOUTHEND STANDARD ESSEX  
OCT 21 1988

# Little green men visiting

UFOs are sweeping across the Southend and Basildon area on a regular basis, claims a star gazing expert.

Mr Ron West, a member of East Anglia's UFO Society, said the group's hotline had again been jammed with callers claiming to have seen mystery objects in the South East Essex sky.

In the last two weeks of September more than 200 calls from the area were registered by the society and October started in similar fashion with another 70 calls registered.

Mr West, from Clacton, said: "We have heard about three different objects seen in your area in the last few days.

"One is a triangular shaped object with white and red lights. It seems to travel very fast, stop and hover for a moment, and then speed away again.

"The second was a round circle of lights and the third was described

as cigar shaped. We believe this one could be a mother ship."

Mr West and his team believe the sudden surge in sightings has been caused by what is known as a window in the sky, where space-ships travel from one atmosphere into another.

The UFO team thinks there is currently a gateway to the galaxy to be seen in the Southend and Basildon area.

Anyone who believes they have seen a UFO should phone the UFO hot-line on 0728 830757 and ask for Brenda Butler.

# Secret Encounter Revealed 1381 Reagan Saw UFO While Flying — And Ordered His Pilot to Follow It

Ronald Reagan saw a UFO during an airplane flight while he was governor of California — and ordered his pilot to follow the mysterious object as it streaked and zigzagged across the night sky.

The phenomenal close encounter happened in 1974, and left Reagan so interested in UFOs that he researched the history of UFO sightings going back centuries!

There's a brief mention of Reagan's sighting in the new book "Landslide: The Unmaking of the President" — and now The ENQUIRER has uncovered the full, fascinating story in interviews with his former personal pilot and others in the know.

Veteran pilot Bill Paynter, who's still flying at 72, revealed:

"I was the pilot of the plane when we saw the UFO. Also on board were Gov. Reagan and a couple of his security people. We were flying in a Cessna Citation. It was maybe 9 or 10 o'clock at night.

"We were near Bakersfield when Gov. Reagan and the others called my attention to a big light flying a bit behind my plane.

"It appeared to be several hundred yards away. It was a fairly steady light until it began to accelerate, then it appeared to elongate.

"Then the light took off. It went up at a 45-degree angle — at a high rate of speed. Everyone on the plane was surprised.

"Gov. Reagan expressed amazement. I told the others I didn't know what it was."

The mysterious object definitely wasn't just another airplane, Paynter told The ENQUIRER.

"The UFO went from a normal cruise speed to a fantastic speed instantly. If you give an airplane power it will accelerate — but not like a hot rod, and that's what this was like."



**PILOT** Bill Paynter says Reagan was amazed by the UFO sighting.



**NEWSMAN** Norman C. Miller says Reagan told him about the sighting.



**CLOSE ENCOUNTER:** Ronald Reagan while flying at night in 1974. After the sighting, he and Nancy researched UFOs.

Reagan himself described the sighting one week later to Norman C. Miller, then Washington Bureau chief for the Wall Street Journal, according to Doyle McManus, coauthor of "Landslide."

McManus says Miller told him that during a flight with Reagan from Los Angeles to Sacramento, Reagan gazed

**'We followed it several minutes. It was a bright white light . . . and all of a sudden to our utter amazement it went straight up into the heavens.'**

**— Ronald Reagan**

out the window and suddenly said to Miller:

"I was in a plane last week when I looked out the window and saw this white light. It was zigzagging around.

"I went up to the pilot and said, 'Have you ever seen

CONT NEXT PAGE

anything like that?' He was shocked and he said, 'Nope.'

"And I said to him: 'Let's follow it!'"

"We followed it several minutes. It was a bright white light. We followed it to Bakersfield, and all of a sudden to our utter amazement it went straight up into the heavens. When I got off the plane, I told Nancy all about it. And we read up on the long history of UFOs. You know, even the Egyptians referred to UFOs in their hieroglyphics!"

As Reagan was telling Miller about his sighting, "he was constantly pointing out the window and gesticulating about how the object went straight up in the air," author McManus disclosed.

