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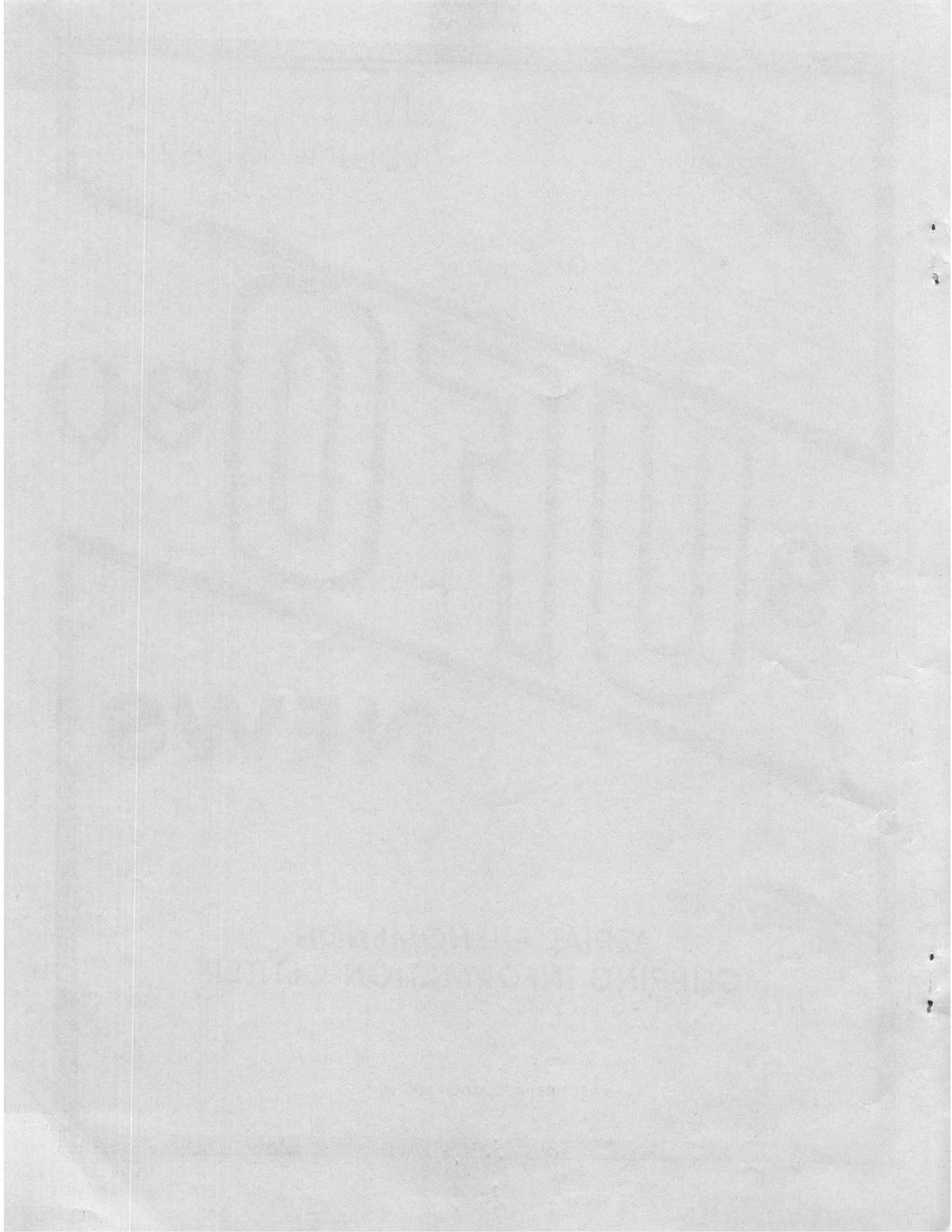
19 UFO 90

NEWS

**AERIAL PHENOMENON
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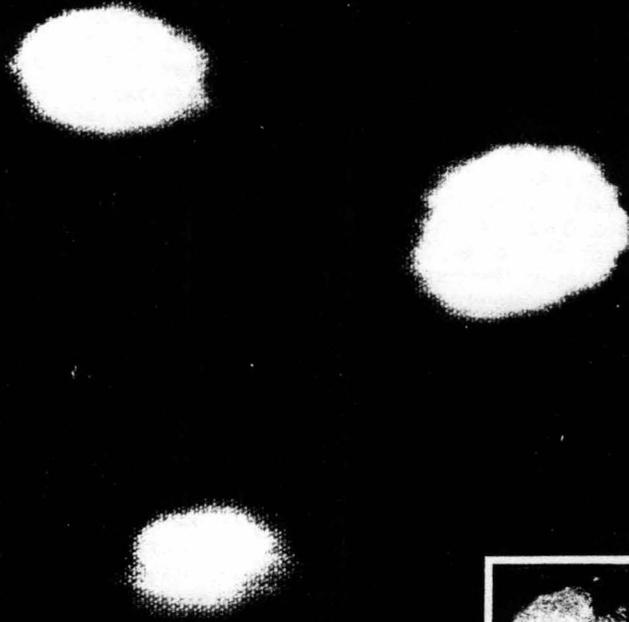
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NATIONAL
ENQUIRER
WEEKLY
MAY 22 1990

UFO Sensation!

*Air Force Jets
Chase the Most
Astonishing
Flying Object
Ever Sighted*



ACTUAL PHOTO OF MYSTERY OBJECT with its three large circular areas of white light. Belgian Air Force jets have chased the object and are now

on standby. "Something was definitely spotted on the ground radar," declared Col. Wilfred de Brouwer (inset photo).

The most incredible UFO sightings ever are causing a sensation throughout Europe, where a bizarre craft has been seen by more than 6,000 people — including Belgian Air Force officials who on March 30 scrambled jets to intercept it.

"These are UFO sightings — we don't know what they are," declared Col. Wilfred de Brouwer, who is in charge of Belgium's Air Force UFO watch operation.

When the jets were ordered to scramble in late March, they roared toward the mysterious triangular UFO at 500 miles per hour. But as the two F-16 jets approached, the craft suddenly disappeared from view!

But on their radar screens, Belgian Air Force personnel still saw the UFO for several more seconds — until it vanished in the blink of an eye!

There's no way the craft can be a plane, experts say, because it changes direction on a dime, accelerates at a rate impossible for any known aircraft, and can also creep along at less than 10 miles per hour — without making a sound.

Said Col. de Brouwer, "The military should continue to follow this closely. We ought to know just what is flying over the heads of the Belgian people!"

Dozens of police officers have also seen the bizarre UFO, which has been sighted for more than 150 straight nights — every night since it first appeared last November. Major publications in Belgium, France and Spain are all heralding the amazing news.

"Witnesses all saw a very large triangular object, with each side of the triangle measuring 100 to 200 feet," said Prof. Leon Brenig, a physicist who is studying the cases at Brussels' state-run Free University.

CON'T NEXT PAGE

LIFO
SENSATION
CONT

"It made practically no noise — only a slight humming — and it made no turbulence on the ground even though it flew at a very low altitude. On the underside were three large circular areas of white light — at each angle of the triangle."

The strange craft made hairpin turns — and after several minutes

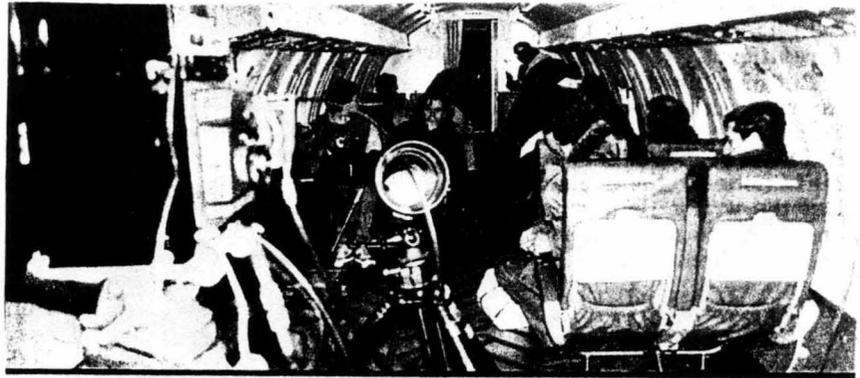
zipped out of sight at incredible speed.

Said Prof. Brenig, "Military authorities tell me that not even the most modern jets are capable of making such movements — or suddenly accelerating at speeds faster than the mind can comprehend."

In an astonishing series of close encounters, the UFO:

- Led police on several wild chases. The very first night it appeared, November 29, police near the Belgium-Germany border spotted it flying slowly at a very low altitude, and followed. In all, three police cars were involved in the pursuit until the UFO zoomed off.

- Terrified workers in a 20-story



EERIE MISSION: UFO investigators travel on air force plane equipped with infrared camera to try filming mystery object.

building near Brussels — who thought the low-flying craft would crash into them.

- Was sighted by the entire police patrol of the Belgian district of Wavre.

- Hovered over a coffee roasting factory — terrorizing 10 employees on duty.

NATO radar first detected the UFO's strange image during a flurry of sightings on the night of March 30.

Said Col. de Brouwer, "We sent two F-16 jets to look for this object. Something was definitely spotted on the ground radar — something with nonconventional behavior."

At least five radar units — two airborne and three on the ground — detected the UFO before it zoomed off that night.

The Belgian Air Force is so determined to get to the bottom of the mystery it has joined forces with a Brussels-based UFO investigation group, the Belgian Society for the Study of Spacial Phenomena.

"We support them by putting jets and crews on standby for them," said Col. de Brouwer.

The air force is also providing the group with a prop plane equipped with computers, tracking equipment and an infrared camera to capture the UFO on film.

Col. de Brouwer added, "Reports

of individual observations are still pouring in."

During one week in late April, some 30 police officers reported seeing the same bizarre craft, said Lucien Clerebaut, founder of the UFO investigating group.

"Sightings have been reported every day for the past five months — and I've been getting at least 15 calls a day," he said.

"One engineer and his wife jumped out of their car when they saw the craft come within a few yards of them. They saw a flashing red light detach itself from the craft, hover next to their car for a couple of seconds, then return to its place underneath the craft.

"The UFO disappeared at great speed. About 50 other witnesses observed this.

"There has never been a case in the world where so many people are seeing the same UFO in such a short time. It's the most important wave of UFO sightings ever!"

