

JUNE 1990
VOLUME 15 NO. 6

19 UFO 90

NEWS

**AERIAL PHENOMENON
CLIPPING INFORMATION CENTER**

P.O. Box 37073 • Cleveland, Ohio 44137

DIRECT REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

JUNE 1950
Volume 10, No. 2

13 JULY 1950

NEWS

AERIAL PHENOMENON
CLIPPING INFORMATION CENTER

TRACKING THE INTRUDERS

The field of UFO investigation gains momentum

By Stacey Welling, Feature Writer

Bud Hopkins is used to not being taken seriously.

That's just a part of his work as a UFO investigator.

But make no mistake about it: Hopkins takes UFOs very seriously.

He has ever since an August afternoon in 1964 when he sighted a small, circular metallic craft on Cape Cod. Since then he has investigated hundreds of cases involving alleged UFO sightings.

"I got involved in this because I had a UFO sighting," says Hopkins, who recently addressed full-house capacity audiences in the auditorium of the Spring Valley Library during a two-night

lecture on UFO phenomena and abductions. "That tends to get your attention."

Hopkins says the field of UFO investigation is gaining momentum because more reports of sightings occur all the time.

"There's probably more interest in UFO phenomena now than there has been in a long time, and that's generating a lot of light on the subject," Hopkins says. "But at the same time there's still probably more heat. Most of us have resistance to anything beyond what we experience ourselves."

While Hopkins agrees that many UFO stories are hard to believe, he says his investigations

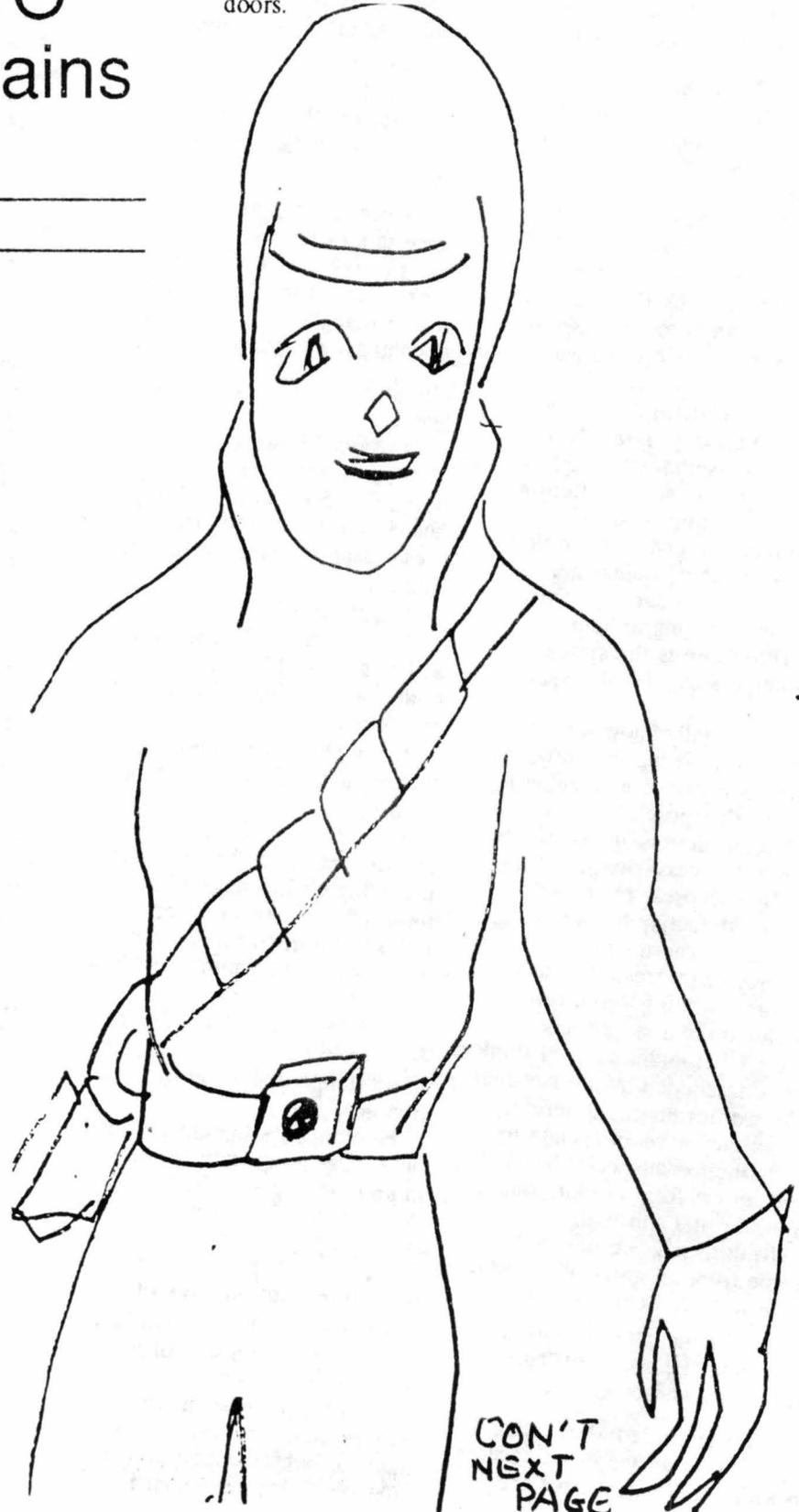
have convinced him that the phenomena is real.

In terms of physical evidence to support the existence of UFOs, Hopkins showed slides during his lectures displaying photographs of airborne objects he described as UFOs. Most of the objects were circularly shaped. Some showed semblances of windows and doors.

NW-D60
LAS VEGAS
SUN
APRIL-1-1960

Source: The October Scenario

Drawing of an alien purportedly done under hypnosis by a woman claiming to have seen UFO



CON'T
NEXT
PAGE

Other slides were photographs of reported landing sites where soil appeared burnt and sterilized – the apparent result of energy released from the crafts during takeoffs and landings.

“We’ve been right all along even though some of the skeptics have laughed at us,” Hopkins says. “They’re here, but we don’t know what the bottom line of

this is. We’ve been dealing with a power that has a technology way beyond anything we’ve developed here on earth.”

As the author of “Intruders: The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods,” Hopkins specializes in UFO abduction phenomena. His 1987 book is based on an account of Kathie Davis, who claims she was abducted by a UFO.

Hopkins disagrees with the two main portrayals of UFO aliens characterized in contemporary science fiction novels and movies: namely that the crafts’ occupants are either “body snatcher” beings here to conquer planet earth or “space brothers” visiting to help us.

“If anyone is the space brother, it’s us,” Hopkins says.

“We don’t really know what this is going to lead to. We know that what is going on is happening for their own purposes.”

Hopkins doubts aliens visiting earth are necessarily here for friendly purposes. He believes they are abducting human beings for genetic experiments.

“They’re interested in us – the human being – and our emotional life and our genetic material,” Hopkins says. “I think they’re fascinated by the fact that we’re extraordinarily different. I think they have an agenda to rectify their own species by what they can get from us emotionally, physically and spiritually.”

Hopkins says he has met people from all walks of life who claim to have been abducted by aliens – including scientists, psychologists, police officers, housewives and entertainers.

Many so-called abductees report missing time experiences in which their memories are

completely wiped out for a few hours or they only remember bits and pieces of a period that seems more like a strange dream than a realistic experience.

Under hypnotic regression with therapists, however, abductees often can recount their experiences with aliens, Hopkins says. Abductees usually recall the experiences as being terrifying and psychologically traumatic.

Hopkins says abductees commonly report being taken into crafts without permission and undergoing a variety of medical exams.

While investigators are uncertain of how many different races or species of aliens exist, Hopkins says most abductees report that the beings tend to encompass a combination of both human and reptilian physical features.

He says 85 percent of abductees describe aliens as being 4 to 5 feet tall with big heads, thin necks and large, black eyes – usually round or almond-shaped.

Abductees often describe the crafts they were taken aboard as being shaped like large, silver bullets and having a door, ramp and four legs.

Many abductees report their first abductions taking place as children.

Hopkins says he has investigated a number of cases involving children who have reportedly disappeared for a few hours and turned up in strange places without remembering how they got there.

One case involved a 3- or 4-year-old child, for example, who disappeared while riding on tricycle.

Hopkins says the child turned up 7 miles away from his home in an orange grove. The child wasn’t crying but seemed to be waking up when he was found.

The child’s parents found a deep incision in back of his leg but his pants were not torn and there was no sign of blood around the wound.

Hopkins says such scars are common among abductees – many of whom report during hypnotic regressions that they

are taken to see the “doctor.”

Hopkins showed several slides during his lectures displaying reportedly unexplainable scars on a number of abductees’ bodies. The marks typically appear either as long, straight surgical cuts or as circular, indented “scoop marks.”

Hopkins believes the marks – which usually turn up on legs but also on arms, backs and other areas of the body – are the result of operations aliens perform on abductees to get cell samples or to implant tracking devices so they can re-abduct people at later dates.

Hopkins also believes UFO occupants implant tracking devices in abductees’ ears, noses, or teeth.

Hopkins says hypnotic regressions also reveal that aliens have obtained sperm and ovum cell samples from some abductees as well.

Hopkins says some women report they have been impregnated and then reabducted to have hybrid fetuses removed that are comprised of human and alien genetic material.

One woman reportedly recalled in a hypnotic regression being asked to hold a hybrid child so the aliens could study her emotional reactions to the being.