McManus said Miller told him: "I sat there with my mouth wide open at what I was hearing. Then I said to Reagan: 'Are you telling me, Governor, that you believe in UFOs?'"

"When I asked him that question, a look of horror came over him. It suddenly dawned on him what he was saying, the implications, and that he was talking to a reporter. He snapped back to reality and said, 'Let's just say that on the subject of UFOs I'm an agnostic (neither a believer nor a nonbeliever).'"

Miller, now national editor

of the Los Angeles Times, confirmed Reagan had told him about seeing a UFO.

"I didn't report the conversation at the time," he said. "I was writing a column at the Wall Street Journal then, and I could never figure out how to get a whole column out of it."

"Reagan didn't go into detail about the research he and his wife had done, because it was at that point that I asked him if he believed in UFOs and he clammed up."

In fact, Reagan had been a believer in UFOs for years before he actually saw one, according to Los Angeles Times reporter Bill Boyarsky.

The newsman said that in 1965, while he was covering

Reagan's campaign for governor, they were riding through a California valley one night when the subject of flying saucers came up.

"It was a beautiful night," Boyarsky remembered. "We were looking up at the stars in the sky, and Reagan told me he believed in flying saucers. He said he had a friend who'd actually seen one."

Pilot Paynter, who now owns a freight airline in Sacramento, said he and Reagan talked about their 1974 sighting "from time to time" after the night it happened.

"But we didn't file a report on the object because for a long time they considered you a nut if you saw a UFO."

— ALAN BRAHAM SMITH  
and KEN POTTER



3128 MYSTERY: Peter Topham points to the strange spot where he says the UFO landed.

BURY  
FREE  
PRES!  
SEP 30 '88

# Boy tells of UFO close encounter

A BOY is claiming he saw an Unidentified Flying Object land in a field behind his home.

Eleven-year-old Peter Topham says he saw the mystery object with purple, green and red flashing lights as he watched from his bedroom in Fornham All Saints.

The following day, when he went to investigate in the field, Peter found the spooky sight of an 80-metre wide ring of sugar beet which had been scorched.

"I'm sure it was a flying saucer — especially after going out to the field and seeing the marks on the sugar beet," said Peter, who lives at C'est Ca, Tut Hill.

"I was just looking out of my bedroom window when I saw this object at the end of the field and it had purple flashing lights criss-crossing and there were red and

green ones flashing on and off.

"I kept watching it for a while and then I fell asleep so I didn't see it go off. While I was watching it flashed a huge white light like a massive camera which was about the size of a field," he added.

Peter told his three sisters Alison, Rebecca and Josephine about the flying saucer but only Rebecca believed him. His father David didn't accept the story was true until he saw the scorch mark on the field.

Now Peter is busy trying to convince classmates in the third year at Westley Middle School that what he saw that night was a flying saucer.

He said: "They don't believe me but I know what I saw. It was definitely a flying saucer. I shall never forget it."

OCT 11 1988

# Now lights are seen by Margaret, too

**FOLLOWING** our report in Tuesday's Express of mysterious bright lights seen in the night sky, a Burnley woman now reports seeing exactly the same thing, at the same time on three occasions.

Margaret Hall hadn't read our first report when she told her friends of her experiences last Friday, Saturday and Monday evenings.

And Margaret freely admits that until last weekend she did not even believe in UFOs, although now she is not so sure.

Our first story told of very bright lights hovering in the sky and spotted by Bill Goulding and his wife, Mabel, as they drove along Bacup Road at around 7-15 p.m. last Friday evening.

Margaret spotted something very similar on the same evening as she walked her dog on Burnley Golf Course at around 7-30 p.m. She reports two incredibly bright lights moving very slowly from the direction of Loveclough towards Bacup.

"There was no noise at all and the lights stopped and stayed hanging in the sky for at least three quarters of an hour before moving off and slowly disappearing," she said.

She and her two young daughters watched them for as long as they could and were amazed to see something on Saturday evening as well.

This time there was only one light, again coming over from the Loveclough direction, and this time it stayed in the sky for more than an hour, says Margaret.

By Monday evening, she

was becoming used to sky watching, and two lights appeared again. Margaret now plans to try taking photographs if she spots the lights again.