Declared a spokesman for the Belgian Minister of Defense, "There's a UFO up there and no one knows what it is. One suggestion is that maybe we should shoot it down.

"But we want to know more about this thing before we try to get it!"

— JANICE GREGORY

IL-D800 ROCKFORD REGISTER
STAR

MAY 9 1990

Etc.

People, places and things in the news

Spacy melodies

A Peoria woman is composing music that's out of this world — from simple melodies to grand compositions — inspired by what she describes as her contacts with aliens.

Connie Cook, 42, said she has been visited by "small, yellow-skinned" aliens in her bathroom and bedroom and has seen formations of alien spaceships in the skies over Peoria many times since 1981.

Immediately after the first experience, Cook said she began hearing music inside her head and started writing it down, despite no prior experience composing songs.

AR-D200 (LITTLE ROCK) ARKANSAS GAZETTE
APRIL-26 1990

Unidentified feline objectionable

To the Editor:

As a resident of Eureka Springs and a member of MUFON I found your editorial, "Are cats the contact?" (April 14), not only offensive but also completely off the mark in coverage of the Ozark UFO Conference.

The comment about cats was made by the first speaker of the conference, a 40-year-old woman who was relating her personal experience. She was not a UFO researcher and had not even heard of abductions until a couple of years

ago. It was her first time to speak in front of an audience and she was extremely nervous.

The cat subject was only brought out when she was trying to respond to a question from the back of the audience which she and most of the crowd did not hear clearly. It was her attempt to bring a little humor to an emotional 50-minute talk she had just given. I can't recall the word cat being mentioned again for the rest of the conference.

Richard Schrum.

Eureka Springs.

NATIONAL ENQUIRER

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IL-D200 (CHICAGO) THE DAILY SOUTH TOWN ECONOMIST
MAY-6 1990

UFOs, logic fly out window in new book

By MICHELE MOHR

"Occasionally, we were tracking things that weren't satellites," he said.

Yet most of the astronomers didn't report their findings for fear of being ridiculed. Vallee met and talked with many members of this "Invisible College," eventually writing a book about the experience.

He has since written several

NEW BOOK CON'T

emerged for a promenade around the park.

"I've met with people who've done research," Vallee said. "There's no question, there were several sightings. There were over a thousand witnesses."

Among the witnesses were

JACQUES VALLEE

BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *DIMENSIONS*

CONFRONTATIONS

A SCIENTIST'S SEARCH FOR ALIEN CONTACT

two hours of the trip were missing from their memories. The woman then began to suffer nightmares and her husband developed severe ulcers.

Through separate hypnosis sessions, doctors heard the same story from both husband and wife of being taken on board the space ship

Is that an alien inside that spaceship, or is it an earthling from another dimension?

The majority of ufologists have argued for years that UFOs (unidentified flying objects) are the spacecraft of extraterrestrials who have been visiting Earth on scientific expeditions. According to Dr. Jacques Vallee, however, UFOs and their alien occupants aren't from far-off galaxies. He thinks that they're actual inhabitants of Earth, except of a higher consciousness than humans.

UFOs are "a physical manifestation of a form of consciousness that is alien to humans but able to co-exist with us on earth," Vallee writes in his newest book, "Confrontations: A Scientist's Search for Alien Contact" (Ballantine Books, \$19.95).

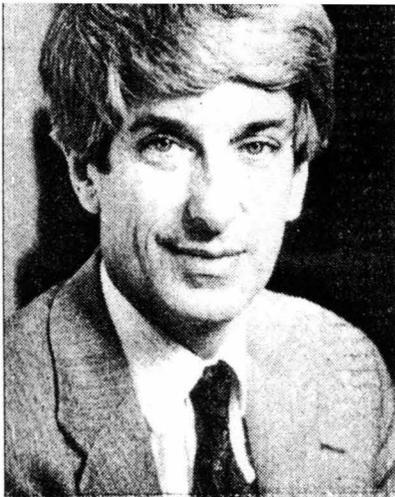
These beings may exist in another dimension, Vallee said, and are apparently able to manipulate space and time in ways we haven't yet learned.

"There could be another universe 10 minutes ahead of us," he said during a recent interview.

In "Confrontations," Vallee concluded that UFOs are physical and not explainable, have a technology controlled by non-human consciousness and are not necessarily from outer space.

Vallee's conclusions are intriguing, but the investigator has his critics among ufologists who feel that he is trying to debunk claims of extraterrestrial exploration and encounters. Vallee, in turn, has a running feud with those who refuse to accept or consider any other explanation for the phenomena, and he refuses to work with many other investigators.

Others even more skeptical may find Vallee's book no more than a mildly entertaining diversion, a cross between early science-fiction pulp and "Tales From the Darkside."



Dr. Jacques Vallee

Scientific research is normally logical and reasoned, but Vallee's research touches on the paranormal and the unexplainable. He doesn't find any contradictions.

"A television would be paranormal to someone from the 15th century," he said. "We just don't understand these things in terms of our science."

Vallee said these alien beings are far from the benign "E.T." of movie fame. In the book, he recounts several cases of injuries, some of them fatal, to people who witnessed UFO phenomena.

"There seems to be tremendous energy concentrated in a small space," he said about reports of beams of light coming from unidentified craft. These beams have been blamed for injuries, from dizziness and headaches to muscular ailments and burns, to people witnessing the phenomena.

But Vallee would not categorize the incidents as deliberate. "So it can be harmful, but harmful like putting your finger in an electrical socket. You don't blame the utility company."

Vallee, an astrophysicist, computer scientist and UFO investigator, said he got involved in UFO research while working at the Paris Observatory tracking satellites.

Spielberg's adviser during the filming of "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." He was also the real-life model for the Francois Truffaut character in the movie.

Born in France, Vallee now lives in San Francisco with his wife and two sons. He lived in Chicago in the early '60s and received a doctorate in computer science from Northwestern University. He also worked with NU's Dr. J. Allen Hynek, scientific adviser to the U.S. Air Force's "Project Blue Book" and director of the Center for UFO Studies.

Vallee's research has taken him around the world and led him in directions he never imagined. From a hilltop in suburban Rio de Janeiro to the desolate hills of northern California to the interior of the Amazon rainforest, Vallee has personally documented more than 100 cases; 40 of them are included in "Confrontations."

Unfortunately, many more cases aren't documented because of what Vallee said are two basic laws that apply to UFO sightings or encounters: They tend to take place in areas of very low population densities, and they tend to cluster between 1 and 3 a.m.

"It's a pattern that's been identified again and again," he said.

"It makes it difficult for scientists to study the phenomena. You're usually not going to find a Ph.D. from MIT in those places at those times."

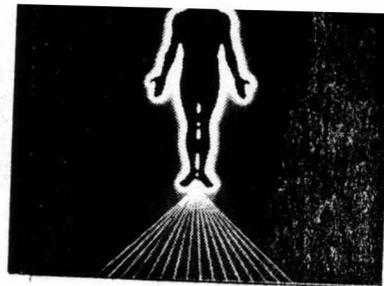
Vallee's next project is a trip to the Soviet Union for research on a reported sighting and encounter with a UFO in Voronezh, a city of 800,000 people about 300 miles southeast of Moscow.

The Soviet news agency Tass reported last October that a UFO landed in a park in Voronezh and three aliens

CONT NEXT PAGE

Geophysical Laboratory, who managed to conduct experiments on the site, Vallee said.

"With glasnost, Soviet scientists have been allowed to come forward and talk about their research," he said, "and the caliber of their research is staggering."



LT-D30 (PROVO) THE DAILY HERALD
MAY 3 1990

1381 Nuclear physicist tells students UFOs do exist

By KAYLENE NELSEN
Herald Senior Reporter

Unidentified Flying Objects do exist and for more than 40 years the U.S. government has been covering up proof.

That's the message a nuclear physicist and UFO expert had for students at Utah Valley Community College Wednesday. Stanton Friedman has spent 30 years researching flying saucers. "After years of study and investigation, including hundreds of hours at various archives, I am convinced that some UFOs are alien spacecraft, that the government has known this to be true since 1947, and that none of the arguments made by the skeptics can stand up under careful scruti-

ny."

Friedman showed slides to the students during the afternoon and later in the evening, explaining some of the phenomena reported about UFOs. He said a brilliantly lit object is often reported and then later, where it landed, a glowing ring of soil is left. One woman reported that her fingers went numb for several weeks after touching that soil.

He said these rings of soil have been analyzed and found that nothing will grow in them and water won't seep into them.

He told of a couple that saw a UFO while traveling and stopped to look at it. When they arrived at their destination they discovered

We're about to come face-to-face with visitors from outer space!

That's the message coming through loud and clear in uncannily similar recurring dreams experienced by thousands of American "Star People" — persons who say they're descendants of space beings that mated with humans.

"In the past few months there's been a tremendous upsurge in the numbers of Star People writing

and calling us," reveals author and researcher Brad Steiger, who has long studied the Star People phenomenon.

"And the message from all of them is basically the same: Something is about to happen."

Steiger has interviewed and

star map she had seen while on board the spacecraft and later drew it for the doctors.

Some time later a model of the various solar systems was created and it was discovered that this map matched the model. "How did Betty, a social worker with no knowl-

edge of astronomy, know what to draw?" he asked. "Because she had seen it on that spaceship."

Friedman, who worked on the award-winning documentary "UFOs Are Real" and a 1989 "Unsolved Mysteries" segment, said an incident in 1947 proves the government knows about UFOs and covered it up.

He said a resident of New Mexico found an exploded flying saucer at that time and the military was called in to investigate. Initially the military admitted it was a UFO and newspapers carried the news. Later, military officials claimed it was just weather recording equipment.

34E-60 NATIONAL ENQUIRER
WEEKLY

MAY 15 1990

Space Aliens Are About to Make Contact!

hypnotically regressed more than 1,200 Star People. He says these individuals share a number of characteristics, including extra vertebrae, unusual sensitivity to light, supersharp hearing and lower than normal body temperature and blood pressure.

"I think space aliens are using these people to send us messages of hope and peace," said Steiger. "The messages foretell a meeting with aliens that will lead to a new Golden Age — and the dreams have remarkable similarities.

"They tell of an end to war, famine and plague, of remedies brought from the stars to help mankind. Star People report seeing a vast UFO fleet of silvery craft that is bringing knowledge and goodness from elsewhere in the universe.