“This is a depressing business I have to tell you,” Hopkins says. “There’s no doubt the psychological trauma that seems to follow these experiences is very upsetting.”

Hopkins says he has received thousands of letters and hundreds of telephone calls from people reporting alien abduction experiences. He recently formed the Intruder Foundation, a support group designed to help people deal with abduction experiences through a nationwide network of therapists, investigators and hypnotists.

For more information about the organization write:

Intruders Foundation
P.O. Box 30233
New York, NY 10011

UFO conference draws 300

Crowd hears updates on research, personal accounts

By Pat Dallas
For The News-Leader

EUREKA SPRINGS, Ark. — The second annual Ozark UFO Conference this weekend attracted more than 300 — earthlings, that is.

A conference room at the Inn of the Ozarks was filled to capacity Saturday afternoon as conferees heard updates on the latest research and personal accounts of UFO encounters and viewed slide presentations.

Eureka Springs Mayor Ricard Schoeninger welcomed the crowd on Friday and returned Saturday to

hear some of the presentations.

"This is fascinating," said Schoeninger. "These people truly believe."

In fact, many of those attending could be overheard sharing their own personal accounts of UFO and other paranormal experiences during the interludes between speakers and panel discussions.

Dan Wright, deputy director of the Mutual UFO Network, said many of the conferees were also members of his organization.

He said MUFON, with more than 2,400 members in 50 countries, is a civilian research group dedicated to

finding out what UFOs are and where they come from.

"We don't have any answers," Wright said. "We have lots of questions."

Ed Walters, a building contractor from Gulf Breeze, Fla., presented remarkable slides taken during a rash of sightings in 1987 and 1988.

Walters, author of the just-released and aptly titled book "The Gulf Breeze Sightings," and his wife, Frances, described some of their 20 encounters over the two-year period.

Please see UFO/Page 1B

m d z

1381 ct

UFO/Conference draws 300; crowd hears research update

FROM PAGE 1B

He estimated that about 10 percent of the town's 5,000 residents have had some sort of encounter with a UFO, his own latest coming on Jan. 8 of this year.

"I don't think of myself as a speaker or an expert," Walters said. "I'm a witness."

Another recent hotbed of UFO activity is the Fyffe, Ala., area.

Carey Baker, publisher of a weekly newspaper in nearby Rainsville, Ala., said many in the area had

reported sightings to him.

Although Baker said he had not personally had any encounters, he described several that his wife and a reporter on his staff had experienced.

"A lot of the people who are seeing these things I've known over half my life," he said. "I know beyond the shadow of a doubt they are telling the truth."

Other speakers included Linda Moulton Howe and Dr. John H. Altshuler, who discussed cattle and an-

imal mutilations; Lauren Rose, a Virginia writer who related an alien-abduction experience; and Antonio Huneeus, a New York journalist who updated UFO activity in the U.S.S.R.

Lucius Farish of Plumerville, Ark., who organized the event, said he hoped it would continue to be as successful in the future. He said more than 200 attended the conference a year ago.

AR-D190 LITTLE ROCK ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT
APRIL 7 1990

1381

Memory hid UFO horror, speaker says

BY BILL BOWDEN
Democrat Fayetteville Bureau

EUREKA SPRINGS — Lauren Rose knew she had a problem when she awoke naked one morning lying in 2 feet of snow outside her Colorado home.

Rose, 41, now of Alexandria, Va., said she was "obsessed with the sky" and "grew up in a perpetual fog." She saw therapists for more than 20 years before she realized through hypnosis that her problems were due to alien abductions.

Rose was the first speaker Friday at the annual Ozark

UFO Conference in Eureka Springs. About 200 UFOlogists — that's what they call themselves — from all over the world are attending the three-day conference, which began Friday.

Mayor Richard Schoeninger of Eureka Springs kicked off the conference by reading a proclamation in which he said the first alien brought to him would be named an honorary citizen and given a free trolley pass.

In her address, "The Trauma of Abduction: Reclaiming Your Memory and

Your Life," Rose spoke of "crippling anxiety and depression" through most of her life because of the abductions.

"This very serious issue does effect our mental health, our belief system and our own human nature," Rose said.

"I never realized UFOs were playing a part in my life until three years ago. I've had therapy since I was 18 for anxi-

See UFOS, Page 3B

NEXT PAGE

CONT

UFOs ^{1381 ct}

• Continued from Arkansas Page

ety and depression. I was even abducted during my therapy when I didn't know what was wrong and was desperately looking for help."

Rose said she grew up feeling she was always being watched and followed.

"When I was 14 to 16 years old," she said, "I would get up at one or two in the morning and would feel compelled to walk into the forest near where we lived in Colorado."

Rose said she could recall going into the woods, but not what happened there, until she discovered hypnosis.

"Imagine someone coming out of the trees," she said, "making you take your clothes off and forcing you through a series of painful examinations

"I didn't remember those times, but my body did. That's why I was filled with adrenalin afterwards.

"I realized in that abduction that I was nothing more than a guinea pig. They stripped the clothes off me, did the job they had to do and just dropped me."

Rose referred to the examinations as rape, not because of

sexual reasons but because the aliens had power over her.

Rose described the aliens as colorless with fragile bodies and large heads. She said their examinations left no scars on her body, as some abductees have claimed. She said she appeared to recognize one of them who had apparently abducted her before.

When still confused about the abductions, Rose said she became an alcoholic and couldn't keep a job because she couldn't concentrate. She constantly dreamed about UFOs.

One day, Rose said, she awoke semiparalyzed. She stumbled into the living room and collapsed on the sofa.

"A being appeared to me at the end of the sofa," said Rose. "It was three to four feet high with a brilliant gold core and white brilliance around. It said, 'I am the archangel of Michael, and it's time for the great awakening.'"

The being vanished and Rose regained control of her body.

"I called my boss and said, 'I just had a visit by the archangel of Michael, and I won't be in for work today,'" she said. "I wasn't fired, by the way."

IL-D230 CHICAGO TRIBUNE

APRIL 16 1990

¹³⁸¹ Easter hunt for UFO ends up goose eggs

BRUSSELS (Reuters)—Apparently more concerned with threats from outer space than with spiritual pursuits on Earth, lookout teams all over Belgium spent Easter weekend hunting for unidentified flying objects.

The country seems to be in the grip of flying saucer fever, after several UFOs were reportedly sighted in the south over the last four months.

Belgium's Society for the Study of Space Phenomena organized a weekend watch with observers posted at 20 vantage points, police stations taking calls about sightings and the Belgian air force providing radar backup.

Two planes stood by to chase space interlopers.

They all drew a blank Friday night. But around midnight Saturday in poured reports of a silent, luminous, low-flying triangle sighted regularly over the hills of southern Belgium.

Ten scientists and observers took off in a plane and searched the skies for an hour.

They found nothing.

"But that doesn't mean there wasn't anything," a spokesman said Sunday.

The watch will continue until Tuesday.

ON-D380 TORONTO STAR

APRIL 12 1990

Strange lights leave scientists up in the air

By Farrell Crook
TORONTO STAR

An astronomer is baffled by seven documented sightings in Canada last year of strange flashing lights in the night sky.

In at least three cases, startled observers the next morning discovered puzzling circles swirled into the ground — "landing traces" — near where they had seen the lights.

"We're not able to figure out who or what made them," said Winnipeg astronomer Chris Rutkowski.

One of the unexplained sightings occurred on two nights in Kenora, Ont., last November, when police received frantic phone calls from area residents reporting strange blue, orange and red lights "bouncing around" in the sky.

Their radios jumped from station to station, and the lights mysteriously went out in one caller's house.

One observer saw a light hovering at tree top level, another saw it speed down a lake outside Kenora, while a passenger on a plane from Winnipeg saw it from the air.

The seven separate sightings that scientists can't explain are detailed by Rutkowski in a report.

He tracked down 141 reports of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) made last year to police, aviation and military authorities across Canada who had forwarded them to Ottawa's National Research Council.

All but seven of the reports could be explained as "honest mistakes," Rutkowski said.

¹³⁸¹ No mystery to strange object in sky

By DEBBIE BLAKE
Repository staff writer

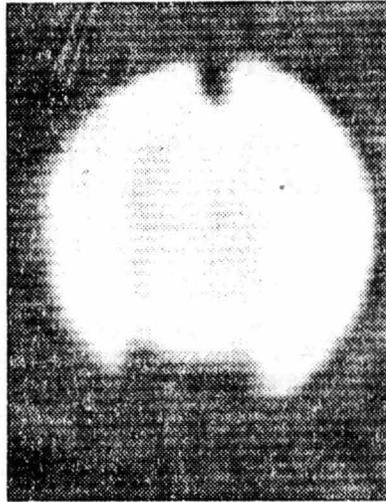
PIKE TWP. — A bright white orb that showed up in the eastern sky over Dick Deitrick's spread in southwestern Stark County recently was likely "a first cousin to a weather balloon."

That was the assessment of Mount Union College astrophysicist and cosmologist James Rodman after viewing a videotape of the object Deitrick saw hovering over a field before sunrise on March 27.

Deitrick looked out the back window that morning of his Sherman Church Avenue home toward his horse barn and over the strip mines that run from his property line eastward to Interstate 77. The sun was not yet up and the air was crisp and cold, he recalled.

"It looked like a big star jumping up and down, like it was on a string," Deitrick said. He watched for a while, then grabbed his video camera and taped it.