"I tried to define a shape by watching them through binoculars, but it was difficult because they were too bright. They seemed to be circular," she said.

READING CHRONICLE BERKSHIRE  
SEP - 16 - 1988

## Mystery — or not?

OVER the past couple of weeks there has been a spate of reported sightings of unidentified flying objects over Tilehurst.

It is all too easy to simply dismiss them as a bit of amusing gossip and yet the people reporting these incidents are all perfectly reliable witnesses.

Most of us have a fascination about UFO's — are they genuine or not? Is there life on other planets and are aliens trying to make contact with us?

I say most of us because one sector of society appears keen to take no interest whatsoever in the affair. The authorities always seem anxious to play down these reports and yet never come up with an explanation which gives the complete answer.

Surely it must be time for a proper official investigation which will reveal all its findings to the general public.

Until then the people of Tilehurst will never know if they are seeing stars or something really interesting.

OCT 14 1988

## A balloon!

FURTHER to your article 'UFO: DOGS HOWL' may I please add the final part to the story.

The UFO incident was reported to me at 9.58 pm on Sunday, September 18, 1988. It referred to an unidentified flying object which was seen over Pinchbeck village at a high altitude. Red, white, and green lights were seen to come from the object, and although there was no obvious means of propulsion, the object was seen to move slowly towards the north-west.

The night was clear, the stars were clearly visible and there was a bright, three-quarter moon.

Unfortunately, this incident clearly illustrates the problems which face witnesses — and investigators, when estimating height, distance and object size, during the hours of darkness.

The strange appearance, and behaviour pattern of this object created an illusion which confused the witnesses, who were then unable to differentiate between a phenomena, and simple logic.

The witnesses had no clearly defined points of visible reference, ie, aircraft identification lights allied to rapid movement; the sound of aircraft engines; recognisable

shapes, etc. It was therefore natural that they would be puzzled by what they saw.

The answer to the enquiry came on Friday, September 23, 1988, at 10 pm. An object was seen over Pinchbeck, to the west of the village, and at first glance, appeared to be high in the sky. Red, white and green lights came from the object, and although there was no engine noise, it was seen to move at a slow speed (almost imperceptible movement) towards the west by north-west.

There was a bright three-quarter moon; the stars were clearly visible, but on this night there was a point of reference — cloud!

At 10.15 pm, the object was clearly seen beneath the cloud base (approx 2000 feet) but when observed closely, was seen to be unstable with erratic movements. The object appeared to be revolving around its own axis, and when it did so, there was a projection of different colours.

At 10.30 pm, it became obvious that the object was climbing slowly, and at 10.45 pm, had entered the cloud base. Although visible for a further 15 minutes, the object disappeared from view, and was obscured by cloud.

Unfortunately, there is no dramatic conclusion to this enquiry. The object was quite simply — a balloon!

Probably six feet plus in diameter, and possibly a meteorological balloon from one of the many RAF/USAF bases in the area.

The coloured lights, which were seen by all witnesses, obviously came from the balloon envelope, but the light was clearly reflected from the moon. The envelope may have contained coloured panels, but it is more than likely, that the corruption, or bending of light beams gave the illusion of colour.

Finally we come to the heading of your article 'UFO: DOGS HOWL'. That I am sorry to say was a red herring! Dogs obviously whine and howl for reasons other than the presence of UFOs — or do they?

My thanks to the many witnesses who telephoned me with information.

ANDREW COCHRANE

13 Viceroy Drive,  
Pinchbeck

CHARD & ILMINSTER NEWS SOMERSET SEP-21 1988

# Was mystery object a UFO?

AN unusual object was sighted on Sunday night in the sky above in Tytherleigh.

Mrs Marion Sampson, of Culverfield, Tytherleigh, near Chard, was looking out of her bedroom window at about

10.30pm and saw a large circle of white lights.

"It came over from the Axminster area, passing over our house, and going towards Chard. There were about ten to a dozen white lights each as big as grapefruits forming a large

circle. It was very low and no noise came from the object. I called my husband Stanley to come and look and we watched it for about five minutes. I got him out of bed because I knew he wouldn't have believed me in the morning."

A spokesman from Yeovilton could give no answer for this mysterious object.