"They also report feeling they are here to help earth's people through a time of transition. Some say they sense that something in their minds is lying dormant, waiting for a signal to activate unknown powers. It's as if they've been put here to 'introduce' visitors from other worlds to us."

Steiger's wife Sherry believes she is one of the Star People — and she's been experiencing some of their typical recurring dreams, she disclosed. "In my latest

MAKE CONTACT CON'T

dreams I've been seeing ranks of silver spacecraft coming to earth — and have had a great sense of joy and relief."

Another Star Person is Shirlee Teabo, a business consultant from Federal Way, Wash. She said, "It seems to me from what I am dreaming that we will be making contact soon — and we'll be receiving advice and help from our alien cousins."

Jerry Wills, an electronics engineer from Phoenix, Ariz., said: "Like most Star People, I have been having dreams — they are prophecies, knowledge that has been implanted and is being activated now.

"Something very important is about to happen — that I know."

— LARRY HALFY

MD-D20 BALTIMORE SUN
MAY 2 1990



Kevin
Cowherd

UFOs, Elvis: Give me proof

A BOOK ABOUT UFOs recently crossed my desk, which got me to thinking about the whole phenomenon that one friend calls "being hassled by aliens."

The only thing I know about UFOs is what I read in the newspapers. For instance, the other day I read of a woman on the West Coast who claimed to have been abducted by visitors from space on her way to the laundromat.

The abduction was fairly uneventful, as these things go. The aliens put on a fresh pot of coffee and everyone sat around the spaceship and played cards, gin rummy mostly. The woman was apparently a crack canasta player and tried to change the game on several occasions, but each time was gently but firmly told to "shut up and deal."

At the end of three hours, the aliens suddenly stood and said she was free to go.

"Take care of yourself, Marge," one alien was quoted as saying.

"Thanks. You do the same," the woman says she replied. "By the way, the coffee was delicious. Mind if I ask what brand?"

"Folgers instant," was the answer. "Has a nice rich flavor, doesn't it?"

And that was about it. The next thing the woman knew, she was back pulling a basket of dirty laundry and detergent out of the back of her Subaru.

As I said, it wasn't much of an abduction. But it made all the papers, at least the ones that are read on the supermarket checkout lines.

The problem I have with UFO sightings is the same problem I have with Elvis sightings, namely, the credibility of the people doing the sighting.

It's always a ranch hand named Clarence in some desolate area of Montana who tells a fantastic story about watering his horse when he suddenly spots a glowing beam of light that sucks him into a spaceship, where these little green men tie him up and do all sort of weird experiments on him, in addition to grilling him for hours about Coke vs. Pepsi.

But, see, there's the problem. *No one except Clarence saw the damned UFO.* So the authorities take Clarence's statement about this UFO, roll their eyes to the heavens, and think: "That Clarence... he's getting nuttier than a fruitcake."

Just once I would like to hear about a UFO that touched down on second base in the middle of a Yankees-Red Sox game at Fenway Park.

That way you'd have about 33,000 eyewitnesses to the event. Oh, sure, some of them would be pretty beered up, and no help when it came to describing details of the spacecraft itself to the news media. ("It had, um, thousands of green lights. No, blue. Greenish-blue...")

And being sports fans, more than a few would be upset if the UFO landing broke up a potential double-play, Boggs to Barrett to Buckner.

Still, 33,000 people witnessing a UFO landing adds a certain credibility to the event, more or less ensuring the story doesn't end up buried in the "Around the Region" section in the next day's paper.

The other thing is: If there's going to be only one eyewitness to a UFO sighting, it has to be someone like, oh, David Brinkley or Jeanne Kirkpatrick, your basic big-name, no-nonsense type of person.

By the way, this is no knock on Clarence, the ranch hand in Montana. He might be a very nice fellow, sober and industrious, the kind of fellow not normally given to telling tall tales.

It's just that Clarence doesn't have the reputation or the clout to say he saw a UFO without people giggling, especially if it turns out that he was one of the first ranch hands to experiment with peyote out there on the trail, if you catch my drift.

On the other hand, if Pope Paul holds a news conference and says: "Yeah, woke up this morning and saw this big ol' spaceship do a couple of laps around St. Peter's Basilica and then roar off in the direction of the Sistine Chapel," people are going to sit up and pay attention.

At least I am. Call me naive, but I just don't see the pope making up a story about aliens who drive their spacecraft like Kentucky moonshine runners. The pope gets his name in the paper enough without resorting to outrageous fabrications.

It's the same with all these pictures of UFOs that you see in books and magazines. Invariably the pictures are grainy and fuzzy and look like someone threw a cigar box or a Frisbee in the air and took snapshots with an old Instamatic.

My guess is that Clarence took them.

Talk about a guy with too much time on his hands.

UFO expert hopes for a 'close

MS-D210 (TUPLLO) N. E. MISSISSIPPI DAILY
JOURNAL MAY 6 1990

encounter'

By **BILL SUMRALL**

Daily Journal

If you've had a close encounter of the third kind, John P. Timmerman wants to talk to you.

No, he's not a psychiatrist.

Timmerman, 66, is vice-president of public relations for the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Lima, Ohio.

No, he doesn't need a psychiatrist, either, thank you.

Timmerman is hosting a weekend photographic exhibit on the subject of UFOs that concludes today at the Tupelo Mall.

The exhibit contains photographs, sketches and documents under plexiglass in a 10-section, 40-foot series of 20 panels that describe the phenomenon of UFOs, otherwise known as unidentified flying objects.

"I put this exhibit together, originally in a more primitive form than it is today, in 1980," Timmerman said.

He took the exhibit to a mall in Dallas, found there was a market for this service and has been traveling with it ever since.

"It gives us a chance to contact the public, let them know there is something serious to this subject," Timmerman said.

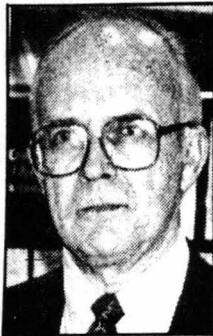
"I've already had several people tell me of experiences they've had here or in this area or someplace that were interesting."

Timmerman became affiliated with the center in 1979, assisting its founder, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, in the management of the non-profit organization until Hynek's death in 1986.

Dr. Hynek, who coined the term "close encounters of the third kind," was associated with Project Blue Book, the Air Force's investigation into UFOs, until he realized it was an attempt to defuse public interest in the subject.

"He was highly regarded throughout the world, first of all as a scientist, as an astronomer, but in the popular mind ... he was regarded as the scientist who was pursuing the subject seriously," Timmerman said.

Researchers have found evidence that the UFO phenomenon was observed in Biblical and pre-Biblical times, he said.



John P. Timmerman

"Scholars find in ancient Roman writings, in Latin, that the soldiers of Rome were calling them 'flying shields.'"

The majority of sightings prove to be a misinterpretation of natural phenomena — meteors, planets and stars, odd clouds — or manmade objects, such as airplanes, balloons or satellites.

These are IFOs, or identified flying objects. But an estimated 5 to 10 percent of the UFO reported remain a puzzle.

"Venus is very popular," Timmerman said. "It's been the morning star here recently and

many people misperceive that. But if they see Venus and something else, well, then, what was the something else?"

The Center collects reports from people about UFOs for analysis, he said.

"Those who've research the subject for many years know, from the evidence that's been revealed through the Freedom of Information Act, that the government has been covering up information from the general public," he said.

"They've been denying things on the one hand and then revealing it through court cases on the other, and their inconsistency, they explain, is a matter of the fact that the information was finally declassified and they can now talk about it."

The purpose of the mall exhibit is to find highly credible witnesses who've had close encounters experiences and are willing to share that experience with Timmerman.

"I will tape-record their remarks. It'll be treated confidentially. I will have it transcribed and send it to an appropriate researcher in this country or abroad who is specializing in the type of case that they tell me about."

By the way, Timmerman said he has never seen a UFO himself. But he added he would like to.

"I have never seen what I think was a true anomaly," he said. "I have seen some interesting things in the sky, but I was never satisfied that they represented what people have been describing to me otherwise."

Believe it or not

Do you believe in UFOs, despite vigorous denials from the military that such things exist?

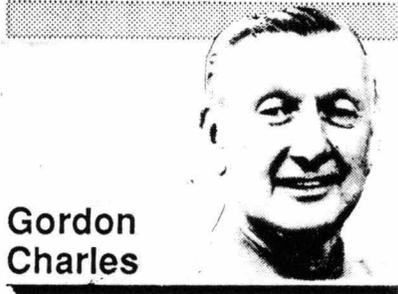
If so, you are not alone. In fact, quite a number of believers are going to meet May 16 through 25 in Peru to exchange information about the latest discoveries from extra-terrestrial investigations.

The conference will be held in the Urubamba Valley, a region sacred to the ancient Incas, that lies between Cuzco, once their capital, and Machu Picchu, the mysterious "lost city" of the Incas, not rediscovered until early in this century.

Experts in fields associated with unidentified flying objects will discuss archaeological evidence and myths and legends that point to the existence of ancient astronauts; research into South America's contact with UFOs; separating UFO "hype" from evidence, government "dis-information" policies and the involvement of intelligence services. Also, the technicalities of UFOs — magnetohydrodynamics, hyperspace jumps, propulsion technology, the Cuanda Effect; spiritual belief associated with what the field calls "galactic philosophy;" interdimensional "dream time" and astral travel; and the future of life in space.

Prior to the conference a special presentation will be made by Zecharia Sitchin, author of *Lost Realms, The Twelfth Planet* and other works. Other speakers will include Dr. Daniel Fry, a missile fuel and rocketry engineering expert, member of the Smithsonian Institution and author of *The White Sands Incident*; Wendelle Stevens, author of *UFO Contact from the Pleiades ...* (and other galaxies). Also, Neil Freer, author of *Breaking the Godspell*, which examines the possible colonization of Earth, 450,000 years ago, by humanoids from space; and UFO "contactees" from North and South America.

Full-day and half-day meetings will alternate to allow time to visit ancient sacred sites such



Gordon Charles

as Ollantaytambo, the ruins of a fortified Incan village; Pisac, a thriving village peopled by Inca descendants; and Lake Huaypo, where it's said UFOs have frequently been sighted at night. From Lima, prior to the conference opening, a visit is scheduled to Pachacamac where ruins of the Incan emperor Pachacutec's city overlie the remains of several pre-Incan civilizations.