After about 45 minutes, he said, he became bored and went back to bed. It was only later, when he played the tape back on his television set, that he, his wife and



daughter got a good look at the object.

After quizzing Deitrick Tuesday, Rodman viewed the tape and drew some conclusions.

"In no way was it a star," he said, adding that it appeared to be larger than a planet like Jupiter or Venus when viewed from earth.

It sparkles in the darkened sky, thereby telling Rodman that there was "a considerable amount of air" between the orb and the

ground. Rodman said he calculated the object would have to be "relatively high" in the sky — probably 10,000 to 30,000 feet off the ground. He said it was roughly 12 miles away when Deitrick captured it on tape.

Rodman said a weather balloon might appear like that, its bobbing caused by atmospheric turbulence.

The weather station at Akron-Canton Regional Airport no longer launches weather balloons, according to a staff meteorologist. Stations in Dayton and Pittsburgh have daily launches, however, he said.

A larger, translucent research balloon may have been launched by someone else for another purpose, he added, explaining that the U.S. Navy has launched camera-equipped translucent mylar balloons in the past, though he said he doubted that the military would acknowledge such a balloon if they had launched one.

"That's the best guess I can make," said Rodman, "assuming it's not extraterrestrial. And that possibility is infinitely remote," he added with a grin.

AR-D200 (LITTLE ROCK) ARKANSAS
GAZETTE APRIL 7 1990

¹³⁸¹ Who ya gonna call? MUFON

By Karen Rafinski
Gazette Staff

EUREKA SPRINGS — What do you do if you're abducted by aliens?

Phone, not home, but MUFON — the Mutual UFO Network.

They can refer you to trained and qualified UFO investigators and hypnotherapists who can help you overcome the trauma of being kidnapped by extra-terrestrials. The phone number is 354-2558.

No kidding.

In fact, anyone attending the annual MUFON convention at the Inn of the Ozarks here would be struck with how seriously these people take themselves. Aside from a lengthy list of speakers on UFOlogy the convention serves as something of a support group for the 200 people who attend, many of whom say they have been the victims of alien abductions.

Eureka Springs Mayor Richard Shoening, dressed in a tux, started the conference off by reading a proclamation making the first extra-terrestrial to arrive in the city an honorary citizen who'll also have a free trolley pass.

Then the conference turned seri-

ous when writer Lauren Rose described her 20-year trauma because of childhood abductions by aliens.

We're not talking about little green men with antennas here.

According to Rose they're gray or white and stand three- to four-foot tall with large slanted eyes and a glowing gold center.

"It's a very serious issue that can and does affect our mental health and belief systems," said Rose, of Arlington, Va., who said she was raped by aliens inside their spacecraft. "People think you're crazy. At least if someone is raped by a human being they know they need help."

Rose said the abductions started when she was a small child and she believes that at first she was a willing participant. Later on they began to experiment with her.

Rose said she does not know why the extra-terrestrials are doing experiments or what the meaning of all her memories is or even how it all happened.

CON'T
NEXT
PAGE

"I've strongly suspected our cat," Rose said. "I know that's crazy but you don't know our cat."

After her speech many people came up to Rose to thank her for speaking about her experiences and to talk about their own abductions.

Shirley Coyne of Michigan was selling hand-painted T-shirts depicting various flying saucers and scenes from people's sightings of them. She said her main reason for coming to MUFON conferences was to talk about common problems with other abductees.

Coyne belongs to a Michigan support group for abductees. Coyne said she and her husband George were abducted in 1983. It was the middle of a hot summer evening when Coyne said she saw the bright light of the UFO moving over her cornfield. After waking her husband they ran outside barefoot to look at it and the last thing they remember is the feel of the grass on their feet.

Coyne later remembered through hypnosis all the details of what the aliens, who were little gray men, did in the large domed spacecraft. But she would not tell a reporter because her husband has not remembered and she doesn't want to lead him or contaminate the evidence that will be made of his recollections.

MUFON state director Ed Mazur said cases like that of Rose and Coyne are not uncommon and that he is currently working with about four abduction cases in Arkansas.

Mazur said there have been about a dozen UFO sightings in Arkansas in the last year that have been reported to MUFON. The reports centered in Mena and Flippin and ranged from the "classic boomerang shape" to a watermelon shape. Mazur could not offer an explanation of the phenomena.

"Who'd want to go to Flippin?" asked Mazur.

Ex-NASA expert says Stealth uses parts from UFO

BY LARRY RHODES
Democrat Staff Writer

A robotics expert and former mission specialist for NASA said Sunday the B-2 Stealth bomber is made from UFO parts.

Bob Oechsler, one of the featured speakers Sunday at the Ozark UFO Conference in Eureka Springs, told more than 300 people the technology behind the Stealth was borrowed from aliens.

"The Stealth bomber you see flying around actually had its primary propulsion system removed from a recovered flying saucer," Oechsler said.

"That's where it came from," Oechsler said. "The project utilizes an alien power plant inside and it's disguised by the use of four GE-F118 engines with a modification called the GE-100."

Oechsler's topic was "Alien Technology in Use Today."

"There is new technology today that has been gleaned from recovered craft of non-human intelligence origin," Oechsler commented. "The government has confirmed, high intelligence officers I should say, that these craft were recovered."

Oechsler said a government physicist who works in a secret laboratory in Nevada has

worked on the power source of these downed craft. Oechsler said some crashed UFOs recovered by humans have been repaired and flown. He said some of them were found with large holes in them.

"Many of them are fully operational," Oechsler said. "The holes would suggest that they were probably shot down. One of them that he got to look at inside had very small chairs, which was the first full true indicator to him that these were not some type of top secret government design but were of alien origin."

Ed Mazur of Mena (Polk County) and Lucius Farish of Plumerville (Conway County) coordinated the three-day UFO conference, which began Friday afternoon. Farish said plans will probably be made soon for the third annual conference.

He said attendance at this year's conference was better than expected.

"Many of the people there were invited guests who are involved in UFO research," Farish said. "However, there were a lot of them there who have had a UFO experience and just wanted to learn more. If they attended most of the lectures they went away with a lot of new information."

AR-D200 (LITTLE ROCK) ARKANSAS GAZETTE
APRIL 8 1990

1001

UFO sightings not 'Bud Lights'

beings.

If ever there was a person who believes without question in the presence of extraterrestrials, it's Russell.

FULTON CONT



By Karen Rafinski

Gazette Staff

EUREKA SPRINGS — A Little Rock astronomer dismissed dozens of UFO sightings in Little River County two years ago and most people around the state forgot about them.

But not Jim Williamson, who has been trying to figure out the UFOs since then.

"I wish it would come back just so I could document it," Williamson, publisher of the *Little River News*, said. "I'm just very curious about it."

That curiosity has led Williamson to some interesting theories and Saturday they took them to the Mutual UFO Network conference here. They were looking for ideas on what to study next.

Williamson said he doesn't believe the astronomer because Venus would not be able to zip around the sky making sharp turns up and down and rise from the ground as the UFO did. And he thinks the astronomer dismissed the reports without investigating thoroughly the eyewitness accounts.

"I know these people and I know they're not flakes," Williamson said. "The ridicule was so intense. That made people mad."

Williamson saw and photographed two different UFOs, one

"I know these people and I know they're not flakes."

—Jim Williamson,
Little River News publisher

bright light and a larger UFO nicknamed Big Bertha. Williamson called all the local airfields, astronomers, meteorologists and other experts in an attempt to find an explanation for the lights.

Nor does he buy into the local joke that the UFOs were just "Bud Lights" being delivered to taverns across the Oklahoma line.

To this day he has not been satisfied and now is "leaning" toward the idea that they were alien spaceships.

Williams still investigate reports of UFOs in Little River County and on clear nights still sometimes stakes out for spaceships with a camera. But the UFO activity seems to have quieted down.

Williamson suggested that was because the first aliens had "screwed up" by appearing early in the evening when people were likely to see them.

In the course of his search Williamson stumbled on another inexplicable phenomena — cow mutilations. A year after the first

sightings a rancher near Hope reported that he had found five of his cows dead in a field where there were no visible truck prints or other disturbances. The cows had had their sexual organs and other body parts cut off. But there was no blood in the field. Because the cuts were so neat the men doubted that an animal had caused them.

Williamson believes the mutilations were done by aliens because UFO experts have said that mutilations around the country have occurred in areas where sightings have been reported. The two men sent sample tissue from one of the cows to John Altshuler, a Colorado pathologist. Altshuler spoke at the conference and announced that he had determined that the cuts were made by an extreme heat source, similar to a laser but that were too deep for current laser technology.

Now Williamson has asked that sheriffs that get reports of animal mutilations contact him so they can be studied.

Williamson plans to take knowledge gained at the MUFON conference home with him so he can continue his research. But he has hesitated about becoming a MUFON member.

"I don't want to think he's gone over the edge now," Williamson said of himself.

IL-D740 PEKIN DAILY TIMES APRIL 1 1990

Hunting for UFOs? Fulton's the place

By Jeff McCombs

Times staff writer

PEKIN—Paul Russell loves to go hunting, but he never treks into the woods with a bow and arrow or a shotgun, and he seldom wears camouflage clothing.

He is more apt to be found hiking along with binoculars, a camera and possibly a telescope

His prey—Unidentified Flying Objects.

Russell is a section director of Illinois' chapter of the Mutual UFO Network, Inc., and a member of the Aerial Phenomena Club of Central Illinois.