The last time The News was notified of an unidentified flying object was in 1979 when two young schoolboys reported a sighting at Halcombe, Chard.

# OUR SECRET ARMY AGAINST THE ALIENS

**D**EEP down the dark corridors of Whitehall lies an office which officially does not exist. Behind its closed doors, faceless men and women gather intelligence on a subject which also officially does not exist.

The department is known as Defence Intelligence 55 and its task is to investigate the possible threat to Britain from alien forces who regularly cross our skies in UFOs.

At DI55, nationwide reports from the armed services, police and the public are meticulously logged and carefully studied in preparation for the day when a UFO lands on Earth.

For the Ministry of Defence, in line with over half Britain's population, secretly accepts that there are probably other more advanced life forms in the universe which sooner or later will make contact.

*The MOD will neither confirm, nor deny, the existence of the secret department. A spokesman said: "We do not discuss the work of intelligence departments at all."*

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## Whitehall denies that DI55 exists to watch UFOs

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But engineer Michael Hanson has no such reservations. As southern co-ordinator of the Yorkshire UFO Society he recalls how he telephoned the MOD with a routine sighting inquiry.

As usual he was put through to the RAF's Air Staff Two department which checks out sightings against aircraft operating in the area. But apparently by accident Michael was then passed on to another department — DI55.

Said Michael: "Air Staff Two said they had no information on the UFO. I think they thought I was something to do with the Ministry because they said they would transfer me to DI55.

"Someone answered the phone but as I explained who I was I was returned to the switchboard and after a long wait was told no one was available.

"The strange thing is when I rang back later and asked for DI55 I was told it did not exist. When I said I had already talked to them the operator said I shouldn't have been put through."

A colleague of Michael's, Mark Birdsall, who is the Yorkshire UFO Society's chief investigator, then tried the same telephone procedure but was met with a brick wall.

Mark said: "I have had my suspicions for a number of years that such a department exists. The British public deserves to know that there is a covert intelligence department which deals with UFO reports for what can only be one reason — in case of visitors from other planets."

Mark says 1988 is becoming the Year of the UFO with increased numbers of sightings throughout Britain.

CONT NEXT  
PAGE

**H**e believes the MOD has recorded the sudden increase but adds: "We used to get a great deal of co-operation but now they have clamped down completely.

"I have watched military aircraft turn and follow UFOs but when I've asked the Ministry about such an incident it usually denies that there were even any aircraft in the area at the time.

"We are currently in the biggest wave of UFO sightings in the last six years and we feel something is going to happen soon because everyone is becoming very uneasy about it all.

"We have noticed the pattern of flights has changed with the craft hugging the terrain possibly to avoid detection. But we have no idea what they represent or what their purpose is here on Earth.

"The craft have remarkable agility. Some appear to be almost remotely controlled while others seem to be piloted."

Serious UFO followers like Mark admit that at least 90 per cent of so-called UFO sightings have perfectly normal explanations. And they have no time for people who claim to have been beamed up into alien spaceships.

Such abduction stories began in 1957 when a Brazilian farmworker claimed four men seized him and took him on to their craft where he was forced to make love to a white woman with oriental eyes and red hair. Since then many people claim to have been space-napped with their minds and bodies probed by aliens.

*But Mark and his colleagues say such ludicrous stories simply give the whole subject of UFOs a bad name when there is a small, but significant, proportion of sightings which even officialdom admits cannot be explained.*

An RAF spokesman said: "We have one secretary who as part of her normal duties deals with UFOs. She passes on reports to Air Staff Two. Checks are made to see if we have any aircraft in the area at the time.

"We do not inform people of our findings because of a lack of facilities and personnel. But we do not deny there are peculiar things in the sky which we cannot explain. My personal view is that we would be very silly not to concede that there could be life elsewhere where technology could be light years ahead of us.

"Years ago as an RAF navigator 24 of us in 12 jets in formation over Cyprus saw a silver ball which we could not explain. It held station alongside us at about 400mph and then shot away at about 1500mph. We all put in UFO reports to our base.

"Today if a spaceship lands on Earth I can assure you we will be very interested but I can also assure you there is no cover-up."