Cost will be \$1,695 per person, double occupancy, and provides round-trip air between Miami and Lima/Cuzco, hotel accommodations, motorcoach transportation, all meals for the six conference days and breakfast on two days in Lima, sight-seeing and conference fees.

For more information, write to: Power Places Tours, 28802 Alta Laguna Blvd., Laguna Beach, Calif. 92651, or phone (714) 497-5138.

Gordon Charles is Record-Eagle outdoor editor.

1081 UFO search fruitless

By Ross Bielema
of the Telegraph Herald

GARNAVILLO, Iowa — E.T., phone the Clayton County Sheriff's Department.

A red glow seen in the night sky over rural Garnavillo Saturday launched a search for an airplane, but nothing was found, the Clayton County Sheriff's Department said.

The sheriff's department wouldn't say who called at about 8:30 p.m. Saturday and reported the bright red light about five miles northeast of Garnavillo on county road X-50. A sheriff's department spokeswoman said the person was driving out of a driveway when the sighting occurred.

The sheriff's department, Garnavillo Police Department and Garnavillo Fire Department, McGregor Police Department and local residents, plus a local pilot in an airplane, searched the woods for two hours Saturday night before calling off the hunt due to rain, the spokeswoman said.

Garnavillo firefighters returned to the area Sunday morning and searched again, but found nothing.

Garnavillo Police Chief Rollin Seifert and Fire Chief Carl Kuehl couldn't be reached for comment this morning. A woman at the Garnavillo IOCO Speede Shoppe convenience store said she knew who saw the lights, but didn't want to reveal the person's identity.

Bob Bolinger, aviation safety instructor for the Federal Aviation Administration's flight standards district office in Des Moines, said there were no reports of missing aircraft during the weekend.

He noted that aircraft that fly below 18,000 feet aren't required to file a flight plan, and many light planes that fly on short trips don't file flight plans.

1381
Couple: UFO sighting over Highway 59 'spooky'

By Jill Morris
 Gazette Correspondent

EVANSVILLE—For Juliana and Kenneth Pflager, the holiday weekend literally glowed as it came to a close Sunday evening.

Between 7:40 and 8 p.m., while driving home from a visit with friends in Milwaukee, the couple beheld a bright light suspended in the sky, a UFO.

Juliana said she and her husband missed the turn-off to Highway 26 in Fort Atkinson, ended up in Whitewater and decided to head west on Highway 59 toward Milton.

"My husband saw it first," she said, "and he wasn't going to say anything, until he realized I saw it, too."

The sky was still light and very clear, except for two "weird, V-shaped clouds," she said.

Near these clouds was the unidentified flying object. "It was a really bright light that was not moving. It was shaped like a football ... only flatter," Juliana said.

Kenneth's description mirrored his wife's. Both said the object was too bright and large to be a star.

The Pflagers said they pulled over and watched the object for about five minutes.

"I lined it up on my mirror, which is how I know it wasn't moving," Kenneth said.

They could still see it for another five or 10 minutes after they started on their journey again. But before they reached Milton, the object dimmed

and disappeared, they said.

"We don't drink or get high or nothing like that," said Kenneth, who works as a welder at Stoughton Trailer. "I know it was a UFO."

The couple stopped to share their experience with some friends in Janesville. When they got home in Evansville at 10:30 p.m., they decided to report their sighting to the authorities.

Kenneth called Truax Field in Madison, and a supervisor there said two or three other people called in similar reports.

"When I knew other people had seen it, too, then I knew I wasn't crazy," he said.

The Truax supervisor referred Kenneth to the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash. Kenneth said the center wanted to know when and where it was spotted, where it was headed and whether it could have been a plane or jet.

"I said it couldn't have been, because it didn't move at all," he said.

"This was not an airplane," agreed Juliana, who works as a sub-assembler at Amtel Communications in McFarland. She said the year she and her husband spent in Arizona made them familiar with the appearance of all kinds of commercial and military aircraft in flight.

Juliana described the sighting as "a bit spooky."

"You couldn't help but wonder whether (its passengers) could hear you or come after you," she said.

AB-D30 THE EDMONTON JOURNAL
 APRIL 17 1990

'Flying saucer' was a NASA experiment

STEVE WARBURTON
 Journal Staff Writer

Edmonton

Alone in her dark backyard, Danae Forbes didn't want to believe the colorful exploding star in the night sky was a UFO.

"I didn't want to admit what I saw was a flying saucer but the more I thought about it the more I was convinced.

"It just kept getting bigger and bigger and was perfectly circular.

It looked like a saucer with bluey-white light around it then it took off leaving a trail like a jet."

Hundreds of people in the Edmonton area witnessed the late Sunday night experiment carried out by NASA, the U.S. space agency.

NASA spokesman Michael Braukus said from Washington, D.C. the sighting was a barium cloud released to test Earth's magnetic and electric field.

Braukus said the experiment

was one of two to be launched from an orbiting satellite 315 miles above Churchill, Man.

Astronomer Dave Clyburn observed the artificial phenomenon from Elk Island National Park.

Clyburn said the "utterly unnatural" happening could be frightening. "If you didn't know what it was, it would scare you," he said.

Meanwhile, the Edmonton Space Sciences Centre received hundreds of calls Monday from anxious observers.

Mysterious UFO sightings often not so mysterious

ONE of the things that arise in conversations from time to time is the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects or UFOs as they are usually called. If you think about it, who is more likely to see something strange in the sky than an astronomer. We travel to dark, out of the way places and study the sky in detail on a regular basis.

Still, I have yet to meet an astronomer who has seen something he/she could not explain, or at least could not find someone to explain it. Believe me, there is nobody more diligent at seeking the answer to a mysterious sight in the sky than an amateur astronomer.

Many things can be and have been mistaken for a UFO. Odd

plane formations or configurations, rocket tests, weather balloons, military operations of various kinds, artificial satellites, natural atmospheric phenomena etc., etc. Among the common interpretations of UFOs are several astronomical apparitions, including a large meteor and the planet Venus.

Skeptical? You shouldn't be. Many a fatigued tail gunner during the war mistook the brilliant planet Venus, shining low

in the western or eastern sky, as the lights of an enemy fighter. Untold thousands of 50 calibre rounds were shot at the earth's sister planet. The illusion of Venus as a craft in the sky is enhanced by the fact that it is often very low near the horizon, where the atmospheric turbulence causes the planet's image to dance and burst into multi coloured bits.

Also, if viewed from the window of a vehicle, the planet appears to be racing past tree tops or buildings almost as if it is flying through the air. In 1973,



Sky Scan By Doug Pitcairn

two experienced police officers chased the planet Venus at speeds in excess of 90 miles per hour halfway across Illinois.

How about bright meteors? Most people are quite familiar

with the visual appearance of a shooting star, a small meteor which incinerates as it plunges through our atmosphere. But few have ever witnessed the fiery plunge of a fireball or bolide as they are properly called.

These startling events are caused by a larger chunk of material crashing down into the Earth's atmosphere. They are completely unpredictable, and sometimes very spectacular. A fireball might be brighter than the full Moon, it may roar like thunder, it may break into several pieces and each piece might or might not leave a smoking trail across the sky.

You will remember seeing one for the rest of your life, I guarantee it. Many uneducated folk have reported very strange

things in the sky which were later traced to a meteor fall of this type.

Another common sight in the sky is a low Earth-orbiting military or research satellite. If they pass overhead after twilight, they are still illuminated by the Sun's light and appear to be a bright star. The "star" will move smoothly across the sky, then disappear after a few minutes by fading out. This happens when the satellite moves into the Earth's shadow.

I have been startled several times by strange sights in the sky, but a careful examination of the evidence has always brought a very reasonable answer. If I ever do see a genuine flying saucer, I'm goin' with 'em. I'll send you a post card from

Gamma Eridani Six, wherever that is.

■ This Thursday, April 26, is International Astronomy Day. The Halifax Centre of the RASC will be holding three public planetarium shows that night.

These will be held at the Halifax Planetarium, in the Dunn Building at Dalhousie University. There is no admission fee. The talks are: The Planet Neptune by Pat Kelly at 7 p.m., Is There Life Out There? by yours truly at 8 p.m., What is a Galaxy by Mary Lou Whitehorne at 9 p.m. Other volunteers will be on hand with telescopes.

Doug Pitcairn, an avid skygazer, is a lecturer at Halifax Planetarium and an executive member of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada's Halifax Centre.

EARTH WEEK

TX-D460 HOUSTON

CHRONICLE

APRIL 23 1990

UFO fever



The appearance of unidentified flying objects in the U.S.S.R. has become so commonplace that the Soviet press says it is getting tired of such reports. Still, Tass was intrigued by tales of a UFO that is said to have hovered while creating a cylindrical hole 15 feet deep, four inches wide and tilted at a 70 degree angle. Many residents in the village of Voronez reported seeing a huge fireball above the ground the night before the hole was discovered. The official Soviet news agency also said that regular flights by UFOs were detected by air defense units stationed around Pereslavl-Zalesski.

Lookout teams at 20 vantage points in Belgium spent the Easter weekend scanning the skies for UFOs. Ten scientists and observers flew in a plane to look for a silent, luminous low-flying triangle sighted regularly over the hills in the south of the country. They found nothing.

Ball of light startles Lilly man as UFO sightings rise

By James W. Siehl
The Tribune-Democrat

LILLY — Frank Waksmunski was sitting on his porch steps sipping a can of soda when he was startled by a white ball of light that swept across the night sky Monday.

Waksmunski, who said he has seen "shooting stars," said this object was huge and "seemed awfully low" on the horizon as it moved east to west.

Waksmunski said he looked at his watch and the time was 8:40.

The object was visible for just two or three seconds and had a short tail, he said.

Similar sightings in southwest Pennsylvania were reported on the UFO Hotline operated out of Greensburg by the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained.

Stan Gordon, director of the volunteer, non-profit scientific research unit, said many of the calls came from Westmoreland, Allegheny, Butler and Cambria counties.

"We were deluged by phone calls," Gordon said.

A fiery blue light in the sky also was reported by callers to the Indiana County Control emergency network.

"It very likely was a large meteor," Gordon said, speculating the sightings may have been a bolide, a large, brilliant meteor that sometimes explodes into a fireball.

Most callers described the object

as a ball of light trailed by a very long, luminous tail. Many said the tail was a shade of green, while others saw it as orange-to-yellow.

Gordon said the public reaction was smaller than that for an apparent bolide sighting Jan. 27, which was seen over a much bigger area.