"I've been involved with the Aerial Phenomena Club of Central Illinois for the past 12 years," Russell said. "That is one of the oldest independent UFO clubs in the nation. Members range from farmers to physicists. There are people from all walks of life."

The club's parent, Mutual UFO Network is an international scientific organization comprised of people interested in studying and researching UFOs. The organization has about 2,500 members nationwide, and more than 100 members in Illinois.

Sunday, Russell and other space buffs will gather in Downers Grove for a statewide meeting, featuring discussions about spaceships, unexplainable occurrences, flashing nocturnal lights and extraterrestrial

... began 35 years ago when he started reading about the space phenomenon at the age of 10.

Then in 1962, everything he had read about suddenly appeared before him during broad daylight.

"I had a daylight sighting and that made a believer out of me," he said. "I had another one, in fact the whole family did, out in our backyard in July 1984."

That saucer was a cigar-shaped object, Russell said, and appeared at about 8:30 p.m.

"My wife saw it first and my 10-year-old saw it and thought Darth Vader was coming," Russell said. "I made a quick decision that I could either get my camera or my binoculars. I got my binoculars because it was starting to move pretty fast.

"It had about five or six port hole windows on the side. There were no rings, running lights, no antennas, no insignias."

Since that time, Russell's life has changed forever.

"People like me, when we go outside we look in the sky to see if we can see something," Russell said. "Normal people I suppose just get in the car and drive away. How many people really take the time to look up?"

Russell is always interested in hearing from or about anyone who has seen such unidentified objects flying in the day or night sky.

But don't try pulling his leg or tell a tall tale of a false sighting.

"You can usually tell if someone is telling the truth because there it is a traumatic experience," he said. "It completely throws you out of your everyday world. It's just bewilderment."

When someone reports a UFO sighting, Russell travels to interview the witness, fills out a report and sends it to MUFON headquarters.

Reports of UFO sightings are few and far between, Russell says.

"We do not get as many calls as we like," he said. "We know there are more out there. This involves a lot of detective work. It's usually more difficult to find the person that has seen it than the actual write up of the report. You have to travel down some bad country roads."



Times Photo by Dan Hostetter

Paul Russell holds a stick with a substance on it he believes was emitted from an unidentified flying object.

FULTON CONT

One such road led him into Fulton County, where he and fellow Fulton County section director Poe Clark stumbled onto a white, cottony substance apparently blasted down from a flying saucer. The two collected 60 jars of the billowy cobweb-like material and gave it to MUFON officials who have sent it to labs to be analyzed, said Russell.

"Three people saw a substance come out of a UFO in October," Russell said. "It happened four times. We have taken it to labs and it does not match up with over 200,000 known substances on earth.

"It is a complete unknown."

Neither Russell or Clark would reveal the names of the labs conducting experiments on the substance. They said they're hopeful results of the tests could be revealed during the group's meeting Sunday.

It is no wonder the substance was found in Fulton County. According to Russell, Fulton County has been a hub of flying saucers for the past 25 years.

"There have been sightings up around strip mines, in Victoria, Yates City, Spring Bay, Minier and Fulton County, which is always on," Russell said. "Fulton County has been one of

the hottest places. Fulton County would be one of the hottest places (for UFOs) in the country if it weren't for the lack of population."

Russell said UFO's are hiding in the Spoon River Valley.

"We went out last winter, but we couldn't find anything," Russell said.

He adds this advice for the novice UFO-gazer:

"If you see one in the daytime, chances are they are not going to come back to the same spot. If you see one at night, a lot of times they will come back three or four times at night in a row."

OH-DIO AKRON BEACON JOURNAL APRIL 4 1990

1381

UFO watchers' club shuts down after 29 years

By Christine Maly
Beacon Journal staff writer

The Flying Saucer Investigating Committee will beam up forever after its last meeting Friday.

After 29 years of scanning the skies and investigating local UFO sightings, the Medina-based group's president is moving to the clearer skies of Arizona. And when he goes, the club will fold.

"There are no heirs," said Americo Candusso, 68, sitting amid boxes of UFO books, tapes, pictures and models in his Medina home. "I don't think they think it's as important as it used to be."

Candusso, a retired sixth-grade teacher, will move with his wife to Fountain Hills, Ariz., at the end of April. A field investigator with the national Mutual UFO Network, he has been chairman of the Flying Saucer group since 1961.

There was a time when hundreds attended the group's monthly meetings. Now, he said, only about 30 people, mostly old-timers, attend the meetings, which moved from Summit County to Medina when Candusso did two years ago. Although Candusso

says he doesn't believe interest in flying saucers is fading, he allows that he doesn't get as many calls as he used to. Andy Stich, president of the Goodyear UFO Society in Akron, said it will take another big sighting in the area to revive interest in UFOs.

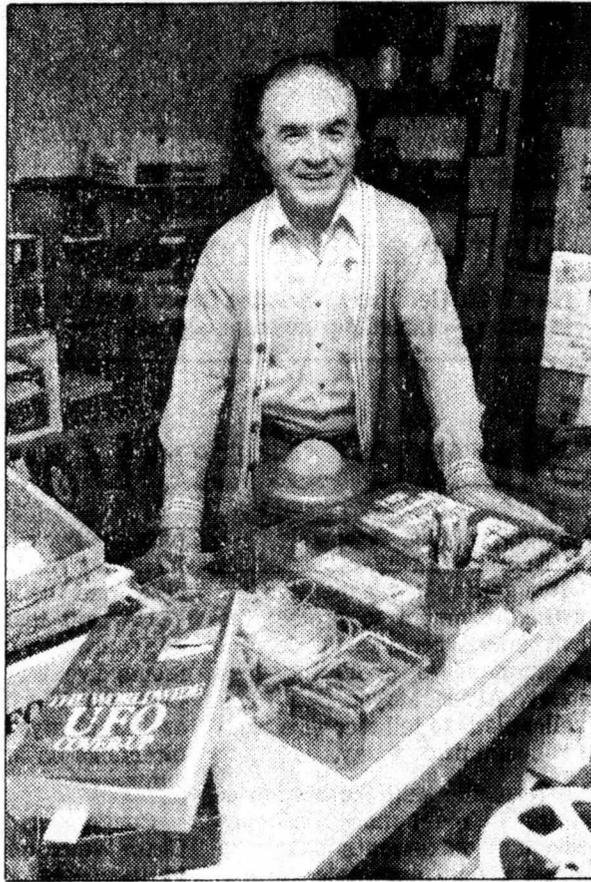
"It goes up and down. If there's any activity, it sparks again," he said.

The last major sighting was April 17, 1966, when Portage County sheriff's deputies Dale Spaur and W.L. Neff chased what they reported to be a dome-shaped, house-size object from Randolph to Conway. Pa.

Candusso spends hours every day reading about UFOs and preparing his presentations for the group with the same care he used to prepare his lessons as an Akron Public Schools teacher.

Every night, he searches the Medina skies through his telescope, hoping to catch a glimmer of a UFO.

"All through the '60s, I had seen several of them, things I could not explain," he said. "In the '70s, it diminished. The '80s were worse."



Beacon Journal photo/Ott Gangl

Americo Candusso with his UFO data

Candusso's first close encounter, on April 6, 1959, with what he said looked like a fluorescent pipe flying along near Twinsburg lasted only 15 minutes, but it captured his interest for life.

Even though he was on a date, he stopped his car and pulled out binoculars and paper and pen to record the event.

In June 1961, Candusso says, he saw five objects above Steels Corners and Wyoga Lake roads in Stow. "It was two bands of hori-

CONT
NEXT
PAGE

zontal lights, red, green and white — all sparkles," he said. The bands had a ball of bronze light in the front and a ball of blue in the back.

Four other objects, almost exactly like the first, came out of the same hole in the clouds and appeared to be landing.

"I got into my old Plymouth car and raced down the road toward it," Candusso said. "I had to keep looking at the road. Once I saw a moon-shaped thing the color of mercury, but when I got past the trees it was gone."

The next year, Candusso founded the Flying Saucer group, which has been meeting the first Friday of every month in the Medina Vocational Center. The club aimed to let the public know about UFO sightings in the area and around the world, and to in-

vestigate local sightings.

He has investigated hundreds of UFO sightings, using his speaking fees to pay expenses, and he has talked to thousands of Akron area residents who have seen something in the sky and wanted his opinion.

"We got 1,500 calls in one period in 1966," he said. "We haven't had that many calls in the past 10 years."

In March, Candusso only got one call, from a North Canton teen-ager who turned out to be too shy to talk about it.

So he is leaving the sky-watching to other groups. Besides the Goodyear group, UFO committees meet in Alliance and Cleveland. In Arizona, Candusso "probably will do the same thing I do here. I've just got too much invested in this." //

NY-D70 THE BUFFALO NEWS

MAR. 23 1990

UFO researcher to state claims

Researcher Robert Hastings will present evidence to support his claim the government is suppressing proof of the existence of UFOs during a lecture at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Communication Center North at Buffalo State College.

Hastings, who has studied unidentified flying objects since 1967, bases his assertions on declassified documents he says show flying saucers do exist. //

FL-D200 (JACKSONVILLE) THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

APRIL 12 1990

¹³⁸¹UFO convention in Pensacola result of many sightings there

For some reason that we cannot explain, people in the Pensacola area see an unusual number of unidentified flying objects.

We don't know whether this means that people in Pensacola have unusual eyesight or if Pensacola holds an unusual attraction for space aliens out for an interstellar stroll.