But Dr Richard Lawrence, director of the largest international UFO society with branches in every continent, is adamant: "There is a cover-up." As European Secretary of the Aetherius Society Dr Lawrence lectures throughout the world on unexplained phenomena. And he has a deep suspicion of the British Ministry of Defence.

He says: "The Ministry says it does not release details because of a lack of finance and personnel, and they tell us thousands of files were destroyed because of a shortage of space. They

were files which would now be available under the Public Records Act. Now we are waiting for 1992 when more files become available unless of course the MOD comes up with another excuse for destroying them.

"I know the Ministry is deliberately hiding things. People, particularly journalists, are amazed by the brick wall they are met with.

"But the public today are not so easily satisfied or fooled. After all far more people have seen flying saucers than have seen an African tribesman and they know the tribesmen exist, so why not UFOs?"

**O**ne of Britain's leading authors on UFOs, Timothy Good, says he has proof of the existence of department DI55 through a copy of an MOD document distribution list which has come into his hands.

He says: "It is nonsense to say UFO reports are just handled by a secretary. I know they are dealt with by Defence Intelligence, or to be more precise, by the RAF Provost and Counter Intelligence Branch.

"Top secret investigations into a possible UFO threat to Britain have been carried out since the late

1950s. It is the most sensitive intelligence matter of all time.

"There are many at the Ministry who can honestly say they know of no such investigations. But the details are only given to a few on a need-to-know basis with an appropriate security clearance level."

And Arnold West, chairman of the British UFO Research Association, says: "The Government knows of many more cases than we do. We receive a polite but guarded response to our inquiries, usually from a junior information officer. But certainly Whitehall has far more information than ever sees the light of day."

*Throughout the world UFOs have now been sighted by millions of people and yet scientific research into the subject is almost nil.*

A recent American Gallup poll found that one in 11 adults had seen a UFO and half the people polled believed in them.

Britain is an even stronger nation of UFO believers. A poll of 2,000 people in 11 cities revealed one in six had seen a UFO and 60 per cent believed in them.

**LAURIE  
MANSBRIDGE**

# Sensational mixes with the scientific at UFO seminar

By MICHAEL RAPOPORT  
Staff Writer

NORTH HAVEN — The tale Debra Tomey of Indiana tells is a lurid and sensational one — a tale of being abducted by aliens in a UFO, not once but many times, to be used in an interspecies breeding experiment. But she insists it happened. To her.

Tomey claims the child which resulted from the experiments — her child — was taken and is being raised by the aliens. She didn't remember it at the time, she says, but it came back to her as the result of nightmares and other bizarre happenings that she claims left her physically ill and emotionally scarred.

"You never know when it's going to happen again," she said Saturday at a UFO conference in North Haven. "I don't like these feelings of being helpless, being out of control."

But speakers at the conference said stories such as Tomey's are only one part of the investigation of UFOs. There is also serious scientific research on where UFOs really come from, they claim. And the scientific side and the supermarket-tabloid side don't always mesh perfectly.

"We're trying to understand a very strange phenomenon," said John White of Cheshire, the organizer of the conference. And, he said, the phenomenon has to be investigated carefully, by subjecting the available information on UFOs to rigorous analysis.

Most of the 150 to 200 people attending the conference, entitled "The UFO Experience," at the North Haven Ramada Inn believe in the existence of UFOs, White said, but that's not the same thing as believing that aliens have visited Earth. "What (the UFOs) are, we can't say for sure," he said.

Saturday's presentations encompassed both camps. On one side were presentations on analyzing UFO photos to distinguish hoaxes and natural phenomena from the real thing, and on how a UFO investigator works. On the other were Tomey's story and a presentation on "spiritual contact" between humans and aliens.

The conference continues in a similar vein today, with presentations on UFOs and religion, psychological findings about UFO "abductees," and "The Anatomy of an Alien."

In a room adjacent to the presentations Saturday, books, tapes and magazines on UFOs were for sale, and there was a table of literature on UFOs and such topics as mysticism and metaphysics. Next to the table were displays of newspaper articles about UFOs, many of which came from the Weekly World News and other supermarket tabloids.