Gordon said officials at the North American Aerospace Defense Command in Cheyenne, Colo., in charge of tracking satellite space debris, said there was no data of reentry into Earth's atmosphere at that time.

According to Gordon, recurring reports of close sightings of unidentified flying objects are on the rise again in western Pennsylvania.

An intriguing episode, which will be featured soon on "A Current Affair," an ABC television production carried at 7 weekday evenings on Channel 4, started March 8 north of Pittsburgh. Something unusual dropped out of the sky into a wooded area, it was reported.

Several people attracted to the area found eight oval "rings" burned into the ground. Subsequent UFO sightings have happened since, Gordon said. There also was a large power failure in the area that has not been satisfactorily explained.

Gordon said a PASU team, not told of the markings in the earth until nearly a week later, went to the site March 14 to conduct interviews, take photographs and remove earth samples for study.

While the team members and several others were involved in the

inspection, Gordon said, an object appeared over the treetops and hovered for 11 minutes. It made no sound.

A team member recorded a nine-minute videotape of the object. Another member of the party also videotaped the craft. From another vantage point, a woman who is not with the investigative group also videotaped the object.

"We wound up with something unusual on three separate videotapes," Gordon said. He is hopeful that computer analysis will eliminate some possibilities.

Gordon, who was not with the investigating team, has viewed the tapes, which will be shown on "A Current Affair."

The object, Gordon said, was "very, very brilliant" and very odd in color, ranging from "pinkish to an orangish-yellow."

Gordon spent Monday with a taping crew from "A Current Affair."

Historically, Gordon said, localized power failures occur when strange objects are observed.

Until the computer analysis and an investigation by the utility company into the power failure are completed, he said, his staff will continue to look for a natural reason.

In New York City, Wayne Darwin, a member of the production staff of "A Current Affair," said another taping session was scheduled yesterday. He said the episode probably will not be televised until next week.

FL-D370 PENSACOLA NEWS JOURNAL

APRIL 22 1990

UFO sightings get interest, doubts

By Craig Myers
News Journal

GULF BREEZE — A young boy stands at the south end of the Pensacola Bay Bridge with hundreds of other people, scanning the night skies.

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PAGE

(LIFO SIGHTINGS) CON'T

"Where is it?" he asks.

"It" is the latest UFO, and searching for it has become almost a social event in Gulf Breeze. Dozens of people this month have reported seeing a glowing red light moving slowly but steadily over Pensacola Bay and the Gulf Breeze peninsula several thousand feet in the air, said Rex Salisbury, a retired pilot and investigator for the Mutual UFO Network. **Walters**



He said eight such sightings have been reported since April 10. But it didn't show up Friday for the hundreds who were waiting, many with still and video cameras and binoculars.

Salisbury and other MUFON investigators said they haven't ruled out the possibility that the recent UFO sighting is a hoax — a light or flare attached to a balloon, glider, kite or radio controlled object.

A spokesman for the Pensacola Naval Air Station said radar has not picked up anything unusual in recent weeks.

"We've had our thoughts about someone playing a prank. We are investigating the possibility of a hoax," said Gary Watson of Pensacola, a field investigator for MUFON.

Watson said he is suspicious because the object has appeared at about 9 or 10 p.m. each time and appears to be drifting along, not moving erratically or rapidly. And with MUFON's international convention coming to Pensacola in July the

organization could lose a lot of credibility if a hoax was proven.

"We have to protect ourselves," Watson said.

Anne Morrison of Pensacola, who was at the bridge late Friday, she saw the light three times in the last two weeks — last Wednesday, Tuesday and Saturday — and said it is not an airplane or helicopter. She said she and her husband left a party early to sit and watch for the object.

Ed Walters of Gulf Breeze, author of the "The Gulf Breeze Sightings" released in February, has been on hand at many of the latest gatherings to watch the sky and talk about UFOs. He said he has seen the red light twice and thinks it is the same object as in one of his later photographs.

But some of Walters' foes, including UFO investigators Zan Overall of Redondo, Calif., and Dr. Willy Smith of Altamonte Springs, criticized Walters' involvement in the recent sightings. Although they have no evidence of a hoax, they said the sightings can only increase Walters' book sales and boost interest in the upcoming MUFON convention.

But Walters laughs at the suggestion that he may be involved with a prank.

"A lot of people are saying just because I've seen it on Sept. 12, Jan. 8 and last Wednesday, that it is invalid," Walters said Friday night as he joined other UFO watchers at the foot of the bay bridge. "I don't need to promote the book; it is selling hand over fist."

Walters said he received a \$200,000 cash advance from William Morrow Publishing for the book. He said the book is going into its third printing. Walters said ABC is offering him \$450,000 to turn the story into a mini-series in 1991.

Kathi Ware, publicity chairwoman for the July MUFON convention, was one of 12 witnesses last
See 12 RECENT, back of section

12 recent UFO sightings raise interest and doubts

FROM 1A

Saturday who reported the object. Ware said she hasn't decided what the object is, and hasn't ruled out a hoax.

Ware said she realizes that people could accuse the organization of self-promotion because many of the witnesses are MUFON members or frequent UFO sighters.

But Salisbury said there are numerous other witnesses who are not MUFON members or frequent witnesses who have reported the object, but do not want to come forward for fear of ridicule.

Bill Richards of Pensacola, a professional freelance cameraman, filmed the object for about 10 minutes last Saturday night. Viewed on videotape the light moves steadily across the sky, al-

though the camera movement makes it appear to be moving erratically.

An enlarged version of the film doesn't reveal evidence of either a prank or an alien craft. In the enlargement, the light appears to be more yellowish with a lighter glow above it that forms a mushroom shape.

At Ware's request, Duane Cook, editor of the Gulf Breeze Sentinel, featured a videotape of the red light on a local cable television news program that he hosted Monday.

Watson said it doesn't bother him that crowds are gathering to watch for what could be a hoax.

"It tells me people in this community believe something is happening and that what is going on here is real," Watson said.

1381
'Inside Edition' checks out UFOs



MIKE SUCHCICKI

A new news and information show — in the genre of what's come to be known as "infotainment" — debuts at 3:30 p.m. today on WKRK Channel 5. It's called "Inside Edition," and it will cover stories from all across the United States and the rest of the globe.

One of the stories the show is considering is from here on the

Gulf Coast. A camera crew was in town last week to talk to folks gathered at the foot of the Pensacola Bay Bridge for possible UFO sightings. In particular, the crew talked to and photographed Ed Walters, the Gulf Breeze businessman whose sightings and photo evidence of UFOs were just the tip of a Gulf Breeze extraterrestrial phenomenon.

More than a dozen other West Florida residents have claimed to have seen flying saucers over the past couple of years.

Walters compiled his UFO descriptions, photos and other evidence in the recently released

book "The Gulf Breeze Sightings." The Gulf Breeze UFO phenomenon has already been the subject of television scrutiny, particularly on the NBC series "Unsolved Mysteries" and the syndicated program "A Current Affair."

There's no guarantee, however, that "Inside Edition" will carry the local UFO story. The program's reporters cover about a thousand stories simultaneously, according to a spokeswoman for the series, and then select those subjects worthy of air time. So stay tuned.

IL-W4910 (PITTSFIELD) THE PIKE PRESS
 MAY 2 1990

IN-D330 INDIANAPOLIS STAR
 MAY 3 1990

Martinsburg area scene of strange lights

Pauline Zumwalt recently saw some strange lights in the sky one night in the Martinsburg area.

She let the dog out about 9:15 and saw in the sky a circle of lights "like a horse collar" about treetop high, appearing to be about two blocks away. There was no noise.

First there was one light, then a group of three. Then four red lights that blinked. They went off and on for at least 10 minutes. There were 24 or more lights at one time, grouped in threes. The white lights stayed on, the red lights blinked on and off. All were at the same elevation and in a straight row.

Mrs Zumwalt said dogs and coyotes in the neighborhood howled. "All I could see was a circle of lights. I thought I'd lost my mind," said Mrs Zumwalt.

Mrs Zumwalt's observation is similar to numerous others reported locally within the past two years.

UFOs Over Corydon

The greening of the landscape and blooming of the flowers are great, but the sightings of UFOs at Corydon prove spring has really sprung and May has arrived in all her glory.

For years, UFOs have shown a partiality for the pleasant hills and dales of Indiana where on a sunny afternoon or starry night, you can almost hear the sounds of the spheres among those of the frogs and crickets.

There's plenty about the Hoosier state to attract visitors from other galaxies, if that is where the crews and passengers of the UFOs come from.

A great deal of it is summed up in the enjoyable original state capital of Corydon, with its colorful past and picturesque present and enjoyable surrounding terrain.

There is a lot in Corydon for contemporary Hoosiers to enjoy. It's just the place a spacecraft-full of aliens might go to unwind after a few billion light years' jaunt from another galaxy.

Why not?

Author accused of trickery

By Craig Myers
News Journal

GULF BREEZE — Doubters of Ed Walters, who claims to have photographed unidentified flying objects, are using a photo of a "ghost" he took years ago as a springboard to discredit his stories.

Walters, a Gulf Breeze building contractor, "seems to have had experience manipulating photography. He is not adverse to playing around with it," said Dr. Robert Nathan, a photographic expert with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

In recent weeks, three UFO investigators — Zan Overall, Redondo, Calif.; Dr. Willy Smith, Altamonte Springs, Calif.; Phillip Klass, Washington — and others from across the country have charged that Walters might have falsified pictures.

Specifically, they say he took double-exposure photographs — one photograph on top of the other before developing — with his Polaroid 108 Land camera almost a year before he used it to photograph alleged UFOs between Nov. 11, 1987 and May 1, 1988.

That, they say, is reason enough to doubt his stories.

Nathan, who is quoted in Walters' book "The Gulf Breeze Sightings" as saying he had no evidence that Walters' photographs of UFOs were double-exposures, last week said he suspects many of the photos are, in fact, double exposures.

Late last week, Walters denied knowing how to make double-exposure photos before he photographed the UFOs. Even if he

did, he said he would not have faked the photographs.

The criticism, he noted, is not new. In his book, he wrote: "They have tried to label me a con man, liar, occult master, etc. But my community knows me and rejected these charges. Now that this book has detailed all the sighting accounts, the debunkers will no longer find it so easy to twist the testimony."

"The documented account is here for all to see."