Whatever the reason, the fact that 55 reports of UFO sightings have been made from Pensacola and its suburbs in the past two years has influenced an organization called the Mutual UFO Network to hold its annual meeting there.

Don't think this is going to be a pint-sized convention. About 600 people who share an interest in UFOs are expected to attend the three-day meeting July 6-8.

That number doesn't count strange-looking critters who may be hovering above the convention site in their flying saucers.

The summer symposium will dwell upon "The Impact of E.T. (extraterrestrial) Contact Upon Society."

It is also likely that some of the conventioners will spend some of their time watching the sky in the hope of seeing alien spaceships or whatever UFOs happen to be.

If so, it is to be hoped that they will keep their eyes peeled for a space phenomenon that has been unknown to the outside world until word of it appeared in the headlines of one of those weekly supermarket tabloids that grab the attention of those standing in the checkout lines.

The headline said that two Nazi astronauts are finally returning to Earth, having been launched into space on orders from Adolf Hitler during World War II.

These aging astronauts may be puzzled when they radio Earth for a compass heading for Germany and receive the answer, "Which one?" //

UFO club reaches outer limits

By **MICHAEL SANGIACOMO**

STAFF WRITER

Americo (Mark) Candusso was running through his presentation Friday night as he has done month after month for 29 years, telling the 40 or so people gathered about the latest developments in their field.

A voice from the back of the room interrupted his steady flow: "Hey, Mark, tell us about your sightings."

Medina County

Candusso's eyes brightened. He smiled like a proud schoolboy and muttered something about not wanting to bore everyone with those old stories.

"Come on, Mark," the voice insisted. "This is the last time we'll be together."

Candusso smiled and told the hushed crowd about the first time he saw the mysterious things in the sky.

It was the last meeting of the Flying Saucer Investigating Committee of Medina, and it closed in a grand fashion. Candusso is moving to Arizona, and when he goes, the club goes with him.

Most of the members said they would probably switch their allegiance to the Cleveland Ufology Project, which meets monthly in Parma, or the Tri-County UFO Study Group of Sebring, O. A few won't join other groups but will continue solitary sky-watching.

They are looking for unusual lights in the sky. As Candusso put it, lights that do things so unusual they must be controlled by an intelligence.

Could that intelligence be human?

Maybe. Candusso talked about the possibility that both the United States and the Soviet Union have shining, wingless, tailless, sleek and silent spy planes that maneuver on a dime, although the existence of the Stealth bomber makes that seem less likely.

Then there is a school of thought that UFOs are the products of ultra-terrestrials, beings who have always lived on Earth but are not human. They sound even more sinister than aliens.

"They move us like pawns. They manipulate our minds," Candusso said.

A more popular theory is that the UFOs are products of an alien race far superior to our own.

And just how common are UFO sightings in Northeast Ohio?

Well, while they were never as common as jets at Hopkins, there was a time when they were sighted with regularity by those who knew when and where to look, Candusso said. Dark country roads and clear nights around midnight provide the proper atmosphere for sightings, he said.

Candusso talked about several personal

UFO

FROM/1-B

sightings.

"It was June 20, 1960. I was coming down Route 532 near Cuyahoga Falls when I looked up and saw a bright light move out through a hole in a huge cloud," he said. "It was made up of 10 lights in two bands, red, white, green and gold lights sparkling like diamonds. Above them there was a bronze light and there was a bright blue light on the side. I watched it hang there, just under the cloud, then another came out and hung next to it."

He described how five UFOs came out of the cloud and, one at a time, hovered then dove down behind the trees in Hudson. He said he watched them for 35 minutes, wishing someone else was there to see the spectacle. When the last craft vanished, he drove to Hudson but could find no evidence of extraterrestrial visitors.

Many of the people at the meeting had similar stories to tell. About half said they had seen a UFO. None ever claimed to have seen an alien or been abducted.

Candusso told of a documented case involving a helicopter pilot and three military men who were paced by a UFO over Mansfield in 1973. More than a dozen other people on the ground saw the vehicle, he said. When the pilot, Col. Lawrence J. Coyne, saw the cigar-shaped craft above his vehicle, Candusso said, he put the helicopter into a dive.

"He dove down, but it stayed with him," Candusso said. "Even though the stick was pushed down, the craft and the helicopter rose up. After about five minutes, the craft took off. That case is documented."

Another man said he was told by his auto mechanic about the mechanic's nephew whose car was chased by a UFO.

"He had the car floored but it wouldn't go more than 25 miles per hour," he said. "It was like the thing was holding the car back. When he pulled into the driveway, the ship veered up over the house and took off."

Candusso, a retired teacher, clearly loves his hobby. For almost three decades he has investigated hundreds of sightings in the state as field investigator for the national Mutual UFO Network. He gets no salary, except for speaking fees, and has been a sympathetic ear to thousands of people in the Akron and Medina areas who ask him about strange things they saw in the sky.

He is the first to admit that many sightings can be dismissed as optical illusions, aircraft, weather balloons or that old standby, ball lightning. He concentrates on the small percentage of sightings that can't be easily explained away.

But the gravy days are behind him.

"We're just not seeing them much anymore," he said. "There were many sightings in the '50s and '60s. That was the height of them. Then the '70s were a little worse, and the '80s were worse yet. There just aren't that many sightings around here anymore."

So Candusso and his wife are selling their home and moving to a more fertile clime, Fountain Hills, Ariz. There, he said, he will continue to follow the advice given at the end of the classic 1950s science fiction film "The Thing" and "Keep watching the skies."

Somebody's gotta do it.

He was visited by a mysterious 'Man in Black'

Special to the Eagle-Tribune

They sat quietly, leaning toward the lectern in a dark-paneled room near Lake Calhoun, Minn., as a professor from New York told of his encounter with one of the mysterious Men in Black.

In the audience were people such as biophysicist Otto Schmitt, a retired professor of electrical engineering at the University of Minnesota; retired aircraft developer and physicist Cecil Behringer; physician Steven Zuckerman and polymer scientist Arthur Coury.

Peter Rojcewicz told them there have been hundreds — perhaps thousands — of such encounters over the centuries.

"The Men in Black are part of the extraordinary encounter continuum — fairies, monsters, ETS, energy forms, flying saucers, flaming crosses," said Mr. Rojcewicz, a 37-year-old professor of humanities and folklore at New York's Juilliard School.

The modern era of Men in Black — visitations by mysterious, black-clad men who seem evil and threatening — goes back to at least the early 1950s when a man named Albert Bender reported seeing a UFO in Bridgeport, Conn., and was later frightened by a visit from three Men in Black.

Most of the modern era MIB encounters have followed sightings of UFOs or strange lights. Mr. Rojcewicz's 1980 encounter involved no sightings. He said he was just sitting in the University of Pennsylvania library, reading a UFO book suggested by another professor who thought that Mr. Rojcewicz, as a folklorist, would be interested in such phenomena.

"Then in the corner of my vision I noticed a black pants leg and a black shoe, scuffed," Mr. Rojcewicz said. Standing in front of him, Mr. Rojcewicz said, was a very gaunt, very pale man. He was about 6-1, weighed about 140 pounds and wore a black suit, black shoes, black string tie and a bright white shirt.

He sat down, like he had dropped from the ceiling — all in one movement and folded his hands on top of a stack of books in front of him.

"His suit was loose and it looked as though he had slept in it for three days," Mr. Rojcewicz said. Mr. Rojcewicz didn't know what to make of the figure. At the time he wasn't aware of the Men in Black phenomena which, he subsequently learned, dates back to at least Biblical times.

"He sat down, like he had dropped from the ceiling — all in one movement" — and folded his hands on top of a stack of books in front of him, Mr. Rojcewicz said. The Man in Black asked Mr. Rojcewicz what he was doing. Mr. Rojcewicz said he was reading about flying saucers.

"Have you seen a flying saucer?" the Man in Black asked. Mr. Rojcewicz said he hadn't.

"Do you believe in the reality of flying saucers?"

Mr. Rojcewicz said he didn't know much about them and wasn't sure he was very interested in the phenomena.

The man screamed: "Flying saucers are the most important

fact of the century and you are not interested?"

"I tried to calm him," Mr. Rojcewicz said. The man got up, once again all in a single awkward movement, put his hand on Mr. Rojcewicz's shoulder and said: "Go well on your purpose" and left.

Mr. Rojcewicz looked out at his audience. "In 10 seconds I was overwhelmed by fear ... I had a sense that this man was out of the ordinary and that idea frightened me ... I got up and walked around the stacks toward where the reference librarians usually are. The

Peter Rojcewicz professor

librarians weren't there. There were no guards there — there was nobody else in the library ... I was terrified."

He went back to the table where he had been reading "to get myself together. It took me about an hour. Then I got up and everything was back to normal, the people were all there."

He didn't talk about his experience in public because he was concerned about how people might react to his story, he said. Was he dreaming? He doesn't think so. He

said he suspects he was in an "altered state."

Mr. Rojcewicz said he thinks his experience — and that of others who have been exposed to the Men in Black — are somewhere "in the crack" between real life and fantasy. He has been studying anomalous phenomena such as the Men in Black ever since his 1980 experience.

He said the reaction varies with a person's culture, religion or openness to imaginative ideas.

Head for the hills: UFO experts to land in Eureka Springs

BY JAMIE WISE
Democrat State Desk

EUREKA SPRINGS - More than 200 earthlings are expected to attend the second-annual Ozark UFO Conference at the Inn of the Ozarks in Eureka Springs, said Lucius Farish, convention coordinator.