(From Page One)

Even the message board had a UFO slant. Under the "Rides Wanted" section was this message: "Interested in other places not necessarily confined to this planet. I'd like to go for a ride."

White organized the conference, which was first held last year, because he "felt there was a need for public education. I felt the best way to present good solid research findings was to present investigators and contactees and get their first-hand experiences."

One recent UFO sighting in the Waterbury area occurred in May, when police in western Connecticut were swamped with calls concerning objects with flashing lights in the sky. The police explained the objects as ultralight planes flying in formation, but speaker Philip Imbrogno of Bethel, a field investigator for the Center for UFO Studies and co-author of "Night Siege: The Hudson Valley UFO Mystery," thinks it's not

that simple.

"Can anyone prove that was the explanation for it?" he said. "I think we still have a mystery here that doesn't have an easy explanation." In western Connecticut and the adjacent part of New York, he said, there have been more than 4,000 people reporting UFO sightings in the past six years.

Still, he and other speakers draw a distinction between what White called "true believers" — those who believe alien beings are responsible for UFOs and that the aliens are contacting and abducting humans — and the researchers who say they approach UFO reports scientifically.

White insists that a seasoned UFO investigator always seeks first to determine whether there is a logical explanation for a sighting, such as a plane or a bright celestial body. "The ones the UFO investigator pays attention to are the ones that have survived such rigorous examination," he said.

"The scientific UFO-ologist is skeptical about any case in the beginning," added Bruce Maccabee, a physicist for the U.S. Navy who analyzes photos of UFOs.

Nor, say the scientific investigators, do they automatically assume that an unexplained UFO sighting is caused by beings from outer space. "I'm not ready to say that they're alien visitors," Imbrogno said.

Imbrogno compared the divergence between serious investigators and "true believers" to the separation of astronomy and astrology — one a scientific discipline, the other not — centuries ago. Unfortunately, he said, the serious research is overlooked because of media fascination with the more lurid aspects of the subject.

As a result, he said, there is an unfair stigma attached to all UFO research because of a public perception that any UFO researchers must be kooks. "It's all being lumped together," he said. "The word 'UFO' now is loaded."

Imbrogno admitted he was a bit uncomfortable at speaking at the same conference with the so-called "true believers." Similarly, White believes the "true believers" have made serious research into the sub-

ject more difficult.

And Maccabee said that the stories of so-called "contactees" in the 1950s and 1960s, which often fell apart quickly, also impeded scientific examination of UFOs. "The contactee phenomenon didn't help the credibility of the whole UFO phenomenon," he said.

By the same token, however, some think the skeptics who don't believe in UFOs at all aren't skeptical enough about their own preconceptions. Maccabee said too many skeptics simply accept the first reasonable explanation they find instead of probing further.

"You have to be able to accept an explanation when it's good and you have to be able to reject an explanation when it's bad," he said.

"Skepticism is healthy," added White. "Cynicism or close-minded rejection is unhealthy."

One skeptic is Philip J. Klass, an editor for Aviation Week and Space Technology who has investigated UFO cases for 22 years. "I have never heard of a UFO case that could not be explained in prosaic terms," he said in a separate telephone interview from Washington, D.C.

Klass is especially concerned about what he calls "the abduction cult." Many of those who counsel the

"abductees," he said, are not qualified to do such counseling, and could unwittingly do damage to people who may need professional help. "I would sooner go to my garage mechanic and (have him) perform brain surgery," he said.

He charges that UFO advocates have refused to take their evidence before scientific bodies such as the National Academy of Sciences. "Deep down, they're afraid," he said. "They're afraid to put their money where their mouth is."

Klass added that "99.9 percent of the people active in the UFO movement are essentially little nobodies" who would never get any attention or publicity except for their claims in favor of UFOs.

DON'T NEXT PAGE

Imbrogno insists that UFO advocates have tried to go before scientific organizations. And, he retorted, the claim that no one would otherwise pay attention to people involved in UFO investigations applies to Klass as well.

Meanwhile, Tomey, whose story was told in the book "Intruders" under the name "Kathie Davis," said she was revealing her story for the first time in public under her real name. She claimed she started to remember what was happening to her in 1983, when she investigated a

mysterious light in her backyard. She blacked out and when she came to, she claimed, more than an hour was unaccounted for and there was a scorched patch of ground in her backyard.