At the center of the debate is a photo taken in December 1986.

In the photo, a ghost-like image — with two eyes and a large mouth — appears to be reaching out for a 16-year-old Pensacola girl. Whether the image on the photo is intentional or accidental is a matter of opinion.

Three Gulf Breeze women who attended parties as teens at Walters' house said recently that Walters enjoyed using his camera in a "spooky" party game. They were friends of Walters' two children.

The women, who asked that their names not be published, said Walters would seat three or four people in a circle and chant in a mock seance. Then he would take their pictures and predict that a ghost would appear in one of them.

The image would appear on one of the developed photographs. Other times the person in the picture was blurred intentionally for a spooky effect, they

See WALTERS, 11A

said.

Only one copy of the photograph is available. Taken at Walters' home on Dec. 28, 1986, the photo was published this month in an Orlando Sentinel Florida Magazine article titled "They're Baaaack!"

The article was critical of Walters.

Overall and Smith, both self-proclaimed UFO investigators, have frequently criticized Walters since 1988. The two say the "ghost" photo is significant because it shows Walters knew how to do trick photography before he took his UFO photos.

It also shows he enjoyed using the camera — which can easily be used to produce double exposures — in pranks, they said.

"This is very incriminating evidence. Ed predicted what was going to happen and he made a ghost-demon appear ... I think this finishes him," said Smith. "I admire Ed. If I were to fake pictures I would use a Polaroid, (because) there is no negative."

The camera Walters uses is an instant camera that requires the negative to be pulled out of the camera before the Polaroid film develops. To make multiple expo-

tures, the photographer simply has to cock the shutter for each successive shot, then pull out the multiple-exposed negative.

Another Gulf Breeze woman who said she attended some of Walters' "spooky" parties said last week that she also believed Walters used double-exposure to create the "ghost" photo.

The "ghost" photo so influenced her that when she saw UFO photos published anonymously in the Gulf Breeze Sentinel on Nov. 19, 1987, she immediately suspected it was a larger version of the prank.

"I think it started out as a cool prank and he kept up with it," she said.

A 20-year-old Gulf Breeze woman, who claims to have been one of three women who posed for a ghost photo after a mock seance, said the image appeared in another girl's photo — the one featured in the article.

"I thought it was a big joke," she said. "He intended for the picture to show up. Then when I heard someone had taken (UFO) pictures I immediately just knew it

was him and I didn't believe it."

Walters said he did use the Polaroid to take hundreds of photos of teens at parties, but the "spooky" game involved intentionally blurring some of the subjects to make them look strange, not predicting the appearance of a ghost.

The picture in question only shows an accidental reflection on a glass door behind the teen-ager, he said.

Walters said he has taken several photos from the same location as the "ghost" photo and that unusual images often appear in the background because of the glass door and several mirrors in the room.

But Smith, who obtained and copyrighted the "ghost" photo, said the difference between it and the re-created photos is in the clarity of the image. The images on the re-created photos show up on two planes because they reflect on each side of the thick glass door, he said.

The ghost image is on one plane and blurry on its edges, not clear like the other reflections, Smith

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said. Nathan, who examined the ghost photo, said he could not say for sure whether it is a double-exposure. But, he said, it appears to be and that is grounds enough for suspicion.

"Ed was having some fun at a party and knows how to make multiple images show up. The fact that it is easy to make double exposures with his camera is very relevant," Nathan said.

In March, Klass, a former senior editor of Aviation Week & Space Technology Magazine, criticized Walters' UFO photos at a meeting of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal in Washington.

Arguing that it is extremely easy to create a double-exposure with the kind of camera Walters uses, Klass said many of his UFO photos appear to be fakes.

Countering Klass, photographic expert Dr. Bruce Maccabee of Silver Springs, Md., has said he could find no evidence of double-exposure in Walters' UFO photos.

Walters himself points to a 1-minute, 38-second videotape of

the alleged UFO, photographs taken by other cameras and hundreds of eyewitness accounts to show his Polaroids aren't the only evidence of UFOs.

Critics also point to two felony convictions in 1967 as evidence that Walters should not be trusted. The convictions stem from a 1966 forgery charge in Duval County — he is alleged to have signed his name to a \$350 check that was not his — and two counts of auto theft from Alachua County.

In 1967, Walters was sentenced to three concurrent 5-year terms in state prison, said Ray Howard, director of the Florida Clemency Administration. Walters served 1½ years in state prison. He was released in 1968 and remained on parole until 1970, Howard said.

In September 1989, Walters asked for a pardon from the governor. It was granted March 13 after an investigation by the Clemency Board, Howard said. The pardon was granted based on Walters' conduct since 1970.

Howard would not say whether investigators checked into Walters' UFO claims in their investigation.

Walters said he asked for the pardon because critics were using the convictions against him.

Overall said last week that he believes a \$350 forgery in 1966 may have become a \$200,000 forgery in 1990 — the amount of

Critics dispute Walters' photo's

As July's Mutual UFO Network convention in Pensacola nears, critics and doubters continue to attack Ed Walters' photographs of unidentified flying objects. The photos are reprinted in his book, "The Gulf Breeze Sightings."

money William Morrow & Co. Inc. advanced Walters for his book. Walters said he also has been offered \$450,000 by ABC Television for mini-series rights on his UFO encounters. ABC officials in New York could not be reached to comment on Walters' claim.

Another example of Walters' alleged tendency to deceive, critics say, is his usage of two names, "Ed Walters" and "Ed Hanson" in Gulf Breeze.

"In respect to my deceased stepfather I sometimes add his name (Hanson) to mine," Walters writes in his book. "The debunkers have twisted this, trying to make something sinister out of it."

Still, for every person who doubts Walters another can be found who believes him to be a reputable, credible family man and a good businessman. Walters is married and has a teen-age daughter and college-age son.

Walters said it hurts him that critics are trying to turn his involvement with community teens into something bizarre.

"It was something beautiful. But they don't want people to think of Ed Walters as a responsible person, but as a ghost-demon, Satan-worshiper holding seances," he said with a laugh.

The war of words is expected to continue until July when the Mutual UFO Network holds its convention in Pensacola. MUFON is a group of people interested in UFOs, that meets regularly and investigates reported sightings.

Overall said he is publishing a paper titled: "The Ghost-Demon Photo: Ed Walters' Nemesis?" that he will circulate at the convention. The paper is expected to set up a showdown between MUFON and the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS), a group Overall belongs to.

Walters said he has defended himself against the ghost photo allegations before and would do so again at the convention.

"I'll stand up and tell everyone what happened," he said.

Among the old and new criticisms are:

• Double exposures:

Critics charge — and Walters agrees — that it is easy to take a double-exposure with the Polaroid 108 Land camera he used to take photographs of the UFOs.

Until the film is pulled out of the camera by hand, it remains in the camera and can be imprinted with numerous overlapping photographic images or double-exposures.

Defenders point to the fact that no one has been able to prove the images are double-exposures. Walters also denies knowing how to take double-exposures with the camera until someone showed him how — after he took the UFO photos.

• "Ghost" photo:

Critics say a photo taken at a party at Walters' home in December 1986 is evidence he knew how to make double-exposures and liked to do so as a prank.

The photo shows a teen-ager with what appears to be a hazy, ghost-like image in the background. Several former Gulf Breeze High School students have said Walters predicted that spooky images would show up in the pictures before he took them.

Walters says the image is only a reflection on a glass door behind the girl and that he never predicted a ghost would appear.

• Telepathic contact:

Literature advertising a UFO conference in Miami Beach May 11 to 13 states Walters will attempt to draw a UFO to him during a "skywatch" on the beach.

"Several times Walters has apparently been able to draw UFOs to him on command," writes conference organizer Jim Moseley.

Critics who say claims of contact with UFOs traditionally accompany hoaxes, blast Walters' claim of a connection with UFOs.

Moseley said Walters never claimed to be able to draw the object to him and said the "skywatch" is designed as a promotional opportunity to coincide with Walters' book-signing. Walters said he would not take part in the skywatch.

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• Coincidental sightings:

Critics say the timing of recent Gulf Breeze UFO sightings — since September 1989 — is suspicious simply because Walters has been the first to report four of them — Sept. 12, 1989, and Jan. 8, April 11 and 14, 1990.

Debunkers have no proof the sightings have been hoaxes, but they say the mysterious red light could not have appeared at a better time to stimulate sales of Walters' book and attendance at MUFON's convention in July.

Walters denies his involvement in the recent sightings has anything to do with promoting his book. And MUFON investigators have not ruled out a hoax in recent sightings, but say they don't believe Walters is involved.

UFO sighters refute debunkers challenge coverage by the News Journal

By Buddy and Brenda Pollak

"My mind's made up, don't confuse me with the facts." This seems to have been the attitude of your reporter, Craig Myers, in his article of Sunday, April 29, 1990. It is clear that his only intention was to discredit Ed Walters.

He failed. What he succeeded in doing was to discredit the Pensacola News Journal, because the article is full of inaccuracies and misrepresentations, and the "experts" upon whom he relies are frauds.

For example, one of his "experts" claimed to be the chairman of the Department of Astronomy and Physics of Lycoming College over an extended period and also of the University of Valencia, Spain, from 1974-77. Lycoming College reports that he was acting chair of the department for two years, and the University of Valencia has never heard of him. He also falsely claims to have a Ph.D. in physics from the University of Michigan.

This same "expert" faked UFO photos and tried to attribute them to Ed; his scheme untangled when the photographer he hired, Manuel Fernandez, found out how he was using the photos and came forward to expose the truth.

Another of your "experts" has written that Ed faked "ghost photos" and held seances in the basement of his house. How many houses in Gulf Breeze do you know with basements? Ed's alleged use of photo trickery is as much a figment of this man's imagination as Ed's basement is!

Your reporter also implies that all of Ed's photos were taken with a camera that could make double exposures. The truth is that when

VIEWPOINT

the scientists pointed out to him that the camera he was using to take the first photos could make double exposures, he bought a new camera that can't do so, and continued to take UFO photos. He also took UFO pictures with cameras that were provided to him by photo experts because they were virtually hoax-proof. He took UFO pictures with a camera in which the film was put in and sealed, the serial numbers recorded, test photos taken, and the film removed by others — all to prevent any photographic hanky-panky. The omission of these facts is a gross injustice.