"We'll cover a variety of topics related to UFOs ... sightings, animal mutilations and UFO abductions," Farish said Monday. "The purpose of the convention is (to) explore all facets of the subject and to learn more about it."

Features of the conference - which begins at 1 p.m. April 6 and ends at noon April 8 - include research summaries, personal accounts of UFO experiences, panel discussions and audio-visual presentations.

"I think they do exist," Farish said. "I haven't seen a spaceship with portals and little guys smiling and waving out of them, but I'm convinced that there's something going

on out there I don't know about."

Bob Taaffe, an employee of Great Northern Nekoosa Corp., at Ashdown, is a lecturer scheduled for the convention.

"People look at you crazy when you talk about UFOs, but this is serious business," he said. "The people that are coming ... they wouldn't be coming from England just to go to Eureka Springs."

Taaffe, a former Air Force captain, will discuss UFO events that have occurred in the Ashdown/Foreman (Little River County) area during the past two years.

"On Jan. 19, 1988, some young women came to my house terrified by something they saw behind their house," he said. "They had no idea what it was. All they knew was that it was big. It was close. And it scared the devil out of them."

Taaffe said the object - which stayed in the vicinity three or four days - was huge

See UFOS, Page 12B

• Continued from Arkansas Page and hovered above the women's house for hours.

"The night I saw it, it rose up out of the field behind the pecan orchard and then zipped across the sky," he said. "I tell you, it was beautiful, the lights that were rotating on it."

Also scheduled to appear at the conference is Lauren Rose, a Virginia writer who says she was abducted by a UFO. Rose will give an account of her UFO abduction experience and the aftermath of the event.

"We're not trying to convince people there are UFOs. We're not preaching," Farish said. "If they don't want to believe it, that's all right with us."

Registration for the three-day event is \$35. For more information write to the Ozark UFO Conference, Route 1, Box 220, Plumerville, 72127, or call 354-2558.

Callers see a 'big flare' fall from sky

From Gazette staff and
Associated Press reports

A rural Marion woman saw "a big flare" in the sky last night and thought a plane had crashed near her house.

As it turned out, Debbie Sigmund was among hundreds of people across the Midwest who saw an unknown object light up the sky for a few seconds.

The lights were seen as far south as Arkansas, as far east as Peoria, Ill., as far north as Waterloo and as far west as Des Moines.

Law agencies across Eastern Iowa fielded dozens of calls about the flash, including Cedar Rapids police and sheriff's departments in Buchanan, Linn, Johnson, Muscatine and Louisa counties.

The lights were described variously as white streaks, flashing lights or a fireball.

Sigmund, who lives a couple miles east of Marion, said she was looking south from her living room window around 9:30 p.m. when she saw a "pretty big flash - yellow, red and green."

Authorities speculated a meteor was behind the sightings. No reports of anything striking the

ground had been made at press time.

A spokesman for the North American Defense Command, which tracks objects in space from Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo., said the lights didn't result from bits of a satellite or other man-made debris falling through the atmosphere.

"We are quite confident it is not caused by the re-entry of man-made objects," said Maj. Dick Adams, NORAD spokesman.

The lights could have been meteorites, Adams said, but he couldn't be sure because the agency doesn't track natural phenomena.

DON'T NEXT
PAGE

CALLERS' CON'T

A state trooper in central Iowa "indicated he saw a streak like a meteor," according to an Iowa State Patrol spokesman in Fairfield.

Another trooper in Appanoose County on the Missouri border saw a "bright, momentary light with a little bit of a tail on it," the spokesman said.

The National Weather Service in St. Louis reported getting numerous calls, some from people who said they saw a white light, followed by an explosion.

"I was outside when it happened," said Highway Patrol Sgt. Thomas Lafavre in Kirkwood, Mo., outside St. Louis.

"I saw a big flash like one of my halogen lights burned out. But then I noticed my lights were OK and figured it must have been lightning."

IL-W5190 ROBINSON
CONSTITUTION THURSDAY
510 MAR 22 1990

Flash in sky triggers phone calls

By DON NEACE
and UPI Reports

Reports of a possible meteor or satellite crashing in this area caused a number of telephone calls to law enforcement officials Saturday night.

A bright flash of light streaked across the night sky over parts of four Midwest states, leaving stargazers and police still puzzled today over whether they witnessed a meteor, lightning or perhaps a more mysterious phenomenon.

Calls to police and National Weather Service offices were fielded Saturday in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Indiana.

M. L. Skaggs first reported the flash of light to Crawford County officials.

"It looked like lightning at first," Skaggs said, "but then it lasted a little while longer than lightning should last."

Skaggs said he was traveling north toward Trimble near Newlin Cemetery when he saw a "greenish-white, round ball of fire."

CON'T ABOVE

FLASH CON'T

"It looked like it was about 500 feet away. When it was about 30 feet off the ground, it burst into flames, he said. "I thought at first it was an airplane going down."

More than a dozen calls were registered at Crawford County Sheriff's department within a 30-minute span after the 10 p.m. phenomenon.

Police responded to at least four locations to check for possible crash sites of the possible meteor or satellite.

A fireworks-like 'boom' accompanied the flash of light. One Eaton Street resident told police he thought the object may have hit his garage but no damage was found.

Speculation of a possible radioactive satellite prompted Crawford County Emergency Service and Disaster Agency members to respond to the Newlin Cemetery area with Geiger counters.

Despite satellite theories, The North American Air Defense Command said it did not consider the object to be manmade.

About the same time in Missouri, Marshall Faintich, who holds a doctorate in astronomy, was setting up his telescope in his backyard at Chesterfield, a suburb of St. Louis, when the light flashed by about 9:36 p.m., Faintich said.

"About five minutes prior to the bright flash, I did see a fairly bright meteor going from the south to the northwest at about 30 degrees elevation that was nothing out of the ordinary," he said.

"But about five minutes later, at about 9:36, there was a bright flash in the sky that really went from horizon to horizon. It's not anything I've ever seen before. And as it was fading, a second light flashed brighter than the first one, which seemed to come from the south.

"I've seen meteors blow up in the atmosphere ..., but I've never seen anything like this before," Faintich said. "I really don't think it was a meteor shower."

John Eyse, a forecaster for the National Weather Service in St. Louis, said his office heard calls about the streak in the sky.

"Basically, it was just a flash of a white light, and that was pretty much it," Eyse said. "We did have some initial reports that some people said they may have felt a tremor or an impact, but none of this can be confirmed by us."

IL-D10 (ALTON) THE TELEGRAPH

MAR 19 1990

It wasn't bird, plane or even Superman; maybe meteorite

Telegraph staff and wire reports

That brilliant flash of light residents saw Saturday evening remains a mystery, but was probably a meteorite.

At the North American Defense Command, which keeps tabs on all the manmade objects in space, a spokesman said the flash seen in several states about 9:30 p.m. was not caused by a falling satellite or other space junk.

And even the UFO groups aren't making any claims, according to a spokesman at the St. Louis Science Center.

If it wasn't something man put in the sky and it wasn't an alien, it must have been a meteor or several of them, according to the Science Center.

The flash was seen in Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Arkansas. Police departments, the National Weather Service and newspapers, including The Telegraph, received calls about the light show.



UFO unmasked

In mid-January, there were a number of reported sightings of unidentified flying objects in Kings County.

These reported UFO sightings were difficult to ignore, because they were too widespread. Lots of people in the Hanford area saw the strangely lit objects in the sky.

Now some of those same people may be disappointed to learn that there is a familiar and this-worldly explanation for the mystery, after all.

As the Hanford Sentinel reported the other day, the seeming UFOs were hot-air balloons launched from open fields near Hanford and weirdly illuminated by a series of tiny birthday candles.

Hanford resident and sometime inventor Steve Dobbs contrived the balloons and launched them, never dreaming that they might be confused with something out of a Steven Spielberg movie.

As it turns out, given the right weather conditions and/or a little bit of imagination, there is actually a long list of things that can

be coaxied into resembling extraterrestrial tourist buses.

Among those things: odd-shaped clouds, bright planets, meteors, auroras, birds, searchlights, hot gases. And, oh yes, now we know, hot air balloons lit up with birthday candles.

Dobbs, who apologized to anyone who might have been scared by his balloons, has dutifully promised that any more launchings he cares to undertake will be accomplished far from urban sensibilities — in the countryside near the Kings River or Stratford.

Not entirely dashing the hopes of the most fervent UFO-searchers, though, Dobbs said, "Next time you look in the air, it won't be me."

One early compilation of UFO sightings showed that, eventually, the overwhelming majority can be explained away — a full 90 percent.

Of course, that still leaves 10 percent that are worth wondering about, especially if you happen to be lying outside on a chaise lounge with nothing better to do on a beautiful spring night in the San Joaquin Valley.

AK-D20 ANCHORAGE TIMES
MARCH 29 1990

13001 Physicist insists that UFOs exist

By JULIA SOPALSKI
Times Writer

Stanton Friedman's theories that UFOs exist and the government covers up the evidence was not big news for Anchorage on Wednesday afternoon. When Friedman asked how many people had read a 1955 report on UFOs, the raised hands surprised him.

"Wow. I'm in ufology heaven," he exclaimed.

Friedman is renowned for challenging the government to release documents related to UFO sightings.

Friedman spoke to three different sessions in Grant Hall at Alaska Pacific University.