In the years that followed, she said, she suffered through nightmares and mysterious illnesses, and she started to remember things that she hadn't thought of in years including, she claimed, the aliens who abducted her.

Budd Hopkins, the author of "Intruders," claimed Tomey had apparently been artificially inseminated by aliens, then later reabducted to have the embryo removed, and finally abducted again and shown the child.

At the end of Tomey's talk, she was peppered with questions from the sympathetic audience. "Have you ever had any out-of-body experiences?" asked one. "Are they the same beings each time?" asked another.

For their part, the speakers said that public belief in the existence of UFOs is growing, and Imbrogno claimed that the acceptance of them in the scientific community also is growing. "There are a lot of people in the scientific field who 10 years ago would have said 'nonsense' who are saying 'maybe' now," he said.

WESTERN INDEPENDENT

PLYMOUTH

SEP 18 1988

# Alien visitors

I WAS interested in the comments by Richard Boyett of Bristol (August 21).

As regards his sweeping statement about flying saucers perhaps the following will be of some interest.

I have collected data on UFOs for some fifty years and the most interesting example of their existence relates to a visit that took place in 1946

On a small isolated farm in America a farmer's 12-year-old son went to fetch water from the well. Some 20 seconds later the farmer and his wife heard him screaming and rushed outside just in time to see a flying saucer taking off.

The circle burned through two feet of snow to the ground, was thirty feet in diameter and was so concentrically perfect it could not possibly have been man made.

Similarly four smaller holes made by supporting telescopic arms and equidistant were also concentrically perfect. The boy was never seen again.

Experts in this country have been puzzled by numerous circles some thirty feet in diameter that have appeared all over England, Scotland and Wales.

Experts on UFOs have explained that these circles were made by flying saucers.

A. W. SMITH, Paignton, Devon.

WITH THE PEOPLE

OCT 23 1988

# SPACESHIP TAILS CAB

THESE are just a few of the UFO sightings reported from various parts of Britain since the start of the year:

● A taxi driver in South Shields, Tyneside, described an 80ft saucer covered in bright lights which first hovered and then followed his cab. The driver said: "At one stage it was just 30ft above us. It was made of grey metal. But the weirdest thing was it made no noise. I got out of the car with my passenger to have a closer look and then it backed off and disappeared."

● At Barnsley, Yorkshire, a 38-year-old man saw "a huge, box-shaped object with green, white and red lights. It didn't make a sound. It followed me home and I called the wife who also saw it."

● Youth club warden John Rees was walking his dog at Aberdare, Glamorgan, when he saw a cylindrical luminous object with two downward parallel beams moving spirally without any noise. "I watched it for about 45 minutes and have never seen anything like it in my life. I had never believed in UFOs before."

● Frank Barnes, delivering morning newspapers at Winchester, Hants, said: "Two yellow saucers, each about the size of a house, flew over me at about 30mph. There was a hissing sound."

● Oxford art studio boss David White was followed for 40 minutes by a red glowing object as he drove home. "When I stopped it stopped" he said. "I thought I was going crazy. There was no real shape to it, just a red glow with a white centre and no noise."

● Husband and wife Eddie and Molly Owers were baffled by a dawn sighting of a glowing yellow shape hovering above them at Stevenage, Herts. Said Eddie: "We watched it for several minutes. It was a huge casserole-shaped object."

● Pensioner George Moore was going to bed at his home in Rotherham, Yorks, when his terrier Harry "went berserk, whimpering and leaping around in terror". George thought he had burglars but when he looked out of the window he saw a "luminous cone-shaped object" which he watched for five minutes.

## UFO sightings

POLICE switchboards were clogged with reported sightings of an alien space ship about to touch down late Saturday night.

Frightened star gazers saw a brilliant flash of light across the night sky stretching from Crawley to Southwater.

But police were sceptical about the reports

that came as local pubs emptied Saturday night boozers onto the streets.

A police spokesman said: "We only deal in things that can be explained. There seemed to be a glare in the sky, and we think it could have been from a fireworks display that night in Southwater."

CRAWLEY ADVERTISER SUSSEX

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