The article states that critics find the April 14, 1990, sighting suspicious, because Ed was the first to report it. This is untrue. Ed was not even present at the beginning of the sighting, or for several minutes thereafter. The truth is that the writer (Buddy) was the first to spot the object, and numerous other witnesses present with us saw it before Ed arrived on the scene.

Space will not permit further examples, but we think you get the point. What is most discouraging, however, is that the reporter knew about these discrepancies before the story was printed. He chose not to check them out, but to print them anyway. He also declined to talk to other witnesses, or look at other evidence. After all, why should the truth stand in the way of a good story?

It is clear from a conversation with Craig Myers several months ago that he is unable to accept the

possibility of strange things happening in the skies over the Pensacola area, for his own personal reasons. But, when he puts his by-line on the front page of the News Journal, he has an obligation to report the facts as accurately and thoroughly as possible.

Craig Myers and the Pensacola News Journal owe Ed Walters a retraction and an apology — on the front page of the Sunday edition, with equal prominence as the original article. Only then will the credibility of the News Journal begin to be restored.

By Art Hufford

I was very upset with Craig Myers' UFO story on the front page of the Sunday, April 29, News Journal. It was the same old story the UFO debunkers have been preaching for two years — a story of half-truths, innuendoes, and character assassination. Each

point in their charges has been thoroughly investigated and rebutted by competent investigators. Some of the facts missing from the NJ account are:

The first fact is that the UFOs are real! I can state that because I personally witnessed a UFO hovering above some trees along Bayou Boulevard in Pensacola in November 1987. The UFO my wife and I saw around 4:30 p.m. that day looked exactly like the one photographed by Ed Walters on Nov. 11, 1987. Several weeks after our sighting, we first learned someone had taken photographs of what we had seen. Since that time I have talked to over 30 witnesses; many of these people also saw a craft which looked exactly like Walters' photos.

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UFO SIGHTERS CONT

The debunkers would like to suggest Ed Walters' photos are double exposures because the camera he first used was capable of taking

double exposures. What they fail to mention is that his later photos were taken by cameras which can not take double exposures. For example, the SRS stereo photos in Walters' book were taken with two 600 Sun cameras; this type of polaroid camera automatically ejects the film immediately after the shot is taken, a fact conveniently left out of the NJ article.

Finally, a common problem faced by UFO investigators is that of a hoax. When UFO sightings

abound, people sometimes try to duplicate the UFO sightings with a hoax. Such a hoax was recently brought to the attention of MUFON investigators (MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network, Inc., is the largest UFO investigation organization in the world).

A woman reported that she and others had seen a red light suspended from balloons pass over the ballpark at Shoreline

Park in Gulf Breeze. She stated the light was swinging back and forth in the breeze and that it moved along in the direction the wind was blowing.

This hoax followed on the heels of a series of recent sightings of a bright red light observed, photographed, and video-taped from the south end of the Pensacola Bay Bridge. In these sightings, the witnesses reported the red light moved steadily in a northerly direction and then turned east toward East Bay. This UFO was moving against a strong wind blowing in a southwesterly direction, clearly a different situation from the balloon hoax.

MUFON investigators would very much like to know who is behind the balloon hoax. If you have any information about this, or any UFO sightings, please call the 24-hour MUFON HOTLINE: (904) 436-2700.

F 020 (ST JOHN'S) THE EVENING TELEGRAM
MAY 20 1990



Photo some 30 years ago purports to show UFO over London.

UFO sightings, like these from The Telegram's files, are exactly what Winifred Barton's looking for.

She's the public relations officer for the Golden Triangle UFO Club of Ontario and has circulated a newsletter to the media across Canada encouraging people with similar interests or UFO experiences to contact her.

"Don't be shy, Canada," her letter reads. "It's time we came out of the closet and told the truth about our visitors from the sky. Let's make Canada No. 1 in this exciting new-age adventure. Tell us your story."

Ms. Barton certainly has a story. She says she's been abducted by a UFO and even knows the names of the extraterrestrials, the ETs, she met on her trip.

"Arkahn was a man, A was the woman and On was another man. I don't know how they're spelled, but that's how they sounded."

After one such experience, Ms. Barton said, she was grilled by the RCMP and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service. "They took down 87 pages of a statement," she said. "They said it would be two years before the report would be released.

"That was five years ago."

She says her own experience

confirms her suspicion that the U.S. and Canadian military have been covering up 40 years of documented evidence of UFO sightings, because they want to capture the technology and use it for their own ends.

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Bill Bath of Upper Mooring Cove on the Burin Peninsula, said he saw an object "the size of a large car" fall into the harbor in August 1974.

It made a "queer noise like a swish" prior to hitting the water about 600 feet from shore; it sank immediately.

Dorothy Caldwell and her daughter Dawn said their eyes weren't deceiving them when they reported sighting an unidentified flying object, January 1986, near their Virginia Park home.

"At first glimpse I knew it wasn't a plane, but I never saw anything like it in my life," Ms. Caldwell said.

"It was like a full moon, but bright with red lights on both sides like an airplane. It lit up in the sky and then disappeared out of sight behind Virginia Park Plaza."

UFOs: Are they really out there?

By DIANA ALYWARD
Telegram Staff Writer

Sam Dyke and his wife of Envalley Acres in Corner Brook said they saw a strange object Jan. 7, 1969, above the CBC antenna in that community.

It was like a star, they said, only much brighter, with a red light on the bottom. It moved at a slow speed far away in space, and after about 30 minutes it disappeared, the Dykes said.

UFOs ARE THEY REALLY OUT THERE CON'T

"We're proposing it's being run out of the Pentagon," Ms. Barton said.

But Jack (The Prairie Groovemaster) Farr, host of The Radio Show on CBC radio (heard Saturdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.), is taking a more lighthearted approach. He's proclaimed May as UFO Month on his show.

Each Saturday in May, Mr. Farr has been talking to people who've seen UFOs, met ETs — or those who haven't and would like to.

UFO Abduction Kits that will help listeners tell if they've met an ET are available by writing The Radio Show, PO Box 160, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 2H1. "We mailed out 126 kits, in-

cluding ballpoint pens, in 10 days," said executive producer Gary Graves.

Dennis Ryan, president of the St. John's branch of the Royal Astronomical Society, a Canada-wide organization of amateur astronomers, said, "Only about one-eighth of sightings are unexplainable. People don't know what they're looking at when they look up in the sky."

Mr. Ryan said he believes ETs exist and they have visited earth, but he gave up his pursuit for lack of evidence. "There are too many crazy people claiming to have contact," he said.

"I remember seeing a picture in a magazine of a guy with a piece of metal on his head saying he contacted them regularly."

But, he added, "I'd like to think we're interesting to another civilization."

FL-D280 MIAMI HERALD MAY 11 1990

Aliens alert: UFO fans invade Beach



Featured speaker Ed Walters says a beam of blue light levitated him into a spacecraft; he was told in Spanish not to take pictures.

By **ARNOLD MARKOWITZ**
Herald Staff Writer

Look, up in the sky. Is it a bird? No. A plane? No. Superman? Don't be silly.

First skywatcher: I don't know what it is.

Second skywatcher: Me neither. Let's call the teevee station.

That is one way in which unidentified flying object stories get started.

Another way is fakery — and fakery, says Top Skeptic Philip J. Klass, is the way Ed Walters started his UFO story in 1987 at Gulf Breeze, a little Florida Panhandle town curiously close to the Pensacola Naval Air Station.

Don't believe Klass, Walters' believers have argued; he's in the CIA. Back to that in a bit. Klass is far away in Washington (Aha! You see?).

Ed Walters and his wife Frances are about to walk among us. They are billed as featured attractions of the 1990 National UFO Conference, scheduled today, Saturday and Sunday at the Holiday Inn, 2201 Collins Ave., Miami Beach.

The Walterses will tell how their experience has changed their lives. A promotion

sheet invites conferees to join them for a skywatch on the sand Friday night:

"Numerous times, Ed has 'drawn' UFOs to him in the company of others. Perhaps we will all be 'lucky' this evening."

A ticket to the whole shebang costs \$40. Such events are for people who take UFOs seriously — a minority, but numerous enough to tolerate the knowledge that others regard

them as fools, phonies or just plain crazy.

As stars in the galaxy of UFO happenings, the Walterses have withstood ridicule rather well since their 1987 encounters with space travelers. Their book, *The Gulf Breeze Sightings*, was published in March by William Morrow and Co. Morrow does not reveal sales figures, but publicist Nancy Davis said Wednesday that "It's doing well," although she can't say what that means.

Ed Walters is doing well, too. He told a reporter last year that Morrow gave him a \$200,000 advance on the book. Television trade reports say ABC is paying him \$450,000 for a miniseries to be broadcast

Incredible sometimes true

The continuing controversy over Ed Walters' UFO photographs should come as no surprise. If these photographs are proven beyond a reasonable doubt to be of alien craft, the implications upon our social, scientific and theological institutions would be profound indeed.

It is no coincidence that the belief in UFOs is looked upon in our society with derision and incredulity by those same scientific and government institutions. Although those institutions and individuals dismiss UFOs because their existence is too outlandish for sensible people to believe, they should be aware of some historical precedents.

Winston Churchill as prime minister during World War II, when presented with intelligence reports concerning the Holocaust, ordered British intelligence not to waste his time with such reports. It was his belief they could not possibly be true and the evidence was dismissed. Winston was tragically wrong.

Pope Urban VIII, upon learning of the revolutionary theories of Galileo Galilei, denounced Galileo's works and ordered he repent his heresy under threat of execution. Galileo was banned from active research for several years until 1632. Pope Urban was also wrong.

When Albert Einstein published his Theory of Special Relativity, it was received with great skepticism even by well-known physicists. For years many refused to consider the theory seriously. They were wrong.

It is an unfortunate characteristic of human nature to deny or refuse to acknowledge profound concepts which threaten accepted truths of reality.

The veracity of Ed Walters' evidence should most certainly be open for debate considering the seriousness of its implications. But to attack an individual for the foolish exuberance of youth and to demean his family and integrity to further one's position has no place in such a debate.

Dick Gale
Lillian, Ala.

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CON'T NEXT
PAGE

1381 AT National UFO

Conference invading Miami Beach

UFO, FROM 1B

next year.

Top Skeptic says: "For what he's getting, I'd be willing to take a lot of ridicule."

That is Phil Klass, an editorial pillar of the magazine *Aviation Week and Space Technology*, which does not cover UFO news. Klass has investigated UFO reports on his own for 25 years and has written four books on the subject. He is still looking for one UFO story that can't be explained as fake or mistake.