The afternoon audience of about 100 listened for two hours while Friedman talked. He packed research and statistics in between slides of government documents and UFOs photographed everywhere from Peru to Yugoslavia.

When he opened the floor to questions, the listeners had plenty to say.

Friedman, a nuclear physicist renowned for challenging the govern-

PHYSICIST CONT

ment to release documents related to UFO sightings, said the evidence for alien-powered craft is overwhelming.

Referring to the 3,000 sightings investigated in a 1955 government study published as "Blue Book Project No. 14," Friedman pointed out the similar descriptions of objects ultimately classified as unknown.

The appearance of the objects is no problem, he said. Boeing or Lockheed could design a disc resembling those sighted. But look at the

behavior of those objects described, he continued.

"If any manufacturer on earth could make a ship with that type of maneuverability, we wouldn't still be producing F-15s and Mirages," Friedman said. "So where did they come from?"

The ideas Friedman presented on aliens traveling from galaxies 36 light years away were no problem for the audience.

"We know there are aliens and they are trying to make contact," one woman said. "The question is not their existence but what they want."

Friedman offered a hypothetical

possibility.

Put yourself in the shoes of the aliens, said Friedman. Every place that the human race has gone has turned into a battleground.

"If you were aliens, you'd be concerned about us too," Friedman

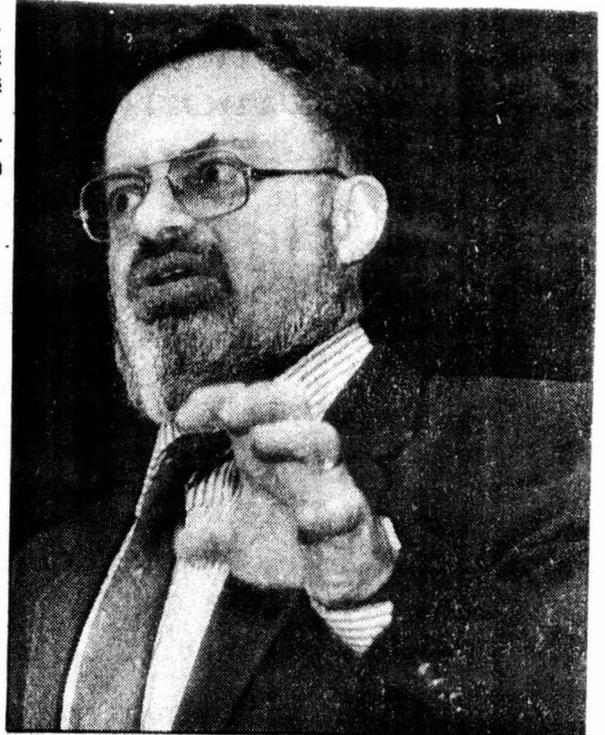
said, shaking his head.

Elizabeth Wells raised her hand and told Friedman that she grew up near Roswell, N.M., the site of a supposed UFO crash which has become the topic of research, books and a recent segment of the television series "Unsolved Mysteries."

"I remember sitting around the dinner table and in school talking about the crash and the

transport of the craft and the dead aliens by the government," Wells said. It was just normal "table talk." It was the beginning of the space age, she said.

When Friedman asked how many in the audience had had a UFO sighting experience, 18 people raised their hands.



Times photo by ROB LAYMAN

Stanton Friedman

... 'in ufology heaven' at APU

FL-D270 (MELBOURNE) FLORIDA TODAY

MARCH-28 1990

Panhandle community in whirl over UFOs

By Craig Myers
and Bill DiPaolo
FLORIDA TODAY

GULF BREEZE — In July 1988, Escambia County Medical Examiner C. Fenner McConnell and his wife, Shirley, were planning a dinner party.

The party was to feature activities and decorations poking fun at sightings of UFOs in Gulf Breeze.

But two days before the party — which featured a painted backdrop of Martians that guests could pose with for photos, and Mars candy bars and Moon Pies for dessert — the tables turned.

For five minutes near dawn July 8, the McConnells watched as an object hovered over their pier in Pensacola Bay. The object matched photos taken by retired

contractor Ed Walters and published in the Gulf Breeze Sentinel, the McConnells said. Walters' pictures are published in his just-released book "The Gulf Breeze Sightings."

"It was the stereotyped flying saucer, with windows and a flashing light on top of it," Shirley McConnell said. "It was metallic gray in color and didn't make a hum — no motor, no noise. It took one minute for it to get from our house to the Navy base, and when it hit the beams of the lighthouse, we couldn't see it any more."

"I told it to come back (for the party)," she said.

The McConnells' sighting is among more than 200 reported in the skies over Northwest Florida since Nov. 11, 1987, when Walters said he had a close encounter

with a UFO.

The sightings, which usually come in clusters at different sites throughout the world, make Northwest Florida one of the recent "hot spots," said one UFO investigator.

Walters said that about 5 p.m. that November day he looked out a window at the front of his house and saw an object he described as "right out of a (Steven) Spielberg movie" hovering about 200 feet above the ground. He got a camera, went out the front door and took pictures.

He claims he was hit by a beam of blue light that pulled him toward the hovering craft. He eventually freed himself.

Since then, Walters and members of his family have reported 19 other sightings or encounters,

See UFO, 5B



Jeff Darby, FLORIDA TODAY

SIGHTINGS OVER Gulf Breeze still has newly published author Ed Walters excited.

including an incident in which he said he lost consciousness for an hour.

Walters said he went to Shoreline Park on May 1, 1988. Shortly after midnight, he said, he took a picture of a UFO and went blank, waking up bruised.

The latest sighting of UFO-related phenomenon by Walters occurred Feb. 28 as he walked along South Shoreline Park.

Pointing to a 20-foot wide patch of tall grass swirled in a clockwise pattern, Walters said, "Now, I'm not saying this is where spaceship landed. But I'm not ruling it out either."

Walters said he has taken 39 photographs of three types of UFOs on 20 occasions. Several were taken with a NIMSLO stereo camera, which produces a three-dimensional image. The film is sealed to prevent tampering.

Walter Andrus, director of Mutual UFO Network, a UFO investigations group that claims 2,500 worldwide members, believes the photographs are real.

Gulf Breeze Police Chief Jerry Brown said he thinks the community is split with believers and non-believers. If alien life is visiting Earth, he asked, "Why isn't it in Washington talking to the president?"

Brown said he believes most of the sightings can be explained by activity at area Navy and Air Force bases. The rest can be blamed on a domino effect of hysteria that began with Walters' photos, he said.

FROM
THE STATE PAGE

The McConnells, though, believe they saw something that July morning. They believe it so strongly that Shirley McConnell appeared on the syndicated television program "A Current Affair" to talk about UFOs.

The McConnells are not alone. A growing number of Gulf Breeze residents, including a city councilwoman, a newspaper publisher and law enforcement officers have come forward to claim there is UFO activity over Gulf Breeze.

City Councilwoman Brenda Pollak said she had nothing to gain and everything to lose by going public with her UFO sighting Jan. 8, 1990. She even took a photograph of the object.

"It was a red light moving abruptly, then moving slowly. It was moving faster and changing directions much more rapidly than anything I've seen. It was silhouetted against the clouds like a piece of black confetti.

"You could only see two dimensions, no depth," Pollak said, pointing to the sky east of the Gulf

Breeze United Methodist Church.

Even Brown, the skeptical police chief, keeps a thick file of information on UFOs in his office, including newspaper articles, eyewitness accounts and phone numbers for UFO investigators.

One such investigator, Rex Salisbury, said he has confirmed 25 UFO sightings in the past year. The 60-year-old retired pilot is investigating six recent sightings over north Pensacola and Pensacola Bay.

"People are nervous when I go out to talk to them. They feel they are going to be ridiculed. But there's always one thing: They believe in what they are saying."

Salisbury called Northwest Florida a "hot spot."

"Maybe it's the multiple air bases in the area. We have reason to believe in the past 40 years, areas with sensitive military bases have had a predominance of UFO sightings," Andrus said.

"There is something flying around out there," said Duane Cook, publisher of the Gulf Breeze Sentinel, which first printed Walters' photos.

The newspaper has sold 500 packages of copies of the UFO stories documenting 77 UFO sightings since 1987.

Group takes UFOs seriously — and scientifically

John Carpenter believes in UFOs. He investigates sightings.

Don't laugh.

He considers himself a serious, rational student taking the scientific approach to a subject many people find irrational.



Carpenter

Carpenter, a psychiatric social worker, heads the Mutual UFO Network of Springfield. The group is a branch of the approximately 4,000-member international Mutual UFO Network — MUFON, if you will.

MUFON literature describes the organization as one for people seriously interested in studying and researching UFOs.

"There's enough kooks out there," Carpenter pointed out. "We don't need to try to look like them or attract them."

"We try very hard not to promote anything in particular. We greatly discourage people who speak from opinion and belief only, without data to stand behind them."

Don't call Carpenter a Spockjock. Don't confuse him with the folks who believe there's an E.T. behind every tree.

Members of the Springfield group — about 30 people attend the monthly meetings — are skeptical. They demand proof of alien spaceships and extraterrestrials.

"You've just about got to have the thing sitting in the back yard, and shaking hands," said engineering technician Tom Strand, a field investigator for the Springfield chapter, whose membership includes nurses, engineers, a police officer and elementary school teacher.

Basically, field investigators interview people who think they have seen a UFO or believe they have discovered evidence of one. Investigators accumulate any physical evidence that might exist, including soil samples and photographs.