On their better days the planets Mars and Venus have been mistaken for flying saucers, Klass reminds us ("Nearly one out of every three UFOs reported turns out to be a bright star or planet"). So have conventional aircraft and the Goodyear blimp ("One out of six is an advertising airplane").

The thing Ed Walters shot with his old Polaroid looks like none of those. The U.S. Navy said it wasn't anything flying from Pensacola. The Air Force said there was nothing like it at Eglin or the other Panhandle airfields.

Well, the military services are not known for telling the whole truth about military secrets until they are ready.

When the truth finally gets out, they have radar-proof airplanes. Not very outlandish? How about kamikaze porpoises wearing grenades on their noses, guarding naval bases against attacking frogmen? True story. Is it so absurd, then, to imagine the military flying giant Frisbees over Gulf Breeze and lying about it?

Top Skeptic: Conceivable but not

likely. Military secret-keepers have vast restricted airspace over Nevada, territory so remote that it might as well be on another planet. Why risk premature public discovery in Florida?

Well, then. If Ed Walters faked the Polaroids, how did he do it? At a meeting of CSICOP, the Committee for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, Klass explained how he would perform the trick himself. CSICOP listened attentively; Klass is its chairman.

Unlike modern Polaroid cameras,

Walters' old Model 108 does not prevent double exposures, he said. Newer models automatically eject a picture each time the shutter button is pressed. With the older kind, that is done manually. If not, the next shot is made on the same film frame — a double exposure, or a triple if the photographer forgets again.

"First I would photograph a small UFO model against a black curtain in a darkened room," Klass said. "Then, without pulling down the exposed photo, I'd take the camera outside in my back yard and photograph trees and other background. When the double-exposed print is then pulled from the camera, the small model will appear to be a UFO hovering over my back yard."

Seattle's Space Needle and Toronto's CN Tower, revolving restaurants and observation platforms atop tall spires, look something like Walters' UFO. Its underside closely resembles a circular fluorescent tube, used in kitchen lights. If not a space ship, what is it?

Top Skeptic: "Possibly a Chinese lantern, but I really don't know. He's an ingenious man with his hands, a building contractor. It could be any of a number of things."

Klass picked apart Walters' story word by word, identifying a lot of two plus twos that did not add up to

four. Much of what Walters described was too outlandish even for Klass, who has heard many a weird tale in his years of following up on flying saucers.

For example, the beam of blue light that zapped Walters and levitated him into the spacecraft. He was ordered in Spanish not to take pictures. He was made to disrobe and submit to biological examination.

Many skeptics, hearing someone describe a UFO sighting, might give the witness credit for seeing an odd flying object he could not identify. The stories get a little less credible when the blue beam comes down and carries the startled witness aboard. Tales of unnecessary surgery, performed without fear of medical malpractice litigation, are tougher to swallow.

Top Skeptic: Actually, that might be predictable behavior for a space-flight crew from a foreign planet, if there were any, but there are none.

Of course, that is what the CIA would say. Is Top Skeptic really a CIA spook? Sure.

"They pay me \$10 million a year plus cab fare," he said. "It goes in a secret Swiss bank account, but they won't give me the number. Somewhere I have jillions of dollars, if only I could get the account number."

UFO group: 'We are serious'

By GABRIELLE deGROOT
Staff Writer

Lewin Maddox didn't know what to expect when a neighbor led him into an old barn at Lippins Corner in Pasadena during the winter of 1944.

What he saw looked like a helicopter with a wheel to keep it aloft instead of a blade, similar to an autogiro.

At the time, he was intrigued but didn't think much of it. Three years later, however, in the midst of national hysteria over an invasion of unidentified flying objects, Maddox picked up *The Washington Star* to read that the curious object had been seized by the Air Force.

"The Air Force apparently

thought that it might be a prototype to a flying saucer," the Glen Burnie resident recalled. "It was seized and taken to the Aberdeen Proving Grounds. But a week later, they decided it couldn't possibly have flown."

Government officials also located the man who had apparently constructed the curious machine, effectively ending the debate and the county's day in the UFO glow.

But more than four decades later, local UFO enthusiasts are once again in the limelight, saying they have sighted hundreds of unidentified flying objects in the Chesapeake Bay region.

At a recent Maryland State Conference on UFOs held at the

Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, more than 60 believers gathered to share their views and experiences on the curious phenomena.

"We are very serious people studying UFOs as a scientific element," said Bob Oechsler, of Edgewater, president of the local chapter of the international Mutual UFO Network. "We've had numerous sightings in the last two years. It's not a question of believing, it's a matter of looking at the factual evidence."

The evidence for Oechsler and his followers is concrete — hundreds of photographs showing strange glowing objects, videotapes of flying machines, and

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UFOs

(Continued from Page A1)

dozens of accounts from county residents who allegedly have been "abducted" by aliens.

"We've had medical examinations performed on people who've been abducted," the Edgewater resident said. "Many people claim that UFOs are just a bunch of lights at night. But the credible evidence is there."

Two years ago, a rash of UFO sightings over the Chesapeake Bay led to the establishment of the local chapter of MUFON, headed by Oechsler and another local believer, Debbie Regimenti of Annapolis. Both say they have seen numerous UFOs.

The group now claims a dozen members and holds monthly meetings to discuss the latest sightings in the region.

"The Chesapeake Bay is a hot

"We've had medical examinations performed on people who've been abducted."

— Bob Oechsler,
head of MUFON

area for sightings," Ms. Regimenti said. "We try to document the sightings and look for reasons that (aliens) are here."

The first to admit that many sightings of unidentified lights can be explained by ordinary means, Ms. Regimenti also said that the evidence pointing to the existence of UFOs can no longer be denied.

"The government has completely stopped claiming that UFOs are not real," Ms. Regimenti said. "Once

they remove the stigma and allow them to be acceptable, then we're on the right road."

Several months ago, Ms. Regimenti and Oechsler completed a report documenting their sightings and accounts from dozens of other county residents. Entitled the "Chesapeake Connection," the report will be presented at the annual MUFON symposium to be held in Florida this summer.

The conference should be especially exciting this year because of its proximity to Gulf Breeze, where residents have reported seeing thousands of UFOs during the last two years, Oechsler said.

"It's such a complex issue," Ms. Regimenti said. "We don't know who they are, but we're looking for clues. All I can say is, don't laugh at your next door neighbor when he says he saw something strange. Keep an open mind."

ID-D20 (BOISE) THE IDAHO STATESMAN

MAY 12 1990

Around Idaho

Hailey

UFOs: The Blaine County sheriff's office has received a rash of reports of strange objects and lights in the sky west of Hailey in recent weeks, but an amateur UFO tracker thinks he can explain them away.

Most of the sightings May 2 and May 4 were reported in the same part of the sky where strange lights were first seen by residents on the night of April 19.

Mike Fidler of Burley is a member of the Mutual UFO Network, a private organization of volunteers who track unidentified flying object reports. He said looking into the April report led him to believe the sightings since then may have been due to news reports drawing attention to the night sky.

Ufologists to unite at event

By MONICA RHOR
Miami Bureau

"Our purpose is to inform, enlighten and hopefully entertain people with the different aspects of UFOs . . . It's up to the audience to choose who to believe."

— conference sponsor James Moseley

MIAMI BEACH — You've entered another dimension. A dimension of time and space, a place for abductees and contactees, for psychics and saucer watches.

You've entered the UFO Zone, and this weekend, it invades Miami Beach.

This is the site of the annual National UFO Conference, an event expected to draw dozens of believers and ufologists to the Miami Beach Holiday Inn at 2201 Collins Ave.

The conference, which began with a saucer watch on Friday night, will feature an interplanetary variety of speakers:

- Reporters, who document sightings but never have witnessed one.
- Contactees, who claim contact with planetary creatures.
- Abductees, who say they have

been kidnapped by aliens.

"Our purpose is to inform, enlighten and hopefully entertain people with the different aspects of UFOs . . . It's up to the audience to choose who to believe," said conference sponsor James Moseley, looking like a professor in his horn-rimmed glasses and gray suit, a "UFO research" button pinned to his lapel.

One of the workshops described in the news release will teach "how to identify and locate your counterparts, soulmates and friends from other worlds . . . find out what constellation you might have arrived on Earth from, and

what your special mission might be."

West Palm Beach radio host Carole Lynn Grant will speak about psychic healing, an art she says aliens taught her through mental contact.

"My link-up with space beings is on a mind level. I've not been on a spaceship physically, but I have been mentally," said Grant.

Once, Grant says, she was "hooked up to a spaceship solidly for three years. It was like a garden hose running from my head to the spaceship."

But, the star of the weekend is Ed Walters, who first reported a

flurry of sightings in the small Gulf Coast town of Gulf Breeze. Walters, the news release boasts, "has apparently been able to draw UFOs to him almost on command."

On Friday morning, however, Walters was not magnetic, he was miffed. He was unhappy about a newspaper report quoting a non-believer.

This "debunker," Walters said, claimed Walters had boasted he was levitated, asked to disrobe and examined by aliens.

Not true, Walters retorted. This is what really happened:

He saw a spacecraft, moved closer and "was struck by a blue beam." Later, he also lost one hour and 15 minutes of time and sighted 4-foot-tall beings in silver space suits.

"If someone wants to conclude I was on a spacecraft, that's their prerogative," Walters said.

ID-050 IDAHO FALLS POST REGISTER

MAY 13 1990

County-by-county REPORT

From Post Register staff and wire reports

Blaine

UFO sightings reported

HAILEY — The Blaine County sheriff's office has received a rash of reports of strange objects and lights in the sky west of Hailey in recent weeks, but an amateur UFO tracker thinks he can explain them away.

Most of the sightings May 2 and May 4 were reported in the same part of the sky where strange lights were first seen by residents on the night of April 19.

Mike Fidler of Burley is a member of the Mutual UFO Network, a private organization of volunteers who track unidentified flying object reports. He said looking into the April report led him to believe the sightings since then may have been due to news reports drawing attention to the night sky.

Fidler said many of the descriptions sound as if people were looking at Sirius, the brightest star in the sky.

The sheriff's office received five calls May 2 about a bright red and blue light in the sky southwest of Hailey. Fidler said Sirius has been visible to the southwest recently, and it sometimes twinkles different colors when it appears near the horizon.