"There are experts we can draw upon," Strand said. "There is one fellow, his main field is the study of landing sites. There are also experts who would analyze photographs these people may have taken."

In the year since the local chapter was formed, 90 percent of the approximately 50 sightings in southwest Missouri and northwest Arkansas have occurred south of Springfield, near the state line.

AL'S PLACE

AL CARLSON



Carpenter said people who report sightings, and the locations themselves, aren't identified for the same reason most network members insist on anonymity: "They could be the object of ridicule."

Perhaps Carpenter's most interesting — he chooses the adjective "reliable" — report involved two St. Louis women in their 40s. They were driving back from Colorado when the incident occurred.

Even skeptics who consider UFOs hallucinations might find some aspects of the women's tale harrowing:

■ They observed a very bright object in the sky, and described it to each other to make

sure they were seeing the same thing.

■ The object descended to their stopped car. The next thing they remember is the car moving again.

■ At their next scheduled stop, a record being kept by one of the travelers showed that a portion of the trip had taken three hours instead of the expected one. The amount of gas in the tank reflected an hour's drive.

■ Under hypnosis, with no opportunity to discuss what they had seen, both women described being elevated out of the car and pulled up by a bright light to a spacecraft. They remembered the same circulating room, lighting and, in Carpenter's words, "of course the same creatures. They described beings as very white and thin, with real long, bony fingers, a large head and dark eyes."

Still skeptical?

Doubts vanished?

If you're interested in joining a group that seriously studies spaceships and anybody who might happen to be in them, call the Mutual UFO Network of Springfield at 882-3363.

Just don't laugh.

□ Features writer Al Carlson's weekly column appears Monday in Accent.

NOW USSR SEES ALIEN NATION & STAR DREK!

Post Wire Services

MOSCOW — A Ukrainian astronomer not only believes he has found an alien civilization but has deduced that its citizens have solved the problems of the environment — by living on one planet and putting all their industry on another.

"In the course of numerous tests, I have detected mysterious sources of radio emissions in the northern part of the sky, near the star Altair," Alexei Arkhipov of the Kharkov Radio-Astronomical Institute told the government news agency Tass.

"They may be caused by the intensive industrial activity of alien civilizations we do not know of," he said.

Altair is in the constellation Aquila, and in ancient times it was associated with evil reptiles.

But, reptilian or not, the creatures, in Arkhipov's view, live in Altair's solar system and seem to have created a fantastically

powerful industrial society.

So powerful, in fact, that it would make the planet on which it is based virtually uninhabitable.

Tass did not speculate as to whether the Altairians were the same aliens who showed up in UFOs in the Soviet Union last year.

Nor did it wonder if they might have been looking over Siberia as a likely spot for their next industrial park.

Arkhipov calculates that the radio emissions he has detected, which he suggests stem from radar, television and other forms of electronic transmission, are about 100 million times more powerful than the energy the Earth receives from the sun.

Therefore, he concludes, it is easy to figure out that the creatures who built all this industry must actually live somewhere else — namely, on another planet, preferably one that is not too close by. //

388-220 POPULAR COMMUNICATIONS
MAY 1990

UFO Frequencies

Regarding your February editorial concerning UFO's, please note that 7414.9 kHz is the natural resonant frequency of the universe. Current research is focusing on this frequency as the most likely channel for intergalactic emissions. The new monthly pull-out center-section is a great idea.

Prof. S. Nodd,
Kings Park, NY

UFO hunt fails in Belgium

Agence-France Presse

LIEGE, Belgium.—Airmen, scientists and journalists who joined what was billed as the world's biggest UFO hunt failed to find an unidentified flying object sighted over Belgium last weekend, but vowed to try again this week.

The Belgian Air Force and Belgian Society for the Observation of Space Phenomena took over Liege-Bierset airport for Easter weekend in an attempt to track a UFO after a rash of sightings in eastern Belgium.

For the past four months, dozens of witnesses, including police and an army meteorologist have reported spotting a UFO with three powerful lights forming a triangle.

All the descriptions were identical, said experts from the Society for the Observation of Space Phenomena. They said they would continue the effort to identify the strange object today.

The glowing triangle reportedly appeared over Liege again Saturday, just before midnight. But it failed to show up on army radar screens, and an air force plane that took off 45 minutes after the sighting flew too high to track it.

Dozens of people on the ground, including drivers mesmerized on a local highway, watched as the UFO apparently cruised far below the plane.

Your irreverent words about UFO communications in the February *Beaming In* were out of line. You are part of the conspiracy to belittle those who know the truth. The truth is that our planet is being deliberately bombarded with microwaves from spacecraft. This has changed our weather patterns, eaten through the ozone layer, changed the composition of our atmosphere, and caused mutations in viruses that now threaten our civilization. This is why major world powers have realized its time to set aside petty political differences. Scientists know what's happening, so do world leaders, but they aren't ready to tell the public because people like you turn everything into a big joke.

Edward N. Charbonneau,
Fort-de-France, Martinique

Enjoyed your editorial on UFO's. Hope you didn't receive any letters stuffed with ectoplasm in response to your comments.

Chuck Robertson,
Creal Springs, IL

The course on UFOs doesn't rest

GRAND FORKS — "To the best of my knowledge, there are no instances out of the hundreds of thousands of UFO reports filed since 1947 — not a single one — in which many people independently and reliably report a close encounter with what is clearly an alien spacecraft."

This is a quotation from Carl Sagan, noted scientist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "Cosmos."

However, UND is reported to be offering a course in the "reality of UFOs and their extraterrestrial origins."

Does this mean that UND is taking a position that UFOs and "extraterrestrial humanoids" are real — a position opposed by America's most eminent scientists?

The community looks to the university as a serious and responsible source of truth — to the best of currently existing knowledge. Without this stabilizing scrutiny — we can create a society that gives as much credence to Shirley MacLaine as to Albert Einstein?

In this time of widespread scientific illiteracy, universities must take the lead in clearly separating

ing scientific truth from unprovable claims.

Robert O. Gunderson

on science

IL-W3450 (LEWISTOWN) THE FULTON DEMOCRAT
APRIL - 25 - 1999

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

A most unusual object was seen by three people on the night of April 10. The following account is given with certain necessary omissions until a full investigation is concluded by the

Mutual U.F.O. Network (MUFON).

Two Ipava residents, driving home from Adair, stopped their car to use the phone on the square in Table Grove. A few minutes into the conversation, the young lady noticed low level lights in the sky approaching from the east. It soon became evident that these lights looked unusual and seemed out of character for an aircraft. It was at this point she shouted to her boyfriend. He had been sitting in the car listening to the radio. Before the young man got out of the car, the radio developed static and went dead for a few seconds. Jumping out, he looked up to see an enormous triangular object moving very slowly directly overhead. Both watched in amazement as the object passed silently over the business district.

Within seconds another motorist was flagged down and alerted to look at the sky. It was later learned that this person's radio had lost reception at the same time. Shortly all three people decided to give chase and drove to the western edge of town, arriving in time to see the object elevating and rapidly accelerating out of sight. All witnesses are in agreement that the object was absolutely silent, had non flashing lights, was moving very slowly while over the town, and described its size as comparable to a football field, bigger than a blimp, humongous, etc.

According to Poe Clark, MUFON State Section Director for Fulton, Schuyler, and McDonough Counties, numerous U.F.O. sightings have occurred over the area. Deltoid, cigar, spherical, and disc-shaped, as well as other varieties have all been reported through the years. A case with more pronounced electromagnetic effects took place in 1988 not far from this sighting. Many sightings go unreported; many that are reported can be explained and are not bonafide U.F.O.'s.

In the case of this triangle an outline and surface area were visible; therefore, it must be put in a different category than just lights in the sky. Furthermore, other elements of strangeness combine with the visual image, that is especially important.

Sincerely,
Poe H. Clark
Ipava, IL

TX-D460 HOUSTON CHRONICLE
APRIL 16 1990

UFO fever hits Belgium

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Belgium is haunted by an outbreak of flying-saucer fever.

UFOs have been reported in the south of the country over the last four months. Belgium's Society for the Study of Space Phenomena organized a weekend watch, with observers at a network of 20 vantage points, police stations taking calls reporting sightings and the Belgian air force providing full radar backup.

Two planes were standing by to chase space interlopers.

They all drew a blank Friday night. But around midnight Saturday, in poured reports of a silent, luminous low-flying triangle hovering in the sky.

Ten scientists and observers took off in a plane to search the skies for an hour. They found nothing. "But that doesn't mean there wasn't anything," a spokesman said Sunday.

Houston Chronicle News Services

43A-680 LIFE ASSOCIATION
NEWS MONTHLY

MARCH 1990

Weird Insurance Tales

The UFO Abduction Insurance Company in Altamonte Springs, Fla., is offering an insurance policy that pays \$10 million if the insured is kidnapped by aliens in an unidentified flying object, according to Knight-Ridder. The policy sells for \$9.95. Mike St. Lawrence, president of the company, said he has sold more than 1,200, but, so far, no one has tried to collect. In the event of a claim, the policy pays \$1 a year for 10 million years, and a frequent-flier exclusion limits one

flight per policyholder. There is also a double-indemnity payment if the aliens refer to the policyholder as a "nutritional food source." St. Lawrence said that he created the UFO insurance because "after carefully reviewing my homeowner's policy I discovered that I, like many other Americans, was not covered."